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290-314-338-366-394-418-442-	
467-490-522-546-571-603-634-658	

SHIPPING	22-46-70-94-
118-142-166-190-213-238-262-	
290-314-338-366-394-418-441-	
466-490-522-546-570-602-633-658	

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289-313-337-365-393-417-441-	
465-489-522-545-569-601-632-658	

The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 1.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
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YOKOHAMA, JULY 5TH, 1890.

可読局總郵

[Vol. XIV.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 5, 1890.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

MR. TSUJI, a Senator, was created a Baron on the 27th ult.

PRINCE TOKUGAWA, ex-Shogun, who had been staying at Shidzuoka, proceeded at Atami on the 27th ult.

HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR was present at a meeting of the Privy Council held on the 27th ult., returning to the Palace at 3.50 p.m.

H.I.H. PRINCE KOMATSU gave a banquet at his residence on the 29th ultimo to the Turkish Envoy, Osman Pasha, and his suite.

THE tramway between Yoshiwara and Oniya, Tokaido, having been completed, the opening ceremony took place on the 24th ultimo.

T.I.H. PRINCESSES TOKO and KANE, attended by Count Sasaki and Dr. Ito, an Imperial physician, proceeded to Nikko on the 1st instant.

THE Law as to the re-organization of the Metropolitan Police will, it is said, be promulgated shortly, and be followed by various changes.

THE double line of the Tokaido Railway between Oyama and Numadzu, which is now in course of construction, will be completed in September.

ACCORDING to a telegram sent from Kanazawa on the 30th ultimo, some forty members of the *Daido Danketsu* and the *Kaishinto* parties were arrested in that city on the 29th

ultimo, on a charge of having contravened the Law of Election for Members of the House of Representatives.

THE Law as to the Administrative Court was promulgated on the 28th ultimo over the signatures of all the Ministers of State. It consists of forty-seven articles.

A MEETING of the Privy Council was held on the 1st instant, at which Counts Oki, Terajima, Soyejima, Higashikuse, and Katsup and Viscount Enomoto were present.

THE French Minister, and the officers of the French men-of-war now stationed at Yokohama, were received in audience by the Emperor on the morning of the 27th ult.

FIRE occurred on the night of the 18th ultimo in a house at Noha, Shimane, Shimane Prefecture, and seventy-eight houses were entirely destroyed before the flames could be subdued.

A SHOCK of earthquake was experienced in the capital on the 28th ultimo at 5h. om, 40s. a.m. The duration was 50 seconds, the maximum horizontal motion being 0.7 millimetre in 0.7. second.

A MEETING of the chiefs of various districts of Tokyo was held in the Tokyo City Government Office on the 28th ultimo to discuss matters in connection with the relief of distress in the capital.

A NOTIFICATION has been issued by the Finance Department to the effect that another lot of 10,000 bags of imported rice would be sold in the Asakusa Granaries on the 4th instant by public auction.

THE Law as to the re-organization of the Department of Communications was promulgated on the 1st instant over the signatures of Counts Yamagata and Goto. It consists of seventeen articles.

IT is reported that Mr. Takashima Kayemon, a well-known merchant of Yokohama, will be nominated a member of the House of Peers by the Emperor, in respect of meritorious services to the State.

THE father of Viscount Hijikata, Minister of State for the Imperial Household, died on the morning of the 30th ult. He was eighty-two years old, and had been suffering from illness for some time.

A PROJECT has been started by Mr. Matsumoto Tsunenobu, editor of the *Ise Shimbum*, and inhabitants of the city of Tsu, Miye Prefecture, to form a company to be named the Miye Electric Light Company.

MESSRS. ISHISAKI KIHEI, Torii Komakichi, and Taku Tokubei, *sake* brewers of Osaka, have been permitted to form a company under the name of the Osaka Beer Brewery Company with a capital of yen 150,000.

COUNT YAMADA, having been permitted to reclaim land extending over 400,000 *tsubo* at Shinoro, Sapporo, Ishikari, Hokkaido, has commenced operations. It is expected the work will be completed in seven years.

THE Law as to the re-organization of the Foreign Department was promulgated on the 27th ultimo over the signatures of Count Yamagata and Viscount Aoki, by Imperial Ordinance No. 109. It consists of 14 articles.

MR. NAITO RIUACHI, a member of the *Kaishinto* party, and thirty-eight persons residing in Hiimeji were arrested by the Authorities on the

28th ultimo on a charge of having contravened the Law of Election of Members of the House of Representatives.

THE usual meeting of the Cabinet was held on the 1st instant in presence of the Emperor, at which Counts Yamagata, Yamada, Saito, Matsukata, Oyama and Goto, Viscounts Aoki and Katsuyama, and Ministers Mutsu and Fushikawa were present.

A MAN named Oyama Sukegoro, residing at Myosai, Tokushima Prefecture, was arrested by the Authorities on the 27th ultimo on a charge of having given bribes to electors on behalf of Mr. Kamada Tokusaburo, who is a candidate for election to the House of Representatives, for the third district of the Prefecture.

AN action was raised in the Miyagi Correctional Court on the 1st instant by Mr. Matsuda Tsunekichi, who is a candidate for election to the House of Representatives, in the fifth district of Miyagi Prefecture, against Mr. Endo On, a rival candidate. Mr. Matsuda alleges that the defendant has given bribes to electors.

ACCORDING to investigations made by the Customs Bureau in the Finance Department, the quantity of rice imported from abroad during the week ended the 28th ultimo was 252,447 piculs, of which 107,749 piculs were imported into Yokohama, 57,079 piculs into Kobe, 50,432 piculs into Osaka, and 37,187 piculs into Nagasaki.

TWO students, named Minami Asasuke and Koshio Kiyo'ichi, were arrested by the police in the Koishikawa district on the 26th ultimo on a charge of having killed a school-mate named Yoshitomi Tomokuma, residing at Suidobata, Ichome, Koishikawa. On the following morning five students were arrested on suspicion of being implicated in the affair.

THE Osaka Mercantile Steamship Company has decided to develop steam communication between Osaka and Fusan, and will run steamers three times a month. Mr. Matsumoto, manager of the company, was to proceed to Korea on the 1st instant from Nagasaki in order to make the necessary arrangements. It is said that the *Asahi Maru*, the best steamer of the company, will run between the two places.

THE Yarn Market has become quite active during the past week, a demand having sprung up for English spinnings which led to considerable business at advanced prices. Bombays however, did not participate in the improvement. Shirtings received a good deal of attention, quotations advancing appreciably, and holders assuming a firm attitude at the close. Stocks of Metals accumulate and buyers are disinclined to do business. The market for Kerosene is weak, and with increasing stocks purchasers ask for substantial reductions in quotations. Little business has been done in Sugar and the market is firm. The Tea market is a little easier, but prices are unchanged. The leaf in stock amounts to about 11,000 piculs, and is nearly all of poor assortment. The upward movement in Raw Silk continued till the 2nd inst. when holders gave way, and a slight reduction took place, on which basis buying was resumed. As home telegrams report the Italian crop an average one, and neither in China nor Japan is a shortage expected, a further decline is probable. Sales of old Waste have taken place, but nothing has been done in new staple. Exchange has varied somewhat during the week, and closes lower.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

POLITICAL EARNESTNESS.

THERE is no denying, says the *Fiji Shimpō*, that Japan now possesses the form of government called a limited monarchy, since she has a published constitution and is on the eve of the opening of a diet. But she seems, none the less, to be unable to shake off the spirit educated by centuries of feudalism and to develop the characteristics essential to the proper exercise of her new polity. It has been well observed of European nations where limited monarchies exist that ministers and statesmen never lose their keen interest in political affairs even when out of office. Mr. Gladstone, for example, though he holds no portfolio, devotes himself heart and soul to affairs of State, and however distant may be the prospect of his return to office, his zeal never seems to flag. But in Japan an opposite state of affairs prevails. Take the cases of Counts Ito, Kuroda, and Okuma, or Viscounts Yenomoto and Mr. Iwamura. From the moment of surrendering their portfolios they appear to give themselves no concern about politics. It is true that Count Okuma and Mr. Iwamura are prevented by ill health from playing an active part, but Counts Ito and Kuroda, who held the high post of Minister President and who worked zealously and stoutly in the cause of Treaty Revision and other national problems, now maintain absolute silence. Count Ito resides in Odawara, quite outside the sphere of politics, and Count Kuroda devotes his time to rearing domestic fowls and gold fish. They appear to be radically altered men. So too with Viscount Yenomoto. In a word, it seems to be the accepted canon that men should follow the example of old-time Chinese heroes and retire from office into oblivion and indifference. Such a tendency is a relic of feudal days when a *Samurai* thought it undignified to attach himself to a second lord after he had left the service of his original chief. The custom in Europe is entirely different.

It would never have occurred to us to draw such an inference as this enunciated by the *Fiji Shimpō*. Two considerations would have stood in our way. The first is that against the apparent quiescence of Counts Ito and Kuroda, we may set the great activity shown formerly by such men as Counts Itagaki, Okuma, and Goto, Viscounts Tani and Torio, and others of lesser note. Why should a general theory be founded on two or three isolated examples when twice as many instances of an opposite character can be adduced? The second consideration is that no machinery exists in Japan by means of which men out of office may show themselves politically active, unless they happen to be leading members of political parties. They cannot speak in parliament; they naturally shrink from writing in the press; they are practically precluded from platform oratory unless they choose to figure as agitators. When it is explained by what means Counts Kuroda and Ito could properly and consistently play an active rôle in politics while out of office, we shall be in a better position to judge whether their reticence is attributable to the cause assigned by the *Fiji Shimpō*. At all events nothing, in our opinion, could be more extravagant than to hold up Counts Ito and Kuroda and Viscount Yenomoto as examples of men still governed by the habits of feudal days.

CHINESE DOINGS IN NEW YORK.

NEW YORK seems to be slightly excited over the case of a girl who is said to have been kept prisoner for a year, and compelled to earn money for her jailor by leading a life of shame. A portrait of the damsel, published by the *Sun*, represents her as a winsome and gentle maid, just such an one as might win hearts without having the strength to resist persecution. On the other hand, her tyrant, Li Ki, is depicted as a veritable stage villain, his pig-tail which is carried across his brow in the fashion of a coronet, giving him the appearance of a butcher who has just been crowned with

bays for his sanguinary prowess. The very contemplation of these pictures is enough to inspire people with a wish to lynch Li, so that the *Sun* may be said to have contributed materially to the cause of justice. Shun Yi, we are told by the faithful reporter who never exaggerates nor ever suffers prejudice to obscure his judgment, was the third daughter of a gambler and opium smoker of Amoy. Destitute of funds to purchase his favourite drug, the man sold his three children one by one, Shun Yi finally passing into the hands of a merchant for \$50. By and by her purchaser went to America leaving "his slave," as the placid reporters call her, behind him. She did not remain long in Amoy, however. By some mysterious process her father seems to have regained possession of her, for in the next steamer she, too, sailed westward with her parents. At San Francisco she fell into the hands of Li Ki, by marriage he says, by kidnapping says the veracious reporter. Proceeding subsequently with him to New York, she was forced to become a means of earning money immorally for her master, being kept a close prisoner and treated to doses of a slung-shot whenever she rebelled. Such a trade is lucrative, for at present there are only seven women plying it among the big Chinese colony in Mott Street. But after a year of suffering, the story of Shun Yi's sorrow leaked out. The police stepped in, removed her beyond the range of the slung-shot and lodged Li in prison, whence his family have subscribed a thousand dollars to rescue him, but whence he is not likely to emerge if the veracious reporter can keep him there. Meanwhile there is another Li burning to marry the persecuted beauty, and he will succeed if the impartial reporter can aid him.

THE DISTRESS IN TOKYO.

STATISTICS compiled by the police of Tokyo, after careful examination, show the number of indigent persons in the various wards of the metropolis to be as follow:—

Name of ward.	Number of persons in a state of absolute destitution.	Number of persons in a state of almost destitution.	Number of poor.	Totals.
Kyobashi	—	—	5	5
Sakamotocho	—	—	13	13
Hisamatsusho	—	—	117	117
Idzumibashi	9	134	877	1,020
Shiba Atagomachi	—	3	14	17
Azabu	—	—	97	97
Takanawa	3	7	121	131
Shinagawa	—	—	38	38
Kojimachi	—	—	129	129
Akasaka	—	4	597	511
Yotsuya	—	—	23	23
Ushigome	38	46	240	324
Shinjuku	19	—	103	122
Ogawamachi	4	3	75	82
Koisshikawa	52	219	777	1,048
Hongo	—	—	4	4
Itabashi	18	12	110	140
San'yemachi	—	—	245	245
Asakusa Tamachi	—	—	148	148
Shitaya	—	4	20	24
Senju	—	—	80	80
Toniokamonzon	1	6	—	7
Honjo Aioicho	17	146	883	1,046
Adzumiabashi	—	—	40	40
Koinatsulawa	—	—	12	12
River and Coast	—	—	—	—

Totals...1615844,6785,423

These statistics show the state of affairs existing on the 23rd of June. The numbers in the first column show persons who are absolutely without food or means of obtaining it, owing to age, deformity, bodily infirmity, or complete indigence. The second class consists of persons who, though able to earn bread, cannot find employment and are at the end of their resources. The third class comprise unfortunates who earn something, but whose earnings are quite inadequate to sustain their families. It need scarcely be said that no one included in this list ever dreams of such a luxury as rice-eating.

KOREA.

THE troubles reported from Seoul at the beginning of this month remain still a mystery. It appears that after the demise of the Queen

Dowager Chwo, a detachment of American marines and blue-jackets entered the Korean capital and posted themselves at the United States Legation. Another detachment from the same vessel, the *Swatara*, is said to have been posted between Seoul and Chemulpo, and the *Chinese Times'* correspondent, writing under date June 8th, mentions a rumour that a steam launch filled with Japanese sailors was on the river en route for the capital. This last story is undoubtedly erroneous, but the arrival of a United States force must of course be accepted as true, and is probably the origin of the extraordinary rumour published and apparently credited by certain English journals, that the United States Government contemplated the acquisition of Port Hamilton for the purpose of handing it over to Russia. When such wild stories are gravely published in newspaper columns, the public may well be perplexed what to believe. But the purpose on account of which the *Swatara* sent a force to Seoul has still to be explained. The correspondent of the *Chinese Times* suggests that the step was taken in consequence of uneasiness in the Palace, and an appeal from the King to the American Legation. It is conceivable that apprehensions of an emeute may have been entertained, in connection with the taxation necessitated by the funeral expenses of the Queen Dowager. At all events Russia's share in this latest scare dwindles, as her share in previous scares has invariably done, into absolute nothingness.

HASHIMOTO GAHO.

MR. IMAIZUMI YUSAKU, an antiquarian and critic, writes in a recent issue of the *Art Journal* a brief sketch of the life of Mr. Hashimoto Gaho, whose large picture at the Exhibition has evoked various criticisms. Whatever may be the true value of the picture—and no one questions that it has many merits—Mr. Hashimoto is undoubtedly the most conspicuous artist of the renaissance school. He was born in 1835 at the Edo *yashiki* of his clan of Kawagoe, his father being painter to the chief of that clan. At the early age of seven, Gaho began to study art under the superintendence of his father, and when he was thirteen, he entered the studio of Kano Masanobu, at Kobikicho, where he made such rapid progress that before he had been there four years he was permitted by his master to assist him in decorative work, a favour usually given only to students of much longer apprenticeship. At first Gaho took for his models Tan-yō and Motonobu, but subsequently his fancy turned to Seshū and Sesson, and finally he took for models the works of some Chinese masters of the Sung and Yuan dynasties. As the result of this study of artists of different schools, he finally struck out an independent and original style of his own. Beyond these extremely meagre facts the sketch before us does not travel. It remains silent as to the details of the distinguished artist's career. The author, in conclusion, speaks of the latest production of Hashimoto Gaho, the picture exhibited at Ueno, in the following strain:—"The sinking sun appears just above the horizon; a streak of white cloud hovers over the maple trees as if to protect them; the lofty peaks of the mountains are robed in autumnal quiet; a rushing stream of water plunges into the haze of the evening; the rocks stand in rugged grandeur covered with ancient moss; and old decrepit trees lean against the rocks as if listening to the noise of the babbling current. Nobody can look at a picture like this without thinking that he actually hears the voices of monkeys at Hakyō or Sankyō (places in China famous for their autumnal scenery). We need scarcely call attention to the serenity of the scene, the originality of the conception, and the excellence of the execution. We are above all astonished at the wonderful freedom of a hand that can work on a canvas more than nine feet long without being betrayed into one superfluous stroke. No artist can do this unless he carries as it were, mountains and valleys in the palm of his hand. Usually artists, painting natural scenes, fall into the error of using colours too freely or too

sparingly; thus making the picture look vague and confused. In the case of the present picture, the happy mean has been struck with admirable effect. Further, in depicting trees the artist follows a method of his own, well calculated to give solidity and strength to the trunks. In all other respects, it is easy to notice, as every one who has looked at the picture must have noticed, that the artist has sought to develop a new style of manipulation quite distinct from the old method. We do not regard this picture as at all perfect. Blemishes and imperfections, always observable even in the works of renowned masters of art, are unavoidable in the case of an artist engaged in the difficult task of opening up a new route. We repeat, however, that Mr. Hashimoto's picture signalizes the dawn of a new era of Japanese art."

THE WEATHER.

Old residents have learned by experience that June always brings two or three days of great heat, which is all the more difficult to bear since it suddenly succeeds comparative cool. This year the rule has been observed to a most distressing degree. The week commencing June 21st ushered in a spell of hot weather of quite exceptional intensity. The temperature in Tokyo, in the shade, at 6 a.m. changed from 73° F. on the 20th to 80°·6 F. on the 21st, and thenceforth ranged in the neighbourhood of the latter figure until the 29th, when rain and a cool breeze enabled people to breathe again. It is stated in a Tokyo journal that his Majesty the Emperor, finding the heat sufficiently remarkable to warrant special enquiries at the Meteorological Bureau, despatched a Chamberlain thither for the purpose. The answer given by the Bureau was that, last year also, three very hot days were experienced in June, the 18th, 19th, and 20th, when the thermometer in the shade at noon read 90° F., but that this year the corresponding temperature on the 25th was 93° F. The difference is not great enough, however, to be worthy of special consideration. Probably the sensation of oppressive heat felt this year is due to the fact that the rainy season, which generally comes in June, cooling the ground and freshening the atmosphere, made its advent in May, and the naturally hot sun of the summer solstice was thus enabled to exercise its full force without any interposition of clouds or mist. It has been supposed by some writers that this dislocation of the usual order of things will prove disastrous to the crops. But no such apprehension need be felt. It does not greatly matter to the Japanese farmer whether the *utubai* (summer rain) comes a fortnight sooner or a fortnight later, provided only that it comes generously. This year the downfall was copious, and when the time arrived for planting out the young rice plants, not only was there plenty of water on the fields, but an ample store existed also in the irrigation canals. The result was an almost ideal state of affairs for the rice-grower—a blazing sun overhead and abundance of moisture below. In the districts surrounding Tokyo and Yokohama we have never seen the rice plants looking lustrier. If only the autumn abstains from deluges and tempests such as it brought with it last year, a plentiful harvest may be looked for with confidence.

WRECK OF A WHALER IN THE OKHOTSK SEA.

Information has been received in Yokohama by the arrival of members of the crew of the whaling barque *Launcelet*, of the wreck of that vessel in the North. The *Launcelet* left San Francisco on November 26th, 1889, for Okhotsk Sea in search of whales. On April 19th, about 8 in the evening, she was carried on a reef 12 miles off the White Top Rocks, 180 miles south of Vladivostok. The vessel was drifted on to the rocks by a strong current, there being a dead calm when she struck. Had the weather been at all rough not a soul could have been saved. When she struck the anchors were let go, and after three hours' work she was got off. Twelve hours afterwards a gale of wind sprang up which would certainly have destroyed her if it had caught her whilst aground. She was got to

Vladivostok five days after (having been kept afloat by continuous pumping), and was there condemned by the Russian Government. The crew, 44 all told, were sent by the Captain to Nagasaki, whence five of them have come to Yokohama.

CUSTOMS RETURNS.

The following is a summary of the Customs Returns for May, showing the foreign trade of Japan for the month:—

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS.	
1889.	1890.
SILVER YEN.	SILVER YEN.
Exports	5,440,213.850
Imports	5,877,329.530
Total exports and imports	11,551,644.500
Excess of imports	2,838,260.140

CUSTOMS DUTIES.

1889.	1890.
SILVER YEN.	SILVER YEN.
Exports	118,276.951
Imports	262,930.758
Miscellaneous	19,479.054
Total	319,676.763

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS TO AND IMPORTS FROM VARIOUS FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.
Great Britain	418,010.810	2,361,058.350	2,779,069.160
United States of America	5,714,926.840	869,116.270	2,774,973.110
China	355,343.540	1,053,139.000	1,408,482.540
Hongkong	820,355.700	361,072.540	1,181,428.240
British India	30,435.190	666,524.310	696,959.500
France	284,104.070	310,309.000	604,403.070
Korea	120,007.800	418,003.730	538,011.530
Germany	50,428.100	454,948.760	505,376.860
Australia	80,330.250	46,990.490	127,320.740
Canada & other British America	125,813.780	1,222.060	127,035.840
Switzerland	160.800	75,308.310	75,469.110
Netherlands	2,151.790	69,032.090	71,183.880
Russia	58,150.830	7,051.570	65,202.400
Philippine Islands	32,404.000	16,314.640	51,718.640
Italy	3,063.240	7,423.300	11,086.540
Denmark	—	6,604.750	6,604.750
Austria	5,640.700	747.270	6,387.970
Spain	1,268.000	4,159.000	5,427.000
Holland	2,476.250	1,684.390	4,160.640
Siam	—	1,792.000	1,792.000
Portugal	—	1,739.280	1,739.280
Hawaii	1,338.000	—	1,338.000
Persia	—	1,277.920	1,277.920
Turkey	12.000	640.000	652.000
Other Countries	66,012.880	451,049.200	517,062.080
Total	4,210,375.350	7,191,952.320	11,405,327.670

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS FROM AND TO EACH PORT.

	Exports.	Imports.	Totals.
	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.
Yokohama	2,190,327.000	3,325,407.790	5,515,734.790
Kobe	1,025,110.270	3,650,915.120	4,676,025.390
Osaka	4,107.200	315,121.030	319,228.230
Nagasaki	41,078.430	271,700.820	312,779.250
Hakodate	14,794.370	—	14,794.370
Niigata	4,033.100	—	4,033.100
Hiohonesaki	24,128.200	141,200.230	165,328.430
Moji	22,056.230	—	22,056.230
Hikata	807.130	6,225.330	7,032.460
Kuchinotsu	57,641.500	—	57,641.500
Idzumi	640.480	3,803.760	4,444.240
Shikama	604.170	73.100	677.270
Sasana	1,884.900	510.000	2,394.900
Specie and Bullion { Exports	228,523.000	—	228,523.000
{ Imports	—	19,040.320	19,040.320
Total	247,563.320	—	247,563.320
Excess of exports	209,482.680	—	209,482.680

VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS BY JAPANESE MERCHANTS AND GOVERNMENT.

	Exports.	Imports.	Totals.
	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.
By Japanese Merchants { Exports	401,907.160	—	401,907.160
{ Imports	—	1,720,706.700	1,720,706.700
Imported by Government	—	255,043.030	255,043.030

LANDSEER.

The great painter of animals, concerning whose prowess modern critics are disposed to be supercilious, still commands the admiration of the British public. The Wells collection of his paintings was recently brought to the hammer at Messrs. Christie's, the result being that the 30 pictures realized nearly £43,000. The highest price, £4,400, was paid for the well known fighting stag—"None but the brave deserve the fair"—but the picture of a young stag and hind—"The Honeymoon"—was a good second—£4,042 10s. The value of Landseer's time was shown by the price paid for "Trim." This is a picture of an old dog holding a rabbit in its mouth. On the trunk of a tree beside it are written the words "To W. Wells, Esq., with the author's respects; painted by E. Landseer in two hours and a half; Red-leaf, August, 1831." This painting fetched £787 10s., so that every minute spent over the work by Landseer was worth five sovereigns. *The Times*, writing of the sale, says:—"Besides the interest of prices unprecedentedly high, the occasion was marked by two incidents which gave rise to enthusiastic applause from the audience, and which may be said to have quite an historic

interest in these dispersions of great national pictures. These arose out of the auctioneer, Mr. Woods, remarking, when he put up the picture of Landseer at work modelling his colossal lion in the studio of Baron Marochetti, that it was well worthy of a place in the National Gallery, and he hoped that some gentleman would purchase it and present it to the nation. This was met with loud applause, and at once Mr. Agnew said 'I bid 50 guineas for it to present it to the National Gallery,' and the good taste of the audience and their hearty applause was shown unanimously, for there was not one bidding in opposition to Mr. Agnew's liberal gift. But quite a sensation was created when the fine portrait of Landseer, by Sir Francis Grant, came before the audience at the head of the works of Landseer, when Mr. Woods, with still more emphasis, insisted that this portrait ought to be in the national collection. Again there was a round of plaudits when, to the surprise of everybody, M. Rochefort, who was sitting immediately in front of the rostrum, said 'I bid 50 guineas to present this portrait to the nation,' and as this was announced by the auctioneer, amidst enthusiastic applause, it seemed that all were not content that a Frenchman should do this, and so M. Rochefort was opposed, but not to be driven from his point, for he fought bravely and carried it, buying the picture for 120 guineas, the hammer falling amidst a storm of applause. This little affair of cosmopolitan generosity in art, so new to the auction room, was very gracefully recognized by Mr. Agnew and M. Rochefort rising and lifting their hats to each other."

MR. MUTSU MUNEMITSU.

We take the following from the *Yiji Shimpō*:—When Mr. Mutsu returned to Japan from the United States various rumours prevailed as to his future political career. It was thought that he would cast in his lot with the Patriotic Party and coöperate with Count Itagaki. But, contrary to popular expectation, he accepted ministerial office, and it was concluded that all prospect was ended of his sitting for any constituency in the Diet. Mr. Mutsu himself has been the first to dispose of this theory, for when asked the other day as to his future intentions he declared that it was the custom in civilized States for Ministers to be also members of Parliament, and that he intended to sit as a member in the Diet if that were possible. Mr. Mutsu is said to have a large number of supporters in Wakayama Prefecture, indeed the feeling of the electors is entirely in his favour, so that there is every prospect of his being elected.

THE "NIPPON-JIN."

In the *Nippon-jin* of the 18th ultimo, Mr. Tanahashi Ichiro writes in a most disheartening manner on the possibility of introducing into Japan a system of party government. Everything, he says, conspires to make him take the gloomiest view of the situation in politics. He denies that there are any political parties worthy of the name, those that occupy the position being, in his opinion, nothing but so many factions. In the motives of the leaders of these factions, he fails to notice any public spirit or patriotism: their object is to promote their own selfish ends. As to the coming elections, he complains that the contest is not between intellect and intellect or between merit and merit but between money and money—so that in all probability the majority of successful candidates will be men of wealth, but of little or no moral capacity. Under these circumstances, Mr. Tanahashi is constrained to declare that a long time must elapse before his countrymen are ripe for Government by party. A pessimistic strain runs through the writing of many Japanese journalists at present, but few will be prepared to go to such lengths as Mr. Tanahashi.

Mr. Kikuchi Kumataro addresses some advice to members of the House of Peers recently elected in each locality from among the highest taxpayers. The majority of these men belong to the mercantile and farming classes. Mr.

Kikuchi reminds them of the vast difference between the position they have now obtained, and that occupied by them little more than twenty years ago. In those days, they received no sort of consideration, and were exposed to all kinds of taunts and insults from the haughty military class. But now they are to sit side by side with the highest peers of the realm, whom they could not formerly so much as look in the face. This elevation of their social and political status brings to them a corresponding increase of public responsibility. The occupation of a high position involves the discharge of certain duties. Mr. Kikuchi recommends the new members to show themselves worthy of the trust reposed in them, and the honour they have received.

Mr. Kon Sotosaburo writes on the subject of rice. He thinks that a considerable quantity of the grain is still lying in the stores of large landed proprietors, and he appeals to these, in the name of humanity and public spirit, to bring their hoarded rice into the market. We wish that it were possible to endorse this view. Formerly large farmers used, as Mr. Kon says, to store up quantities of surplus rice; but all evidence goes to show that such a state of things no longer exists, or at any rate does not exist to an extent comparable with former times. The price of rice is almost as high in remote farming localities as in the large centres of commerce; from which it follows, among other things, that not much grain is left in the hands of farmers.

Mr. Inouye Enryo commences a series of articles on the question whether the number of Buddhist temples and priests in Japan is not too great in proportion to the population. The essay is interesting, but we cannot fairly review it until it is concluded. Mr. Kaga Hideichi appeals to distinguished ladies to hold a charity bazaar for the relief of the poor. Another writer, under the *nom de plume* of "Akusoku-shi," discusses, though at the eleventh hour, the question of the *Shizoku* Fund of Tokyo. He advises the new Governor of Tokyo to prevail upon the recipients of the fund to return it. Last comes a long lecture to young women "who are guilty of aping the manners of their Occidental sisters." They are charged with immorality, disobedience, haughtiness, and in fact every kind of vice which is particularly worthy of condemnation in women. The writer is rather behind the time, for the fashion of raising a conservative outcry against the new system of female education has long since passed away. Every rule has its exceptions, and we do not doubt that particular instances may furnish warrant for the strictures of the writer in the *Nippon-jin*, but in general it may safely be inferred that prejudice, and prejudice only, directs the pens of such critics.

THE ILLUSTRATED INTERVIEW.

The illustrated interview is developing into something colossal. The interviewer need no longer have his attention distracted by the necessity of remembering or writing down what he hears. Accompanied by a skilled stenographer, he can be sure that every word uttered will be accurately recorded, while an instantaneous photographer, also in his suite, takes picture after picture of the person interviewed. Thus the public, instead of having an inaccurate and comparatively cold reproduction of the opinions of some celebrity, gets his exact thoughts in his very words, and is, at the same time, brought face to face with him at all the thrilling points of the conversation. The result is wonderful. How much additional publicity it will give to public men one can scarcely estimate. The interviewer, too, will become an important personage, for it will be more and more necessary that he should possess the faculty of suggesting and discussing topics of general interest. A remarkable example of such an interview occurs in the *New York World* of May 4th. Twelve columns are filled with Dr. Talmage's views, expressed by himself to an interviewer, and thirty-seven instantaneous photographs

show the celebrated divine in the act of uttering this or that sentiment. An idea of the interview may be gathered from the following extract, in itself very interesting:—

"A newspaper has several times contended that the criticisms of clergymen and others on the Faith-Curers and other modern miracle-workers are in effect denials of Christian doctrine; that the practice of the Faith-Curers is in exact obedience to the command in the Epistle of James, v.—14-15: 'Is any sick among you? Let him call for the elders of the Church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up.' Does that passage, in your judgment, justify the practice of the Faith-Curers in refusing to call a physician when members of their families are ill and depending entirely upon prayer for healing?"

"My theory as to faith-cure is this: God does not give it to me to kneel down by a sick man and pray his maladies away; but I have no right to say that he does not give such power to others. It seems to me a fatal defect in the ministerial discussion of the subject that we deny to others the possession of a power merely because we do not possess it ourselves. I know cases in my own congregation where most marvellous cures have been wrought by faith in God.

"I know cases in which men have knelt down by the bedside, taken the hand of the patient and, after prayer, risen up and retired to another room. After a while the patient, who had not been able to walk for years, has risen and walked out into the room where the man who offered the prayer of faith was waiting for the answer. I have no more doubt of these facts than of my own existence. I have not this gift, but if any man has it the possession is a matter of everlasting congratulation. The familiar reply to all this is that the case referred to was one of nervous disorder, and that the cure was wrought by an appeal to the imagination. But I have personal knowledge of cases of cure which must have been direct from God. I saw one such in London. I went to the room, where there were perhaps fifty invalids, because I had heard that marvellous things were occurring at this, the most famous faith-cure in the world. I never believed nor disbelieved. I went to hear the testimony for myself. The Rev. Dr. Boardman, one of the best men this country ever produced, was in London at this time at the head of this faith-cure. I stood on the platform closely scrutinizing everything that went on. There was a poor woman near me who especially attracted my attention and sympathy. Her arm and wrist were twisted and distorted with what seemed to be inflammatory rheumatism. The wrist and hand were much inflamed and very red. The muscles were contracted into complete helplessness. It was a case which at a moment's glance you would have pronounced incurable. Dr. Boardman expounded the doctrine of faith, and told how Christ, when on earth, healed the sick. He declared that Christ was present still and ready to heal those who believe. Every now and then he would pause and ask 'Do you believe?' After a time this poor woman cried in a voice that resounded throughout the rooms, 'I do believe,' and stretched out her arm and hand as straight as you can stretch out yours. If I had seen one rise from the dead I could not have been more thoroughly stirred, excited, enthused, and inspired. Now, I don't know how other people would account for this, but I came away saying: 'There may be something in this faith-cure which it is best not to laugh at; something which it is best not to deride.' The progress of the government of God may after a while—I don't say it will, but it may—be in that direction. It may be that by the healing of the sick and the performance of other wonderful things the true Church of Jesus Christ will be established."

"Would you, then, justify those people in Brooklyn who refuse to call a physician when any of their number are ill, several of whom have died while waiting for faith to cure them?"

"I should say just this, that every family of people have a right to do as they please in such matters. If they want to try skill, they have a right; if they prefer to trust faith, their right to do so is just the same. They have a right to call in a homoeopathist or an allopathist or a faith-healer, just as they prefer."

"Would that cover the case of young children who are smitten with scarlet fever or diphtheria, for example, who have no capacity to choose for themselves? Are not their parents morally as well as legally bound to secure for them the best skill obtainable?"

"They are bound to do what they believe to be best. But what is best in such a case? The same objection which is made to the faith-curer whom they call would apply to the physician if they summoned one. If they sent for a homoeopathist and the child died some would blame them for not calling an allopathist instead. If they sent for an allopathist some would say that the child's life could have been saved by a homoeopathist. Children are in their parents' hands, anyhow. If their parents are imbeciles they should be sent to an asylum for the weak-minded, but if they are ordinarily capable persons they must be allowed to exercise their own judgment in caring for their children. In many cases the physician does more harm than good, anyhow. When then the public or juries in court come to consider cases where persons have died without medical attendance they should bear in mind how many persons have died under the hands of the doctors. My position on this matter is this:

I have not the requisite faith for the accomplishment of the things done by the faith-curers; but, while I do not possess it myself, I should be very slow to utter any criticism of the good men and the good women who, I know, have their prayers answered in marvellous ways which I cannot account for by ordinary laws of physiology."

SERVICES IN UNION CHURCH.

DR. THWING announced on Sunday that he had been urgently solicited to speak in Tokyo in behalf of the indigent insane, and commended to public favour the humane efforts now making to benefit this class of unfortunates here, as in China. Intelligent native residents feel the imperative need of caring for those who through poverty cannot secure that custody and care which are extended to paying patients. He then announced the text, "Lay hold on eternal life" and spoke on the soul's life hereafter as one of immeasurable development rather than of mere extension in endless years. Memory, will, imagination, and other increments of its eternal life will find unimpeded play. Spiritual accessories will be added to the resurrection body, doubtless, such as are foreshadowed now by the powerful and delicate auxiliaries given by science to human hearing, vision, touch and locomotion. One is appalled at the leaps made in the recent researches of material science by men like Edison. We seem to be on the confines of still more startling discoveries. These are but hints of the revelations of the phenomenal powers of the eternal life. The scope of being is also believed by many learned men to be broader than that of this planet alone. Sir John Herschel declared his belief in the fact that other worlds are populated. To the moral history and destiny of these "principalities in heavenly places" we may be related. Psalm singing, visiting, and idleness do not form the true ideal of heaven. The element of weariness and of sin will be eliminated from all effort, hence work will be exhilarating and restful. The practical duty is to grasp, "lay hold of eternal life," now and here; to rise above what is petty, paltry, puerile, those trivialities that delight childish, undeveloped souls, and seek the things which are above, so making sure of the glory and honour which are enduring, being prepared for their possession by the strenuous struggles and victorious conquests of this life. Dr. Thwing, in closing, desired that his hearers should pray for a blessing not only on the labours of love which he had put forth for five Sundays in Yokohama, but in some thirty places of worship during his wide travels the past year, and also in colleges and schools and on the lecture platform. He had proved the blessing "it is more blessed to give than to receive," and said that it had been a joy to be able to give his advocacy to so many and varied humane as well as religious and literary enterprises in the three empires of India, China, and Japan.

PRIESTS AND POLITICS.

Of late there has been a tendency among certain sections of the Buddhist priesthood to take part in the practical politics of the day. At one time some priests of the *Monto* (*Shinshu*) sect went so far as to send delegates to Tokyo, to memorialize the Authorities on the subject of amending the Constitution in the sense of allowing their order the right to elect and to be elected to the House of Representatives. More recently stories were circulated about the activity of certain priests in carrying on a secret, and sometimes even an open, canvass on behalf of parliamentary candidates. In most cases these stories relate to priests connected, either directly or indirectly, with that politico-religious association called the *Son-Nô-Hô-Butsu Daidôdan* (which, when literally translated, reads the Sovereign-revering and Buddha-believing Grand Combination), the true object of which has never been clearly declared in public. Mr. Tatsumi Kojiro, who canvassed for himself last month in the urban division of Shitaya, is one of the principal members of this mysterious association, while another no less well known member is on the staff of a leading daily paper in Tokyo. In the face of

these circumstances, the public seems to welcome with pleasure the intelligence that the Chiefs (*Kwancho*) of all the different Buddhist sects met recently at the Hanganji temple, Tsukiji, Tokyo, where, after discussing the subject of priestly interference in politics, they passed the following resolutions:—First, that no priest be permitted to join any political party; secondly, that no priest be allowed under any circumstances to labour for the benefit of any political party; thirdly, that every priest take care to warn his flock against the danger of allowing political differences to encroach upon the sphere of social intercourse—and against committing any breaches of the law in the excess of political zeal; and fourthly, that under no circumstances whatsoever, shall either the principal hall of a temple or any other building belonging thereto, be lent for the purpose of holding meetings or delivering speeches in connection with political parties. These resolutions, we are told, have already been made known to the whole priesthood throughout the country. Pleasant as the news must be to all thoughtful Japanese, it cannot fall agreeably on the ears of Viscount Torio, who has thus been deprived of his more influential wing, the other and far weaker pinion being the bigotted *Shinto* priests. The Viscount, however, being a man of undoubted energy and resource, nobody is sure that this apparent discomfiture may not rouse him to devise some fresh and more effective expedient.

FOR RELIEF OF THE INDIGENT INSANE.

A GOODLY audience gathered at 37, Tsukiji, on Tuesday afternoon. Dr. Whitney introduced the speaker, and other native and foreign gentlemen, whose earnest and practical suggestions must have been encouraging to the projectors of this humane enterprise. Professor Thwing remarked that "it gave him genuine gratification to plead here the cause of the insane, as it had been his privilege to do in China the past winter. In the absence of accurate statistics it is not easy to tell how generally mental maladies prevail in the East. Many lunatics are concealed. Some are killed. Not a few commit suicide. India has hospitals for the custody and cure of lunatics, managed by Europeans, and by natives trained in western methods, but China has none, and Japan is inadequately supplied. Intelligent natives admit this and welcome the alliance of those who have had larger experience elsewhere with the insane. We desire to avoid everything that is obtrusive, but cannot be unmindful of the demands alike of humanity and of scientific inquiry. The educated instincts of medical men, not less than their philanthropic impulses, cannot allow them to rest while this department of their equipment is so sadly deficient. The world is waking to the importance of doing something to arrest the wide-spread scourge of insanity, or if that is impossible, to limit its extent, to alleviate its features, to establish just legislation for the really insane, and to protect society from those who simulate madness to cover crime and to excite pity. As an accredited representative of the International Congress of Medical Jurisprudence held last year in New York city, which is a permanent body embracing 743 of the leading lawyers, judges, physicians, and alienists of Europe, Asia, and America, I urge upon the native and foreign physicians of this empire, as well as those who have influence in its legislative concerns, to coöperate with this body in the biological and sociological study of Eastern life; in the collection, collation, and transmission to us in New York of all those statistics and facts, physical, social, psychic, and political which may help to illuminate this opulent theme. Insanity is said to be the price we pay for modern civilization. Every advance in social refinement brings conflict and conquest that are to be paid for in blood and nerve and life. Barbarians are not nervous. Savages are rarely insane. They take no thought of the morrow. But 'we are born in a hurry, live in a hurry, die in a hurry, and are driven to Greenwood on a trot.' The emulous rivalries of business life and the speculative character of its ventures add to the strain imposed

upon those already bankrupt physical natures which multitudes have inherited and are transmitting to the next generation. The introduction of machinery has its mischievous features, notably in the depression coming from the specialization of nerve function where workmen keep doing one petty thing, monotonously year after year, and so sterilize mind and muscle in every other direction. Then there are our unphysiological systems of study, forcing youthful minds through severe curriculums and thus developing a neurotic diathesis by neglect of natural laws. The stimulus of liberty is a productive cause of neurasthenia, for the sense of responsibility which citizenship brings, the ambitions awakened by the prospect of office, position, power, and influence; the friction, disquiet, bickerings, wranglings, disappointment, and chagrin which attend the struggles and agitations of political life, do exhaust men, to say nothing of the curse of strong drink which is often associated with these excitements. Insanity is said to have increased in Italy since religious and political liberty have there been guaranteed. Liberty, like beauty, is a perilous possession. The ambitions it inspires add to the tremendous strain which is put on heart and brain by 'progress,' that merciless tyrant which is pushing its way into Japan and other Asiatic communities, bringing bane as well as blessing in its train." Dr. Thwing then told what had recently been done in Canton, and stated some of the requisites of an asylum as to location, architecture, officers, nurses, and management. The superintendent, he said, should be thoroughly versed in the treatment of lunacy and acquainted with Japanese character and tastes. Clinical details should be kept with fullness and accuracy, and careful classification observed in the custody of patients. Dr. Whitney cited a case, illustrating what he believed to be the condition of thousands of poor lunatics, and suggested that perhaps an annex might be added to one of the native hospitals, if money were furnished. It would be well to have a committee appointed to act as curators of funds raised by foreigners in Japan and elsewhere. A motion in reference to the committee was carried. Dr. Macdonald, Messrs. Page and Uchimura followed with cordial words. The latter has spent years in America studying insanity and kindred themes. He believed this to be a movement prompted not by humanity alone but by true patriotism, for neuropathic conditions were undermining the physical prosperity of his country. A second meeting will be called by the committee, the members of which will be selected and announced by the chairman in a few days.

THE ELECTIONS.

THE 1st inst. was a memorable day in the history of Japan, being the day when the members of the first national assembly were elected by the people. In the provinces and capital alike, everything seems to have passed off in the quietest and most orderly manner. Tokyo returns twelve members, and the voting took place at that number of centres, commencing at 7 a.m. and ending at 6 p.m. According to the Law of Election, persons registered as qualified electors and desiring to vote had to attend in person at the voting place. There, after identification by reference to the electoral list, each received a voting paper, upon which he inscribed the name of the person he voted for, and then his own name and residence, finally affixing his stamp. This paper the elector placed with his own hands in the ballot box, in the presence of the Headman of the District, acting as manager, and of from two to five witnesses previously nominated. At 6 o'clock the polling was formally declared closed, and the ballot boxes, having been shut—or, to speak more accurately, their two locks having been closed, one by the Headman and the other by the witnesses—were forwarded this morning to the District Office of the locality. At nine of the election centres in the capital the results of the polling were declared the next day, at the remaining three places, a day later. These simple facts describe almost exactly what took place. There was complete absence of excitement on the part of

the voters and the onlookers. Indeed, after the early hours of the forenoon, when most of the votes were recorded, it would have been impossible for an uninformed spectator to imagine that anything so momentous as a general election, above all an election for the first Japanese parliament, was in progress. There were no crowds, no posters, no bands, no processions, no dead cats, and no rotten eggs. People seemed to regard the affair as a matter of every day business. In short, throughout the empire generally a quiet and law-abiding spirit prevailed, and Japan's first elections were conspicuously free from disturbance.

DOUBLE MURDER IN YOKOHAMA.

Two men were found on Thursday evening in Ogi-cho, Gochome, Yokohama, severely injured, life indeed being extinct in the case of one, while the other man died after being taken to hospital. The former, who was identified as a man named Toyokichi, had been stabbed in the side, and the other whose name is Ume-kichi had received a knife wound in the stomach, the weapon being a *deba bocho* or kitchen knife. A man has given himself up to the police authorities and confessed that he inflicted the wounds. It is supposed that the double murder was the result of a quarrel over a gambling bout.

CHOLERA.

It is greatly to be feared that cholera in an epidemic form, and of a very severe type, has made its appearance in Nagasaki. The telegraph says that thirteen cases occurred in three days, and that twelve of them proved fatal. We can scarcely hope that Tokyo and Yokohama will escape. A system of careful medical inspection will doubtless be established, but medical inspection is not very efficacious under any circumstances, and railway facilities deprive it of nearly all value. It will be most unfortunate if the first Japanese parliament has to sit in a pest-stricken city.

THE "TEN-SOKU."

IN the current number of the *Ten-soku*, Mr. Kato Hiroyuki, its sole editor, devotes the first article to the sanctity of the Constitution of a State. At the outset, speaking of a Constitution in its broadest sense, Mr. Kato observes that every political community, however low in the scale of progress, possesses some form of constitution, and that there is no absolute standard by which the value of a constitution can be estimated, the question whether any particular Constitution is good or bad being only determined by the degree of its suitability to the political conditions of the country where it exists. Speaking of a Constitution, in its limited and modern sense, Mr. Kato at once refers to the case of the Japanese Constitution, and declares that it is in its general and fundamental spirit essentially liberal and akin to the constitutions of European countries. At the present stage of Japan's progress, nothing more can be expected. The writer condemns, in strong terms, rash and eager politicians who, utterly disregarding the practical requirements of the country, are foolish enough to deliver public harangues on the supposed imperfections and insufficiencies of the Constitution.

In the next article we find an essay on the importance of establishing free schools for labourers. As yet Japan is happily exempt from the labour question so perplexing to Occidental nations, but the day is not far distant when this country too will have to face the great problem. The thoughtful portion of the nation clearly foresees this contingency, and from time to time we notice discussions in the vernacular press as to the best means of averting or mitigating the evil. Mr. Kato urges noblemen and rich merchants and farmers to subscribe funds for the establishment of free schools for labourers. In these institutions, classes would be opened in the evening, and the course of study would consist of reading, writing, arithmetic, and lessons in morals, the principal object to be kept in view being to inculcate the prime importance of the sentiments of honour and self respect. By way of trial, four or five such institutions ought to be opened

in Tokyo. The fund necessary for this purpose need not be large. Thirty or forty noblemen and rich merchants and farmers, acting together, could support the schools without feeling the weight of the burden. Mr. Kato appeals to these persons, first because they can best afford to incur the expense, and secondly because it is notably to their interest that the moral and intellectual capacity of the working classes should be improved, to the end that the spread of socialistic and other pernicious ideas may be prevented.

In the third article we have the conclusion of a series of essays on the relation between Natural History and the History of Man. Mr. Kato demonstrates, by copious illustrations, that the principles of Biology govern the course of human history, and advises historians to study the sciences, especially Biology.

The fourth article treats of the importance of holding in high consideration men of learning and men in the military and naval services. As we formerly noticed, Mr. Kato expressed the opinion, in the early numbers of his journal, that Japan ought to be a military nation. The views put forward in the present article are the natural sequence of the opinions then enunciated. The writer deplors the decline of military spirit in Japan since the Restoration. With the military spirit has disappeared, he thinks, the high sense of honour developed to such a degree under the feudal régime. He appeals to the Government and the leaders of the people to set the example of honouring men of the warlike professions. As to men of learning, he also insists that they ought to be as highly considered by the nation as soldiers, for men of learning lead the country in its progress towards complete civilization. In this direction, he notes with pleasure a very healthy change in the sentiments of the people. Formerly men of learning were generally regarded simply as book-worms, little adapted for practical uses. But under the new educational system, such false notions have been entirely swept away. Young men who have received a thorough training in the different colleges are vigorously pursuing their way in every walk of life, and the public is awakening as to the true value of learning. As yet, however, those who have received collegiate education are young, and the sphere of their utility is limited; but as their value becomes more and more apparent, Mr. Kato believes and hopes that they will receive more and more favourable consideration.

The last article is the address which Mr. Kato sent to be read at the general meeting of the students of the German language—being unable to attend the meeting in person on account of indisposition. About seven or eight and twenty years ago, while serving under the Tokugawa Government in the Foreign Books Investigation Office, Mr. Kato commenced, together with Mr. Ichikawa Kaneyasu, to study German. He, therefore, believes himself the first pioneer of that language in Japan. His only teacher being a Dutch-German dictionary, he experienced indescribable difficulties in acquiring the new language. He expresses great pleasure that the study of German is steadily increasing in favour, because the Germans now stand far ahead of other nations in scientific investigation, a verdict which will not be accepted on the *ipse dixit* of Mr. Kato.

ARTISTS WITH PEN AND PENCIL.

JAPAN is very fortunate. Her scenic beauties and the sunny manners of her people attract a crowd of tourists who scatter gold along their route, and then write glowing accounts which attract others to come and be equally lavish. Just now she is to be especially congratulated on the temporary possession of two artists, one of the brush, the other of the pen, who are contributing materially to spread her reputation and their own. The literary painter is an admirable performer. He excels in verse as well as in prose. Still fresh in our memory is the classically constructed and graphic account he sent to the *Pall Mall Budget* of a certain famous residence at Azabu, where people enter as though they were stealing into the cave of Ali Baba, with hatted heads, heavy sticks, and bare feet, and where an atmosphere of subtle refinement reduces the profile of a young lady's face to a single line. But even that *chef d'œuvre* is eclipsed by the illustrated chapter which these masters have contributed to the *New York Herald* on the subject of Mr. Large's death. We are humiliated to discover how little we ourselves knew about the place where the Azabu tragedy occurred and about the events of that unfortunate day. We had no idea, for example, that Mr. Large came back to Tokyo from Miyanosita "under escort of a large body of troops," a point which certainly should not have been concealed by the Authorities. We did know, however, that the Japanese sword is "a terrible weapon" and that "in the hands of men who do not hold their lives at scarcely any value, and who are awake and alert against any danger, it makes them frightfully formidable antagonists for a drowsy man." This we did know, though we should certainly not have succeeded in conveying our knowledge so neatly and luminously. But the conviction of our ignorance is brought home to us with greatest force when we examine Mr. Landor's pictures. From them we learn that the Methodist Mission School in Azabu is a palatial building approached by a stately avenue; that the room where Mr. Large was sleeping is a species of barrack apartment so spacious that figures at one end seem dwarfed to the view of persons at the other; that Mr. Large's chief assailant wielded his sword with his left hand, carried a dagger in his right, and wore a colossal pig-tail which assumed all kinds of quaint angles at the moment of contest; and that the corridor where the tragedy occurred is approached by a giant staircase and flanked by bed-room doors about eleven feet high. It is fortunate that the two artists, now sojourning in our midst, take the trouble to correct our false impressions, and that they have access to vehicles so potent as the *Pall Mall Budget* and the *New York Herald*.

ANCESTRAL WORSHIP.

THE discussion of the subject of ancestral worship in China, and the adoption of a resolution radically condemning it at the Missionary Conference in Shanghai, naturally attract much attention. We commented on the matter in a recent issue, and we find the *Chinese Times* writing about it thus:—

In their attempt to introduce Christianity into China the missionaries proceed by methods which would be condemned in any other kind of enterprise, moral or material. Instead of looking for local allies, for existing foundations on which to build—as recommended by the minority—trusting to the divine alchemy of their religion to gradually transmute whatever is base into pure gold, they proceed on the more radical principle of destroying in order that they may build anew—the principle of the chimney in nature. Scarcely have they gained a footing in the country than they declare war to the knife against its most cherished institutions, converting the moral forces of the nation into bitter enemies. A foreign army invading a country makes use of all available auxiliaries, gains possession of communications, and of strategic positions, in the quietest and most unostentatious manner possible, and aims at reducing opposition to a minimum. The Christian soldiers, on the other hand, clamorously refuse to flank or climb the mountains. In their path, but insist on removing them bodily. Aiming at nothing less than setting up a spiritual kingdom in the hearts of the Chinese people, the missionaries begin by shocking such feelings of propriety as they already possess. That delicate piece of mechanism, the conscience, though susceptible of education in judicious hands possessing a nice touch, is nevertheless strong to resent outrages. The conscience even of the heathen was acknowledged by the early Christians to have been sufficiently well adjusted to be a law to them, whereby they were acquitted or condemned; and though it may become debased and its monente needle may be deflected by surrounding influences it never turns round and points the opposite way. The sense of right and wrong is never quite lost. It is perfectly useless, therefore, as a rule, to try to persuade grown-up men or women of sound mind that a certain thing is right which their conscience pronounces wrong, or wrong which their consciences affirm to be right. The plan has never succeeded of telling a non-Christian that the parents whom he revered were burning for their wickedness. He will go and burn with them, if he have the spirit of a man, rather than follow one who outrages his feelings. So, to come to the Christians who inherit from a hundred generations of ancestors such a love of them as to be to him the warp and woof of his character, and blantly tell him that the reverence he shows to his deceased parents is a gross offence which he must abjure if he would rescue the cause of God, seems the most unlikely way to gain him over. What is to be expected of that heathen but amazement at the impudence of the intruder, and in he steps short of reviving the Devil as presented to him, it only shows that the heathen has the virtue of endurance which is lacking in the evangelist. Humbly speaking, China can never be converted to Christianity while violence is done to the best feelings of the nation; and as ancestral worship is a religion which sits deep in their heart of hearts some means of accommodation will have to be discovered before Christianity can make any impression worth mentioning on this people. Hence the present attitude of the

body of missionaries—with a few notable exceptions—will in all probability retard the progress of Christianity for at least a generation. Not a very long period perhaps in the life of an ancient people, if delay were the only evil consequence attending the decision of the Conference. There is, however, a worse evil than even loss of time, for the revulsion engendered in the minds of the Chinese by unprovoked assaults on the objects of their affections is likely enough to keep alive and probably deepen their prejudice against the foreign religion. If the barrier, while slowly wearing away physically and geographically, should be at the same time increasing morally, and the problem of regenerating China, thereby becoming progressively harder, the present generation of missionaries may be not only spending their own lives and labour fruitlessly, but actually creating obstacles for those who may come after them.

These very opinions were expressed by ourselves seven years ago with reference to missionary effort in Japan. But since then the spirit of tolerance and liberality has largely permeated the methods of Christian propagandists, and the business of destroying the law and the prophets is no longer placed in the forefront of missionary duty. As to the question of ancestral worship, however, the difficulty for the missionary must be very great. He cannot consistently sanction such a proceeding, yet he knows that there have grown up about it a host of associations and traditions which lie at the very root of household life and domestic happiness.

THE TURKS.

THE Turkish Ambassador, Osman Pasha, and his suite have now been the guests of the Japanese Government for some time, and are likely to enjoy this country's hospitality for at least two months more, if our information be correct. Their voyage eastward has been intensely dignified. They have moved with all the deliberation of great men in whose eyes time is the veriest slave. We can conceive no more complimentary way of paying a compliment than to make the whole process a leisurely holiday. If his Excellency the Pasha had hurried from Constantinople to Tokyo by fast steamers and expeditious railways, his voyage would have smacked of the truthful Train or the brisk Bly. He did well, therefore, to divest his progress of every semblance of globe trotting by lightning or commercial travelling by electricity. How long it is since he left the Golden Gate we do not remember, but a year will certainly not be an extravagant estimate. No one ever conveyed a Grand Cross from potentate to potentate in a manner more befitting the transit of such august baubles, and we should be sorry if the fulness of the Pasha's delay were not rounded off by a good long spell among the beauties of Japan. Meanwhile, it is interesting to hear what the Japanese think of their illustrious visitors. The impression made upon Western folks when they first meet Turks has always been one of admiration and surprise—admiration of the noble type of humanity, and surprise that it should have fallen so completely from its once high estate. One cannot conceive why a Turk should need assistance in any national undertaking, or why his country's place on the map of the world should be a constantly diminishing quantity. And this appears to be precisely the idea which the Japanese have formed from their brief acquaintance with him. "Tall of stature, dignified in bearing, their speech placid and well modulated, their demeanour refined, and their general appearance as suggestive of moral capacity as it is calculated to inspire respect, one reflects with wonder," writes the *Nippon*, "on the present condition of the State which these men represent, and learns to understand that racial characteristics are not the only potent factors in a country's career."

A NEW KOREAN DICTIONARY.

WE have to acknowledge the receipt from the Rev. H. G. Underwood of a Korean Grammar and Dictionary which cannot fail to be of the greatest service to students of that little-known tongue. To others—to ourselves, for instance—the interest is chiefly theoretical. Nothing can be more instructive than the likeness in difference subsisting between Korean and Japanese. So far as structure is concerned, the two tongues are almost identical, but their respective vocabularies are wide as the poles asunder. There are cases, too, in which the Korean colloquial resembles rather the Japanese written language, and *vice versa*. As for litera-

ture, the advantage is almost entirely on the Japanese side. Mr. Underwood fully endorses what Mr. Aston recently told the Asiatic Society on that head. "Trashy love stories and fairy tales" made up the whole account to credit, the reason of this being apparently that the literary influence of China has made itself far more extensively felt in the Hermit Kingdom than in the Island Empire. Chinese formalism has there, much more than here, hampered and crushed the native genius. Mr. Underwood has done his work well, especially in the grammar, which has evidently profited by the models which our resident grammarians of Japanese have offered. Indeed, the author acknowledges his obligations to Dr. Imbrie's "English-Japanese Etymology;" and though he does not make any similar acknowledgment to Mr. Chamberlain's "Colloquial Japanese Handbook," the division of chapters and paragraphs, the treatment of honorifics, the two-fold division of the books into a grammar properly so-called and a practical part, and other points of likeness, show evident traces of that imitation which is the sincerest form of flattery. So far as we can judge, the defects in Mr. Underwood's grammar are not such as will in any way affect its value to students and comparative philologists. For instance, his explanations are always clear, though they are not always expressed in correct English. *Would* and *should* seem to trouble him. He says: "Frequently Koreans use 'each' twice and sometimes oftener, in the same sentence, where we *would* use it but once. For example where we *would* say," &c. (The italics are of course our own). Again Mr. Underwood transliterates in an unpardonable manner the word "Onmun," the name of the beautifully simple native Korean alphabet of twenty-five letters. He actually writes it "Enmun," with an *r*, which is much as if one should transliterate the French word *bauf* by "burt." No doubt, some of us—not to say most of us—have left off rolling our *R*'s; but we still have consciences. And is the dropping of the *R* in English a reason for inserting it in the transliteration of foreign words where no *R* exists? We believe that a committee of all the most learned residents in Korea, both missionary and lay, has undertaken the great work of bringing out a complete dictionary of the Korean language. We trust that, in their transliteration, they will adhere to the sober and scientific method employed by Mr. Aston in his various essays on Korean subjects.

THE RIFT WITHIN THE LUTE.

COUNT ITAGAKI, on his recent visit to Tochigi and Ibaraki, is reported to have expressed doubts as to the feasibility of coalition between his party and the *Kaishin-to*. He assigned as a reason for these doubts the fact that he himself differs from Count Okuma in respect of many important political questions, prominent among them being the problem of finance. Count Okuma, being recently interviewed by a member of the staff of the *Kokumin Shimbu*, expressed the opinion that to reduce administrative expenses is a matter of very great difficulty, inasmuch as the public expenditures of a State always increase in proportion to the growth of its prosperity and civilization. Count Itagaki, on the contrary, holds that to reduce the Government's outlay is a prime necessity of the time, and confesses that for years he has been looking forward to the opening of Parliament in order to be able to discuss this problem. He therefore thinks that however excellent in theory may be the union of all the liberal parties, their combined action will scarcely be found possible in practice. We imagine that many people will endorse this view. For nearly nine years the *Fuyu-to* and the *Kaishin-to* were in distinctly opposite camps, the latter, indeed, not seeming to give itself much concern about the former, but the former always seeking to thwart and discredit the latter. It is conceivable that this long-standing enmity should be temporarily softened by the desire of combining to overthrow a common adversary, but such a fusion could not survive the accomplishment of its purpose, if it even held together so long. As between Count Okuma and Count Itagaki we have

no sufficient materials for forming a judgment on general grounds, but as between their views in respect of this particular problem of administrative economy, there cannot be much doubt among Western critics. All history goes to show that Count Okuma is right. The expenditure of a State is precisely like that of an individual. The more important each becomes in the world, the wider does the range of expenditure grow. There is no instance on record of a progressive country, which has managed to reduce its national expenditure. The tendency is quite in the opposite direction. In this respect, therefore, Count Okuma spoke with the wisdom of the experienced statesman. A great financier, as he undoubtedly is, would be the first to advocate the reduction of needless outlay and to devise practical means of effecting that object. But he knows far better than Count Itagaki, we venture to think, how inevitable it is that the country should spend more as it progresses in civilization and prosperity. If Count Itagaki seriously contemplates staking the future of his party on an attempt to subvert the natural order of things, he will soon part company from the *Kaishin-to* and its shrewd leader.

MR. FENOLLOSA.

MR. E. FENOLLOSA, who leaves Japan on the 6th for the United States, had the honour of being decorated with the Third Class of the Mirror on Monday. His Majesty the Emperor, in presenting the insignia to Mr. Fenollosa, thanked him for his labours in the cause of Japanese art, and expressed the hope that, after his return to America, he would continue to familiarise the foreign public with the principles which he had studied so successfully and expounded so ably during his long residence in Japan. Mr. Fenollosa already possesses the Third Class of the Rising Sun. It is pleasant to find that his labours are appreciated in high places, and we venture to echo the Imperial hope as to his future work.

THE "PILGRIM'S PROGRESS" IN JAPANESE.

WE observe that the London Religious Tract Society has brought out a second edition of the Rev. J. White's translation of the "Pilgrim's Progress." It contains a preface by Mr. Hubbard, the former American Minister. The book is illustrated and to add to its interest here, the illustrations are all Japanese. "Evangelist" is a venerable old Japanese clad in native attire. "Christian's" fight with "Apollyon" takes place at the foot of Fuji-yama. "Christian" is clad in Japanese armour. "Vanity Fair" is peopled with Japanese damsels and young men, and all the scenes of temptation are of a Japanese type. The effect is odd in the last scene, where a man with long sleeves is succouring "Christian" as he crosses the river of death. Some of the translator's terms are well chosen. "Obstinate" becomes "Gwanroku," a name used in the *Koyeki-mondo*, and "Pliable" is called "Wadono" (和殿). As a specimen of the style we give in Roman letters the translation of the opening paragraph, which in the original reads thus:—"As I walked through the wilderness of this world, I lighted on a certain place where was a den, and laid me down in that place to sleep; and as I slept I dreamed a dream. I dreamed, and behold, I saw a man clothed with rags standing in a certain plain, with his face from his own house, a book in his hand, and a great burden upon his back. I looked, and saw him open the book, and read therein; and, as he read, he wept and trembled; and not being able longer to contain, he broke out with a lamentable cry, saying, 'What shall I do?' 'Ware kono yo no are no wo tadori-yuki to, aru hora-ana no hotori ni ikoinuru ma ni, nemuke moyo shitsu, uchi fuse-shi, kari-ne no yume ni hitori no hito, mi ni ran-i wo matoi, te ni ikkan no fumi wo tadzu-saye, se ni omoni wo oi, onoga kataku wo sonukete tadazumu wo miru, kono hito fumi wo himotoki yomu ka to omoeba mata oi, furui, ononoki itarishi ga urei ni ya tavezaru-keri, tsui ni ito kanashige naru koyo wo age, ware ikaga nasubeki ka to itaku kanashimi nageki-keri." The translation bears the marks

of having been made with great care; but we fancy the style will prove a little stiff for the class of readers whom the book is likely to interest most. All the difficult Chinese characters have *kana* at the side, but this does not greatly assist those who are unacquainted with their meaning. The work ought to prove useful as a help to the development of the imaginative powers of the Japanese. Taken as a whole, it is far beyond even the most striking of Bakin's conceptions, clever as some of these were. The Religious Tract Society is spending its money wisely in reproducing in Japanese standard books of this kind, instead of printing little goody stories about angelic children that never live to grow up, reclaimed drunkards, and the like.

THE HONOUR OF A SEAT IN THE HOUSE.

THE *Mainichi Shimbu* uses very sweeping language about the Peers who are seeking election at the hands of their order. It declares that their principal, if not their only purpose, is to obtain the distinction of legislating in common with Princes of the Blood and other great dignitaries of the realm. It hints also that they are disposed to resort to corrupt means of accomplishing their purpose, and it reminds them that if they make their way to the Upper House by a route involving loss of self-respect, the result cannot be at all comfortable. "A decoration," our contemporary says, "is an honorable badge, not because of its pretty sheen, but because it indicates the performance of some meritorious act. Men attach little value to decorations given indiscriminately; they even ridicule them as childish baubles. So it is with a seat in the House. In England and the United States of America, for example, members of Parliament are elected by similar processes, yet whereas a member in England is highly respected, his *confrere* in the United States is not looked up to. This is because the means resorted to by candidates in the latter country being often corrupt, while those employed in the former are pure, men of the first class seek election in England and men of the second class in America. On the eve of our first elections we cannot call the prospect satisfactory. In one district a candidate has been arrested for bribery, in another the police have had to resort to violence for the suppression of violence; in places where force is not openly employed, secret organisations for intimidating electors are said to be in vogue; here a candidate utters slanders which may permanently injure an opponent, and there a newspaper prostitutes its columns to purposes of political defamation. Truly there is little pure atmosphere in the world of politics. The opponents of the Meiji Government used to allege its corrupt practices as the grounds of their attacks. But now these very men, these self-proclaimed purifiers of the political air, are themselves resorting to every kind of corruption and impropriety. We warn electors that those who bribe them to obtain their votes, will be the first to sell the interests of their constituencies in the House. There are methods of bribery which, though, not defined by law, are as surely bribery as the actual payment of coin. Clean legislators cannot be created out of unclean candidates."

THE COST OF AN ELECTION.

THE expense incurred by a country in connection with a general election varies greatly, of course. In England it has been estimated at millions of pounds sterling, whereas in Germany a tithe of the sum is said to suffice. We can form no accurate idea about Japan. One important item of cost, an item which increases in direct proportion to the universality of the suffrage, is loss of productive labour. The people lay aside all business in order to cast their votes, so that, in effect the national machinery of production is stopped for a day. This is not the case in Japan. The qualifications of an elector are so high that comparatively few persons enjoy the suffrage, and in almost every case they are men who can attend the polling places and record their votes without any inconvenient interruption of their business. The expenses connected

with candidature are another matter. They are estimated by the *Fiji Shimpō* on a scale which we venture to think very liberal. The number of members to be elected for the Lower House is three hundred, and it is said that there have been three candidates, on the average, for every seat. Each candidate is supposed, by our contemporary, to have spent from one to two thousand *yen*. Thus taking the average at fifteen hundred, the total outlay of the candidates would be over thirteen hundred thousand *yen*. But is it conceivable that the candidates have really incurred so much expense? From personal knowledge we know that several of them could not have afforded to pay any such sums. Besides the *Fiji Shimpō* speaks as though this outlay were quite distinct from the money spent by persons who travelled from place to place canvassing in the interests of their favourite candidates. It is difficult to give entire credence to such figures. The manner of conducting the elections in Tokyo has been of the least ostentatious and most economical character. Not a *sen* appears to have been spent needlessly, and we should be much surprised to learn that the total outlay in connection with the return of the twelve members exceeded ten thousand *yen*.

MR. HENRY NORMAN.

MR. HENRY NORMAN, says the *Singapore Free Press*, returned yesterday (16th ult.) by the *Resident Haweyn* from Tringann from a journey across the Peninsula, taking over three months. Mr. Norman, who was accompanied by Mr. W. Warren, M.I.C.E., &c., and by Mr. C. F. Bozzolo as far as Temoh, travelled from Kwala Kangsa through Perak and Upper Perak (the disputed territory), through Rhaman and through Legé to Temoh, where his mining concession is situated. After spending a month there, he made his way down to the East coast by the Sungei Bimbing, Sungei Purgan, and Sungei Kelantan to Kota Bharu, whence he sailed to Tringann in a Malay boat, experiencing very bad weather. At Kemaman he met the fleet of His Majesty the King of Siam and met the *Haweyn* subsequently at Tringann. Mr. Norman describes his journey as extremely interesting, though rough at times, especially when complicated with dysentery. He took many photographs, had a little sport, and picked up an interesting collection of silver and weapons. The natives and rajahs were very friendly everywhere, Kelantan only presenting any unpleasantness, and this of the slightest character. In Ulu Kelantan he heard news of a European who had come on from Pahang, but was obliged to return by the same way, as the natives refused to accompany him down the Kelantan River for fear of the anger of the rajah. Mr. Norman, however, had an interview with that potentate, and found him quite amiable. The whole journey was accomplished without misadventure of any kind, and part of it—that from Temoh to the Kelantan River—was through country which no white man is known to have visited before. Mr. Norman leaves for Hongkong by the P. and O. steamer *Rome* this afternoon, and expects to return, *en route* for home, in a few weeks.

THE ELECTION.

THE election returns for some districts were known in the capital on Wednesday evening. We give the names and political professions of those elected, with the numbers of votes cast for them and their opponents, the first name given in each case being that of the successful candidate:—

TOKYO.

FIRST DISTRICT (KOJIMACHI, AKASAKA, AND AZABU).	
Mr. Kusumoto Masataka, Vice-President of Senate	106
Mr. Vano Sakuro (Independent)	80
SECOND DISTRICT (SHIBA).	
Mr. Tanimoto Michiyuki, President of Tokyo Tramway Company (Independent)	77
Mr. Yamada Chubei, merchant (Independent)	54
THIRD DISTRICT (KYOBASHI).	
Mr. Kazama Shinkichi, merchant (Independent)	506
Mr. Inada Masakichi, merchant (Independent)	54

FOURTH DISTRICT (NINONBASHI).

Mr. Fujita Mokichi, editor, <i>Hochi Shimbun</i> (<i>Kaishin-to</i>)	308
Mr. Yasuda Zenziro, merchant (Independent)	49
FIFTH DISTRICT (HONJO AND FUKAGAWA).	
Mr. Ota Minoru, former Chief of Honjo (Independent)	156
Mr. Shibusawa Ei-chi, President of the First National Bank (Independent)	94
SIXTH DISTRICT (ASAKUSA).	
Mr. Takanashi Tetsushiro, barrister (originally <i>Kaishin-to</i> , but subsequently <i>Fichi-to</i>)	130
Mr. Sato Tokichiro, brother of the above (Independent)	87
SEVENTH DISTRICT (KANDA).	
Mr. Oyagi Beichiro, barrister (Independent)	126
Mr. Tsunoda Shimpei, barrister (Independent)	79
EIGHTH DISTRICT (SHITAYA AND HONGO).	
Mr. Tsuda Shindo, Senator	125
Mr. Suzuki Shinnin, barrister	76
NINTH DISTRICT (KOISHIKAWA, USHIGOME, AND YOTSUYA).	
Mr. Yoshino Seikei, former President of the Tokyo City Assembly (Independent)	58
Mr. Hatayama Kazuo, former Chief of the Law Investigation Bureau in the Foreign Office, and now a barrister (Independent)	54
TENTH DISTRICT (SUBURBS OF HIGASHITAMA AND MINAMI-KITA-TOSHIMA).	
Mr. Mori Tokinosuke (Independent)	405
Mr. Aizawa Kiheiji	159
ELEVENTH DISTRICT (SUBURBS OF MINAMI-ADACHI AND MINAMI-KATSUSHIKA).	
Mr. Asaka Katsutaka (<i>Kaishin-to</i>)	533
Mr. Tomioka Hikotaro	402
TWELFTH DISTRICT (SUBURBS OF YEBARA AND IZU-SHICHI-TO).	
Mr. Takagi Masatoshi (<i>Kaishin-to</i>)	301
Mr. Hirabayashi Kuhei (Radical)	243
YOKOHAMA.	
CITY DISTRICT.	
Mr. Shimada Saburo, editor, <i>Mainichi Shimbun</i> (<i>Kaishin-to</i>)	146
Mr. Hiranuma Senzo, merchant (Independent)	83
KYOTO.	
FIRST DISTRICT.	
Mr. Hamaoka Kotetsu (Independent)	27
Mr. Sakamoto Nariyoshi (Independent)	20
SECOND DISTRICT.	
Mr. Nakamura Eisuke (Independent)	47
Mr. Yamazaki Keifun (Independent)	43
HYOGO PREFECTURE.	
FIRST DISTRICT (KOBE).	
Mr. Kashima Hidemaro (<i>Kaishin-to</i>)	168
Mr. Murano Yamato (Independent)	121
NAGOYA.	
Mr. Horibe Katsushiro (Independent)	

It will be seen from the above that the only political parties represented thus far are the *Kaishin-to*, the *Daido* and the *Fichi-to*, and that only two officials have been elected. The defeat of Messrs. Shibusawa and Hatayama in Tokyo has caused some surprise, but the explanation is that the former made no attempt to canvass, and that the latter's opponent is exceptionally popular in his district. It appears that 17 per cent. of those holding the franchise in Tokyo did not vote, but under any circumstances the small number of voters indicates the severe character of the qualification tests.

THE CHINESE CUSTOMS.

THE *Chinese Times*, writing of the Reports compiled by the Chinese Customs, says:—

These Trade reports are truly unique in many ways, and they are highly picturesque, especially when looked at in their mutual relations. The area which they cover has a kind of world-wide diversity in climate and local circumstances. From the regions of thick-ribbed ice to those of perpetual steam, from islands of the ocean to the far interior of the continent, we have independent observers writing simultaneously from twenty separate stations; separate and yet linked together by bonds of unity. Under conditions so favourable nothing could hinder the incessant production of interesting narratives, descriptions, and reflections, if only the men themselves were of the required quality. But it is just the selection of the men that best merits the epithet "unique," for there is certainly no service in the world bringing together such a variegated host of young men of promise as does the Chinese Customs. It might have been far otherwise of course. The principles of favoritism or of the operation of clumsy official forms which have condemned other services to mediocrity might quite easily have prevailed in China; nor was it the fault of the Foreign Ministers that the Customs was not long ago wrecked by the incompetency or the

disloyalty of its staff. With certain honourable exceptions these excellent reformers and volunteer advisers of China had nephews or other *protégés* for whom they were willing to do something at some one else's expense, nor were they at all bashful in forcing on the Chinese these creatures who, besides being useless, were in some cases inclined to look to their patron rather than to the head of the service as the pivot of their allegiance. These dangers having been long ago outgrown, as the vigorous youth outgrow whooping cough and chicken-pox, the service has for many years enjoyed the full advantage of its peculiar eclecticism without any perturbing influence; and the principle of selection being applied with intelligence which, in its turn, also deserves to be called unique, those features only which have been proved to be the most advantageous in the various systems in operation in Western countries are adopted, while many other tests, tending to bring to light excellences of other kinds, are added, with constantly improving results. Having the whole world to choose from, and the most eligible young men in every country being anxious to join the ranks, the Chinese Customs Service possesses special advantages over every other, which are again indefinitely enhanced by the concentration of the administration in a single individual, to whom the efficiency of the service is all in all.

Thus it comes about that talents and accomplishments of the most varied character being fully represented in the Customs' service, no emergency can arise in this land of the unforeseen that cannot be promptly met out of its unaided resources. What a valuable reservoir of organized intelligence this is to the Chinese Government has been proved on many occasions already, and will, if we are not mistaken, become even more evident hereafter.

These ambitious young men, imbued with the spirit of their chief, distributed among the twenty open ports, have every inducement to do well in their work generally, more particularly perhaps in that portion of it which comes conspicuously before the public, the reports on trade. The frequent changes which is one of the wisest features of the administration bring a constant succession of fresh men to each port, which, like the rotation of crops in agriculture, prevents the ground from growing sterile. Each new hand comes with a fresh zest to the description of his new locality, and has every inducement to discover fertile spots overlooked by his predecessors, and it is quite remarkable how warmly the Commissioners and Acting Commissioners make themselves the partisan of the port to which they are for the time being attached. A certain space is, we should judge, allotted to each in the great annual agglomeration of reports, which supplies an admirable discipline for writers disposed to be diffuse; and though there is a misty tradition that the "good things" are as rigorously suppressed by the stern censor in Shanghai as the good jokes are said to be kept out of *Punch* by Mr. Burnard, there is always enough left to supply an almost Homeric literary feast; and the collection constitutes a competitive examination of the most stimulating kind. The Reports on Trade are in many respects better than the Consular Reports from the same places; for one reason they are published before the business matters to which they relate have lost their interest, and the fact that they are written from the Chinese, that is the local, point of view by men who are in more direct contact with what they describe than almost any Consul can be, imparts to them an air of reality which the Consular reports, taking in a much wider horizon, are apt to lack. The stimulating queries which are from time to time put to the Commissioners from headquarters are invariably productive of interesting results, and taking the Customs Press as a whole, it contains a mine of detailed information about the commercial products and the commercial life of the Chinese, valuable above all to the administration itself, but also possessing much collateral interest for those who choose to make the country a study.

RICE.

THERE has been a decided fall in the market prices of rice since the 29th ultimo. The following comparative table will show the change:

PRICES PRIOR TO JUNE 29.		PRICES SUBSEQUENT TO JUNE 29.	
	Per koku.		Per koku.
First Class	15.38 Yen.	First Class	15.15 Yen.
Second Class	15.15 Yen.	Second Class	14.70 Yen.
Third Class	14.91 Yen.	Third Class	14.28 Yen.
Fourth Class	14.28 Yen.	Fourth Class	13.51 Yen.
Fifth Class	13.88 Yen.	Fifth Class	13.10 Yen.

These quotations seem to indicate the commencement of a permanently downward course. The reason assigned is that, up to the present, climatic conditions have been markedly favourable. The warm sunshine of last week followed by the soft rains which began to fall on the 29th, represent an ideal state of affairs for the growth of the young rice. Of course storms and floods in autumn may again undo everything, as was the case last year, but up to the present appearances are very promising.

MARRIAGE IN TOKYO.

ON MONDAY one of the best known and best liked among the foreign residents of Japan, Captain Bougouin, Military Attaché of the French Legation, was married to Mrs. E. W. Strange. The ceremony took place at the Roman Catholic Cathedral in Tsukiji, and the breakfast was given at the French Legation, where Madame Sienkiewicz held a reception afterwards. Among these who attended both at the Cathedral and the reception were Princess Sanjo, Counts Oyama, Yamada, and Saigo, Viscount Katsura, the members of the Foreign Corps Diplomatique, the French Admiral, Mr.

Watanabe, Mrs. and the Misses Hannen, a large number of Japanese officers and others. After breakfast the bride and bridegroom set out for Numazu, where they will spend the honeymoon in Count Saigo's villa.

NEWSPAPERS AND LOCAL CHARACTERISTICS.

In the recent numbers of the *Nippon*, we find very interesting jottings under the above heading. Our contemporary divides the country into six districts, and proceeds to seek a reflection of the character of the inhabitants of each district in the columns of its principal newspapers. Tokyo is left out of the category, for the evident reason that its newspapers vary so widely in their views and aims that general observations can hardly be trustworthy. With regard to the cities next in magnitude, Kyoto and Osaka, we are told that of all the provincial papers those in Kyoto and Osaka are least guilty of aping their contemporaries in the capital. Among them the *Chugai Dempo* and the *Kyoto Nippo* of Kyoto, and the *Kwanzei Nippo*, the *Shinonome Shimbun*, and the *Osaka Mainichi Shimbun* of Osaka occupy the leading position. All these journals have a character as common to themselves as it is different from the character of the Metropolitan press. Speaking generally, the newspapers of Kyoto and Osaka are lacking in seriousness and dignity, and manifest a marked propensity to indecency and licentiousness. In short, the papers of these cities echo the effeminacy and indolence of their readers, who are little disposed to take interest in political matters, being engrossed in the quiet pursuit of commerce and the enjoyment of luxury. The *Yushin Nippo* of Kobe and *Omi Shimpō* of Otsu belong to the same category, and are even more seriously tainted with the vices of their Kyoto and Osaka contemporaries. Turning next to the Tokaido, the *Nippon* avers that of all the papers throughout the empire, those in this district are of the worst type, and among them, the journals published at Nagoya, the third largest city in Japan, stand on the pinnacle of objectionableness. In vulgarity, indecency, and want of dignity, the people of the provinces along the Tokaido judged by their press, have no equals in Japan. The *Nippon* thinks that such a state of things may, perhaps, be accounted for by the demoralizing influence exercised, during two centuries and a half by the corrupting trains of the Daimyo, passing backwards and forwards, in feudal times. The only papers that can lay claim to any show of decency are the *Taimu Shimbun* of Shizuoka, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* of Yamanaishi, and the *Ise Shimbun* of Ise. The first two of these journals imitate their Tokyo contemporaries, while the last takes the Osaka papers for model. With regard to the Kwantō, or provinces round Tokyo, the newspapers are not distinguished for either literary merits or general make up, but they reflect in their columns the stout and independent character of their local readers. Their want of homogeneity and the limited scope of their views plainly indicate that the people of the Kwantō still retain much of the spirit of isolation resulting from long government by petty feudal chiefs and still pettier retainers (*daikwan*) of the Tokugawa Government. On the other hand, the romantic character of the people has led their journals to ally themselves with the leaders of the Liberal party. In the papers of this district reports of murders and other violent crimes are most abundant. Kyōshū and Shikoku are next considered. Here the newspaper are pre-eminently distinguished for the prominence which they give to political discussions and political news. They are also noted for their gravity and freedom from indecent news. Among the more important of them may be noticed the *Fukuryō Shimpō* (Fukuoka), the *Chinsei Nippo* (Nagasaki), the *Kyūshū Nichi Nichi Shimbun* (Kumamoto), the *Kagoshima Shimbun*, the *Doya Shimbun*, and the *Kochi Nippo* (both Kochi), and the *Tokushima Shimbun*. The papers in Shikoku are more limited in their scope than those in Kyōshū, but in other respects journalistic tendencies tread the same groves in both district. Turning now to the

San-in and San-yō, districts comprised in the narrow strip of land extending from Kobe to Shimonoseki, bounded on the north by the Sea of Japan and on the south by the Inland Sea, we find papers occupying an intermediate rank between the vulgar and sensational journals of Osaka and Kyoto, on the one hand, and the serious and polemical publications of Kyōshū. Papers published in the Provinces facing the Inland Sea have more affinity with the former class, while those in the Provinces along the Sea of Japan resemble the latter. Finally, coming to the north-east, or district comprising all the provinces along the Sea of Japan from Wakasa to the northern extremity of the mainland, and all the northern Provinces, we find journals astonishingly like those of Kyōshū in their general tone and tendencies. Judging from the columns of these papers, the *Nippon* thinks that the political ideas of the people of the wide north-eastern district are simpler than those of the inhabitants of Kyōshū, and that the minds of both are equally healthy and earnest. Such is the *Nippon's* analysis. It may be that the Tokyo journal's views are coloured by prejudice, but its comments are certainly very interesting and cannot be very wide of the mark. It is beyond doubt that, with rare exceptions, the tone of a newspaper's writings furnish a tolerably trustworthy index of the character of its readers.

THE DOSHISHA GRADUATION CEREMONY.

LAST Friday week witnessed the graduation at the Doshisha of twenty-seven students from the Academy and eleven from the Theological Seminary. At the graduation exercises noticeable features were the presence of the new principal, Rev. H. Kozaki, a very marked improvement in the music owing to the systematic teaching of that subject during the past year, and a very eloquent address from Rev. J. Y. Yokoi. The latter addressed the graduates substantially as follows:—"It is your great privilege to enter active life in this ever to be memorable twenty-third year of Meiji, when, after centuries of docile obedience, your nation will begin to guide itself. At this crisis more than all else, men of strong patriotism, men of thorough education, men of high character are needed, and such I am convinced you will prove yourselves to be. This year must ever be memorable also as that of the death of Dr. Neesima, the beloved and honoured founder of this institution. It will in a peculiar sense devolve upon you, who are the first to graduate after his lamented death, to promote the patriotic and Christian plans he formed. Anyone who in intellectual enjoyment at home or abroad can forget his native land is to be both pitied and condemned." Refreshments were served in the just barely completed Science Hall, the gift of Mr. Harris, which it is intended to open next school year. A canvass of the graduates of the academy has elicited the following facts as to prospective occupation, which however must be understood as only probable:—

Ministry	6
Teaching	3
Business	3
Science	1
Journalism	1
Literature	2
Private study	5
Agriculture	1
Undecided	6

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JAPANESE ART IN PARIS.

Our Paris correspondent, writing on the 7th of May, says:—"A very beautiful Exhibition of Japanese Art has just been opened in the Government School of Fine Arts. The exhibits are limited to drawings, that is to say, to designs, of Japanese art, dating from the commencement of the present century. Hence the specimens are pure, and devoid of any foreign influence—might I add, of contamination? It is Japanese art, at once natural and national. The Paris International Exhibitions of 1867 and 1878 made known to France the application of Japanese art to industry; the commercial out-

put of Japanese talent in decoration. The present show consists of illustrations of unadulterated Japanese style, of those artistic beauties, bewildering in the variety of their designs, where every feather of a bird, every leaf, every insect, every fish treated, is an object of patient and loving study, executed with an incomparable delicacy of touch and freedom of hand. Visitors remain in rapt contemplation before these decorations, for it would be a misnomer to call them pictures—where all seem to be the same, yet no two subjects are alike; where nothing is repeated, and nothing copied, but from the symmetrical and infinite varieties of nature—gracefully portrayed by the artists' keen insight and marvellous accuracy of observation. Some squirrels playing on twigs rather than branches of bamboo; a hawk swooping down on its terrorised prey; two cocks fighting are gems of ideal motion. The exhibits are those of Japanese pristine talent: the show would have been complete, had there been a *vis-à-vis* collection of Japanese art of to-day, to decide whether the speciality of the Japanese as decorative artists is on the decline, as some allege it to be. May the day be distant when the Far Easterns will be drowned in the Mosaic or conglomerate styles of Occidental art.

JUDGMENT IN THE CASE OF DEGROM AGAINST GABARETTA.

JUDGMENT was given on Thursday in H.B.M. Court by Mr. Justice Hannen in the action brought by Henry Degrom against R. Gabaretta for arrears of rent. His Honour, in giving his decision, said he must hold that the lease was void, but that tenancy of some kind was created by occupation and payment of rent. Upon the facts of the case there was no evidence that either party intended a tenancy at will, and his Honour quoted authorities to show that the Courts would not construe it tenancy at will if they could imply any other tenancy. He thought on the facts that there was a monthly tenancy, for the determination of which a month's notice was necessary, taking effect at the end of a month. In this case no such notice was given, and therefore judgment must be given for the plaintiff for the amount claimed—subject to the deduction of the sum realized on the judgment against Guantini—with costs.

THE BANK OF JAPAN.

THE amounts of convertible notes and reserves in the Bank of Japan for the week ended the 28th ult. were as follows:—

CONVERTIBLE NOTES.		RESERVE AND SECURITIES.	
YEN.		YEN.	
Notes issued	72,818,391	Gold coin and bullion	24,290,914
		Silver coin and bullion	20,361,124
		Public Loan Bonds	13,476,480
		Treasury bills	—
		Government bills	—
		Other securities	4,738,182
		Commercial bills	3,959,723
	72,818,391		72,818,391

Of the above total issue of notes, the sum of yen 5,905,933 is in the treasury of the Bank, and yen 66,913,358 in actual circulation, the latter showing an increase of yen 771,898 as compared with yen 66,141,460 at the end of the previous week.

CHOLERA IN NAGASAKI.

H.B.M. CONSUL at this port has received the following dispatch from Mr. Asada, Governor of Kanagawa Ken:—

Kanagawa Kencho, July 1st, 1890.

Sir,—In consequence of an official communication received from the proper quarter, I have the honour to inform you that Cholera has broken out at Nagasaki, and that, judging from the severe cases which have already appeared there, the disease seems to be of an infectious character.

As it will therefore be required to pay some attention to the vessels arriving at this port from, or having called at Nagasaki, and Kencho officers may be despatched on board such ships, in order to make the necessary enquiries on their entering the harbour, I beg to request you to kindly notify this to the parties concerned.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) ASADA YASUNORI,
Governor.

We learn that Signor Majeroni's principal object in visiting Japan is on account of the Signora's health, which had run down somewhat during their Indian tour. They will remain in Japan two or three months, and may perhaps give one performance later on.

Original from

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

“THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD.”

SIR EDWIN ARNOLD gave his promised reading at the Rokumeikan on the 27th ult. The room was filled to overflowing by an audience including nearly all the principal residents of Tokyo and Yokohama and not a few Japanese. The fame of the author of “The Light of Asia” would, of course, have attracted nearly all English-speaking persons, but there was further a feeling of intense curiosity to hear how the poet would treat the greater story of JESUS’ mission, the incidents of which, as the Bible has handed them down to us, are so vividly impressed on the heart of Christendom that little latitude remains for poetic representation. Let us say at once that this curiosity was fully satisfied, and that the largest expectations built upon Sir EDWIN ARNOLD’s previous achievements were amply justified by the noble and beautiful epic, to such portions of which as the author consented to read breathless attention was paid by his audience for nearly an hour yesterday. The reading was announced to commence at 5.30 p.m., but it began a few minutes sooner so as to enable the Yokohama folks to be quite sure of catching the 6.45 train for their return journey. H.B.M.’s Minister presided, and introduced Sir EDWIN ARNOLD, the Representatives of Austria-Hungary and the United States being also on the dais. We are of course precluded from speaking in detail of an unpublished poem, the privilege of hearing which the foreign public of Japan owes entirely to the charitable desire of its author to aid the poor of Tokyo. It will be permissible, however, to explain that the portion chosen for the reading was a scene of the highest dramatic interest, a meeting between PONTIUS PILATE and MARY MAGDALENE at the latter’s house, where the Governor of Judæa is represented as lodging for the night. The Roman officer, who for the sake of loyalty to CÆSAR, obeyed the savage mandate of a Hebrew mob and sent JESUS to the cross, becomes in the hands of Sir EDWIN ARNOLD a very different personage from the man whom all Christendom has agreed to execrate during nineteen centuries. It has persistently escaped the attention of zealous Christians that the New Testament narrative represents PILATE in the light of one who struggled with more than common patience to be just, and who, yielding at last under pressure of taunts and provocation which only a very strong man could so long have resisted, publicly recorded his final protest against the thirst for blood that swayed the Jewish rabble. In “The Light of the World” PILATE’s picture is drawn in true colours by a master hand, and when, crying with the bitterness of distracted remorse,

“Another watch
Like this would brand me Nazarene,”

he breaks away from the inspired utter-

ances of MARY MAGDALENE and sees the morning sun rise, “forgetting none,” over the lake by whose shores the feet of JESUS had so often wandered, we remember him no longer as the unjust judge who gave CHRIST to death, but as a ruler who, forbidden by fate to obey his nobler instincts, lived to expiate his one error by long years of repentance and pain. MARY, the central figure in the poem, is described in language which will surely rank among the richest and most beautiful word-pictures in English literature. We long to meet her again, as she is doubtless often to be met, in the remaining books of the noble poem, and to learn how the story of her life’s storm and calm is wrought into the framework of the everlasting creed whose expounder she loved so passionately. There is nothing rash in prophesying that “The Light of the World” will justify its title, and revive much of humanity’s enthusiasm for the creed of the Nazarene. Many a line fixed itself indelibly on the memory of its hearers on same day, and not a few among the audience were moved to tears. Sir EDWIN ARNOLD as he closed his book, must have been satisfied with the clamorous applause that succeeded the breathless silence in which he had held his hearers. Not, indeed, by the voices of a handful of Anglo-Saxons in Japan can his fame be swelled or the merits of his new work judged; but if it be true that applause is valuable for its intensity rather than for its volume, “The Light of the World” is surely destined to find a place in the hearts of many generations of English-speaking peoples.

FOREIGN TRADE IN PORCELAIN
AND POTTERY.

THE *Fiji Shimpō* devotes an article to the question of Japan’s export trade in porcelain and pottery. We are told that the business of export was first commenced by Messrs. MARUKOMA, a pottery firm in the Fukagawa suburb of Yedo (Tokyo), who obtained from the TOKUGAWA Government permission to sell Japanese porcelain and pottery to foreigners. The date of this event is not mentioned, but it must have been about 1850, for we read that in the *Ansei* era (1854-59) the same firm received a license from the Chief of the Saga Fief to include the porcelain of Hizen (Imari and Nabeshima wares) among its articles of traffic. The sale of Japanese Ceramic products to foreigners at that time must have been very small; so small that the Marugoma Company induced the TOKUGAWA Authorities to extend to its operations a measure of official protection. At the beginning of the *Meiji* era the Company opened a store in Yokohama, where Hizen porcelain only found purchasers among foreigners, and that to the paltry extent of 3,600 *yen* annually. Well do we remember this Hizen por-

celain, the so-called “Old Japan” of Western collectors. Needless to say that the adjective “old” was employed by pure courtesy, for in point of fact the ware could not boast either antiquity or prettiness. Its type was a big, clumsy vase, with bottle-shaped body, trumpet neck, and scolloped lip, decorated with deformed men in armour and mishapen courtisans in gaudy pigments. Why people acquired such things we never could conceive, but it is certain that they did acquire them, for in the third year of the *Meiji* era, a Nagasaki dealer, the TAJIRO firm, opened a shop in Yokohama, and the foreign public was induced to acquire more than twenty thousand *yen* worth of Imari porcelain. Those were the days when the barbarous habit of hanging plates on walls was beginning to come into vogue. Japanese householders were surprised to find that the dishes which had served them for fish and fruit and which, when not in use, stood on shelves in the kitchen, were regarded by foreigners in the light of oil paintings or choice tapestry. In the years immediately following the birth of this strange phantasy, many a Japanese scullery was denuded of its contents, and many a handsome plaque was elevated from its lowly place in a Japanese dinner service to a position of honour and admiration on the wall of a Western salon. The more legitimate and time-honoured taste for big jars with covers also asserted itself, and led to a vigorous foray upon the stores of oil-men, sugar-dealers, and confectioners. For it should be understood that the jars which, from the 17th century onwards, figured so conspicuously in those celebrated sets of five or three pieces which the European connoisseur learned to regard as typical garnitures of “Old Japan,” discharged most menial duties in the country of their origin, being in truth used there as trade insignia by merchants of comparatively low status. To set such things on handsome stands in the corners of Occidental drawing rooms, was much as though a Japanese dilettante should have acquired one of the coloured glass monster phials of a western apothecary and placed it in his alcove flanked by a Sesshu landscape or a Korin Cabinet. People rejoiced, however, in happy ignorance of these proprieties or improprieties. Hundreds of capacious jars travelled westward in the days of the Dutch Factory at Deshima, and were followed by inferior specimens of the same type as well as by plates and dishes in the early years of the *Meiji* era. It will be observed that the *Fiji Shimpō* speaks of the export trade in porcelain and pottery having had its origin about the year 1850, but this date must evidently be read as referring to the revived trade only. We know from mediæval records, notably *Les Ambassades mémorables*, that large quantities of porcelain were sent to Europe by the

Dutch in the 17th century. KÄMPFER relates that during the latter half of that century the annual export from Deshima consisted of about 100 bales of porcelain, and WAGENAAR, head of the factory at that place, received as many as 21,567 pieces from Arita at one time. The trade languished and well nigh disappeared altogether during the 18th century, but in the early part of the 19th a revival took place. It is recorded in Japanese annals that, in the year 1820, the greater part of the village at Arita was reduced to ashes by a conflagration. The potters, finding themselves in great straits, readily fell in with the suggestion of one of their number, HISATANI YOJIBEI, who advised them to manufacture porcelain expressly for export. The ware being made, the question arose, how to dispose of it. The consent of the Chief of Hizen had to be first obtained, after which HISATANI himself proceeded to Nagasaki to manage the business. There he found that the number of merchants licensed to engage in foreign trade was strictly limited to ten, and not until he had waited and worked for many years could he succeed in purchasing the privilege of one of these monopolists. Large or small, the trade established by him deserves to be mentioned in any history of Japanese exports. His wares were not confined to the highly decorated porcelain with strongly massed colours and elaborate designs generally known as *Imari-yaki*. They included also blue-and-white egg-shell ware of great delicacy and beauty, one type of which—a nest of cups having envelopes of exceedingly fine basket-work—is known to all collectors. The same classes of porcelain constituted the staple of the Yokohama trade during the first six years of the *Meiji* era, by which time a business of sixty thousand *yen* annually was done. Then began the manufacture of so called "*Satsuma-yaki*," for which branch of business with all its good and evil consequences a merchant named IMURA HIKOJIRO seems to have been chiefly responsible. The high quality and careful decoration of this ware rendered it inconveniently expensive, we are told by the *Fiji*, and at first only a few thousand *yen* worth was exported. By and by the three principal porcelain dealers, Messrs. IMURA, TAJIRO, and MII (of Hizen-ya) combined to push their business, and succeeded in raising the export to eighty thousand *yen*. Then followed (1876) the Philadelphia Exhibition, to which considerable quantities of ware were sent, porcelain decorated with blue under the glaze being, for the first time in modern days, largely exported. Seto had now begun to devote itself assiduously to the foreign market. There and in Arita innumerable sets of tea-cups, coffee services, dinner plates, and so forth were produced for the Philadelphia Exhibition, and it is said that the vogue they commanded gave an immense impetus to the trade. In

1877 the practice of decorating Seto porcelain over the glaze was revived by Mr. IMURA. The *Fiji Shimpō* alludes to this as an invention, but such a term is historically incorrect, since Seto "jewelled" ware had been manufactured forty years previously. On the other hand, it is true that during the first ten years of the *Meiji* era the Seto potters confined themselves to decoration in blue *sans couverte*, and that the atelier established there in 1877 by Mr. IMURA HIKOJIRO for decorating with vitrifiable enamels and pigments over the glaze, was an important revival. By and by the idea was conceived of carrying plain white ware to Yokohama and there applying its surface decoration, a device soon supplemented by the import of Sèvres porcelain for a similar purpose. Ere long there sprang up in Yokohama and Tokyo a number of *Etsuke-dokoro* where every variety of pottery and porcelain, but especially the wares of Owari (Seto) and Satsuma, were tricked out for the foreign market. Thenceforth the history of the trade offers no noteworthy incident. If suffered, like everything else, from currency depreciation and commercial depression, but nevertheless grew steadily, until from 3,600 *yen* in 1867 it reached the respectable total of 900,000 *yen* in 1889, having only once shown a tendency to retrograde, namely in 1882, when it fell from 700,000 *yen* to 500,000.

THE UNSOLD EXHIBITS AT UYENO

HOW to deal with the exhibits remaining unsold at Uyeno is a question that promises to cause some perplexity. According to the *Shogyō Shimpō*, the total value of the articles exhibited is about eight hundred thousand *yen*, whereas the sales have only amounted to a hundred thousand, in round numbers. Seven hundred thousand *yen* worth remain, therefore, on the hands of the exhibitors, whose disappointment at this unsatisfactory result is naturally great. There will, of course, be much reluctance to re-pack the unsold goods and carry them back to their places of manufacture where, as a rule, no market exists. It is therefore suggested that steps should be taken to dispose of them in Tokyo, but to make such a suggestion is much easier than to indicate any good method of carrying it out. Presumably the people of Tokyo, having already selected any articles of which they care to become the possessors, will not be persuaded to re-open their purses merely because the Authorities decide that exhibits which have been exposed for sale during four months without finding purchasers, must be disposed of. Everyone has been surprised at the enterprise displayed by the exhibitors on this occasion. In ninety-nine cases out of every hundred, the Japanese manufacturer, especially the art-artizan, carries on a

hand-to-mouth business. Selling as he produces, he is quite unable to keep any sum of money locked up in his goods. In former times he was not required to make any display of enterprise. Working almost entirely to order, the rare pieces produced on his own account were the outcome of his leisure moments; labours of love which he could afford to keep by him for years and even to bequeath to his children. But no such comfortable conditions prevail now. The manufacturing classes have lost their munificent patrons of bygone days, and are obliged to realize speedily the value of their work in order to buy bread for themselves and their families. To men thus circumstanced the prospect of an industrial exhibition cannot be welcome. For it means, first, that they must devote months of unrequited toil to the preparation of articles sufficiently choice to find a place, if possible a prominent place, in the show; and secondly, that they must wait several months longer before receiving any pecuniary return, even if fortune favours them with purchasers. There is another element of the situation, also, which must not be lost sight of. It is that in many, if not the majority of, cases the artizan knows that he is working for foreign custom. We have no statistics to show what proportion of the exhibits sold at Uyeno were purchased by foreigners, but undoubtedly a large number of those in the art class were thus disposed of. In truth, the market for such things is outside Japan. A very few exceedingly choice and costly specimens attract the attention of wealthy Japanese connoisseurs. But these are rare; a mere fraction of the total purchased by foreigners. One can see how a knowledge of this prospect affects the Japanese workman. It deprives him, as he imagines, of the canons by which he used to be safely guided in catering for the taste of his own countrymen. If he appreciated the truth, he would adhere strictly to those canons, understanding that the outcome of his own pure taste is far more likely to command admiration than the result of his unguided notions of foreign taste. And indeed the present Exhibition shows that this wholesome sense is spreading rapidly, for in the main the exhibits indicate a strong renaissance of genuine Japanese art. But there are exceptions, lamentable exceptions: pieces which recall the days when Japanese artizans turned aside to minister to the fancies that preside at the decoration of a schooner's cabin, or the parlour of a country inn. It is really sad to think of the effort, pecuniary and manual, involved in the production of these costly horrors, which can serve no purpose except to teach their manufacturers, perhaps by the rude process of bankruptcy, that Japan's introduction to the West has not imposed on her the duty of pandering to the vandalism of the vulgar, but has established her right to impose her own canons on her cus-

tomers. Too often, however, the vista of an Occidental market unnerves the Japanese artist. The consciousness that he is working for strangers whose ways are not as his, and who have little sympathy with his aspirations and traditions, deprives him of self-reliance, and adds immensely to the moral difficulty of undertaking any expensive enterprise. It is, indeed, surprising that under such circumstances so much has been done. Rumour says, with truth we believe, that many of the exhibitors were obliged to incur heavy pecuniary obligations in order to prepare their exhibits, and that the very interest on these debts is enough to embarrass them, without the disaster of having their productions left on their hands, which would mean nothing short of ruin. If there ever was a case where public aid might be fittingly given, it is surely this. The present intention, we understand, is to sell by lottery the articles for which purchasers are most urgently needed. The total value of these is roughly estimated at a hundred and fifty thousand *yen*, and subscribers for tickets to that amount would probably be found without much difficulty. Lotteries are not illegal in Japan provided that every ticket brings a prize, a condition which, in this case, would probably necessitate the fixing of the price of the tickets at a somewhat high figure. There is talk of one *yen* tickets, but since very few exhibits of less value than a *yen* would be included, we imagine that a higher price must be named. A considerable number of tickets might be placed among the foreign residents and visitors, but here, as indeed in respect of the sale to Japanese also, much will depend on advertising and organization. If the remarkable perfunctoriness that characterised the measures taken to announce the Exhibition abroad be carried into the management of the lottery, the result can be nothing but a failure.

THE HONGO TABERNACLE.

THE project of constructing the Hongo Tabernacle, which has just been burned, had its origin in the fact that no lecture hall capable of accommodating a large audience, and suitable for purposes of Christian teaching, exists in Tokyo. One of the chief obstacles to successful propaganda in Japan has always been the difficulty of reaching the upper classes. These exhibit towards religious subjects a mien of indifference far more serious as a barrier than bigotry or even fanaticism. Men who think strongly can be reached through the medium of their active antagonism to contrary opinions. But men who do not think at all are inaccessible because of their unconcern. To break down this barrier of impassiveness the missionaries have resorted to the weapon of secular education. In excellently equipped schools and colleges they provide for

Japanese boys and girls educational advantages which cannot be obtained elsewhere on similar terms. There are those who say that this is not the proper rôle for Christian propagandists; that the missionary should confine himself to preaching the gospel, and that the original intention of the societies which support him is not fulfilled when he devotes his time to the dissemination of secular knowledge. We fail to appreciate such reasoning. All churches in all ages have been secular educators. The useful scope of religious influence is not limited to preparing a man for the things that lie beyond the grave. It has to do also with equipping him for the efficient discharge of his duties in the present. Nowhere has this been more practically recognised than in Japan. The Buddhist priests in former times were the people's schoolmasters. It was within the temple enclosure that ninety-nine out of every hundred youths and maidens learned to read, write, and construe the "Four Books" and the "Five Classics," and so entirely was this sphere of work abandoned to the Bonzes that the term *tera-koya* (children's house at a temple) came to be regarded as a synonym for "school." We may truly assert that Buddhism maintained its place in the heart of the nation chiefly on account of its educating functions. Thus Christian propagandists have but placed their feet in a groove familiar to Japan for centuries. They could not have chosen any more effective means of combatting their rival than that of taking its chief weapon into their own hands. If Christianity ought to be disconnected from the systems of science and philosophy that have been developed under its civilizing ægis, then indeed it should take no part in secular education. But if its true aim is to contrive that men shall be taught everything good for them to know, then surely it has to do with the elevating of their minds as well as the direction of their morals. Schools and colleges, however, are not the only places where education can be profitably conducted. The lecture hall is equally useful, especially in a city like Tokyo, where the student classes as well as the older generation will always flock to hear lectures delivered by foreigners. If there were ever any doubts as to the effect which this agency is capable of producing, they would have been completely dispelled years ago by the conspicuous results of the courses of lectures organised by Dr. EBY in the Meiji Kaido, under circumstances of much discouragement and difficulty. Thenceforth it was plain that Christian propagandists must not suffer this new route to be abandoned, and that the construction of a commodious lecture hall in a central position could only be a question of time. In Dr. EBY's hands the project assumed larger and more logical dimensions. From his liberal point of view

everything that tends to ennoble and humanize men's minds falls within the proper sphere of Christian effort, and he accordingly designed the hall so that it should be capable of use as a place not only for theological discourses and religious services, but also for purely scientific lectures, musical performances, and so forth. That Christianity should be thus publicly associated with all the civilizing influences, direct and indirect, which it exercises in Western countries, indicates a wise and far-seeing propagandism. And from another point of view also the completion of the Hongo "Tabernacle" would have been a matter of congratulation. Protestantism is too apt to ignore the fact that men may be appealed to through their senses, though all experience goes to show that such an appeal, by means of music, architecture and attractive popular services, cannot be too highly estimated as a means of reaching all classes. Humanity is pretty much the same everywhere. Methods which are proving so successful in England at present, ought, with due adaptation to local peculiarities, to prove equally successful in Japan. Dr. EBY's Tabernacle, though not reaching the proportions of the Greek and Roman cathedrals on Surugadai and in Tsukiji, would still be a conspicuous material monument of the spiritual and intellectual vigour of Protestant Christianity in Japan, and would, we think, add materially to the efficiency of the work of Christian propaganda. We hope, therefore, that his appeal will elicit a hearty response, and that the work of re-construction may be commenced at once. If the process be taken in hand quickly, nearly all the brickwork left standing by the fire may be saved, whereas delay will probably convert partial into total loss. Those who originally contributed to the undertaking cannot surely be content that their charitable purpose should be entirely without result.

TWO NEW UTOPIAS.

EMIL DE LAVALEYE has an essay in the *Contemporary Review* bearing the above title, supplemented by a lengthy article on the same subject entitled "Communism." In both these essays the communistic views of EDWARD BELLAMY, expressed in "Looking Backward," and of CHARLES SECRETAN, embodied in *Études Sociales—Mon Utopie*, are traversed. The former of these books has had a wonderful sale, no less than 240,000 copies having been sold in the United States and 40,000 in England in the space of a few months. The style in which "Looking Backward" is written is insufficient to account for this success. The book discusses a subject on which men's thoughts were never more busy than now: a subject that has been forced on our attention by the conflict between capital and labour, which within the

last few years has assumed such gigantic proportions.

As M. DE LAVELEYE points out, no age has been without its Utopias. They have all had one characteristic in common: discontent with the present order of things, and the conception of a state in which the real or imaginary wrongs of the present age shall be righted. PLATO'S ideal Republic led the van. Selfishness was the principle with which it made war. It contended that the law of *meum and tuum*, when applied to property and family life, gives rise to covetousness, and makes harmony an impossibility. Family and property must therefore be done away with, that is, wives and goods must be owned in common. The details necessary for the carrying out of the scheme proposed by PLATO have shocked public taste in all ages. His ideal Republic has ever been regarded as an unrealisable dream, with human nature constituted as it now is. The Millenium Utopia, which Jews and Christians alike believed to be imminent for so many centuries, exercised a far greater influence over our Western world than the conception of PLATO. In that new era wrongs would be avenged, and the order of things to which we are now accustomed reversed, mourners would be comforted, and the peace-makers would inherit the earth.

The belief in the coming of a new world was common to a great many nations of antiquity. In the *Woluspa* of the Eddas the Palingenesis is conceived and stated almost exactly as in our Gospels. In lines attributed to the Scandinavian *SIBYL* and in some parts of *VIRGIL* the aspiration after a new world resembles that of Jews and Christians.

Later on, when men's minds were stirred to their very depths by the Renaissance and the Reformation, prophets of new Utopias appeared. Among them Sir THOMAS MORE, CAMPANELLA, and HARRINGTON were the most noted. The chief characteristics of these Utopias were the readjustment of men's relations to each other, the diminution of labour, in fact, the main elements of the communistic programme. Subsequent to this, Lord LYTTON amused himself by writing a novel on social reform entitled, "The Coming Race," which, though inferior to MORE'S work, is interesting as embodying many comparatively modern ideas on human progress.

Mr. BELLAMY'S "Looking Backward," while inferior in conception and execution to none of its predecessors, possesses the advantage of giving expression to the most advanced notions of communists, and of embodying in its imagery the results of the most recent scientific discoveries and developments. The supposed author is one JULIAN WEST by name, an inhabitant of Boston. WEST suffers from insomnia and is put to sleep by means of hypnotism. The doctor, who in a secret chamber was

in the habit of putting WEST to sleep, suddenly leaves the town and the patient sleeps on till the year 2,000, when he is roused by a Dr. LEETE. He is restored to vigour by means of a cordial, and received into the doctor's family. He visits the town and its institutions and describes all he sees. Dr. LEETE announces all his objections to the new order of things, and thus we have a complete picture of what, according to Mr. BELLAMY, will be the social organization of the future.

It is perhaps impossible to give in a few words an adequate idea of Mr. BELLAMY'S new world of things. Suffice it to say that all the minor monopolies of the present day have been swallowed up in one vast concern. The State owns everything. The principle of universal military service is applied to labour. The period of industrial service is twenty-four years, beginning with the close of the course of education at twenty-one, and terminating at forty-five. No wages are paid, and there is no money. Everyone, invalids included, receives an equal share of the products of the nation. All the chief pleasures of life are free—the theatre and the music hall are accessible at all hours of the day, and are supplied with relays of actors and performers. By means of the telephone sleepless citizens may be soothed with sweet strains of music at will.

M. SECRETAN'S Utopia is less removed from reality than that of Mr. BELLAMY. In his imaginary world machinery has been brought to a high state of perfection, and is kept in perpetual motion by relays of workmen. The accumulation of capital is not forbidden, but interest has become so low that for a man to be able to live on his revenue he must possess an exceptionally large fortune. Wages are high, averaging about £120 a year. The State here too is to manage everything and to own almost everything—all the land and all the houses.

In a later article on Communism, M. DE LAVELEYE gives his reasons for believing that the future is not for Communism. He deems it extremely improbable that men's deepest instincts will take a new direction. The system of private property now prevailing is founded on feelings which have existed in all times and in all countries. Among the stimuli to exertion private interest has ever proved one of the most powerful. The feeling that a man is responsible for the maintenance of the members of his own family is another. All attempts to impress on humanity that all human beings have equal rights, are brothers, and have a title to share the results of labour by whomsoever carried on, have invariably failed. Such a system could only succeed were a spirit of universal self-sacrifice to prevail, and even then, it is hard for ordinary mortals to see how the plan could do otherwise than encourage idleness. Communism destroys responsibility, and consequently

must sacrifice either justice or liberty. "Justice," says M. DE LAVELEYE, "in its practical sense, means giving to each his due, *cuique suum*. To each according to his merit and work is a very old maxim, which the consciences of all nations have ever accepted. It is the very principle of responsibility, and the basis of the moral law. . . . To each worker his produce, his entire produce, and nothing but his produce." M. DE LAVELEYE shows that Communism has ignored this principle, that with it diligence and negligence, cupidity and abnegation are alike. The idle and the industrious are fed alike. This system would unavoidably put a premium on laziness. With human nature constituted as it now is, nothing but the most despotic rule could ever make the communistic system work. To live under such a rule would be slavery such as the world has never seen. Instead of increasing brotherly feeling it would increase enmity. If we were bound to work for our neighbours, we should most probably dislike them. Every neglect on their part would be watched with envious eyes. The terrible injustice of the arrangement would soon put an end to its existence.

The only good in our opinion, that communistic theories elaborated in Utopias have done has been of a destructive character. They have ridiculed some of the evils of the existing order of things in a very clever way. As constructive agents they have accomplished nothing. They have solved no great social problem. They have given no assistance to those who are anxious to see the relations of capital to labour better adjusted than they now are. They make a wrong start in underestimating the strength of the instincts on which our present system of property rests, and consequently, though the literary ability with which they have usually been written and the wide discontent with the present order of things to which they appeal have combined to obtain for them a wide circle of readers, they form a remarkable exception to the rule that high, though unattainable, ideals tend to prove valuable agents of reform.

The Exhibition was visited by 833,818 persons during the period from the 1st April to the 1st instant, of whom 6,086 were distinguished, 33,419 special, and 769,395 ordinary visitors, 24,778 being students and 140 foreigners holding special invitations. The daily average was 9,063.

The receipts of the Post Office at Jinsen during April last were yen 230,680, showing an increase of yen 60,814 as compared with the same month of last year.

H.I.H. Prince Komatsu, Commander of the Imperial Body Guards, was to leave Tokyo on the 3rd instant for Otsuna, Chiba Prefecture.

During the month of June last the Foreign Department issued 34 passports to Japanese desiring to proceed abroad, of which 8 were for America, 4 for England, 1 for France, 1 for Germany, 1 for Russia, 7 for China, 8 for Korea, 1 Siam, 1 for Siberia, and 1 for Europe and America.—*Official Gazette*.

AMENDED ORGANIZATION OF THE AGRICULTURAL AND COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 102.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Amendment of the Organization of the Agricultural and Commercial Department, and order the same to be duly promulgated.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.)
(Great Seal.)

Dated June 20th, 1890.

(Countersigned)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.

MUTSU MUNEMITSU,
Minister of State for Agriculture
and Commerce.

Article 1.—The Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce shall superintend matters relating to agriculture, commerce, manufactures, aquatic products, forests, mines, &c., inventions, designs, and trade-marks.

Article 2.—Besides those mentioned in the General Rules of Organization, matters relating to rewards shall be dealt with in the Minister's Bureau.

Article 3.—The following affairs shall be conducted by the Bureau of General Administration which shall be established in the Agricultural and Commercial Department, besides those mentioned in the General Rules of Organization:—

- (1.) Matters relating to meetings for the discussion of agriculture, commerce, and manufactures.
- (2.) Matters relating to the publication and superintendence of maps, books, and reports.
- (3.) Matters relating to domestic and foreign exhibitions as well as to competitive exhibitions generally.
- (4.) Matters which do not come within the scope of other bureaux.

Article 4.—The settled number of councillors special to the Agricultural and Commercial Department shall be 5, and of secretaries, 3.

Article 5.—Councillors shall be occupied in the inspection of mines, forests, and other agricultural, commercial and manufacturing affairs, in accordance with their special orders, in addition to the matters mentioned in the General Rules of Organization.

Article 6.—The following bureaux shall be established in the Agricultural and Commercial Department:—

- Bureau of Agriculture.
- Bureau of Commerce and Manufactures.
- Forestry Bureau.
- Mining Bureau.
- Patents Bureau.
- Financial Bureau.

Article 7.—The Chiefs of the Bureaux of Agriculture, Commerce and Manufactures, and Forestry shall be of 2nd *chokunin* rank or above 2nd *sonin* rank; the chiefs of the Mining, Patents, and Financial Bureaux shall be below 1st *sonin* rank and above 3rd *sonin* rank.

Article 8.—Assistant chiefs shall be attached to the Bureau of Agriculture, Commerce, and Manufactures, and Forestry.

Article 9.—The following affairs will be transacted in the Bureau of Agriculture.

- (1.) Agricultural meetings and associations (*sumiai*).
- (2.) The improvement and protection of agriculture and horticulture.
- (3.) The improvement of agricultural works and of the productive power of land.
- (4.) The prevention and checking of injuries by insects to agricultural products.
- (5.) The improvement of silkworms and tea, and the regulation of associations relative thereto.
- (6.) The examination and awarding of diplomas to veterinary surgeons.
- (7.) The examination and awarding of diplomas to shoeing smiths.
- (8.) The punishment of offences committed by licensed shoeing smiths and veterinary surgeons.
- (9.) The hygiene of domestic animals and poultry.
- (10.) The registration of cows and horses.
- (11.) Hunting licenses.
- (12.) The breeding and improvement of domestic animals, fowls, and useful insects.
- (13.) Fishery Association.
- (14.) The boundaries and superintendence of fisheries.

(15.) The improvement and control of fishing apparatus, boats, &c.

(16.) The increase and improvement of aquatic products, and the development of their production.

(17.) The improvement and protection of salt-pits.

(18.) The collection of materials for reports and statistics concerning agriculture, domestic animals, poultry, and aquatic products.

Article 10.—The following affairs will be dealt with in the Commercial and Manufacturing Bureau:—

- (1.) Commercial Clubs and Associations of persons pursuing the same occupation of commerce or manufacture.
- (2.) Weights and measures.
- (3.) Commercial companies.
- (4.) Commercial brokers and brokers' associations.
- (5.) Domestic and foreign commerce.
- (6.) Bourses.
- (7.) Factories.
- (8.) Insurance.
- (9.) The collection of materials for reports and statistics of commerce and manufacture.

Article 11.—The following affairs shall be dealt with in the Forestry Bureau:—

- (1.) Occupations connected with forestry.
- (2.) The examination of boundaries and limits of forests.
- (3.) The profitable use of land and products of Government forests.
- (4.) The protection and increase of Government forests.
- (5.) The administration of Government forests.
- (6.) The protection of private forests.
- (7.) The maintenance of forests (*hoshon rin*).
- (8.) The adjustment of forest records.
- (9.) The collection of materials for reports and statistics concerning forests.

Article 12.—The following affairs shall be dealt with in the Mining Bureau:—

- (1.) The granting of licenses for mining works.
- (2.) The adjustment of boundaries and the situation of mining districts.
- (3.) The amalgamation and separation of mining districts.
- (4.) The protection of mining works.
- (5.) Mining science.

Article 13.—Matters relating to inventions, designs, and trade-marks shall be conducted in the Patents Bureau.

A library shall be established in the Patents Bureau and maps, books, samples, and models shall there be preserved.

Article 14.—The estimates and settled accounts of the Department and of each forestry district office, and the financial affairs of the Department as well as the lands and edifices under its control, shall be disposed of by the Financial Bureau.

Article 15.—Two judges and 7 examiners shall be attached to the Patents Bureau of the Agriculture and Commercial Department.

Judges will be of *sonin* rank, and shall conduct trials and give judgments.

Examiners shall be of *sonin* rank and shall transact business connected with examinations (*shinsa*).

Article 16.—The settled number of probationers of the Agricultural and Commercial Department shall be 5.

Article 17.—Seventeen engineers, 12 assistant examiners, and 56 *gishu* shall be attached to the Agricultural and Commercial Department.

Assistant examiners shall be of *hannin* rank, subordinate to the Patents Bureau; and shall act as assistants to the examiners.

Article 18.—Twelve engineering probationers shall be attached to the Agriculture and Commercial Department.

Article 19.—The settled number of *akku* in the Agricultural and Commercial Department shall be 200.

AMENDED ORGANIZATION OF THE HOME DEPARTMENT.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 108.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Amendment of the Organization of the Home Department, and order the same to be duly promulgated.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign Manual.)
(Great Seal.)

Dated June 26th, 1890.

(Countersigned)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.

COUNT SAIGO TSUKUMICHI,
Minister of State for Home Affairs.

Article 1.—The Minister of State for Home Affairs shall control matters relating to local administration, elections, police, prisons, public works, health, geography, meteorology, shrines and temples, publication, copyright, census, measures of charity (*shifutsu*) and remedy; and shall superintend other Central Sanitary Association the Chief of the Metropolitan Police Board and local officials generally.

Article 2.—A Board of General Administration shall be established in the Home Department.

Article 3.—The settled number of Councillors special to the Home Department shall be 6, and secretaries 2.

Article 4.—The Councillors of the Home Department shall be employed in the inspection of prisons and penitentiaries in addition to the duties mentioned in the General Rules.

Article 5.—The following bureaux shall be established in the Home Department.

- Bureau for the Management of Prefectures.
- Police Bureau.
- Civil Engineering Bureau.
- Sanitary Bureau.
- Geographical Bureau.
- Ecclesiastical Bureau.
- Bureau of Maps and Books (*Dau-sho-Kyoku*).
- Accountant's Bureau.

Article 6.—The Chiefs of the Bureau for the Management of Prefectures, the Police Bureau and the Civil Engineering Bureau shall be of 2nd *chokunin* rank or above 2nd *sonin* rank; and the Chiefs of the Sanitary Bureau, the Geographical Bureau, the Bureau of Maps and Books and the Accountant's Bureau shall be below 1st *sonin* rank and above 3rd *sonin* rank.

Article 7.—There shall be Assistant Chiefs in the Bureau for the Management of Prefectures, the Police Bureau, the Civil Engineering Bureau, and the Accountant's Bureau.

Article 8.—The following affairs shall be conducted in the Bureau for the Management of Prefectures:—

- (1.) Elections.
- (2.) Matters relating to City and Prefectural Assemblies, city and prefectural administration and all other city and prefectural affairs.
- (3.) Matters relating to the Assemblies of rural and urban districts, the economy of rural districts and all other matters of Administration pertaining to rural and urban districts.
- (4.) Matters relating to the Assemblies of Municipalities, towns, and villages, the economy of municipalities, towns and villages, and all the other affairs of administration pertaining to municipalities, towns, and villages.
- (5.) The expenses of cities and prefectures.
- (6.) Charity and Relief.
- (7.) Charity hospitals, hospitals for the blind and dumb, hospitals for insane persons, hospitals for children, and other buildings for benevolent uses established by cities or prefectures or other communities.
- (8.) Matters relating to conscription and the appropriation of property for the public use (*Chohatsu*).
- (9.) Such matters of local administration as do not come within any other jurisdiction.

Article 9.—The following affairs shall be dealt with by the Police Bureau.

- (1.) Matters of Administrative police.
- (2.) Matters relating to Higher Police (*Koto Keisatsu*).
- (3.) Matters relating to prisons.
- (4.) Matters relating to conditional pardon (*Kuri-shatsu-goku*) and conditional release from surveillance (*Kanishi-kanen*).

Article 10.—The following affairs shall be dealt with in the Civil Engineering Bureau:—

- (1.) Matters relating to Public Works under the direct superintendence of the Department.
- (2.) The superintendence of the public works under the control of cities and prefectures.
- (3.) Matters relating to rivers, harbours, roads, and other public works affecting the interests of the people generally.
- (4.) Aiding in the expense of works directly superintended by cities and prefectures.

Article 11.—The following affairs shall be dealt with by the Sanitary Bureau.

- (1.) The prevention of contagious disease and local epidemics, the control of vaccination and all other affairs of public health.
- (2.) Quarantine affairs.
- (3.) Matters relating to the occupation of physicians and apothecaries, as well as the superintendence of drugs and other medicines (*baiyaku*).
- (4.) Matters relating to the superintendence of local sanitary works.
- (5.) Matters relating to local sanitary associations and local hospitals (*byoku*).

Article 12.—The following affairs shall be dealt with by the Geographical Bureau :—

- (1.) The disposition and superintendence of Government land.
- (2.) The appropriation of land for Government uses.
- (3.) Changes in the names of places and classes of land (*chishu-moku*).
- (4.) Reclamation of land from water.
- (5.) Matters relating to meteorology.

Article 13.—The following affairs shall be dealt with in the Ecclesiastical Bureau :—

- (1.) Matters relating to the preservation of shrines (*shingū*), the maintenance of government and state shrines, *shokonsha* (shrines for the souls of those who died for the State), shrines generally, and old shrines and temples.
- (2.) Personal affairs (*miibun*) of Shinto priests, Buddhist priests and lecturers, the rules and institutions of various sects, the maintenance or abolition of shrines, temples, and other ecclesiastical buildings; and all other ecclesiastical affairs.

Article 14.—The following affairs shall be dealt with by the Maps and Books Bureau :—

- (1.) The publication of maps and the registry of copyright.
- (2.) The preservation of maps and books.
- (3.) Matters relating to the census (*Koku oyobi minseki*).
- (4.) Matters relating to rewards (*hoshō*).

Article 15.—The following affairs shall be dealt with by the Financial Bureau :—

- (1.) The estimates and settled accounts of the Department, and of the offices under it, and the finances of the Department, as well as the lands buildings under its control.
- (2.) The estimates and settled accounts of boards, cities, prefectures, and other bodies under the Department, as well as the expenses of shrines.

Articles 16.—Twelve engineers and 29 experts (*gishu*) shall be attached to the Home Department.

Article 17.—The settled number of probationers of the Home Department shall be 10.

Articles 18.—Sixteen engineering probationers shall be attached to the Home Department.

Article 19.—The settled number of *soku* of the Home Department shall be 349.

AMENDED ORGANIZATION OF THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 106.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Amendment of the Organization of the Finance Department, and order the same to be promulgated.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.)
(Great Seal.)

Dated June 24th, 1890.

(Countersigned)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.
COUNT MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of State for Finance.

Article 1.—The Minister of State for Finance shall control all the financial affairs of the Government; administer matters relating to finance, expenditures and receipts, taxes, the national debt, coinage, money deposits, securities, and banks; and superintend the financial affairs of cities, prefectures, rural districts, municipalities, towns, and villages.

Article 2.—A Bureau of General Administration shall be established in the Finance Department, and in it the following affairs shall be dealt with, in addition to those mentioned in the General Rules :—

- (1.) Receipts which are under the control of the Finance Department, and the preliminary examination of bills of special finance.
- (2.) Security for good behaviour of and compensation for money lost by financial officials who are attached to the Finance Department.
- (3.) The superintendence of buildings attached to the Finance Department.
- (4.) Special funds of the Government.
- (5.) Coinage.
- (6.) Matters relating to legal causes.
- (7.) The superintendence of the finances of subsidised companies.
- (8.) The translation of foreign documents.

Article 3.—The settled number of Councillors special to the Finance Department shall be 5, and of secretaries 3.

Article 4.—The following bureaux shall be established in the Finance Department :—

Accountant's Bureaux (*Shukei Kiyoku*).
Revenue Bureau.
Customs Bureau.
Treasury Bureau.
National Debt Bureau.
Bank Superintendence Bureau.
Deposit Bureau.
Disbursing Bureau (*Kwaishet Kiyoku*).

Article 5.—The Chiefs of the Bureaux of Accounts, of Revenue, of Customs, and of the Treasury shall be of 2nd *chokunin* rank or above 2nd *sonin* rank; and those of the National Debt, Bank Superintendence, Deposit, and Disbursing Bureaux, below 1st *sonin* rank and above 3rd *sonin* rank.

Article 7.—The following affairs shall be dealt with by the Accountant's Bureau :—

- (1.) The general budget and general settled accounts.
- (2.) The financial estimates and settled accounts of special finance.
- (3.) The inspection of the financial estimates of expenditure.
- (4.) The compilation of the actual accounts of yearly expenditure and revenue.
- (5.) Registration in the accountants' books.
- (6.) The disbursement of reserve funds.
- (7.) The inspection of repayments of settled sums (*teigaku madoshi-ire*): the defrayment of ready money before the beginning of a financial year, the certification of settled sums (*teigaku kurikomi*); and the extra disbursements of each financial year (*kwa nendo shi shutsu*).
- (8.) Items of receipts and expenditures.
- (9.) Reports of receipts and expenditures.
- (10.) The inspection of finance officials.
- (11.) Security deposited by financial officials.
- (12.) The sanctioning of expenditures by cities, prefectures, municipalities, towns, and villages in cases where the Treasury bears part of the expense.
- (13.) The financing of Securities.

Article 8.—The following affairs shall be dealt with in the Revenue Bureau :—

- (1.) The imposition of domestic taxes.
- (2.) The collection of domestic taxes.
- (3.) The control and inspection of domestic taxes.
- (4.) The Land Registry Book.
- (5.) The superintendence of officials who collect domestic taxes.
- (6.) The estimates of expense of collecting domestic taxes.
- (7.) The preliminary examination of accounts of the expense of collecting domestic taxes and of the receipt of the same.
- (8.) Expenditure and receipts on account of stamps.
- (9.) The taxes of cities and prefectures, and of municipalities, towns, and villages.

Article 9.—The following affairs will be dealt with by the Customs Bureau :—

- (1.) The carrying out of Rules as to Customs Duties and Customs Rules generally.
- (2.) The control and superintendence of matters connected with Customs Duties.
- (3.) The preliminary examination of accounts of customs duties, and general receipts of Customs Offices.
- (4.) Examination of the increase or decrease of customs duties (*Kai kan sei ritsu*).
- (5.) The condition, examination, and drafting of tables of foreign trade.
- (6.) The leasing of warehouses, guarantees for the payment of taxes (*hōsei shokuko*), and the disposal of Customs godowns.
- (7.) The supervision of carts and other taxable vehicles, and of vessels for foreign trade.
- (8.) The chartering of foreign vessels trading from special ports of export.
- (9.) Investigations relating to lands, buildings, vessels and other properties of Customs Offices.

Article 10.—The following business shall be transacted in the Treasurer's Bureau :—

- (1.) The superintendence, expenditures, and receipts of Treasury funds.
- (2.) The employment and distribution of Treasury funds.
- (3.) The keeping of records of the expenditures and receipts of the Treasury.
- (4.) The control and superintendence of cash in the Treasury vaults.
- (5.) The compilation of accounts of expenditures and receipts of the Treasury.
- (6.) The preliminary examination of the accounts of financial officials having charge of the Treasury vaults.
- (7.) All matters connected with the vaults of the Treasury.

Article 11.—The following affairs shall be dealt with in the National Debt Bureau :—

- (1.) Matters relating to the levying, borrowing, and repayment of public loans.

- (2.) The recording of public loans.
- (3.) The disposal of paper money, public loan bonds, exchequer bills, and other loan bonds.
- (4.) The issue and receipt of reserve paper money, public loan bonds and Exchequer bills.
- (5.) The compilation of accounts of the national debt.
- (6.) The granting of annuities, pensions, &c.
- (7.) The financial estimate of disbursements of capital and interests of public loans, commissions on public loans, annuities, pensions, &c.
- (8.) Payment of the expense of national loans.
- (9.) Examination of the accounts of national loans, pension, &c.
- (10.) The debts of municipalities, towns and villages, and the public loans of cities, prefectures, and rural districts.

Article 12.—The following affairs shall be dealt with in the Bank Superintendence Bureau :—

- (1.) The control of national banks, private banks, and other banks established in accordance with special laws.
- (2.) Convertible bank notes of the Bank of Japan, and the paper money of national banks.
- (3.) The issue and receipt of the paper money of national banks.

Article 13.—The following affairs will be dealt with in the Deposit Bureau :—

- (1.) The receiving and delivering of money and notes deposited with the Government.
- (2.) The compilation of accounts of money deposits.
- (3.) The use of funds for payment of money deposits, and the interest on money so deposited.
- (4.) The deposit, receipt, and expenditure of notes connected with the funds for the repayment of money deposits, and the interest on money so deposited.
- (5.) The registration of money deposits.
- (6.) The accounts of interest on money deposits.
- (7.) The compilation of the financial estimates and settled accounts of funds for the payment of interest on money deposits.
- (8.) The disposal of funds for the payment of interest on money deposits.
- (9.) The receipts of funds for payment of interest on money deposits.

Article 14.—The following affairs will be dealt with in the Disbursing Bureau :—

- (1.) The compilation of documents as to expenses that have to be settled beforehand, reports generally on the disbursements of the Treasury, &c.
- (2.) Disbursement of the expenditures of the Finance Department.
- (3.) All receipts under the control of the Finance Department.
- (4.) Matters connected with the treatment of Government property in use by the Finance Department.
- (5.) The deposit, expenditure, and receipt of property used by the Finance Department.
- (6.) The disposal of securities.
- (7.) The preliminary examination of accounts of the expenditure of Customs.

Article 15.—Eight accountants and 7 tax clerks of *sonin* rank shall be attached to the Finance Department, who shall discharge duties under the several Bureaux and may also take the place of chiefs of offices (*kwa*).

Article 16.—The settled number of probationers in the Finance Department shall be 10.

Article 17.—The settled number of *soku* in the Finance Department shall be 552.

THE RANKS AND SALARIES OF ENGINEERS.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 107.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Amendment of the Official Ranks and Salaries of *Gishu* (Engineers).

[His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.]

[Great Seal.]

Dated June 24th, 1890.

(Countersigned.)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.
COUNT MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of State for Finance.

Gishu (Engineers) shall be below 1st *hannin* rank and above 6th *hannin*; and their ranks and salaries shall be in accordance with the Regulations relating to the Ranks and Salaries of *Hannin* Officials.

This Regulation shall come into force on and after July 1st, 1890.

AMENDED ORGANIZATION OF THE FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 109.

We hereby give Our sanction to the present Amendment of the Organization of the Foreign Department, and order the same to be promulgated.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.)

(Great Seal.)

Dated June 27th, 1890.

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.
VISCOUNT AOKI SHUZO,
Minister of State for Foreign Affairs.

Article 1.—The Minister of State for Foreign Affairs shall conduct and control the following matters, and exercise superintendence over diplomatic officials and consuls:—

- (1.) Relations with foreign nations.
- (2.) The protection of Japanese commercial and other interests in foreign States.
- (3.) Conferences with foreign Governments in order to secure equal protection in foreign States for Japanese and foreigners in respect of occupations and other matters.

Article 2.—A Board of General Administration shall be established in the Foreign Department, and in it the following affairs shall be dealt with in addition to those mentioned in the General Rules:—

- (1.) Declarations, Conferences and Treaties concerned with the national policy.
- (2.) The carrying out of Treaties.
- (3.) Matters relating to the subjects of the empire resident in foreign States, and to the granting of foreign passports.
- (4.) Matters relating to the granting of interior passports to foreign subjects.
- (5.) The promotion, removal, and personal affairs of officials in the Department, diplomatic officials, and officials of Consulates.
- (6.) Matters relating to the credentials of diplomatic officials, State documents of appointments and reappointments, letters of dismissal (*kuininjo*), and His Imperial Majesty's letters-manual (*goshisho*).
- (7.) Matters relating to audience of diplomatic officials in the empire with His Majesty, and the mode of their treatment.
- (8.) Matters relating to ceremonies with regard to foreign States.
- (9.) Matters relating to the list of diplomatic officials and consuls in Japan.
- (10.) The granting of decorations to foreigners.
- (11.) Matters relating to the establishment (*ninkajo*) of consulates of other States in the Empire.
- (12.) Matters relating to foreign employes.
- (13.) Matters relating to the residence of foreigners outside the foreign concessions.
- (14.) Matters relating to the residence and passports of employes of foreign legations in Japan.
- (15.) Matters relating to marriages between foreigners and Japanese.
- (16.) The examination and publication of reports of Ministers, Consuls, and others in foreign States.

Article 3.—No Councillors special to the Foreign Department shall be appointed, but diplomatic officials with no fixed office (*nuninsho*) shall be attached to the Department.

Article 4.—The settled number of secretaries special to the Foreign Department shall be 4.

Article 5.—The following bureaux shall be established in the Foreign Department:—

Commercial Bureau.
Law Bureau.
Translation Bureau.
Accountant's Bureau.

Article 6.—The Chiefs of the Bureaux of Law and Commerce shall be of 2nd *chokunin* rank or above 2nd *sonin* rank, the Chiefs of the Translation and Accountants' Bureau shall be 1st *sonin* rank and above 3rd *sonin* rank.

Article 7.—Assistant Chiefs shall be attached to the Commercial Bureau.

Article 8.—The following affairs shall be dealt with in the Commercial Bureau:—

- (1.) Commercial and navigation conventions.
- (2.) Foreign coinage, &c.
- (3.) The concluding of conventions with respect to the protection of copyrights, designs, and trademarks.
- (4.) International telegraphs and mails.
- (5.) Matters relating to the fees to be levied by the Imperial Legations and Consulates.

(6.) Regulations for examining or publicly recognizing at Imperial Legations or Consulates, foreign passports (*kaigai-ryoken*) or other documents issued by domestic and foreign authorities.

(7.) The rights of Consuls.

(8.) Matters relating to credentials (*kuininjo*) of Consuls.

Article 9.—The following affairs shall be dealt with by the Law Bureau:—

- (1.) Matters relating to International Public Law and International Private Law.
- (2.) The interpretation of treaties.
- (3.) Questions arising from public documents or correspondence.
- (4.) Petitions filed and actions raised by foreigners against the Imperial Government, as well as petitions filed and actions raised by Imperial subjects against foreign Governments.
- (5.) Matters relating to the privileges and freedom from taxes of diplomatic officials and consuls.
- (6.) Conventions of Extradition, and questions arising therefrom.
- (7.) The carrying out of the laws of this Empire over subjects of the Empire abroad.
- (8.) Questions relating to cases in which Japanese subjects are in the service of foreign Governments, or in which foreign subjects are in the service of the Government of this Empire.
- (9.) Matters relating to the enforcement of the rights of the police of the Empire against foreign subjects.
- (10.) Matters relating to the control of foreign concessions.
- (11.) Matters relating to the expulsion of foreigners.
- (12.) Matters relating to the inspection, and recognition, as well as delivery of certificates of various persons (*midan shusho*).

Article 10.—The following affairs shall be dealt with by the Translation Bureau:—

- (1.) The translation of laws and regulations.
- (2.) The translation of documents of the Department.
- (3.) Answers to questions by other departments and offices of the Empire relating to the manner and style of official translations.

Article 11.—The following affairs shall be dealt with by the Financial Bureau:—

- (1.) The estimates and settled accounts, receipts and disbursement, adjustment of books (*chobo*), as well as the compilation of tables of accounts of the Department and foreign legations.
- (2.) The paying and receiving of money, and the examination of various documents.
- (3.) Matters relating to lands, edifices, and other property belonging to the Department.

Article 12.—Eight translators of *sonin* rank shall be attached to the Foreign Department, and shall transact the affairs of the Translation Bureau.

Article 13.—The settled number of probationers of the Foreign Department shall be 8.

Article 14.—The settled number of *soku* of the Foreign Department shall be 100.

POSTAL MONEY ORDER AND SAVINGS BANKS CASHIERS.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 105.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Regulations relating to the Cashiers of Postal Money Order and Postal Savings Banks, and order the same to be promulgated.

[His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.]

[Great Seal.]

Dated June 21st, 1890.

(Countersigned.)

COUNT MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of State for Finance.
COUNT GOTO SHOJIRO,
Minister of State for Communications.

Article 1.—Cashiers of Postal Money Order and Savings Banks shall deposit money as security for their good conduct without respect to the limitations of Article 1, Imperial Ordinance No. 4 of the 23rd year of Meiji.

Article 2.—The Additional clause of Article 2, Imperial Ordinance No. 4 of the 23rd year of Meiji shall not be applied to cashiers of 3rd class postal and telegraphic offices and 3rd postal office.

Article 3.—Offices placed under the control of the Minister of State for Finance in accordance with Article 6, Imperial Ordinance No. 4 of the 23rd year of Meiji, and Articles 104 and 105 of the Regulations of Finance shall be transferred to the control of the Minister of State for Communications.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE POLITICAL CAMPAIGN IN IBARAKI.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The political campaign in this province is quite lively. The candidates are numerous; and each is, of course, striving with all his persuasive power to convince a majority of the voters of his district that he alone is well qualified to represent them in the first National Diet of Japan. The *Ibaraki Daily News*, which is published in this city, and is the leading journal of the province, has been pretty much devoted of late to political affairs. Strange to say, however, it publishes chiefly only matters of general news, or contributed articles, or paid advertisements, and endeavours to maintain a "strict neutrality" so far as editorial utterances and official influence are concerned. Perhaps, its support depends upon this attitude, which seems strange when compared with the course of American or British newspapers in political matters.

Numerous meetings, sometimes social, sometimes oratorical, have been held all over the province in the interests of the various candidates. "Calls" to candidates, letters of recommendation, corrections of misrepresentations, in quite American style, appear daily in the newspapers. One morning, perhaps, a list of supporters of a certain candidate is published; the next morning half a dozen persons whose names were in that list come out in a "card" to say, that their names were used without authority, and that they favour a rival candidate. Accusations of bribery, intimidation, obtaining votes under false pretences, have been muttered, but no legal action has yet been taken against any candidate for such offences.

Count Itagaki has been here to infuse enthusiasm into the Liberal cause, but with what success is not yet known. In the First District, in which this city is included, two members are to be elected; and the probability is that the candidates of the *shiooku*, who are acting independently of party organization, will be successful. In the Second District, where likewise two members are to be chosen, it seems likely that Mr. Shō Nemoto, of the *Aikoku-ko* branch of the Liberal party, will gain a seat. His career has been so romantic, that a few words may not be out of place here. He was born in the country a few miles out from this city about 40 years ago. As his parents were poor farmers, they could not give him much education; but he succeeded in attending the common schools of this city for a while. Then he went to Tokyo, where he pulled a *junk* in the daytime for a living, and studied as he had opportunity, even into the night. He finally managed somehow to reach America, whereby sheer pluck he worked himself up through a high school, and entered the University of Vermont. From this institution he was graduated in the class of '89; and then, after traveling in England and on the continent, returned to Japan. Such indomitable energy and intellectual qualifications certainly deserve a seat in the House of Representatives. As an earnest Christian, he would be a power for good in that body.

The campaign thus far seems to teach that human nature is about the same the world over; and that the Japanese can adapt themselves readily to some phases of representative government. It is, of course, sincerely to be hoped that nothing will happen to indicate that they cannot maintain in purity the governmental rights and the political privileges they have received.

Mito, June 26th, 1890.

CLEM.

FEMALE SHAVERS FOR TOKYO.—THE DAWN OF A NEW ERA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Nothing but the extreme importance of the subject could justify me in venturing to beg you to reconsider the decision expressed in the *Japan Mail* of the 28th instant to award the credit of having initiated the great tonsorial revolution to the Kobe artists. The lady whose deft manipulations made so favourable an impression upon you, sir, has had many predecessors in the art—notably in Sweden. There and elsewhere I have had the advantage of being operated on by fair barberesses whose titillating touch yet haunts the stubble of my chin. The wiles of many a one of them have left no doubt on my mind but that the editorial prediction that the thing would work splendidly in Tokyo is peculiarly capable of fulfilment.

As a rule the lady of fashion entertains the firmest conviction that the possibilities of "hope" and "soap" are by no means exhausted by the thyming efforts of the poetaster on the outside sheet of

Pouch. Her conversation is not of racing, breach of promise cases, or the enormities of Mr. Gladstone; it is, nevertheless, irresistible. Between the insertion of the lather-coated brush into the corners of your mouth and the first graceful swoop of the razor you have eagerly purchased a picturesque box of scented soap, and ere the gentle pressure of her hands relaxes from the towel round your chin you are the proud possessor of the very latest razor strop. For the lady barber has discovered that the possession of "plump contours of a dimpled arm" is not incompatible with a strict attention to business.

And when, after your first visit, you leave her fascinating abode, with your hat in one hand, the box of soap in the other, and sundry parcels depending by a party-coloured string from between your teeth, you indeed feel that a new era has dawned for woman, barber, and for

SOMEBODY'S SOAP.

June 30th, 1890.

THE "NEW YORK HERALD" AND THE AZABU MURDER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Your paragraph in yesterday's issue of the Azabu murder was not a bit too severe, but you were in error in attributing it to me. I did send the *New York Herald* an article one third of the length about this murder, giving the plain facts and the probable reasons. They sent me my cheque by return of post, but thinking that my article did not sufficiently revel in that spicy subject, they did what they had a perfect right to do so long as they did not append my name, handed the article over to one of their theatrical narrators and told him to work it up. The curious error about the troops crept in thus. I said that Mr. Large went a day earlier because all the train accommodation the next day would be monopolised by the large bodies of troops returning to the capital from the manoeuvres at Nagoya.

The brilliant pieces of description about murderer McElvaine and the Pool of Siloam are, it is needless to say, not mine, indeed the only verbal extract from my letter is the passage about the bank robber.

With compliments, I am yours, &c.,

"THE ARTIST WITH THE PEN."

Yokohama, July 1st, 1890.

THE TABERNACLE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Permit me to thank you for your kindly note in your issue of last Thursday regarding the burning of the Tabernacle in Hongō, in which I am so directly interested, and at the same time to gratefully acknowledge in your columns, instead of writing separately, the many letters and verbal expressions of sympathy which kind friends have sent.

The suggestions of the Press, as well as the urging of friends, encourage me to make an appeal for help towards repairing the heavy loss, so that we may at once push forward the work of reconstruction. The season, I know, is exceedingly unfavourable, and claims on public sympathy are many. At the same time it is thought that there are many friends who would be able and willing to contribute at once, when gifts would be doubly helpful. If we proceed immediately we shall avoid still heavier loss, for the walls can be used again if used without delay, and it may be possible for us to open in October, and thus avoid adding another year to the already long delay.

There are two ways in which substantial aid may be given. First by direct subscriptions, either in cash or payable within three or six months, and second, by several friends, who may have a balance lying idle, each entrusting us with a small loan at reasonable interest for six months or a year, until we receive the response sure to come from an appeal to our friends in the West. We need from 3,000 to 4,000 dollars to complete the work as undertaken.

I trust your readers will pardon this appeal. It will at least serve to show those who are disposed to give that their help will be most gratefully accepted "In His Name." Others may pass it by. With many thanks for the constant kindness of the *Mail*.

I remain, yours faithfully,

C. S. EBY.

P.S.—It might be well to indicate in a word or two the genesis and character of the work aimed at by the "Central Tabernacle," for the benefit of those who may not have read the literature relating to the subject. My thought for many years was that in addition to the kind of mission work generally carried on, a supplementary undertaking

on a larger scale, with more varied methods and in which all denominations might unite, should be launched to appeal to the intelligent classes as well as give an opportunity of reaching the masses with still larger effect.

It was not to be wondered at that plans out of the common run, involving the expenditure of large sums of money, should meet with a cool reception and even with active opposition, to overcome which years of delay had to be patiently endured. No doubt both the difficulties and the delay have chastened the original plan into more practical shape. In response to persistent effort several thousand dollars were raised from private contributors and then the Mission Board in whose service I am employed (Canada Methodist) made a generous grant of 4,000 dollars, increasing this subsequently when a more expensive lot was purchased.

The design of the Tabernacle is: (1) To provide a large and well-planned centre for Christian work the very size and style and comfort of which will be an attraction to the best, a something somewhat commensurate with this immense and Imperial city, in this important stage of Japanese History. (2) In such a place to have, besides ordinary and extraordinary evangelistic work, a great variety of lectures, apologetical, scientific, philosophical, popular, illustrated with the aid of stereopticon views, &c.; concerts which should bring the educating and cultivating influence of music within the reach of everybody, and meetings for humanitarian and kindred purposes, in a word, giving the old Gospel in concrete methods adapted to the time, the place and the people. (3) While the specific union of denominations in the undertaking was found impossible, it is hoped to retain the soul of the original plan in perhaps more workable shape. Thus we are not to have a so-called "union" establishment which might lie in danger of splitting on the rock of "What's everybody's business is nobody's business," nor on the other, a so-called "nondenominational" concern which might develop into an Ishmaelite separation from all the churches. It is proposed along with the effective control and intense life of one denomination which takes responsible charge, to lay special emphasis on those points of teaching and those lines of thought and work which may be called *pan-denominational*, lying at the basis of every form of scriptural Christianity and shown in the general outcome of goodwill to men. It is hoped by this means to form a centre from which an influence shall go forth to help forward every branch of the Church, in the upbuilding of which lovers of every denomination may more or less contribute, and which will have indirectly a unifying influence among all Christians on the only feasible line, that of mutual recognition and helpfulness. And I am thankful to say that other churches are represented among the donors. Those who take the trouble to examine photographs of the ruins will notice that there are only three brick walls standing. The front wall is to be a temporary structure of wood and cement, the hope being to enlarge in a few years, extending the building forward, and adding a handsome tower to complete the architect's design. In the meantime the full width of 72ft. and 60ft. of the length, constitute the present building, which with music gallery and platform at one end and galleries on either side will make an attractive and ample audience room. The internal arrangement was suggested by the plan of Mr. John Wanamaker's great Sunday School building in Philadelphia, U.S., the gallery spaces being utilized by sliding doors or curtains when smaller gatherings call for such, and then by the removal of these sliding doors the whole building becomes one large audience room. The present lot, with indirect expenses, has cost us over \$7,000. The building complete and furnished was to be about \$10,000. About \$3,000 will put us back where we were before the fire, but we shall need still another \$1,000 to complete the building and its furnishing without debt. I may add that we expect to make the building fire proof. The word Tabernacle was chosen as less secular than Lecture Hall and less ecclesiastical than Church, and as a just expression of the *via media* arrived at.

PROTESTANT CHURCHES AND PASTORS IN JAPAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL"

SIR,—While heartily thanking you for your kindly reference in to-day's issue to the "Tabernacle" project, I would ask permission to put in a word for several exceptions to the prevailing rule of small chapels and small salaried men, and thus remove a possible though entirely unintended erroneous impression. The American Episcopal Church in Tsukiji, lately opened, though not

very large, is still a gem; the Methodist Church in Azabu, though not ornate, is of considerable size, and beside these there are two or three moderately sized churches in connection with the Ichi Kyōkai sufficient to be mentioned as exceptions to the general rule.

Then, although it seems to be too true that many of the native churches are under-manned, and many congregations, probably in order to be self-supporting, are satisfied with cheap substitutes for efficient ministers, still there are some native pastors who in addition to the earnestness which may be predicated of all, are really well-equipped and efficient men.

At the same time I appreciate and endorse the point you are aiming at, and am in hopes that the "Tabernacle" will make a conspicuous contribution in that direction, viz., that the spiritual and intellectual energy of Protestantism should find expression also in more imposing and better equipped public buildings dedicated to its work in this immense city.

Yours, etc.,

Tokyo, July 2, 1890.

C. S. EBY.

AT THE KANDA POLLING BOOTH.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Tuesday was a great day for the whole Empire, but it may be doubted whether a day of such national importance was ever ushered in with equal sobriety and decorum. Everybody seemed alive to the tremendous interest of the occasion, and the schools were well-nigh deserted, the students—especially in Kanda—thronging the streets and eagerly discussing the chances of this or that candidate. It was a surprise to learn, however, the very small number of the voters; so many restrictions attach to the franchise that even in such a very populous district as Nishinobashi there were but 637 persons who could exercise the right, while in Kanda the number fell short of 500. It appears that very many well-to-do merchants and real estate owners, while residing *de facto* in Tokyo for quite a long period, are not recognized as citizens *de jure* of the capital, they being registered as residents in other provinces or cities. To take a case in point:—One of the wealthiest and most enterprising merchants in Kanda was debarred from the ballot because he is a native of Shizuoka Prefecture, registered as such, and not under the immediate supervision of the Tokyo City Government, although the owner of many houses in Kanda. Even should he have gone to Shizuoka he would still have been unable to vote, as possessing no taxable real estate in that province. In fine, though paying taxes amounting to quite a large sum annually and for many years a resident of the metropolis, he had not the right to cast a vote.

Owing to similar circumstances the number of voters was astonishingly small compared with the huge population of Tokyo, and for this reason, perhaps, those who could vote fully appreciated the solemnity of the occasion and the great responsibility in their hands.

The ward office (*Ku-yakusho*) was the polling booth in each urban district. A bamboo or board fence shut out the interested crowd of onlookers, and kept all would be intruders at a distance. Each voter was arrayed in his best, with crested haori, flowing hakama and—crucial contrast!—a sun topee. At the entrance he was met by two or three constables, by whom he was required to present his *senkyō-ken*, or voter's ticket. A sharp glance at his general appearance, and he was allowed to enter the ward-office. In Kanda this is quite an imposing building, next door to Mr. Masujima's English Law School. Upon entering the basement and running the gauntlet of some fifty pairs of curious eyes, belonging to the clerks and other officials of the office, each voter was required to remove his wooden *geta*, receiving a pair of straw sandals in return. A flight of steps led to the second floor, where was the all-important ballot-box. In this upper room were twelve persons, exclusive of the voters; one *senkyō-chō*, or supervisor of the ballot, five *tachiainin* or witnesses, 4 *kyōji*, or servants, and 2 *daishi*, or assistant-clerks. Immediately in front of the supervisor was the ballot-box, a large wooden receptacle having three slits. As each voter entered he was questioned as to his name, his address, and his occupation. Upon answering his interrogator (one of the *tachiainin*) the voter had then to produce his *senkyō-ken*; an entry was made in one of the voluminous registers, and with the words *yoroshū gosaimasu*, he was informed that the great moment had at last arrived. Before putting his ballot into the box he had to fold the little slip of paper (bearing his name in full as well as that of the candidate for whom he "plumped") in order to fit it to the narrow

slit, thereby giving the supervisor an opportunity of seeing that he held but one ballot, and that everything was *en règle*. A bow to the supervisor and the ballot was over. At a long side-table, covered with green baize, the voter could thereupon indulge in a cup of steaming tea, to refresh himself after his exciting ordeal. A few whispered words with some other voters waiting for their turn or about to return; a collective bow to the august assembly,—and all was finished. From personal observation I can affirm that no more than twelve voters were present at any one time; there was no opportunity for "wire-pulling"; everything was managed with the greatest decorum; there was no noise above a whisper.

In front of the Kanda ward-office an enterprising photographer was doing a roaring trade in *cartes-de-visite* of Messrs. Tsunoda Shimpei and Oyagi, the two most popular candidates. Reporters and representatives of the press were rigidly excluded from the ballot-room, and not a soul knew how the ballot was going, or who stood the best chance of election. In front of the ward-office was quite a crowd of people, eager to obtain the slightest information as to the probable result of the ballot, but not one syllable reached their curious ears, and the three constables at the entrance might have sat as models for the sphinx, so impressive were their features.

So the day wore on. Each office was open from 7 a.m. till 6 p.m., but towards evening the voters grew scarce and the silent crowd without as silently began to disperse. "How quiet everything is!" I ventured to remark to one of the officials. "Yes," he replied with a meaning smile, "Tokyo is all right, but there's a different state of affairs in the provinces!"

Your obedient servant,
July 1st, 1890.

E.

SPAIN, ENGLAND, AND JAPAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—During the past year Spain, England, and Japan have been actors in a scene which has attracted the attention of the civilized world. Important principles of international law and jurisprudence were involved. The last steamer brought to my table a leading journal from Chicago, U.S.A., which contains an excellent, though brief, editorial on this subject. It is from the able pen of Major Robinson, who is recognized, by the press and general public, as one of the wisest and most discriminating thinkers on topics of the day. As it may be of interest to your readers, at this time, to see what is the opinion of no small portion of the leading men in the United States on the whole question involved, I submit herewith a copy of the editorial which is as follows:—

"The question of the extraterritorial privileges of Western nations in Japan is again presented in a way that goes far to justify demand for their abolition. For the last thirty years foreigners have had the privileges of trade and residence in certain localities in the Empire, with local jurisdiction through their own consular courts, and the right of appeal to those courts in determining their relations to Japanese subjects. But for a long time there has been increasing objection to this system on the part of the Japanese, in that it implies their own inferiority, and the United States, France, Germany, and Russia have agreed to its abandonment if some adequate substitute shall be found. Great Britain and other Western powers have, however, declined to consent to any change, despite the almost positive refusal of Japan to submit longer to what is regarded as a national humiliation, on the ground that the Japanese are not yet sufficiently advanced in civilization to make such a course safe.

"But the maintenance of this position has in a recent instance resulted in a flagrant breach of international law on the part of Spain, with England as her direct abettor, and in leaving the little Eastern State, which both Powers insist is not yet in a position to be treated as an equal, the only one of the three fully cognizant of its rights. It appears a Spanish criminal (or criminals) was arrested in Japan by the Spanish Consular authorities, who in lack of a building of their own in which to confine him, were permitted to use the English prison. Such an arrangement would have been proper enough had the crime been committed on Japanese territory, but, unfortunately, the crime was committed in Manila, the arrest of the culprit by the Spanish Authorities being therefore a patent disregard of the Japanese right of asylum. The Japanese very justly insisted that they were entitled to legal jurisdiction in their own country, and that the culprit should be released and re-arrested by their own officers and formally surrendered to the

Spanish Authorities for extradition. They positively refused to permit the criminal to be returned to Manila in any other way, and for nine months stood guard over the English prison, until the Madrid Government instructed its Consul to comply with their just demand. The point once conceded, no further hindrance was offered, the Japanese objection being not to the arrest of the criminal, but to his arrest in defiance of a jurisdiction not surrendered by treaties with other Powers. Naturally, the incident has discredited England, which occupies the position of aiding a breach of international law, although keenly resenting such breaches on the part of other nations, and the press is already calling attention to the loss of prestige which it must involve. It urges that countries determined to maintain their extraterritorial rights must accept the obligations consequent thereon, and that England, with her large commercial interests in Japan, should be first to recognize the vast changes wrought in the Empire within the last few years. If the Japanese are not yet on as high a plane of civilization as they deem themselves to be, the recent incident at least proves that they have a clear perception of what law is and of the rights it conveys, and are prepared to stand strictly upon them. With the evidence they are giving of capacity to keep abreast of Western civilization, it is absurd longer to insist that they are incapable of affording sufficient security to British rights and interests, and if the agreement made with the United States is again offered to other nations, it should be promptly accepted."

Sincerely yours,

FREDERICK J. STANLEY.

June 30th, 1890.

POETRY.

A LITTLE IDYLL IN MOST IRREGULAR METRE.

Maiden childlike, in thy hands
Old Japan must live,
When the customs of strange lands
Curious blessings give.
When thou'rt learned in foreign ways
Think thine own the prettier;
Fragrance in the memory stays,
Fragrance of the vanished Mays:
Mark then all these Cherry days
With the reddest letter.
Dainty breath and dainty finger
Keep the dust and moth away
From thy old-world vestures;
Let its folds of soft cloud-grey,
With their silken texture,
Be the fairy land and gay
Where old Japan may have full sway
And memories fondly linger.
New Japan! no softer hours
Than those we spent among the flowers
The gods can ever send her.
Then once a year forget the West,
Take from thy closet what is best.
Go forth in flowered garments dressed,
Thy form by all their folds caressed,
Brave in them the blossom-showers,
Then lay them by in lavender.

F. T. P.

TRANSLATIONS FROM JAPANESE JOURNALS.

THE TENDENCY OF ECONOMIC SOCIETY.

(Translated from the *Choya Shimbun*.)

The extreme appreciation of commodities in the 13th and 14th years of Meiji, was undoubtedly due to the increased issue of paper money, while the weakness of producing sources was an effect of the reduction of the volume of paper money. There were not wanting methods of remedying those evils, but the case is different with the present economic conditions. The elements that give rise to the depression of to-day are equally of natural and artificial origin: they are from proximate as well as remote causes: the rise in rice values, the depreciation of various shares, and the sudden rise in foreign exchange, are phenomena which threaten the future very seriously.

The appreciation of rice was expected on account of the occurrence of storms and floods last year. The dreadful natural calamities that took place in various parts of the country could not fail to result in unusually poor harvests. In the midst of these apprehensions, a few speculators began to buy rice in the summer and fall of last year. Since then, though the price of rice has undergone more or less temporary change, its general tendency has been towards appreciation.

Rice values began to increase portentously about the end of last year, and reached a climax in May,

when reports came to hand showing a yield of 70 per cent. less in the wheat crop as compared with the usual harvests, and when apprehensions began to be entertained with regard to the prospects of the rice crop for the present year. The Government abolished not long ago the system of providing stores of rice against emergencies, and this course, together with its recent action in opening special export ports for rice, led somewhat to a reduction in the quantity of grain stored in various localities. Even assuming that the harvests last fall were not so poor in reality as popular report estimated, there was still a reduction of 10 to 20 per cent. in the aggregate, and when we have added to this, the constant purchase of by rice merchants, appreciation in the value of the grain was not unnatural. The higher classes of the farming community found themselves placed in a somewhat unfavourable situation for the sale of their rice, and in addition to this, they followed the old fashioned course of keeping their storehouses closed with the view of providing against distress in the future. Under these circumstances the gap between supply and demand was emphasized and widened.

When the Government decided to appropriate the Central Famine Relief Fund for the importation of foreign rice, the popular belief was that the action of the Cabinet would be proportionate to the real wants of the case. For economic society is afflicted by a most acute and sensitive nervous system. The appearance of a large rice merchant in the market, either for the purpose of buying or of selling, has a most powerful effect in influencing the value of rice, and though the Department of Finance—which supremely regulates the finances of the State—might appear capable of lessening the pressure which prevailed, by carrying out the policy of importing foreign rice, yet as a matter of fact social affairs cannot always be regulated by laws. So in this case things came out all contrary to previous calculations, and the result was an accelerated increase in rice values. The sale by the Government of such a small amount as 5,000 bales of imported rice, which was the quantity brought forward on the first occasion, had only the effect of disclosing to the public the scarcity of the store of rice in the hands of the Government, a result that naturally contributed to increase rather than decrease the market quotation. These 5,000 bales were all acquired by a few speculators, and prices for this consignment actually mounted higher than those of the general market. This was certainly not the result that the Government expected to bring about. By the second and third sales of rice by the Government, the prospect for the future became somewhat better.

If the harvest of the present year should prove a failure—or if not a failure, should be as poor as last year's—the future will claim our most anxious consideration. The percentage of poor people to the general population is increasing daily; the highways are now seen lined with starving folk, and it seems to us that some united action should be taken by the rest of the community in order to remedy the prevailing distress. But this distress is merely the effect of the conditions that we have mentioned above.

The free monetary conditions of the 17th and 18th years of Meiji (1884 and 1885) gave rise to many corporations, the aggregate capital of which was correspondingly large. Now, even though these corporations could stand upon a solid basis and realize ample profits, there would still be inevitable trouble in the economic world as a consequence of this fixing of capital. How much more serious then is the case when we find that the greater number of those corporations were called into existence by a mania which has been well called the "company fever?" Precisely this point gave rise to grave apprehensions in the year before last. Fortunately, the more intelligent classes of the community were not behind-hand in their preparations to meet the economic troubles that seemed imminent; and these preparations of theirs were in a manner successful in preventing the occurrence of catastrophes. Nevertheless the root of the danger is deeply set in society, and various evils are apt to appear on the surface as circumstances favour their growth. With the appreciation of rice last fall, the value of various shares depreciated in proportion. In the months of February and March, the time for paying up instalments of shares, the circulating medium of the central markets was centred in the farming classes, and the lack of means to fulfil obligations led to a drop in the value of stocks. The Bank of Japan, realizing the emergency, facilitated the use of securities and placed at the disposal of the Specie Bank funds for the purchase of foreign bills, with which view it increased the issue of convertible notes by yen 15,000,000. But this step has not been productive of extensive benefit, and

since then, a period of about three months, the price of rice has augmented and the earnings of the labouring classes have to be charged into food as fast as they are won. There are a number of large landed proprietors throughout the country who in their fears as to the future, limit their expenditure as much as possible, and thus while there is a small demand for commodities, there is also a daily lessening necessity for labour. Meanwhile, the Bank of Japan has lowered the rate of interest, and raised the value of various securities. But how can these acts on the part of the Bank alleviate the present depression?

That imports exceed exports is not necessarily a circumstance to regret, for if increased imports mean increased consumptive power they cannot be injurious. On the other hand, the excess of exports over imports is not necessarily a subject for congratulation, especially if it involves decreased consumptive power in the interior, when wages become lower; and articles of inferior value are exported.

But the excess of exports in our commerce of last year is not due to the above mentioned cause. The excess of imports noticeable from last January up to May inclusive, was above *yen* 1,000,000, and among such imports is found one commodity that was introduced from the necessity of circumstances, namely, rice. We have now reached the time for the export of raw silk and in this direction we may look for compensation for other losses. We have just received a telegram from America communicating the decision of the United States in regard to the silver problem, and it is plainly apparent that henceforward the \$4,500,000 which the United States will buy monthly must tend to appreciate silver and consequently depreciate gold as against silver. This policy of the United States Government may bring benefit to the States, but the silver nations of the East, our country included, may find it advantageous to buy articles from gold countries, but disadvantageous to export to the latter. This circumstance will no doubt place serious hindrances in the way of the sale of our raw silk.

Since last January we have lost in foreign trade some *yen* 4,000,000 in gold and silver. But this sum was only exchanged for foreign articles, and must not necessarily be classed as loss. Still if this should continue without alteration, gold and silver must flow out of the country rapidly.

If in these circumstances credit should be injured in the interior, and a host of applicants appear before the Bank of Japan all anxious to exchange notes for silver, how will the Bank meet this demand? Surely therefore this outflow of gold and silver which is observable at the present time is not at all a favourable phenomenon. Does the Minister of the Treasury think that the policy of buying in foreign bills will be potential as a remedy? The above are among the most regrettable circumstances that are manifested in Japanese economic society at the present time, and for these the Minister of State for Finance is not necessarily to blame—nor indeed are those who blame him.

A POLITICAL CLOUD.

(Translated from the *Choya Shimbu*.)

No one will venture to doubt that constitutional systems have merits and recommendations far outweighing the abuses and evils that they give rise to. Indeed the drawbacks are not by any means few in number. One of these undoubtedly is the impossibility of assembling within the ranks of the government all the leading statesman of a particular era. In practice the existence of a constitutional system necessarily involves the rise of political parties, so that while one class holds the reins of government another will range itself on the popular side, and leading politicians will thus be divided into two sections. Under a well regulated form of absolute government it may happen that the best men of the country are in power and fill official positions, but that is a conjuncture which can only be hoped for once in centuries. On the contrary, it is more often the case, under absolute governments, that rogues and persons of low origin and dishonest methods mostly come to power and harass the people by their unprincipled policy. A representative form of government cannot be regarded as perfect in respect of this question of employing and utilizing men of power, and yet as compared with the other systems of government, the representation may properly be regarded as not far removed from perfection, if it can secure half of the ability and genius that the community can furnish.

People living under a representative system of government ought therefore to endeavour to elect as their representatives men who may be depended on to subserve their private interests to the dictates

of justice, and who can cooperate with each other in disposing with effect of political affairs. If it should happen that the nation is so far neglectful of its best interests, and so far ruled by mere circumstances, as to fail in its duty of electing fit and proper men, then the Diet will be crowded with selfish and unscrupulous persons. So that, assuming that the principle of a party cabinet be happily put into practice, the men who will come from the Diet to take the management of public affairs, will certainly not be those best suited for the purpose. How then can the public expect to see a just and enlightened government policy? If this is to be the result, although the representative form of government has the advantage of securing a large proportion of the best men of the country, it can hardly be regarded as superior to the absolute system.

In Europe and America it is often said that a constitutional system does not necessarily mean the accession to power of the most capable men, because of the fact above mentioned; and is there not perceptible a tendency among our own countrymen to elect as their representatives unworthy persons? Instead of using speech, that most valuable weapon, we find that some of our candidates are not ashamed in the heat of election contests to resort to the argument of brute force, thereby placing themselves on a level with the lower animals. This harmful tendency has already been noted by the general public, and its authors will no doubt be treated with the disapprobation which they deserve. But in cases where bribery and gifts are used for the purpose of obtaining votes, the effects may not come so prominently before public notice, though nothing could well be more despicable than such practices.

The persons who now strive to win votes by the aid of money are on the same low level as those who gained the rank of *samurai* in former days by the same means. The privileges which merchants and farmers were able to obtain dishonestly in the feudal times were no doubt of considerable moment to themselves personally, but we look in vain for any good that they as *samurai* ever accomplished for their country. They gave rise to the custom of leading extravagant lives among their comrades; they were the first who fled when their assistance was most needed; and they were invariably in the rear when an expedition set out, and in the van when retreat became necessary. What then did they accomplish for the country? The case stands the same with those who at present strive to obtain seats in the Diet; only that now the men whom they bribe are not their lords but their electors. They now administer their flattery not to their superiors but to their inferiors, and we may gather from this what their conduct will be when they gain admission to the Diet. In our times there are not lacking men who are concerned in seeing the danger which lies in the future, who can recognise and are able to apply the proper remedies. And just in the same way, there were in the old days *samurai*, perhaps of low birth but of military skill and gallantry, whose characters were conspicuously different from the debased clansmen who marked the period of the decline of feudal power. These were unable to gain access to their lords by reason of the clouds of worthless parasites by whom the latter were surrounded, and so also the people in our times are being led by selfish and unprincipled men, who take advantage of the general lack of political ideas among the electors, and are thus enabled to defeat the efforts of those who would fain direct popular action into proper courses. The educated and cultured men of the feudal times elected to wait for their opportunity, retiring for this purpose from public life, and in solitude devoted themselves to study and reflection; and so now-a-days their prototypes, seeing the futility of present action, withdraw from the political arena and wait for the time when they may with advantage to their country take part in public affairs. The comparison, however, is not completely sound, for with the great weapon speech, which now lies in their grasp, good and capable men may do much by remaining in the contest and boldly and fearlessly attacking the evils which are making their appearance. The prospect in any case is a somewhat unsettling one, and shows the fallacy of expecting that a constitutional form of government will necessarily involve the presence in the Government of a proportion of the country's best men, so that we look forward with no little anxiety to the opening of the first Diet.

HORSFORD'S ACID PHOSPHATE FOR SUNSTROKE.

It relieves the prostration and nervous derangement.

YOKOHAMA AMATEUR ROWING CLUB.

SPRING REGATTA.

The Spring Regatta of the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club, which was held on Saturday, was a most successful meeting. Great interest was evidently taken in the races generally—but specially in the man-of-war contests—for in addition to a large company of shore people, including a goodly proportion of ladies, the verandah and grounds of the Club House were thronged with British, Japanese, and Turkish officers, while the fleet of cutters, galleys, gigs, and dingies that lay outside the course filled with applauding crews lent to the scene an aspect of much liveliness and animation. The efforts of the Japanese blue-jackets were watched keenly by the crews of four torpedo boats, which were evidently also drawn to the spot by no common interest. The afternoon was throughout a most enjoyable one, capital music being discoursed at intervals by the band of the *Imperieuse*. The following were the officials:—Committee—Messrs. W. W. Till, H. V. Henson, F. J. Hall, J. Walter, C. Giffens, W. W. Campbell, H. J. Gorman, J. Rickett, W. J. Kenny, E. W. Tilden, Mr. Rickett acting as Judge, Mr. Hennen, as starter and umpire, and Mr. Sutter as timekeeper. We append a list of the events:—

MEN-OF-WAR—SINGLE BANKED.—Handicap, 15 Sec., per Oar per Mile.—Two Miles.

<i>Imperieuse</i> , gig, 6 oars	1
<i>Severn</i> , galley, 8 oars	2
<i>Ertongroul</i> , gig, 5 oars	3
<i>Fuso Kan</i> , galley, 7 oars	0
<i>Takao Kan</i> , galley, 6 oars	0
<i>Leander</i> , whaler, 5 oars	0
<i>Alacrity</i> , galley, 6 oars	0
<i>Caroline</i> , whaler, 5 oars	0
<i>Imperieuse</i> , whaler, 5 oars	0
<i>Takachiho Kan</i> , gig, 6 oars	0
<i>Caroline</i> , galley, 6 oars	0

The crowd of eleven boats started in capital style, one of the Japanese craft showing up very well at the outset. They kept all well together out to the mark, but on the return trip the *Severn's* big galley drew ahead, and, gradually increasing her lead, came in first in 21 m. 50 secs. The *Imperieuse* gig finished next 40 secs. astern, thus winning the race by means of her allowance of two oars (30 secs. per oar over the course of two miles). The Turkish gig took third place, but no prize. The race was a most exciting one.

CLUB FOURS.—One Mile.

WHITE.	
L. Mottu (bow)	1
G. Philip	
C. H. Merriman	
B. H. Pearson (stroke)	
W. L. Robinson (cox.)	
BLACK (Plover).	
W. W. Campbell	2
K. Kingdon	
F. J. Hall	
F. H. Shepherd (stroke)	
J. Rickett (cox.)	
BLACK (Petrel).	
E. R. Morris (bow)	3
A. Churchill	
H. de Raasloff	
G. W. Barton (stroke)	
W. Sutter (cox.)	

Of the three crews that started, Shepherd's was most fancied, this with Barton's being those originally selected, while the white boat was manned by practically a made-up lot. Henson and Grant had to retire, their places being taken by Martin and Philip, and almost at the last moment Pearson had to take stroke in place of Martin. Barton in the outside berth, and Pearson inside, drew ahead immediately after the start, the third crew falling astern. Off the Creek, Barton had the lead, but Pearson spurred gamely a hundred yards out and though one of his men caught a crab and threw other two oars out of action, the crew recovered very promptly and, rowing with rare pluck, got level with their opponents and won by a quarter of a length. Time, 8.44.

MEN-OF-WAR—DOUBLE BANKED.—Handicap, 15 Sec., per 2 Oars per Mile.—Two Miles.

<i>Imperieuse</i> , cutter, 12 oars	1
<i>Alacrity</i> , cutter, 10 oars	2
<i>Ertongroul</i> , cutter, 10 oars	3
<i>Caroline</i> , cutter, 10 oars	0
<i>Caroline</i> , cutter, 12 oars	0
<i>Takachiho Kan</i> , cutter, 12 oars	0
<i>Takachiho Kan</i> , cutter, 12 oars	0
<i>Takao Kan</i> , cutter, 10 oars	0
<i>Fuso Kan</i> , cutter, 10 oars	0
<i>Yamato Kan</i> , cutter, 14 oars	0
<i>Ertongroul</i> , cutter, 8 oars	0

Original from
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

METAL WORK.

Bronze working in Japan is a pre-historic art, bronze bells and arrow-heads being discovered, concerning whose origin and age nothing is known. Immediately prior to European intercourse, a complete revolution took place in the bronze industry, introducing a skilful arrangement of varied metal colouring, and a better sense of due balance in ornament. In this latter school, which is absolutely indigenous, high relief does not play so prominent a part, whilst inlaying and incrustation are artistically combined with chasing and engraving.

THE SWORD.

The art of welding steel was carried several centuries ago to consummate perfection, and sword blades made by such men as the Miyochins obtained a reputation equal to the old Persian.

IRON.

Most interesting developments in cast and wrought iron work are now produced in Tokyo and Kyoto, and an infinite variation shown in design, the inlaying of gold, silver, copper, and other metals. Amongst the most eminent living exponents of this craft are Komi, Iyenori, and Iko-kusa, and I consider the modern circular metal salver by the latter artist, which I have the pleasure to exhibit, shows breadth and force in combination, with microscopic detail, far beyond the skill of any metal-craftsman outside Japan.

Copper does not lend itself well to casting, but is adapted for working up into wire and sheet forms. The Japanese fully recognise this, and utilise this property by engraving copper, and forming with it decorated mounts for boxes, cabinets, &c.

CARVING.

The major glyptic art was for centuries represented in Japan by the wood-carver, the Mokubutsu, who produced half sized and colossal figures of the various impersonations of Buddha, and the saints and heroes affiliated with the Buddhist cult. The monotonous treatment was prescribed by formal rule, and Hindu in character. But since the disendowment of the Buddhist faith in 1868, the craftsman have diverted their skill in other directions, notably in the production of natural life-sized male and female figures. Passing to the minor glyptic works, we find in the class of carvings known as Netsukes an absolutely original and indigenous art. These Netsukes, in ivory, in wood, in bone, and other materials, are so much appreciated and so well known to Western collectors, the schools and principal carvers so duly chronicled and attested, that I need here do no more than allude to them.

JEWELLERY.

The jeweller's art, as applied to personal adornment, is not indigenous, save and except for the hairpins worn by the women and the specimens of "Japanese jewellery" with which we are now familiar in Europe are so many minor illustrations of the ready versatility of the Japanese craftsmen. To personal accessories, pipe pouch, &c., the goldsmith's art in Japan has heretofore been rigorously confined.

EMBROIDERY.

Japanese embroidery, which is akin to, yet markedly more diversified than, Chinese embroidery, is now so well known in Europe that it needs no descriptive comments. Recent influences have separated this beautiful craft into two divergent schools, in one the aim is cheapness, and the evil "sweating system" has been adopted with the inevitable results of vulgarity and deterioration; in the other, progress and a higher standard is the motto.

TEXTILE MANUFACTURES.

The most characteristic Japanese textile productions during the feudal era were silken brocades and plain stiff silken materials, adapted for male and female costumes. These fabrics combined original design, sobriety, and richness of colour with excellence in quality, but the material was abnormally thick, rigid, and stiff. One tendency of Western influence has been to reduce the substance of these silks, which was, indeed, thicker and heavier than seemed necessary or desirable; another to deteriorate both designs and colourings. There can be no reasonable doubt that the Japanese silk industries will in the near future greatly influence the European. Manufacturers are conforming to European requirements, the area appropriated to sericulture and the cultivation of the mulberry is being rapidly extended, the native hand-looms are being supplemented by power-looms and the latest scientific mechanical appliances of the West. The material is a home production, the workmen are industrious and deft, the cost of labour is far below the European scale, and the expense of ocean transit for an article occupying so small a bulk as manufactured silk is merely nominal. I have seen samples of what

is known as "gros-grain" silk, made on Japanese power-looms, which—lacking the meretricious surface lustre, and the substance produced by artificial weighting in Lyons silks at the same cost—are, as regards purity of material and prospective durability, far more satisfactory. Lyons and Milan will soon have no insignificant rival in the Japanese market.

After some remarks on the *Paper Industry* and *Flower Decoration*, the author passed on to the subject of *Exhibitions*.—He said:—I must not omit to bear witness to the persistent efforts of the present Japanese Government to induce their art manufacturers to conserve the spirit of past achievements. One method adopted is a free distribution among the principal craftsmen of admirable photographs of ancient and approved art examples suitable to particular industries. The industrial exhibitions first held in Japan after some twenty years' contact with the Western nations, revealed an immense deterioration in Japanese national art. These were the Tokyo Exhibitions of 1877 and 1881. Japan erred precisely as Great Britain had erred, and, with the far larger excuse of a restrictive past isolation, too hurriedly absorbed the scientific materialism of the West. In conclusion, I claim that the race-genius of the Japanese has preserved its individuality, known how to benefit by contact with older and seemingly more powerful foreign influences, and evolved from them new and progressive developments, moulding even the powerful cult of Buddhism and the teaching of the Chinese sages to its own form and special requirements. I claim that this race-genius has admirably conformed itself to the peculiar physical conditions of land and climate; to historical events which, at one and the same time, fettered it in social serfdom, and barred it from all contact with the rest of the world; and that in all varying circumstances, subject only to temporary aberrations natural to an emotional people, it has maintained its essential vitality. Therefore, for its art and industrial manufactures, I predict a renewed and progressive life, and a higher and broader perfection than has been attained in a unique and historic past.—*London and China Express*.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL"]

London, June 30th.

In a dispatch to the French Government on the subject of the condition of affairs in Newfoundland, the Marquis of Salisbury has intimated that England cannot allow French naval commanders to take the law into their own hands in the punishment of British fishermen.

London, July 2nd.

The Silver Bill Conference Committee of the Senate House is unable to meet for a few days, owing to the absence of two members, thus delaying the final framing of the compromise bill.

London, July 4th.

It has been decided to confer on Prince Komatsu of Japan the Grand Cross of Honorary Knights of the Order of the Bath.

The Silver Conference has assembled.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki, & Kobe	per N. Y. K.	Friday, July 11th.
From Hongkong, per P. & O. Co.		Sunday, July 6th.*
From America, per P. & O. Co.		Saturday, July 5th.†
From Hongkong, per P. & O. Co.		Sunday, July 6th.†
From Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co.		Tuesday, July 5th.‡
From America, per O. & O. Co.		Tuesday, July 15th.§
From Europe, via Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Thursday, July 10th.¶

* Shanghai left Nagasaki on June 28th. † City of Peking left San Francisco via Honolulu on June 14th. ‡ Arcadia left Nagasaki on July 3rd. § Pacific left Vancouver on June 21st. ¶ Arcadia left San Francisco on June 20th. § Melbourne (with French mail) left Hongkong on July 1st.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For America	per P. M. Co.	Sunday, July 6th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. M. Co.	Sunday, July 6th.
For Europe, via Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, July 6th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, July 8th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, July 12th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Thursday, July 17th.
For Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd.	Sunday, July 20th.

TIME TABLES AND STEAMERS.

TOKYO-YOKOHAMA RAILWAY.

DOWN TRAINS LEAVE SHIMBASHI Station at 6.05*, 6.40, 8.35, 9.30*, 10.25, and 11.45 a.m., and 1.25, 2.30, 3.55, 4.45† 5.50, 6.50, 8.30, 9.55, and 11.15† p.m.

UP TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 6.30, 7.20, 8.10, 9.15† 10.22, and 11.30 a.m., and 12.45, 2.3, 4.25†, 5.30, 6.35, 7.50, 9.10, 10.05, and 11.05† p.m.

FARES—First-class, *sen* 60; second-class, *sen* 40; and third-class, *sen* 20.
Trains marked † run through without stopping at Omori, Kawasaki, Teurumi, and Kanagawa Stations. Those marked ‡ run through without stopping at Omori, Kawasaki, and Teurumi Stations.

TOKAIDO RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA (down) at 6.50, 9.10, 10.20, 11.25 a.m., and 12.40, 2.25, 4.55, 5.35, and 7.45 p.m.; and KOZU (up) at 6.35, 8.40, 9.40, and 11.07 a.m., and 1.17, 2.45, 4.58, 7.25, and 9.46 p.m.

FARES—To Hadogaya, first-class *sen* 6, second-class *sen* 4, third-class *sen* 2; to Totsuka, *sen* 18, *sen* 12, *sen* 6; to Ofuna *sen* 36, *sen* 24, *sen* 12; to Fuji-shima, *sen* 42, *sen* 28, *sen* 14; to Hiratsuka, *sen* 66, *sen* 44, *sen* 22; to Oiso, *sen* 75, *sen* 50, *sen* 25; and to Kozu, *sen* 93, *sen* 62, *sen* 31.

Down trains at 6.50 a.m. run no further than Kyoto arriving there at 11.20 p.m.; at 10.20 a.m. no further than Nagoya, arriving at 10.10 p.m.; at 12.40 p.m. no further than Shizuoka, arriving at 6.50 p.m.; at 3.45 p.m. no further than Shinjuku, arriving at 8.48 p.m.; and the train at 5.35 p.m. runs to Kobe, arriving at 12.45 p.m. next day.

A tramway runs between Kozu and Yumoto (distance 4 *ri*). Jinrikisha may be hired between Yumoto and Miyazusuka (distance 14 *ri*).

OFUNA-YOKOSUKA RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE OFUNA (down) at 7.30 and 9.40 a.m., and 12.05, 1.30, 4.03, 6.14, and 8.30 p.m.; KAMAKURA (down) at 7.41 and 9.51 a.m., and 12.16, 1.41, 4.14, 6.25, and 8.41 p.m.; and ZUSHIMURA (down) at 7.50 and 10 a.m., and 12.25, 1.50, 4.23, 6.34, and 8.50 p.m.; YOKOSUKA (up) at 6.45, 8.55, and 11.20 a.m., and 12.50, 3.50, and 7.45 p.m.; ZUSHIMURA (up) at 7.01, 9.12, and 11.36 a.m., and 1.06, 3.16, 5.26, and 8.01 p.m.; and KAMAKURA (up) at 7.11, 9.22, and 11.46 a.m., and 1.15, 3.26, 5.36 and 8.10 p.m.

FARES—To Kamakura, first-class *sen* 9, second-class *sen* 6, third-class *sen* 3; to Zushimura *sen* 15, *sen* 10, *sen* 5; and to Yokosuka *sen* 30, *sen* 20, *sen* 10.

TOKYO-SHIOGAMA RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE UENO (down) at 6.40, 8.50, and 11.40 a.m., and 2.40 and 5.40 p.m.; UTSUNOMIYA (down) at 10 a.m. and 3.03 and 5.59 p.m.; SHIRAKAWA (down) at 8 a.m. and 12.36 and 5.41 p.m.; KORIYAMA (down) at 9.25 a.m. and 1.54 and 6.58 p.m.; FUKUSHIMA (down) at 7.35 and 11.33 a.m. and 3.45 p.m.; SENDAI (down) at 6.15, 10.25, and 10.40 a.m. and 2.30, 6.35, and 6.50 p.m.

TRAINS LEAVE ICHINOSERI (up) at 6.40 a.m., and 2.50 p.m.; SHIOGAMA (up) at 7 and 11.05 a.m., and 3.10 and 7.15 p.m.; SENDAI (up) at 7.35 and 11.40 a.m., and 3.45 p.m.; FUKUSHIMA (up) at 6.40 and 10.26 a.m. and 2.36 p.m.; KORIYAMA (up) at 8.29 a.m., and 12.22 and 4.28 p.m.; SHIRAKAWA (up) at 6.35 and 9.47 a.m., and 1.40 p.m.; UTSUNOMIYA (up) at 6.20 and 9.05 a.m., and 12.18, 4.14, and 6.33 p.m.

FARES.—Ueno to Utsunomiya, first-class *yen* 2, second-class *yen* 1.32, third-class *yen* 66; to Koriyama *yen* 4.10, *yen* 2.74, *yen* 1.37; to Fukushima *yen* 5, *yen* 3.32, *yen* 1.66; to Sendai *yen* 6.45, *yen* 4.30, *yen* 2.15; to Shiohama *yen* 6.75, *yen* 4.50, *yen* 2.25.

SHINJIKU-HACHIOJI RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE SHINJIKU, TOKYO, (down) at 6.55 and 9.55 a.m. and 12.52, 4, and 7 p.m.; and HACHIOJI (up) at 5.25, 8.25, and 11.25 a.m. and 2.20 and 5.30 p.m.

FARES—First-class *sen* 50; second-class *sen* 60; third-class *sen* 30.

UTSUNOMIYA-MAEBAI RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE UTSUNOMIYA (down) at 5.25 and 10.05 a.m., and 12.25* and 3.05 p.m.; and MAEBAI (up) at 7.38 a.m., and 12.13, 2.43, and 5.13* p.m.

FARES—First-class, *sen* 65; second-class, *sen* 42; third-class, *sen* 21.

* Through Trains to and from Utsunomiya.

OYAMA-MITO RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE OYAMA (down) at 6.35 and 9.25 a.m., and 2.25 and 5.35 p.m.; and MITO (up) at 6.20 and 10.10 a.m., and 2.10 and 5.10 p.m.

FARES—First-class, *yen* 1.26; second-class, *sen* 84; third-class, *sen* 42.

TOKYO-MAEBASHI RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE TOKYO (Ueno) (down) at 6.40, 8.50, and 11.30 a.m., and 2.40 and 5.40 p.m.; and MAEBASHI (up) at 6.55, and 11.50 a.m., and 2.50 and 5.50 p.m.

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

STEAMERS LEAVE THE NIPPON HATOBA daily at 7.55 and 10.30 a.m., and 1.45 and 4.00 p.m.; and LEAVE YOKOSUKA at 7.10 and 10.30 a.m., and 1.30, and 4.00 p.m.—*Fare*, *sen* 20.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Telamon, British steamer, 1,557, R. N. Jackson, 23rd June.—Shanghai 18th June, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Kristina Nilsson, German brig, 280, C. S. Boysen, 25th June.—Takao 12th June, 7,000 bags Sugar.—Chinese.

Windsor, British steamer, 1,797, Rayburn, 26th June.—Bassem 5th June, Rice.—Mat Sui.

Chow Chow Foo, German steamer, 779, Clusen, 27th June.—Saigon 12th June, Rice.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Iphigenia, German steamer, 1,058, Voltmer, 27th June.—Hongkong 21st June, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Caroline (14), cruiser, Captain Clutterbuck, 27th June.—A cruise.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,293, Swain, 27th June.—Kobe 26th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Austriana, British ship, 1,519, Campbell, 28th June.—New York 30th November, Oil.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Oxus, French steamer, 2,390, Delacoeix, 28th June.—Hongkong 20th, Shanghai 23rd, and Kobe 27th June, General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Bellerophon, British steamer, 1,400, Guthrie, 28th June.—Hongkong 22nd June, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Benlowers, British steamer, 1,513, A. Webster, 29th June.—Kobe 28th June, General.—Cornes & Co.

Pathan, British steamer, 1,675, G. Roy, 29th June.—Kobe 28th June, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Oanfa, British steamer, 1,967, W. S. Thompson, 30th June.—Kobe 29th June, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Imperieuse (8), flagship, Captain W. H. May, 1st July.—A cruise.

Chefoo, British steamer, 687, Hutchinson, 2nd July.—Hankow 24th June, Rice and Sugar.—Butterfield & Swire.

Denbighshire, British steamer, 1,662, Rickard, 2nd July.—Kobe 30th June, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Omaha (10), U.S. flagship, Captain V. McNair, 2nd July.—Kobe 30th June.

Francis, American ship, 1,973, Doane, 2nd July.—Kobe 25th June, Tea.—Mourilyan, Heimann & Co.

Glenfalloch, British steamer, 1,429, J. McGregor, 3rd June.—Akyab 14th June, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

China, British steamer, 2,600, W. B. Seabury, 3rd July.—Hongkong 26th June via Kobe 2nd July, General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Batavia, British steamer, 1,661, J. C. Williams, 4th July.—Hongkong 26th via Shanghai 30th June, General.—C. P. M. S.S. Co.

Fooksang, British steamer, 890, Hogg, 4th July.—Saigon 24th June, Rice.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,240, Conner, 4th July.—Shanghai and ports, 28th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Esmeralda, British schooner, 148, J. T. Harrison, 5th July.—Guam 19th May, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Hankow, British steamer, 2,332, F. West, 24th June.—Kobe, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Gaelic, British steamer, 4,205, W. G. Pearce, 25th June.—San Francisco, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Caroline (14), cruiser, Captain Clutterbuck, 25th June.—A cruise.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,735, Haswell, 25th June.—Shanghai and ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Duhoardien (18), French corvette, Captain De Bausset, 26th June.—Singapore.

Telamon, British steamer, 1,557, Jackson, 27th June.—Kobe, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Hampshire, British steamer, 1,700, C. W. Kerruish, 28th June.—Hongkong, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. F. Preston, 28th June.—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Strathendrick, British steamer, 1,513, J. Clunie, 28th June.—Kobe, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Strathleven, British steamer, 1,588, Derwick, 28th June.—Kobe, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Chow Chow Foo, German steamer, 779, Clusen, 1st July.—Nagasaki, General.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,293, Swain, 1st July.—Shanghai and ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benlowers, British steamer, 1,513, A. Webster, 2nd July.—Kobe, General.—Cornes & Co.

Chasseur (4), French gunboat, Commander J. J. Bugard, 2nd July.—Kobe.

Kristina Nilsson, German brig, 280, C. S. Boysen, 2nd July.—Newchwang, Ballast.—Chinese.

Triumphante (12), French flagship, Captain De la Noe, 2nd July.—Kobe.

Pathan, British steamer, 1,675, G. Roy, 3rd July.—Kobe, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Iphigenia, German steamer, 1,058, Voltmer, 4th July.—Kobe, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Dr. and Mrs. Nevins, Mrs. H. Kimball and infant, Miss Bainbridge, Dr. W. Favils, General and Mrs. Nishi and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. Ishiguro and child, Mr. and Mrs. Isahai, Messrs. H. K. Bather, H. Gün, Takeuchi, and A. S. Amann in cabin; Messrs. Neumeyer and Stoltzenberg in second class, and 118 passengers in steerage.

Per French steamer *Oxus*, from Hongkong via Shanghai and Kobe:—Messrs. Keizo Nosaki, Iwano, S. Takaki, Ruisi, Keizo Koga, Pertile, L. Andersen, R. W. Mostad, F. E. Theodor, W. Saunders, Mrs. Endor Davies and amiah, Mr. and Mrs. Mageroni, Mr. Bernard Espinasse, Mr. and Mrs. Moong Tam, Mr. Meudehowitz, Mr. M. Y. Trocky, Captain Browne, Mr. and Mrs. Giro, Messrs. Péro Lemaneier, Beauvais and servant, and Mr. Pigott and infant in cabin.

Per British steamer *Bellerophon*, from Singapore:—Mr. Roach in cabin.

Per British steamer *China*, from Hongkong:—Mr. Coward, Mr. Cumine, Mrs. Sinclair, and Lieutenant Lee in cabin. From Kobe: Captain A. H. Morse in cabin. For San Francisco: Messrs. Rolfe, Berg, Holley, Sickalorse, Miss Lewis, Mr. R. E. Withers, Mr. A. A. de Mello, Dr. Rigby, Rev. E. S. N. Gramsha, Rev. A. C. B. Periva, and Miss Niles, M.D. in cabin.

Per British steamer *Batavia*, from Hongkong via Shanghai:—For Vancouver: Mr. T. F. Pettus, Miss M. Pettus, Messrs. J. S. Bailey, H. H. Bailey, and J. R. Rich in cabin; 125 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. Roberts, Surgeon G. H. Foott, R.N., Messrs. F. H. Mowatt, D. Munn, Mrs. Gardiner, Miss Milton, Lieutenant and Mrs. Reamey, Mrs. Belknap, General and Mrs. Yamagi and child, Admiral and Mrs. Akamatsu and child, Rev. and Mrs. Spencer and child, Rev. and Mrs. Fulkerson and 2 infants, Messrs. Johnson, Davidson, Miss Forbes, Miss Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. Woodhull and child, Mr. M. B. Martin, Mr. Shida, Mr. and Mrs. Harada, Rev. and Mrs. Bassett, Messrs. Limon, and Nevill in cabin; 2 Japanese, Mrs. M. Tokuda, Mrs. K. Tokuda and child, Miss Sogami, Messrs. Yoshiyama, and Oyeda in second class, and 79 passengers in steerage. For San Francisco: Rev. and Mrs. C. F. Reid, 3 children, and infant, Rev. and Mrs. J. N. Hayes, 3 children, and infant, and Mr. Boyd Bredon in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Hakodate:—Messrs. Dunn, Milne, Kumayo, T. Unchi, K. Ono, J. Otsuka, K. Sano, T. Honda, Miss Tsuji, and Mrs. T. Inakawa in cabin; and 24 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco:—Major and Mrs. Brownrigg and maid, Mr. E. R. Hutchinson, Count A. Butler, Mr. A. Grappe, Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Jameson, Mr. and Mrs. J. Herbert, Miss Allen, Mr. and Mrs. V. A. C. Hawkins and infant, Mrs. C. J. Dudgeon and child, Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Bishop, Messrs. J. M. Ringer, W. R. Eastlack, Robert Kelley, H. J. Gifford, J. J. Wright, E. J. Humphrey, A. P. Blake, Misses Hickson, Smees, Bates, and Farrer, Messrs. Tong Sing Kow, Wong Leong, Tom Kin Chor, G. W. Dauce, Mrs. Large, infant and servant, Mr. E. T. Mason, Mr. W. Newbigging, Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Anthony, Mr. E. A. Armstrong, Mr. T. J. B. Worthington, Rev. and Mrs. F. M. Price and 2 children, Messrs. Scott Elliot, D. B. Paige, F. Bornemann, C. N. Choolingen, F. E. K. Widdelbin, H. Palmer and Japanese servant, W. Wolstencroft, T. H. Bradley, J. D. Keley, Mr. Chas. Dunne, Mr. B. C. Howard, child and Japanese nurse, Mr. T. Shidechi, and Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Lemox in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. Bayne, Mrs. McKim, Mrs. Paxton, Commodore Church, Rev. L. P. Crawford, Messrs. Akagi, Y. Miki, G. W. Whittier, A. Fukaya, Alex. Clark, Sasaki, and A. Grundy in cabin; Messrs. Matsuda, Hamaguchi, Ito, Shimachi, Tanaka, and Shibuya in second class, and 117 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Captain and Mrs. Glubb, Mr. R. Combe, Lady Constance Combe, Captain Freckleton, Mr. and Mrs. Klebinkowski and servant, Mrs. Mitchell-Innes, Miss Johnstone, Miss Piercey, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Forbes, Captains Reynolds and Macdonogh, Messrs. Crawley, Liebert, N. G. Jeaffreson, G. A. Leon, G. Lush, Sassoon and servant, J. M. Beck, R. Wilson, C. Wilson, Lapraik, Salmond, J. R. McFarlane, and T. Miyeno in cabin; 3 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. Delafield, Miss Eldridge, Miss Delafield, Mrs. Delafield's maid, Rev. F. W. Demaree, Mr. Delafield, Rev. J. C. Newton, Messrs. Paul Jaluzot, Nakahama, and C. Tooley in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. Nakada and Mr. John Harris in second class, and 121 passengers in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco:—

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	735	1,138	792	2,665
Hyogo	300	1,499	6,604	8,403
Yokohama	5,978	2,729	11,509	20,216
Hongkong	43	—	—	43
Amoy	74	7,832	431	8,337
Total	7,130	13,198	19,336	39,664

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	—	256	—	256
Yokohama	—	205	—	205
Total	—	461	—	461

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Silk for France 247 bales.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, Captain Swain, reports:—Left Shanghai the 20th June at 1 p.m.; had moderate winds with fog and rain. Arrived at Nagasaki the 22nd at 5.30 a.m. and left the 23rd at 5 p.m. Arrived at Shimonoeki the 23th at 6.30 a.m. and left at 8 a.m.; had fine weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Kobe the 25th at 6.20 a.m. and left the 26th at noon; had moderate S.W. winds with fine weather throughout; passed ship *Austriana* off Rock Island. Arrived at Yokohama the 27th June at 5.10 p.m.

The British steamer *China*, Captain Seabury, reports:—Left Hongkong the 26th June at 2.28 p.m.; had fresh N.E. winds to middle Eastern Sea; thence light S.W. wind to Cape Ise and strong N.E. winds to port. June 27th at 7.40 a.m. off The Brothers, spoke ships *Lucille* of Freeport and *Charlotte Cram* of Glasgow for Nagasaki, all well and wishing to be reported. At 6 p.m. on the 29th, 357 miles from Kobe passed a large ship evidently steering for Kobe. Left Kobe the 2nd July at 7.55 p.m.; had heavy rain and thick fogs to Rock Island; thence to port occasional fog. Arrived at Yokohama the 3rd July at 8.07 p.m.

The British steamer *Batavia*, Captain Williams, reports:—Left Hongkong the 26th June and Shanghai the 30th June; experienced light westerly winds and fine weather to coast of Japan; thence overcast and squally.

The Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, Captain Conner, reports:—Left Shanghai the 28th June at 6.40 a.m.; had heavy fog throughout the passage. Arrived at Nagasaki the 29th at 10 p.m. and left the 30th at 5.15 p.m.; had moderate N.E. winds and squalls. Arrived at Shimonoeki the 1st July at 5.10 a.m. and left at 6.30 a.m.; had strong breeze from N.E. throughout the passage. Arrived at Kobe the 2nd at 4 a.m. and left the 3rd at noon; had moderate S.W. winds and haze weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 4th July at 3 p.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

A pleasant change came over the Yarn market during the week in the form of a demand for English Yarns, and during the few days it lasted a considerable amount of business was done; 28 5/2's gained 12 1/2 to 25 cents per picul for spinnings in request, but 16 1/2's experienced little change, except that prices are firmer. There is no change to report in the position of Bombays. Shirtings have also had a large amount of attention, and prices for good and best makes are 5 cents higher, lower grades about 2 1/2 cents. Holders are very firm at the close. Sales for the week amount to 1,400 bales English Spinings, 200 bales Bombays, and about 40,000 pieces Shirtings and T. Cloths.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

Grey Shirtings—8½h, 38½ yds, 39 inches	\$1.55 to 2.00
Grey Shirtings—9h, 38½ yds, 45 inches	1.35 to 2.55
1. Cloth—7h, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.30 to 1.50
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 41 inches	1.25 to 1.60
Picots—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.70 to 2.00
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	1.07 to 0.74
1. 19½ to 1.22½	
1. 25 to 1.55	
1. 75 to 2.05	
1. 45 to 6.15	
1. 50 to 0.65	
1. 35 to 2.25	

WOOLLENS.

Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches	\$1.00 to 5.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.274 to 321
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.224 to 261
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.18 to 221
Common	0.13 to 0.17
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.30 to 0.45
Cloths—Pilots, 51 to 56 inches	0.50 to 0.65
Cloths—Presidents, 51 to 56 inches	0.35 to 0.60
Cloths—Union, 51 to 56 inches	0.30 to 0.38
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 5½h, per lb.	

COTTON VARNS.

Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	\$2.50 to 28.50
Nos. 16/24, Medium	28.50 to 29.50
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	29.75 to 30.50
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	31.50 to 32.50
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	30.50 to 31.60
Nos. 28/32, Medium	31.00 to 32.50
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	33.75 to 33.75
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	36.50 to 39.00
No. 328, Two-fold	36.00 to 37.50
No. 428, Two-fold	36.00 to 39.50
No. 208, Bombay	74.00 to 80.00
No. 168, Bombay	74.50 to 79.50
No. 10/14, Bombay	

METALS.

Nothing at all doing, and everything very dull. Stocks accumulate and buyers appear to hold aloof. Prices unchanged but nominal.

Flat Bars, 4 inch	\$2.90 to 3.00
Flat Bars, 4 inch	3.00 to 3.10
Round and square up to 4 inch	2.90 to 3.10
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.
Nailrod, small size	Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	3.20 to 3.30
Sheet Iron	3.60 to 3.90
Galvanized Iron sheets	6.50 to 6.75
Wire Nails, assorted	4.00 to 4.75
Tin Plates, per box	4.80 to 5.10
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.40 to 1.50

KEROSENE.

Market weak at quotations, and buyers appear disinclined to operate unless at some considerable reduction, say 5 cents per case or thereabouts. The few thousand cases Comet oil which came per *Hampshire* are reported sold *ex hatoba* at \$1.76. This ship *Austriana* brought 57,000 cases of the same oil, which is not yet sold, and in spite of fair deliveries the stock has increased to 520,000 cases of all kinds.

QUOTATIONS.

Chester	Nom. \$1.77½ to 1.80
Comet	Nom. 1.75 to 1.77½
Devco	Nom. 1.72½ to 1.75
Russian	Nom. 1.70 to 1.72½

SUGAR.

With a firm market all round but few sales have taken place, which include 1,000 piculs at \$1.20 per picul, and 4,500 piculs at \$1.35, all of Takao brands. In other kinds, nothing doing.

White Refined	\$5.90 to 8.60
Manila	3.70 to 4.50
Taiwanfoo	to 4.50
Pentama	2.85 to 2.90
Namida	2.80 to 2.85
Cake	to 3.70
Brown Takao	4.20 to 4.35

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 27th ultimo; from that date until the 30th settlements were 188 piculs, divided thus:—Hanks 16 piculs, *Filatures* 77 piculs, *Re-reels* 95 piculs, both old and new silk included. Total settlements for the season just closed may therefore be figured at 36,400 piculs. Our statistics given below refer only to the old season.

Since the 1st instant settlements are about 100 piculs *Filatures* and *Re-reels*, which will appear in the statistics we give in our next.

The upward movement continued until holders were asking fully \$100 above opening rates. Some buyers tried to keep up in the race, but had finally to pause for breath. Seeing this holders weakened a little and last night came down in their pretensions about 5 per cent. On this basis buying

re-commenced this morning. We do not think the market strong, however, at present quotations, and believe in a further decline, although we do not expect to see prices recede again immediately to those current a fortnight ago.

Further and reliable telegrams from Milan report the Italian crop a good average with no prospect of less silk than last year—probably more. It seems impossible that there can be any real shortage in China or Japan, and we see no reason for inflated values. Market news from abroad is none too good, and reellers here will be woefully misguided if they are led to buy Cocoons at high prices on account of the recent flash in the pan here.

The only shipping opportunity during the interval has been the English mail-steamer *Verona*, which left port on the 28th ult. carrying 247 bales for Lyons, Milan and London. Total export for the season is thereby brought up to 35,967 piculs against 41,665 last year and 39,692 at 30th June, 1888.

Hanks.—Nothing done since the 27th, when *Takasaki* were purchased at \$555, with *Hachioji* at \$525. Holders have since demanded an advance of about 5 per cent. on these figures but without being able to make sales, and would now probably be inclined to listen to something like the rates of a week ago.

Filatures.—On the 30th June top figures were scored, New *Mino* fine size being done in small quantity at \$755 and \$735 according to grade. Ordinary good 1½ *Shinshu* *Filatures* from *Koshu* Cocoons brought \$720, while the owners of some parcels true *Kofu* Silk either withdrew their parcels altogether or asked quite prohibitive rates. They would now sell at the figures in our quotation list, and would perhaps listen to an offer slightly below those prices.

Re-reels.—These were also rapidly rushed up, and \$685 was fully paid for 1½ *Foshu* like *Shorusha* chop, while a few boxes *Bushu* *Kodama* were actually taken into godown at \$700. This was the top notch, and to-day *Shorusha* have been done at \$675 with *Kiito* *Shokai* at \$682½. We look for some further decline unless unexpected good news should arrive from consumers.

Kakeda and all *Oshu* sorts are at present a dead letter, no silk having so far arrived from those provinces and districts.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No. 16	Nom.
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	Nom.
Hanks—No. 2 (Foshu)	Nom.
Hanks—No. 24 (Shinshu)	Nom.
Hanks—No. 24 (Foshu)	Nom.
Hanks—No. 24 to 3	Nom. \$570
Hanks—No. 3	Nom.
Hanks—No. 34	Nom. 540 to 545
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	Nom.
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	Nom.
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	Nom.
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	Nom.
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/17 deniers	700 to 710
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	Nom.
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	Nom.
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	Nom.
Re-reels—Extra	Nom.
Re-reels—(Shinshu and Oshu) Best No. 1	Nom.
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	680 to 690
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	665 to 675
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	Nom.
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	Nom.
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	Nom.
Kakedas—Extra	Nom.
Kakedas—No. 1	Nom.
Kakedas—No. 14	Nom.
Kakedas—No. 2	Nom.
Kakedas—No. 24	Nom.
Kakedas—No. 34	Nom.
Kakedas—No. 4	Nom.
Oshu Sendai—No. 24	Nom.
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	Nom.
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	Nom.
Sudai—No. 24	Nom.

Export Raw Silk Tables to 30th June, 1890:—

SHRIMP	1889-90.	1888-89.	1887-88.
Europe	15,128	21,343	17,904
America	20,377	19,920	20,564
Total	35,505	41,263	38,468
	35,967	41,665	39,692
Settlements and Direct	30,400	41,400	40,400
Export from 1st July	2,000	700	3,050
Stock, 30th June	38,400	42,100	43,450

WASTE SILK.

From the 27th to 30th June inclusive sales in this market of Old Waste reached 365 piculs, viz:—34 *Noshi* and 331 *Kibiso*. Nothing done in new staple. The season closed with total settlements of 29,600 piculs for the twelve months, leaving a stock in hand to be carried over to the new season of 4,500 piculs.

The transactions noted in our last for Low Curries was carried through at \$13, and although there are now a few parcels new Waste on offer,

so far no business has been put through. The parcels received are principally *Foshu* *Noshi* of ordinary grade, quality being equal to usual first arrivals.

The English mail steamer of the 28th carried on Waste. Export to the close of the season therefore stands at last week's figures, say 29,752 piculs against 31,731 last year and 28,785 at the 30th of June, 1888. So far this month there has been no export.

Noshi.—A few small purchases of *Foshu* *Noshi* at \$70 with *Yonezawa* *tegara* at \$103. Some new *Foshu* is being shown round the trade, but so far without any sale resulting.

Kibiso.—The settlements which were pending at the date of our last report have been completed on the basis of \$13 for *Hachioji* Low Curries. Nothing further has been done, and no new fibre has come in from the interior of any moment.

Mawata.—A sample bale or two of old stock has been taken into godown at \$135, and may possibly lead to business later on.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	Nom.
Noshi-to— <i>Filature</i> , Best	Nom.
Noshi-to— <i>Filature</i> , Good	Nom.
Noshi-to— <i>Filature</i> , Medium	Nom.
Noshi-to— <i>Oshu</i> , Good to Best	Nom.
Noshi-to— <i>Shinshu</i> , Best	Nom.
Noshi-to— <i>Shinshu</i> , Good	Nom.
Noshi-to— <i>Shinshu</i> , Medium	Nom.
Noshi-to— <i>Bushu</i> , Good to Best	Nom.
Noshi-to— <i>Joshu</i> , Best	Nom.
Noshi-to— <i>Joshu</i> , Good	Nom.
Noshi-to— <i>Joshu</i> , Ordinary	Nom.
Kibiso— <i>Filature</i> , Best selected	Nom.
Kibiso— <i>Filature</i> , Seconds	Nom.
Kibiso— <i>Oshu</i> , Good to Best	Nom.
Kibiso— <i>Shinshu</i> , Best	Nom.
Kibiso— <i>Shinshu</i> , Seconds	Nom.
Kibiso— <i>Joshu</i> , Good to Fair	Nom.
Kibiso— <i>Joshu</i> , Middling to Common	Nom.
Kibiso— <i>Hachioji</i> , Good	Nom.
Kibiso— <i>Hachioji</i> , Medium to Low	Nom.
Kibiso— <i>Neri</i> , Good to Common	Nom.
Mawata—Good to Best	Nom.

Export Table Waste Silk to 30th June, 1890:—

SHRIMP	1889-90.	1888-89.	1887-88.
Waste Silk	27,552	29,240	25,949
Pierced Cocoons	2,190	2,491	2,836
	29,752	31,731	28,785
Settlements and Direct	29,600	31,350	31,700
Export from 1st July	4,500	2,950	2,650
Stock, 30th June	34,100	34,300	34,350

Exchange has declined a little on the week, and present rates are as follows:—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits 3/54; Documents 3/58; 6m/s. Credits, 3/54; Documents 3/51; NEW YORK, 30 d/s. U.S.G., \$83; 4m/s. U.S.G., \$83½; PARIS, 4 m/s., fcs. 4/34; 6m/s. fcs. 4/36.

Estimated Silk Stock, 30th June, 1890:—

RAW.	PIEULS.	WASTE.	PIEULS.
Hanks	25	Cocoons	60
Filatures	840	Noshi-to	740
Re-reels	1,030	Kibiso	3,460
Kakeda	15	Mawata	360
Oshu	90	Sundries	40
Taysam Kinds			
Total piculs	2,000	Total piculs	4,600

TEA.

The routine of trade has been almost the same as the previous week. There is no change in prices, but the market is somewhat easy. Teas in stock are 11,000 piculs, and are nearly all of poor assortments. The American ship *Francis* is expected to sail on the 10th inst., taking some 2,500,000 pounds.

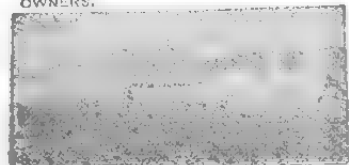
COMMON	PER PICUL.
Good Common	12 to 13
Medium	14 to 15
Good Medium	16 to 17
Fine	18 to 20
Finest	21 to 23
Choice	24 to 27
Choicest	28 to 30
Extra Choicest	31 & up'd's.

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has varied very slightly during the week but is a point lower at the close.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/43
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/5
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/54
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/51
On Paris—Bank sight	4/26
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4/36
On Hongkong—Bank sight	par.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	2 1/2 dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72 1/2
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73 1/2
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	84
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	83
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	82
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	83

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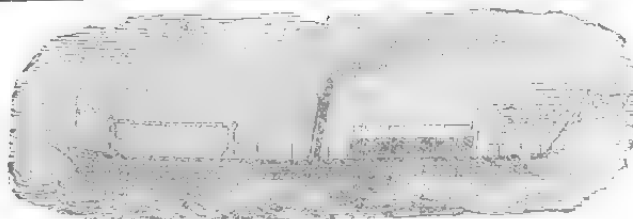
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No. 2.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, JULY 12TH, 1890.

可読局送野

[VOL. XIV.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 12, 1890.

MARRIAGE.

On the 5th July, at Christ Church, Yokohama, by the Rev. E. Champneys Irwin, M.A., FREDERICK WILLIAM, second son of the late Thomas James Hill, Purser, P. & O. S. N. Co., to MARGARET DUNCAN, youngest daughter of the late Robert Wigram MacLewen, formerly Manager of the (Old) Oriental Bank Corporation, Colombo.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

HIS IMPERIAL MAJESTY THE EMPEROR presided yesterday at the distribution of prizes at the Exhibition.

THE elections throughout the country have been concluded and passed off without any disturbance worth noting.

MR. WATANABE, recently appointed Japanese Minister to Austria, will leave Japan about the end of August for his post.

It is stated that Count Oki, President of the Privy Council, will be nominated by the Emperor President of the House of Peers.

MR. KADA, a Judge of the Court of Cassation, who had been in Europe and America for some time, returned home on the 5th instant.

H.I.H. PRINCE HARU will leave Tokyo about the beginning of August for Shimidzu, Shidzuoka Prefecture, where His Highness will stay for four weeks.

ON the morning of the 28th ultimo twenty houses, three godowns, and one temple were burned to the ground at Sakaimura, Nanjo, Fukui Prefecture.

AN epidemic of cholera has broken out at Nagasaki, the death-rate at present being over 50 per cent. Measures have been taken to prevent its spread to other ports.

THE number of visitors to the Botanical Garden of the Imperial University during the

month of June last was 1,471, of whom 4 were foreigners, and 398 special visitors.

COUNT ITO proceeded to the Imperial Palace on the 4th instant to pay his respects to the Emperor.

MR. SUZUKI, Consul at Hongkong, was relieved from his duties on the 7th instant, at his own request.

ON the night of the 3rd instant a thief entered the house of Viscount Sugi at Hirakawacho Gochome, Kojimachi, and stole a sum of yen 22 and a number of articles valued at yen 398.

A SHOCK of earthquake was experienced in Tokyo on the 8th instant at 2h. 50m. 30s. p.m. The duration was 20 seconds, the maximum horizontal motion being 0.3 millimetre in 0.9 second.

MR. NAKANO, Prefect of Nagasaki, issued a notification on the 1st instant to the effect that in consequence of the prevalence of cholera, theatres and other places of public resort must be closed.

ON the morning of the 3rd instant a thief armed with a sword entered the house of Lieutenant Imadzu, I.J.N., at Kanaguchicho, Shitaya, and stole a sum of yen 15.50 and several articles.

A NOTIFICATION has been issued by Viscount Tanaka, Chief of the Metropolitan Police, to all chiefs of police in Tokyo, to the effect that the *Takuhatsu* (mendicancy) of Buddhist priests must be stopped.

A SPECIAL meeting of the Cabinet was held on the 7th instant at which Counts Yamagata, Saigo, Yamada, and Matsukata, Viscounts Aoki and Kabayama, and Messrs. Mutsu and Yoshikawa were present.

MR. SAGARA, of the Tokyo Stock Exchange, who recently returned to Japan from Europe, had a long interview with Count Matsukata in the Finance Department on the 8th instant regarding foreign bourses.

VISCOUNT TANAKA, Chief of the Metropolitan Police, had a long interview with Marquis Hachisuka in the Tokyo City Government Office on the 7th instant regarding measures for preventing the spread of cholera.

FIRE broke out early in the morning of the 3rd instant in a house at Idzumicho, Kanda, and seven dwellings and one godown were destroyed, two houses being partially burned before the flames could be extinguished.

MR. KIYOURA, Chief Commissioner of the Police Bureau in the Home Department, and Mr. Kurokawa, Chief of the Law Bureau in the Foreign Department, were raised to second class of *chokunin* rank, on the 7th instant.

MR. WATANABE, Vice-Minister for Finance, Mr. Hamao, Director of the Bureau of Special Affairs in the Educational Department, and Mr. Arishima, Superintendent of the Customs Bureau in the Finance Department, were raised to second class of *chokunin* rank on the 3rd inst.

FIRE occurred on the night of the 28th ultimo in a house at Oiawamura, Iwai, Tottori Prefecture, and destroyed fourteen houses. Early in the morning of the 29th inst. fifteen dwellings were burned to the ground by fire at Oyodamura, Yoshino, Nara Prefecture.

At a special meeting of the Central Sanitary Association held in the Home Department on

the 4th instant, it was decided that Nagasaki being a district infected by cholera, vessels coming from or having called at that port should undergo examination at disinfecting stations.

FIRE occurred on the morning of the 28th ult. in a house at Aitachimura, Korikami, Gifu Prefecture, and destroyed twelve houses. Early in the morning of the 29th ultimo thirty dwellings and four telegraph posts were destroyed by a fire at Yunoto, Ashigara, Kanagawa Prefecture.

COUNT SAIGO, Mr. Kiyoura, Chief Commissioner of the Police Bureau, and several officials of the Sanitary Bureau in the Home Department held a meeting on the 5th instant, for the purpose of discussing measures for preventing the extension of cholera, which now prevails in Nagasaki.

THE funeral of the father of Viscount Hijikata took place on the 5th instant in the capital, the ceremony being attended by Ministers of State, Count Ito, Viscounts Tani and Enomoto, and over a thousand persons. The interment took place at the Sonci Cemetery, the ceremony being conducted in accordance with Shinto rites.

A NOTIFICATION was issued by the Minister of State for Home Affairs on the 7th instant to the effect that there being signs of cholera spreading in Nagasaki and suburbs, vessels coming from or having called at that port shall undergo examination at the disinfecting stations for Shimomoseki, Kobe, Yokohama, and Hakodate.

MR. SAITO, Director of the Commercial and Industrial Bureau in the Agricultural and Commercial Department, and Mr. Suyematsu, Chief Commissioner of the Bureau for the Management of Prefectures in the Home Department were raised to second class of *chokunin* rank on the 7th instant.

A MEETING of shareholders of the Osaka Stock Exchange was held on the 6th instant. The receipts during the past half year were yen 46,967.70, of which yen 14,333.909 was set apart for business tax and miscellaneous expenses, yen 3,200.60 as rewards to officers, and yen 11,000 as a reserve fund, yen 18,000 being appropriated as a dividend at the rate of 36 per cent. per share for annum, and the remainder carried forward to the next account.

A MEETING of shareholders of the Tokyo Stock Exchange was held on the 7th instant. The net profits during the past half year were yen 75,829.291 to which yen 253.012 brought over from last account were added, making a total of yen 76,082.303. Of this amount, after adding a sum to the reserve fund the usual amount as rewards to officers and miscellaneous expenses, yen 56,000 was appropriated as a dividend, yen 82.303 being carried forward to the next account.

THE market for English Yarns has been fairly active, and Bombays have been in request at an advance. Shirtings have also met a moderate enquiry during the week, but the demand has toned down at the close. No change to report in the Metal market, and nothing is doing in Kerosene. Sugar is dull. There has not been much done in Silk in the total, though a small daily business has to be recorded, and prices will probably see a fall before any very extensive transactions take place. There has been a steady demand for Tea, and some of the grades of second crop now show an improvement in the cup. Values are about the same. Exchange has made several upward movements, and rates are considered strong.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

■ MONEY SCARC?

In a series of articles recently published, the *Tokyo Economist* (*Keizai Zasshi*) takes pains to explain that not scarcity of money, as is commonly supposed, but want of credit has been chiefly instrumental in bringing about the present depression of trade in Japan. A notion that the existing state of affairs is due to insufficiency of money seems to prevail in financial and business circles. Witness, for example, recent public utterances of Count Matsugata and Viscount Aoki, both of whom maintain that the volume of money now in circulation is inadequate to meet the increasing requirements of domestic and foreign trade, and consequently that the only exit from the present financial difficulties is to be found in putting more money into circulation. The *Economist* declares that those who endorse the contention of these two statesmen evidently suffer from a strange confusion between money and capital. Our contemporary cites the case of England, whose foreign trade reaches over 4,000,000,000 *yen* annually, whereas the total amount of her money in circulation (including paper, gold, and silver) does not exceed 370,000,000 *yen* in all. Is it not apparent, continues the *Tokyo* journal, that the greater part of England's foreign trade, as well as of her domestic business, is carried on without ever having recourse to the common media of exchange? It may hence be inferred that the volume of a country's currency need not necessarily be increased in proportion to the increasing magnitude of its commercial transactions. Credit supplies the place of money and serves as well as it. Further, even granting the common opinion that an increase of currency is absolutely demanded by an increase in the bulk of the country's trade, it does not necessarily follow that financial measures to swell the volume of circulating media should be carried out at a time when trade is in a languid state. The *Tokyo Economist* fears that the increase of paper money will result in disturbing the balance between that medium of exchange and commodities, and serious consequences may ensue owing to a sudden demand for the redemption of the notes. At a time when credit is shaken, and the financial world is on the verge of a panic, our contemporary considers it an extremely unwise policy to attempt by artificial expedients to control the course of events. The cause of the trouble being, not scarcity of money but want of credit, the *Keizai Zasshi* condemns any increase of the currency, and urges that the only salvation which is possible at present consists in men of business endeavouring to establish a system of credit.

We confess that these expressions of opinion perplex us in some respects. There is not the smallest doubt that the comparative slowness of industrial and commercial development in Japan is due to the want of a proper system of credit. The *Keizai Zasshi* does wisely in urging that fact upon public attention. But if, as is well known, one of the principal effects of an established system of credit is to dispense with the need of bank notes and metallic media of exchange, then it follows conversely that, in the absence of such a system, the demand for circulating media may grow with the growth of business. Besides, we do not understand that by empowering the Bank of Japan to increase its paper issues to the extent of fifteen million *yen*, the Government expects to give any special impetus to trade. The idea, as explained at the time, is rather, in the first place, to mitigate the inconvenient effects evidently entailed by the over rapid process of fixing floating capital during recent years; and in the second, to guarantee sound enterprises against suffering in common with unsound during a panic. It is beyond question, and has been pointed out by the *Keizai Zasshi* itself, that the eagerness of the public to form companies and start enterprises since 1887, supplemented by the issue of several large domestic loans, has produced an inconvenient tightness in the money market, to

relieve which it is desirable that the Bank of Japan should be in a position to free some of the locked up capital by issuing notes on the security of shares and other trustworthy paper. By conferring this power on the Bank another useful end also is attained, since a limit is fixed below which the shares of sound enterprises cannot fall in a season of panic. Such objects seem to us sufficient reasons for the Government's action, without attributing to Count Matsukata the long exploded doctrine that the vitality of trade varies directly with the volume of money available for carrying it on.

LOCAL CUSTOMS AND IMPERIAL LEGISLATION IN THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

THERE has occurred in Hongkong a curious example of the conflicts that sometimes arise between the spirit of British legislation and the customs of the numerous races that inhabit the British empire. Acting under direct instructions from home, the Attorney-General laid before the Hongkong Legislative Council a Bill, drafted in London, for the better protection of women and girls. The Bill, as originally drawn, fixed the age of consent for girls at 16, without any saving clause of any kind; but the Attorney-General in Hongkong, having regard to the fact that Chinese girls develop more quickly than English, and are treated as women at an earlier age, added a proviso that a charge laid against a man under the act would be satisfactorily defended by proof that he had believed the girl to be over 16, and further that no prosecution could be commenced for an offence of this kind if more than three months had elapsed since its commission. But when the Bill was submitted to the Legislative Council two difficulties were at once raised. The first had reference to the manner of counting age. It is well known that in China and Japan a child becomes two years old on the 1st of January following its birth. The most extreme example of this method of reckoning is that of a child which comes into the world at fifty-nine minutes past eleven on the 31st of December, and is said to be two years old at one minute past twelve the same night, though in reality it has only been in existence for two minutes. Such cases may be rare, but it is plain that, in almost every instance, a girl would arrive at the age of sixteen several months sooner by the Chinese than by the European fashion of counting. Which style then did the Bill contemplate? English of course, it will be replied, seeing that its drafters were English, and that it was intended to go into operation in an English colony. But, on the other hand, the vast majority of the inhabitants of the colony are Chinese, who know only one method of reckoning age. Was it intended that they should adopt a new method for the purposes of the Bill? Then again, Chinese in Hongkong and everywhere else are in the habit of keeping concubines under the age of sixteen, in addition to their wives. Were these persons to be considered law-breakers? The Bill made an exception in respect of girls legally given in marriage, but could the so-called "second," "third," or "fourth" wife of a Chinaman be regarded as a lawful spouse? These questions remain to be answered. It has always been the habit of the British Government to respect, as far as possible, the customs and traditions of the races under British sway, but the framers of the Bill for the protection of women and girls in Hongkong seem to have forgotten altogether that they were legislating for Chinese.

CHINESE CUSTOMS REPORTS.

No. 11 of the Special Series of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs Reports contains a number of medical records for the half year ended 31st March, 1888. The compilers of the volume are all medical practitioners of the highest standing and their contributions are, without exception, very interesting. Dr. Jamieson of Shanghai writes in a lucid and comprehensive manner on the subject of cholera, his immediate purpose being to discuss how far bacteriology is likely to assist the treatment of the terrible disease. He arrives at the conclu-

sion that the researches of Koch and others do not as yet, and are not apparently likely to, contribute anything of importance to the treatment of the disease, though their prophylactic value may be considerable. From Dr. Jamieson's writing we judge that means are still unavailable to determine how far the ravages of cholera extend among the Chinese. All native statements and statistics are treated by him as quite untrustworthy, but he nevertheless writes:—"There cannot be any doubt that the local mortality from cholera every year is extremely heavy." The Chinese have many specifics for the malady, as, for example, scraping the skin of the neck, applying moxa to the chest and limbs, acupuncture, and so forth, all these nostrums being equally inefficacious. Their medical practitioners nevertheless recognise the two forms of cholera—that which kills by immediate collapse without any natural effort to evacuate the poison, and that which is accompanied by purging and vomiting—and they also distinguish between cholera and heat apoplexy. Perhaps, after all, though their scientific knowledge is comparatively small, their practice is not much more unsuccessful than that of their foreign confreres. Dr. Jamieson is most emphatic in his declarations that cleanliness, and cleanliness only, is the way to disinfect successfully. He quotes with strong approval the following recent dictum of the medical director of the United States Navy:—"Where there are fresh air and dryness and cleanliness there can be no cholera; and where there are not it will come in spite of proclamations and perfunctory quarantines. Fumigations and disinfections which mask putrescence and substitute medicinal smells for sickening stenches are as ridiculous as the noise of gongs and tom-toms and exploding fire-crackers and gongs, by which the Chinaman hopes to frighten the devils who desolate his home and country, and worse than useless from the false sense of security which they give."

A considerable part of this volume is taken up with reports of cases of sun-stroke, the whole of one chapter being devoted to this subject. Here we find, for the first time, the term "heat-stroke" substituted for "sun-stroke," the reason assigned being that the phenomena of ardent fever frequently present themselves at night and when there has been no exposure to the direct rays of the sun. The partiality evinced by attacks due to caloric influences has often been noticed, and is discussed by the writer of the essay before us—Dr. Jamieson, presumably. But we are still left in the region of conjecture; still left to guess why it is that out of a number of soldiers on the march, all exposed to exactly the same conditions externally, only a few are attacked by heat-stroke in any form. Thus, when the 98th Regiment arrived at the scene of war in China in 1842, the men were paraded for action the next day (20th July) dressed exactly as they would have been at a review in London. On landing, they had to scale a steep but not high hill, and before the summit was crowned fifteen of the men died on the spot—"gave a few convulsive gasps and expired before any thing could be done for their relief," as Maclean describes it—while the rest escaped almost unscathed. Evidently there are great variations in the degree of people's susceptibility. Dr. Jamieson sums up the causes of these differences thus:—"Physical or mental exhaustion; prolonged anxiety; cardiac, pulmonary, hepatic, renal, or cutaneous inadequacy; malarial cachexia; as well as the general and indefinable tissue degeneration due to intemperate habits, are the chief personal elements which determine inability to sustain high degrees of external heat. There is undoubtedly a rapid fabrication of some deadly organic poison, whether sarcolactic acid, as has been supposed, or some other, which paralyses the heat regulating centre; and it is fair to assume that where heat-stroke falls it finds the albuminoids of the tissues in a condition of abnormal molecular instability. The well-known immunity of the Chinese, who expose their shaven heads to the

fiercest heat of the sun, cannot be exclusively a gradually-developed racial peculiarity; the nature of their food, abounding far less than ours in nitrogenous constituents, must enter into the explanation."

AFTER THE POLLING.

ACCORDING to a telegram in the vernacular press, Mr. Ito Ichiro, the successful candidate for the Fifth District of Kagawa Prefecture, has been assassinated. It does not necessarily follow, of course, that politics were the cause of this crime, but certainly it will not be an extravagant inference to conclude that they were. The Japanese are still comparatively strange to the incidents that so greatly disgrace political warfare in the West, and we can understand without difficulty that if the defamation and abuse which there disgrace such contests begin to be practised here also, they may often lead to physical violence. Mr. Ito belonged to the Radical Party, which has never been distinguished in this country for the courtesy and forbearance of its junior members. But whether or not he and his friends resorted to questionable means of canvassing, the disgrace attaching to his death by violence cannot be condoned. But for this incident Japan might fairly have been congratulated on the orderly conduct of her people at a period of novel trial.

Mr. Mori Tokinosuke, the successful candidate for the Tenth District of Tokyo, was arrested on the morning of the 4th instant, and a thorough search of his premises was made by the police. The offence charged in the warrant is not publicly known, nor have the particulars of the preliminary magisterial examination transpired. It was at first supposed that Mr. Mori's offence was connected with the elections, but subsequent information showed that the charge against him was one of embezzlement.

DEATH OF MR. WILLIAM DONALD SPENCE.

THROUGHOUT China, says the *N. C. Daily News* of the 27th ult., the greatest regret will be felt at the news which reached Shanghai by wire yesterday of the death of Mr. William Donald Spence, of the British Consular Service in China, and of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. Mr. Spence joined the Consular Service in China in 1869, and his conspicuous abilities, energy and geniality made him one of the most promising of the coming men in the service, while his popularity wherever he was known was unbounded. Some three years ago he was temporarily detached from the service, and joined Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. He was taken seriously ill in the North last year and went home, but had apparently entirely recovered. When the last mail left home he was talking of coming out to China again in August, but was suffering from what seemed a slight attack of fever and ague, and it is only two or three days since news was received by wire that he was seriously ill. It is gathered that he died on Wednesday. The loss to the British community in general as well as to the "great house" is very severe, for there is no position in the Consular Service to which he might not have aspired, and he leaves also to lament him an unusually large circle of personal friends.

AN OPEN LETTER TO COUNT YAMAGATA.

IN the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* of June 23rd, we find a long and interesting open letter addressed to Count Yamagata. The writer signs himself *Tetsumen-sei* ("The Iron-faced Man"), but judging from the style of his writing and the nature of his language, we are disposed to think that, despite his *nom de plume*, he is no other than Mr. Tokutomi Ichiro, the editor of the journal. At all events the letter is extremely well written. After congratulating the Minister President on his recent promotion to the high position of full General (*Tai-shō*), the writer proceeds to observe that he cannot regard the Count as a happy man. "For," says he, "your Excellency happens to be Premier at a time not at all quiet and peaceful. An apparent calm, it is true,

reigns over the political world, but it is merely the calm before a tempest? To have accepted, under such circumstances, the difficult post of Premier must be interpreted as showing, according to *Tetsumen-sei*, that Count Yamagata has courageous and disinterestedly taken a grave public responsibility upon his shoulders out of pure patriotism. "But," the writer proceeds to say, "since you have accepted so difficult a post, it must be supposed that you have some well pondered policy of your own for the conduct of State affairs. This is the point on which I most desire to enquire your opinion. You are wont to assert, if rumour may be credited, that you are not a statesman. Do you really think so, or is it modesty that induces you to depreciate yourself? For my part, I believe your Excellency to be undoubtedly a statesman of a certain type; not indeed a model statesman, for in intellectual resources you are not equal to Count Okuma; in political sagacity you are no match for Count Ito; Count Inoue surpasses you in shrewdness and audacity; you cannot excel Count Saigo in assuming an appearance of simplicity while being in reality intelligent; and neither can you compete with Count Oyama in the art of moving gracefully in society, in dancing, and in the knack of entertaining your guests at dinner. Still, your Excellency possesses some distinguished qualities of your own. You have seldom originated an idea, but whenever you are convinced that an idea propounded by other people is good, you firmly and unflinchingly adhere to it. You do not easily come to a resolute decision; some even doubt whether you are a man of resolution. But it is certain that when you once make up your mind, your will is strong enough to pierce an iron wall. Especially noteworthy is your vigorous assiduity, which knows no relaxation, and your methodical way of doing business. When all the other Ministers of State are light-hearted and fickle like butterflies, you alone preserve a soldierlike gravity and regularity in your every step. In these respects you possess some qualities necessary to a constitutional statesman." The writer then goes on to remark that, whatever may be his reputation in the Army, the people at large have confidence in His Excellency, or more correctly, the people do not distrust him; that is to say, the confidence reposed in him is of a negative, not a positive character. He is also respected by the country at large. The Cabinet over which he presides is by no means weak. In Count Matsugata, the writer recognises an administrator of no mean capacity, while Count Saigo is an intimate friend of the Premier's and is no doubt a Minister of considerable weight. As to Viscount Aoki, his wide learning may stand him in good stead in a high scholastic position. Men say that Mr. Yoshikawa, the new Minister of Education, has too much the air of a clerk; but in the play of the *Chushingura* we find Washisaka Bannai standing on the same plane with Yuranosuke and the Hangan. There is, therefore, nothing incongruous in the inclusion of Mr. Yoshikawa in Count Yamagata's Cabinet. If again, keenness of intellect and abundance of energy could make a great man, there should be no greater man than Mr. Mutsu; while Count Goto would deserve the reputation of the greatest hero that ever lived, if inconsistency and audacity were the essential elements of a heroic character. Further, in addition to his colleagues, the Minister President possesses in the ranks of the government a number of talented young men, as Messrs. Inouye Ki, Suematsu Kencho, Kiyoura Keigo, and Omori Shioichi. General Katsura, Vice-Minister of War, and Mr. Shirane, Vice-Minister of Home Affairs, are also invaluable assistants. But Count Yamagata has been particularly happy in his selection of the Metropolitan Police Inspector-General. On all hands it is admitted that Viscount Tanaka is one of the best men that have filled that difficult post. With such a formidable force under him, what course of policy does Count Yamagata intend to pursue? An ominous tunnel lies in the path of the Cabinet. The Government is about to pass through the dark

passage. In what manner will the Premier conduct the train? There are three courses open to the Count. The best would be to anticipate the wishes of the people, and leave little or nothing for their representatives to complain of in the coming Parliament. The next course would be to create a Government party out of Government circles, and with the help of that party to obtain a working majority in the Diet. The worst course would be to remain inactive within the citadel and indolently await the attack of the enemy without.

We have translated this article as an example of the kind of writing indulged in by some of the leading Japanese journals. It is evident that where the law tolerates such expressions of opinion, the process of muzzling the press cannot be said to be carried to any great extent. Indeed we have generally found—whenever it has been possible to obtain exact particulars—that where newspapers are punished for violations of the Press Regulations, their offence has been of such a character as was deemed by the Authorities distinctly calculated to pervert the public peace or to interfere with the conduct of the administration. There have, of course, been exceptions; no rule is without them. But on the whole, we greatly doubt whether the free expression of journalistic opinion in Japan is hampered so seriously as critics imagine.

THE CENTRAL SANITARY BUREAU.

A SUMMARY of four Annual Reports (1884-7) of the Central Sanitary Bureau attached to the Home Department of the Japanese Government, published in English, lies before us. The Report contains a valuable compendium of statistics on sanitary matters, and cannot but prove of great use to medical practitioners and others. It is divided into six sections as follows:—Sec. I. Births and Deaths; II. Infectious, Contagious, and other special Diseases. These include (1) Cholera; (2) Typhoid fever; (3) Dysentery; (4) Diphtheria; (5) Typhus fever; (6) Small-pox and Vaccinations; (7) Other special diseases. Sec. III. Sanitation and General Cleanliness. Sec. IV. Medical Practitioners, Apothecaries, etc. Sec. V. Analyses and Scientific Researches. Sec. VI. Miscellaneous. The birth-rates in each prefecture per 1,000 inhabitants during the four years are given. The highest rate for the whole empire was reached in 1887, being 27.07 to every 1,000 inhabitants. Among the prefectures where the rate is high, Aichi, Tochigi, Toyama, and Fukuoka stand first; while Okinawa, Miyazaki, Wakayama, and Kumamoto are noteworthy for the lowness of their rates. The fatality attendant on various diseases, arranged in the order of their intensity is as follows:—(1) Cholera, (2) Typhoid fever, (3) Dysentery, (4) Diphtheria, (5) Typhus fever, (6) Small-pox. The report contains a detailed account of the ravages of cholera during the period embraced, and records the measures taken for its suppression. It furnishes a useful summary of the extent to which, and the localities in which, other diseases have prevailed, and closes with a history of the compilation of a Japanese Pharmacopoeia, in which Drs. Geerls, Divers, Beukema, Baelz, Eykman, and a number of well known Japanese medical men took part, with an account of the work of Hygienic Laboratories and of the inauguration and opening of a Sanitary Museum.

FREDERICK LEE AGAIN.

THE *Rising Sun* and *Nagasaki Express* returns to the subject of Frederick Lee in a note from which we extract the following:—"The man Lee, whom the *Gazette* goes out of its way to champion, and to blackguard us about, is too well known here to require describing; suffice it to say that for many months, some few years ago, he was a disgrace to this Settlement, and the name of "drunken Lee" was a byword. He had many opportunities of reforming, and, to our knowledge, at least one offer of employment, but he failed to avail of either, and continued downwards from bad to worse. At length he went away, and we were glad to lose

him. He eventually brought up in Yokohama, where he carried on until the Rev. Mr. Irvine, from the best of motives, no doubt, undertook to send him back here. By a strenuous effort, (here we quote from the *Gazette*, of the 4th ult.) he manages to keep sober long enough to be sent on board ship. What occurred until his arrival here we cannot say, but we know that within a few hours of his landing, and for several days subsequently, he was intoxicated, in the public streets, in broad daylight. More than this, we are informed on good authority that he paid several visits to the house of the reverend gentleman who had been entrusted with money for him, and on each occasion was so intoxicated that the money was withheld, and in reply to his plea of poverty and starvation, food was offered him, but he refused to accept it. This, then, is a brief outline of the recent career of a man we are accused of libelling!

MORE FIGHTING IN ACHEEN.

SEVERE fighting was reported by the American papers last received between the Dutch and Chinese. This, of course, was an error, Achinese being meant. The following details appear in the *Straits Independent*:—"We gather from private sources that a very serious and decisive battle was fought at Edie between the Dutch and the Achinese on the 11th instant. The loss on the side of the latter in killed and wounded was very considerable, no less than 80 dead bodies having been found on the field after the fight was over. The Dutch experienced no loss in killed. They had, however, 23 men wounded, one of them so very severely that he is not expected to survive. Amongst the wounded were also 2 officers, viz., Lieut. Vander Hegge Spies of I.L.N.M.'s *Prins Hendrik* and Lieut. Sward of the infantry. The former received a cut across his forehead in a personal encounter with one of the enemy. All the forts that were erected by the Achinese and occupied by them, have been taken by the Dutch, and are now in their possession. After the first engagement had come to an end and everything appeared quiet, the band that was with the troops struck up the Dutch National Anthem in one of the forts that were taken, when all of a sudden fresh shots were fired by some of the Achinese who had concealed themselves in the trenches they had constructed in the immediate vicinity of the forts. The Commander of the landing contingent of the *Prins Hendrik* at once passed the order for attack, and Lieutenant Vander Hegge Spies put himself at the head of his men and advanced. A hand to hand fight then ensued and every one of the enemy that was found in the trenches was killed. While this fight was going on, one of the Achinese sprang on Lieut. Vander Hegge Spies armed with a klaywan, and aimed a blow at him which the Lieutenant parried with his sword. The gallant officer's weapon was nearly cut in two, and the force of the blow causing the sword to rebound inflicted the cut on the Lieutenant's forehead. It is admitted on all sides that Lieut. Vander Hegge Spies behaved most bravely, and that he deserves great credit for the tact and courage he displayed during the whole engagement. The Achinese who had escaped the carnage ran into the jungle, hotly pursued by the Dutch troops. It is said that the Achinese have been taught a lesson which they will remember for many a day to come. We understand that the troops will remain at Edie for some time, as it is proposed to open a military road from Edie to Deli. This will, no doubt, prove very good news for our pepper and other merchants."

QUALIFICATIONS OF STATESMEN.

THE *Kokumin-no-Tomo* is responsible for the following ironical note:—"There are five qualifications requisite for statesmen in the present day: First, to present themselves at the Senate (*Genro-in*) and visit the Ministers of State in the capacity of popular delegates, as, for instance, a committee for the presentation of a memorial or petition; secondly, to have as fine and large cards as possible and to distribute them unsparingly among people; thirdly, to be always ready to say evil things of the Government."

ment, to calumniate Ministers of State, and to talk big words; fourthly, to be convicted of a state offence and suffer imprisonment; and fifthly, to be fat and large in body, with a striking countenance and graceful manners." It is curious to find a journal like the *Kokumin-no-Shimbun* giving a prominent place in its columns to such empty persiflage as this, which does not even rise to the level of vulgar humour.

THE PRICE OF RICE.

WE epitomize a series of articles on the price of rice from the *Tokyo Economist* (*Keizai Zasshi*) as follows:—"The question, whether the present extraordinary rise in the price of rice is or is not attributable to natural causes, can only be decided by ascertaining, as far as possible, the exact proportion which the rice crop of last year and the barley yield of this spring bear to the actual needs of forty millions of our countrymen; for, although artificial contrivances may succeed for a time in disturbing the natural course of things, the relation between demand and supply must ultimately re-establish its sway. According to a report of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce published in the *Official Gazette* of June 16th, the total quantity of the rice crop throughout the country for last year was 33,007,565 *koku*. Compared with the yield of the preceding year, this shows a decrease of *koku* 5,637,904; while a comparison with the average of the three consecutive previous years gives a falling off of 5,604,496 *koku*. It is scarcely necessary to observe that this diminution was caused by destructive inundations and violent storms throughout the country. As to the barley crop of the present spring, we are not yet in possession of figures representing the actual quantity of the yield, but all information goes to confirm the estimate that the crop is less than usual by nearly 20 per cent. Supposing that the barley crop of 1888 represents a fair average yield, we have, on the basis of the above mentioned estimate, 12,426,451 *koku* for the present year's harvest. To what extent the rice crop of last fall and the barley crop of this spring are deficient to meet the demands of the consumers, it is of course, not at all easy to ascertain exactly. We may, however, obtain some idea as to the approximate quantity required annually, by glancing over the produce of rice and barley for a number of consecutive years. The following table shows the produce of rice and barley from 1878:—

Year.	Rice. <i>koku</i> .	Barley. <i>koku</i> .
1878.....	25,282,540	9,411,460
1879.....	32,418,924	9,890,908
1880.....	31,359,326	12,503,060
1881.....	29,971,383	10,507,983
1882.....	30,692,327	12,938,752
1883.....	30,671,402	11,763,846
1884.....	26,340,883	13,105,841
1885.....	34,158,169	11,935,467
1886.....	37,191,424	16,033,960
1887.....	39,999,199	15,823,144
1888.....	38,645,583	15,281,658
1889.....	33,007,566	.....
1890.....	.....	12,426,451 (estimate.)

Lately some rice has been exported, but the quantity of the grain thus annually sent out of the country has as yet been extremely small, so that we may safely consider that the quantity produced is also the quantity consumed in the country. Let us look now at the annual returns of the population since the year 1879:—

Year.	Population.
1879 (Jan. 1.).....	35,768,584
1880 (Jan. 1.).....	35,929,060
1881 (Jan. 1.).....	36,358,994
1882 (Jan. 1.).....	36,700,118
1883 (Jan. 1.).....	37,017,302
1884 (Jan. 1.).....	37,458,764
1885 (Jan. 1.).....	37,868,987
1886 (Dec. 31.).....	38,507,177
1887 (Dec. 31.).....	39,069,691
1888 (Dec. 31.).....	39,607,234

As for the population last year and the present, we have not yet any figures. But seeing that during the ten years above mentioned the average annual increase of population was 426,405, we may estimate last year's population at 40,033,639, and that of the present year (Dec. 31.) will be 40,460,044, according to the same

standard of calculation. While the population has, on the one hand, thus rapidly increased year after year, the last rice and barley crops, on the other, fell far short of an average yield, the decrease in these two crops, as compared with figures for the preceding year, being respectively 5,000,000 *koku* and 3,000,000 *koku* in round numbers. Under these circumstances, it is only natural that the prices of these grains should appreciate. But the question is, whether the present rise of price is commensurate with the actual circumstances of the case. We must answer this question in the negative. In considering the appreciation of rice, we must remember to distinguish two periods since the summer of last year, viz., from summer to some time in April last, and thenceforward to the present. The rise in the first period is attributable, among other things, to four causes; (1) the purchase of a large quantity of rice by speculative merchants, (2) a general impression that last autumn's harvest was scanty, (3) an apprehension during the winter months that the barley crop would be poor, because the season was abnormally mild and destitute of snow, and (4) the incessant rains of March and April, which strengthened the last mentioned feeling of uneasiness about the barley crop. But the price of rice, which began its upward course last summer and continued it under the influence of such causes, reached in April last a point beyond which even the most daring operations of speculators could not push it, after which it began to show a tendency to return to its normal condition. We thought at the time that the depreciation which thus set in was only natural and inevitable, but contrary to our expectations, the staple again commenced to appreciate. Just then the public was informed that the Government had arranged for the importation of foreign rice to bring down the price of the home grain. But disappointment followed this announcement. Not only has the Government's measure failed to effect its end, but it has in our opinion, obstructed the realization of the purpose with which it was undertaken. What else indeed could be expected from the interference of the Government in matters that ought to have been left to the natural course of events? Had not the Authorities taken upon themselves the task of importing foreign rice, some persons, Japanese or foreign, would surely have engaged in the business and, if left to themselves, would have placed in the market enough of the commodity to supply the deficiency of the home produce. But seeing the Government already in the field, these persons naturally shrank from competing with it, and at last some of them, prudently sought to make a profit by purchasing the rice imported by the Government. We are thus compelled to think that the Government must be in a manner held responsible for the recent extraordinary rise of price. What is to be done now? The answer is plain; let the Government give up its injurious interference with the import of rice, and leave the business to the better management of shrewd merchants who know at least what they are about.

NORTH BRITISH MERCANTILE INSURANCE COMPANY.

WE have received a copy of the eightieth annual report of the North British and Mercantile Insurance Company presented to the shareholders at the last meeting, from which we learn that the losses by fire during the year have amounted to £710,801 16s. 2d., which includes all losses actually ascertained and paid, and a full estimate of all claims that had arisen prior to 31st December, 1889. The Directors have, as usual, set aside one-third of the fire premiums received during the past year, as a provision against liability on the unexpired fire policies of 1889. In the life department 1,217 policies were issued during the year 1889, assuring, after deducting sums reinsured, £903,916, and producing new premiums to the amount of £36,441 9s. 4d. together with 319 bonds securing the sum of £21,701 11s. 3d. yearly of immediate annuities, and £230 yearly of survivorship annuities, and £1,064 6d. of deferred annuities.

for which the company received the sum of £239,518 os. 4d. by single payment, and £106 os. 7d. by annual premium. The claims during the year, including 20 endowments, were 328 in number, under 400 policies; and the sums amount, with bonus additions, to £327,184 gs. 10d. Of the general results of the company's working it may be stated that profit and loss account, including the unappropriated balance of £65,125 17s. 9d. brought forward from 1888, and £19,506 gs. 10d., the profit of the fire department of the Scottish Provincial, the transfer of which company to the North British and Mercantile was finally completed on the 31st January, 1890, amounted to £318,226 1s. 4d., out of which a dividend of twenty shillings per share on 110,000 shares, one-half payable 1st May and the other half 1st November, was declared, together with a bonus of twenty shillings per share, and a sum of £50,000 was placed to the credit of dividend reserve fund, leaving a balance of £48,226 1s. 4d. to be carried forward.

MRS. FENOLLOSA.

We have already spoken of the exceptionally gracious reception given by His Majesty the Emperor to Mr. E. F. Fenollosa in connection with that gentleman's greatly regretted departure from Japan, and we have now to note that a no less signal mark of Imperial consideration was shown towards Mrs. Fenollosa. Owing to indisposition the Empress was unfortunately prevented from receiving Mrs. Fenollosa in farewell audience. Her Majesty therefore adopted the quite unusual course of sending three of her Maids of Honour, Miss Kitajima, Miss Yamagawa, and Miss Kawaga, to the Shinbashi terminus to convey the Imperial adieux to Mrs. Fenollosa when she left Tokyo. Miss Kitajima was also the bearer of an ivory fan, elaborately carved, beautifully painted, and richly set with brilliants, as a farewell gift to Miss Brenda Fenollosa.

MILITARY PIGEONS.

The use of pigeons for conveying intelligence from one place to another, though not unknown to the ancients, and occasionally resorted to in the Middle Ages, especially by the Turks, has assumed real importance only since the late Franco-German War and the famous siege of Paris. The *Military Weekly*, a German paper, in commenting on the recent advances made in this respect, points out that the breeding and training of pigeons for this purpose is by no means easy. It is necessary to have pigeons that are very intelligent, light, yet strong and muscular, and of that dull and unobtrusive plumage that enables so many birds, the larks for instance, to escape from danger. Belgian breeders have so far best succeeded in this, and the heavier Antwerp and the lighter Liège varieties are universal favourites with pigeon breeders on a large scale. Scarcely capable of flying, the young bird is taken from the cot, placed in a basket, taken to a distance of a few miles, and then liberated. The distance is gradually increased from 50 miles when the birds are six months old, to 200 miles when two years old, up even to 500 and more miles, according to the intelligence, trustworthiness, and strength of the bird. They are let fly with the best hope of success when they have young in their nests, which owing to their fecundity is often the case. When flying over short distances scarcely any birds are lost. Mountain chains, large forests and lakes, however, as well as fog, rain, tempests, and other atmospheric influences, seem greatly to disconcert the pigeon's wonderful instinct, and cause losses more or less proportionate to the distance involved. A great point is to let the birds fly at a distance calculated to enable them to reach their destination on the same day; otherwise losses are inevitable. The swiftness of the carrier pigeon can be pretty accurately ascertained, the record has steadily improved of late, and is, on the average, about three-fifths of a mile per minute. It is therefore possible, in summer and with favourable weather, for a well-trained bird to make 620 miles between half-past three in the morning and half-past eight in the evening, while

in the short days of winter 250 miles is a task heavy enough. One great difficulty—that of making the birds fly back and forth between two given places—declared insuperable by ornithologists of no mean repute, is in a fair way of being overcome. Captain Giuseppe Malagoli, director of the carrier pigeon stations of Italy, has by much patience and after incessant labour, succeeded in training the birds to fly from Rome to Civita-vecchia and back again to Rome, a distance of about 45 miles. If others succeed equally well, and if the distance is gradually increased, a new era for the conveyance of news both in peace and war will have begun. The less striking the plumage of the bird, and the smaller its size, the better protected the pigeon is against man as well as against that inveterate foe of all *Columbidae*, the falcon. That bird is in fact being trained, both in Russia and France, to catch the pigeons on the wing in order to enable its master to gain possession of messages otherwise out of his reach. Private breeders of pigeons, it is evident, should be encouraged by rewards in the shape of money or diplomas, and races should be frequently held to test the swiftness and endurance of these gentle and useful messengers.

CHOLERA IN NAGASAKI.

The *Official Gazette* gives the following figures with reference to the cholera in Nagasaki:—

July and	New cases 9 Deaths 5	(11 in the town of Nagasaki and 3 in the district of Nishisonoki).
July 3rd	New cases 14 Deaths 5	
July 4th	New cases 11 Deaths 4	
July 5th	New cases 24 Deaths 10	
July 6th	New cases 7 Deaths 5	
July 7th	New cases 25 Deaths 13	
July 8th	New cases 16 Deaths 7	
July 9th	New cases 41 Deaths 18	
July 10th	New cases 29 Deaths 11	
July 11th	New cases 47 Deaths 15	

The total number of cases from the commencement of the epidemic (June 27th) up to July 11th was 239 and the total number of deaths 114. It appears that there has also been one case, which proved immediately fatal, in Kamihirano-machi, Kyoto, and one case in the village of Matsushima.

There was also one case in Tokyo (Shinbatacho, Asakusa) on the 4th instant. Little hope can be entertained that Tokyo and Yokohama will escape. On the other hand, Yokohama has the immense advantage of possessing water-works. It will now be possible to form a fair estimate of the value of a pure water supply as a protection against the ravages of cholera. The test will not be absolute under existing conditions, inasmuch as a considerable percentage of the poorer classes in Yokohama do not use the water from the works, and these are precisely the people among whom the epidemic is likely to establish itself chiefly. But the Authorities will probably deem it advisable to adopt some special method of bringing the whole native community within the operation of a system which experience has proved to be more efficacious than anything else against the spread of zymotic disease.

It is further reported from Yamanashi Prefecture that on the 1st instant a man in the village of Keirin, and a woman in the village of Buzato, were attacked, and that both of them expired the next day. In Akita Prefecture, also, one case appears to have occurred on the 22nd ultimo.

The existence of cholera at Nagasaki in an epidemic form is now officially recognised, and it is announced that the system of medical inspection fixed by Notification No. 31, in June, 1882, shall be put into operation in respect of all vessels coming from that port. The stations for carrying out the system are to be, as on previous occasions, Wadamisaki, for passengers

entering Hyogo Prefecture, and Nagaura for passengers coming to Kanagawa Prefecture. It may be well to observe that quarantine, in the general sense of the term, forms no part of the system in question. The method pursued is simply to fumigate the ship thoroughly, to give the passengers a warm bath on shore and, while they are taking it, to subject their clothes to a degree of heat sufficient to destroy bacterian life. The whole process does not involve a detention of more than three hours. Whatever utility such measures possess will doubtless be obtainable so long as the cholera is confined to Nagasaki, but if it reaches Kobe and Osaka, there will plainly be nothing gained by fumigating maritime conveyances and their passengers while railways are left to spread the plague without restraint.

In the Haneda suburb of Tokyo, a fisherman, Yonemoto Heishichi, was attacked by cholera on the 4th instant and died next day. In Kyoto a woman residing in Ebisugawacho fell ill the same day and died within a few hours. From the village of Tokobayashi, Saitama Prefecture, another case is reported as having ended fatally on the 30th ultimo after five days' illness, and in the village of Yatsuho, in the same Prefecture, a man attacked on the 1st instant, died the next day. It is evident, however, that with the exception of the Nagasaki cases nothing has yet occurred which may not fairly be regarded as sporadic.

The *Official Gazette* further states that Mr. Nakahama, an expert of the Home Office, has found the cholera germ by microscopic examination in Nagasaki, and that another official of the same Department telegraphs the occurrence of two cases of violent illness resembling cholera at Kuchinotsu on the 6th instant. Attacks of spurious cholera are also reported from Yoshiwara, in Shizuoka Prefecture, and from Kitanaga, in Ehime Prefecture. At the Yobuko hot-springs in Saga Prefecture, one man attacked by Asiatic cholera on the 7th instant; at the village of Yashiro, in Fukui Prefecture, one man attacked by spurious cholera on the 5th instant, died next day; at Maruho village, in Shimane Prefecture, one man attacked by spurious cholera on the 3rd instant.

RAILWAY ENTERPRISE.

It is remarkable to observe the persistent disposition of the Japanese to sink capital in railways. A striking example is that of the Hokuriku line, for the construction of which a temporary charter was granted some time ago. The capital of the line was fixed at four million yen, but we read in the *Tokyo Shimpō* that the applications for subscriptions amounted to over twenty millions. The railway has undoubtedly excellent prospects, such men as Messrs. Shibusaawa Yeichi, Yasuda Zenjiro, and Okura Kihachiro being among the promoters, and Messrs. Narahara Shigeru, Takashima Kayemon, and Yamanaka Rin-no-suke among the councillors. Still it is astonishing to see what large sums are constantly forthcoming when any enterprise with a fair outlook is proposed.

RELEASE OF HARDMEAT.

On Sunday Joseph Hardmeat, late chief mate of the *Sakata Maru*, who was sentenced on October 8th last year, in H.B.M. Court for Japan, to five years' penal servitude for manslaughter—having fatally wounded by shooting a quarter-master of the *Sakata Maru*—was released from prison, by order of Her Majesty's Minister, who we learn has remitted the remainder of the sentence. It is understood that this step has been taken in consequence of the grave change for the worse that has taken place in Hardmeat's health, confinement having reduced him to a condition of complete prostration. He left Yokohama same day in the *Bataria*.

SMOKING CONCERT.

The second Smoking Concert took place on Tuesday in the Public Hall, and proved like its predecessor a pronounced success, the hall being well filled despite the moist state of the

weather and the very muddy condition of the roads, with a most appreciative audience. We append the programme and will only add that so highly were some of the pieces appreciated, especially Mr. Hopkin's songs, that encores had to be allowed; that Mr. Walkinshaw's stump speech abounded in local hits and allusions which kept the audience on the laugh all the time, and that the Band of the *Imperieuse* under Mr. Milo's leadership contributed as on the former occasion very materially to the enjoyment of the evening. The following is the programme:—

- 1.—Capriccio "Echo des Bastions" The Band.
- 2.—Song "Mr. Launay" Mr. Launay.
- 3.—Character Song "Mr. Kenny" Mr. Kenny.
- 4.—Song "Queen of my Heart" Mr. Robinson.
- 5.—Song "Comic" Mr. Hopkins.
- 6.—Minuet "La Joyeuse Reunion" The Band.
- 7.—Song "Petticoat of Gold" Dr. James.
- 8.—Concerted Music "Concert Party" Concert Party.
- 9.—Song "Mr. Launay" Mr. Launay.
- 10.—String Quartet "Violin Party" Violin Party.
- 11.—Stump Speech "Mr. Walkinshaw" Mr. Walkinshaw.
- 12.—Song "Dr. Eames" Dr. Eames.
- 13.—Dance "The Maypole" The Band.
- 14.—Song "Comic" Mr. Hopkins.
- 15.—Recitation "Mr. Goodrich" Mr. Goodrich.
- 16.—Song "Comic, and Dance" Dr. Eames.
- 17.—Selection "The Gondoliers" The Band.

OFFICIAL PROMOTIONS.

ACCORDING to a *Gazette* published yesterday, Senator Ozaki Saburo and Messrs. Hirata Tôsuke and Iwamura Waro, Councillors of the Legislative Bureau, are appointed chiefs of Sections in that Bureau, under the new Departmental organization, the two last named gentlemen being, at the same time, raised to *Chokunin* rank, second class—Senator Ozaki is already a First class *Chokunin*. The same *Gazette* announces the elevation to Second class *Chokunin* rank of Mr. Kurokawa Seichiro, Chief of the Law Bureau in the Foreign Department; Mr. Kiyoura Keigo, Chief of the Police Bureau in the Home Department; Mr. Saito Shuichi, Chief of the Bureau of Trade and Industry in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, and Mr. Suyematsu Kencho, Chief of the Bureau of Prefectures in the Home Department.

"THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD."

MR. H. DEAKIN's taste for beautiful things, of which anyone can obtain convincing evidence who inspects the really admirable specimens of modern Japanese art displayed at his store, has induced him to become the possessor of the American copyright of "The Light of the World." Upon what terms the acquisition has been made we have not learned, but we feel persuaded that Mr. Deakin will not have reason to repent this new enterprise, while, on the other hand, Sir Edwin Arnold will be guaranteed against the risk of unprincipled piracy in the United States. It seems peculiarly apposite that a Yokohama resident should so materially assist to give to the world the beautiful product of Sir Edwin Arnold's leisure in Japan, and of the inspiration he has derived from her incomparable scenery.

SECURITY FOR LEGAL COSTS.

ON Tuesday morning in H.B.M.'s Court a motion was heard (in Chambers) before Judge Hannen, in a case between Kato Sagoro and R. A. Wylie for a sum of \$500 for building work alleged to have been done by the former. The defendant moved that the plaintiff pay into Court a sum of money as security for costs before further proceedings. Mr. Litchfield appeared for the defendant, and the plaintiff appeared in person. The plaintiff objected to pay a sum of money into Court. Mr. Litchfield, in reply to his Honour, said he thought \$75 would be ample security for costs. His Honour, however, thought \$50 would suffice, and made an order for plaintiff to pay that sum into Court. In the meantime all proceedings would be stopped until the amount was deposited.

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES AT FERRIS SEMINARY.

ON Thursday afternoon the commencement exercises of the students attending Ferris Seminary took place in Van Schaick's Hall, before a large audience. Rev. Mr. Booth, Principal of the School, presided, supported by the foreign and Japanese teaching staff. The hall, which was decorated with flags, was further adorned by

specimens of drawing from the pencils of the students, some of the work thus exhibited being of a very high character. The best drawings, being tastefully framed, formed a most pleasing decorative feature of the hall. The essays were exclusively in Japanese, and the music was also of a national character, but both were listened to very attentively by the company. At the close Mr. Booth presented certificates to the graduates. The following was the programme of the exercises:—

National Hymn (*Kimi-ga-ya*).

- Organ Solo Miss Hirano Hama.
 Essay "Ambition" Miss Umeno Fumi.
 Essay "The Past Two Years" Miss Nogami Sen.
 Singing *Kuni-no-huta* Singing class.
 Essay *Omoi-yori* Miss Arai Kiku.
 Singing Eight students.
 Koto *Shiki-no-oshie* Misses Watanabe Kumi, Umeura Fumi, and Onozato Tsune.
 Essay "Japanese Female Schools of the Future" Miss Serada Haru.
 Debate "Which is better—Music or Painting?" Third year's students.
 Singing *Wakare no tori*, "The Parted Bird" Singing Class.
 Essay *Doki Kanjo*, "The Moral Sense" Miss Sato Tetsu.
 Debate Second year's students.
 Koto *Kodomo-no-asobi* Misses Watanabe Kumi, Umeura Fumi, and Onozato Tsune.
 Essay *Kokosui*, "Nationality" Miss Katayama Yoshie.
 Singing *Mikuni-no-Tame* Singing Class.
 Presentation of certificates.
 Piano Diet Misses Arai Kiku and Hayashi Sada.

VARYING VIEWS OF THE ELECTIONS

THE newspapers, according to their political bias, take very different views of the results of the polling. Here, for example, are the numbers recently given by three journals:—

	<i>Jiji Shimpô</i>	<i>Daido Shimbun</i>	<i>Hochi Shimbun</i>
Independent	69	82	85
<i>Kaishin-to</i>	51	49	56
<i>Kokumin-ha</i>	21	—	—
<i>Fichi-to</i>	15	12	13
<i>Daido</i>	51	63	48
<i>Aikoku-to</i>	25	30	—
<i>Fuyu-to</i>	20	15	57
<i>Kokumin Shimpô</i>	9	—	—
<i>Hoshu-to</i>	5	14	15
<i>Go-to</i>	—	2	—
<i>Kiushu Shimpô</i>	—	19	—
<i>Kiushu Doshikai</i>	—	—	20

THE BANK OF JAPAN.

THE amounts of convertible notes and reserves in the Bank of Japan for the week ended the 5th inst. were as follows:—

CONVERTIBLE NOTES.	RESERVES AND SECURITIES.
Yen.	Yen.
Notes issued	Gold coin and bullion, 24,295,247
72,754,303	Silver coin and bullion, 26,299,793
	Public Loan Bonds, 13,476,450
	Treasury Bills, —
	Government Bonds, —
	Other securities, 4,732,189
	Commercial bills, 3,959,721
72,754,303	72,754,303

Of the above total issue of notes, the sum of yen 3,824,105 is in the treasury of the Bank, and yen 68,930,198 in actual circulation, the latter showing an increase of yen 2,016,840 as compared with yen 66,913,358 at the end of the previous week.

ECOLE DE L'ETOILE DU MATIN.

THE ceremony of presenting prizes to the scholars of the Ecole de l'Etoile du Matin, in Bancho, Tokyo, took place on Wednesday afternoon, under the presidency of his Excellency the French Minister and in presence of a very large audience of Japanese and foreign ladies and gentlemen. A series of exercises, musical, recitative, and dramatic, was performed by the pupils with a degree of accuracy and verve that testified the excellent system pursued, and the high quality of the instruction imparted at this now deservedly popular school. After the programme had been concluded, the Representative of France spoke a few eloquent words, congratulating the faculty of the school, the scholars, and their parents on the highly satisfactory results achieved, and imparting to them the good news that a suitable site had at length been obtained for a new building, and that, on the resumption of studies in September, the scholars would find themselves in commodious and thoroughly well equipped premises, a very large sum of money having been appropriated for the purpose by the home Mission. The

Vice-Minister of Education, Mr. Tsuji, also made a short speech of a highly complimentary character. The Tokyo residents are most fortunate in the possession of such an exceptionally excellent educational institution, and the public will learn with satisfaction that the success of the school warrants its transfer to premises which will be second to none in the capital.

SPENCER, THE BALLOONIST.

MR. SPENCER, who recently announced his intention to visit Japan, has had the misfortune to lose his balloon. Referring to the incident, the *Singapore Free Press* says:—"Mr. Percival Spencer's balloon ascent in Sourabaya, a few days ago, was a great success. The gardens, band, and fencing round the enclosure were given him free by Government. He went up, so it is said, some three thousand feet before coming down with his parachute. His balloon, however, went up and disappeared behind the clouds. When next it was heard from it had dropped some thirty miles away in the jungle. The natives saw it and thinking it was a present sent them by 'Tuan Allah' cut it up and made sarongs and bajes of it. A subscription has been raised in Sourabaya to present Mr. Spencer with a new balloon."

THE MAJERONIS.

SIGNOR AND SIGNORA MAJERONI have left for the interior, and after visiting the principal places in Japan will return to Yokohama in about two months, when, if the necessary assistance of amateurs can be secured, these accomplished artists will give a performance before leaving for Australia. It is not too much to say that no such acting has ever been witnessed in the Public Hall as would be placed before the audience if a performance by the Majeronis can be arranged.

REPORTED ASSASSINATION OF A MEMBER OF THE DIET.

IT appears that the reported assassination of Mr. Ito, one of the members elected for Kagawa Prefecture, was an exaggeration. Later telegrams say that Mr. Ito was "beaten," but whether he suffered any serious injury, we are not told. The probability is, however, that the affair was of a trifling character, since nothing has subsequently been reported about it.

THE ADDRESS TO THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT.

A LETTER has been received by Mr. Ensley from Colonel Cavaye, Military Secretary to the Duke of Connaught, dated Canada, 7th ult., stating that the address of the British Community was received on board the steamer *Abyssinia*, and that their Royal Highnesses are much obliged and greatly admire the form of presentation in the pure Japanese style, which is exceedingly handsome.

EXPENSES CONNECTED WITH CHOLERA AT NAGASAKI.

THE Authorities at Nagasaki having reported to the Central Government an expenditure of 43,125.55 yen on account of sanitary measures necessitated by the outbreak and threatened spread of an epidemic of cholera, the Imperial consent to the disbursement of that sum by the Treasury was given to the Minister of Finance on the 7th instant.

POLICE STRIKE IN LONDON.

THE strike of the London Police, announced by telegraph, was foreshadowed by the *Pall Mall Gazette* on the 13th ult. The London paper says:—"It is probable if the resignation of Munro, the Chief of Police, is accepted, that the superintendents and inspectors, who keep the force together, will resign within a month, and a strike by the policemen is by no means improbable."

SIR EDWIN ARNOLD'S READING.

THE sale of tickets for Sir Edwin Arnold's Reading realized \$241, an excellent result under the circumstances. With this addition the Relief Fund subscribed in response to the Venerable Archdeacon Shaw's appeal amounts to some fifteen hundred dollars.

THE ELECTIONS.

I.

THE first returns published gave the names of fourteen successful candidates for the Diet, namely, nine for Tokyo, two for Kyoto, and one each for Yokohama, Hyogo, and Nagoya. We are now in possession of the returns for ninety-two districts in all. The results will be found elsewhere in our columns. This information, having been forwarded from the provinces by wire, is not as detailed as that which has already been given about Tokyo and Yokohama. The names of the unsuccessful candidates are not mentioned, and in many cases the numbers of votes cast for those elected have not been telegraphed. We have, therefore, omitted these incomplete details from our table, and entered only the points of principal interest, namely, the political persuasions of the new members and their social status.

Summarizing the results shown in the table, we have the following grouping of the ninety-two successful candidates:—

Independent	Tokyo	8	36
	Other localities	28	
<i>Kaishin-to</i>	Tokyo	3	16
	Other localities	13	
<i>Daido Danketsu</i>	Tokyo	0	14
	Other localities	14	
<i>Jiyu-to</i> (Radicals)	Tokyo	0	
	Other localities	8	
<i>Aikokukoto</i>	Tokyo	0	19
	Other localities	8	
<i>Koin club</i>	Tokyo	0	
	Other localities	3	
<i>Jichi-to</i>	Tokyo	1	3
	Other localities	2	
<i>Kokumin-ha</i>	Tokyo	0	1
	Other localities	1	
<i>Doshikai</i>	Tokyo	0	3
	Other localities	3	

With regard to the term "Independent" used in this table, it should be explained that independence of political parties is alone referred to. Men are described as "Independent"—whether *dokuritsu* or *chiuritsu*—who have hitherto refrained from publicly avowing their allegiance to any of the recognised political associations. It is not absolutely certain that all members in this category will give their allegiance to the Government, but we may fairly assume that inasmuch as they have always held aloof from parties in opposition, their sympathies are with the authorities. At the same time we have to notice that in almost every case where officials sought election, they failed to obtain support. Tokyo, indeed, returned two Senators among its twelve members, and the rare name of an official is to be found among the successful provincial candidates, but other signal failures quite eclipse these exceptions. When we read that Mr. SUYEMATSU, one of the ablest and most eloquent officials of the Home Department, received only two votes in his candidature for the Second Electoral District of Tokyo; that Mr. WATANABE, formerly President of the Imperial University, obtained only one vote in the same District; that Mr. MIURA, a dis-

tinguished Senator, could induce only nine voters to ballot for him in the Third District; that the well-known Mr. KANDA KOHEI, also a Senator, received only two votes in the Seventh District, and that the still more celebrated Mr. KONO TOYAMA found only one supporter in the same District, it is difficult to avoid the conviction that any suspicion of official connections proved injurious to a candidate's chances of success. This point will be better elucidated when detailed returns indicate how many officials were included among the unsuccessful candidates in the provinces.

The *Jichi-to* is not, strictly speaking, a political party. It was founded in 1888 by Count INOUE, avowedly not for party purposes, but merely with the object of enquiring into the principles of self-government. The public, however, has always persisted in speaking of the *Jichi-to* as a party, or at any rate as the nucleus of a party, and we suspect that the public is not very far wrong, though certainly no organization on party lines has as yet been attempted by Count INOUE and his friends. In a parliamentary division the *Jichi-to* members would probably be found in the Government camp, so that the official side may be said to have secured about 39 seats out of the 92 thus far known.

It will be remembered that, some time ago, a coalition was effected between the various sections of the Radicals—the *Daido Danketsu*, the *Jiyu-to* and the *Aikokukoto*—and that the combined party took the name of the *Koin Club*. In view of these events some perplexity may be caused by the fact that, according to the election returns, the nominally united sections appear to have been working independently under their old names. The truth is, we believe, that the leaders, while agreeing to coalesce, agreed also to maintain their separate organizations and distinguishing appellations wherever such a course seemed likely to be beneficial. For purposes of parliamentary analysis, however, the several sections must be regarded as parts of a whole, their aggregate members numbering 33.

The *Doshi-kai*, which has adherents in various places, professes progressive principles, and leans towards the *Kaishin-to*, except in Kagoshima, where its members preserve an obstinate independence. The *Kokumin-ha*, a representative of which has been returned from Shiga Prefecture, is a body of nondescript principles, concerning whose parliamentary attitude we cannot predict anything.

Re-grouping the successful candidates according to the above consideration, our result is:—

Government Party.....	39
Radicals (led by Counts	
Goto and Itagaki)....	33
<i>Kaishin-to</i> (led by	
Count Okuma)	18
Uncertain	1

(Including two of the *Doshikai* members).

An interesting question, which can be

answered with tolerable confidence by the aid of the returns already received, is whether or no the privilege of the franchise was eagerly availed of by those enjoying it. To determine this we have to compare the number of votes actually cast with the number of registered voters. The figures stand as follow for nine Districts of Tokyo, concerning which accurate records are obtainable:—

District:	Number of possible votes.	Number of votes actually cast.
First	233	194
Second	203	145
Third	231	216
Fourth	639	499
Fifth	271	256
Sixth	338	273
Seventh	279	213
Eighth	246	207
Ninth	182	162
Totals	2,622	2,165

It will be seen from these figures that there were only 457 abstentions (17 per cent.) among 2,622 voters. Of course, when we remember how high the franchise is, we can easily understand that the possession of a vote becomes a privilege not to be lightly esteemed, and that the voters are of a class not likely to be indifferent about the discharge of public duties. Still the fact that eighty-three persons out of every hundred handed in their ballots, speaks significantly as to the interest taken in the business of election.

Another point bearing on this question is the number of candidates who entered the field. The returns published in our last issue showed only two names for each district, those of the successful candidates and the second on the list. But, in point of fact, the total number of candidates for the twelve Tokyo seats was, not twenty-four, as might have been inferred from our table, but ninety-two, an average of nearly twelve candidates for every vacancy. Thus, in the Third District (Kyo-bashi), where Mr. KAZAMA, a merchant, carried the day, no less than fifteen candidates were in the field; in the Fourth District (Nihonbashi), the successful candidate, Mr. FUJITA, editor of the *Hochi Shimbun*, had ten opponents; and in the Sixth District (Asakusa), Mr. TAKANASHI had to contest with nine others. The desire for election was not quite so extensive in other places, but that it was tolerably keen will be understood from the fact that the 80 Districts outside Tokyo from which returns have been obtained were contested by 221 candidates. When 92 seats bring 313 candidates into the field, it is plain that the honour of being a member of the Diet is highly prized.

Classifying the 92 members according to professions, we find the following results:—

Farmers	20
Journalists	4
Barristers	8
Head-men (past or present, i.e. local officials)	24
Bankers	4
Merchants	7
Members of Local Assemblies	13
Officials	4
<i>Shizoku</i>	8

It must be understood that the last category in our list does not include all the *shizoku* (gentry) who have been returned. Many of this class are doubtless to be found in the other categories. But the 8 *shizoku* separately entered in the table appear in the election returns as *shizoku* only, from which we judge them to be following no trade or profession.

II.

WE are now in possession of returns for all the electoral districts with the exception of one in Ibaraki Prefecture, where, owing to some error on the part of the election officials, the ballots have to be cast again. It is not possible, in the absence of an official statement, to determine with certainty the proportion in which the seats have fallen to the various parties, but the following analysis seems fairly trustworthy:—

Independent	84
<i>Kaishin-to</i>	64
<i>Daido Danketsu</i>	55
<i>Aikoku-to</i>	38
<i>Jiyu-to</i>	14
<i>Kiushu Shimpō</i>	9
<i>Hoshu-to</i> (Conservatives)	18
<i>Fichi-to</i>	17

The four parties classed in this list as "Radicals" are, in effect, one association, and may be regarded as a single party for all practical purposes, the leaders being Counts ITAGAKI and GOTO, Messrs. NAKASHIMA, KATAOKA, and OI. The *Kaishin-to* is led by Count OKUMA and Messrs. YANO, SHIMADA, and OZAKI. In principle it is scarcely less progressive than the Radical party, but until lately the two held resolutely aloof from each other, and nothing seemed less likely than union between them. A *rapprochement* has, however, been brought about to a limited extent. It is understood to have been arranged that while each remains distinct as before and maintains its general independence, nothing need prevent a junction of forces for certain definite objects. Such a junction, representing 180 votes in a house of 300, would plainly be of overwhelming strength for the purpose of overthrowing a Cabinet, but its capacity to administer the Government would depend on the improbable contingency of a permanent union between the two parties. Without recourse to conjectures, however, it is possible, we think, to arrive at a tolerably clear estimate of the situation created by the elections, and to forecast the outlines, at least, of its results.

In the first place, we have to observe before everything that these elections do not represent the issue of an appeal to the country by a party in power. The Government has made no appeal nor allied itself with any party. Such a step even though it had not been contrary to the resolve enunciated by the principal members of the Cabinet after the promulgation of the Constitution, would have been forbidden by other and obvious reasons. The theory of Government at present in Japan

is that the Cabinet, presided over by the EMPEROR in person and holding office solely at HIS MAJESTY'S pleasure, is nothing more than the Imperial mouthpiece. Its responsibility is towards the Sovereign alone and it owes no allegiance even to the voice of the Diet, still less to the behests of a political party. When parliament is opened the expediency of a consensus of opinion between the Cabinet and the majority in the Lower House will soon secure practical recognition of the principle of government by party, although a change of the constitution in that sense may be very long deferred. But in the meanwhile the Cabinet is simply a piece of administrative mechanism, owing its motive force entirely to the Throne, and nominally insensible to popular influence. It follows, therefore, that in theory no opposition exists between the present Government and any of the parties whose members have been elected by the nation. The *Jiyu-to*, the *Kaishin-to*, the *Daido Danketsu*, and all their affiliated coteries were organised originally for purposes of opposition, but they had no recognised status, nor did any lawful machinery exist for the endorsement or rejection of their opinions by the public. Nevertheless, a careful retrospect of the administrative and legislative history of the past sixteen years shows that many of the views advanced by these various parties were accepted by the Government and gradually embodied in laws, ordinances, or departmental practice. Thus, by cautious but steady steps, the interval between the systems elaborated by those in power and the theories enunciated by those in opposition was narrowed, until, in 1888, the leader of the *Kaishin-to*, for example, found nothing to prevent his return to the Cabinet, nor his party anything to forbid their cordial support of the Government which, in welcoming him, made no deviation from the course it had previously been pursuing. Now, however, the representatives of the several parties having become also the lawful representatives of sections of the people, their opinions have acquired a new title to respect, which can be the more easily accorded to them inasmuch as the Government has prudently refrained from making the elections any test of the popularity of its own views or any occasion for proclaiming its own programme. In brief, there is as yet no opposition on practical lines. The Cabinet is not pledged either to adopt or to reject the opinions of any political party. It is just as free to ally itself with the Radicals or the *Kaishin-to* as with the Independents or the *Fichi-to*. This, in our own opinion, is the saving clause of the situation. If the divisions of the Diet were to follow the lines hitherto marked out for themselves by political parties, the prospect would be serious for the Government, since it could only count on a following of

101 (84 Independents and 17 *Fichi-to*) against a probable opposition of 180 (Radicals and *Kaishin-to*). But it is no more possible to predict the lines of division than to foretell on what side the Government will be found ranged. In fact everything must remain in the region of conjecture until the boundaries of the various political camps are mapped out clearly by parliamentary discussion. It may be taken for granted that the Government will meet the Diet in a conciliatory spirit, and that it will even go so far as to give practical effect, before that time, to views which have found common expression in the platforms of the Radicals and the *Kaishin-to*. Foremost among the measures which this course would entail are the repeal of the Peace Preservation Regulations and a large modification of the Press and Public Meeting Laws—reforms which we shall not be surprised to see carried out at an early date. But in respect of measures advocated by one party and condemned, or at least unsupported, by the other, it is obvious that the sense of the Diet must be definitely taken before the Cabinet shows its hand. Thus, on the whole, our conclusion is that the elections cannot yet be interpreted with any pretence of certainty, and that the parties which are to-day counted the Government's strongest opponents may ultimately be found in the same camp with it. We look for nothing in the shape of a political crisis, but rather for the elaboration of a *modus vivendi*. These, of course, as we have already said, are the mere outlines of the situation. The details cannot yet be discussed.

MR. FUKUZAWA.

THE public is familiar with the spectacle of men refusing to offer themselves as parliamentary candidates, but we have seldom heard of anyone taking the precaution of inserting an advertisement in the newspapers warning electors not to vote for him. Such, however, was the very practical step taken by Mr. FUKUZAWA on the eve of the recent elections. Few Japanese of the present day command a larger share of popularity among the younger generation than Mr. FUKUZAWA, and there can be no doubt that, even though he had not canvassed, or even offered himself as a candidate, many votes would have been cast in his favour by the electors of the Shiba District. Since, however, he is thoroughly resolved against sitting in parliament or taking any share in public life, ballots bearing his name would have been so much waste paper. He accordingly issued the following notice:— "My age renders it impossible for me to discharge the duties of a member of the Diet. I therefore take the precaution of warning electors in the Shiba District and elsewhere that ballots in my favour will be

useless." This decision of Mr. FUKUZAWA'S is, in our opinion, regrettable. Whenever it has been our good fortune to hear him address an audience, we have been struck by his marked possession of that magnetic power with which so few men are fortunate enough to be endowed. The well remembered incidents of the first occasion when we had the privilege of listening to an address by him, grow more vivid as we consider his present abstention from a parliamentary career. A large number of the Tokyo residents had assembled by invitation at the Nakamura-ro to celebrate the inauguration of an important educational scheme. Among those present were several foreigners. The programme of addresses was quite long, but the speeches themselves being ably conceived, terse, and well delivered, were listened to without weariness. None of the orators, however, succeeded in awakening any semblance of vivid interest until Mr. FUKUZAWA ascended the rostrum. The moment he appeared a stir of expectation passed through the audience, and before he had spoken for a minute those of his foreign hearers to whom his face was unfamiliar began to enquire curiously who he was. It is indeed impossible to hear Mr. FUKUZAWA speak in public without being strongly attracted towards him, and keenly interested in his words. His figure and mien suggest the student, and his face, when at rest, though it implies intellectual power and determination, does not invite sympathy. But no sooner does he begin to speak than his eye glows with fervent thought, and the lights and shades of strong but subdued emotion chase each other over his massive features. Such a man would certainly have occupied a prominent place and been a great power for good in the Diet. It is just possible, indeed, that he may still enter parliament as a nominee of the EMPEROR to the Upper House, for certainly the intention of that clause of the Constitution which provides that HIS MAJESTY may appoint to the House of Lords a certain number of men distinguished for erudition, would be fulfilled in the choice of Mr. FUKUZAWA. But, unless we misapprehend his mood, the cause assigned by him for declining a seat in the Lower House would be equally an obstacle to his entering the Upper. It is not likely, as a mere matter of courtesy and respect to the Peers, that he would plead the disabilities of age in the one case and ignore them in the other. Evidently there is small probability of his taking an active part in parliamentary affairs, and evidently also the true motive of his abstention is not age. It is well nigh absurd, at all events from an English point of view, that a man still in the fifties should assign length of years as a reason for declining a seat in parliament. We are inclined to believe that Mr. FUKUZAWA'S real reason is want of confidence in the success of the system now about to be inaugurated. He has

never hesitated to declare that he considers the country still unripe for the experiment of parliamentary institutions, and it may well be that this want of faith induces him to stand aside. Abstention for such a cause is doubly regrettable, first as indicating scepticism in the people's condition on the part of one who should be competent to form a clear estimate; and, secondly, because, if men like Mr. FUKUZAWA refuse to assist in organising and directing, their own action will materially contribute to the failure they apprehend. There is another possible explanation, however; one which, whether applicable to Mr. FUKUZAWA'S case or not, has been advanced on behalf of several prominent persons whom the public had expected to find actively interested in parliamentary affairs. It is that the first Diet is not likely to play any really controlling part in matters of State: that it will, in fact, be the shadow, rather than the substance, of a parliament. Men entertaining this view are disposed to await the next general election, occupying a post of observation in the interval. Possibly Mr. FUKUZAWA is among them. It is true that he will be four years older when that time comes, and that the opening words (*rosei-gi*) of his advertisement of abstention may then be recalled by his opponents with unpleasant appositeness. But the country can ill afford to dispense with the assistance of men of his experience and character at this critical stage of its career.

GOVERNMENT SALES OF RICE.

THERE has been much talk and some writing about the method pursued by the Government in disposing of the rice imported by means of the Central Famine Relief Fund. Foreign critics have added their voices to the discussion, and, as is not infrequently the case when strangers attempt to pass judgment on Japanese affairs, errors of fact have impaired the value of the opinions expressed. A cardinal mistake, for example, is the idea that the Government has a sum of twenty-two million *yen* available for the import of rice. It ought to have been easy to ascertain that such is not the case. At the close of the last financial year, the Famine Relief Fund did indeed aggregate 21 million *yen*, but of this total only 4 millions were in the hands of the Central Government, the remaining 17 millions being in the keeping of the various Local Governments. And since a moiety of these 17 millions had been contributed directly by the people of the localities, the money could not be employed for importing rice at the discretion of the Cabinet. The Imperial Rescript of May 3rd, directing that rice should be imported for the purpose of relieving the market, sanctioned the employment of the Central Famine Relief Fund only for that purpose, so that the sum available was four millions, not

twenty-two. The Authorities were evidently not a little puzzled as to the best means of disposing of the imported grain. Under ordinary circumstances the details of such a transaction would have been left to the discretion of the Minister of State for Finance, but on this occasion the whole affair seems to have been discussed and regulated by the Cabinet in a body. The course adopted was governed by broad considerations of supply and demand. Assuming that the prime cause of the abnormal prices ruling in the rice market was deficiency of supply, the Government evidently decided to deal with the question on this basis. Accordingly, considerable quantities of rice were imported and put up to public auction, the presumption being that by this method the deficiency would be gradually and naturally supplied, without involving any of the confusion and embarrassment which must have ensued had large supplies of grain been suddenly thrown on the market at prices forty or fifty per cent. below ruling figures. There has been some want of perception on the part of the critics, who speak as though what the Authorities had to deal with were not the large problem of reducing the general level of rice prices, but the comparatively petty problem of feeding these who find themselves partially or wholly deprived of the means of livelihood. Men argue on the hypothesis that the main object to be accomplished is to provide cheap rice for the poorer classes, whereas the difficulty with the poorer classes is that, owing to the indirect consequences of dear rice, they cannot buy a sufficiency of food of any kind. It is not the competition of the poorer classes that has driven rice to its present level. It is the competition of well-to-do folks, who insist upon having home-grown rice and nothing else, and who will curtail their expenditure in other directions rather than eat daily bread of a comparatively unpalatable kind. Indeed, for this reason we have always doubted whether the importation of foreign rice could affect the situation as materially as some people seemed to expect. The Japanese have a radical dislike for all foreign rice except that of Hawaii: the majority of them prefer to eat barley or *mochi-gome*. But when prices reach a certain level, they will, albeit reluctantly, mix foreign rice with Japanese, and if an ample supply of the former were procurable at moderate rates, the market price of the latter must necessarily descend. Now, apart from the great practical difficulties of the course advocated by some persons—namely the selling of rice tickets at fixed prices to people in straitened circumstances—it is more than doubtful whether such a measure would produce the desired result. The recipients of the tickets would certainly be enabled to eat foreign rice at comparatively small cost, but inasmuch as, if our

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analysis be correct, they had not previously been considerable consumers of Japanese rice, the demand for the latter would not be materially relieved by their improved facilities as to the foreign grain. Add to this the immense perplexity and the inevitable abuses attending any official attempt to classify the people for such a purpose, and it will be evident that those who advocate the distribution of imported rice by means of tickets sold at cost price, or less than cost price, to poor families, have not maturely weighed the problem. If the Government decided to constitute itself a retail merchant for the purposes of the present emergency, its only prudent plan would be to sell imported rice at cost price to all comers, without distinction, but in small fixed quantities. This would effectually obviate any wholesale purchases by monopolists, and would bring the imported grain within reach of all who cared to purchase it. Of course to carry out such a system without any risk of abuses would entail an intricate and troublesome organization. But it would certainly be far wiser and more practical than an attempt to discriminate in favour of certain classes. Further, it is plain that so soon as the Government determines to place itself in direct contact with the consumer, it must do so everywhere, or at least at all important places in the empire. To sell imported rice at cost price to the citizens of Tokyo, without extending a similar privilege to consumers in all districts, would probably lead to very serious disturbances. This consideration doubtless weighed greatly with the Authorities and induced them to prefer feeding the normal channels of distribution, namely, the wholesale and retail dealers, instead of attempting to undertake the work of official distribution in a necessarily partial and vexatious manner. After all, it is not to be supposed that every rice dealer is engaged in a conspiracy to "bull" the market. Some large operators may have taken advantage of the situation, but at bottom it is a question of supply and demand, and if foreign rice is imported in sufficient quantities the "bulls" must soon prove unable to carry it. The fight had better be fought with all the forces engaged. Every additional *yen* paid by the "bulls" exposes them to an additional influx of imported rice, and with a capital of four million *yen* engaged on the other side, victory ought not to be doubtful. When it comes it will be complete. Meanwhile what we have written may help to show that the problem is by no means so simple as some critics imagine, and that to prefer charges of mal-administration is much easier than to indicate a system which shall be secure against them.

The point chiefly open to criticism, as it seems to us, is that the Government's procedure has necessarily put a stop to all enterprise on the part of private importers. There are many Japanese and fo-

reign merchants who would have hastened to obtain large supplies of rice from abroad, had not the Authorities effectually blocked the way. As a general rule official interference in matters of commerce works more or less mischief, and many good judges hold that the present case is no exception. On the other hand, the Government's contention is that private enterprise had shown itself backward and inadequate before any official action was taken, and it would be exceedingly rash to deny that this argument is partially sound, especially when we remember that in a country where merchants are exposed to the risk of finding themselves at any moment in competition with the Treasury, individual initiative must always be timid and inefficient. This, however, brings the blame back to officialdom after all, and we are ourselves disposed to think that it should rest there.

MEASURES TO RESTRAIN POACHING.

WE read in the vernacular press that the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, with the approval of the Cabinet, has resolved to adopt strong measures for the restraint of poaching in the Kurile Islands. It is a perfectly open secret that for years foreign vessels have been in the habit of poaching in Japanese waters, and that, in pursuance of this illegal business, they constantly violate the treaties by entering ports to which access is not given by the provisions of those documents. The thing has long been a scandal, not alone as an unwarrantable defiance of law and propriety, but also on account of many disgraceful incidents inevitably accompanying such doings. When men deliberately engage in enterprises which they know to be dishonest and illegal, it is certain that their conduct will be disfigured by acts and accidents in accord with their immoral purpose. They place themselves outside the pale of the law from the outset, and this taint of wrong-doing naturally runs through all the history of their undertaking. It is for this reason that the Consular Courts in Yokohama are often required to try the masters and seamen of otter schooners for various crimes and misdemeanours, until the public begins to understand that poaching, piracy, and such pursuits, however strictly their votaries may seek to conduct themselves, are sure to involve outbursts of the lawless spirit that inspires their inception. Curiously enough, the Consular Courts, while punishing the otter hunters severely enough for incidental offences, have always carefully abstained from noticing their fundamental breach of the law. They punish a master for deserting his men and they punish the men for beating or stabbing one another, but they take no cognisance

of the fact that these wrong acts are performed in places where the ship has no right to be, and in the pursuit of a trade which is nothing more or less than stealing. Of course it is not to be supposed for a moment that the Consular Courts have any desire to ignore or condone the grave offences of treaty-breaking, poaching, and piracy. It has hitherto happened that charges under these counts have not been brought before them. None the less strange does it appear to find masters and officers of schooners describing with impunity in open court how they visited this place, anchored at that, or landed on the other, while in every instance their procedure was distinctly contrary to law. Of a piece with such undisguised illegality is the whole behaviour of the poachers. They come to Yokohama to victual and man their vessels, they carry thither their cargoes of skins for sale, and they openly publish the amount of their catch during the season. It is true, indeed, that they have always a saving clause. The seals and otters whose fur they trade in were not necessarily taken in preserved districts: they may have been caught on the high seas or in waters over which no Power claims exclusive rights. But the value of this subterfuge is clearly appreciated, and if it has hitherto been suffered to pass muster, nobody is really deceived by it. The poachers, on their side, probably argue that since no active measures are adopted by Japan to restrain them, their misdeeds do not seem very serious. Moreover, they generally find defenders. It is claimed that the dangerous character of their enterprise atones for its illegality, and that, under any circumstances, poaching is a very venial sin—pleas the more readily recognised because of the plucky, pleasant character of some of the leading poachers. But when all excuses have been urged, the indisputable fact remains that this poaching business is discreditable to the reputation of countries whose nationals engage in it. We shall be glad, therefore, to see the Government carry out the resolve attributed to it by the vernacular press, namely, that of sending ships of war to watch the scene of the trespasses. Japan's right to protect her own property is beyond all dispute. Up to the present she has not enforced that right in respect of the otters and seals frequenting the Kuriles, but if she sets about doing so in earnest now, she will have the support of all self-respecting Powers. Of course, she is not in a position to adopt the summary procedure employed by Russia for protective purposes: she will not confiscate ships and imprison their crews. Her action will be confined, we presume, to arresting poachers and handing them over to the nearest Consular authorities. Six years have elapsed since she issued an edict forbidding even her own subjects to capture seals and otters on her northern coasts with-

out official permission, and if foreigners persist in disregarding this injunction, it is time that she either treated it as a dead letter or took active steps to enforce obedience.

THE STUDENTS OF TOKYO.

IN a long series of articles recently concluded, the *Nippon* gives some interesting figures about the students of Tokyo. According to our contemporary's calculation, there are 107,312 students in the whole Empire, studying in the various colleges and other higher schools (primary schools and ordinary middle schools excepted). Of this number, 38,114 represent students prosecuting their studies in the capital; that is to say, about 40 per cent of the whole number are congregated in Tokyo. What are the effects of so disproportionate an assembling of students in the capital? Our contemporary looks at the question, in the first place, from its economical side. Among the 38,114 students, 6,899 are domiciled in Tokyo, so that the number of those coming from other localities is 31,215. Some of these latter look for support to relatives or friends in the capital, but the number of youths having such means of subsistence is extremely small, and steadily decreasing. Most of the students are dependent on their parents or relatives in the country, and are disbursing in the capital money brought from the provinces. The amounts which individual students spend vary from seven or eight *yen* to about fifteen *yen* per month. Taking the average, it may be assumed that each student spends ten *yen* a month, or a hundred and twenty *yen* a year. Thus the total amount of money annually disbursed by these lads is a little over 3,700,000 *yen*. In other words, money aggregating over three millions and a half is being yearly drawn from the provinces to the capital through this channel. What do the provinces receive in return? Nothing or very nearly nothing, for few of the students ever return to their homes, their sole ambition being to remain in the capital, and there rise to eminence in some walk of life. The few who drift back to their provinces are the worst specimens of the class, lads who, being neither enterprising nor intelligent enough to join the ambitious race in the city, are not likely to accomplish much in the country either. The *Nippon* then proceeds to discuss the effect which a sojourn in Tokyo produces on the character of the students. If the capital possesses more educational facilities than provincial towns, it also offers far greater temptations. Moreover, the bad food, and worse air of the city produce very evil effects on the intellectual and physical health of many promising students. Robust and simple-minded lads coming from the provinces to Tokyo at an extremely impressionable age, are in danger of losing their originally sturdy,

single-hearted character, and adopting the fickleness and inconstancy of the Tokyo folks. The *Nippon* is thus strongly opposed to the present steady influx of students from the country to the city. Having discussed this phase of the question, it publishes a comparative table, showing the number of students attending the educational institutions under the Government, and those attending private schools, and also the number of students representing each *Fu* and *Ken*. From this table, it appears that 31,126 attend private schools, while only 6,597 are registered at Government schools. It follows, therefore, that the great majority of the youths coming to Tokyo study at private institutions, where instruction is given in ordinary branches of knowledge. "Is it worth the money," the *Nippon* enquires, "for lads to travel long distances from the provinces to the capital in order to receive a liberal education? So far as that is concerned, they may stay at home without much loss. What, then, is the motive that impels them to flock to Tokyo." The *Nippon* answers this question confidently. It says that the young men are influenced by vain ambition to get the reputation of having studied in the capital, as, under the TOKUGAWA Government, no physician thought himself entitled to command the confidence of his patients unless he could boast of having studied at Nagasaki. As to the comparative number of students from the different localities, the *Nippon* takes into consideration only those studying at private institutions. We, however, think it more interesting to consider the totals of those attending Government schools and those studying at private schools. Following this method of computation, we find that the Prefecture of Niigata heads the list with 1,545. There are other six localities represented by more than 1,000 students in Tokyo, viz., Chiba, Nagano, Shizuoka, Yamaguchi, Saitama and Kanagawa. Next come Aichi, Ishikawa, Hyogo, Ibaraki and Fukuoka. Kagoshima stands within fifteen of the bottom with 483; Okinawa coming last with 40. It is a noteworthy fact that, in respect of the number of students attending Government Schools, Kagoshima comes very near the head of the list with 416, the first position, from this point of view, being occupied by Ishikawa with 429; while Niigata and some other localities come far lower down. Yamaguchi closely follows Kagoshima with 383. When we notice that the majority of the students from Kagoshima and many from Yamaguchi are found in the military and naval colleges, a comparatively small number devoting themselves to civil professions, our readers will see that a great change is inevitable in the distribution of political power when the rising generation comes to the front. Turning now to the question of what kind of study attracts the largest number of students, we find the

following figures:—Jurisprudence and Literature, 7,578; Medicine, 1,568; Engineering, Technology, and Art, 1,118; Sciences, 1,694; Commerce and Book-keeping, 2,075; Agriculture and Dendrology, 895; Military and Naval Science and Arts, 1,073; Ordinary Education (mostly English) 114,844. These figures relate to male students. There are, besides, more than two thousand female students in Tokyo, the number of female schools being about 20. It is thus seen that Jurisprudence and Literature are at present most in fashion. It would be interesting to know what special attractions these subjects of study possess. One explanation offered is that the students, being for the most part *shisoku*, find in jurisprudence and literature a field of research congenial to their former history and present position in society. But the *Nippon* is inclined to give greater weight to another circumstance, namely, that, with *shisoku* and *heimin* alike, the one absorbing desire among students is to enter the civil service, or to fit themselves for such professions as are, in popular opinion, most closely allied to official life; as for example, the bar, journalism, general literature, oratory, and so forth. The Government is blamed by many for encouraging this tendency among the students by granting subsidies to law schools and conferring special privileges on graduates of these institutions. On the other hand, little encouragement is given, says the *Nippon*, either by the Government or the people, to the study of those arts and sciences which are really the most important factors of national progress. Our contemporary bitterly deplores the injustice of relegating to obscurity, and even ignoring, men who have spent years on years studying hard in the highest educational institutions in the land, while raw youths, on the completion of an extremely imperfect course in law or literature, are raised suddenly to responsible positions in the Government, or are at any rate regarded by the public with respect and high consideration. Finally, as to female students, 1,500 out of their whole number (above 2,000) are said to be from the provinces, and our contemporary is extremely sceptical that any benefit can be derived by young girls who, leaving their native places and separating themselves from the direct supervision of their parents and the wholesome influences of family life, are introduced at a tender age to the circumstances of city residence.

There offers, perhaps, no more momentous problem for solution by Japanese public men than that of education. The *Nippon* presents some interesting phases of the question, but leaves untouched others of even greater importance.

ELECTION RETURNS.

KYOTO CITY.

Third District.—Mr. Itano Shinkuro (farmer). Independent.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Ito Kumao (President of the Yamashiro Tea Company and of the Fushimi Bank). *Fuyu-to*.
 Fifth District.—Mr. Tanaka Genjiro (President of City Assembly). *Fuyu-to*.
 Sixth District.—Mr. Kamimuchi Tomotsune (Retired list. Formerly assistant chief of the Revenue Bureau of the Financial Department). Independent.

OSAKA CITY.

First District.—Mr. Awaya Shimazo (member of City Assembly). Independent.
 Second District.—Mr. Toyoda Susaburo (member of City Assembly). *Daido Danketsu*.
 Third District.—Mr. Akita Keizo (former Headman). Independent.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Nakaye Tokusuke (journalist). *Aikoku-to*.
 Fifth District.—Mr. Kikuchi Kanji (barrister). *Daido Danketsu*.
 Sixth District.—Mr. Matano Kagetaka (Former chief of a rural district). Independent.
 Seventh District.—Mr. Higashino Heitaro (Chairman of City Assembly). *Daido Danketsu*.
 Eighth District.—Mr. Yukoyama Katsusaburo (Member of City Assembly). Independent.
 Ninth District.—Mr. Sasaki Seiyu (banker). *Aikoku-to*.

TOKYO CITY.

Tenth District (suburbs of Higashi-tama and Minami-Kita-Toshima).—Mr. Mori Tokinosuke. Independent.
 Eleventh District (suburbs of Minami-Adachi and Minami-Katsushika).—Mr. Asaka Katsutaka. *Kaishin-to*.
 Twelfth District (suburbs of Yebara and Izu-shi-chi-to).—Mr. Takagi Masatoshi. *Kaishin-to*.

KANAGAWA PREFECTURE.

Second District.—Mr. Yamada Taizo (barrister). Radical.
 Third District.—Mr. Ishizaka Masataka (farmer). *Aikoku-to*.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Yamada Toji. *Kaishin-to*.
 Fifth District.—Mr. Nakajima Nobuyuki. *Koin Club*.
 Sixth District.—Mr. Yamaguchi Sabichiro (farmer). Radical.

NIIGATA PREFECTURE.

First District.—Mr. Yamakiwa Hichishi (farmer). *Daido Party*.
 Second District.—Mr. Jango Naohi. *Daido Party*.
 Third District.—Mr. Takaoka Chuhei. *Daido Party*.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Nishigata Tamezo (farmer). *Daido Danketsu*.
 Fifth District.—Mr. Kobayashi Yuhichiro (Editor of the *Toku Nippo*). *Daido Party*.
 Sixth District.—Mr. Matsumura Bunjiro (farmer). *Daido Danketsu*.
 Seventh District.—Mr. Sekiya Magozayemon. *Kaishin-to*.
 Eighth District.—Mr. Muro Kojiro. *Kaishin-to*.
 Ninth District.—Mr. Ukai Ikujiro (farmer). *Daido Party*.

MIYAGI PREFECTURE.

First District.—Mr. Masuda Shigeyuki. Independent.
 Second District.—Mr. Musha Denjiro (former Headman). Independent.
 Third District.—Mr. Jiumonji Shinsuke (former Headman). Independent.
 Fourth District.—Atsumi Magojiro (Retired List. Headman). *Miyagi Political Section*.
 Fifth District.—Mr. Yendo On (Vice-President of Prefectural Assembly). *Miyagi Political Section*.

SHIZUOKA PREFECTURE.

First District.—Mr. Inouye Hikozaemon (farmer). *Kaishin-to*.
 Second District.—Mr. Kageyama Hideki (farmer). *Daido Danketsu*.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Okada Ryoichiro (farmer). *Fichi-to*.
 Fifth District.—Mr. Ushio Denzo. Independent.
 Sixth District.—Mr. Kondo Jumpei (former Headman of *gun*). Independent.
 Seventh District.—Mr. Yoda Sajiei. Independent.

KOCHI PREFECTURE.

First District.—Mr. Takenouchi Ko. Radical.
 Second District.—Mr. Kataoka Kenkichi. *Aikoku-to*.
 Third District.—Mr. Ueki Yemori. Patriotic party.

AICHI PREFECTURE.

Fifth District.—Mr. Mori Tachino (former Chairman of Prefectural Assembly). Independent.

Sixth District.—Mr. Aoki Yeiji (former Headman). Independent.
 Seventh District.—Mr. Hayama Chingyemon (former Chairman of Prefectural Assembly). Independent.
 Ninth District.—Mr. Imai Jsoichiro. Independent.
 Eleventh District.—Mr. Minobe Teiyo. *Koin Club*.

YEHIME PREFECTURE.

First District.—Mr. Fujino Masataka. *Aikoku-to*.
 Second District.—Mr. Ishihara Shigeki. *Kaishin-to*.
 Third District.—Mr. Aritomo Masachiga (farmer). *Kaishin-to*.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Suzuki Shigeto. *Daido Party*.
 Fifth District.—Mr. Masano Junzo (farmer). *Daido Danketsu*.
 Sixth District.—Mr. Suyeshiro Shigeyasu (journalist). *Daido Danketsu*.

TOKUSHIMA PREFECTURE.

First District.—Mr. Inouye Kokaku. Radical.
 Second District.—Mr. Morino Tamogoro.
 Third District.—Mr. Kawamada Tokusaburo.

TOCHIGI PREFECTURE.

First District.—Mr. Yokobori Saunshi. Independent.
 Second District.—Mr. Arai Shogo (President of Prefectural Assembly). *Fuyu-to*.
 Third District.—Mr. Tanaka Shozo. *Kaishin-to*.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Shoda Okuzo (former Chairman of Prefectural Assembly). *Aikoku-to*.

GUMMA PREFECTURE.

First District.—Mr. Arai Go. Independent.
 Second District.—Mr. Takei Itei. Independent.
 Third District.—Mr. Nomura Toda (member of Prefectural Assembly). Independent.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Kigurashi Taketayu (Merchant). Independent.
 Fifth District.—Mr. Yuasa Jiro. *Kaishin-to*.

HYOGO PREFECTURE.

Second District.—Mr. Hori Zensho. Conservative Party.
 Third District.—Mr. Hoki Hatsu. *Aikoku-to*.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Ishida Kwannosuke (President of Prefectural Assembly). *Aikoku-to*.
 Fifth District.—Mr. Uwazumi Itsuji. *Kaishin-to*.
 Sixth District.—Mr. Takase Tojio (farmer). *Aikoku-to*.
 Seventh District.—Mr. Naito Rihachi (President of Assembly of Rural Districts). *Kaishin-to*.
 Eighth District.—Mr. Shibahara Masataro (farmer). *Aikoku-to*.
 Ninth District.—Mr. Sato Bunpei (farmer). *Kaishin-to*.
 Tenth District.—Mr. Sano Sumisaku. *Aikoku-to*.

TOYAMA PREFECTURE.

First District.—Mr. Sekino Zenjiro (merchant). *Kaishin-to*.
 Second District.—Mr. Tamura Koremasa (farmer). *Kaishin-to*.
 Third District.—Mr. Minami Isoichiro (Member of Prefectural Assembly). *Daido Party*.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Shimada Takayuki. *Kaishin-to*.

FUKUSHIMA PREFECTURE.

First District.—Mr. Sato Tadamochi. Independent.
 Second District.—Abei Hankon (Member of Prefectural Assembly). Independent.
 Third District.—Mr. Kono Hiroaka. *Daido Party*.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Yamaguchi Chiyoaku. *Aitsu Kyokai*.
 Sixth District.—Mr. Shirai Yenpei (Headman of Nishi-Shirakawa gun). Independent.

SHIGA PREFECTURE.

First District.—Mr. Sugima Choko. *Kokumin-ha*.
 Second District.—Mr. Yamazaki Tomokichi. Independent.
 Third District.—Mr. Daito Gitsuo (President of the Tokyo Fish and Poultry Company). Independent.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Soma Yei-in (Director of the Yokohama Specie Bank). Independent.

YAMAGUCHI PREFECTURE.

First District.—Mr. Yoshitomi Kanichi. *Fichi-to*.
 Second District.—Mr. Inouye Shoichi (Councillor of the Judicial Department). Independent.
 Third District.—Mr. Ooka Ikuo (barrister). *Fichi-to*.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Horiye Yoshisuke (a Senator). Conservative.
 Fifth District.—Mr. Kikkawa Tsutomu (agent of Baron Kikkawa, former chief of Iwakuni Clan).

KUMAMOTO PREFECTURE.

Second District.—Mr. Kinoshita Sukeyuki (farmer). Independent.

Fifth District.—Mr. Yamada Buho. *Kaishin-to*.
 Third District.—Mr. Furusho Kamon. *Kokken-to*.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Oka Jiroaro. *Kokken-to*.
 Sixth District.—Mr. Matsuyama Moriyoshi. *Kyushu Shimpō to*.

YAMAGATA PREFECTURE.

First District.—Mr. Miyagi Kozo (former councillor of Judicial Department). *Uyo-seigi-kwai*.
 Second District.—Mr. Igarashi Rikisuke (former President of Prefectural Assembly). Independent.
 Third District.—Mr. Toriumi Jun (Vice-president of Prefectural Assembly). *Daido Danketsu*.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Maruyama Taku (member of Prefectural Assembly). *Daido Party*.

AKITA PREFECTURE.

First District.—Mr. Okubo Tessaku (President of the Prefectural Assembly). Independent.
 Second District.—Mr. Narita Chokuyei. *Hoshu Chusei Party*.
 Third District.—Mr. Sato Toshiro. *Daido Party*.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Takeishi (member of Prefectural Assembly). *Daido Party*.

YAMANASHI PREFECTURE.

First District.—Mr. Yamaki Kuma (President of the Prefectural Assembly). Independent.
 Third District.—Mr. Furuya Senzo. *Daido party*.

NAGANO PREFECTURE.

First District.—Mr. Kozaka Zen-no-suke (banker). Radical.
 Second District.—Mr. Shimazu Tadasada (President of Prefectural Assembly). Radical.
 Third District.—Mr. Horinchi Kenro (member of Prefectural Assembly). *Daido Danketsu*.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Kozato Yoshinaka (Member of Local Assembly). *Daido Party*.
 Fifth District.—Mr. Minowa Kanaye (former Headman). Independent.
 Sixth District.—Mr. Nakamura Yaro (former dendrological official). Independent.
 Seventh District.—Mr. Ito Dailachi. *Daido Danketsu*.

FUKUI PREFECTURE.

First District.—Mr. Aoyama Shobeshi. *Aikoku-to*.
 Second District.—Mr. Sugita Teiichi (member of Prefectural Assembly). *Aikoku-to*.
 Third District.—Mr. Nagata Sadayemon (Vice-President of Prefectural Assembly). *Aikoku-to*.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Fujita Magobei. *Aikoku-to*.

KAGOSHIMA PREFECTURE.

First District.—Mr. Kabayama Sukeyoshi. *Doshikni-ha*.
 Second District.—Mr. Orita Kenchi (President of Prefectural Assembly). *Kyushu Shimpō to*.
 Third District.—Mr. Hasegawa Junko. Independent.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Utsunomiya Heiichi. *Kyushu Shimpō to*.
 Fifth District.—Mr. Kawashima Jun. *Kyushu Shimpō to*.
 Sixth District.—Mr. Gamo Sen. *Kyushu Shimpō to*.
 Seventh District.—Mr. Mizuma Yoshihane (farmer). *Doshikai*.

MIYAZAKI PREFECTURE.

First District.—Mr. Kawagoye Susumu. Independent.
 Second District.—Mr. Yasuda Yuitsu. Independent.
 Third District.—Mr. Miyake Masashige. Independent.

GIYU PREFECTURE.

Second District.—Mr. Shimizu Sanzo (farmer). Independent.
 Third District.—Mr. Yoshida Kohei (member of Prefectural Assembly). Independent.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Yano Saijiro (member of Prefectural Assembly). *Kaishin-to*.
 Fifth District.—Mr. Nagao Shiroyemon. Independent.
 Sixth District.—Mr. Hayashi Koichiro (farmer). *Aikoku-to*.
 Seventh District.—Mr. Nakamura Shinobu (President of a private school). Independent.

CHIBA PREFECTURE.

First District.—Mr. Chiba Teitaro. *Aikoku-to*.
 Second District.—Mr. Hamano Noboru. *Aikoku-to*.
 Third District.—Mr. Osuka Yonosuke (former chief of a rural district). Independent.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Iwasaki Shigejiro. *Kaishin-to*.
 Fifth District.—Mr. Itakura Chu (Attorney-at-Law). *Daido Party*.
 Sixth District.—Mr. Itakura Jushin. *Aikoku-to*.
 Seventh District.—Mr. Shigeki Tamotsu (former chief of a rural district). Independent.

Eighth District.—Mr. Yasuda Kun (farmer). *Kaishin-to*.

TOTTORI PREFECTURE.

First District.—Mr. Okazaki Heina. Radical.
Second District.—Mr. Yamase Yukito (Standing Committee of Prefectural Assembly). Independent.
Third District.—Mr. Matsunami Koga (Member of Tokyo City Assembly). Independent.

IWATE PREFECTURE.

First District.—Mr. Tanikawa Shochiu (Vice-President of Prefectural Assembly). *Aikoku-to*.
Second District.—Mr. Ito Keisuke (barrister). *Aikoku-to*.
Third District.—Mr. Sato Shozo (former Headman). Independent.
Fifth District.—Mr. Oye Taku. *Daido Danhatsu*.

KAGAWA PREFECTURE.

First District.—Mr. Nakano Buyei (merchant). *Kaishin-to*.
Second District.—Mr. Konishi Jin-no-suke (farmer). Radical.
Third District.—Mr. Ayai Bufu. *Daido party*.
Fourth District.—Mr. Misaki Kamenosuke (journalist). *Koin Club*.
Fifth District.—Mr. Ito Ichiro. *Fiyu-to*.

SAITAMA PREFECTURE.

First District.—Mr. Amano Saburo. Independent.
Second District.—Mr. Takata Sanaye (journalist). *Kaishin-to*.
Third District.—Mr. Manaka Tadanoo (*Shizoku*). *Kaishin-to*.
Fourth District.—Mr. Horikoshi Kwasuko (farmer). *Aikoku-to*.
Fifth District.—Mr. Yamanaka Rin-no-suke (banker). *Kaishin-to*.

SAGA PREFECTURE.

First District.—Mr. Matsuda Masahira. *Kyoto-kai*.
Second District.—Mr. Amano Tameyuki. *Kaishin-to*.
Third District.—Mr. Nii Keicho (former Headman). Independent.

NAGASAKI PREFECTURE.

First District.—Mr. Iyenaga Yoshihiko (Attorney-at-law). *Kyushu Shimpoto*.
Second District.—Mr. Asanaga Shinzo (Vice-President of Prefectural Assembly). *Kyushu Shimpoto*.
Third District.—Mr. Maki Bokushin (President of the So-bu Railway Company). Independent.
Fourth District.—Mr. Tateishi Kwanishi (Member of Prefectural Assembly). *Kyushu Shimpoto*.
Sixth District.—Mr. Sagara Masaki (former Chief of a rural district). Independent.

IBARAKI PREFECTURE.

First District.—Mr. Matsumoto Gen. Independent.
Second District.—Mr. Otsu Junichiro (an official of the Prefectural Office). Independent.
Third District.—Mr. Iimura Josaburo. Independent.
Fourth District.—Mr. Mori Ryusuke. *Fiyu-to*.
Fifth District.—Shikikawa Saburobei. *Kaishin-to*.
Sixth District.—Sekiguchi Hachibei. Independent.

NARA PREFECTURE.

First District.—Mr. Inamura Kinzo. *Kaishin-to*.
Second District.—Mr. Horiuchi Chushii. Independent.
Third District.—Mr. Sakurai Tokutaro. *Daido Party*.

MIYE PREFECTURE.

First District.—Mr. Kuribara Ryoichi (journalist). *Aikoku-to*.
Second District.—Mr. Ito Yuken. *Kaishin-to*.
Third District.—Mr. Amaharu Bunyei. *Daido Party*.
Fourth District.—Mr. Ito Kenkichi. *Daido Party*.
Fifth District.—Mr. Ozaki Yukio (journalist). *Kaishin-to*.
Sixth District.—Mr. Tachiiri Kiichi. *Kaishin-to*.

AOMORI PREFECTURE.

First District.—Mr. Kudo Kokan (former Headman). *Daido Party*.
Second District.—Mr. Sakaki Yogo (Attorney-at-law). *Daido Party*.
Third District.—Mr. Kikuchi Kuro (Mayor of Hirumaye Municipality). *Daido Party*.

ISHIKAWA PREFECTURE.

First District.—Mr. Yendo Hidekage (President of Prefectural Assembly). *Daido Party*.
Second District.—Mr. Aikawa Hisataro (Attorney-at-law). Independent.
Third District.—Mr. Jinno Ryo (farmer). *Kaishin-to*.
Fourth District.—Mr. Koma Shuku (Standing Committee of Prefectural Assembly). *Aikoku-to*.

SHIMANE PREFECTURE.

First District.—Mr. Okasaki Unpei (President of Prefectural Assembly). Independent.
Second District.—Mr. Sasaki Zemyemon. Independent.
Third District.—Mr. Takahashi Kyujiro (Member of Prefectural Assembly). Independent.
Fourth District.—Mr. Suge Ryoho (Chief Editor of the *Daido Shimbun*). *Daido Party*.
Fifth District.—Mr. Sasada Tsutomu (Member of Prefectural Assembly). *Kaishin-to*.
Sixth District.—Mr. Yoshioka Wabumaro. Independent.

OKAYAMA PREFECTURE.

First District.—Mr. Kobayashi Kusuo (*Shizoku*). *Aikoku-to*.
Second District.—Mr. Nishi Kieff. Independent.
Third District.—Mr. Inugai Ki. *Kaishin-to*.
Fourth District.—Mr. Sakata Bunpei. Independent.
Fifth District.—Mr. Watanabe Ganzō. Independent.
Sixth District.—Mr. Tateishi Ki. *Daido Party*.
Seventh District.—Mr. Kato Heishiro. *Aikoku-to*.

HIROSHIMA PREFECTURE.

First District.—Mr. Toyoda Jitsuyei. *Kaishin-to*.
Second District.—Mr. Watanabe Masasaburo. Conservative.
Third District.—Mr. Hotta Kinjiro. Independent.
Fourth District.—Mr. Kaneo Ryogan. Conservative.
Fifth District.—Mr. Waki Yeitaro. *Kaishin-to*.
Sixth District.—Mr. Tanabe Sangoro. Independent.
Seventh District.—Mr. Satake Yoshikatsu. Conservative.
Eighth District.—Mr. Kurata Jungoro. *Kaishin-to*.
Ninth District.—Mr. Miura Giin. Independent.

WAKAYAMA PREFECTURE.

First District.—Mr. Mutsu Munemitsu (Minister). *Fichi-to*.
Second District.—Mr. Kodama Chiji. *Fichi-to*.
Third District.—Mr. Matsumoto Kanaye. *Fichi-to*.

OITA PREFECTURE.

First District.—Mr. Motoda Hajime (Attorney-at-law). *Daido party*.
Second District.—Mr. Minoura Katsudo. (Editor of the *Hochi*).
Third District.—Mr. Asakura Chikatame (Headman). Independent.
Fourth District.—Mr. Usami Harusaburo (farmer). *Kaishin-to*.
Fifth District.—Mr. Ando Kyuka. Independent.
Sixth District.—Mr. Koretsune Shinsu (President of the Tokyo Transport Company). Independent.

FUKUOKA PREFECTURE.

First District.—Mr. Tsuda Morihiko (member of Prefectural Assembly). *Kyushu Shimpoto*.
Second District.—Mr. Ono Ryusuke (Headman). Independent.
Third District.—Mr. Gondo Kwanichi. Independent.
Fourth District.—Mr. Sasaki Masazo (member of Prefectural Assembly). *Kyushu Shimpoto*.
Fifth District.—Mr. Totoki Ichiro (former Headman). Independent.
Sixth District.—Mr. Okada Koroku. *Daido Party*.
Seventh District.—Mr. Tsutsumi Yuku (soku of Prefectural office). Independent.
Eighth District.—Mr. Suyematsu Kencho (Chief of the Bureau for Management of Prefectures). Independent.

The total numbers up to the present are :—

Independent	84
<i>Kaishin-to</i>	64
<i>Daido Danhatsu</i>	55
<i>Aikoku-to</i>	38
<i>Fiyu-to</i>	14
<i>Kyushu Shimpoto</i>	9
<i>Hoshu-to</i> (Conservatives)	18
<i>Fichi-to</i>	17

Radicals.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE RECENT FANCY FAIR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I desire to express the most cordial thanks of the Committee and my own to the Ladies' Working Party, and the many friends too numerous to mention by name, who so kindly contributed by gifts and work to the successful result of the recent Fancy Fair.

The share which fell to Christ Church was \$937.58, which with several donations specially given for the Church repairs made the sum available for the heavy expenditure incurred through the storms of last autumn nearly \$1,000.

I am, Sir, yours truly,

E. CHAMPNEYS IRWINE.

Yokohama, July 7th, 1890.

THE SILVER SITUATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In discussing the silver situation the question is very pertinently pressed: what will be the immediate effect on the individual exporters of a return of silver to par with gold. Please permit a few lines on that point; for it certainly is an important point, and one that I hope may call out a wider and more thorough discussion through your columns. The dangers will lose half their force if properly appreciated and prepared for.

As I previously indicated, the final result cannot be permanently injurious to exports, for prices must necessarily adjust themselves to the new value of the silver dollar; and the result to the nation cannot be bad, for the price of imports must be cheapened as much as the price of exports. But if that means only that importers are to make fortunes while exporters are ruined, or if this adjustment of prices is an event of the very distant future, gradually accomplished, and in the mean time a whole generation of exporters are to be ruined or driven out of the country, the prospect is not so cheerful.

Two or three considerations may tend to relieve anxiety on this point. In the first place while it is true that a single individual because of his altered circumstances cannot therefore hire labourers or buy goods proportionately cheaper, yet when the same cause comes to affect the whole nation at once the effect will be very soon and noticeably felt. If one tea or silk producer alone found his products bringing less money he couldn't therefore hire his labourers any cheaper perhaps, for they could get employment elsewhere at the former rate. But if all the producers are in the same condition wages must go down immediately; and, as has often been observed, wages in other employments would also be affected to a greater or less extent. As a result the labourers have less money to buy goods with, and buying less the shopkeepers find themselves with a surplus on hand and trade dull, and the inevitable result is a decline in prices. Of course, it cannot be denied that there is hardship to be endured in such a case. It does not fall all on one class, however, but is divided up among many, and ceases entirely as soon as all classes and employments adjust themselves to the new state of things. All this will be true provided the rise of silver really lowers the price of exports as assumed. Of that I will speak farther on.

Again on the other side; if a quart of kerosene oil or a yard of cotton now exchanges for a given amount of beans or *daikon*, when the oil and cotton come to sell for twenty or thirty per cent. less, the beans and *daikon* also, though not to the same extent, will be affected in price more or less. In this case there is a gain shared by both merchant and customer, which will continue as before only till prices adjust themselves to the new basis, but at the same time, this will help to offset the hardship experienced in the former case. Now the annual volume of the export and import trade of Japan together amounts to something like one hundred and fifty million yen. It is safe to say that such a volume of business necessarily transacted on a new basis of value, and covering a large variety of goods used by all classes, cannot be long in producing its effect on prices in all other lines of business.

Another cause would tend to hasten the lowering of prices to correspond with the new value of our silver currency. If the result of a rise in silver is that imports are obtainable at 30 per cent. less cost, and exports do not bring by 30 per cent. their former value in our currency, the first result will be a great increase in the volume of imports and a corresponding decrease in exports. The result of that will simply be a

large amount of our currency sent abroad. A reduction of the amount of currency in the country of course must result in a decline in prices.

So much, then, for the theoretical view of the case; when we turn to a more practical and particular investigation we find several facts that are still more reassuring. Looking over the customs report for 1887 I see that out of \$52,000,000 exports \$8,000,000 was tea and \$22,000,000 was silk. The other items upwards of a million were: rice \$2,000,000, porcelain \$1,300,000, lacquer, &c., \$700,000, cattle-fish \$1,000,000, ships' coal \$2,000,000, matches (to China) \$1,000,000, silk handkerchiefs \$1,000,000, camphor \$1,000,000, copper \$2,000,000, a total of \$42,000,000, but of this, as you will see, all but three or four million are things chiefly or entirely produced by Japan and other silver using countries which would be affected precisely the same as Japan by the rise of silver. Now it must be borne in mind that the seller has something to do with fixing prices as well as the buyer. The tea producer or merchant of India, China, or Japan takes one hundred pounds of tea to the export market and gets fifteen gold dollars for it, which he turns into twenty silver dollars or its equivalent of his own currency, and has enough to pay all his expenses and a moderate profit remaining. But silver advances and next time he offers his hundred pounds of tea he is offered fifteen gold dollars as before, but he finds that he can only exchange those fifteen gold dollars for fifteen silver dollars which would not be enough to pay his expenses without any profit. What shall he do? Shall he go into bankruptcy and quit the business? If he understands the situation he will do nothing of the kind. He can't sell his tea for fifteen silver dollars, and there are no other tea producers anywhere that can afford to sell for that either. So the foreign market has to pay twenty silver dollars as before. That the twenty silver dollars represent twenty gold dollars instead of fifteen is their concern, instead of the Japanese tea producer's. Very probably there would be more or less of concession on the part of sellers and prices, perhaps but not at all in proportion to the rise in silver, and such as to cause any hardship, provided the Japan merchants fully and generally understand the state of the case. Looking over the tea and silk quotations in the old files of the *Mail*, from ten or fifteen years ago, when silver was nearly at par, down to the time when it was at its lowest, there does not appear anything like a corresponding rise in the prices of these exports. There are fluctuations from month to month naturally, but the average prices (silver) at the lowest rate of silver are as low if not lower than at the highest rate, showing that the prices of these staples are not determined by the gold using consumer but by the silver using producer.

So then we have seen:—

1st.—That whatever hardships there are would not fall on a few merchants alone, but would be divided up among a great many classes.

2nd.—There will be a compensating gain from imports, shared more or less by all classes.

3rd.—The large volume of export and import trade will not be long in producing its effect on prices of all kinds of goods.

4th.—This could be accelerated by a scarcity of money resulting from an excess of imports over exports.

5th.—As for Japan, the great bulk of her exports are articles whose price is governed by silver, not by gold, therefore there would be no great change in the price of our exports in silver dollars, however much those silver dollars change in value.

Yours respectfully, D. A. MURRAY.
Kyoto Commercial School.
Kyoto, July 3rd, 1890.

ELECTION ECHOES FROM IBARAKI.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The election in this city passed off in a very quiet and orderly manner. The polling-place was in the second story (as yet unused) of the Jinjo Shogakko, about the centre of the upper town of Mito. I passed by the place about ten o'clock in the morning; and, except for the presence of two policemen, I should not have known that anything special was going on there. Early in the morning it rained; but cleared off before noon. On account, perhaps, of the fact that the number of electors was very small, there was no great excitement.

The country districts of this province have now about all reported. There seems to have been considerable interest manifested; but no violence or even slight disturbance has been reported. Ibaraki has stood the test admirably.

In this city, out of 112 voters on the corrected

poll list, only 10 failed to appear. In the rural localities of this district there were 2,570 registered electors, of whom only about 120 did not cast a vote. Or, to make the comparison clearer, in the city of Mito about 91 per cent. of the voters appeared; while in the rural parts of the district more than 95 per cent. presented themselves.

In the city of Mito only 7 voters out of the 102 requested a clerk to write their ballots for them. These, moreover, did so, not because they were unable to write themselves, but, because, being unaccustomed to voting, they feared they might make some technical error, which would render the ballot void. It may, therefore, be said, that there is no illiterate voter in Mito.

In the Second District Mr. Sho Nemoto failed to obtain election. It is, however, acknowledged on all sides that his canvass was strictly honest.

The following schedule gives the results in all the districts of Ibaraki ken:—

First District.	
Mr. Watanabe Osamu, editor	978
Mr. Matsunobe Gen, ex-official	919
Mr. Nogami Kyabei	577
Mr. Kato Shigenosuke	530
Mr. Sekido Kakuzo	478
Mr. Seki Shinnosuke	348

There was large number of scattering votes. Messrs. Watanabe and Matsunobe, who are elected, were independent candidates, although the former is thought to incline towards the *Fichi-to*. Both are *shizoku*.

Second District.	
Mr. Tachikawa Ko, merchant	1,031
Mr. Otsu Junichiro, ex-official	876
Mr. Nemoto Shu	877
Mr. Noguchi Shoichi	650

The remainder were scattering. Messrs. Tachikawa and Otsu are both *heimin*. The former is probably an adherent of the *Aikoku-to*; the latter is independent.

Third District.	
Mr. Iimura Jozaburo, banker	1,149
Mr. Hamana Shimpel	1,038
Mr. Semba Hyogo	545

In this district the contest was a peculiar one, as the two leading candidates were both members of the *Fiji-to*; Mr. Iimura is a *heimin*.

Fourth District.	
Mr. Mori Ryusuke	621
Mr. Akamatsu Shinemon	600
Mr. Kanno Yoshinosuke	508

Mr. Mori is a member of the *Fiji-to*, and a *heimin*.

Fifth District.	
Mr. Irokawa Saburobei, merchant	—

I have no figures, and no other names. Mr. Irokawa is a *heimin*, and inclines towards the *Kaishin-to*.

Sixth District.	
Mr. Sekiguchi Hachibei, merchant	771
Mr. Yoshida Kuranosuke	727
Mr. Saito Kai	589

There were many scattering votes. Mr. Sekiguchi is a *heimin*, and inclines towards the *Kaishin-to*.

Among all the candidates two, at least, are Christians; Mr. Nogami, of the First District, and Mr. Nemoto, of the Second District. Both were defeated, but probably not on account of their connection with "the despised faith." In this province the prejudice against Christianity is very strong, but does not, perhaps, extend into political affairs. It is to be hoped that religion may not become mixed with politics in Japan, except so far as individual and national righteousness will purify politics.

Mito, July 5th.

CLEM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In my note of the 5th inst., I was unable to give the figures for the Fifth District of this Ken. The full returns are now in, and show a very close triangular contest, as follows:—

Mr. Irokawa Saburobei	796
Mr. Okubo Kanzo	791
Mr. Kaneko Gembel	775

There were a large number of scattering votes. In my former note I was in error in calling Mr. Tachikawa, elected in the Second District, a *heimin*, as he is a *shizoku*. He is also now a member of the Ibaraki Assembly.

Accusations of bribery are flying about freely against almost all the successful candidates; but no legal action has yet been instituted against anyone.

Mito, July 7th.

CLEM.

THE TWO GREAT LIGHTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—It must have been an irony of fate rather than a pre-conceived thought on the part of Sir Edwin Arnold that he should have given birth to

his justly celebrated great Buddhist epic in a Christian land, and have conceived and matured his coming Christian epic—to which at present we are not warranted to apply the adjective great—in a Buddhist country, as Japan *par excellence* is the land of Buddhism. Which of Sir Edwin's two "lights" will be the greater from a literary standpoint, we shall know in the very near future. The truth is that all similar great mental productions will be judged hereafter by a literary standard and not a theological one. Humanity has outgrown—let us hope—its state of mental dotage, in which one person of some prominence could steer the masses according to his own pleasure.

It is more than five years now since I for the first, and in all probability for the last, time, read Sir Edwin Arnold's "Light of Asia," and I am sorry to say that I never met the dimmest ray of light through the whole book, except on its title-page.

Here is the climax of the whole poem:—

"Many a house of life
Hath held me—seeking ever him who wrought
These prisons of the Senses,
Sorrow-fraught,
Sore was my ceaseless strife!
But now,
Thou builder of this tabernacle—thou!
I know thee! Never shalt thou build again
These walls of pain.
Nor raise the roof-tree of deities, nor lay
Fresh rafters on the clay.
Broken thy home is, and the ridge-pole split!
Delusion fashioned it!
Safe pass I thence—Deliverance to obtain."

Who can detect the slightest "light" and hope in such pessimistic, melancholic stuff. Buddhism is the religion of darkness, of pessimism, and of dissatisfaction with life and the whole mundane existence. The sentiments in the above quotation amply characterize its mortal struggle, and such sentiments I would rather expect from the pen of Schopenhauer than from that of Sir Edwin. But the greatest error of Buddhism is its starting from some misunderstood metaphysical abstractions. It is a religion of laziness and mysticism, in which personalities are turned from realities into shadows, finally being absorbed into the unknown and unconscious Nirvana. Its self-abnegation in order to reach this much desired *sum-mum bonum* is very different from the Christian altruism and self-sacrifice. In Christianity we perceive everything in its normal state. We have a full grasp of the individualities with which we come in contact in its whole economy. "God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Here clearly we can see the motive of God, the mission of Christ, and the state of men. This great contrast is never more explicit than in compassing the earthly life of the two Masters. When Gautama saw the misery, wretchedness, and sin of mankind he left his palace and prospective throne and fled into the mountains; while Christ left his heavenly throne and plunged into the depth of human depravity to save our race from that state. I am not concerned here with the historical authenticity of both these episodes; that belongs to another province of criticism, but I am attempting to show that Christ is a grander ideal than Buddha for humanity to follow. In history there have been many personages who voluntarily underwent more intense grades of self-renunciation and mortification than Buddha, but none displays such an infinity of love, duty, and sympathy as Jesus.

Buddhism is not only abstractly a religion of darkness and despondency, but practically also its influence has never been beneficial to the countries which have adopted it. It was driven out of its own land of birth. I am aware that some European authors, carried away by the enthusiasm of their own imagination, have claimed that its spirit has permeated Hindoosm; to such statements, however, I refuse to give any credence. India always has been and still is governed by the religion of the Vedas, as perfected by the "Laws of Manu" and not by Buddhism.

In China, while universally it has been acknowledged, still its influence has been far inferior to Confucianism, which is the sole governing factor of Chinese social life. The Chinaman has too much practical common-sense to sacrifice his poik for Nirvana. In Japan, however, Buddhism can be fully and impartially judged. When the religion of Shaka was introduced into Japan the Japanese were far advanced in civilization and culture. Now let me ask, what has Buddhism done for Japan in these 20 centuries? Almost nothing. It has displaced man from his high rank, and almost placed him lower than the beast. It has never ameliorated the moral types of the race. It has almost paralyzed the intelligent faculties of a race whom God has endowed abundantly with every natural gift. In my extensive travels I have never met a religion which has such a tendency upon its votaries as Buddhism. It has destroyed the civilizations of the East, and its influence has

dominated. It has attempted to strike at the very root of human existence. The application of the name "Light of Asia" would be more appropriate if given to Manichæism, which next to Christianity has produced most good in its own sphere. Notwithstanding its being the most wretched counterfeit of Judaism and Christianity, still the impetus of self-development and progress which it has given to Oriental countries surpasses that of Buddhism. It infused new and higher ideals into the savage tribes of its natal land. It raised the Bedawin from his savage state to be the direct parent of Scholasticism. Even to-day it possesses more vitality and its votaries are more aggressive than those under the thralldom of the mystic of the Ganges. My idea here is not to praise or defend the religion of Islam, but to prove that Sir Edwin Arnold in calling Buddhism the "Light of Asia" has proved himself an incompetent judge of the science of comparative religions, and an untrustworthy student of history.

Let me not be misunderstood. I do not mean to say that there is nothing noble, pure, and high in Buddhism. Those who have read early Buddhist literature are well aware of the abundance of moral maxims which are unsurpassable anywhere, but what I want to convey to the reader is that the virtues inculcated in those maxims and precepts are not for the elevation and the improvement of the self, but for its final destruction. By the exercise of virtue it attempts to destroy humanity rather than exalt it, as is the aim of all other religions.

Since the nativity of Christianity many attempts have been made to graft some principle of the Oriental religions upon it, but in every case the attempt has proved a failure. Gnosticism started from similar *a priori* abstractions; and later on Manichæism attempted, with momentary success,* to blend the Indo-Iranian religions into Christianity; and I venture to predict that a nineteenth century Manichæism also would not be more successful than his third century prototype. In philosophy often—I should say always—a judicious eclecticism is allowable, and should be recommended and encouraged; but any kind of syncretism in religion cannot bring forth good fruits. Religion is like a living organism, the slightest attempt at amputation is liable to bleed the body to death.

In my opinion Buddhism will never be a great factor in the coming civilization. When its novelty in Europe is worn out, and the crazy reaction against Christianity has subsided and calmed down, it will pass away into the realm of the effete cults which have served the human race.

Notwithstanding all this, still we are far richer when such a classic piece of literature is the "Light of Asia," is added to the treasury of our knowledge. In this case also, as in all similar cases, we admire and almost worship the genius of the author, while we cast a pitiful smile upon his doctrines and formulas. Is not the same true of Dante's great "Comedy"—scholasticism run mad? But who will not bow his knee before the poet, though he cannot agree with him on the existence of a purgatory or a physical hell? Have not Shakespeare's fools always told us wiser truths than our 19th century philosophers and wise men? The same is true also of Sir Edwin Arnold's "Light of Asia;" forever it will stand as a gigantic monument of human ingenuity, to show how men can call and prove that darkness is light!

Truly yours, ISAAC DOOMAN,
Nara Eiwa-Gakko.

THE FOURTH OF JULY.

The Fourth of July was duly celebrated on Friday by citizens of the Republic resident in Japan. All American places of business, and most of those of other nationalities were closed, and the streets of the Settlement were gay with flags, the stars and stripes also waving above many a bluff residence. At noon a salute was fired by the men-of-war in port, which were dressed with bunting, and by the Kanagawa Fort.

At three p.m. commemoration exercises were held in Van Schaick's Hall, No. 178 Bluff, which were attended by a large audience, and proved most interesting. Mr. C. R. Greathouse, U.S. Consul-General, occupied the chair, and the proceedings were opened with prayer by Rev. Mr. Booth. The audience then joined in singing the song "Columbia the Gem of the Ocean," after which Mrs. Rice, with rare feeling and force, recited "Drake's Address to the American Flag." The Japanese National Anthem, sung by pupils of

Ferris' Seminary, was followed by a reading by Mr. J. K. Goodrich,—Longfellow's "Building of the Ship,"—after which the audience sang "The Star Spangled Banner" and Miss Trench recited the patriotic piece "My Country—America." A Japanese chorus set to the music of "Hail Columbia" was sung by the Ferris Seminary pupils; an address by Dr. Thwing came next, and the audience joined in the national hymn "America."

The CHAIRMAN announced that a display of fireworks would take place in the bay in the evening, and invited all to witness the spectacle.

Rev. Mr. BALLAGH, having obtained permission to address the meeting, spoke briefly, expressing the hope that in future the Fourth would be properly observed, for even though an orator could not be obtained there was enough musical and other talent to make its commemoration a success.

Dr. Thwing in the course of his oration remarked:—Standing under these midsummer skies of Japan, protected by Imperial power, the noble symbol of which, bound to our own loved flag, has our profound respect and cordial recognition—we, citizens of the American Republic, commemorate this 174th anniversary of its birth, joining in gratitude to God and in common congratulations with each other and these other representatives here present of many lands and languages. It is a day of jubilant memories and of bright anticipations. But there is a delusive optimism which shuts one's eyes to peril. Our country is large, rich and powerful. It has abounding wealth and increasing population, but these may only accelerate its moral decay and final overthrow if the sordid, selfish and unheroic elements of life dominate our legislation and social relations, at home and with foreign nations. We on these distant shores can form a juster estimate of these relations than those at home. We can better appreciate the need of a national policy at once firm, dignified and in keeping with our status among the nations and also considerate, conciliatory and generous to all. It is well for us to-day not to indulge in cheap and frothy declamation, in pride and self conceit, but look at some ethical and historic principles involved in the true heroic idea of national life. There is an increasing number of eager and ardent souls in this empire who are fired with enthusiasm to revive what they call "the old heroic ideas." Let us ask ourselves: what is a hero? What makes an age a heroic age? Perhaps our friends who are studying this problem of history may hear our answer. Heroes and hero worship have formed the romance of history in all ages. They have made our cities monumental and the calendar of the year rich in holidays and holidays. We assume the fact that national character is the aggregation of individual characters. The test of each, the standard of both, is the same. If personal living is grand, national life is heroic. The vital element of true heroism is the vicarious or sacrificial. As self-abnegation grows hearty and intelligent, the hero grows tall, colossal. The Master's words give the key: "Whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant, even as the Son of Man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister and to give his life a ransom for many." Prehistoric ages abound with legendary beings called heroes. Cunning and brutal hardihood entered into the conception of greatness. The age of military renown added nobler elements. Simonides wrote of Leonidas and his brave three hundred at Thermopylae and of those who fell at Plataea and Marathon; Pericles eulogised the dead of the Samian and Peloponnesian wars. From Homer and Virgil to Dante and Milton, by poetry and oratory, painting and festival the name and fame of the illustrious dead have been handed down in the reverent memory of man:—

"While sculpture in her turn gives bond to stone
And error during brass, to guard them
And immortalise her trust."

Phidias and Praxiteles made Grecian cities monumental. On the banks of the Nile and Tigris faces of sages and heroes older than Moses shone; that of Demosthenes in bronze for twenty centuries looked down on the blue waves of the Saronicus that washed the shores of his beloved Attica. The trophies of the Caramanics have made that port of Athens a *viâ sacra* to every thoughtful visitor in Greece. But paganism, said Dr. Thwing, could not furnish the highest type of hero. He then sketched the character of the New England Pilgrims, reviewed the features of later American history, and instanced Lincoln and Garfield as illustrious examples of lofty heroes and patriots. He then passed to the practical question: how may the heroic element be fostered? Memorial days are helpful. Attention is thus drawn to the epochs of history and the lives that adorn them. Art emblazons their names and features in monuments, medals, busts or paintings, unending eulogies, immortal preachers. The songs of a nation are as potent as her laws. Literature plays a part. The author, the editor, and teacher mould national life. Language is to be purified from those perilous euphemisms which conceal a sordid, venal and voluptuous age. Effeminate thought and torpor of conscience are to be rebuked. Domestic culture, above all, has to do with making true heroes. Children are not to be coddled, pampered and waited upon, but trained to self-reliance, to be obedient, abstinent, content, anxious more to know their duties than their rights. The school and college should continue this discipline, then the brutal outrages which have almost simultaneously disgraced institutions on both sides the Pacific will not be thought of, but stigmatized as relics of a barbarism that has no countenance among civilized races. Here is the value of historic studies. Mr. Konakamura of the Historical Society at the Imperial University, Tokyo, lamented "the universal indifference of modern students to Japan's past history as tending to undermine patriotism and endanger the country's independence." In closing, Dr. Thwing paid a tribute to the work done in Japan by Ferris Seminary and kindred institutions, for the youth of this land, and expressed the hope that the observance of this national festival all over the globe by the scattered sons of Columbia would tend to cement the bonds of international amity and of universal peace.

In the evening a capital display of fireworks was witnessed by large crowds, the Bund being indeed thronged from nine o'clock to midnight. Many of the set pieces were surpassingly beautiful, the representation of the Falls of Niagara being specially artistic. Rain threatened to fall in the early part of the evening, but fortunately kept off, though the atmosphere was thick and misty.

SAILING RACE.

The sailing race for 17 raters of the Sailing Club fleet which gave rise to some misunderstanding on a previous occasion, was re-sailed same day. The boats started at two o'clock, four crossing the line: *La Belle*, *Violet*, *Queenie*, and *Sayonara*. The wind was about northerly necessitating a beat to the Green Lightship, in which *La Belle*, having stood out to the eastward too far, lost some ground. *Sayonara* was first round this mark, *La Belle* next, *Queenie* and *Violet* following in that order. No change took place to the Kanagawa Mark mark, *La Belle*, however, getting ahead on the reach home and crossing first, but having to give the first place to *Sayonara* on time allowance, though only losing by about 30 secs. The other boats gave up. Professor West acted as officer of the day.

A CLERICAL VIEW OF PONTIUS PILATE.

Additional interest was imparted to the sermon delivered on Sunday morning at the Union Church by reason of the recent glimpse afforded the public of Yokohama and Tokyo of Sir Edwin Arnold's new poem, "The Light of the World." The vital question, "What shall I do then with Jesus who is called Christ?" which the Rev. Dr. Nevius chose for the title of his discourse, received treatment which it will be interesting to compare with the distinguished poet's handling of that portion of his subject relating to Pilate. We regret that space will not allow us to give more than an epitome of the discourse. Remark that in these words of the Roman Procurator there exist three distinct features: a conceded fact, Jesus; a contested claim, Jesus who is called Christ; and a question which cannot be evaded, pressing for immediate decision. Dr. Nevius referred to the common contention "that religion treating as it does of things unseen and spiritual," cannot be a system of positive truth and knowledge. "It is insisted that truth can only be ascertained by a careful study of phenomena cognizable by the senses, and capable of being proved beyond the possibility of a doubt. Christianity, which treats of the soul, a future state, and the relations between God and man, is relegated to the region of the unknown and the unknowable." But it must be remembered, Dr. Nevius urged, that the basis of Christianity is Jesus; and that Jesus is a fact of history. The great importance alike for the strengthening of the believer's faith and for the purpose of answering objectors, of insisting on the historical evidence of Christianity, was alluded to, and the relief expressed "that it was to emphasize these evidences rather than to put a stigma upon Pilate's character, that we have in the 'Apostles Creed,' 'suffered under Pontius Pilate.'" We leave untouched much relating to the claim Christ advanced to the Messiahship, though the clear setting of the word "Christos," with all that it meant to the Jews,—anointed, authorised, and appointed of God—and the implied hostility that calmly

* The Sect of the Manichæans is still extant in some parts of Persia, though in such a corrupt state that it has almost lost its original purity and ideal.

asserted claim evoked, certainly merit quotation, as does the passage wherein the salient features of Christ's life are advanced in attestation of the legality of the extraordinary right and prerogative he asserted. Dr. Nevius contended that "those who deny that Jesus was what he claimed to be, or in other words, who reject the scriptural theory of Christ's life, are bound to present to the world another consistent theory to account for what he was, what he did, and what his religion has done, and is still doing." As Dr. Nevius stated, such a theory has rarely been attempted, and it may certainly be said that no consistent theory exists. Observing that probably the intense individuality which marks the sacred narrative is intended in itself to be significant, Dr. Nevius passed on to speak of the trial before Pilate and of the perplexities and duplicity for which the Roman Procurator has been oft-times condemned but which are but the type of what mankind at large has evinced. "The trial of Jesus before Pilate was in a deeper and more awful sense, Pilate's trial before Jesus." "Pilate's decision of the case seems to have been unhesitating and unchanging." Nothing is said of his calling witnesses or comparing and weighing testimony. "From what he had probably heard before; from what he saw in the bearing and spirit of the accused and his accusers; and from the few answers Christ gave to his questions, he came at once to the conclusion, from which he never receded, 'I find no fault in this man.'" Dr. Nevius said, "Christ is the Light of the World; and when he and his truth are presented they carry with them their own evidence. It needs no lengthened process of reasoning to prove that light is light. He who created alike the sun and the human eye, is author of the mutual adaptations between the human eye and the sun-light. So between the human soul and Christ and his truth there are such mutual relations and adaptations that the soul to a greater or less degree, according as its moral state is normal and healthy, perceives at once that Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Pilate wavered as to what he should do with Christ; never as to what he should think of Christ." Pilate's struggle was one—the world-old one "between duty and interest, conscience and a sinful nature." Teaching Christ's declaration that he came not to send peace on earth, but a sword, Dr. Nevius stated that "the effect of Christianity is not only to set men at war with one another, but each man at war with himself." Pilate's position was powerfully sketched; on the one hand lengthened tenure of high office and promotion, on the other sacrifice of cherished hopes and ambitions, charges of complicity with sedition and rebellion, and espousal of the cause of one who he saw was no mere Jewish fanatic but a character as Divine as humane. "Taking a stand for Christ meant then, as it must always mean, self-renunciation;" and Pilate fell. His struggles to evade the responsibility of adjudging, his attempts at a compromise, his desperate effort to clear himself of guilt portrayed by the public washing of his hands, and the avowal of his innocence "of the blood of this just person" were likened to our own endeavours to shift the burden and accountability upon the Church, or upon parents from whom peculiar religious bias has been inherited, or upon religious teachers and guides; to the efforts of those who would fain follow both Christ and the world; and to those whose constant refuge is their inability to contend against the force of habit or circumstance, or the exigencies of business. The question is to every one personally, Dr. Nevius urged; no less to men of to-day than to Pilate. The reverend gentleman drew attention to the danger of supposing that Pilate was the only one to whom the question came and who had to bear the responsibility of answering it; and his statement that "the manner in which it was met by different classes epitomized and foreshadowed the manner in which it has been met by different classes ever since," was only less striking and interesting than the subsequent passages in which the illustrations were given of which we give the following:— "The Jews who clamoured for Christ's death were the children of Abraham, the professed worshippers of Jehovah, but in fact his most bitter enemies. Christ has received his severest wounds in the house of his friends. History teaches us that it is very easy and not uncommon for men to think they are serving God, when they are most especially serving Satan, and the greatest crimes have been committed in the sacred name of religion. The Pharisees were the ritualists and formalists of their day, scrupulous in the observance of externals; teaching for doctrines the commandments of men; drawing nigh to God with their lips while their hearts were far from him. They were the bitterest enemies of Christ and the principal source of weakness and corruption in his Church. They

have had their successors in every age, and they are to be found in every branch of the Church at the present day. The Sadducees affected the current philosophy or culture of the day, which was Grecian. They preferred to walk by sight rather than by faith, however imperfect their sight might be, or rather to follow with unquestioning faith human teachers and adopt human hypotheses, rather than trust to Divine guidance. The would-be-scientific Sadducees were never more numerous than at present. These two sects represent the most dangerous tendencies of the human mind towards formalism on the one hand and infidelity on the other. The solemn warning of our Saviour is applicable in every age and especially in ours—'Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees.'" The discourse which was listened to throughout with deep attention, closed with a short reference to that other type, the type represented by the few who were neither ashamed nor afraid to be at the foot of the Cross; and to the supreme import of the question, the question of life. Dr. Nevius said, "Christ stands before you as he stood before Pilate, silent. He has nothing more to say. His claims and their evidences are before you and before the world. I beseech you reject them not."

IMPERIAL UNIVERSITY.

GRADUATION CEREMONY.

The graduation ceremony of the Imperial University took place on Thursday forenoon in the Central Court of the Engineering College at Hongo, Tokyo. Among those present on the occasion were the Minister of State for Education; Mr. Tsuji, Vice-Minister for Education; Mr. Marjima, Vice-Minister for Communications; the Chinese Minister; Mr. Hamano, Director of the Bureau of Special School Affairs in the Educational Department, and the Faculty of the University.

The proceedings began shortly after ten o'clock with the presentation of diplomas to the graduates, after which Mr. Kato, President of the University, delivered a short address, which will be published at a later date. One of the students read a reply to the remarks of the President, after which Mr. Yoshikawa addressed the students at some length in a speech which will also be published in a future issue. An address was to have been given by the Minister President, but Count Yamagata found it impossible to attend. After the ceremony the guests were entertained by the Faculty of the University.

The following is the graduation list:—

COLLEGE OF LAW.

FIRST LAW SECTION.

Hara Kanetaro, shizoku, Nagano prefecture.
Shibata Kamon, shizoku, Yamaguchi prefecture.
Owaka Kikujiro, heimin, Chiba prefecture.
Oyama On, heimin, Aichi prefecture.
Akiyama Ganosuke, heimin, Okayama prefecture.
Akiyama Sadanosuke, shizoku, Hiroshima prefecture.
Nakagawa Katsusuke, shizoku, Hiroshima prefecture.
Ishii Hikokichi, shizoku, Kagoshima prefecture.
Nakaya Kokichi, heimin, Kyoto.
Shimada Kotaro, shizoku, Fukui prefecture.
Takenouchi Kumaji, heimin, Tottori prefecture.
Yamada Shinichiro, heimin, Fukuoka prefecture.
Nakata Kinkichi, shizoku, Akita prefecture.
Rajita Torariki, shizoku, Tokyo.
Kisuge Kokichi, heimin, Hyogo prefecture.
Hotta Umazo, shizoku, Yamaguchi prefecture.
Seisawa Kotaro, shizoku, Yamagata prefecture.
Okasaki Masaya, heimin, Miye prefecture.
Otori Fujitaro, shizoku, Tokyo.
Okuma Yonetaro, shizoku, Tokyo.
Miyake Chosaku, heimin, Aichi prefecture.
Tomishima Chobu, heimin, Hiroshima prefecture.
Hirose Kichiro, shizoku, Aichi prefecture.
Urushibata Harukichi, heimin, Shizuoka prefecture.
Kano Tetsusaburo, shizoku, Oita prefecture.
Kawase Hikosuke, heimin, Gifu prefecture.
Nagai Tamaki, shizoku, Fukuoka prefecture.
Yoneda Toshinori, shizoku, Shizuoka prefecture.
Ushioda Hoze, shizoku, Shizuoka prefecture.
Tsunenatsu Eitichi, shizoku, Gifu prefecture.
Hayashi Masajiro, heimin, Miye prefecture.

SECOND LAW SECTION.

Ota Suketoki, heimin, Tokyo.
Miyashita Michisaburo, heimin, Tokyo.
Motohashi Kikichi, heimin, Tokyo.
Matsumoto Keijiro, shizoku, Yamagata prefecture.
Yasuda Kyusaburo, heimin, Tokyo.

THIRD LAW SECTION.

Yukawa Kankichi, shizoku, Wakayama prefecture.
Isobe Masaharu, shizoku, Yamaguchi prefecture.
Iino Kinichi, shizoku, Shizuoka prefecture.
Amano Kinoshige, shizoku, Tokyo.
Morita Mokichi, heimin, Hyogo prefecture.
Nagashima Washitaro, shizoku, Tokyo.
Otsu Rinhei, shizoku, Osaka.
Hattori Kinzo, shizoku, Aichi prefecture.
Hashitsune Kinsaburo, shizoku, Tokyo.
Hata Ryotaro, heimin, Nagano prefecture.
Oko Hatsuchiro, shizoku, Yamaguchi prefecture.
Yasumura Nagayoshi, shizoku, Kochi prefecture.
Otsuki Ryoji, shizoku, Miyagi prefecture.
Masuda Hyokichi, shizoku, Gifu prefecture.
Okane Hikoichi, shizoku, Fukuoka prefecture.
Mochida Kasaburo, shizoku, Ishikawa prefecture.
Ishikawa Kei, heimin, Kagawa prefecture.
Iwamura Shigeru, heimin, Miye prefecture.

POLITICAL SECTION.

Ishidzuka Eigo, shizoku, Fukuoka prefecture.
Tsukuda Katsuyo, shizoku, Ehime prefecture.
Yanagitani Usaburo, heimin, Nagasaki prefecture.
Inouye Tatsukuro, shizoku, Shizuoka prefecture.
Taniguchi Tomogoro, shizoku, Osaka.
Tokatsugi Takejio, shizoku, Kagoshima prefecture.
Yoshii Yukei, shizoku, Kagoshima prefecture.
Hashimoto Keisaburo, shizoku, Niigata prefecture.
Hirasawa Masahachiro, shizoku, Hiroshima prefecture.
Horiye Koichiro, shizoku, Tokyo.
Sakurai Tetsutaro, shizoku, Shizuoka prefecture.
Kimura Kusuyata, shizoku, Kochi prefecture.
Kubo Isamu, shizoku, Kagoshima prefecture.
Sawaki Aibun, shizoku, Tokyo.
Nomura Yasaburo, heimin, Tokyo.
Momoya Ryusuke, shizoku, Kyoto.
Banoo Otaya, shizoku, Shizuoka prefecture.
Fudo Kotaro, shizoku, Fukuoka prefecture.
Yamanouchi Katsuji, shizoku, Kagoshima prefecture.
Matsu Idetaro, heimin, Kyoto.
Soga Sukeyasu, shizoku, Fukuoka prefecture.
Shirai Takeshi, shizoku, Fukuoka prefecture.
Takatsuki Junnosuke, shizoku, Miye prefecture.
Yamasaki Ginosuke, shizoku, Shimane prefecture.
Sudzuoki Kurajiro, heimin, Aichi prefecture.
Suwa Mankichi, shizoku, Fukuoka prefecture.
Nishisawa Masataro, heimin, Nagano prefecture.
Takisawa Seiryō, heimin, Tokyo.

COLLEGE OF MEDICINE.

Ito Junzo, shizoku, Tottori prefecture.
Tsubei Hayami, heimin, Gifu prefecture.
Okada Waichiro, heimin, Ehime prefecture.
Takata Koan, heimin, Kyoto.
Wakasugi Kisaburo, heimin, Niigata prefecture.
Hirai Ryutaro, heimin, Miye prefecture.
Tsuboi Yaoki, shizoku, Miye prefecture.
Tsurada Teijiro, shizoku, Saga prefecture.
Taniguchi Nagao, shizoku, Ehime prefecture.
Sudzuoki Tamekichi, heimin, Tokyo.
Marushige Bunryo, heimin, Yamaguchi prefecture.
Mishima Tsuryo, heimin, Tokyo.
Shimohira Yosui, heimin, Miye prefecture.
Yoshimura Gentaro, heimin, Shizuoka prefecture.
Sekiba Fujihiko, shizoku, Aomori prefecture.
Toda Seimen, shizoku, Fukuoka prefecture.
Miyashina Manji, heimin, Kanagawa prefecture.
Ochiai Kenryo, shizoku, Yamaguchi prefecture.
Umino Shinzo, heimin, Osaka.
Watanabe Kyoze, heimin, Miyagi prefecture.
Funakura Einosuke, shizoku, Fukuoka prefecture.
Kitamura Seizo, shizoku, Tokyo.
Abe Chogoro, heimin, Okayama prefecture.
Watsuji Haruji, heimin, Hyogo prefecture.
Takashima Kichisaburo, heimin, Ishikawa prefecture.
Hayashi Karei, shizoku, Ehime prefecture.
Itsumi Bankuro, heimin, Toyama prefecture.
Adzuma Keiji, shizoku, Akita prefecture.
Omura Hidesaburo, heimin, Shiga prefecture.
Midzuno Gin, heimin, Shizuoka prefecture.
Nakanura Momojiro, heimin, Gifu prefecture.
Shirayae Kikusaburo, heimin, Nagasaki prefecture.
Kunitomo Hidesaburo, heimin, Tokyo.
Sawabe Yasuo, shizoku, Tokyo.

Yamamoto Shin, heimin, Miye prefecture.
Kondo Setsuzo, heimin, Tottori prefecture.
Inouye Tsutuzo, heimin, Hyogo prefecture.
Gyotoku Rin, shizoku, Fukuoka prefecture.
Yoshinaga Hid-zo, heimin, Fukuoka prefecture.
Yamaguchi Torataro, shizoku, Tokyo.
Higuchi Shigitaro, shizoku, Shiga prefecture.
Watanabe Tai, heimin, Niigata prefecture.
Tamura Teisaku, heimin, Miyagi prefecture.
Hirose Han, shizoku, Miye prefecture.
Murayama Chonosuke, shizoku, Tokyo.
Aikawa Ginjiro, shizoku, Hiroshima prefecture.
Furuya Tsunejiro, shizoku, Ishikawa prefecture.
Ikeguchi Keizo, heimin, Hyogo prefecture.
Hiirayama Matsuji, shizoku, Tokyo.

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING.

SECTION OF ENGINEERING.

Kimura Masaichiro, heimin, Hyogo prefecture.
Okada Takegoro, shizoku, Hyogo prefecture.
Ichinose Kyojiro, shizoku, Hyogo prefecture.
Miyake Jiro, shizoku, Tokyo.
Takigawa Koji, shizoku, Ibaraki prefecture.
Mizokoshi Motokichiro, shizoku, Nagasaki prefecture.
Ishikawa Ishiyo, shizoku, Miye prefecture.
Okuyama Iwataro, shizoku, Okayama prefecture.
Aoyama Teinosuke, shizoku, Aichi prefecture.
Ishimaru Shigeyoshi, shizoku, Oita prefecture.
Ishiguro Seijiro, shizoku, Shiga prefecture.
Tadano Narishige, shizoku, Miyagi prefecture.
Miike Teichiro, shizoku, Fukuoka prefecture.
Arai Kusjiro, shizoku, Kochi prefecture.

SECTION OF MECHANICS.

Matsuhara Gyo, shizoku, Fukuoka prefecture.
Suzuki Ikuyata, shizoku, Yamagata prefecture.
Takimura Takeo, shizoku, Shizuoka prefecture.

SECTION OF NAVAL ARCHITECTURE.

Terano Seichi, shizoku, Tokyo.
Shirai Raikichi, heimin, Tokyo.
Yamada Saku, shizoku, Shizuoka prefecture.
Wadagaki Yasuzo, heimin, Hyogo prefecture.
Arisaka Shogo, heimin, Tokyo.

SECTION OF ELECTRICITY.

Ohori Tokane, shizoku, Tokyo.
Oiwa Kohci, shizoku, Tokyo.

SECTION OF ARCHITECTURE.

Yokogawa Tamsuke, heimin, Hyogo prefecture.
Kusunishi Maaji, shizoku, Iwate prefecture.
Mune Hyogo, shizoku, Fukuoka prefecture.
Motono Kikichiro, shizoku, Saga prefecture.

COLLEGE OF LITERATURE.

SECTION OF PHILOSOPHY.

Hattori Unokichi, shizoku, Tokyo.

SECTION OF JAPANESE LITERATURE.

Wada Monkichi, shizoku, Gifu prefecture.

SECTION OF HISTORY.

Isoda Ryo, shizoku, Tokyo.
Shiratori Kurakichi, heimin, Chiba prefecture.

SECTION OF LANGUAGES.

Hayashi Satokichi, shizoku, Fukui prefecture.

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE.

SECTION OF MATHEMATICS.

Sugiyama Iwasaburo, shizoku, Ehime prefecture.

SECTION OF NATURAL PHILOSOPHY.

Omori Fusakichi, shizoku, Tokyo.
Midzuno Hidenosuke, shizoku, Fukuoka prefecture.
Tsuruda Kenji, shizoku, Tokyo.

SECTION OF CHEMISTRY.

Hada Seihachi, heimin, Tokyo.
Ichioka Tajiro, heimin, Gifu prefecture.
Horiike Yataro, shizoku, Kyoto.

SECTION OF ZOOLOGY.

Goto Seitaro, shizoku, Osaka.

SECTION OF BOTANY.

Ikeno Seichiro, shizoku, Shizuoka prefecture.

SECTION OF GEOLOGY.

Asai Ikutaro, shizoku, Ishikawa prefecture.

FOR MENTAL PROSTRATION USE HORSFORD'S ACID PHOSPHATE.

Dr. A. WALKER, Auckland, N.Z., says:—"I have found it to act very well in severe mental prostration and nervous depression. I find it indispensable in my practice, having taken careful observations of its action for over twelve months."

VICTORIA PUBLIC SCHOOL.

The yearly distribution of prizes in connection with the Victoria Public School took place on Tuesday afternoon, in presence of a large company of parents and others interested in the school. At four o'clock the ladies and other visitors were entertained to tea and other refreshments by Mrs. Hinton, and at five the proceedings in connection with the distribution of prizes were begun. The large school room, in which the scholars and visitors assembled, was tastefully decorated with flags which included many national colours, the portrait of Her Majesty the Queen being surrounded by a border of evergreens interspersed with flowers, while frequent clusters of foliage and flower, arranged round the walls much enhanced its appearance. Among those present were Bishop Bickersteth, Mr. J. J. Ensle, H.B.M. Consul (in the Chair) Messrs. W. Bourne, W. T. Austen, M. Russell, Rev. E. S. Booth, Messrs. Publ. N. F. Smith, G. H. Alcock, P. E. F. Stone, Dr. Van der Heyden, Messrs. J. Mendelssohn, Merian, Kirkwood, &c.

Mr. ENSLE in opening the proceedings said he had on behalf of the Committee of the Victoria Public School to welcome the visitors there and to thank them for their kind response to the invitation to listen to the recitations and be present at the distribution of prizes which would be later on. Having said these few introductory words he would ask the Head-master to be good enough to at once proceed with what was before them.

Mr. HINTON said he would desire to make a few remarks before the boys came upon the platform and showed the company what they had prepared for the afternoon. He wanted to say that this term the teaching of music had been begun in the school work. It was the request of several parents that it should be tried, and at last Mrs. Hinton was persuaded to undertake it. She had been working for several months at her class, and she was not now to try to produce an oratorio or a glee: she had simply determined to try to show those present as far as possible the inside of the musical house she was trying to build. She would try to show them the methods that were used in this system of musical education, and she trusted that, all there being friends, if anything demanded their indulgence they would kindly grant it. She had ventured upon what she thought might be said to be a very dangerous path. She was treading perhaps on what she almost fancied might prove to be thin ice: she had asked a lady friend to kindly write down a set of musical intervals following one another, and these were meant to be sung according to hand signs as practised in the Tonic Solfa system, by which movements of the hands were associated with the different notes. The task consisted in the class following the movements of the teacher's hands, and uttering the notes that each movement indicated. He regretted that the lady in question had proved somewhat unkind, and gave a rather difficult set of notes, which might perhaps prove too much, but still the class must try them.

The various exercises, musical and otherwise, of the pupils followed:—

1. Recitation....."Written in March"—(Wordsworth) Junior School.
2. Ecloga III....."Meronis Virgili".....Herbert Poole.
3. "Inne lovely June"—Canon in three parts.....Robert Sale.
4. "Busy, curious, thirsty fly"—Round in six parts.....Class.
5. Recitation....."The Burial of Moses".....L. Anderson.
6. Chord Singing from the Coloured Modulator.....The Singing Class.
7. Elementary Sight Singing.....Class.
8. Prize Essay....."August," by Sir Edwin Arnold.....L. Anderson.
9. Recitation....."August," by Sir Edwin Arnold.....George Wheeler.
10. Duet....."Angels whisper low and sweet".....The Singing Class.
11. Round in three parts....."Who comes laughing".....Class.

Mr. ENSLE said the manner in which the visitors had responded to the invitation that they had received showed clearly the interest that was taken in the Victoria Public School. It was now three years since the school was established, and, as with all undertakings, an educational establishment of this kind had to work its way and obtain confidence from the public. That confidence he flattered himself had been obtained. The school was originally, as they would remember, started by the British residents of Japan in connection with an auspicious event of public importance. But the lines on which it was carried on were so cosmopolitan that they appealed to the public of Japan at large. He would paraphrase the words used by the Right Rev. Chairman at a recent meeting, and say that the importance of this establishment was being recognised more and more, and it was generally conceded that it was filling a want and a place. The happy conditions under which it was being conducted were conducive to the mental development of the youth of the foreign communities in this distant part of the globe; and in referring to that matter he wished to say that they all owed a debt of deep gratitude to

the indefatigable zeal of the preceptors connected with this establishment—(applause)—because it was mainly owing to their zeal that success had crowned the endeavours of the promoters. A satisfactory feature in connection with the school was that though at first its prospects as far as concerned the funds were not particularly bright, it was gratifying to know that recently it had become self-supporting—(applause)—and he considered that too as another proof that it was gaining ground, which was largely due to the energetic care of the indefatigable Secretary and of the Committee, by their careful management of the funds, and at the same time by the judicious but trifling increase of the fees, the appeal in connection with which had been gladly responded to. After the interesting exhibition they had all witnessed with such rapt attention he thought he need say no more as regarded the prosperity of this establishment and of the scholars confided to the care of their esteemed fellow-citizens who formed the teaching staff.—(Applause.)

Mr. HINTON, before reading the prize list, said he must express on behalf of the boys and himself, and he felt sure on behalf of all present, their warmest thanks to Mr. Ensle for having consented to preside.—(Applause.) Mr. Ensle had been there before, but this was the first occasion on which he had given them the sanction of his presidency. They knew that the Roman Consuls were great people, but there never was a Roman Consul who at so great a distance from his native land watched how the young citizens were being trained, and saw that they were ready to take their place in the ranks of the great nation that claimed their presence. Their thanks were also due to another presence. He was sorry to say that at previous summer meetings Bishop Bickersteth was not able to be present, but it filled them with gladness to see him there and must especially fill with joy one boy who was soon to leave them, who had been specially encouraged to equip himself for the battle of life and who he trusted would long bear the school in mind. To all those who were leaving them he would say that their faithfulness, firmness, and strength in life would not be lost sight of in this school, where they had been watched growing up to the beginning of manhood. It was one of the bright lights of a schoolmaster's existence to be allowed to see a little of the larger world, the distant climes and varied incidents that came to those who left the school: he was inclined to participate sometimes in the halo of glory reflected when any of the old scholars distinguished themselves, and it was always a source of happiness to them to think of honest and faithful work being done by old boys in other parts of the world. Passing on to speak of the work of the school, Mr. Hinton said they had had the advantage of inspecting the Engineering College at Tokyo under the guidance of Professor West. They had fought, in the peaceful battle of cricket, boys who did not belong to the school, and having gained laurels there they turned to fresh fields and challenged the team of the *Imperieuse*—but got thoroughly beaten.—(Laughter.) In the reports which came from home, and in the reports of the Japanese Educational Department which he commended to every lover of education, there was a great tendency noticeable towards making everything more palpable and substantial to the minds of scholars. He recalled the fact that when long ago he was studying geometry, his teacher, a Frenchman, discouraged him from making models to illustrate his studies, but now the tendency was all the other way—to make plain to the eye as far as possible that which was brought before the mind. At a school like this they could not of course do much in the way of teaching science, so much time being swallowed up by the rudiments of the English studies, and it was useless to attempt the more ambitious displays which made scientific teaching so interesting in the schools at home. But in what little way they could they tried to follow the path he had indicated. The principle of making things clear and apparent and visible was followed in reference to the marks gained by the boys, which here were counters representing so many bits of work at the end of a week, and having stamped on them the effigy of an English penny, shilling, or pound, familiarizing the boys with English money. Thus the pupils had at the end of each week a visible result of the week's work, and although they did not depend on these counters for their comfort or even their necessities, still the effect of this system of marks was that the boys were more regular in their work, and pressure had not been exercised in so many cases. Many boys who would perhaps be slightly irregular if the marks were imaginary and merely entered in a book, were stimulated to regularity by the possession of a mark which they could put in their pockets. Owing to the great kindness of Viscount Inouye,

he had been enabled to have erected outside a large frame-work which resembled the scaffolding of an unfinished house. It was indeed so, but the building did not exist in mud, or lath, or plaster, or brick, but in the kinds of the boys here. It was a building begun inside but finished outside the school. There were many uses to which he could apply this structure; the cubic contents of solids could be worked by it, drawings, projections, and elevations could be studied by it—but he did not intend to speak of those things. It had been specially interesting to him to study knots, to get the boys to go through bowlines and cross hitches, the knowledge of which would not easily slip away from them. In the endeavour also to make their arithmetic more intelligible to the scholars he had an arrangement of squares by which visible progression was made from one small square to a million of such, which he termed the drill ground. He had but little to say of the individual work of the school, their life there passed as quietly; but he had to express his thanks to the parents who had suggested to him the writing of essays. He had been exceedingly interested in the essay writing, and had found that taking it steadily twice a week the boys who at first could not write an essay with anything in it, afterwards produced some things that were very interesting. At first he had to give them information, but now they collected it from all quarters. He might say that the essay they had heard read was by a boy whom he had not taught to write. He taught the older boys in the school mathematics or Latin, and looked at their essays, but did not teach them to write. In this case the merit of the essay was simply the effect of the study of elocution, the attempt to bring out the points of the masterpieces in literature having improved the boy's own style, by the indelible impression it left behind it. There had been a good deal written in the papers about authorship, but he thought the study of elocution was the real way to produce a good style. Mr. Hinton then read out the examination order and the list of the prize winners as follows:—

EXAMINATION ORDER.

CLASSES I. AND II.—Clarke ma, and Loomis ma, (special work); Anderson, Schenten, Alcock mi, Sale ma, Robertson, Encouye, Poole ma, Braess ma, Noda, Pohl ma, Sargent, Wheeler ma, Van der Heyden ma, De Jongh ma.

CLASSES III. AND IV.—Wheeler mi, Bird, Alcock ma, Braess mi, Loomis mi, Mendelson, Clarke mi, Russell, Poole mi, Drummond, Deakin, Arizumi.

CLASSES V. AND VI.—Watt, Goddard, Sasaki, Van der Heyden mi, Smith mi, Donnenberg, Sale mi, Lindsley, Sakamoto, Pohl mi, De Jongh mi, Cheock Yong, Welsh, Smith ma, Turner, Kubu, De Jongh min (Kennedy).

PRIZE LIST.

I. CLASS—Examination Prize, Anderson; Examination Certificate and Term's Work Prize, Schenten; Algebra Prize and Term's Work Certificate, Van der Heyden ma.

II. CLASS—Examination Prize, Alcock mi; Term's Work Prize, Noda; Term's Work Certificate, Alcock mi; Examination Certificate, Sale ma.

III. CLASS—Examination Prize, Wheeler mi; Examination Certificate, Bird; Term's Work Prize, Alcock ma; Term's Work Certificate, Russell and Mendelson.

IV. CLASS—Examination Prize and Term's Work Prize, Watt; Term's Work Certificate and Examination Certificate, Goddard.

V. CLASS—Examination Prize, Sale mi; Examination Certificate, Pohl mi; Term's Work Prize, Sale mi; Term's Work Certificate, Pohl mi.

VI. CLASS—Term's Work Certificate, De Jongh mi; the Kirkwood Prize, Alcock mi.

After the distribution of the prizes,

Mr. HINTON said Clark had been a constant source of help in the school in all that was manly and good, and lately had been helping them with some of the junior classes. The Committee therefore wished to express their sense of his services by the presentation of a small gift to him.

Mr. ENSLIE, on behalf of the Committee, then presented to Clarke a number of volumes as a mark of their appreciation. Addressing the scholars, the Chairman then said—Boys, I have had the pleasure this afternoon of presenting you with numerous prizes. I congratulate you on behalf of all who take a lively interest in your welfare on the satisfactory termination of a very satisfactory year. It is pleasant to hear that the report with reference to the industry and diligence of you all is of a highly commendable character. The mere fact that so many prizes have been distributed this afternoon speaks for itself, but as you are aware all cannot be to the fore, and I am sure that you are all of too generous and kindly a disposition for those who have not received prizes on this occasion to envy those who have been more fortunate. The lesson you have learned on

this occasion is to persevere. Both your teachers and you are about to commence your holidays. The former have well deserved this respite from their arduous labours, and for you it will be a pleasant change. Enjoy it to your heart's content so that you may come back—if I may say so—refreshed like young giants to again devote that diligent attention which can alone lead to success in your school, and may hold out reasonable hopes of ulterior prosperity. Now I will detain you no longer, but will ask you to join me in three cheers for Mr. and Mrs. Hinton and Mr. Fardel.

The three cheers called for by Mr. Ensle were heartily given.

Bishop BICKERSTETH, who then addressed the meeting, said he had had the pleasure of presiding—though not he was sorry to say in the summer—at meetings here or in the Settlement in connection with the school, and on this occasion had felt free of the weight which ordinarily rested on a chairman, that of having to make a speech. He had been requested, however, to say a few words, and by way of showing the boys the example of obedience, he had consented. This was the first time that he was able to say the school was in a satisfactory position,—because as they knew that could not be said from a practical point of view till it was financially in a satisfactory position. For the first time then he was able to say to-day—as the result of a letter he had received from Mr. Stone the other day—that the school was in a satisfactory position from a financial point of view: it was paying its way. Now that was thoroughly satisfactory. He might just try to point out to them what were the different things that contributed to place the school in that position. First, it was due to the fund collected some two or three years ago. Schools, he reminded them, had to get over the first two or three years which were the most difficult in their life. In the case of this school they were able by means of that fund to tide over the difficult period and they were now paying their way. But he was only saying that in order that he might have an opportunity of impressing upon his listeners that if the school was to continue in that position they must make efforts. Five or six boys were leaving the school now, and while 48 or 49 boys (the number they had had recently) enabled it to pay its way, 42 or 43 would compel them to draw on the fund he had spoken of. It was therefore the duty of every one who took a real, substantial interest in the school to see that the places of those five or six boys who were leaving were filled up. Another reason for the satisfactory financial condition of the school was that they had a good head-master who was always finding some way of furthering its progress. Mr. Hinton had written a book dealing with that wonderful world where there are four dimensions; where—which must be very awkward for ladies—strings did not tie—(laughter)—and cannon-balls were turned inside out, and yet Mr. Hinton also accommodated himself to the world of three dimensions, and taught the boys with strings that did tie, and was always inventing something to keep the pupils in the full tide of school life. Another reason for the satisfactory condition of the school was its admirable position in the middle of the Settlement. He did not know whether a day school was the best form of education, but it was the only one they could have here and he thought it was an immense advantage that the boys were able to come to this most healthy part of a not unhealthily settlement for purposes of education. The Right Reverend gentleman then addressed the boys briefly, commending to them the importance of relying upon Divine guidance in all they undertook.

The proceedings closed with the singing of "God save the Queen."

LETTER FROM SAN FRANCISCO.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

San Francisco, June 14th.

The Senate Committee is said to have gone once through the tariff, and passed all the sections which provoked no controversy; it now purposes to go back and take up the provisions which are in dispute. The upshot no one can foresee, but the outspoken opposition of such prominent members of the administration party as Plumb and Allison indicates that there will be blood before an agreement is reached. A theory has been circulated this week to the effect that a number of different tariffs will be reported, each adapted to a different locality, and that when the campaign opens the Republican speakers in each section can

show their constituents that they did their best for their own section. It is hard to see how this will avail the party against the broad charge that the Republicans were placed in power to reform the tariff on protectionist lines, and that they did nothing at all.

In the meantime, the administration party proposes to get rid of the surplus in a more effectual way than by reducing duties. The revenue for the current year is estimated at \$385,000,000, which, on the basis of last year's expenditures, would leave a surplus of some \$13,000,000. But, by increasing the payments for pensions and the improvements of rivers and harbours, the dominant party seems likely to convert this surplus into a deficit of \$25,000,000. The river and harbour appropriation, which is a job all through, is now set down at \$20,000,000; it may be increased before the bill passes. The regular pension appropriation bill calls for \$98,465,000; to this must be added an extra pension bill, which, at the present time, calls for \$40,000,000 more, in all \$138,465,000—considerably more than twice the whole expenditure of the nation in the year before the war. What was that old proverb about putting a beggar on horseback? The argument by which decent people try to justify this enormous pension list is that it will stimulate citizens to serve in the army in the event of future wars. It seems much more likely to deter the country from going to war under any provocation, not for fear of the enemy, but for fear of the pensioners.

The census takers are busily at work, and are having some dull experiences. It is difficult to convince uneducated people that they should open the door of the closet where they keep their skeleton in order to gratify Uncle Sam's curiosity. A number of arrests have been made under the law requiring people to answer under penalty of imprisonment. An exchange publishes the following colloquy between a census-taker and a lady:—

Census Taker—Are you a maid or wife, widow, orphan, single or married?

The Questioned Party—I am a widow.

C.—Did your husband die by the rope, electricity, in delirium, or from some natural cause?

The Q. P.—He died this time ten years ago. He was a census taker, and although his body bore unmistakable evidence of having been jumped on, poisoned, shot, and stabbed, the Coroner's jury said his death resulted from natural causes.

The progress of the work in this State indicates that the results of the census will be a disappointment to those who have believed that California was progressing as rapidly as some of the Central States of the continent. It will probably turn out that our population is increasing very slowly. This is largely due to the efforts of the labour unions to prevent skilled labour from coming here and competing in the labour market.

The new army bill introduces a reform which has been long contemplated. The post trader is to go the way of all flesh, and in his stead the troops at each post are to run a canteen on co-operative principles. When the bill was up before the Senate, Blair of New Hampshire and Hale of Maine set up a shriek because beer and light wines were to be sold at the co-operative canteens. Blair, who never saw a shot fired in anger, declared, from the teaching of his experience, that soldiers fought best on a teetotal régime. This brought up some old soldiers, who gave it as their experience that beer and wine in moderation were absolute necessities on a campaign. History certainly does seem to show that where beer and wine drinkers met teetotalers in the field, the latter took water in more senses than one. Mr. Blair's own State was settled by men who felled the forests and the Indians too, after they had been primed with sound Jamaica rum.

The Navy Department continues to call for bids for new ships of war. There is a rumour that the Union Iron Works and this city are to get contracts for two new cruisers, having underbid the Cramps of Philadelphia. There is something in all this which nobody can understand. Every pound of steel used in the new ships will have to come to San Francisco either from Pennsylvania or from England, in which last case it will have to pay the 50 per cent. duty. In either case the freight round the Cape will amount to nearly as much as the original cost of the steel; labour, too, is from 33 to 50 per cent higher here. How, under these circumstances, we can compete with Pennsylvania is a conundrum. Those who are behind the scenes tell me that the Union Iron Works, which to earn interest on their capital, should have made \$200,000 by building the *Charleston*, actually lost \$100,000 on that vessel. Now, the works are trying for other ships. In the palmy days of John Roach, of boudle memory, the puzzle was easily solved. John took contracts to build ships for less than they cost him. Of course, they broke down, and had to be laid up for repairs within a year. There was no congressional limit on the amount which the Department would pay for

repairing vessels. John got his ships back and charged enough for the repairs to make up for his loss on the original contract, and to enable him to contribute liberally to the campaign fund. All which, to the contrary notwithstanding, he died a pauper, in debt to the Government, which has never dared to prosecute his estate.

The schemes for the absorption of American industries by British capitalists ran against a snag this week at Chicago. It seems that a syndicate, mainly consisting of Englishmen, bought the Chicago stockyards for \$20,000,000; one of the stockholders now sues out an injunction against the transfer. The stockholder's object is probably to get bought off. But the Court may decide that there is something in the point that it is contrary to the public interest to allow leading industries to pass into the hands of foreigners whose persons and property are not under the jurisdiction of our authorities. No writ could be served on an Englishman against his will. In line with the movement of the stock-yard stockholder, the House Committee on the Judiciary has reported a bill forbidding the transfer of real estate to aliens. To hold real property, under that bill, it is necessary to be a citizen. This is going back to the days when, under the common law of England, which was the law in this country, the estate of an alien escheated to the crown at his death, and when the *Droit d'aubaine* prevailed in France. But the feeling against alien land holding, which threatens to involve, at some future period, the landlord system prevailing in England, is quite widespread; there is so much to be said in favour of it that it would not be surprising if some legislation ensued. It is observed that in those localities in South and Central America where the English have acquired large properties for the purpose of mining or conducting other industries, they have made themselves masters of the localities and are a law unto themselves.

The Reverend Dr. Newman, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, sails to-day in the *City of Peking*, for Yokohama, to preside at a general conference of the ministers of his church which is to be held at Tokyo next August. A reception was given to the Bishop last evening, and he made a speech which was well received. He said that the Japanese "have an imagination and are seeking a God; whereas the Chinese have only a memory, and it will be a hard matter to win them from the influence of the teachings of Confucius." Sceptics who heard him, and whose levity on such grave matters cannot be too severely reprehended, observed that the eminent divine was perfectly right except on two small points: the Japanese are no more seeking for a God than they are in search of a father; and as to Confucius, whom the Bishop calls Confucius, there are few publications of the church to which Dr. Newman belongs which can compare in wisdom, truth, or charity with the sayings which have been preserved by the devotion of his disciples.

Prize fighting has received a couple of blows, which in the language of the ring, might be called "staggerers." The leading athletic club of the East has refused to admit John L. Sullivan to its rooms on the ground that he is a blackguard; and a pugilist who killed his antagonist in a match at the Golden Gate Club in this city has been indicted for murder. "Sporting" circles are in low spirits, and no wonder. There are lots of respectable men who see no harm in the manly art, indeed who regard the cultivation of boxing as a preservative against the reckless use of the pistol or the knife. But it seems impossible to sever pugilism from brutality, debauchery, and all sorts of villainies, and so long as this is the case, its merits will not suffice to offset its drawbacks. For all this, if a prize fight and an opera are given on the same evening, it is odds there will be as many leaders of society at the former as at the latter.

THE TREATY NEGOTIATIONS IN JAPAN.

The following letter from the Tokyo correspondent of *The Times* appeared in that journal on May 30th:—

Tokio, April 27th.

An event of great importance has just occurred in Japan. On Monday, April 22, the new Code of Civil Procedure and the first portion of the Civil Code were promulgated. They will be speedily followed by the remainder of the Civil Code and by the Commercial Code. These documents represent the outcome of 15 years' labour by foreign and Japanese legal experts. They embody the best principles of Western jurisprudence, modified only so far as to suit Japanese condi-

tions. Already the new Criminal Code, which went into force in 1881, has received the approval of eminent European jurists, and there can be no doubt that the Civil Codes just promulgated will also be found satisfactory. Now, therefore, Japan possesses a body of civil and criminal laws which will bear comparison with those of any country in the world. Moreover, just two months ago there was promulgated another ordinance, scarcely less important, entitled the "Law of the Constitution of the Courts of Justice." This law, the carrying out of which involves a heavy expenditure, completely reorganizes the Courts of Justice throughout the Empire, and may be said to have secured the endorsement of Western Powers, for the prospect of its imminent enactment was one of the practical guarantees regarded with satisfaction by the foreign negotiators in the treaty revision conferences. With laws fully up to the standard of Western requirements, with Courts organized on an efficient basis, with police of proved competence, and with a prison system which has been favourably described by competent observers, it must be conceded that no substantial barrier stands any longer between Japan and the recovery of her judicial autonomy; or, in other words, between her present semi-isolation and the complete freedom of foreign intercourse which she desires to substitute for it.

Readers of *The Times* will remember that two principal guarantees were embodied in the diplomatic notes accompanying the treaties proposed by Japan last year. Of those conditions the first—namely, that the new Civil Codes should be promulgated and translated into English two years before the date fixed for the abolition of consular jurisdiction—has now been satisfied, for the Codes are promulgated and their English translations published. But the second—namely, the appointment of a certain number of foreign legal experts to sit on the Bench of the Supreme Court, and, in conjunction with Japanese Judges, to adjudicate cases affecting foreigners—remains unfulfilled, and will never be fulfilled. The Japanese nation has revolted against it utterly. Probably the British public do not yet fully understand the story of that revolt. If they did, they would certainly sympathize with it. When the Constitution was promulgated last spring, it was found to contain a clause declaring the equal eligibility of all Japanese subjects for civil and military appointments. This clause might be read in a purely enabling sense. It might be read to mean that the privilege of appointment to office in Japan, though extended to all natives of the country, was not necessarily limited to natives. Thus interpreted, the Constitution would not have conflicted with the scheme of appointing aliens to Japanese Judgeships. But another reading also was possible—namely, that the clause conferred on Japanese subjects an exclusive right of property in civil and military offices in their own country, and that to appoint foreigners to such offices would be to alienate a portion of that property from its rightful owners. The former interpretation had been accepted by the framers of the treaty programme; the latter was chosen by the great bulk of the people and also by a large section of influential officials. The drafters of the treaty might, perhaps, have insisted on their own interpretation had they not been sensible of the inexpediency of defying popular sentiment on such a subject. The grant of a Constitution, for years impatiently awaited by the nation and received at last with proportionate rejoicing, had produced a most salutary effect on the relations between rulers and ruled. Naturally the Government hesitated to weaken that effect by thus early adopting a course which the people regarded as a violation of their newly-acquired rights; and not less naturally the people, finding themselves challenged for the first time to assert those rights, accepted the challenge with enthusiasm. Even had the case stood thus, and thus only, we may reasonably doubt whether the framers of the treaty would have maintained their ground; whether, in a word, the Cabinet would have consented to be arraigned by the first Diet on a charge of violating the Constitution. But there were other and not less cogent considerations to be taken into account. Chief among them ranked the fact that the object of treaty revision was to remove all the trade restrictions imposed by the old covenants, and to place the intercourse of foreigners and Japanese on a perfectly free basis. What could be more shortsighted than an attempt to compass that object by introducing a system emphatically distasteful to the bulk of the Japanese nation? Such a plan would simply mean that the material barriers set up by the original treaties were to be replaced by moral barriers much more potent and difficult to remove. For, in addition to the jurists, politicians, journalists, and officials who opposed the new treaty on the ground of its alleged uncon-

stitutionality, another section of public opinion condemned it not less vehemently from a national point of view. The representatives of this latter section asserted that no self-respecting people could tamely brook the notion of having their laws administered in their Sovereign's name by aliens who had not even sworn allegiance to that Sovereign. They further asserted that whatever interpretation might be put upon the actual language of the Constitution, its spirit would be manifestly violated by a treaty making alienage a necessary condition of appointment to judicial office. It was conceivable, they said, that, in exceptional circumstances, a legal expert, despite his foreign origin, might obtain a seat on the Japanese Bench, but so soon as foreign origin was declared essential to eligibility for such an office, the intention of the Constitution ceased to be fulfilled. To deny the justice of either of these protests was difficult; to concede it was to admit the certain unpopularity of the proposed system, and the consequent inexpediency of introducing it. But why, it may be asked, did not the Japanese Government, appreciating all this, withdraw or modify its proposals at once? The answer is that not until a late stage was the condition of public opinion clearly shown. The views summarized here needed an interval for their growth, and might perhaps have failed to mature had they not been rapidly developed by party politics. The new treaty had been actually concluded with America and almost concluded with Germany before its terms became publicly known in Japan. Its principal negotiator, Count Okuma, while out of office had organized and led a political party of great influence. Opposed to this party was another, scarcely less powerful, which, shortly before Count Okuma's return to the Cabinet, had developed a new access of vigour under another name. When the announcement was made that America had accepted Japan's proposals, Count Okuma's former party took no pains to conceal their exultation at their leader's success, and, as a matter of course, their opponents sought to depreciate his achievement. Thus very soon the whole question was dragged into the arena of party politics, and Englishmen do not require to be reminded what that signifies for any question. The solid and sober elements of dissatisfaction described above, fanned and fomented by partisan journalists and vehement agitators, grew weekly and daily more formidable. Folks who would otherwise have paid no heed to the discussion were led to think about it, and the great majority of them, embracing the patriotic view, raised their voices in the defence of the Japan-for-the-Japanese reading of the Constitution, and against the administration of Japanese laws by aliens.

Before this widespread dissatisfaction the Government could not choose but bow. It was finally recognized that the project of placing Judges of foreign origin on the Bench of the Japanese Supreme Court must be abandoned. The question then arose, how far did this determined revolt of public opinion affect the possibility of treaty revision from a foreign point of view?

In the first place it is to be observed that, speaking practically, the judicial guarantee was almost worthless. To be able to count on finding a majority of foreign legal experts on the Bench in every case where foreign interests were concerned seemed at first sight a valuable security against injustice. But when we remember that these Judges were only to adjudicate upon questions carried by appeal to the Supreme Court, and that such appeals could only be taken on questions of law, not on questions of fact, the very slender nature of the guarantee becomes apparent. Moreover, there is strong reason to doubt whether foreign suitors would have attached any value to the presence of Judges who, in the nature of things, were likely to be men either without experience or with unsatisfactory experience in their own countries, and who might always be suspected of thinking that their tenure of office depended on a display of pro-Japanese tendencies. Further, these Judges might be of any Western nationality, and it is evident that an Englishman would not be greatly reassured by the prospect of submitting his case to Judges not only just as alien, from his point of view, as are the Japanese, but also administering codes of law entirely strange to them before their arrival in Japan. Another consideration was that to invite the investment of foreign capital in Japan under a special system of limited duration would be a procedure of doubtful efficacy. The chief field for foreign enterprise in Japan is manufacturing industry; in that direction there is plenty of room for capital and experience. But if the employment of Judges of foreign origin constituted any real or necessary guarantee for the security of property, surely the temporary nature of the guarantee would have served to deter rather than to encourage investments of Western capital.

Original from

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Better let Europeans and Americans trust Japanese institutions from the outset, if they could persuade themselves to do so, than bid them place reliance on guarantees at once slender and temporary. Finally, during the term allotted for the continued existence of the foreign settlements, the presence or absence of Western experts on the Bench of the Japanese Supreme Court could make no difference to foreign residents, since the latter would only become amenable to Japanese jurisdiction by voluntarily passing into the interior, while within treaty limits things would remain *in statu quo*. Thus, under every practical aspect this engagement to add three or four foreigners to the Bench of the Supreme Court possessed no value, whereas such a pledge assumed in Japanese eyes a character hurtful to national self-respect and opposed to the spirit, if not to the letter, of the Constitution.

The Japanese Cabinet, its confidence in its own programme greatly shaken and its unanimity disturbed by this storm of popular agitation, could scarcely have persisted in defying public opinion. But it found itself confronted by another and even grave difficulty; events had forced it into the position of negotiating a treaty which, in order to be carried into effect, would require the co-operation of an Administration totally distinct from the Administration by which it had been concluded. This is a curious and interesting point. Had the original programme of revision been accomplished within the period contemplated—that is to say, during 1889—the virtually autocratic bureaucracy of that time might, on its own responsibility, have taken all the steps necessary to the carrying out of the new treaty's provisions. Judges of foreign origin might have been appointed, whether such a measure conflicted or agreed with the Constitution, and a law might have been enacted conferring judicial competence on the section of the Supreme Court specially constituted by the treaty—namely, the section in which Judges of foreign origin were to sit in a majority. But the programme, as originally mapped out, could not be accomplished. Even if England's unexpected tardiness had not blocked the way, affairs moved so slowly that to conclude all the treaties and exchange ratifications before the end of 1890 became almost hopeless. Now the Constitution provides that every law must have the consent of the Diet, and that, although when the Diet is not sitting, the Emperor may, in urgent cases, "to maintain public safety and to avert public calamities," issue ordinances in the place of law, such ordinances must be laid before the Diet at its next session, and must not then be approved by that body must cease to have binding force. These provisions of the Constitution do not actually come into operation until the first Diet assembles, and inasmuch as that event does not take place until November, the Government, by straining a point, might possibly have issued the necessary laws under the old system. But it might also, and would probably, have failed to do so, in which event it would have found itself in the predicament of having concluded a treaty the terms of which could not be carried out. For it was abundantly manifest from the temper of the nation that the Diet would refuse to endorse or enact a law conferring judicial competence on a tribunal specially constituted for the convenience of foreign suitors, and presided over by Judges of foreign origin in a majority. The Government dared not accept such a responsibility or run such a risk. Neither ought Western Powers to require it to do so. Civilized States are everywhere bound to take due notice of each other's administrative conditions in concluding mutual treaties or conventions. The Japanese Administration could not pledge itself to anything requiring the sanction and co-operation of the Constitutional Administration then on the eve of being organized, and the time had passed when such sanction or co-operation might have been dispensed with. Therefore, the revised treaty must contain no stipulations other than such as would be capable of fulfilment by exercise of the Imperial prerogative or of the Government's constitutional powers, independently of Parliament. This consideration, becoming more and more imperative as months after months saw the negotiations still unfinished, finally induced the Government to change its ground. The necessity was not accepted without great reluctance and much friction. It led to the resignation of the whole Cabinet in a body, an event without parallel since the Restoration in 1867. Neither was it immediately announced: for Count Okuma, returning from the Council at which the resolve had been taken, was severely wounded by a would-be assassin, and the negotiations had to be suspended till his recovery. Meanwhile, the Emperor directed the Cabinet Ministers to retain their portfolios provisionally, with the exception of the Minister President, who was replaced by Prince Sanjo. The closing days of December found Count Okuma able to resume his functions. He immediately tendered his re-

signation, and the Cabinet was permanently reorganized under the presidency of Count Yamagata; Viscount Aoki replacing Count Okuma.

The Government's position was then plain enough. On the one hand, a treaty had been concluded, but not ratified, with America, Germany, and Russia; on the other, public opinion had declared itself so emphatically against some of the terms of the covenant that its ratification could no longer be contemplated. Under these circumstances the easiest course for Japan to pursue would apparently have been that adopted by England in 1870, when a treaty concluded by her Majesty's representative in Peking with Prince Kung and other Chinese Plenipotentiaries, being opposed by the Chambers in Great Britain, was laid aside and further discussion of its contents indefinitely postponed. It was open to Japan to avow frankly that, the voice of the country having been raised against the projected treaty and public opinion being greatly excited on the question, the ratification of the treaties already concluded, and the negotiation of similar compacts with other States, must be postponed to a more convenient season. But there were two powerful arguments against this plan. The first was that Japan's resolve to accomplish treaty revision had grown stronger every year, and that she shrank from doing anything which might weaken public faith in the earnestness of her determination. Already the agitation described above had been misconstrued by some critics into an evidence, not of opposition to the proposed terms of revision, but of opposition to revision on any terms—evidence, in short, of a desire to keep foreigners out of the interior, to restrict their intercourse with Japanese, and to limit their commercial opportunities in Japan as much as possible. The country could not afford to lay itself open to a charge of reverting to the anti-foreign spirit of early times, and, for the rest, the accusation had no truth. The second argument related to the Government's attitude towards its own subjects. Among the Japanese trading with foreign communities at the treaty ports there is a party which finds its opportunity in the present state of restricted commercial intercourse, and is consequently opposed to every change in a liberal direction. By this party advantage had been taken of the general agitation to push its own selfish views in the sense of a protest against permitting foreigners to own real property in the interior of Japan, and against exposing Japanese tradesmen and manufacturers to direct contact with the abundant resources, wide experience, and masterful methods of Western capitalists. The cry awoke some echoes of old time resentment, and was more or less in tune with the impatience and indignation which had gradually been excited by the difficulty of vindicating the Empire's sovereign rights, and by the nature of the terms which Japan had been obliged to offer in exchange for the recovery of her independence. To postpone the negotiations *sine die* would have left the field open to the growth of this evil phase of the agitation, and would have encouraged the agitators to imagine, or pretend, that their views had obtained some measure of official endorsement.

Accordingly, it was resolved that a new basis of negotiation should be sought. One of the proposed guarantees was then on the point of fulfilment and has now, as stated above, been actually fulfilled; the other had been denounced by the voice of the Japanese nation, and was, moreover, of no real value from the foreign point of view. Shorn of these conditions, the programme assumed a simple form. It stood thus:—The further existence of consular jurisdiction would be limited to a fixed term of years, reckoned from the date of the ratification of the treaty, during which term foreigners would be allowed to trade, travel, and reside freely in the interior of Japan, on condition of submitting to any Japanese laws governing foreign intercourse within Japanese territory, just as Japanese in Western countries are required to submit to the corresponding laws in force there. Further, until the termination of that period—i.e., until the complete abolition of consular jurisdiction—ownership of real property by foreigners outside the settlements would not be permitted. In this greatly simplified form the scheme is understood to have been once more and finally submitted to the foreign Powers, and strong hopes are entertained that the weary problem is at length within sight of solution. What has to be is that the conditions existing to-day are radically different from those existing in the early stage of the negotiations. Since this interminable question first passed into the field of practical politics, since the time when Japan became entitled to ask for a revision of her treaties, a new generation has attained maturity. Seventeen years suffice to change the channels of public thought in any country, but in Japan, where during the past two

decades the heaven of an entirely new civilization has been gradually permeating the national character, 17 years have left the mark of half a century. Lads who had barely learned to read and write when the nation first began to wonder at the engagements it had contracted with foreign countries, are now grown men. Youths who were then on the threshold of a career, are now leading members of their various professions. Politicians, journalists, and public speakers who in those days earned a title to originality by first applying the principles of western international laws to eastern cases, have now been distanced by the movement they inaugurated. The nation sees with new eyes and thinks with new thoughts. Foreign observers, watching these changes, sometimes curiously but for the most part apathetically, are surprised and startled by a result that should have been foreseen. Accustomed to regard public opinion in Japan as docilely waiting to be moulded by official direction, they are astonished to see it assert itself independently, and still more astonished to find that officialdom no longer ventures to oppose it. This is the great fact demonstrated by the events of the past two years. From the columns of numerous and widely read newspapers; from the speeches of politicians and economists; above all, from the teachings of Occidental civilization, the Japanese have learned the functions and capabilities of that potent agent, public opinion. The negotiations have now to be conducted with a nation jealous of its honour and bitterly impatient of the restraints put upon its independence, not with a few calm and liberal statesmen, removed from the range of popular prejudices and capable of regarding international problems with impartial eyes.

For Englishmen, the most interesting incident of the story is that their country once more finds herself mistress of the situation. Twice before, owing to the influence necessarily attaching to her commercial preponderance and to the prestige of her resolute policy in the past, it rested with Great Britain to rescue Japan from her difficulties or to condemn her to a further term of probation. Both of these opportunities were neglected, and after the loss of the second, America, Germany, and Russia, stepping in, earned Japan's gratitude by liberal generosity. It seemed then that England had been hopelessly relegated to a back place. But time befriended her. Changes of personnel in Downing-street and at the Legation in Tokio, supplemented by the wonted deliberation of her procedure in all international matters, involved so much delay that, whereas her speedy agreement with the terms accepted by America, Germany, and Russia would have virtually solved the problem, the apparent impossibility of securing her assent discredited the Japanese negotiators and afforded time for the growth of the strong agitation described above. The result, briefly stated, is that the Japanese Government and people are now fully sensible of the paramount necessity of concluding a treaty with England. They see that, whatever may be the goodwill of other Powers, the key of the situation lies ultimately in Great Britain's hand as surely as it lay there 20 years ago. In the negotiations now resumed Japan's whole energy will be directed to securing British acquiescence, and it is not too much to predict that if she succeeds England's influence and prestige in Japan will recover all their lost ground, and stand higher than they ever stood before. The question for Lord Salisbury to consider is whether guarantees, of which one never had any real value and the other is already fulfilled, should be suffered to stand between England and Japan's friendship, and between the present commercial restrictions imposed on British subjects in Japan and the complete freedom offered by the new treaty. No sensible Englishman cares two straws whether the guarantee about foreign judges remains or disappears, while to Japan its absence means national rejoicing, its presence national umbrage and discontent. One can scarcely exaggerate the effect that will be produced if, in the sequel of all this agitation and perplexity, England comes forward and proves that, so far from ignoring or opposing Japan's claims, she and she alone is prepared and competent to secure their universal recognition. It does not often happen that so large a reward awaits such an easy exercise of statesmanship.

The following article appeared in the leading columns of the same issue of *The Times*:—

BRITISH ASCENDENCY IN JAPAN.

Our Correspondent at Tokyo narrates, in the letter which we publish to-day, a hitherto untold part of an interesting history. Every year our trade with Japan grows. We have active, enterprising commercial rivals in the United States and Germany, but a great future lies before British

trade and capital in that country, and it is of supreme moment for us to learn, as our Correspondent states, that we shall soon, in all probability, see the present treaty limits abolished, and Japan entirely thrown open to commercial intercourse. It rests in the main with England to say whether and when this shall be. The preponderating foreign influence in Japanese politics has not of late been British. The counsels of Germany, Russia, and America have been listened to more attentively than ours. But a turn in affairs now gives us a favourable opportunity for recovering our influence, and it will be our fault if we miss it. Hitherto, Western States have declined to recognize Japan as entitled to all the privileges of a mature, civilized nation. In the majority of disputes to which foreigners are parties the native Courts have no jurisdiction. The Englishman or German concerned is entitled to have his case dealt with in what may be called Consular Courts. Japan is treated much as we treat Turkey, Egypt, and other countries with laws and customs radically at variance with our own. This disability has long become galling to a people who justly pride themselves upon the rapid advances which they have made in civilization; and in 1882 the Mikado's Government proposed to the numerous Treaty Powers that the opening up of the country to foreign trade and residents should go hand in hand with the abolition of the Consular jurisdiction. What obstacles have hitherto prevented the attainment of this object, what modifications have from time to time been made at the instance of the Powers in the programme of reforms, what policy each of the interested States, jealous of each other, has pursued, what Ministerial crises have been the result of this controversy, would be tedious to tell. It is enough to remember that, as our Correspondent points out, the part which England has played in the long negotiations has not earned her the gratitude of the Japanese, and that English influence has suffered temporarily an eclipse.

Now, however, the situation has changed. The claim of Japan to be released from her disability has been strengthened by a series of remarkable reforms, to which there is no parallel in history. Since 1881 a new Criminal Code, based upon European models, has been in force. On the 21st of last month the new Code of Procedure and the first part of the new Civil Code, also in part the work of Western jurists, were promulgated, and they will be soon followed by the remainder of the Civil Code and the Commercial Code. About three months ago appeared an ordinance, reorganizing at great expense upon European plans the Courts of Justice throughout the Empire. The request to be permitted to discard the sign of tutelage is made with new force when Japan has acquired a judicial and legal system fully on a level with those of some Western States, an effective police, and prisons, if not perfect, at all events greatly improved. What more could her rulers do to make good her right to enter the fellowship of nations, an equal among equals? Last year the Japanese Government, in accordance with a suggestion made by several of the Powers, proposed to do something more. They suggested that the abolition of the Consular jurisdiction should be accompanied by two safeguards, sufficient to inspire confidence in the new order of things. Not only were the Civil Codes to be promulgated and translated into English two years before the Consular jurisdiction was abolished, but a certain number of European lawyers were to be appointed members of the Supreme Court, and to adjudicate, along with native Judges, upon cases affecting foreigners. The first condition has been fulfilled; the second is not, cannot be, and, as our Correspondent argues, ought not to be, carried out. The Japanese Government mistook the temper of their countrymen when they promised to nominate foreign Judges. They forgot that along with other changes had been formed a public opinion, which must not be ignored, and which openly revolts against this humiliating concession. It has been declared to be contrary to the terms of the new Constitution; it has been condemned with more confidence as unpatriotic; and the Government has been obliged to yield to the cry of "Japan for the Japanese." They would imperil their existence if they tried to resist the storm of universal disapprobation. What ought to be the effect of the withdrawal of one of the promised guarantees? Our Correspondent argues that the loss is more apparent than real, and that there is no reason why England, notwithstanding previous official declarations on the subject, should delay, on account of an illusory injury, obtaining the very substantial benefits sure to come in the train of the general opening up of the country. What, in the majority of cases, would be the value of the presence of foreign experts if they sat only in the Supreme Court, to which come merely questions of law? What

comfort would it be to English suitors that a French jurist would, in the last resort, have a share in the determination of their causes? The condition proves to be exceeding offensive to the Japanese, and its value to those for whose benefit the stipulation was made is more questionable. Besides, the matter is no longer entirely in the hands of the Government. The Constitution provides that every law must have the consent of the Diet, and though they might technically have taken advantage of the plea that this condition does not take effect until November next, and might in the meantime pass the laws necessary for the appointment of foreign Judges, the tempest that would await them would be destructive of any Administration.

In these circumstances what is the duty of Great Britain? What is her clear course in view of the solid advantages to be gained by establishing freedom of intercourse? It would be both gracious and politic, answers our Correspondent, to waive all question about one of the promised guarantees, and to be satisfied with the other. "In the negotiations now resumed Japan's whole energy will be directed to securing British acquiescence, and it is not too much to predict that, if she succeeds, England's influence and prestige in Japan will recover all their lost ground and stand higher than they ever stood before." The promised reward is great, and the sacrifice to be made is small. It is common ground that the Consular jurisdiction, the badge of infancy, must go. We could not expect that a nation which assimilates so rapidly and so successfully the best parts of our civilization, which exhibits an unprecedented aptitude for progress, and which has enlightened rulers, would long submit to an odious mark of inferiority. The true friends of England are those who resent most keenly the continuance of the system which stamps them as barbarians. Between the maintenance of the jurisdiction of the various forms of Consular Courts and that permitting the unrestrained action of the native Courts there appears to be no tenable middle course. It must be remembered that the proffered guarantee of the presence of foreign Judges in the Court of Appeal would be of little avail if ever there did come about, in a case affecting Europeans, a serious collision between Western ideas and Japanese. Our Correspondent counsels our Government to meet in a generous spirit the Japanese Government, and he fortifies his advice with arguments which we trust will not be lost sight of. In the past we have made mistakes, which have put England at a disadvantage as compared with America, Germany, and Russia. We are told, by one well acquainted with the situation, "that the Japanese Government and people are fully sensible of the paramount necessity of concluding a treaty with England," and that "they see that whatever may be the goodwill of other Powers, the key of the situation lies ultimately in Great Britain's hands, as surely as it lay there twenty years ago." Who will be to blame if this mood is suffered to pass without our meeting it graciously and sagaciously?

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, July 6th.

The Spanish Ministry has resigned, and Señor Canovas has formed a new Cabinet.

A memorial is being signed by many members of the House of Commons against the African agreement. It regrets the proposed extension of French powers in Madagascar.

Major-General Sir R. H. Buller, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., V.C., Quarter-Master General, succeeds General G. J. Viscount Wolseley, K.P., G.C.B., G.C.M.G., as Adjutant-General.

London, July 8th.

The London police go on a general strike to-night.

London, July 9th.

The Conference Committee of the Houses has adopted a substitute for the original Silver Bill. The new Bill provides for the purchase of 4½ million ounces of silver monthly and the issue of silver certificates which are to be full legal tender. The clause providing for the redemption of the certificates with silver bullion is expunged, and they are made redeemable with gold coin.

The Police strike has failed.

London, July 9th.

Dr. Peters has reached the coast on his return from the interior of Africa.

A strike of the London Postmen is imminent.

A fierce conflict has taken place between the Police and a mob in Bow-street.

TIME TABLES AND STEAMERS.

TOKYO-YOKOHAMA RAILWAY.

DOWN TRAINS LEAVE SHIMBASHI Station at 6.05,* 6.40, 8.45, 9.30,* 10.25, and 11.45 a.m., and 1.25, 2.30, 3.55, 4.45, 5.50, 6.50, 8.30, 9.55, and 11.15 p.m.

UP TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 6.30, 7.20, 8.10, 9.15, 10.22, and 11.30 a.m., and 12.45, 2.3, 4.25, 5.30, 6.35, 7.50, 9.10, 10.05, and 11.05 p.m.

FARES—First-class, *sen* 60; second-class, *sen* 40; and third-class, *sen* 20.

Trains marked (*) run through without stopping at Omori, Kawasaki, Tsurumi, and Kanagawa Stations. Those marked (†) run through without stopping at Omori, Kawasaki, and Tsurumi Stations.

TOKAIDO RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA (down) at 6.50, 9.10, 10.20, 11.25 a.m., and 12.40, 3.25, 4.55, 5.35, and 7.45 p.m.; and KOSU (up) at 6.35, 8.40, 9.40, and 11.07 a.m., and 1.17, 2.45, 4.58, 7.25, and 9.46 p.m.

FARES—To Hodegaya, first-class *sen* 6, second-class *sen* 4, third-class *sen* 2; to Totsuka, *sen* 18, *sen* 12, *sen* 6; to Ofuna *sen* 36, *sen* 24, *sen* 12; to Fujisawa, *sen* 42, *sen* 28, *sen* 14; to Hiratsuka, *sen* 66, *sen* 44, *sen* 22; to Oino, *sen* 75, *sen* 50, *sen* 25; and to Kozu, *sen* 93, *sen* 62, *sen* 31.

Down trains at 6.50 a.m. run no further than Kyoto arriving there at 11.30 p.m.; at 10.20 a.m. no further than Nagoya, arriving at 10.10 p.m.; at 12.40 p.m. no further than Shizuoka, arriving there at 6.50 p.m.; at 3.25 p.m. no further than Shizuoka, arriving at 8.45 p.m.; and the train at 5.35 p.m. runs to Kobe, arriving at 12.45 p.m. next day.

A tramway runs between Kozu and YUJOTO (distance 4 ri). Hirakisha may be hired between YUJOTO and MINAKOSHITA (distance 1 ri).

OFUNA-YOKOSUKA RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE OFUNA (down) at 7.30 and 9.40 a.m., and 12.05, 1.30, 4.03, 6.14, and 8.30 p.m.; KAMAKURA (down) at 7.41 and 9.51 a.m., and 12.16, 1.41, 4.14, 6.25, and 8.41 p.m.; and ZUSHIMURA (down) at 7.50 and 10 a.m., and 12.25, 1.50, 4.23, 6.34, and 8.50 p.m.; YOKOSUKA (up) at 6.45, 8.55, and 11.20 a.m., and 12.50, 3, 5.10, and 7.45 p.m.; ZUSHIMURA (up) at 7.01, 9.12, and 11.36 a.m., and 1.06, 3.16, 5.26, and 8.01 p.m.; and KAMAKURA (up) at 7.11, 9.22, and 11.46 a.m., and 1.15, 3.26, 5.36 and 8.10 p.m.

FARES—To Kamakura, first-class *sen* 9, second-class *sen* 6, third-class *sen* 3; to Zushimura *sen* 15, *sen* 10, *sen* 5; and to Yokosuka *sen* 30, *sen* 20, *sen* 10.

TOKYO-MAEBASHI RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE TOKYO (Ueno) (down) at 6.50, 8.50, and 11.40 a.m., and 2.40 and 5.40 p.m.; and MAEBASHI (up) at 6.55, and 11.50 a.m., and 2.50 and 5.50 p.m.

SHINJIKU-HACHIOJI RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE SHINJIKU, TOKYO, (down) at 6.55 and 9.55 a.m. and 12.50, 4, and 7 p.m.; and HACHIOJI (up) at 5.25, 8.25, and 11.25 a.m. and 2.20 and 5.30 p.m.

FARES—First-class *sen* 90; second-class *sen* 60; third-class *sen* 30.

TAKASAKI-YOKOKAWA RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE TAKASAKI (down) at 6.30 and 9.25 a.m., and 12.20 and 3.15 p.m.; and YOKOKAWA (up) at 8 and 11 a.m., and 1.50 and 4.55 p.m.

FARES—First-class, *sen* 75; second-class, *sen* 45; third-class, *sen* 25.

UTSUNOMIYA-IMAICHI RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE UTSUNOMIYA (down) at 5.25 and 10.05 a.m., and 12.25* and 3.05 p.m.; and IMAICHI (up) at 7.38 a.m., and 12.13, 2.43, and 5.13* p.m.

FARES—First-class, *sen* 63; second-class, *sen* 42; third-class, *sen* 21.

* Through Trains to and from Utsuno.

NAGOYA-TAKETOYO RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE NAGOYA at 9.05 a.m., and 5.05 p.m., and TAKETOYO at 7.50 a.m., and 3.50 p.m.

FARES—Second-class, *sen* 74; Third-class, *sen* 37.

TAKETOYO-OFU RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE TAKETOYO (up) at 5.40 and 10.40 a.m., and OFU (down) at 3.53 and 8.55 p.m.

FARES—Second-class, 26 *sen*; third-class, 13 *sen*.

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

STEAMERS LEAVE the Nippon Hatoba daily at 7.55 and 10.30 a.m., and 1.45 and 4.00 p.m.; and LEAVE YOKOSUKA at 7.10 and 10.30 a.m., and 1.30, and 4.00 p.m.—*Fare, sen* 20.

Original from

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki & Kobe	per N. Y. K.	Friday, July 11th.
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, July 15th.
From Hongkong	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, July 15th.

* *Thetis* left San Francisco on June 26th. † *Belgie* (with English mail) left Hongkong on July 26th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, July 15th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Thursday, July 17th.
For Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd.	Sunday, July 20th.
For Europe, via Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, July 20th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. M. Co.	Saturday, July 26th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, July 26th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,129, J. M. Cavarly, 5th July.—San Francisco 14th via Honolulu 22nd June, General.—P. M. S. S. Co.
Norona, Norwegian schooner, 55, Johnson, 6th July.—Guam 26th June, Ballast.—Captain.
Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,182, Kenderdine, 7th July.—Honolulu 25th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Argyll, British bark, 1,222, C. O. Allen, 7th July.—New York 15th February, Oil and General.—China and Japan Trading Co.
Parthia, British steamer, 2,035, J. Pantou, R.N.R., 7th July.—Vancouver, B.C., 21st June, General.—C. P. M. S. S. Co.
Ancona, British steamer, 1,878, W. D. Mudie, 8th July.—Hongkong 29th June, Nagasaki 3rd, and Kobe 7th July, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.
Kwangsang, British steamer, 989, Sellar, 9th July.—Hongkong 2nd July, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Benfidi, British steamer, 1,452, Clark, 10th July.—Kobe 8th July, General.—Cornes & Co.
Shanghai, British steamer, 2,044, F. N. Tillard, 10th July.—Hongkong 24th, Nagasaki 28th June, and Kobe 9th July, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.
Melbourne, French steamer, 3,400, Vimont, 10th July.—Hongkong 1st, Shanghai 5th, and Kobe 9th July, General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

DEPARTURES.

Bellerophon, British steamer, 1,400, Guthrie, 5th July.—Kobe, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Windsor, British steamer, 1,797, Rayburn, 5th July.—Kobe, General.—Mat Su.
Batavia, British steamer, 1,661, J. C. Williams, 6th July.—Vancouver, B.C., General.—C. P. M. S. S. Co.
China, British steamer, 2,644, W. B. Seabury, 6th July.—San Francisco, General.—P. M. S. S. Co.
Oxus, French steamer, 2,500, Delacroix, 6th July.—Shanghai via Kobe, General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.
Chefoo, British steamer, 687, Hutchinson, 7th July.—Kobe, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. M. Cavarly, 8th July.—Hongkong, General.—P. M. S. S. Co.
Onifia, British steamer, 1,967, W. S. Thompson, 7th July.—Kobe, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.
Lucania, British ship, 1,774, Gibson, 8th July.—Kobe, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.
Parthia, British steamer, 2,035, J. Pantou, R.N.R., 8th July.—Shanghai, General.—C. P. M. S. S. Co.
Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 8th July.—Shanghai and ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from San Francisco:—Mr. H. T. Finck, Mr. K. Kabuto, Bishop Newman, Mr. and Mrs. D. L. Hillis, Mrs. E. Reese, Messrs. K. Sagara, Y. Ito, F. W. Macdonald, Max Slevogt, M. Willett, and Rev. V. Honda and child in cabin. For Hongkong: Mrs. Blocklinger, Mr. Peter Welner, Mrs. C. C. Maish, Mr. C. Mow Keung in cabin.
 Per British steamer *Parthia*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Messrs. G. Goward, N. N. McLaren, A. L. Rhodes, G. E. Krauschitz, G. J. Dunlop, A. L. Hardy, T. Hardy, A. J. Wilkin, W. B. Young, and Le Conte de Tinsau in cabin; 4 Japanese

and 33 Chinese in steerage. For Hongkong: Mrs. J. Widmer Rolph in cabin. For Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Cosmo J. Burton in cabin. For Singapore: Mr. A. H. Bengough in cabin.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, from Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe:—Dr. Will, Colonel Chauncey, Mr. and Mrs. Kretzelmas, Captain Butler, Mr. C. Gregory, Mr. Ho Hon Shun, Miss Allen, Miss Simons, Miss Imbrof, Mr. J. R. Scott, and Mrs. Addyes Scott in cabin; 6 Chinese in steerage.

Per French steamer *Melbourne*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Gablo Suler, Mr. Ed. Lehmann, Mrs. Sara Gidelman, Mrs. Heine, Messrs. Gounard, Muzelier, Satcher, A. T. Adams, K. M. Shroff, Mr. and Mrs. Scott, Mr. Syad Mohamed Shad, Mr. Hecht, Mrs. Wagner, family, and servant, and Mr. Yu Tin Kee in cabin; 2 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Batavia*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. W. A. Backhouse, Mr. and Mrs. Parr and child, Mr. J. Johnstone, Mr. Joseph Hardmeet, Rev. H. W. Fraser and family, Dr. Faries, Mr. R. B. Rigby, R.N., Mr. and Mrs. Eustace, Messrs. M. E. Hosking, Frank Stengeon, and R. Martin in cabin; 4 passengers in steerage. From Hongkong: Messrs. J. S. Bailey, H. H. Bailey, J. R. Rich, and Isaac Hughes in second class, and 125 Chinese in steerage. From Shanghai: Mrs. T. W. Kingsmill, Mr. T. W. Kingsmill, Mr. T. F. Pettus, and Mrs. M. Pettus in cabin. From Kobe: Mr. M. Seligmann in second class.

Per British steamer *China*, for San Francisco:—Mr. F. E. Theodor, Mr. B. J. Franklin, Mrs. Franklin, Rev. J. N. Hayes, Mrs. Hayes, three children and infant, Rev. C. T. Reid, three children and infant, Mr. C. Beurman, Mr. J. F. Rodewald, Mrs. Lee, Misses Alice and Annie Hoar, Professor Fenollosa, Mrs. Fenollosa, Miss Fenollosa and maid, Mr. W. J. Hill, Mrs. Hill, Dr. Hausknecht, Captain H. Gosch, Mr. P. Schramm, Mr. J. B. Sargent, Mrs. Sargent, Capt. E. Thatchler, Mr. Douglas Sladen, Miss Sladen and child, Miss Lorimer, Rev. T. W. Pigott, Mrs. Pigott and child, Mr. J. F. Morris, Miss Morris, Miss Kellner, Mrs. H. A. Howe and child, Mrs. Sandford, Master F. B. Strange, Mr. J. Hoangsberger, Dr. J. Dudgeon, Mrs. Dudgeon and three daughters, Miss Waters, Mr. C. S. Meeks, Dr. Rigby, Rev. F. S. B. Grainger, Rev. A. C. B. Pereira, Messrs. G. Perille, R. Binnie, G. Beckett, R. Beckett, F. H. Nalder, D. Munn, Miss Harris, Miss Loomis, Master Loomis, Mrs. Thwing, Rev. A. P. Thwing, Miss M. J. Goodwin, Mr. J. H. B. Warner, Mrs. Warner and European servant, Messrs. E. Butler, G. E. Martin, Neville, Lomax, R. Miyabara, Rolfe, Berg, Holley, Rev. Mr. Seckaforse, Mr. R. E. Withers, Mr. A. A. Mello, Mrs. S. E. Laine, Miss Lewis, and Miss Niles, M.D., in cabin.

Per French steamer *Oxus*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Mr. E. Kellmann, Mr. Chan Sam, Mr. Max Slegt, Mr. Th. H. Thomann, Mr. James Knox, Mr. W. Pease, Mr. Juan de Otaquiere, Mr. Guillermo Catigbac, Mr. Marciano Arguelles, Mr. and Mrs. de Sonnaville, infant and amah, Dr. Bell, Mr. Gardiol, Mr. Octave, Captain Browne, Mr. H. Keitel, Mr. Jordan, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Tannahill, Mr. H. G. Barker, and Miss Marie Destrez in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Pott, Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy and child, Mrs. Yoshisuge and child, Bishop Nicolai, Viscount Saisho, Mrs. Yamawaki and child, Mrs. Bremner, Dr. Wagner, Messrs. Narikawa, Sondheim, Sale, Watanabe, Nakamura, Takagi, Evans, and Togo in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. Miyoshi, Mrs. Murata, Mrs. Oyagi, Messrs. Ota, Lee Chee Sing, Lee Chee Hen, Ogawa, Makuda, Aeshi, Kusai, Mrs. Yamawaki's two children, Miss Miyoshi, and Miss Shinagawa in second class, and 145 passengers in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Batavia*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—

	TEA.	CHICAGO AND	NEW YORK AND	PACIFIC COAST.	TOTAL.
	CANADA.	WEST.	EAST.		
Shanghai	2,044	3,418	1,272	170	7,717
Hyogo	1,623	205	—	1,833	—
Yokohama	3,068	1,254	155	41	4,480
Hongkong	150	200	—	—	442
Poochow	651	300	—	—	951
Total	8,351	5,217	1,434	309	15,401

	SILK.	NEW YORK.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	191	—	191
Hongkong	81	—	81
Yokohama	10	—	10
Total	282	—	282

Per French steamer *Oxus*, for Shanghai via

Kobe:—Silk for France 164 bales. Waste Silk for France 123 bales. Treasure for Singapore \$3,000.00.

Per British steamer *China*, for San Francisco:—

	TEA.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
	SAN FRANCISCO.			
Shanghai	679	4,217	2,842	7,738
Hyogo	250	440	2,455	3,154
Yokohama	5,412	1,295	5,725	12,432
Hongkong	750	—	—	750
Total	6,591	5,961	11,022	23,574

	SILK.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
	SAN FRANCISCO.			
Hongkong	—	204	—	204
Yokohama	—	278	—	278
Total	—	482	—	482

REPORTS.

The American steamer *City of Peking*, Captain Cavarly, reports:—Left San Francisco the 14th June at 3:37 p.m.; first 24 hours fresh gale from W.N.W. with heavy sea and swell; thence to Honolulu smooth sea and light E. winds. Arrived at Honolulu the 22nd at 5:21 a.m. and left at 2:45 p.m. carried N.E. trades to 28° N. and 160° E. thence fresh southerly to S.W. winds, moderate sea, rainy overcast weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 5th July at 4 p.m., detained off Cape King 9 hours by dense fog.

The British steamer *Parthia*, Captain Pantou, reports:—Left Victoria the 21st June at 9:20 p.m.; had moderate to fresh variable winds with dull rainy weather to 23rd; from 24th to 27th inclusive strong westerly wind and heavy head sea; 28th and 29th moderate S.W. to N.W. winds, overcast and hazy, crossed meridian the 29th, lat. 49.16 N.; July 1st and 2nd strong W. wind and very heavy head sea; 3rd to 5th inclusive, light variable winds, overcast and hazy; 6th strong head wind and sea, foggy; 7th detained for 4 hours by fog, 9 a.m. made the land.

The French steamer *Melbourne*, Captain Vimont, reports:—Left Marseilles the 1st June at 5 p.m., called at Alexandria the 6th and same day at Port Said; passed Suez Canal the 7th, experienced in the southern portion of the Red Sea foggy weather, and reached Aden the 12th; passed Guardafui Cape the 13th at noon, experienced a strong monsoon with very heavy sea, which broke the rails and some stanchions on the starboard side aft; called at Colombo the 19th; thence light breeze. Arrived at Singapore the 24th inst. Arrived at Saigon the 26th and left the 28th at 10:30 a.m., from there to Paracels kept S.W. winds with smooth sea; thence calm easterly breeze with easterly swell. Arrived at Hongkong the 1st July at 5:30 a.m. and left at 7:30 p.m., thence to the Lanoeks, calm and smooth water, from there light westerly breeze, which became strong after Turnabout to Tai Chow; thence N.W. winds; passed Steep Island the 4th at noon, and anchored at Woosung the 4th at 9 a.m.; left the 5th at 2 p.m.; experienced foggy weather to Quelpaert; thence to Straits strong head wind with rough sea; passed Shimouzeki the 7th at 9 a.m. and anchored near Kobe Point the 8th at 3:30 a.m., came alongside the pier at 6 a.m.; left Kobe the 9th at 5:30 a.m.; had fine weather and smooth sea; passed Rock Island the 10th at 3:30 a.m.; thence foggy and rainy weather and strong current. Arrived at Yokohama at 10 a.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The Market has continued fairly active for English Yarns at former quotations. Bombays have been in request at an advance of \$1 to \$1.50 from the lowest point, in sympathy with the advance in native spinnings. Shirtings have also met with a moderate enquiry, but the market is somewhat quiet at the close. Sales for the week amount to about: English Spinmings 1,500 bales, Bombays 800 bales, and Shirtings 27,500 pieces.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	NEW YORK.	PRICE.
Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 yds. 39 inches	\$1.55	to 2.00
Grey Shirtings—9 1/2 yds. 45 inches	1.35	to 2.55
I. Cloth—7 1/2 yds. 32 inches	1.30	to 1.50
Indigo Shirtings—22 yards, 44 inches	1.25	to 1.60
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.70	to 2.00
Cotton—Italians and Sateens black, 32 inches	0.07	to 0.14
Turkey Reds—14 to 24 yds. 30 inches	1.10	to 1.22 1/2
Turkey Reds—24 to 30 yds. 30 inches	1.25	to 1.55
Turkey Reds—34 to 40 yds. 30 inches	1.75	to 2.05
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	4.50	to 6.15
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 1/2 inches	0.50	to 0.65
Taffetas, 12 yards, 43 inches	1.35	to 2.25

WOOLLENS.

Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches...	\$4.00 to 5.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.275 to 325
Medium	0.225 to 265
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	
Common	0.18 to 225
Mousseline de laine—Crape, 24 yards,	
31 inches	0.13 to 0.17
Cloths—Pilot, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.45
Cloths—President, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.60
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.35 to 0.60
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 55 lb,	
per lb	0.30 to 0.38

COTTON YARNS.

No. 16/24, Ordinary	\$27.00 to 28.50
No. 16/24, Medium	28.50 to 29.50
No. 16/24, Good to Best	29.75 to 30.50
No. 16/24, Reverse	31.50 to 32.50
No. 28/32, Ordinary	30.50 to 31.60
No. 28/32, Medium	31.00 to 32.50
No. 28/32, Good to Best	33.75 to 35.75
No. 38/42, Medium to Best	36.50 to 39.00
No. 38/42, Two-fold	36.00 to 37.50
No. 48/56, Two-fold	36.00 to 39.50
No. 20s, Bombay	74.00 to 80.00
No. 16s, Bombay	74.50 to 79.50
No. 10s/14, Bombay	—

METALS.

No change to report in this market. The aspect and prospect are both gloomy. Japanese seem to content themselves with enquiring for things which are not in stock, while holders are unable to move the various lots which they have in godown. Quotations all nominal.

Flat Bars, 4 inch	\$2.90 to 3.00
Flat Bars, 6 inch	3.00 to 3.10
Round and square up to 3 inch	2.90 to 3.10
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.
Nailrod, small size	Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	3.20 to 3.30
Sheet Iron	3.60 to 3.90
Galvanized iron sheets	6.50 to 6.75
Wire Nails, assorted	4.00 to 4.75
Tin Plates, per box	4.80 to 5.10
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.40 to 1.50

KEROSENE.

Nothing fresh here. Market dull and buyers holding off, hoping for some reduction in price. Deliveries continue fair. Country demand reported good, and the Tokyo market is rumoured to be a little firmer.

QUOTATIONS.

Chester	Nom. \$7.775 to 1.80
Comet	Nom. 1.75 to 1.775
Devoe	Nom. 1.725 to 1.75
Russian	Nom. 1.70 to 1.725

SUGAR.

Holders grip firm on Takao Sugar, and hence there has been nothing done in this description. One batch of White Refined has been moved off at \$8.20 per picul for 500 piculs, and another at \$7.40 per picul for 851 piculs. During the week receipts of Canton Whites have been large, and the market is weak for all White sorts.

White Refined	\$5.90 to 8.50
Manila	3.70 to 4.50
Taiwanfoo	— to —
Pentana	2.85 to 2.90
Namida	2.80 to 2.85
Cake	— to 3.70
Brown Takao	4.20 to 4.25

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 3rd instant, and gave statistics up to the close of the old season. Since the 1st of this month, settlements in this market reach 288 piculs, divided thus:—*Filatures* 205, *Re-reels* 72, *Hamatsuki* 11. Direct export has been 35 bales, making the total business of the ten days equal to 325 piculs.

When last writing prices were fairly strong on the basis of some reduction on top rates. These have held pretty steady through the week, but buying has been confined to one or two firms who seem able to pay more than their neighbours. From all we can learn as to the state of the crop in Europe, and having regard to the poor news received from consumers, we cannot see that present prices are warranted.

Holders are fairly strong at present quotations. Encouraged by the buying which goes on from day to day they are loth to believe that prices can and must recede before any really large business will be done. Usual reports about bad weather interfering with the balance of the crop, inferiority of cocoons this season, great demand for native manufacture &c., are put round to bolster up the market. But with silver increasing in value from day to day we think holders will have great difficulty in preventing prices from receding at an early date.

There have been three shipping opportunities this

month so far: American, Canadian, and French mails of the 6th instant all carrying some silk: the *China* 278 bales, *Batavia* 10 bales, *Oxus* 104 bales, thus making the export for present season to date 458 piculs, against 521 last year and 1,546 on 11th July, 1888.

Hanks.—No business has been done this month. Dealers ask high prices, talking of \$600 for good to best *Joshu* and \$550 for *Hachioji*. At these figures no buyers appear.

Filatures.—The chief trade has been in this class, and full rates have been paid: *Gakosha* \$745, *Kaimeisha*, *Hakuzuru* and equal \$730, *Kairoscha*, *Shichi-yo-sei*, *Kanayama* and similar, \$720. In *Kosha* sorts a nice parcel of *Kusanagisha* was done at \$712½. First arrivals of the *Susaka Filatures Tokosha* and *Shimeisha* are coming in; price asked by the owners is \$730, but probably a slight reduction might be accepted. These are said to be reeled from true *Shinsu Cocoons*. For Europe very little has of late been done—a few boxes Old silk *Usen* fetching \$690.

Re-reels.—Small business in these; holders are firm and want low figures. Last prices paid were *Tortoise* \$695, *Kife chop* \$685, *Kodama* \$670. *Fire Girl* chop is now arriving. Holders ask \$700, but would doubtless take \$690, although at the moment no one makes the offer.

Kakeda.—Silk from this district is appearing on the scene, but at present no business has been done in it. There are only a few piculs as yet on the market, and the dealers are asking about \$680 for silk equal to *Hana-musume* and *Red Shishi*. No shipper seems anxious to operate at these figures.

Oshu.—Some few bales *Hamatsuki* have been taken into godown for Europe, but the price has not yet been fixed.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No. 14	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinsu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 24 (Shinsu)	—
Hanks—No. 24 (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 24 to 3	Nom. \$570
Hanks—No. 3	—
Hanks—No. 34	Nom. \$40 to 545
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	—
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	740 to 745
Filatures—No. 1, 10/11 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	720 to 730
Filatures—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	700 to 710
Filatures—No. 2, 10/11 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	680 to 690
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Shinsu and Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	680 to 690
Re-reels—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	665 to 675
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	650 to 655
Re-reels—No. 24, 14/18 deniers	630 to 640
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	600 to 610
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No. 1	—
Kakedas—No. 11	Nom. 680 to 690
Kakedas—No. 2	—
Kakedas—No. 24	—
Kakedas—No. 3	—
Kakedas—No. 4	—
Kakedas—No. 5	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 24	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 24	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 11th July, 1890:—

	1889-90.	1889-90.	1888-89.
Bales.	Piculs.	Bales.	Piculs.
Europe	164	323	1,234
America	288	199	314
Total	452	522	1,548
	458	521	1,546
Settlements and Direct	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Export from 1st July	325	650	800
Stock, 11th July	2,625	7,000	2,500
Available supplies to date	2,950	1,650	3,300

WASTE SILK.

Since the 1st inst. settlements reach 135 piculs, divided thus:—*Noshi* 38 piculs, *Kibiso* 80 piculs, *Mawata* 3 piculs, *Neri* 14 piculs.

All the purchases made have been in Old fibre; so far the arrivals of New stock are not large, and sellers do not seem in any hurry to push their wares. On the other hand, shippers are content to await developments and in consequence nothing is done.

The French mail steamer *Oxus* of the 6th inst. carried 123 bales *Noshi* and *Kibiso* for Marseilles: the export figures to date are consequently 508 piculs, against 85 last year, and 829 on the 10th July, 1888.

Pierced Cocoons.—Nothing has yet arrived. The people up-country do not appear eager to send their produce down, until there is a settled outlook for values here.

Noshi.—In old fibre some little trade has been

done a parcel *Tomioka filature* bringing \$140, and some low-common *Joshu* \$25 to \$40.

Kibiso.—The business has all been in ultra-common qualities at the low figure of \$11 first cost. Considerable parcels of this class were shipped to Marseilles by last French steamer *Oxus* on the 6th instant.

Mawata.—Nothing done beyond the sample of which we spoke last week. This may lead to further business in the future, but at present no fresh sales have been made.

Neri.—Some bales of refuse done at \$3 for the rough stock in its uncleaned state.

We still withdraw all quotations until some business is done in New fibre.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinsu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinsu, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Shinsu, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Bushi, Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	—
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	—
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinsu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinsu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	—
Kibiso—Hachioji, Good	—
Kibiso—Hachioji, Medium to Low	—
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	—
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 11th July, 1890:—

	1889-90.	1889-90.	1888-89.
Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Waste Silk	508	48	829
Pierced Cocoons	—	37	—
	508	85	829
Settlements and Direct	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Export from 1st July	135	20	50
Stock, 11th July	4,615	3,230	2,700
Available supplies to date	4,750	3,250	2,750

Exchange has climbed steadily, and closes strong at the following rates:—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits 3/6½; Documents 3/6½; 6m/s. Credits, 3/6½; Documents 3/6½; NEW YORK, 30 d/s. U.S.G., \$84½; 4m/s. U.S.G., \$85½; PARIS, 4 m/s., fcs. 4.41; 6m/s. fcs. 4.43.

Estimated Silk Stock, 11th July, 1890:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	60	Cocoons	55
Filatures	1,095	Noshi-ito	835
Re-reels	1,300	Kibiso	3,350
Kakeda	50	Mawata	350
Oshu	120	Sendries	25
Taysam Kinds	—		
Total piculs	2,625	Total piculs	4,615

TEA.

There has been a steady demand during the week, averaging 1,077 piculs per day, with slightly easier prices; receipts, too, have been about equal to the daily purchases. The grades of second crop of Common and Good Common show some improvement over those of the first crop, but the remaining grades, more especially Fine and upwards, are exceedingly dark in cup. The American ship *Francis* takes a full cargo for all distributing points of the Eastern States and Canada. The next mail will bring us full details of the *Belic* and *Abyssinia* sales. Latest wire information is not cheering, and sales are slow. We leave quotation unaltered.

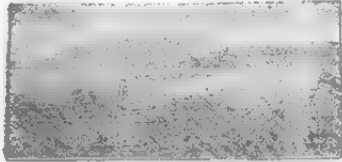
	PER PICUL.
Common	\$11 & under
Good Common	12 to 13
Medium	14 to 15
Good Medium	16 to 17
Fine	18 to 20
Finest	21 to 23
Choice	24 to 27
Choicest	28 to 30
Extra Choicest	31 & up'd's.

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has moved steadily upward, and rates are strong at quotations:—

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/5½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/6
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/6½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/6½
On Paris—Bank sight	4/35
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4/45
On Hongkong—Bank sight	2 1/2 dis.
On Hongkong—Private to days' sight	1 1/2 dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72
On Shanghai—Private to days' sight	72½
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	84
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	85
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	84
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	85

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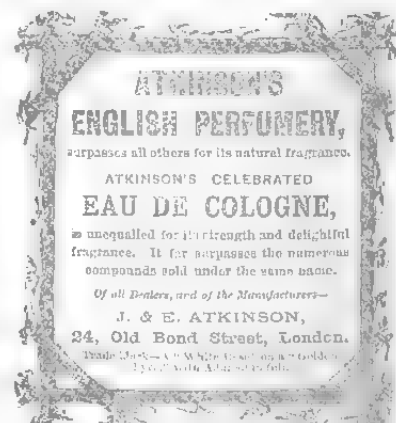
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No. 3.]

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YOKOHAMA, JULY 19TH, 1890.

通信者認可

[VOL. XIV.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer; not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Compoes be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 19, 1890.

BIRTH.

On the 16th instant, at No. 5, Water Street, the wife of A. HEVNE of a daughter.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

H.I.H. PRINCE HARU visited the Emperor and Empress on the 14th instant, returning home at 5 p.m.

THE name of the Dogashima Detached Palace has been changed to the Hakone Detached Palace.

HIS IMPERIAL HIGHNESS PRINCE FUSHIMI proceeded to Narashino, Chiba Prefecture, on the 14th instant.

VISCOUNT ENOMOTO, Privy Councillor, will start from Tokyo about the beginning of August for Hokkaido.

H.I.H. PRINCE KACHO, who had been staying at Atami for some time, returned to the capital on the 10th inst.

PRINCE TOKUGAWA, who had been staying at Atami for some time, proceeded to Kamakura on the 11th inst.

THE line of the Sanjo Railway Company between Utsu and Tatsuno was opened on the 10th instant for traffic.

COUNT ITAGAKI will publish a newspaper, to be named the *Yifu Shinbun*, in Tokyo, commencing on the 1st August.

H.I.H. PRINCE HARU will leave Tokyo on the 27th instant for Okitsu, Shizuoka Prefecture,

where His Highness will stay for three weeks, afterwards proceeding to the Hakone Detached Palace.

ON the 4th instant three persons were killed by lightning at Takatacho, Nishikunito, Oita Prefecture, four others being injured.

THE line of the Osaka Railway Company between Kashiwabara and Nara, which is now in course of construction, will be completed in August.

ANOTHER sale of 3,000 bags of foreign rice has been notified by the Finance Department to take place on the 18th instant at the Osaka Granaries.

CHOLERA returns from Nagasaki show a diminution in the virulence of the epidemic, but cases of sporadic character are reported from many other places.

A MEETING of the Marine Products Society was held at the Shiba Detached Palace on the 10th instant, at which H.I.H. Prince Komatsu presided.

MR. MIYOSHI, Judge of the Court of Cassation, who is now in Berlin, has been ordered to return home. It is stated that he will be nominated by the Emperor a member of the House of Peers.

MARQUIS HACHISUKA, Governor of Tokyo, had a long interview with Viscount Tanaka, Chief of the Metropolitan Police, on the 15th instant regarding methods of preventing the spread of cholera.

THEIR Imperial Highnesses Princes Arisugawa, Komatsu, Fushimi, Kitashirakawa, Kacho, and Nashimoto have collectively subscribed yen 1,000 towards the Tokyo City Government fund for the relief of the distress in the capital.

THE ceremony of presenting certificates to the graduates of the Tokyo Middle School took place on the 15th instant, at which Marquis Hachisuka, and Mr. Watanabe, a secretary of the Tokyo City Government, were present.

THE various police and other officials of the Kanagawa Prefectural Government held a meeting on the 11th instant at the Kencho to discuss the question of the inspection and disinfection of passengers by railway to prevent the spread of cholera.

ANOTHER sale of 10,000 bags of imported rice has been notified by the Finance Department to take place at the Asakusa Granaries on the 21st instant. The same day 3,000 bags of foreign rice will be sold at the Hyogo Granaries by public auction.

THE ceremony of conferring certificates on graduates of the Tokyo Industrial School took place on the 14th instant. Addresses were delivered by Mr. Yoshikawa, Minister of State for Education, and Mr. Teshima, Director of the school.

MR. YOSHIDOME KYOSKI and other gentlemen of Tokyo have been permitted by the Tokyo City Government to organize a company under the name of the Japan Union Life Insurance Company with a capital of yen 50,000, the office being situated at No. 28, Morimotocho, Nichome, Shiba.

A FAREWELL entertainment was given at the Seiyoken on the 13th instant by Mr. Watanabe, Japanese Minister to Austria, who will leave Japan shortly for his post, to Viscount Tanaka, a Privy Councillor, Messrs. Kanda, and Tanaka, Senators, Saito, Director of the Commercial and

Industrial Bureau in the Agricultural and Commercial Department, Komatsuhara, Prefect of Saitama, and some sixty members of the Meiji Fine Art Society.

THE number of visitors to the Exhibition during the period from the 1st April up to the 13th instant was 891,704, consisting of 6,631 distinguished, 36,471 special, and 822,433 ordinary visitors, 25,983 being students and 189 foreigners holding special invitations. The daily average was 8,574.

ACCORDING to investigations made by the Customs Bureau in the Finance Department, the quantity of rice imported from abroad during the week ended the 12th instant was 181,186 piculs, of which 109,444 piculs were imported into Yokohama, 19,113 piculs into Kobe, 33,625 piculs into Osaka, and 19,004 piculs into Nagasaki.

ACCORDING to investigations made by the Customs Bureau in the Finance Department the exports from Japan during June last amounted to yen 4,673,045.530 and the imports to yen 7,124,532.890, the imports exceeding the exports by yen 2,451,487.360. During the same period bullion amounting to yen 690,080.800 was exported, yen 94,674.940 being imported.

HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR, accompanied by Marquis Tokudaiji, Grand Chamberlain, Count Yoshii, Vice-Minister for the Imperial Household, Viscount Higashizono, Colonels Okada and Vonedo, Chamberlains, and several officials of the Imperial Household Department, paid a visit to the Imperial University on the 12th inst, returning to the Palace at 12.30 p.m.

MR. MITSUKURI, Vice-Minister for Justice, Mr. Kurisuka, a private secretary of the Minister of State for Justice, Mr. Fukuhara, Director of the Accountants' Bureau, and several higher officials of the Judicial Department, held a private meeting on the 15th instant for the purpose of discussing the Law as to the re-organization of Law Courts.

A HALF-YEARLY meeting of shareholders of the Kanasawa Rice Exchange was held on the 11th instant. The receipts during the past half-year were yen 13,212.055, of which, after placing a sum to the reserve fund and setting apart the usual amounts as rewards to officers and business tax, yen 6,600 was appropriated as a dividend, at the rate of 44 per cent. per share per annum.

THE Manchester trade has improved, and the increased activity of a week ago has developed into quite a large business in English Yarns, though Bombyls remain unaltered. Fair enquiry has been made for Piece-goods, and moderate quantities of Shirtings, Velvets, and Italians have been taken. The Metal market is quiet, buyers holding off for lower prices, which must come in view of the recent movement in exchange, holders of large stocks here being now at a great disadvantage. No sales of Koresene are reported, buyers demanding a concession on present rates before again operating. Arrivals are heavy, no less than three ships from New York coming into port in one day. Very little has been done in Sugar. Only a moderate amount of Silk has been settled, exchange operating as a deterrent to buyers in view of the attitude of holders. Waste Silk arrives slowly, and little has yet been done. The Tea trade is fairly steady, stocks are ample, and prices are generally unaltered, though Common to Medium grades have slightly declined in value. Exchange rose steadily—and almost daily—during the week, but yesterday there was a slight relapse.

Original from

EDITORIAL NOTES.

CEREMONY OF CONFERRING PRIZES AT THE EXHIBITION.

THE ceremony of conferring prizes (*Hoshō Juyo-shiki*) on successful exhibitors at the Industrial Exhibition took place on Friday morning in presence of His Majesty the Emperor. The place was the large pavilion standing directly in front of the Permanent Museum—the same pavilion in which the opening ceremony was performed by His Majesty at the close of March. A spacious double Dais covered with purple cloth and bearing the imperial arms in white and gold, had been erected at the end of the pavilion opposite the entrance. It was reached by four flights of steps, two on the rear flanks and two at points in the sides directly opposite the Imperial seat, a richly lacquered chair standing beside a table covered with gold brocade. On the right and left of the more elevated part of the Dais where His Majesty's seat was placed, spaces were reserved for Princes and Princesses of the Blood, behind the former being grouped the Minister of the Household, Chamberlains, and other officials, and behind the latter, the Ladies in Waiting, the Chief of the Board of Ceremonies, and other officers of the Household. In front of the Dais two tables, draped with brocade, one close to the Dais, the other farther removed, indicated the places whence H.I.H. Prince Arisugawa, President of the Exhibition, and Mr. Kuki, President of the Board of Judges, respectively should report to His Majesty the results of their labours. Several days previous to the ceremony an elaborate schedule of regulations had been issued, showing exactly where each class of visitors should place themselves, and indicating precisely the procedure to be observed on arrival and departure. The consequence was that everything passed off perfectly, and that the crowd of distinguished personages who had the honour to be invited or who were present *ex officio* found their places without embarrassment. On the right of the Dais stood the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, the Foreign Corps Diplomatique, and the members of the Board of Judges, the space behind them being occupied by the Japanese and foreign guests, the Secretaries of the Board of Judges, and the experts attached to the Board. Still farther to the right were grouped the President of the Board of Judges, the Chief Secretary of the Board and officials from Prefectures and Cities. On the left of the Dais stood the Cabinet Ministers, the President of the Privy Council, the President of the Senate, the Chief of Police, the Governor of Tokyo, &c., &c., and a little more advanced, on their left, where the President and Vice-President of the Exhibition and the chiefs of the various sections. Yet another group of officials of *shinin* and *chokunin* rank, with the principal exhibitors, occupied the space behind the Cabinet Ministers. The time for the assemblage of these various personages was fixed for 8.30 a.m. and precisely at that hour His Majesty drove out of the Palace Gates, reaching the Exhibition before nine, and taking his seat on the Dais at that hour. We need scarcely speak of the brilliancy of the scene or of the regularity with which everything moved. So soon as the last strains of the National Anthem had died away, H.I.H. Prince Arisugawa moved to the place appointed for the President of the Exhibition, and briefly reported the conclusion of the Judges' labours. The Vice-President, Mr. Hanabusa, then handed to the President a scroll containing the names of the prize-winners, and the President, in his turn, laid it before the Emperor. Then Mr. Kuki, President of the Board of Judges, advancing to the place appointed for that purpose, read a short statement of the opinions arrived at by the Judges, and at its conclusion the President, once more coming before the Dais, stood with bowed head while the Emperor spoke a few words expressing the Imperial pleasure at the progress indicated by the Exhibition, and satisfaction with the methods of management. This done, the actual business of presenting the

prizes commenced, the names of the successful exhibitors being read out by the Vice-President and the medals, certificates, &c., delivered to each person by the President. This part of the affair was necessarily long and tedious, its chief feature of interest for foreign observers being the genuinely Japanese display of self-possession and good manners made by the prize-winners, one and all. The lists not being yet published, we refrain from any necessarily partial attempt to indicate the chief successes earned, a detail which will doubtless be looked for with curiosity by those who have visited the Exhibition. We may say, however, that Prizes of Honour (*Meiyo-sho*) were obtained by seven persons; Prizes for Progress (*Shimpo-sho*) by 177; Prizes for Excellence (*Myogi-sho*) by 211; Prizes for Skill (*Fuko-sho*) by 3,966; Prizes for Competition by 15, and Certificates of Merit by 11,767. Thus the total number of prize-winners was 16,143. These distinctions, numerous as they seem, become really distinguished when we remember that the total number of classes of articles in the Exhibition is 168,711; the total number of articles 441,458, and the total number of exhibitors 80,147. The last item on the programme was an address of congratulation by the chief representative of Local Officials, after which the assembly broke up.

MR. LARGE'S ASSASSIN.

It was stated by the *Fiji Shimpō* in its issue of Thursday that the police had arrested two men suspected of being those who murdered the Rev. Mr. Large. We have been unable to obtain any further particulars, the police observing their usual praiseworthy reticence. The facts, as stated by our contemporary, however, are that the residence of Mr. Tsuna Mihachi, a milk-merchant, in Fujimicho, Azabu District—the same district as that of Mr. Large's residence—was entered by two burglars whose descriptions tallied with the accounts given by Mrs. Large and others of the assassins of April 4th. The two men were arrested on the 8th instant and are now undergoing a rigorous examination. One of them is a *shizoku* residing in Morimoto-cho, Azabu; the other's social position is not mentioned, but he is stated to have been living in the house of one Nakamori Kinoshita, at No. 19, Shinsakurada-cho, Shiba. The names of the men are said to be Kurosawa Komakichi and Imai Umekichi. The public will not be surprised if it learns that this, too, is a false alarm, though the fact that one of the burglars lives in Azabu, and that they were plying their nefarious trade in that district seem to indicate their identity with the murderers of Mr. Large. We had grown somewhat weary of hoping that the villains would be brought to justice, and we cannot pretend to be sanguine now. Still this last arrest has features. The remarkable skill with which Mr. Large's assailants wielded their swords, always seemed to us one of the most noteworthy features of the affair. No common man delivered such expert cuts and thrusts. They were the work of a *shizoku*, and holding this conviction, the news that a *shizoku* has been arrested for burglary in the Azabu District, seems to us decidedly suggestive.

ALLIANCE OF PROGRESSIVE PARTIES.

As already noticed in these columns, there is a movement on foot for the formation of an alliance between all the parties professing progressive principles. The movement originated with the *Kyushu Dōshi-kai*, but the idea is not new. When the public excitement on the question of treaty revision subsided last year, Mr. Yano Fumio, in a memorable article in the *Hochi Shimbun*, told his followers not to entertain any prejudice against other parties, their late uncompromising enemies, because a time would certainly come when it might be necessary to move with them hand in hand. The same sentiment has been repeatedly expressed by the two other *Kaishin-to* papers, the *Mainichi Shimbun* and the *Chōya Shimbun*, especially the latter. The organs of the various sections of the Liberal party were not slow to respond to the wish unequivocally expressed by the *Kai-*

shin-to journals, and the ground had thus been prepared, when the members of the *Kyushu Dōshi-kai* took upon themselves the task of mediation between the *Kaishin-to* and the Radical parties. So far, the *Dōshi-kai*'s delegates have simply obtained favourable bearing from the principal members of these parties, but nothing definite has been arranged for the attainment of the desired end, though it is reported that a meeting will be held some time in August, when the representatives of the parties concerned will deliberately consider the whole question. Meanwhile, it may not be without interest to reproduce what one of the leading magazines on the capital has to say on the subject. The *Kokumin-no-Tomo*, in its issue of the 3rd instant, makes some suggestions as to how the proposed alliance should be effected. The first thing to be done is that each of the parties contemplating alliance should definitely decide on the terms of union. Next, representatives should be appointed by each party to consider the general question of alliance. These representatives should have full powers to settle the whole business, and should, as far as possible, be appointed from among those who possess seats in the Diet, because it is in the Diet that the alliance, if formed, will be carried into effect. As to the conditions of alliance, the *Tokyo* magazine does not think them difficult to arrange. The published platforms of the parties to be allied agree on all the more important political and financial issues, and are now understood to coincide in their main features with the wishes of the electors. What the representatives have to do is to construct a general platform on questions concerning which the parties are fully prepared to agree. After this, the allied parties should appoint a common committee of investigation, whose business it will be to enquire into questions to be brought before the Diet. Other measures recommended by our contemporary are the establishment of a common club for the allied parties; the publication of the platform of alliance, and the holding of a large lecture meeting in Tokyo. In conclusion, the *Kokumin* advises would-be members of the union to pay due attention to the so-called "Independent" members of the Diet, for among them there are undoubtedly many who entertain progressive principles though averse to enrolling themselves in the ranks of a party.

AFTER THE ELECTIONS.

WRITING of the elections, the *Hochi Shimbun* says:—In no class of contest is the fate of rival candidates more quickly decided than in the wrestling ring. When the two combatants appear, with their arms extended and their shoulders raised to meet the expected shock, the spectators greet them with applause, and await with abated breath the result of the fray. Honour is in store for the winner; disgrace and humiliation are the fate of the loser. With this knowledge present to his mind each wrestler exerts every effort and exhausts every artifice to overcome his opponent; perspiration is not infrequently mingled with blood, and the on-lookers must often feel that they are in the presence of no mimic warfare. But when the contest is over there still remains to be considered the conduct of the combatants. It may be that the defeated one has been guilty of a breach of etiquette by throwing sand over his antagonist; or it may be that the victor has suffered himself in the heat of success to be betrayed into some expression or gesture of arrogance. Men who occupy prominent places in their profession are not guilty of such conduct. They never become inordinately elated by victory, nor are they greatly chagrined by defeat. The victor may often be seen to brush from the prostrate body of his foe sand that may have been cast up in the struggle, and victor and vanquished frequently leave the arena together with a friendly demeanour. When they meet again no trace of resentment is permitted to appear; they leave the result of their struggle in the hands of Heaven. This absence of resentment and kindred passions is due entirely to the fact that such men do

not allow personal feeling to enter into their contests. The contest for election to the House of Representatives may well be compared to the rivalry of the wrestling ring. In the very nature of things one must be defeated; and if it is honourable to gain victory it is no less honourable to suffer defeat. Though Konishiki may be defeated by Onaruto, the skill and ability of the former, which have made him worthy to be pitted against the latter, remain unimpaired in the popular estimation. Similarly it is to be desired that those who have been successful in the contest for election to the House of Representatives should comport themselves with becoming dignity, and that those who are defeated should accept their fate without resentment, and, profiting by the lesson they have received, endeavour to acquit themselves better in the future. There have been disagreeable and unpleasant incidents in connection with the elections; we hope their memory will not be perpetuated by the public acts of the candidates now that the contest is over, and that efforts will be made by those who were rivals to reconcile the discordant feelings that may have been aroused. Above all things it is to be wished that the electors and candidates of to-day should set before future generations an example of orderly and conciliatory conduct, the spectacle of which will not be without an important effect on Parliamentary elections in the future.

CANDIDATES AND ELECTED.

PREMISING still that we are not in a position to speak with certainty as to the exact proportion in which the various parties are represented among the members recently returned for the Diet, we give some closely approximate figures which will be found interesting. For the 299 seats already decided there were no less than 649 candidates, distributed in the following manner:—

	NUMBER OF CANDIDATES.	NUMBER ELECTED.	PERCENTAGE OF SEATS.
Independent	268	107	40 (nearly)
<i>Daido Danketsu</i>	129	62	49 (nearly)
<i>Kaishin-to</i>	130	50	39 (nearly)
<i>Aikoku-to</i>	50	30	60 (nearly)
<i>Shin-to</i>	47	19	41 (nearly)
<i>Kiushu Shinpo</i>	23	8	35 (nearly)
<i>Shu-to</i>	14	9	64 (nearly)
<i>Hoshu-to</i>	8	4	50

*Totals

From this table it will be seen that the number of Independent candidates in the field was more than double the number sent out by any other party, and that the *Aikoku-to* was most successful in respect of the percentage of its candidates who obtained election. It will also be perceived that the figures for the successful candidates differ slightly from those previously given in these columns. We do not pretend to pin our faith to any of the returns, but these latest seem at least as trustworthy as their predecessors.

ELECTIONS TO THE HOUSE OF PEERS.

THE election of Counts, Viscounts, and Barons to the House of Peers took place at the Nobles' Club on the 10th instant. The results of the voting are as follow:—

COUNTS.

(The total number of Counts is 74, of whom 15 are elected according to law by their peers.)

	BALLOTS.
Higashikaze Michitomi, ex <i>Kuge</i> , age 56	55
Matsura Akira, ex <i>Daimyo</i>	54
Ito Hirobumi, new noble, age 48	53
Yamaguchi Sakimitsu, ex <i>Kuge</i> , age 40	52
Uyesugi Mochimaru, ex <i>Daimyo</i> , age 40	50
Ogasawara Tadamasa, ex <i>Daimyo</i> , age 28	44
Hirohashi Masamitsu, ex <i>Kuge</i> , age 35	43
Ohara Shigetomo, ex <i>Kuge</i> , age 42	43
Nakagawa Hisanori, ex <i>Daimyo</i> , age 40	40
Reizei Tanemoto, ex <i>Kuge</i> , age 36	37
Matsukata Masayoshi, new noble, age 55	33
Tachibana Tomoharu, ex <i>Daimyo</i> , age 32	33
Katsu Awa, new noble, age 67	30
Marinokoji Michitaka, ex <i>Kuge</i> , age 42	30
Ii Naonori, ex <i>Daimyo</i> , age 42	27

(The total number of Viscounts is 297, of whom 70 are elected by their peers.)

Kageyukoji Sukekuni, ex <i>Kuge</i>	277
Tachibana Tameyuki, ex <i>Daimyo</i>	275
Nabeshima Naohyoshi, ex <i>Daimyo</i>	273

Ogih Yuzuru, ex <i>Daimyo</i>	271
Kano Hisayoshi, ex <i>Daimyo</i>	268
Tani Tarkki, new noble	266
Okochi Masatada, ex <i>Daimyo</i>	264
Hotta Masayasu, ex <i>Daimyo</i>	262
Matsudaira Noritsugu, ex <i>Daimyo</i>	261
Kyogoku Takamasa, ex <i>Daimyo</i>	248
Soga Sakenori, new noble	242
Mibu Motoaki, ex <i>Kuge</i>	241
Yenomoto Takeaki, new noble	240
Yonezu Masatoshi, ex <i>Daimyo</i>	236
Fukuba Bisei, new noble	235
Yamao Yuzo, new noble	235
Okabe Chishoku, ex <i>Daimyo</i>	234
Ogasawara Nagamori, ex <i>Daimyo</i>	234
Kaiyeda Nobuyoshi, new noble	231
Fujinami Kotarada, ex <i>Kuge</i>	229
Sengoku Masakata, ex <i>Daimyo</i>	228
Shinagawa Yajiro, new noble	226
Yuri Kosei, new noble	224
Fukuda Kotei, new noble	224
Mimra Goro, new noble	224
Hayashi Tomoyuki, new noble	223
Torii Chubun, ex <i>Daimyo</i>	222
Iitsutsuji Yasunaka, ex <i>Kuge</i>	219
Itakura Katsumichi, ex <i>Daimyo</i>	218
Yamaguchi Toyoshige, ex <i>Daimyo</i>	217
Shinjo Naonobu, ex <i>Daimyo</i>	217
Shimada Tadaakira, ex <i>Daimyo</i>	214
Hisamatsu Sadashiro, ex <i>Daimyo</i>	212
Honda Masanori, ex <i>Daimyo</i>	202
Yoshida Kiyonari, new noble	200
Tanaka Fujimaro, new noble	199
Kawada Kogemono, new noble	197
Matsudaira Nobumasa, ex <i>Daimyo</i>	196
Kuse Michiharu, ex <i>Kuge</i>	196
Funabashi Naomata, ex <i>Kuge</i>	196
Sano Tameaki, new noble	194
Kagawa Keizo, new noble	193
Takenouchi Kurekida, ex <i>Kuge</i>	192
Matsudaira Tadamori, ex <i>Daimyo</i>	189
Oseko Sadakiyo, new noble	188
Nomura Yasushi, new noble	183
Takatsuki Osanaga, ex <i>Kuge</i>	170
Torio Koyada, new noble	173
Shishida Ki, new noble	170
Ishino Kaichiro, new noble	168
Anki Shuzo, new noble	168
Kiyooka Kocho, new noble	164
Omiya Mochitsune, ex <i>Kuge</i>	161
Hijikata Hisanori, new noble	157
Yamaguchi Mitsukuni, ex <i>Daimyo</i>	157
Sakai Tadaakira, ex <i>Daimyo</i>	156
Tanaka Koken, new noble	155
Kuki Takayoshi, ex <i>Daimyo</i>	154
Gojo Tameshige, ex <i>Kuge</i>	154
Sugi Magobichiro, new noble	152
Naito Masatomo, ex <i>Daimyo</i>	149
Kuroda Kiyotsuma, new noble	168
Sagara Yoshisugu, ex <i>Daimyo</i>	144
Itoya Masaru, new noble	142
Nishiyotsutsuji Kimmaru, ex <i>Kuge</i>	140
Matsudaira Naohiko, ex <i>Daimyo</i>	139
Aoyama Yukiyoshi, ex <i>Daimyo</i>	139
Sasaki Yoshinori, ex <i>Daimyo</i>	138
Yamaguchi Hirokuni, ex <i>Daimyo</i>	138
Seki Hironao, ex <i>Daimyo</i>	137

BARONS.

(The total number of Barons is 104, of whom 20 are chosen.)

Nagaoka Moriyoichi, new noble, age 47	76
Watanabe Kyoshi, new noble, age 55	76
Makimura Masanao, new noble, age 56	75
Sengu Takatomi, ex-priest of the Idzumo Shrine, age 45	74
Kamiyama Guren, new noble, age 61	74
Kojitani Motobiko, new noble, age 61	74
Kikuchi Takeomi, new noble, age 39	70
Takasaki Goroku, new noble, age 54	69
Takasaki Seifu, new noble, age 54	68
Awayama Tei, new noble, age 63	66
Kaneko Arisari, former priest of the Iwami Shrine, age 44	66
Nakagawa Okinaga, former priest of the Nara Temple, age 38	65
Honda Chikan, new noble, age 60	64
Nishi-itotsuji Ayanaka, former priest of the Nara Kokubiji Temple, age 31	62
Maki Nagayoshi, new noble, age 54	61
Date Munetsun, ex <i>Daimyo</i> , age 38	55
Tsurudono Tadayoshi, ex <i>Kuge</i> , age 37	54
Sakitanu Tekinaga, former priest of the Nara Kokubiji Temple, age 25	53
Tamawatsu Masaki, ex <i>Kuge</i> , age 31	49
Komatsu Yukimasa, former priest of the Fudoin of Nara Kokubiji Temple, age 28	45

THE DIRECT EXPORT OF SILK.

THE *Jiji Shimpō*, in its article on the direct export of silk, says:—"If the advantages that accrue indirectly to the Yokohama silk merchants from the direct export of raw silk be

taken into account, the abolition of that branch of business must prove a serious injury to the country at large, inasmuch as the resident foreign merchants will naturally strive to profit by the occasion." One would be led from this to infer that the Dōshin Kaisha did an extensive business. The truth is, however, that their transactions are comparatively small, and if the company were non-existent to-morrow its demise would not prove to be "a serious injury to the country," as the purchases made by it for export would be taken by other buyers, and the producer be equally well off. Though we have not at hand at the moment the export figures of the Dōshin Kaisha, we have those of the entire direct export, of which the Dōshin Kaisha can only claim a portion. These are as follow for the past eleven years:—

YEAR.	TOTAL DIRECT EXPORT.	TOTAL EXPORT.
	Bales.	Bales.
1879-80	1,156	17,875
1880-81	2,940	22,344
1881-82	5,089	21,774
1882-83	3,741	28,716
1883-84	6,348	29,997
1884-85	5,641	25,402
1885-86	3,933	25,891
1886-87	3,759	26,370
1887-88	3,680	38,958
1888-89	2,826	41,264
1889-90	2,495	35,505

These figures speak volumes in rebuttal of the statement that the "abolition of the business (of the Dōshin Kaisha) must prove a serious injury to the country." They also show that since the maximum direct export was reached in 1883-84, the figures have constantly declined till last season's direct trade amounted to but little more than one-third of 1883-84. This is not surprising, for it is perfectly well-known in Yokohama that, owing to causes which we refrain from discussing, the Dōshin Kaisha has burnt its fingers pretty severely every year without exception. Then the question follows:—Is the Government to be called upon to support the losses of a company unable, through its own incapacity, to conduct its business without incurring bad debts?

THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE unofficial statement published in our last issue to the effect that all nobles connected with the service of the Imperial Household would be interdicted from sitting as elective peers in Parliament, is now confirmed by an edict in the *Official Gazette*, declaring that the following are ineligible for seats in the House of Lords by elections:—Chamberlains; officials of the Board of Ceremonies; Masters of Services to the Empress, the Empress-Dowager, or the Prince Imperial; officials of the Imperial Mews Bureau; of the Imperial Hunting Bureau; of the Imperial Cookery Bureau; of the Bureau of Palace Superintendence; of the Bureau of Court Auditors; and Stewards to the Imperial Princes and Princesses. The result of this edict is to unseat sixteen of the noblemen already elected by their orders, namely, two Counts, twelve Viscounts, and two Barons. The Counts are Madenokoji and Reizen; the Viscounts, S. Soga, Yamao, Iitsuji, Ogasawara, Omiya, K. Kagawa, Takatsuji, Nishi-yotsuji, M. Sugi, Yonezu, Fujinami, T. Matsudaira; and the Barons, Takasaki and Maki. It is to be observed that peers who sit in Parliament by virtue of their titles—*ie.*, Marquises and Princes—are not touched by the above interdict. Evidently the object is to keep the Imperial Family and every one connected with it entirely apart from politics. It seems a pity, however, that this resolve was not made public before the elections for the House of Peers.

There is a rumour that peers who are members of the Privy Council will decline the honour of election conferred on them by their Orders. In that event Counts Higashi-Kuze and Katsu-Awa, and Viscounts Yenomoto, Takaoka, Yoshida, Sano, Nomura, and Hijikata will retire, and other peers will have to be chosen in their stead. The new elections necessitated by these resignations and by the edict referred to above, will be quite important, since four Counts,

nineteen Viscounts, and two Barons will have to be balloted for. The motive of the Privy Councilors' abstention is obvious, since it is understood that their body is to occupy a position between the Emperor and the Diet, and independent of the latter.

AN ELECTION DILEMMA IN NAGOYA.

THE voting in Nagoya for the election to the House of Representatives of a member for the first district of the city, has resulted in a somewhat awkward situation, which the Law Courts have been called on to deal with. It seems that there are in Nagoya two gentlemen bearing the name of Horibe Katsushiro—we are taking the story told by *Nippon*—one the President of the City Assembly, who resides in Funairicho, and the other residing in Inuyamacho; and both are qualified to sit in the Diet. For Horibe Katsushiro 235 votes were cast, and of these 32 bore the address of the Funairicho gentleman, while the remaining 202 contained no indication showing which Horibe they were in favour of. For Mr. Kunishima Hiroshi a rival candidate, 134 votes were given. The local Authorities in counting the votes, placed to the credit of the President of the Assembly not only the votes which bore his name and address, but also those that were destitute of any address, and, comparing the total thus obtained with the figures for Mr. Kunishima, declared Mr. Horibe the former duly elected. But here the Mr. Horibe of Inuyamacho stepped forward and, avowing his belief that the ballots which had no address were designed for him, claimed that he had been elected; while Mr. Kunishima, seeing an opportunity of gaining advantage from the rivalry of the two Richmonds, claimed that the votes which did not describe Mr. Horibe's place of residence were void, which view if upheld will, of course, place him at the top of the poll. Meanwhile, Mr. Horibe (the President of the Assembly) has been officially declared the successful candidate, and has contradicted in our columns statements published in the Tokyo papers as to legal action alleged to have been taken on various grounds. The other Mr. Horibe, however, according to the *Nippon*, has laid his claims before the local Courts.

MESSRS. DEAKIN BROTHERS AND COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE subscription list for shares in this new limited liability company opened on Monday and closed on Wednesday evening, the brief interval of three days being considered sufficient to obtain the sum required. The projectors will probably have found that their estimate of the public readiness to invest is not exaggerated, and that in a few hours the required capital was all forthcoming. For undoubtedly the scheme, as submitted in the prospectus, is very tempting. We do not propose, however, to make any financial statement: investors have doubtless done that for themselves pretty carefully already. Besides, in such a business, the arithmetical records of the past are not the most important consideration. The sale of objects of modern art is an employment to which anybody with a certain amount of taste and a small capital may devote himself, but success depends upon the possession of qualities very rarely found combined in one person. There have been in this Settlement several instances of men who imagined that to furnish a parlour with so called "art objects" and to sit down there awaiting customers was a sure road to fortune. In fact they placed this kind of business in pretty much the same category as wine selling, an occupation to which broken down gentlemen have been in the habit of turning their indigent hands from time immemorial. The results of such a mistaken estimate are notorious. Nearly every one making the essay sank deeper in the mire of impecuniosity from which he had sought to raise himself by so rash an effort. Curio dealing requires just as much general and special ability as any branch of commerce. Of course we do not speak of dealing in the products of past times. Anyone who contemplates that must make up his mind to a careful and

assiduous apprenticeship of several years and to the expenditure of a large sum of money. Capacity to distinguish the good from the bad, the genuine old from the spurious new, can only be acquired by the practical experience of buying largely and paying dearly for one's blunders. But though to cater successfully for the public fancy even in modern art manufactures requires less training, it certainly demands that a man shall have taste himself, shrewdness, and judgment to appreciate, and tact to guide, the taste of his customers, and above all enterprise to contrive that in his hands before all others connoisseurs can be sure of finding the very best and choicest articles in the market. We are by no means sure that this last is not the most essential condition of all. It is at any rate the condition which Messrs. Deakin and Co. have succeeded in fulfilling completely, for at no other store in Japan can the connoisseur see a similar profusion of the choicest and most beautiful goods. A tourist coming to Japan may spend months here and visit curio-sellers in all the great cities, yet in the end he may go away without discovering the *chefs d'œuvre* which modern Japan has to offer unless he has recourse to the Messrs. Deakin's store. To pay a handsome dividend to its shareholders, the new company must be careful before everything to preserve this monopoly of choice supply. It can do so doubtless as long as the business is guided by hands such as those which have hitherto managed it so successfully. As a company, too, the prospects of the enterprise ought to be greatly improved, for naturally every shareholder will assist to advertise its excellencies and advantages. We believe, therefore, that the investment is sound, and that the stock will go to a considerable premium.

PARTIES AND LEADERS.

IN an able article in its last number, the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* discusses the relations between political leaders, and their followers at present. The immediate occasion evoking this discussion is a probable alliance of all the parties of progressive tendency, and the consequent need of a leader capable of exercising authority over the whole group of allies. The Tokyo journal declares that not one of the political leaders who have hitherto presided over parties, as, for instance, Count Okuma, Count Goto, Count Itagaki, Mr. Oi, and so forth, possesses the influence necessary for occupying the difficult position of a captain-general. The truth is, says our contemporary, that radical changes are about to be accomplished in the relations between political leaders and their followers. The relation between a leader and his party has hitherto been, "like that existing between the chief and his followers in a fraternity of knights-errant." The men who form, so to speak, the back-bone of the Liberal Party (using this term as including all the factions that have grown out of the defunct *Jiyu-to*) are the old soldiers of the wars of the Restoration, who fought under the command of Count Itagaki. The majority of the rest of his followers have joined him more from admiration of his personality than from political conviction, and whatever radical views they may at present entertain have been imbibed by them from their leader since they joined his party. As to the *Kaishin-to*, the personal influence of its leader is of a more intimate kind. Most of the prominent members of that party formerly held office under the direct or indirect patronage of Count Okuma up to the time of their retirement in his company. Thus in Japan leaders have created parties, not parties leaders. But our contemporary observes that great changes are taking place in the relative positions of leaders and parties. The transition is illustrated by a reference to the political history of the country in the latter days of the feudal régime. Some time before the Restoration, when the Imperialist (*Son-nô*) and anti-foreign (*Jô-i*) movements first began to disturb the quiet of the political world, the chiefs of most of the clans were able, by force of long established usage and prestige, to control the actions of their vassals. But before long the

latter began, by imperceptible degrees, to acquire more and more independence of action until at last the *Daimyo* became mere puppets in the hands of their retainers. A similar course of events is now taking place in the political world. The ranks of every political party are being swollen by the influx of a new race of politicians, who have little or no personal connection with their nominal leaders. If they obey those leaders, they do so simply because the latter occupy the position of command. Formerly parties derived their importance from the personal influence of their leaders, but now the weight of a leader depends entirely upon the character and influence of his followers. The seat of power has shifted from leaders to led. The *Kokumin-no-Tomo* illustrates this point by the case of Count Goto. That the Count is safe in his official chair in a *Sat-cho* Ministry, is, in the opinion of our contemporary, owing to his connection with the *Daido* Club, without whose support at his back his position in the Cabinet would be very different from what it is at present. The *Daido* Club no longer leans on Count Goto, but, on the contrary, Count Goto leans on the *Daido* Club. While the natural course of events is thus decidedly unfavourable to the further maintenance of their position on the part of the present leaders of political parties, an event is about to take place which will decide the question once for all, namely, the opening of the Diet. Hereafter party battles must be fought mainly within the doors of the Diet, and no leader who is not a member of the House of Representatives will, in the opinion of the Tokyo journal, be able to discharge the duties attaching to his position. The present leaders of parties, however, Counts Goto, Okuma, and Itagaki, are ineligible for a seat in the House of Representatives on account of their titles of nobility, while their prospect of obtaining a seat in the House of Peers is by no means assured. It may be, therefore, that their tenure of leadership will terminate with the opening of the Diet, and the question arises, who will succeed them? The *Kokumin* states for the present nobody can answer this question with any show of authority. As the future leaders of parties are to be found among members of the Diet, it would be as absurd to look for leaders before the opening of Parliament as to expect the birth of a child before the union of its parents. Our contemporary, therefore, advises those interested in the proposed alliance of progressive parties not to seek immediately for a leader to preside over their coalition. Should they be over impatient to obtain a chief, things may fall out with them as with the frogs in the fable: they will get a mere log or a heron for their trouble.

MISSIONARY CONFERENCE AT AOYAMA.

MONDAY morning's session of the Conference at Aoyama, Tokyo, was devoted to the reports of Presiding Elders and continuation of the examination of preachers' characters. The Presiding Elders, of whom there are six in the Conference, are chairman of districts, and their reports cover the condition of the entire work of the Conference. The reports showed that the year had not been as favourable as many previous ones, but that the ground already gained had been held and some slight advance noted. A vote was submitted to the Conference looking toward the changing of the Constitution of the Church, so that the General Conference, the legislative body, should be composed of an equal number of lay and clerical delegates, the laymen having been greatly in the minority heretofore. A large majority of the Conference voted in favour of the change. Rev. Mr. Hardie, Rev. Mr. Hiraiwa, and Professor Whittington were present as visitors from the Conference of the Canadian Methodist Mission, each addressing the Conference in a few earnest words. Mrs. Allen of London, who has been doing so much for the education of the negroes in America, was also presented to the Conference, as was also the Rev. Mr. Takanô of the Evangelical Association. The Anniversary Exercises of the ladies took place in the afternoon. They consisted of a Bible reading and an address, all by the ladies in

Japanese. Mrs. Chappell's report was full and very interesting. The ladies' work is very extensive and effective for good.

Tuesday morning's session was largely devoted to routine work. The most important action of the morning was the appointment of a Board for Deaconesses according to a recent provision of the church. The deaconesses that may be appointed by this Board are to be voluntary workers, taking no vows, but promising obedience to a few simple rules while remaining in that position. There are already several suitable candidates. Several young men were admitted into the Conference on probation after careful examinations. The question of admitting women as lay delegates to the General Conference was brought up and referred to the various churches for their vote next November, at which time the entire Church is to vote on this much debated question. Rev. T. H. Colthour, of the Methodist Protestant Mission, was introduced to the Conference, and gave just a word of greeting. The conference adjourned to meet on Thursday morning in order to give the committees time to prepare their reports.

INAUGURATION OF THE LEPER HOSPITAL AT KOYAMA.

THE Inauguration of the Koyama Leper Hospital took place on Monday the 25th of June. Monseigneur Osof and many missionaries were present at the ceremony. There does not exist among the Japanese the same repugnance as in the West to coming into the vicinity of Lepers, and in consequence the population of the district surrounding the Hospital flocked in considerable numbers to take part in what may be called the fête of these most unfortunate of human beings. The weather was magnificent, and from an early hour in the morning the spacious enclosure of the Hospital presented the appearance of a public celebration. The Japanese, too, not being disposed to do anything in a hurry, it resulted that the last rays of the sun had disappeared behind Fujiyama before the holiday-keepers began to wend their way homewards. Without attempting to build a luxurious habitation, Father Testevuide and his coadjutors have spared no pains to render the dwelling of the afflicted patients as comfortable as possible, a kindly intention which the generosity of friends and benefactors has enabled them to carry out with considerable success. The infirmary, the pharmacy, the dormitories, the bathing-rooms, the lavatory and the kitchen are all admirably arranged. A machine, equally ingenious and simple, brings an ample supply of water from the neighbouring river. Many a tourist visiting Koyama would be surprised, we imagine, to find such a display of talent in an establishment for lepers. Already twenty sufferers have taken refuge in this favoured asylum, and it is hoped that public charity will soon render possible the admission of a much larger number. When we remember that only 75 yen suffice to support a leper at the Hospital for the space of a whole year, it becomes evident that no very serious effort is needed to bring the comforts of the Hospital within reach of a wider circle. Behind the main building is a little oratory, whither the lepers repair, each after his own fashion—for there are various forms of faith among them—to invoke blessings on the heads of those who, for the sake of Christian charity, or from simple motives of humanity, have contributed to this good work.

CHOLERA INSPECTION AND FOREIGN VESSELS.

We observe in the *Nippon* a statement quoted from the *Kobe Fushin Nippo* which reflects very seriously on the behaviour of foreign ship-masters. Referring to the notorious case of the *Hesperia*, the Kobe journal avers that the contumacious disregard of Japanese Sanitary Regulations shown by that vessel, furnished a precedent which has been followed by many other ships. Since the disinfecting station was

established at Wada-misaki our vernacular contemporary says that several foreign ships have paid no regard to the signals displayed at the station but have moved on into the harbour, refusing even to return when summoned to do so by boats from the station. These lawless proceedings are condemned by the Kobe journal, and would be equally condemned by every one if their truth were established. But are they credible? We have never heard of any instance—since the *Hesperia*—of a foreign vessel deliberately ignoring or declining to obey the Japanese Sanitary Regulations. Such action would not for a moment be condoned by the Foreign Representatives, nor can we believe that it would be permitted by the Japanese. The right of the latter to enforce the Regulations is beyond all question, and the means of doing so are at the disposal of the sanitary officials. We suspect, therefore, that the Kobe journal has been misinformed.

MR. ALFRED EAST.

THE art critic of the *Royal Academy* writes:—"I have left myself but little space to speak of the landscapes—the department which is supposed to give colour to this year's Academy. But I ought, perhaps, to explain that it is principally by numbers, and the preference of the hanging committee, rather than by quality that they impart the distinction. Yet some noble canvases challenge attention. Sir Everett Millais' first moonlight landscape, 'The moon is up and yet it is not night,' is remarkable for the poetic character of the atmosphere and the beauty of the drawing. Mr. Alfred East's 'October glow, near Yardley Woods,' is one of the brightest and most charming works in the collection, painted with consummate ability and with admirable taste, palpitating with atmosphere and excellent in composition." The same magazine, speaking of Mr. East's exhibition of paintings made in Japan, says that it was "successful from every point of view" and Mr. East himself writes of it:—"My exhibition of the landscapes of Japan closed last Saturday; and I am glad to say it was a great success in every way. Nearly the whole of the pictures were sold."

A POLICE CASE.

A CURIOUS case has just been tried in H.B.M.'s Consular Court at Kobe. The defendant was a seaman called Augustus Cassidy, on board the ship *Gutiana*, and the complainant a Japanese jirikisha coolie, Tanaka Hikosuke, the charge being assault and battery with a claim for damages and medical expenses to the amount of \$1.45. On the 29th of June, Cassidy, being on leave, appears to have amused himself as sailors generally do in the foreign settlements, that is to say, by drinking bad whisky and worse rum. By six o'clock in the evening he had become a conspicuous object in the streets. There is no evidence indeed to show how he had previously been conducting himself, but two foreigners deposed that they saw a Japanese challenge him to fight at that hour, and as such challenges do not come from Japanese except under circumstances of great provocation, we may fairly conclude that Cassidy had set himself to make things lively. Immediately after the challenge the Japanese "either fell or threw himself down," being impelled to assume a prostrate position by some mysterious influence which the witnesses did not explain, but which is easily understood from the sequel, namely, that Cassidy "lifted the coolie up by the hair of his head and kicked him three or four times." After this escapade, which was not made the subject of any complaint, Cassidy seems to have continued entertaining himself in an undisciplined manner until half-past seven or eight, when he again appears upon the scene of testimony. Unfortunately, however, it is most confusing testimony. What we gather from it is, however, that Cassidy having struck down a Japanese so as to render him insensible, a rumour went abroad that he had killed the man, and a crowd collecting endeavoured to seize and beat him. An account given at the time by an English local journal says that

Cassidy escaped into a saloon which the crowd would have stormed had not the European inmates made a sortie and dispersed the people. This part of the affair was not elicited in court. From the evidence given there we learn only that the police endeavoured to arrest Cassidy; that he struck at them and tried to get away; that he was seized and taken within the railings of the Higo Hotel, and that while there one Japanese beat him on the head with a wooden clog, others hit him with bamboos, and altogether the unfortunate man was terribly mauled. The grave part of the affair is that Cassidy was then in the hands of the police. According to their testimony they held him on the ground and tried to protect him; according to the testimony of three foreigners the constables not only made no adequate attempt to protect him, but actually pinioned him while the crowd beat him. This latter view is almost incredible, and as the matter is under investigation by the Japanese Authorities we refrain, of course, from commenting on it. With Cassidy we have no manner of sympathy. He was evidently behaving like a wild beast, and if he found the performance hurtful to himself, that was only natural. But the police ought to have been able to protect him against the mob, and if it is proved that they made no resolute effort to do so, we trust that they will be suitably punished. Needless to say that the affair has evoked some of the hysterical writing which a portion of the foreign local press always indulges whenever there is any suggestion of misconduct on the part of the Japanese. It is hopeless, perhaps, to expect sobriety where vulgar applause can always be won by intemperance and anti-Japanese declamation. The Japanese police have a very difficult rôle to play. Their attempts to arrest foreigners are resisted with extreme violence, and in a manner which the law-breakers would never adopt towards constables of their own nationality. If they exhibit impatience or want of self-restraint, let them be duly punished, but, on the other hand, let foreign writers refrain from abusive and contemptuous utterances which serve only to aggravate the situation.

FORCED JAPANESE STAMPS.

AN incident which came to our knowledge the other day should serve as a warning to collectors of Japanese stamps. A gentleman resident in this settlement whose experience in the collection of stamps of this country is of the widest, was waited on by a Japanese, who offered for his inspection a lot of assorted stamps. These ranged from very old to quite recent issues, from the rarest to the most common, and the price put on them collectively amounted to several hundred dollars. An ordinarily careful examination disclosed nothing of a suspicious nature, and the purchase of the lot was in a fair way of being concluded, when it occurred to the purchaser to inspect the stamps by the aid of a strong glass. All or nearly all were at once found to be forgeries. The imitation was sufficiently clever to pass even careful scrutiny, but the magnifying glass made apparent numerous discrepancies.

THE SUMMER SCHOOL AND BISHOP NEWMAN.

We read in a local English journal an account of what is described as "a somewhat unpleasant incident." The members of the Japanese Young Men's Christian Association had been holding sessions in Tokyo for some days, and on Monday evening they arranged to have their last meeting, on which occasion Bishop Newman consented to give an address. The Bishop does not appear to have ascertained the hour fixed for the opening of the meeting. At all events he arrived late, and found that the meeting, having waited until some time after its regular hour, was receiving an address from a Japanese. We quote the sequel of the story from the journal which reports it:—

After the Bishop arrived, the Japanese address went on and on, although the Bishop was on the platform. As he was very tired, having been in his conference all day, and the room was very hot and close, he got up and went

outside. Some of the foreigners who have been unremitting in their efforts to make the Summer School a success, leaned over and spoke to the committee, apparently desiring that the Bishop should be allowed to speak as soon as possible for he was weary, and, being a man of 63 years, he naturally desired to get to rest as soon as convenient. Although this consultation was in whispered tones and disturbed nobody, it brought forth a sharp hiss from the boys in the audience. At half-past eight the Japanese address was at an end, but the Bishop had taken his departure under the advice of his friends, as there seemed to be no assurance that he was to be allowed to speak at all. This treatment of so distinguished a visitor as Bishop Newman, is strangely at variance with the well-known courtesy of the Japanese people, and can only be accounted for on the basis of the prevalent anti-foreign feeling. It was extremely discourteous on the part of the Japanese speaker to continue after the Bishop's arrival, as he well knew that the evening was to be devoted to Bishop Newman's address. It was equally discourteous on the part of Mr. Oshikawa, the superintendent, not to have politely asked the speaker on the floor to conclude his address after Bishop Newman had finished. Mr. Oshikawa has only recently returned from America, where, we will venture to say, although he had no such post of honour as Bishop Newman, he was never treated in any manner bordering upon the discourtesy he permitted to be meted out to Bishop Newman.

It is not easy to endorse all this. Bishop Newman promises to address a meeting. He fails to ascertain at what hour the meeting opens, and, arriving late, finds a Japanese speaker delivering an address. Under such circumstances the Japanese should certainly have brought his speech to an end as quickly as possible, seeing that the Bishop was an invited guest and a man deserving of all respect. But if this act of politeness was not performed, assuredly the Bishop's friends should not have attempted to have the speaker interrupted. If they did that they made an error themselves. And they made a still grave error in allowing such a report as the above to be published. To openly accuse the members of the Young Men's Christian Association of displaying anti-foreign spirit because they signified their objection to have an address interrupted seems extravagant, and certainly is not politic.

NORWICH UNION FIRE INSURANCE SOCIETY.

The report for the year 1889 of the Norwich Union Fire Insurance Society, presented to the proprietors at the annual general meeting on the 3rd ult., showed that the net premium income for the year ending 31st December, 1888, amounted to £639,827; while the net premium income for 1889 amounted to £677,641, showing an increase on the previous year of £17,814. After setting aside one-third of the premiums (£225,880) as a reserve against liabilities on policies not run off, the balance at the credit of profit and loss account, including the unappropriated balance, £160,518, brought forward from the previous year, is £230,408, out of which an interim dividend of £2 per share was paid in January last, a further dividend of £2 per share has been declared by the Board, and will be payable on the 5th of June. Bearing in mind the large amount carried to reserve, and undivided last year, the Board have decided to again declare a bonus of 10s. per share. The Directors regret that the losses for the past year have been abnormally heavy, especially in the home business, though there have been none of great individual amount. The United States business has yielded a fair profit. The undivided balance carried over to next year's credit is £159,908, due provision being made for the increase of liabilities not expired, £20,000 being added to the reserve fund, which will now stand at £370,000. The percentage of losses on premiums is 63.03 as against 53.61 in 1888, and 60.15 in 1887. The working expenses are about the same as in the previous year. The Directors recall to the shareholders their remark of last year, that a too confident belief in the permanency of their comparative freedom from loss should not be indulged in, and they, therefore, this year feel justified in saying that though the losses have been heavy, the business in its different branches is in a very sound condition, and that the results of fire insurance operations should always be averaged in order to obtain a true test of success.

KOREAN AFFAIRS.

Owing to some unaccountable delay on the part of the post office somewhere, correspondence

from Korea, which should have reached us nearly a month ago, is only just to hand. We publish it, however, for though the principal event to which it alludes is out of date, the general information and details given by the writer are full of interest. In a covering letter he adds:—"The Queen Dowager of Korea, who died June 4th, 1890, was the Queen of Ik Chong, who after a reign of but a few months died at the age of twenty. She has therefore been a widow, for ladies of any rank in Korea may not marry a second time, for 62 years. The successor to Ik Chong was his son, Hun Chong, who after a reign of about 15 years died without male issue. The Queen of Soun Chio, the predecessor of Ik Chong, was living at this time, and she designated Chul Chong, a young brother of Ik Chong, as king. It is said he was unmarried and engaged in selling pumpkins at the time he was called to the throne. He, however, answered the call of his country, had his 'hair put up,' just outside the great south gate, entered the city, was married and crowned king. He reigned seventeen years. He died without male issue. He had a daughter who was married to Prince Pak Yong Ho, of the *emule* of 1884 fame. She died a few months after the marriage. On the death of Chul Chong, the Queen Dowager, whose death is now mourned, she being the oldest person in the Palace, designated the second son of the Tai Won Kun as his successor. She adopted him as her son, and for 27 years has supported him on the throne. The Queen of Hun Chong is still living in the Palace, past three-score. Report has it this morning (June 16th) that she too is dead, but this is not confirmed and is given merely as a rumour."

"KIKITAI."

A CORRESPONDENT, signing himself "Kikitai," propounds questions which, as he evidently understands, could only be answered fully in a long article. We are obliged to him for the suggestion that such information is needed, and will take an early opportunity of explaining, as clearly as possible, the points to which he refers. Meanwhile we may briefly answer two or three of his queries. There is neither Grand Jury nor Common Jury in Japan: the jury system is not adopted at all. A prisoner is, in the first place, examined magisterially, and if it appears that a case exists against him, the charge and evidence are submitted for the purpose of the accused's trial by a Court of law. He then goes before a bench of Judges, who unite the functions of weighing the evidence and interpreting the law. If he is unwilling or unable to engage counsel to plead for him, the Court supplies the deficiency at the public expense, and the barristers for the prosecution and defence make set speeches, and examine and cross-examine witnesses precisely after the manner of an American or English Court. Witnesses are not sworn; they merely make a solemn declaration. As for the police, they are employed by the Central Government only, and they make arrests under warrant just as police do in the West.

SHANGHAI.

A RECENT issue of the *N.-C. Daily News*, referring to the heat in the Model Settlement, says that people there toss and tumble on their beds without obtaining the much needed rest. Here in Japan, however, fires by day and blankets at night are still a necessity, and we are getting into the middle of July. "Erik Andersen, an ex-American man-of-war's man, was found by the Police yesterday afternoon (1st inst.) on the Garden bridge in an unconscious state. He was taken to the Hongkew Station, but although remedies were applied, he died. The deceased was apparently a person who would be predisposed to apoplexy. Owing to the intense heat, a Mrs. Lapham, while in the Garden yesterday afternoon, was seized with a fit and had to be taken in a carriage to the Hospital, but she was dead on arrival." Distress in China seems to be almost chronic. At present people in the Wenchow district are suffering from the dearth and scarcity of rice, at other places they are pray-

ing for rain, and in the North fears are entertained that the crops will be a partial failure. The morning paper says:—"We learn from Wenchow that the people there are having a hard struggle for existence, as rice is exceedingly scarce, and consequently very dear. To relieve the distress, the officials opened the public granaries last Friday, and thousands rushed to them before daylight. Unfortunately two people were killed in the crush, while several were injured. If the people can manage to get over the next fortnight, all will be well again. Such has been the distress that the pawnbrokers refuse to take any more pledges, as they have no room left to store the articles. So far, the people are quiet, while the officials are in a manner helpless."

THE DUTCH IN ACHEEN.

THE Dutch appear to be following up their recent success against the Achinese. The *Strait Independent* says that "since the battle fought on the 11th May the Dutch troops have continued their onward march and carried everything before them. On Saturday they crossed the Edie river to give battle to the Achinese in what has until now been considered their own territory, but the latter declined the engagement and fled. On Sunday they went as far as Ediejoet, about fifteen miles from Edie, and slept at the place. On their way there the troops killed every one who resisted their advance and burned everything that was in their way. H. N. M. gunboat *Prins Hendrik der Nederlanden* followed the troops along the coast and shelled every position where resistance was likely to be offered. On Monday the Achinese tried to capture a *beting* on the hill opposite Edie, but although the little fort was only garrisoned by about 60 troops the enemy were repulsed with great loss, over 300 of their men remaining dead on the field. When our informant left Edie the Dutch were marching on Bagoh, with a view of capturing the Rajah of the place.

SAILING RACES.

THE Committee of the Sailing Club issue the following notices:—

On Saturday, the 19th July, 1890, there will be a race for all boats over 17 rating, start at 2 p.m.; club course, twice round; time limit, 4½ hours; prizes, under measurement handicap, one in each class; officer of the day, Mr. W. W. Campbell.

On Saturday, the 26th July, 1890, there will be a race for all boats over 17 rating; start at 1 p.m.; course, from an imaginary line between the Spit Buoy and a Flagboat moored inshore of same, around the Lightship (leaving same on port hand), the *Salvage Buoy*, the Lightship (leaving same on port hand) and finish across the starting line. Distance 17 knots. Time limit, none; prizes, under arbitrary handicap, first (presented), second, and third; officer of the day, Mr. E. Beart.

There will also be a race for 17 ratings only; start at 1.30 p.m.; course, the 17 rating course; once round; time limit, 4½ hours; prizes, under measurement handicap; first (presented) and second; officer of the day, Mr. E. Beart.

On Saturday, the 2nd August, 1890, there will be a race for all boats over 17 rating, start at 1 p.m.; course, from an imaginary line between the Flagstaff at British Naval Depot and a Flagboat anchored off the Grand Hotel, around a flagboat anchored off Yomioka, and the Club's North Mark off Tsurumi (leaving both same on port hand in rounding), and finishing across an imaginary line between the Bathing Barge and Flagboat. The Lightship and Honmoku Black and White Buoy to be left on starboard hand in going to Yomioka, and on Port hand in returning. A Flagboat will be placed at the North Mark which will display two white lights, one above the other, after dark if necessary. Time limit, none. Prizes, under arbitrary handicap, first, the *Roma Cup* (presented), second and third. Officer of the day, Mr. W. W. Campbell.

On Saturday, the 9th August, 1890, there will be a race for 17 ratings only, start at 1.30 p.m.; course, from an imaginary line between the Bathing Barge and Flagboat around a triangular course of two miles indicated by flagboats, four times round=8 miles. All flagboats to be left on starboard hand. Time limit, 6 hours; prizes, under measurement handicap, first the *Violet Cup* (presented), second, presented; officer of the day, Mr. Alan Owen.

On Saturday, the 16th August, 1890, there will be a race for 17 ratings only; start at 2 p.m.; course, the 17 rating course. Once round; time limit, 4½ hours; prizes, under measurement handicap, first and second; officer of the day, Mr. C. D. West.

THE ELECTIONS.

THE *Singapore Free Press*, referring to the elections in Japan, describes the regulations as to treating, bribery, rioting, and so on, as "very strict," and remarks—"What a happy time Japan will have while the elections are on."

Our southern contemporary will doubtless be interested to learn that the elections throughout the country have been conducted in the most peaceable manner; that the regulations for the conduct of the polling and the guidance of candidates and voters have worked admirably; and that the general results have far exceeded the most sanguine expectations of those who anticipated that the Japanese would carry themselves with dignity and sobriety on so momentous an occasion as the inauguration of their first Parliament.

CHOLERA.

The *Official Gazette* states that the outbreak of cholera at Kuchinotsu is due to germs brought from Shanghai by the *Foritomo Maru*. The grounds of this assertion are not given, but it cannot be denied that the neighbourhood of a country like China is a constant source of peril. Probably no summer passes without something like an epidemic of cholera at Shanghai or some other of the crowded, insanitary Chinese cities with which Japan is in virtual contact. Little if anything is known, however, of these visitations. The Chinese Authorities give themselves no trouble about them; no efficient steps are taken to check or control them, and there is nothing to prevent their becoming centres from which the pest spreads to any place within range of mischief. The propinquity of an empire so ill regulated in respect of hygienic matters is not happy for Japan.

Other places from which cases of cholera are reported are:—One case in the harbour of Wakatsu, Fukuoka Prefecture, in a vessel which came from Nagasaki; one case, a woman, at Akama-ga-seki, in a vessel from Nagasaki—a case of a man in the same ship had been previously reported; a case in Sawata, Gumma Prefecture—a man attacked on June 30th died on July 2nd; a case on the 7th instant in Kudzu-machi, Tochigi Prefecture; a case, on June 28th, in Mizubiki, Kagoshima Prefecture.

The disinfecting stations and hospitals at Nagaura and Wadamisaki are now fully equipped and provided with a staff of doctors and officials. At both places the Inspection Regulations began to be enforced from the 8th instant. The Nippon Yusen Kaisha steamer *Nagoya Maru* has been chartered by the Government to act as a watch-ship for the former station. The well known and popular official Mr. N. Mitsuhashi has apparently been again placed in charge of the Nagaura station, and Mr. Okoshi Teisuke of that at Wadamisaki. We read also, in the *Official Gazette*, that a thorough system of medical inspection and disinfection has been inaugurated at Shimonoseki and at Fusan in Korea.

The returns from Nagasaki since the 11th instant are as follows:—

July 12th	New cases 30
	Deaths 27
July 13th	New cases 30
	Deaths 25
July 14th	New cases 13
	Deaths 11
July 15th	New cases 26
	Deaths 6
July 16th	New cases 33
	Deaths 23
July 17th	New cases 40
	Deaths 7
July 18th	New cases 29
	Deaths 18

These figures bring the total number of cases since the commencement of the epidemic to 409 and the deaths to 232. Other cases reported are:—In Inouye-mura, Nagano Prefecture, one man attacked on the 6th, died on the 7th; in Maruko-mura, the same Prefecture, one woman attacked; in Horikawa-cho, Hiroshima Prefecture, a man fell ill on the 6th instant and died the same day; in Arai, Ehime Prefecture, a man was attacked on the 18th instant; at Wakatsu, in Fukuoka Prefecture, the case reported in a ship which had entered the harbour from Nagasaki, was followed on the 10th instant by two cases in the same ship; in Inai-mura, Miyagi Prefecture, and in Takagi-mura of the same Prefecture, two men were taken ill on the 6th instant, the case in Inai-mura terminating

fatally the same day. It appears evident from these returns that conditions favourable to the development of cholera, whatever such conditions may be, exist at many places throughout the empire, and that the danger of the disease, assuming an epidemic form has to be constantly kept in view.

It should be noted that although we record the Nagasaki cases in one group, they are distinguished in the official returns as cases in the town of Nagasaki and cases in its suburbs. We are not yet justified, perhaps, in forming any confident conclusion, but it certainly does seem as though the epidemic at Nagasaki had begun to lose its virulence. The number of new cases has fallen from 47 on the 11th instant to 14 on the 14th, a very remarkable diminution. Against this hope, however, is to be set the fact that the plague has not, on this occasion, reached anything like the dimensions it attained in 1885. Breaking out on August 20th in the latter year, the total number of cases up to the 31st of the same month was 303, and the total number of deaths 173. Then suddenly it developed great activity, and from September 1st to September 6th (inclusive) the number of new cases was 662, and the number of deaths 257. The maximum was reached on September 4th, when 221 persons were attacked and 64 died. There has been nothing at all so bad this year. From June 27th to July 14th the total number of cases was 303 and the total number of deaths 179, the maximum being reached on July 11th, when 47 persons were seized and fifteen died. And now the fresh cases have fallen to 14 *per diem*, a diminution which, unless the records of all previous epidemics be untrustworthy as precedents, may be regarded as the beginning of the end.

Other cases reported in the *Official Gazette* of the 15th instant are:—In Tokyo two cases of choleraic character, one in the Shinjuku suburb, the other in Asakusa, and one fatal case of true cholera on the 13th, in Matsukura-cho, Honjo; in Kurashiki-shima, Hiroshima Prefecture, a man who had returned from a visit to Nagasaki was attacked on the 11th instant and died on the 14th; in Futatsu-mura, Kumamoto Prefecture, four men were seized with cholera on a date not mentioned, and in Tamachi-mura, Yamaguchi Prefecture, one man fell ill on the 5th instant and died almost immediately; and at Namai-mura, in Ehime Prefecture, a case of choleraic character occurred on the 8th instant.

Other cases reported are:—One case each in Tameshige, Itogi and Yamashiro, Prefecture of Saga; one case each in Futate and Tomioka, Kumamoto Prefecture; one fatal case (a woman) in Onoye-cho, Yokohama; one case in Tanaka, Chiba Prefecture; one case (a woman) in Kosugimachi, Toyama Prefecture; one case in Kamisugi, Hiroshima Prefecture; and one case in Nakahagi, Yehime Prefecture. It would seem that the disease has taken some hold at Kuchinotsu, for there have been 18 cases and 12 deaths there since the commencement.

The disease evidently gains little head at Nagasaki but, unfortunately, the number of cases reported from other parts of the empire increases steadily. The following list is given in the *Official Gazette* of the 17th instant:—

At Shiki in Kumamoto Prefecture; one fatal case on the 14th instant.
In Morishita-cho, Asakusa, Tokyo; one case on the 14th instant.
In Gharano-ura, Kyoto; one case on the 14th instant.
In Akasube and Kuzukawa-mura, Nagano Prefecture, one case each on the 9th and 14th instant respectively, the latter fatal.
In Ju-mura, Kitago-mura and Totemachi-mura, Fuku Prefecture, one fatal case each, the first a man on the 14th instant, the second a man on the 13th instant, and the third a woman.
In Minami-mura, Iida Prefecture, one case on the 7th instant.
In Hirokawa-mura, Kagoshima Prefecture, one case on the 4th instant.

The three cases reported from Saga Prefecture in our last issue have all been traced directly to intercourse with Nagasaki.

The lists given in the *Official Gazette* of the 17th and 18th instant contains the following information as to the progress of the disease

in other parts of the empire:—At Hamamatsu-cho, Shiba, Tokyo; one case, a boy, on the 16th instant. At Okachimachi, Shitaya, Tokyo; one case, a girl, on the 16th instant. At Mishitamura, Shima-shimo-gori, Osaka; one case, a man, on the 16th instant. At Uchidacho, Yokohama; one case, a man on the 16th instant. At Izumicho, Kofu, Yamaguchi Prefecture, one case, a woman on the 13th, resulted fatally on the 14th. At Shimonoseki; one fatal case on the 18th instant. At Futayemura, Shimakomura, and Tomiokacho, Amakusa, Kumamoto Prefecture; one case each on the 17th instant. At Inadzusamura, Kamo, Shizuoka Prefecture; one case on the 13th inst. At Omioncho, Imidzu, Toyama Prefecture; one fatal case on the 15th instant. At Nakaicho, Nishikikita, Yamagata Prefecture; one fatal case on the 15th instant.

THE "NORTH CAROLINA INTELLIGENCER."

The first copy of a new journal, the *North Carolina Intelligencer*, has just reached us. It is a fine broad, clearly printed sheet, and we do not doubt that it will satisfy the requirements which have called it into existence, though upon this point we are naturally unable to pronounce any judgment. It presents, however, a point of some interest to foreign residents in Japan, since two of its columns are occupied by an account of the Japanese Court, by Miss (or Mrs.) E. R. Seidmore. The account is pleasantly written, but the ideas of its authoress are seriously mixed in some respects. She makes the Prince Imperial only three years old, though he was born in August, 1879, and yet she speaks of the Tokyo dancing class holding its weekly meetings at the Nobles' Club, whereas the Rokumeikan, where the meetings used to take place, has only become the Nobles' Club in prospect. Thus in one respect she is eight years behind the time; in another, several months before it. As for her description of the Emperor and his doings, we leave our readers to form their own estimate, observing only that we find them as far from the truth as the height of 60 inches assigned by her to the Emperor is below his real stature.

THE IMPERIAL NOMINATIONS TO THE HOUSE OF PEERS.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, writing of the elections to the House of Peers, says:—The elections by the constituencies and by the various orders of the nobility to the House of Peers have taken place, and now there only remains the nomination by the Emperor of fifty members, the result of which is awaited with much interest, as the persons thus sent to the Peers' House will, from their merits as well as by reason of the circumstances under which they are selected, form an important section of the House. A rumour has obtained currency to the effect that it is intended to limit the selection of the Imperial nominees to the orders of the peerage. We cannot believe such a rumour to be correct, for, in the first place, it is a view not countenanced by the Law of the House of Peers, and if it were carried out the whole beauty of the constitution of the House would vanish. The object of the Imperial nomination is undoubtedly to gather together the ablest men available, and though of course there are people of capacity among the nobles, still these do not embrace all whose presence in the House would be desirable. It is explained in connection with the rumour that the intention of the Government is to procure the admission to the Peers' House of those Ministers of State who may not have been successful in the recent election of Counts. But this is a meaningless explanation at best, for there is no reason why such Ministers should not be nominated to the House, and consequently there can be no cause for restricting the sphere of the Imperial nominations to that end.

THE FOREIGN TRADE OF THE CURRENT YEAR.

The *Tokyo Economist* (the *Keisai Zasshi*) of the 5th instant has an article under the above heading, in which it takes an unfavourable view of the present year's foreign trade. The return

for the first five months are the basis of its analysis. The following table shows the exports and imports of merchandise from January to May, inclusive, during the last three years, 1888-1890:—

Year.	Exports. Yen.	Imports. Yen.	Balance.
1888	23,765,000	26,942,000	Imports over Exports, yen 3,177,000.
1889	25,568,000	25,564,000	Exports over Imports, yen 4,000.
1890	21,703,000	33,473,000	Imports over Exports, yen 11,769,000.

Returns of bullion are as follows:—

Year.	Exports. Yen.	Imports. Yen.	Balance.
1888	3,023,000	3,925,000	Imports over Exports, yen 902,000.
1889	1,303,000	5,577,000	Imports over Exports, yen 4,274,000.
1890	4,815,000	760,000	Exports over Imports, yen 4,055,000.

It is seen from these tables that during the first months of the present year, the imports of merchandise exceeded the exports by more than 10 million yen; while as to bullion, the exports exceeded the imports by more than 4 million yen. Compared with the two preceding years, the imports of merchandise have increased this year in an extraordinary manner, while the exports have considerably fallen off. The increase of imports is attributed by our contemporary to the circumstance that most of the industrial enterprises which have lately sprung up throughout the country have commenced active operations, with the result that the importation of plant, fixtures, and materials is now being effected on a large scale. On the other hand, rice, which was exported last year to the value of no less than 7 million yen, has stopped going out of the country, and foreign rice is being imported in considerable quantities, the total value of the staple imported during the first five months of the year amounting in value to about 2,300,000 yen. It is true that the export trade of the country is mostly carried on during the latter half of the year; but still the *Keizai Zasshi* cannot persuade itself to believe that the excess of exports in the current six months will be large enough to cover the excess of imports in the past six. The tea trade offers no promising prospect at present, and as for silk, although the price is higher than it was last year, despite the recent appreciation of silver, it must not be forgotten that the produce of silk all over the world has been bad. To this latter circumstance, coupled with the desire of foreign merchants to ship samples of the new silk as soon as possible, the *Tokyo Economist* attributes the enhanced price of the staple. Reports from the interior lead our contemporary to believe that, with the single exception of the province of Iwashiro, the produce of the spring silk fell short of the usual quantity by 20 or 30 per cent. on account of the excessive rains in the early part of the year. Therefore, though the price is thus far pretty high, the quantity of silk exportable this year will be less than usual. Some people say that though the average rate of production is less than usual, the absolute quantity of produce throughout the country will not fall much short of the usual quantity, inasmuch as sericulture has of late been considerably extended in every locality, and has increased especially in the south-western provinces. But the *Economist* is sceptical as to the soundness of this view, and maintains that there is nothing to warrant the belief that sericulture is more general this year than it was last year. Our contemporary consequently concludes that there is little hope of the balance of trade being reversed by the exportation of silk and other articles during the present half year. Under these circumstances, should the rice-crop be a failure, a general and disastrous panic can scarcely be averted. Up to the present, however, the *Tokyo* journal notes with pleasure that the prospect of this year's harvest is not gloomy, and hopes that no natural calamity will happen to make worse what is already bad enough. We confess that, for our own part, we cannot en-

dorse the inferences drawn by the *Keizai Zasshi* from the trade of this year. Our contemporary seems to regard it as a calamity that imports should exceed exports, but no such theory commands respect among political economists nowadays. If a country happens to buy more than it sells in any particular year, the only conclusion to be formed is that purchases suit its convenience better than sales. Of course the obligatory import of bread stuffs owing to a failure of the home crops is a misfortune, but that is a question quite apart from the "balance-of-trade" problem.

THE JIZENKAI.

Good work continues to be done in Yokohama by this society. Five persons are constantly engaged several hours daily in making house to house visitations, and instructing the poor people in the danger attending the consumption of green fruit, stale fish, and other unwholesome food, in addition to supplying their wants in some degree. Other persons also devote a portion of their time as sanitary messengers, and there can be no doubt whatever that some of the districts visited would have become centres of pestilence had not these warnings been given. The drains are, of course, beyond the reach of the society's immediate operations, but even these sources of infection are not neglected, as wherever they are discovered in an insanitary condition they are reported, and pressure put upon the owners of property or the Authorities to remedy their unsatisfactory state. There is no end to the good that can be accomplished by a society such as the Jizenkai, especially in times of famine and pestilence, but of course the work is bound to be restricted by want of funds; and though this latter condition has not yet actually come to pass, so heavy has been the drain upon the resources of the society, that further assistance will be necessary if it is to continue its operations among the poor.

GOLD AND SILVER RATIOS.

The *Official Gazette* gives the following table of comparative values of gold and silver coins and of the pound sterling for the week ended the 12th inst., as derived from the returns of the Bank of Japan and the Yokohama Specie Bank:—

Days	Gold Coin. (Per yen 100) Silver Yen.	Pound Sterling. (Per £1) Silver Yen.
7th	119.632	A.M. 5.8715 P.M. 5.8715
8th	119.270	A.M. 5.8715 P.M. 5.8715
9th	119.270	A.M. 5.8715 P.M. 5.8358
10th	118.554	A.M. 5.8358 P.M. 5.8358
11th	118.554	A.M. 5.8358 P.M. 5.8181
12th	118.199	A.M. 5.8181 P.M. 5.8181
Averages	118.913	5.8448

The above averages show for gold coin a decrease in value of yen 1.327, and for the pound sterling a decrease in value of yen 0.0750 as compared with the previous week.

DEATH OF MR. ALFRED LISTER.

We regret to record the death of Mr. Alfred Lister, of Hongkong, on board the steamer *Belgie*, just as that vessel was entering port on Monday. Mr. Lister, who had filled various posts in the service of the Crown Colony for a period extending over twenty years, had not long returned from leave in England, but it had been mentioned in the Hongkong papers that he was compelled to go on sick leave, and it appears he was coming to Japan in the hope of being restored to health. Bright's disease is said to be the cause of death.

TAX ON IMPORTED RICE IN FRANCE.

The *Official Gazette* publishes telegraphic intelligence from the Japanese Consul at Lyons to the effect that the import tax upon rice, recently announced as having been decided upon by the Government, is to be imposed without doubt. France is not a large consumer of Japanese rice. Last year she only took 283,780 yen worth, out of a total export of 7,434,653 yen. The imposition of this tax will not, there-

fore, greatly matter to Japan. But as a point of fiscal policy on the part of France, the measure surprises us. The object of the Government in Paris should be to encourage and assist French merchants in Cochinchina, instead of hampering their trade with the mother country by levying a tax on their principal staple of export.

THE BANK OF JAPAN.

The amounts of convertible notes and reserves in the Bank of Japan for the week ended the 12th inst. were as follows:—

Convertible Notes.	Reserves and Securities.
Yen.	Yen.
Notes issued	Gold coin and bullion, 24,395,247
72,484,811	Silver coin and bullion, 26,030,211
	Public Loan Bonds, 13,479,450
	Treasury Bills, —
	Government Bonds, —
	Other securities, 4,731,192
	Commercial Bills, 3,950,721
72,484,811	72,484,811

Of the above total issue of notes, the sum of yen 3,512,412 is in the treasury of the Bank, and yen 68,972,399 in actual circulation, the latter showing an increase of yen 42,201 as compared with yen 68,930,198 at the end of the previous week.

CURIOUSLY FREIGHTED BREAD.

The *Yiji Shimo* says that a certain merchant recently forwarded some loaves of bread from Shimbashi by rail to a destination which is not mentioned. They went by luggage train and were consequently left in the van all night. The next morning when the porters came to remove the parcel for delivery, they found that rats had seized the opportunity of making a good meal, and that only the crusts remained. They found something else, too; namely, the corner of a piece of paper projecting from one of the holes gnawed by the rats. The paper proved to be a bank note, one of thirty which the economical sender of the loaves had adopted this curious method of forwarding, so as to save the cost of a post-office order or bill of exchange.

THE RIDE ACROSS ASIA.

The journey across Asia by a Cossack officer and his Mongolian pony, the particulars of which we recently reproduced from a Russian journal, has been successfully completed. The following appears in papers just to hand:— "Captain Pyeshkoff, the traveller, who has just traversed Siberia and Russia on horseback, arrived at St. Petersburg at twelve o'clock on the 31st ult. He was the object of a most enthusiastic reception, and surprise is everywhere expressed that such a feat could have been performed on the small and rather bony white horse which the traveller rides. Many cavalry officers met him at his entry into the city, and cheered him heartily. M. Pyeshkoff is to be presented to the Czar at the Military parade."

SPHERES OF PARTY INFLUENCE.

An interesting analysis of the spheres within which the various political parties exercised most influence at the recent elections is given by the *Kokumin-no-tomo*. According to our contemporary, the *Doito* party obtained a maximum of support in the Prefectures of Niigata, Yamagata and Aomori; the *Kaishin* party in Toyama Prefecture; the *Aikoku* party in the Prefectures of Hyogo, Fukui, and Kochi; the *Yichi* party, in Kyoto city and the Prefectures of Yamaguchi and Wakayama; the *Kishu Shimo* party in the Prefectures of Saga and Kagoshima; the Conservative party in the Prefecture of Kumamoto, and the Independents in the Prefectures of Aichi, Shiga and Gifu.

DEGRON AND GABARETTA.

A motion for appeal in the Degron and Gabaretta case was heard on Monday morning in H.B.M.'s Court. After some discussion, however, the parties agreed to abandon the appeal and to accept the judgment which had been given for Degron for the amount of \$5,574.24, reduced to \$1,979.24 and costs, including Court costs, \$410. There were no costs for this motion.

A QUESTION OF POLITICAL MORALTY.

AMONG the many things that STANLEY related to his London audiences none excited more curiosity than the account he gave of the Pigmies of the Aruwhimi forest. For three thousand years at least a race of light-brown men and women, scarcely four feet high, have wandered over a country half as large as France, which is covered with huge trees. These trees are estimated by the traveller at ten thousand millions. They stand so thick that it is always twilight below their interwoven branches. The inhabitants of this forest-world know of no outside, not even by tradition. They live principally on bananas. The banana tree reaches maturity in 12 months in Aruwhimi, and its cultivation involves little trouble or labour. Are the Pigmies to be left in possession of these millions of trees, notwithstanding the fact that the supply of timber in Europe is running short? Judged by the law of progress this race of Pigmies have no right to the territory they hold. Throughout the whole history of man they have not advanced one step; they sow no corn and keep no stock; they do not even grow the bananas they eat. England would be justified in taking their territory from them. So argue some of the home papers. "The Aruwhimi are the lawful owners of the forest and no nation has a right to take it from them," so argue others.

The case of the Pigmies is certainly well adapted to test the right of one nation to seize another's territory. To say that the preaching and the practice of politicians never agree in the matter of acquiring territory is to utter a trite remark. The ordinary modern doctrine, paraded on political platforms in grandiloquent language, is that the original inhabitants of a country are its lawful owners; that no foreign Power has a right to seize territory on the plea of the backward state of those who own and govern it. But what takes place in the world is in direct contradiction to this law. Countries are seized again and again on the pretence of establishing a superior rule to that previously existing. The whole of India came into our possession in this way, and large portions of Africa are being added to our dominions week by week on the same plea. The views of those who in modern days are responsible for our English policy are succinctly stated by the *Spectator*, speaking of the Pigmy territory:—"Ought these little folk, probably not a quarter of a million in number, who do not advance, or show the slightest promise of advancing, to be allowed to shut out the progressive races from a magnificent country, which its possessors do not use, and which yields a product almost essential to man." This plea for aggression is by no means new. Though it cannot be reconciled

with any high law of morality, there is no denying that as a law of conquest in one or other of its many forms it is as old as the human race and, for all we can see, likely to be the law acted on to the end of time. The moral basis on which it is supposed to rest is that conquest, despite its many ugly features, is the only remedy for certain acknowledged evils; that, though the means it adopts set at defiance the moral code of our everyday life, its ultimate results are beneficial to the human race.

The view maintained by the *Spectator* in connection with our policy in Africa is that "when conquest raises the conquered or palpably benefits the world, conquest is a permitted weapon." But this method of settling the question is very unsatisfactory from a strictly moral point of view. It leads one to ask: has one nation the right to decide on the mode of life which another nation shall adopt? Men have different notions of what confers benefit on the world, and who is to determine which view is correct? Even granting that our standard is ideally perfect, what right have we to force our neighbours to live up to it? No; as a purely moral question, conquest is indefensible. The fact is that no politicians that have ever existed have found it possible to be guided by purely moral considerations. Politics consist of a series of twistings between expediency and rectitude. What is preached is almost universally the law of right: it makes such a nice text for a sermon. But what is practised where other nations are concerned is not absolute right, but right modified by the general situation of political affairs. So in East Africa. While no other European nation seizes territory, England can preach the doctrine of Pigmyland for the Pigmies, but with Germany in the field, the situation becomes altered. And so it comes about that the doctrine which Commodore PERRY preached to the Japanese in 1853, but which has been so frequently condemned in measured terms since, is dragged forth to the light again, in order to give the not-to-be-outdone policy on which the great Powers have acted for so long, an air of moral rectitude in the eyes of the unthinking masses that compose our English society.

Those who pull the wires of state are giving us stronger and stronger proof that they have reached the conviction that one condition of a successful political career consists in habitually ignoring, if not openly denying, the existence of questions of abstract right. All is relative in the sphere of international politics. A nation's rights are those which other nations allow it to exercise, its possessions those which its neighbours are kind enough not to take away. This state of affairs may be the best attainable, with human nature constituted as it is. The only thing we object to is to have it represented as a highly

moral state, and to see Englishmen standing before the world as champions of the law of right apart from interest. Why not be honest, and say at once that our rule is to acquire territory whenever we can, on the ground that if we do not take it, it will become the property of our powerful rivals? To out-do our European neighbours in colonising, this has been our ambition and our practice ever since the days of DRAKE. Call it jealousy, rivalry, covetousness, or what you will, it has been the making of us as a nation. The pretence that our pioneers are actuated by any regard for the benefit British rule is to confer on the world, is absurd. Personal gain and love of adventure have impelled us, and we have been by no means scrupulous as to our methods of clearing away the obstacles blocking our path. The air of rectitude which the acts of our pioneers are made to wear when retailed by members of Parliament for the benefit of the home folks is no part of their original character. The acts themselves were purely commercial; money was their ultimate end. When we have once acquired territory our rule undoubtedly has been beneficial, and in every case better than the one we have overturned. But benevolent intentions have never impelled us to commence our work of extension. It is the spirit of competition that sets us moving: we cannot afford to see ourselves outstripped. Neither can the retention of territory acquired be said to be more dependent on our supposed high morality than its acquisition. The permanence of our ownership depends rather on our capacity for developing all the appliances which make Government easy and successful, on the number and discipline of our armies, on the business inducements we can offer to settlers, on the untiring energy of the race to which we belong.

It may be well that we should remind ourselves of these facts at the present time. To bring forward the beneficence of British rule as a plea for seizing land in Africa can only deceive those who have never thought out the moral aspects of the land-seizing fever. The world is not governed by exclusively moral considerations, and never will be. How much better it were that this fact should be openly recognised, and that the illogical subterfuges advanced by a certain class of writers should be relegated to the limbo of Phariseism and hypocrisy.

THE HOUSE OF PEERS.

THE fact that only two Cabinet Ministers, Count MATSUKATA and Viscount AOKI, were elected by the nobles to seats in the Upper House is variously commented on. The strangest of all the inferences drawn is that it indicates the prevalence of radical tendencies among

the peers. We should have supposed, however, that if such a spirit really influenced the voting, it would have resulted, not in the exclusion of Cabinet Ministers, but in the election of nobles who are the acknowledged leaders of the radical party, as Counts ITAGAKI and GOTO. Had these politicians been returned and the Cabinet Ministers left without support, some grounds might have existed for attributing a radical bias to the nobles. But Counts GOTO and ITAGAKI obtained only thirteen votes each, whereas the last noble on the list of successful Counts obtained twenty-seven. Obviously, therefore, there was very little leaning towards radicalism among the Counts, since out of the sixty-seven who actually balloted, only thirteen cast their votes for the leaders of the *Jiyu-to* and the *Daido Danketsu*. Count OKUMA's case is also noteworthy. He is the head of a party which, though of progressive tendencies, cannot be called radical, and which is preëminent among all the political associations in the empire for the number of substantial and distinguished men included in its ranks. Yet it is a party virtually in opposition, and had the Counts been animated by hostile feelings towards the present Cabinet, they might have exhibited them to some extent by electing Count OKUMA and excluding Counts YAMAGATA and YAMADA. Considering the matter from every point of view, it seems to us that the influences directing the election were essentially conservative. The peers consist of two classes: those who represent the old feudal nobility, and these who owe their titles to meritorious services performed during the present reign. If the exclusion of the latter from Parliament were involved in their non-election by their order, the peers might fairly have been expected to show their appreciation of the Sovereign's creations by returning them for the Upper House. But, according to the Constitution, the EMPEROR has the right to fill by nomination as many seats in the House of Peers as those occupied by nobles sitting in virtue of their titles or of election by their Orders. Excluding members of the Imperial Family, the Upper House contains ten Princes and twenty-one Marquises, sitting by virtue of their titles; fifteen Counts, seventy Viscounts, and twenty Barons elected by their Orders; or one hundred and thirty-six nobles in all. It follows, therefore, that one hundred and thirty-six members may be nominated by the Sovereign. Of these nominees, however, forty-six are previously elected by the Prefectures and Cities—one for each from among the fifteen inhabitants paying the highest amount of direct national taxes, the Sovereign's nomination in their case being simply in the nature of approval. Thus the EMPEROR's direct nominees are reduced to ninety, as against one hundred and five Counts, Viscounts, and Barons

elected by their Orders. Knowing, then, that the Sovereign can always bestow seats in the Upper House on statesmen whom HIS MAJESTY has already honoured with titles of nobility for distinguished services, the peers probably decided to cast their votes for the representatives of old families whose chances of entering Parliament were otherwise small. The nobility, especially a nobility so aristocratic and exclusive as that of Japan, is never disposed to look with favour on modern additions to its ranks, and we cannot be surprised to find that out of their fifteen members the Counts elected only three new creations, namely, Counts ITO, MATSUKATA, and KATSU AWA. If may be taken for granted, however, that men like Counts INOUE, OKUMA, and ITAGAKI will not remain without seats in Parliament. Thus the result of the exclusive tendency shown by the Counts is that their Order will find itself much more largely represented in the House than would have been the case had the elective members included several of the new creations, for many of the latter will assuredly be nominated by the EMPEROR, whereas equal reasons do not exist for conferring such a distinction on representatives of the old nobility. We cannot doubt that this phase of the question was taken into consideration.

It might have been expected that the inferior orders of the nobility would show themselves less exclusive, and such has been the case, the Viscounts electing twenty-six new creations among their seventy members, and the Barons ten among their twenty. Many of the names thus chosen are significant. We need only quote those of Viscounts TORIO, KAYEDA, TANI, MIURA, and YOSHIDA (KYONARI), to show that the political bias of the Viscounts is decidedly conservative.

With regard to the contention advanced by some that the result of the elections for the Upper House amounts to a defeat of the Government, it cannot be denied that from one point of view there is a measure of justice in this inference, seeing that had the Cabinet Ministers been returned, the fact would have been taken as evidence of the nobles' endorsement of the Government's policy. But our own belief is that the nobles did not elect the Cabinet Ministers simply because they understood that the latter's seats in the House were already secured. Surely it is extravagant to contend, on the one hand, that the Government has been defeated in the elections for the Lower House since the Radicals have secured a majority of seats in the latter, and, on the other, that the Government has been equally defeated in the elections for the Upper House although the Radicals have not secured any seats there at all? That section of the Japanese House of Lords which owes its presence there to the titles and votes of the peers themselves, will, we imagine, be

found just as conservative as its counterpart in England. So far as may be foreseen, the Government's difficulty will be, not a union of the two Houses for radical ends, but their reluctance to unite in passing liberal measures.

DIRECT EXPORT OF SILK.

WE translate elsewhere an interesting article from the *Fiji Shimpō*. It surprises us and will also surprise our readers, for neither they nor we were prepared to find the *Fiji* advocating official interference with the course of trade. If the writer of the article had explained fully the considerations which, in his opinion, necessitate the continuance of direct export by Japanese silk merchants, we should be in a better position to appreciate his arguments. But he offers no such explanations, contenting himself with alluding vaguely to the "indirect advantages that accrue to the Yokohama silk-merchants from the direct export" of the staple, and to "the serious injury which the country at large must suffer by the abolition of that branch of business." What are those advantages, and what is this injury? We are too familiar with the generally able writing of the *Fiji Shimpō* to suppose that so singular a hiatus would have disfigured its reasoning if it had seen its way to lay before its readers clear and cogent arguments calculated to establish a sound case for the Japanese exporters. It leaves us, however, to form our own conjectures, and the task is difficult under the circumstances. For truly, with every disposition to view the Japanese side of the contention without prejudice, we are at a loss to discover how the country would suffer by the discontinuance of the so-called "direct export," or how the Yokohama merchants benefit by its continuance. One and only one practically useful function is suggested for the direct export company, namely, that its agents beyond the water would keep their countrymen in Japan well informed as to the state of the foreign market, and would indicate, by testing the taste of foreign consumers, what class of goods might be exported most profitably. We do not deny that there is some truth in this view. It is well that Japanese merchants should have direct access to the foreign markets, so as to familiarize themselves as closely as possible with all the conditions of the commerce in which they are engaged. But to contend that trade would suffer or that its development would be checked were that access cut off, is to assert, in so many words, that the foreigners now carrying on the business are so incompetent or perfunctory as to require Japanese coöperators. We beg pardon for saying that such a notion can only provoke a smile. Underlying it we detect, not calm reasoning, but the promptings of jealousy. The foreigners who now act as Japan's agents for the sale of her silk

abroad are shrewd, keen men, skilled in every detail of their business, and just as eager for its development as any Japanese could be. Every possible device for increasing the trade is practised by them; every phase of European and American taste is carefully watched and catered for; every suggestion of enterprise is considered and, if at all reasonable, essayed. We grant freely that to transfer to the hands of her own people the share which these foreigners enjoy in her trade, is a legitimate and praiseworthy aim on Japan's part. But that is a matter of sentiment, and the practical aspects of the case are our present concern. The truth is that with the business distributed as it is now, the larger part of the risk is borne by the foreigner. Japanese producers cannot, of course, be guaranteed against a failure of crop at home or against the effects of a languid market abroad. But between them and disastrous fluctuations of price in Europe and America stands the foreign merchant. Purchasing at this end and paying as he buys, he provides for Japanese producers a market at their very door, and shifts to his own shoulders all the delicate and hazardous operations of the trade. Enormous as has been the development of this country's silk trade during the past twenty years, we doubt whether even an infinitesimal fraction of that development can fairly be placed to the credit of direct Japanese exporters. Incentives to foreign consumption are not to be found by constituting the Japanese their own salesmen in New York or Lyons, but by improving the quality of the silk at home, and by abolishing disingenuous practices which necessitate elaborate operations at the hands of foreign inspectors and thus impose a heavy tax on the staple. All this has been written often enough before, but the *Fiji Shimpō* does not appear to have appreciated it. From a common-sense point of view our contemporary might have been expected to demonstrate, in the first place, the necessity of direct export by Japanese, and afterwards to discuss the means of carrying it out. But it assumes the former and advocates official aid for the latter. Official initiative or assistance in matters of commerce and industry is held to be admissible when the object is to start or encourage useful enterprises which would otherwise remain un essayed or undeveloped. But an essential condition is that such interference should not be permanent. In the abstract, an enterprise which, when fairly started, remains incapable of supporting itself without official aid, does not deserve to be supported at all. We learn from the *Fiji Shimpō* that the *Doshin Kaisha* has been enjoying Governmental protection for fourteen years. How much longer must it be furnished with official crutches before developing ability to walk alone? If its operations involved the exploiting of some novel and difficult route, there might pos-

sibly be a plea for renewing its term of infancy. But its sole purpose has been to try and do independently at Japanese public expense a business which is already done by foreign coöperation thoroughly, effectively, and with a maximum of profit and a minimum of risk for Japan. We are told that dearthness of money in Japan incapacitates a Japanese company from competing with foreigners in the export trade. But if this argument have any value, it must apply equally to every branch of that trade. The tea-men, the curio-merchants, and every other class of dealers in goods for Western markets would have an equal right to official support, all being similarly circumstanced as to costly capital. If it be really essential that Japanese agents should be stationed in the United States and France in order to keep their countrymen posted as to the condition of the foreign markets and the tendency of Western taste, the necessary funds should be supplied by a small contribution from each Japanese sericulturist and silk merchant. The Government has no proper concern with such matters; or, at all events, no concern beyond, perhaps, the attaching of a commercial agent to its Consulates in New York and Lyons. We should have expected very different writing from the *Fiji Shimpō*.

THE FUTURE CHRISTIANITY OF JAPAN.

UNDER this heading, Mr. J. T. YOKOI, a distinguished graduate of the *Dōshi-sha* School, contributes an interesting article to the June number of the *Rikugō Zasshi*. After observing that during the past three decades Christianity has steadily obtained a firmer and more extensive foothold in Japan, that from Sapporo in the north to Kagoshima in the south there is not a town or a village of any size that does not now contain more or less believers; that, though recently a conservative reactionary movement convulsed the land and efforts were made to resuscitate Buddhism and keep out the new religion, the nation has come to recognize more than ever the necessity of the vivifying influence of Christianity in elevating the morals of the people; and that he has therefore no manner of doubt that Christianity will ultimately be received by the people at large and that it will become the most important element of the new civilization Japan is developing—after making these statements, the writer proceeds to remark that Christianity, as it now exists in Japan, is in most cases nothing but an exact counterpart of Christianity as it exists in England or America, and that as yet there is nothing which can be called Japanese Christianity. This, he remarks, could not be helped in the early inexperience of Japanese converts. But times have changed. "Our Church has made great progress, and we are now experienced enough

to select from European and American seeds those which are good and suitable. The day has come when we can take steps for the development of Japanese Christianity. . . . In certain essential points, neither time nor space can make any difference in the religion of CHRIST. But in other respects, in matters of everyday life and thought, the Christianity of Japan cannot but differ more or less from that of England or America. There will not only be some difference between the two, but Christianity may possibly make a new growth here and develop some fine qualities not discernible in the older stock. I once spoke to some friends in Europe and America thus: 'In sending out missionaries to the East, you are not conferring a benefit on Orientals alone; you are conferring a great benefit on your own churches also. If you wish to see Christianity triumphant in the West, you will have to seek reinforcements from the East.' Christianity has attained its present stage of development in the Occident on the basis laid by Grecian literature and Roman jurisprudence. The Christianity which is about to spring up in the East must stand on the pedestal formed out of the religion of Buddha and the Confucian philosophy. Our Christianity must appropriate to itself, in the course of its development, whatever truth and whatever good qualities may be found in the religion of India and the philosophy of China. . . . It is therefore our wish to develop a system of divinity which in its essential characteristics shall be purely Japanese, and to originate religious rites and ceremonies which shall also be Japanese in character." In these attempts to create Japanese Christianity, Mr. YOKOI observes, however, that he and his fellow workers will not be prejudiced against seeking help from the hoarded experience of the West; they will not hesitate to adopt European and American ideas and customs, so long as these fit in with the Japanese character, history and polity. He then proceeds to recount some of the circumstances which have conspired to make the Church of CHRIST in Japan what it is now. He tells how, thirty years ago, European and American missionaries first introduced the new religion into this country; how the Japanese, in their childlike simplicity of heart, believed whatever these missionaries told them; how the converted Japanese preached the new religion exactly as they had learned it from their foreign teachers; how these being at the outset only a small number of believers, the converts were compelled to rely on foreign funds; how this last circumstance helped to encourage the pernicious custom of transplanting, as it were, Western principles and sentiments connected with Christianity without any modification; how Japanese pastors, co-working with foreign missionaries and using the money supplied by the

latter's churches at home, naturally refrained from giving expression to their occasional sense of dissatisfaction with some of the ideas propounded by the missionaries, and devoted themselves rather to their one absorbing hope of disseminating a knowledge of the new religion among their fellow countrymen; and how Japanese converts, even though they had been left to themselves, would not have possessed sufficient knowledge and experience to choose what was good and suitable. Among foreign missionaries, the writer further remarks, there were no doubt some men sensible enough to perceive the importance of considering Japanese character and customs in preaching Christianity; but after all, being foreigners, it was but natural that they should have been obliged to preach Western Christianity without any modification. "At first sight," Mr. YOKOI says, "the Church in Japan may seem to rest on a firm basis; but the plain truth is that our churches are virtually so many foreign colonies. . . . The thoughts and customs prevailing there indicate a wholesale introduction of foreign thoughts and customs. It is a fine thing to select whatever is good and beautiful from foreign countries; but nothing deserves to be more severely condemned than to blindly follow in everything the recommendations of foreign denominations and their representatives. As a result of such a practice, various abuses and evils have sprung up within the Church, and there is danger of our letting a golden opportunity like the present pass without courageously hoisting our own banners and fighting for victory on our own lines. Unless Christianity divests itself of foreign clothes and puts on a Japanese dress, it will never accomplish its object in this country." Farther on the writer says: "As the result of thirty years' training and experience, there have risen in our Churches a numerous race of capable men equal to any work of responsibility. There are even some among the foreign missionaries who, seeing this, have made up their mind to yield the principal positions to Japanese, remaining themselves as mere advisers and helpers to the latter. . . . The time has now come for Japanese propagandists to form their own estimate of CHRIST, and to make it known to their fellow countrymen. We must henceforth think independently and construct without assistance, so as to build a Church of Japan." With regard to the method of building such a church, Mr. YOKOI explains that the desired end is to be accomplished, not by holding monster meetings for discussion, nor yet by uniting the different denominations now represented in the country, but by the slow process of natural growth, just as plants develop from seeds. "We have only to believe in CHRIST as Japanese," he says; "only to study divinity as Japanese; only to preach as Japanese." All great religious reformers,

in addition to being devoted servants of CHRIST, have been enthusiastic lovers of their country. "What is now required to secure the complete success of evangelization in Japan is that there should rise up teachers like WESLEY, BEECHER, KNOX, LUTHER, and PAUL. The time is ripe. Where are the men to take up this responsible task?"

It may be taken for granted that this essay represents the feeling among leading Japanese Christians. There is something a little startling in the notion of modifying Christianity to suit Japanese requirements, and in the self-sufficiency which takes it for granted that the creed of the Occident will undergo some purifying and revivifying process in its passage through Japanese minds. Two or three years ago we were gravely informed by a Japanese of position that the ladies of his country, in adopting Western costume, would improve it and adapt it to their own fancies in some more elegant form. This phase of progress remains still in the future, nor do we discover any evidence whatever that our optimistic informant's predictions are on the way to verification. As to Christianity, however, one can understand without difficulty that the subtle controversies and exegetical intricacies which surround it in the West, stirring up bitter controversies and creating sectarian divisions, have little concern for the Japanese Christian at first. He is in a position to accept the unalloyed rudiments of the faith, and even to divest it of many of the supernatural elements which had their origin in the necessity of appealing to semi-civilized humanity's superstitious sentiments, and are now a fatal stumbling block to intelligent belief. Thus far, perhaps, the Japanese may improve upon the Christianity offered to them, and we can only hope that their remarkable self-reliance, as evidenced in Mr. YOKOI'S utterances, may not be impaired by failure. But with regard to the chances of really successful propagandism in foreign hands, all careful observers must be at one with Mr. YOKOI. No foreigner has ever yet succeeded in acquiring the Japanese language so thoroughly as to be able to preach or lecture in it without making himself more or less ridiculous. The most perfect system of morality will not endure lame exposition. If there is to be a really successful apostle of Christianity in Japan, he must be a Japanese. This the foreign missionaries themselves have always recognised. Running through the public utterances of the most enlightened among them there has been observable for many years a frank avowal that their functions as propagandists are only temporary, and that their cause will progress fastest when the Japanese themselves are able to push it without foreign aid. Yet it is distinctly a sign of the times that men like Mr. YOKOI should take up this cry. Among the imported ar-

ticles which, in their adoption by this country, are to be altered so as to acquire a Japanese character and to be re-adapted to Japanese manners and customs, we certainly should not have been disposed to place Christianity. But the world moves.

CHINESE DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION.

A CORRESPONDENT of *The Times* takes occasion of the recent change in the Chinese Legation in London to criticise very unfavourably the general system of Chinese Diplomatic Representation in Western countries. The authorities of Printing House Square must have thought the subject one of some importance, seeing that they give up two columns to its discussion in the Parliamentary season when space, and especially such a great space, is at a very high premium. To foreign residents in the East at any rate the subject is one of considerable interest, and to our own readers it will not be entirely new. Some time ago a correspondent described in these columns the internal condition of some Chinese Legations in a way which was anything but flattering. The writer in *The Times* only makes a passing allusion to this view of the matter. He refers in some detail to the position and character of the men who represent China abroad. He tells us that Chinese diplomatic representation in the West is about fifteen years old, and that a dozen or fifteen envoys have represented China during that time in various foreign capitals. It is therefore possible, he says, for those who are acquainted with the subject to observe certain general features and certain tendencies of Chinese diplomatic representation. He is careful to distinguish diplomacy, by which he means policy, from diplomatic representation; the one is the aim or result, the other the machinery. It is of the latter only that he speaks. Now what are the charges which he makes against the system? He declares that Chinese Envoys sent abroad are of lower relative rank than those of other countries, and this seems in fact to be the sum and substance of his complaint, for the other matters on which he comments flow naturally from that one circumstance. Being subordinate officials and subordinate Chinese officials, the Ministers are afraid to report unpleasant things or to obtrude their own opinions on their superiors in Peking, who are thus left to their own foolish devices, and seldom or never obtain that accurate information respecting foreign affairs which Governments always expect from their envoys. More than this, they are sometimes not above corruption, and where either the disposition or opportunity for this is wanting, they economise as only a Chinaman can, to the detriment of their own dignity and that of their country. As for corruption, three instances are

referred to in which Chinese Ministers abroad were degraded and punished for their offences. Two at least of these are well known to most residents in the East, for the official decree in each case was published in the *Peking Gazette*, and was widely discussed at the time. Without professing to know any more of these matters than the rest of the world, we should say that these statements of the correspondent are highly probable, judging merely from what we know generally of Chinese officialdom. The only class of officials who speak with a certain air of fearlessness are the censors, and this is expected of them; they are the chartered libertines of official life; they represent what in parliamentary countries is called the opposition; their business is to oppose, criticize, condemn. As for the average Chinese official, his extreme dread of initiating anything, his anxiety to be an administration without a history, his subordination to his superiors, are all well-known characteristics. His belief in the power and glory and superior civilisation of China is only equalled by his profound contempt for the West. As for his corruption, no writer in an eastern journal need labour that point. The consequence of all this applied to diplomatic representation is that the primary objects of such representation are defeated. The Government, already sufficiently proud and ill-informed, receives from its agents reports which only foster its arrogance and ignorance. Being itself without the information and the experience to form accurate conclusions on questions of foreign policy, it is served by agents who are either incapable of initiating a policy in regard to any particular country, or dread to press a policy on their superiors, and the sum and substance of the whole matter seems to be that if China desires to be adequately represented abroad she must select her best men. No doubt all this is true, but it appears to us that the correspondent of *The Times* has not by any means exhausted the subject; he has not told us for example how much of the wretched diplomacy of China abroad is due to the Chinese Government itself, apart from its representatives. No doubt he would answer that his particular business was to discuss the latter, and not to describe the shortcomings of the central Government, but we think that the latter properly find a place in a discussion on the subject. What, for example, can the strongest representative do when he does not know the minds of his masters, for the simple reason that they do not know them themselves? How many instances have we had in the last few years of treaties and conventions and agreements negotiated not only abroad but in China itself by Chinese representatives, which have either been refused ratification altogether, or the ratifications of which have been delayed for a long time? These were not cases of

representatives abroad forced to negotiate in the dark, while their Government was kept in ignorance of what was going on until it saw the finished instrument. In these days of the telegraph that is never done. The details of all important negotiations are regularly made known by telegraph to the Governments concerned, every line, every word, of treaties is telegraphed day by day, and the authorities in Peking have been made as well aware of what is going on in London or St. Petersburg or Washington or Chefoo as if they were on the spot and negotiating themselves. No minister, and above all no Chinese minister, now-a-days ever puts his hand to an important international document without having received the full approval of his Government to every line and word in it. So much is this the case now that ratification has become merely a formal ceremony. Yet how often has it happened in China that agreements are in the end refused ratification altogether, or that ratification has been delayed for months and even for years? Take as a small instance the Telegraph Convention, which was settled at Chefoo in the autumn of 1888. SHENG, the official who represented the Chinese telegraphic administration, was known to have telegraphed to his superiors everything he did, and finally, before signing it, to have despatched the whole document, yet this agreement has not been ratified we believe to this day. It may be a good or bad arrangement; upon that we pass no opinion now; what is quite certain is that it was negotiated and signed with the utmost deliberation and with the full knowledge of Chinese Government, and yet when the latter is asked to express its formal consent to it, it hesitates, finds fault, and finally refuses. The shores of Chinese diplomacy are strewn with the wrecks of treaties, conventions, and international agreements, not because Chinese representatives are deficient, but because the Chinese Government does not seem to know what dignity and good faith in a Government are. For these reasons we fear that the reform of Chinese diplomatic representation must begin in Peking and not in the Western capitals.

The correspondent of *The Times* refers very incidentally to the character of some of the Chinese taken abroad in the Ministers' *suites*, and specially refers to scapegraces of high birth who are sometimes sent. We cannot profess to know whether the writer had any particular individuals in his mind, but there can be no doubt in the minds of those acquainted with the facts that his criticism is abundantly justified. It is not long since one of the Chinese Legations in the West had an attaché who had for months been a fugitive from justice. He was a swindler of a peculiarly audacious and ingenious character, who had robbed both friends and enemies, who had induced his

dupes to break the law by a promise of bribes, and when his dirty work was done had refused to pay the wages. This scamp, who had broken almost every law, human and divine, continued his career in the country to which he was sent in some degree as a representative of China, and it was only by a hasty departure from it that he saved himself from unpleasant consequences. This is only an example of the carelessness with which Chinese are selected to go abroad; it would be possible to adduce many more, but it is undesirable at all times to complicate a question of this nature with personal considerations. In this matter of diplomatic representation Japan, happily, can furnish her neighbour with a pattern, which, however, it is hopeless to expect will be followed.

AMENDED ORGANIZATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 112.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Amendment of the Organization of the Department of Communications, and order the same to be duly promulgated.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.)
(Great Seal.)

Dated June 30th, 1890.

(Countersigned)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.
COUNT GOTO SHOSIRO,
Minister of State for Communications.

Article 1.—The Minister of State for Communications shall superintend all affairs relating to posts, telegraphs, guides to navigation, and the crews of vessels.

Article 2.—There shall not be established in the Department of Communications any Board for the Administration of General Affairs.

Article 3.—The Secretariat of the Minister of State for Communications shall deal with the following affairs, in addition to the matters allotted to the Secretariat and the Board for the Administration of General Affairs, mentioned in the General Rules:—

- (1.) The expenditure of the Department.
- (2.) The preliminary examination of finances.
- (3.) The construction of buildings of the Department.
- (4.) The purchase and sale of Departmental property.
- (5.) Superintendence of the manufacture of material for telegraphs and guides to navigation.

Article 4.—The following bureaux shall be established in the Department of Communications:—

Bureau of Posts.
Telegraphic Bureau.
Marine Bureau.
Lighthouse Bureau.
Accountants' Bureau.

Article 5.—The Bureau of Posts shall deal with postal affairs.

Article 6.—The Telegraphic Bureau shall deal with affairs relating to telegraphs.

Article 7.—The Marine Bureau shall deal with affairs relating to shipping and seamen.

Article 8.—The Lighthouse Bureau shall dispose of matters connected with guides to navigation.

Article 9.—The Accountants' Bureau shall manage affairs connected with expenditures, receipts, and the control of money and materials.

Article 10.—The Chiefs of the Postal and Telegraphic Bureaux shall be of 2nd *chakunin* rank or above 2nd *sonin* rank. The Chiefs of the Marine, Lighthouse and Accountants' Bureaux shall be of 1st *sonin* rank or above 3rd *sonin* rank.

Article 11.—The fixed number of councillors special to the Department of Communications shall be 2, and of secretaries 6.

Article 12.—Assistant chiefs shall be attached to the Posts and Telegraphic Bureaux.

Original from

Article 13.—Eight engineers shall be attached to the Department of Communications, to transact affairs connected with posts, telegraphs or accounts, or to conduct the business of offices (*kwa*) by holding additional posts as chiefs of offices in the Postal and Telegraphic Bureaux. Such engineers shall be below 5th *sonin* rank.

Article 14.—Ten examiners (*shiken-kwan*) and eleven assistant examiners shall be attached to the Department of Communications. The former shall conduct the examination and trial of seamen and pilots, the inspection and survey of vessels and the superintendence of new ships, under the control of the Marine Bureau, and the latter shall assist them in such duties.

The examiners shall be of *sonin*, and the assistant examiners of *hannin* rank.

Article 15.—Twelve engineers and two hundred and fifty-six *gishu* shall be attached to the Department of Communications.

Article 16.—Three probationers shall be attached to the Department.

Article 17.—There shall be employed in the Department 390 *soku*.

THE ORGANIZATION OF CABINET OFFICIALS.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 114.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Regulations relating to the Organization of Officials attached to the Cabinet.

[His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.]
[Great Seal.]

Dated June 30th, 1890.

(Countersigned.)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.

Article 1.—The following officials shall be attached to the Cabinet:—
A Chief Secretary.

A President of the Bureau of Pensions.

A President of the Bureau of Archives.

A President of the Bureau of Statistics.

A President of the Bureau of the *Official Gazette*.

A President of the Bureau of Accounts.

Secretaries.

Confidential secretaries of the Minister President of State.

Examiners of the Pensions Bureau.

Probationers.

Zoku.

Gishu.

Article 2.—The Chief Secretary shall be of *chokunin* rank, and the chief of each bureau shall be of rank not higher than first class *sonin* and not lower than third class *sonin*, while the secretaries, confidential secretaries, and examiners shall be of *sonin* rank.

Article 3.—The Chief Secretary shall have charge of secret and important documents, shall superintend the miscellaneous affairs of the Cabinet in accordance with the orders of the Minister President of State, and conduct the appointment and removal of *soku* and lower officials.

Article 4.—The Chief of each Bureau shall manage affairs of his bureau; and control subordinate officials in accordance with the directions of the Minister President of State or the Chief Secretary.

Article 5.—The following affairs shall be dealt with in the Pensions Bureau:—

1. The examination and decision of claims for pensions and allowances (*fuforyo*).

2. The disbursement of pensions and allowances.

Article 6.—The Bureau of Archives shall deal with the following affairs:—

1. The preservation of originals of the Constitution, Laws, and Imperial Ordinances of the Empire of Japan, as well as the compilation and preservation of the records of the Cabinet.

2. The classification, purchase, preservation, and safe custody of maps and books under the control of the Cabinet, as well as the compilation of a list of the same.

3. The publication of maps and books belonging to the Cabinet.

Article 7.—The following affairs shall be managed by the Bureau of Statistics:—

1. The compilation of statistical tables of all kinds.

2. The arrangement of materials for statistical tables.

3. The collection of materials for statistical tables.

4. The calling of meetings of officials chiefly concerned with statistics in each Office and Department.

Article 8.—The following affairs shall be dealt with by the Bureau of the *Official Gazette*:—

(1.) The compilation, printing, sale, and distribution of the *Official Gazette*.

(2.) The translation of foreign documents to be published in the *Official Gazette*.

(3.) The compilation and sale of the *Horei Zensho* (Digest of Laws and Ordinances).

(4.) All receipts and outlays of the *Official Gazette* and *Horei Zensho*.

Article 9.—The following affairs shall be dealt with by the Bureau of Accounts:—

(1.) The financial estimates and settled accounts of expenditures and receipts, as well as the general finances of the Cabinet.

(2.) The control of lands and buildings used by the Cabinet.

Article 10.—Secretaries shall deal with affairs relating to the custody of secret and important documents, and with the inspection, drafting, receiving and delivery of public documents. The fixed number of secretaries shall be four.

Article 11.—The confidential secretaries of the Minister President of State shall conduct the affairs of the Minister's Secretariat, the fixed number of such confidential secretaries being two.

Article 12.—The examiners of the Bureau of Pensions shall deal with the affairs of the Bureau of Pensions, the fixed number of such examiners being two.

Article 13.—The fixed number of probationers shall be two.

Article 14.—The settled number of *soku* shall be one hundred and fifty.

Article 15.—The settled number of *gishu* shall be five.

Article 16.—Higher officials (*kokutan*) attached to the Cabinet may hold offices in the Bureaux of the Cabinet in addition to their other duties.

ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD OF THE HOUSE OF PEERS.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 121.

We hereby give our sanction to the present organization of the Administrative Board of the House of Peers, and order the same to be duly promulgated.

[His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.]
[Great Seal.]

Dated July 10th, 1890.

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.

Article 1.—The Officials of the Administrative Board of the House of Peers shall be as follows:—

A Chief Secretary.

Secretaries 10

Probationers 2

Zoku 20

Article 2.—The Chief Secretary shall control all affairs of the Board in accordance with the commands of the President of the House.

The division into offices of the Board, and the distribution of officials, shall be decided by the Chief Secretary.

Article 3.—Secretaries shall be under the superintendence of the Chief Secretary, and shall manage affairs relating to debates, records, reporting, printing, finance and miscellaneous business.

Article 4.—Should the Chief Secretary be incapacitated, a secretary of first rank shall represent him in his office.

Article 5.—*Zoku* shall be of *hannin* rank, and shall deal with affairs in accordance with the orders of the Chief Secretary.

ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 122.

We hereby give our sanction to the present organization of the Administration Board of the House of Representatives, and order the same to be duly promulgated.

[His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.]
[Great Seal.]

Dated July 10th, 1890.

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.

Article 1.—The Officials of the Administrative Board of the House of Representatives shall be as follows:—

A Chief Secretary.

Secretaries 10

Probationers 2

Zoku 20

Article 2.—The Chief Secretary shall control all affairs of the Board, in accordance with the commands of the President of the House.

The division into offices of the Board, and the distribution of officials, shall be decided by the Chief Secretary.

Article 3.—Secretaries shall be under the superintendence of the Chief Secretary, and shall manage affairs relating to debates, records, reporting, printing, finance, and miscellaneous business.

Article 4.—Should the Chief Secretary be incapacitated, a secretary of first rank shall represent him in his office.

Article 5.—*Zoku* shall be of *hannin* rank, and shall deal with affairs in accordance with the orders of the Chief Secretary.

CORRESPONDENCE.

BAD DRAINS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—May I avail myself of your columns to draw the attention of the Authorities to a small matter which may, unless seen to, easily lead to serious results. Almost a week since I spoke to the police regarding the state of the drain at the corner of Yoshihamacho near Kame-no-hashii; and, although the officer expressed his thanks, nothing has yet been done. Possibly I failed to make myself quite clear. The drain has been choked for fully a fortnight, and with the hot weather and the danger of an outbreak of cholera, prompt attention certainly seems called for. The case only requires to be brought to the knowledge of the Authorities to be speedily remedied.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully, PEDESTRIAN.

Yokohama, July 11th, 1890.

THE PORTUGUESE IN HONGKONG.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—My attention having been accidentally drawn to an extract made by the *Japan Gazette* on the 11th instant from the notorious Hongkong paper, the *Telegraph*, I beg to ask a bit of space in your next issue for a few lines to contradict the chief substance of it.

The *Hongkong Telegraph* has, since its origin, established itself an arduous censor of the Portuguese community of Hongkong by continually, and regardless of truth, filling its columns with vile and contemptuous articles concerning the Portuguese.

The last slander cast on them by that paper, as far as I know, is the article reproduced by the *Gazette* on 11th instant referring to a case of forgery committed lately in Manila by a man named Jorge, a Spanish subject and of Spanish descendants.

As a coincidence, however, a fault of embezzlement was committed in Hongkong by a Portuguese youth bearing also the name of Jorge. This fact seemed to the editor of the *Telegraph* a propitious opportunity for blackguarding the Portuguese, so with utter disregard for truth and other principles, he ridiculously asserted the nationality of the Manila culprit to be Portuguese!

In obedience to every dictate of justice, the *Telegraph* should have first investigated the matter before inserting articles that only lead to contradiction.

Of the various communities in Hongkong, excepting of course the Chinese, the Portuguese ranks first in number, and can comparatively be said to be the most admired. The recent cases of embezzlement were, no doubt, due more especially to share gambling which is so strongly and detrimentally prevalent there; but such cases were not solely confined to the Portuguese; other communities were simultaneously and similarly stained, but by the unfair partiality which characterizes the *Hongkong Telegraph*, those of the latter were passed over with little or no comment!

In general, it cannot be denied that the Portuguese people, or rather the Macaoese are reliable, steady, and efficient workers.

Thanking you for the insertion of the above, I am, &c.,

FIAT JUSTITIA.

Yokohama, July 12th, 1890.

CONSTITUTION OF THE COURTS OF JUSTICE IN JAPAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In the letter from the Tokyo correspondent of *The Times*, reprinted in your issue of to-day, appears the remark that lately a law has been

promulgated which "reorganizes the Courts of Justice throughout the Empire."

Now could you kindly enlighten at least one of your readers on this subject? Possibly everybody, excepting me, is fully informed; but to me a most interesting "leader" would be one setting forth the organization of the Japanese Law Courts, before and since this late change. In place of a jury I have heard they have a bunch of judges to decide the case, then another set at hand to see that the law is properly interpreted, &c. But I am not certain of the trustworthiness of my information.

How are witnesses sworn? Do the lawyers plead the cases in set speeches as at home? What is in place of the Grand Jury? Do the police act in place of sheriff? Are police employed by City authorities, the *Ken*, or the Central government?

You see the yawning gulf of my ignorance; please make an effort to fill it up. Perhaps a few other readers will thank you, too.

Yours truly, KIKITAI.
July 12th, 1890.

SANITATION AGAINST CHOLERA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

Sir,—Since there is a possibility that the cholera, now epidemic at Nagasaki, will extend to other parts of the empire, I take the liberty of asking you to publish "Circular No. 8," issued by the United States National Board of Health. This circular is the simplest, clearest, most effective, and most economical register of directions for its specific purpose, I have seen. Its object is to enable persons of ordinary intelligence to destroy the poison of infectious disease in their immediate surroundings. The circular assumes the actual presence of an epidemic, but disinfection is of the highest value against the access of disease as well as against its spread.

Allow me also in this connection to call attention to a few pertinent commonplaces of medical science. It is generally supposed that cholera is the result of the activity in the body, particularly in the digestive tract, of some minute morbid plant or animal-like organism. This is taken in chiefly, if not wholly, with food and drink. It is of prime importance, therefore, in cholera times, that food and drink should be carefully looked after. Pure or boiled water, milk, well cooked vegetables and meats, and perfectly sound, ripe, and cleansed fruits, only, should be used.

Next to the matter of food and drink, maintenance of personal vigour is of the highest importance. Persons under chronic debility, and especially persons temporarily debilitated through excesses of any kind, are most easily affected by such a poison as that of cholera. A vigorous vitality goes a long way towards a successful defence against the disease. Over fatigue, over-eating, immoderate use of alcohol, in fact, anything that depresses vital energy, is just so much a breaking down of an effective natural resistance to the poison. Those who are for any reason "run down" are always among the first to succumb. Many who maintain a full physical vigour, by that means alone successfully resist the energy of the disease "germ."

Concerning the treatment of a cholera patient I do not presume to say anything. The capable physician must attend to that. But the "ounce of prevention" is always worth "the pound of cure," and I am quite confident that if the two suggestions above made are heeded, and the preventive directions in "Circular No. 8," given below especially concerning "Premises," are followed, one has taken the best known precautions against the pestilence; that is, if he must remain where there is danger of its presence.

CLAY MACCAULEY.

The committee which prepared the circular consisted of C. F. Chandler, M.D., College of Physicians and Surgeons, Health Department, New York; George F. Baker, M.D., University of Pennsylvania; Henry Draper, M.D., University of the City of New York; Edward G. Janeway, M.D., Bellevue Medical College and Health Department, New York; Ira Remsen, M.D., Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md.; S. O. Vander Poel, M.D., Health Officer, New York. In transmitting the report the chairman, Professor C. F. Chandler, Ph. D., remarked:—

It has been the aim of the committee to prepare concise directions for disinfection, so simple and clear that they may be easily followed by any person of intelligence.

In the selection of disinfecting agents the aim has been, 1st, to secure agents which can be relied upon to accomplish the work; 2d, which can be procured in a state of comparative purity in every village; 3d, so cheap that they can be used in adequate quantities.

It is extremely important that the people should be instructed with regard to disinfection. They must be taught that no reliance can be placed on disinfectants simply because they smell of chlorine or carbolic acid, or possess the colour of permanganate, and that, in general, proprietary disinfectants with high-sounding names are practically worthless, as they either have no value whatever, or if of value, cost many times as much as they are worth, and cannot be used in sufficient quantity.

EXPLANATION.

Disinfection is the destruction of the poisons of infectious and contagious diseases.

Deodorizers, or substances which destroy smells, are not necessarily disinfectants, and disinfectants do not necessarily have an odour.

Disinfection cannot compensate for want of cleanliness or of ventilation.

I.—DISINFECTANTS TO BE EMPLOYED.

1. Roll sulphur (brimstone) for fumigation.
2. Sulphate of iron (copperas) dissolved in water in the proportion of one and a half pounds to the gallon; for soil, sewers, &c.

3. Sulphate of zinc and common salt, dissolved together in water in the proportions of four ounces sulphate and two ounces salt to the gallon; for clothing, bed-linen, &c.

NOTE.—Carbolic acid is not included in the above list for the following reasons: It is very difficult to determine the quality of the commercial article, and the purchaser can never be certain of securing it of proper strength; it is expensive, when of good quality, and experience has shown that it must be employed in comparatively large quantities to be of any use; it is liable by its strong odour to give a false sense of security.

II.—HOW TO USE DISINFECTANTS.

1. *In the sick-room.*—The most available agents are fresh air and cleanliness. The clothing, towels, bed-linen &c., should at once, on removal from the patient, be placed in a pail or tub of the zinc solution, boiling hot if possible, before removal from the room.

All discharges should either be received in vessels containing copperas solution, or, when this is impracticable, should be immediately covered with copperas solution. All vessels used about the patient should be cleaned with the same solution.

Unnecessary furniture—especially that which is stuffed—carpets and hangings, when possible, should be removed from the room at the outset; otherwise, they should remain for subsequent fumigation and treatment.

2. *Fumigation with sulphur* is the only practicable method for disinfecting the house. For this purpose the rooms to be disinfected must be vacated. Heavy clothing, blankets, bedding, and other articles which cannot be treated with zinc solution, should be opened and exposed during fumigation, as directed below. Close the rooms as tightly as possible, place the sulphur in iron pans supported upon bricks, set it on fire by hot coals or with the aid of a spoonful of alcohol, and allow the room to remain closed for twenty-four hours. For a room about ten feet square, at least two pounds of sulphur should be used; for larger rooms, proportionally increased quantities.

3. *Premises.*—Cellars, yards, stables, gutters, privies, cess-pools, water-closets, drains, sewers, &c., should be frequently and liberally treated with copperas solution. The copperas solution is easily prepared by hanging a basket containing about sixty pounds of copperas in a barrel of water.

4. *Body and bed clothing, &c.*—It is best to burn all articles which have been in contact with persons sick with contagious or infectious diseases. Articles too valuable to be destroyed should be treated as follows:—

a. Cotton, linen, flannels, blankets, &c., should be treated with the boiling hot zinc solution, introducing piece by piece, securing thorough wetting, and boiling for at least half an hour.

b. Heavy woollen clothing, silks, furs, stuffed bed-covers, beds, and other articles which cannot be treated with the zinc solution, should be hung in the room during fumigation, pockets being turned inside out and the whole garment thoroughly exposed. Afterward they should be hung in the open air, beaten, and shaken. Pillows, beds, stuffed mattresses, upholstered furniture, &c., should be cut open, the contents spread out and thoroughly fumigated. Carpets are best fumigated on the floor, but should afterward be removed to the open air and thoroughly beaten.

5. The bodies of persons who have died from infectious disease should be thoroughly washed with a zinc solution of double strength, then wrapped in a sheet wet with the zinc solution, and buried at once. Metallic, metal-lined, or air-tight coffins should be used when possible, certainly when the body is to be transported for any considerable distance.

KOREA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Events of some importance are transpiring in Korea at the present time, events which may or may not have significance just according as matters turn out.

The aged Queen-dowager died not unexpectedly a few days ago and the fact was made known by the blowing of the great trumpets at the palace gates, and the lighting of a great fire on the summit of the mountain, back of the palace enclosure. This queen has played a somewhat prominent part in the history of Korea for the last thirty years or so. It was she who upon the death of the last king obtained possession of the seals of office, became the virtual sovereign and nominated the present king, then a young child, a remote member of the Royal family. In view of the fact that she was once the virtual ruler of the country it is necessary that she should be buried with royal honours. It is said that she has laid up a large sum of money to defray the expenses of the burial ceremony. If so it was very thoughtful, for in a country like Korea a costly

funeral ceremony must be a heavy drain on the revenue. According to custom the interment cannot take place for five months. In the meantime much of the public business will be delayed. Five days after the death it is officially announced, and the great bell in the centre of the city is rung. After that time no Korean can appear on the street except he wear entirely white clothing. Hats, shoes, coat, trousers, everything must be white. For three years this will be observed, after which the black hats and parti-coloured garments may again be assumed. This sudden demand for white hats and shoes is greater than the supply, for it is deemed an insult to anticipate the death of a royal personage. It is for this reason partly that there is an interval of five days between the death and the official announcement. If enough are not made within the five days, those who cannot buy are obliged to stay in doors until they are supplied. Of course, the upper class or *yangban* have to be supplied first.

There is a rumour that some evil minded men have tried to stir up trouble in the country and induce country people to come up to Seoul and drive out the foreigners. Just now is the most propitious time for them, because the servants of the upper class are coming into the capital soon to purchase white hats and shoes for their masters, and might turn the occasion to account by killing two birds with one stone. But any such danger has been well guarded against, for a considerable company of Marines from the U.S.S. *Swatara* and their officers have come up to Seoul and are quartered at the U.S. Legation. It is said that this was done at the suggestion of His Majesty, and whether it was necessary or not it shows the goodwill of the U.S. Authorities in responding so promptly to the suggestion. And then again it must be remembered that, especially in these eastern countries, the unexpected is likeliest to happen.

It is said that the two mints where money has been coined in such large quantities lately will be closed for some months, but this information has not been authenticated yet.

There are many interesting customs connected with the death and funeral of a royal personage in Korea. Five days after the death, all the higher members of the nobility assemble before the palace gate, and kneel on their mats and wail together as a sign of their sorrow over the loss of one of the members of the Royal family. This ceremony was performed to-day and was an extremely interesting one, but difficult to describe: all these men sitting or kneeling in lines, all in white hats of the peculiar Korean shape, or else what we call palace hats shaped like a round skull cap but with broad wings on either side, all this company swaying back and forth uttering the most lamentable sounds—it is a sight seldom seen, but once seen not soon forgotten.

A couple of weeks ago it was feared that the Royal Lady was about to die, but by a copious use of wild ginseng her life was prolonged. In view of her temporary recovery the palace physicians were rewarded by promotion. But now in view of her death the head physician is said to have been banished.

The body is swathed in many yards of silk and placed in a coffin which is deposited in a house on the mountain immediately behind the palace, where it will remain five months, the customary period which must elapse between the death and the interment.

The selection of the site for the tomb is a most important matter. The diviners are called into requisition, and they have to decide by their art what place will be most propitious for the Royal grave. Fabulous sums are sometimes spent in this work which is deemed so important.

It is customary, whenever a Royal person dies, to call out all the soldiery and place them as a guard all around the palace. This probably arises from the fact that at the death of a King there is more or less danger that a pretender or malcontent may try to enter the palace and possess himself of the Royal seals, the very holding of which invests a person with Royal prerogatives. This is the first death that has occurred in the Royal family since the opening of the country to foreigners, and when the funeral proper takes place I shall take pleasure in describing it more particularly to your readers.

Your very truly,

Seul, Korea, June 9th.

X.

HORSFORD'S ACID PHOSPHATE.
Seasickness Often Prevented and Relieved.

THE EXHIBITION.

PRIZE LIST.

PRIZES OF HONOUR.

Mr. Fujino Shirōbei, Nemuro Province, Hokkaido—Manure produced by extracting oil from the herring.

The Sakuragumi, Tsukiji, Kyobashi, Tokyo—Shoes and Hides.

Mr. Namikawa Sosuke, Shinyemouchō, Nihonbashi, Tokyo—Screen of *Shippo-yaki* (enamel).

Mr. Furukawa Ichibei, Setomonochō, Nihonbashi, Tokyo—Mining exhibits.

Mr. Ito Kozabemon, Shigo-mura, Miye-gun, Miye—Raw silk, machine-reeled.

Mr. Maruno Bonoku, Ikeshinden-mura, Kitogun, Shidzuoka—Tea.

Mr. Yoshii Genta, Ino-mura, Adsunagawa-gun, Kochi—Miscellaneous papers.

PRIZES OF THE FIRST CLASS.—FIRST DIVISION (INDUSTRY).

FIRST CLASS PRIZES FOR PROGRESS.

The Tokyo Rope Manufactory, Honmura-machi, Azabu, Tokyo—*Shiranchi* and other ropes.

Mr. Kutsuya Takijiro, Ikenohata-Nakacho, Shitaya, Tokyo—Ornamental and decorative articles.

Mr. Otsuka Iwajiro, Rogetsucho, Shiba, Tokyo—Shoes.

Mr. Takahashi Seiji, Takekawacho, Kyobashi, Tokyo—Shoes.

Mr. Nakamura Naajiro, Tori-Itchome, Nihonbashi, Tokyo—Paper for covering *fusuma* (sliding screens) and miscellaneous papers.

The Japan Brick Manufactory, Oyo-e-mura, Hanzawa-gun, Saitama—Bricks.

Mr. Mikoshi Tokuyemon, Shinmachi, Midorino-gun, Gumma—Silk thread for weaving.

Mr. Sato Tokutaro, Kiumachi, Yamada-gun, Gumma—White *habutai*.

Mr. Kato Zenzō, Seto-mura, Higashi Kasugai-ori, Aichi—Teapot, and sliding doors of porcelain decorated with blue under the glaze.

Mr. Midzuno Kanbei, Tsumaki-mura, Toki-gun, Gifu—Plates of white porcelain.

The Mihoshi Weaving Factory, Takayama-machi, Ono-gun, Gifu—White *chirimen* of extra breadth (*hiro haba*).

The Ino Paper Mill, Akawa-gun, Kochi—Paper.

FIRST CLASS PRIZES FOR SKILL.

Mr. Takagi Gorōbei, Tori Hatagocho, Nihonbashi, Tokyo—*Fude* (brushes).

Mr. Nakakita Shokichi, Owari-cho, Kyobashi, Tokyo—Pie-grates.

Mr. Nakamura Naajiro, Tori-Itchome, Nihonbashi, Tokyo—Fans.

The Oji Paper Mills, Oji-mura, Kita Toshinagun, Tokyo—Material for producing wood paper (木紙) used in printing.

The Yedogawa Paper Mill, Nishi Gokencho, Ushigome, Tokyo—Improved *usayo* and *mino-gami*.

Mr. Yamada Jirobei, Kojima-cho, Asakusa, Tokyo—Wall paper, imitation leather (*kawari*).

Mr. Ogawa Itshin, Idamachi, Kojimachi, Tokyo—Photographs.

Mr. Kumagai Hisazo, Kami-kyo, Kyoto—*Sumi* (ink).

Mr. Kumagai Hisazo, Kami-kyo, Kyoto—Incense sticks.

Mr. Seifu Yohei, Shimada-kyo, Kyoto—Ewer of white porcelain, and red pot.

Mr. Sasaki Seihichi, Kami-kyo, Kyoto—*Shuchin* cloth for ladies' obi.

Mr. Komiya Matsunosuke, Kami-kyo, Kyoto—*Shuchin* cloth for ladies' obi.

The Yamaguchi Weaving Co., Yanagibaba-dori, Kami-kyo, Kyoto—Cloth for collars (*yeriji*), of black *shusu*, made of silk and cotton.

The Sulphates Manufactory, Kawanami-mura, Nishinari-gun, Osaka—Sulphates.

The Osaka Match Manufactory, Tenuji-mura, Tosei-gun, Osaka—Matches.

Mr. Tsukushi Sanjio, Higashi, Osaka—Refined wax.

Mr. Fujimoto Shotaro, Higashinomachi, Sakai Municipality, Osaka—*Dantsu* (a kind of carpet).

Mr. Sanya Iwazo, Motomachi, Higashi, Osaka—*Dantsu*.

Mr. Ogawa Tokitaro, Hachiojimachi, Minami Tamagun, Kanagawa—*Aya ito-ori* (a variety of cloth).

Mr. Tanajima Jinsaburo, Shinmachi, Kiryu, Yamada-gun, Gumma—Black *shusu* made of silk and cotton.

Mr. Matsui Genjun, Naramachi, Soyekami-gun, Nara—Jedion ink.

Mr. Kondo Kisoku, Minami Koma-gun, Yamashiro—*Edgeworthia papyrifera* (*mitsumata*), material for making paper.

Mr. Suda Manyemon—Paper.

The Shinyosha, Inadate-gun, Fukui—Paper.
Mr. Tsuruta Wasaburo, Umemotomachi, Kanazawa Municipality, Ishikawa—Cooking utensils (*Kawaseki-gu*).

The Kanazawa Silk Thread Co., Nagamachi, Kanazawa Municipality, Ishikawa—Silk thread.

Mr. Kito Otusuchi, Osumachi, Kita-gun, Yehime—Raw and refined wax.

Mr. Kawachi Sukesaburo, Niya-mura, Kitagun, Yehime—Raw and refined wax.

Mr. Kojima Gihoro, Kaneko-bashi, Kochi Municipality, Kochi—Paper.

The Koransha, Arutamura, Nishi-matsuura-gun, Saga—Miscellaneous Porcelain articles.

SECOND DIVISION (FINE ARTS).

FIRST CLASS PRIZES FOR EXCELLENCE.

Mr. Hashimoto Gaho, Unemecho, Kyobashi, Tokyo—Picture of *sansui* (autumn scenery).

Mr. Hayashi Kubei, Miromachi Nihonbashi, Tokyo—Bronze alcove ornament.

Mr. Umino Shomin, Higashi-Katamachi, Koma-gome, Hongo, Tokyo—For manufacture of the above alcove ornament.

The Seikosha, Gokencho, Kanda, Tokyo—Flower vase ornamented with silver storks.

Mr. Kano Natsuo, Kachimachi, Shitaya, Tokyo—For manufacture of the above vase.

Mr. Shihata Junzo, Kaniheiyemouchō, Asakusa, Tokyo—Seascape, gold lacquered.

Mr. Ogawa Itshin, Idamachi, Kojimachi, Tokyo—Phototype.

Mr. Nishimura Soyemon, Mikura-mura, Shimokyo, Kyoto—Picture, wild ducks in snow.

Screens bearing pictures of wild ducks in snow and scenery of Hotsugawa.

Mr. Namikawa Yasuyuki, Horikecho, Shimokyo, Kyoto—Flower vase of enamel (*shippo*).

Mr. Kato Roroku, Tawarayamachi, Hamakyo, Kyoto—Bronze flower vase.

Mr. Seifu Tomohide, Shimokyo, Kyoto—Vase with picture of fish.

Mr. Date Yasuke, Kamikyo, Kyoto—*Kantō-dankishi*, decorative material for ladies' obi.

Mr. Fujii Sakichiro, Hiosawamura, Yamada-gun, Gumma—Tablecloth.

FIRST CLASS PRIZE FOR COMPETITION.

Mr. Kishi Kokei, Hichikencho, Ikenohata, Shitaya, Tokyo—Gold lacquered utensils.

THIRD DIVISION.

FIRST CLASS PRIZES FOR SKILL.

The Kanagafuchi Spinning Co., Sumidamura, Minami-Katsushika-gun, Tokyo—Cotton thread.

Mr. Tsukiyama Jinbei, Fushimicho, Kii-gun, Kyoto—*Sencha* (Tea).

Mr. Uyezaki Seizayemon, Ujimura, Uji-gun, Kyoto—Dust *Gyokuro* (fine tea).

The Osaka Spinning Co., Sangenya-mura, Nishinari-gun, Osaka—Cotton thread.

Mr. Kumura Chujiro, Osumi-gun, Kanagawa—Cigarettes.

Mr. Naka Seizo, Naruo-mura, Bako-gun, Hyogo—Cotton.

Mr. Inouye Nobusaburo, Nanami-gun, Hyogo—Japanese ox(?)

Mr. Yamaguchi Shuzo, Sonoki-mura, Higashi-sonoki-gun, Nagasaki—Oregon wheat.

Mr. Kimura Kyuzo, Awoyagi-mura, Kodama-gun, Saitama—Silkworm cocoons and eggs.

Mr. Machida Kikujiro, Mikuri-mura, Midorino-gun, Gumma—Silkworm cocoons and eggs.

The Seishikoku-sha, Mayebashi-machi, Nishigumma-ori, Gumma—Raw silk, machine produced.

Mr. Kogo Nihei, Katori-gun, Chiba—*Uruchi* (non-glutinous rice).

The Sakura Dokyo-sha, Hachigai-mura, Imbagan, Chiba—*Sencha* (Tea).

Mr. Santa Tomosaburo, Kuni-ori, Ibaraki—*Hatabako* (leaf tobacco).

Mr. Hirozawa Sohachi, Mito, Ibaraki—*Kizami tabako* (cut tobacco).

Mr. Matsumoto Takichi, Tsuga-gun, Tochigi—*Uruchi* (non-glutinous rice).

Mr. Uyesawa Tosaburo, Kami-tsuga-gun, Tochigi—Hemp.

Mr. Hijikura Shosaburo, Yashino-gun, Nara—Timber 15 kinds, and two rafts.

Mr. Doi Kanpu, Kita-muro-gun, Miye—Timber, 33 kinds.

Mr. Kubota Shun, Shidzuoka—Bark (*kawa*) of *Edgeworthia papyrifera* (*mitsumata*).

Mr. Ikeya Sahei, Omiyamachi, Fuji-gun, Shidzuoka—Bark of *Edgeworthia papyrifera*.

Mr. Taki Seiko, Ibaragan, Shidzuoka—Bark of *Edgeworthia papyrifera*.

Mr. Umino Taiichi, Abe gun, Shidzuoka—*Sencha* (Tea).

Mr. Tanaka Muneshige, Nakakoma-gun, Yamashiro—Cotton.

Mr. Tanaka Komataro, Nakakoma-gun, Yamashiro—Cocoons.

Mr. Fujimoto Zenyemon, Chisagata-gun, Nagano—Silkworm eggs.

Mr. Yamazaki Wasaku, Sarashina-gun, Nagano—Cocoons.

The Taiyosha, Kami-Inagan, Nagasaki—Raw silk, machine-reeled.

The Gwakosha, Suwa-gun, Nagasaki—Raw silk, machine-produced.

The Miyagi Cattle and Horse Company, Sendai-shi, Miyagi—Horses.

The Koyeisha, Igu-gun, Miyagi—Raw silk, machine-produced.

Mr. Ohashi Isaburo, Date-gun, Fukushima—Silkworm eggs.

Mr. Ohashi Sai, Date-gun, Fukushima—Cocoons.

Mr. Nakamura Zenzo, Mitogun, Aomori—Horses.

Mr. Tanaka Hyoji, Mitogun, Aomori—Horses.

Mr. Fukuda Yukau, Hachindie-mura, Mitogun, Aomori—Horses.

Mr. Nomura Shinpachiro, Kimikita-gun, Aomori—Horses.

The Yamagata Industrial Co., Yamagata Municipality, Yamagata—Cocoons.

The Yonezawa Thread Manufactory, Yonezawa Municipality, Yamagata—Raw silk, machine-produced.

The Katsuyama Thread Manufactory, Onogun, Fukui—Raw silk, machine-produced.

Mr. Makishima Tokutsu, Aimi-gun, Tottori—Cotton.

Mr. Uchida Kaneichiro, Shimane-gun, Shimane—*Uruchi* (non-glutinous rice).

Mr. Omori Kumataro, Tsutaka-gun, Okayama—Vines.

Mr. Takahashi Goroyemon, Hiroshima—*Uruchi*.

Mr. Matsushita Iwakichi, Kuka-gun, Yamaguchi—*Uruchi*.

Mr. Hayashi Shinpei, Akamagasaki Municipality, Yamaguchi—Cigarettes.

Mr. Shima Juzo, Narishigun, Tokushima—Indigo.

Mr. Doi Matsutaro, Takaoka-gun, Kochi—*Bronsonetia papyrifera*.

Mr. Urashi Katsutichi, Fukuoka—*Uruchi*.

Mr. Tsuru, Shunbichi, Yamaka-gun, Kumamoto—*Uruchi*.

Mr. Nishikawa Bunjiro, Tamana-gun, Kumamoto—Wheat.

Mr. Kumeta Shotaro, Miyasaki—*Shirosato* (sugar).

Mr. Kawada Zensayemon, Minami-Osumi-gun, Kagoshima—Tobacco (leaf).

The Samsi Kasu-jo, Kagoshima Municipality, Kagoshima—Cocoons.

Mr. Momohara Jutarō, Okinawa—Brown Sugar.

FIRST CLASS PRIZES FOR COMPETITION.

Mr. Hatta Tatsuya, Higashi Yashigun, Yamashiro—Silkworm exhibits.

FOURTH DIVISION (AQUATIC PRODUCTS).

FIRST CLASS PRIZES FOR PROGRESS.

Mr. Kanabara Daichi, Aomori—Sea-cucumber.

The Aquatic Products Co., Shimane—Dried cuttle-fish.

FIRST PRIZES FOR SKILL.

Mr. Yokoyama Shoyemon, Shinamaki-gun, Hokkaido—Pulverised sea ear.

Mr. Yanakita Tokichi, Nemuro-gun, Hokkaido—Long cut *Laminaria japonica*.

Mr. Iwase Sakuyemon, Isumi-gun, Chiba—Sea-ear.

Mr. Mori Risaemon, Naka-gun, Shidzuoka—Dried bonito (*Katsuo-bushi*).

The North Sea Aquatic Products factory, Otsu-gun, Yamaguchi—Dried cuttlefish.

FIFTH DIVISION (EDUCATION AND ARTS).

FIRST CLASS PRIZES FOR SKILL.

Miss Asakura Sayo, Yotsuya, Tokyo—Lens, spectacles, and other objects.

The Japan Educational Society, Hitotsulashidori, Kanda, Tokyo—Statistical tables, and accounts of the Educational Society.

Mr. Moriya Sadakichi, Toyamacho, Kanda Tokyo—Weighing scales (*hakari*) and weights (*fundori*).

Mr. Maki Kubei, Hongo Tokyo—Accoucher's instruments (*sankwa hikwai*).

Mr. Horiguchi Yakichi, Hayashicho, Honjo, Tokyo—Dentists' instruments.

Mr. Nawa Sei, Mototsu-gun, Gifu—Samples of insects.

Mr. Tanno Kotaro, Yamaguchi—Meteorological tables.

SIXTH DIVISION (METALLURGY).

FIRST CLASS PRIZE FOR PROGRESS.

Mr. Kanai Jinhachi, Yamaguchi—Portland cement.

FIRST CLASS PRIZES FOR SKILL.

Mr. Asano Soichiro, Fukagawa, Tokyo—Portland cement.

Mr. Sumitomo Kichisayemon, Minami Osaka—Copper.

FIRST CLASS PRIZE FOR COMPETITION.

Mr. Sugimoto Seitoku, Idsumicho, Kanda, Tokyo—Model (*hinagata*) of the Hosokura Mine.

SEVENTH DIVISION (MECHANICS).

FIRST CLASS PRIZE FOR PROGRESS.

Mr. Nakano Yozo, Gofukuchō, Nihonbashi, Tokyo—Machine for weaving gold and silver braid.

FIRST CLASS PRIZES FOR SKILL.

The Tokyo Electric Light Co., Shinsakana-machi, Kyobashi, Tokyo—Electric lighting apparatus, &c.

The Ishikawajima Shipbuilding Yard, Tsukudajima, Kyobashi, Tokyo—Marine engine.

The Kawasaki Shipbuilding Yard, Kawasaki-machi, Kobe municipality, Hyogo—Model of a barge for the transport of heavy guns.

"THE MARCH OF CHRISTIAN CIVILIZATION"

Rev. Dr. Newman, of the M.E. Church, delivered his popular lecture "The March of Christian Civilization," on Friday evening in the Van Schaick Hall, the proceeds of the sale of tickets being devoted to the fund for repairing the M.E. Church damaged in the recent storms. There was a good attendance.

Mr. C. R. Greathouse, U.S. Consul-General, presided, and in opening the proceedings said he did not think it necessary that he should introduce any one so well known as the reverend lecturer. Dr. Newman was not altogether a stranger to Japan, having come to this country some years ago on an official mission from the State Department at Washington. The subject of the lecture was "The March of Christian Civilization," and he was satisfied that all on leaving the hall would feel that they had listened to a most eloquent, eminent, and distinguished lecturer, on a great and grand subject, and that they had also by their presence contributed to a most worthy object.

Dr. Newman then proceeded with his lecture. Some master mind, he said, had yet to give the world a simple and comprehensive definition of the term civilization. That definition could not be found in the lexicons or cyclopedias. Some things were difficult of definition. No astronomer to-day would presume to risk his reputation in defining light. We know that it is, but what it is we know nothing. No biologist would presume to define life. We speak of the attributes, the manifestations of life, but the secret of the mystery of nature still eludes man. No statesman would presume to define civilization. Indeed, the very terms most familiar to us, in every day use, are the terms most difficult of definition. Two masters of thought have essayed the task, a Frenchman and an Englishman. Guizot has defined civilization to be the personal and the social improvement of mankind; and his definition is the more desirable in that it begins with the individual; while Buckle, the Englishman, has attempted to define civilization to be the intellectual and moral improvement of society. They would see further on the defect in that definition: that it gives prominence to the intellect and makes the moral the sequence to the former. What shall be the standard of civilization? Shall it be organized nationality? Then China must take the preëminence; for China has witnessed the funeral procession of the mightiest nations in the history of the world—of Assyria, Babylonia, Greece, Rome, and even of Egypt. The pyramids remain as the tombstones of Egypt, but China still lives, her constitution the admiration of English and of American statesmen. What shall be the standard? The majesty of the supremacy of law. Then Rome must bear the palm, for what we call the Pandects of Justinian are the discoveries of a great Roman jurist, and Justinian simply gathered up and formulated what a mightier man had discovered. Wherever the Roman eagle screamed there swayed the Roman sceptre; wherever her legions marched there was the majesty of law. What shall be the standard? Shall we say culture? This was an institution of learning, these learned professors around him taught their students to sit at the feet of the men of Attica, whose poetry, and oratory, and philosophy have never been excelled. Our poet laureates are only too happy to approach near the fountain whence drank the blind bard of Grecia: our great orators are only happy if they can stand upon the spot where Pericles spoke with matchless eloquence. What shall be the standard? Art? Why the very birds of Attica came and pecked at the fruit painted by Apelles, and yet Greece has passed from the vision of the world. What shall be the standard? Commerce? On the shores of Africa

was a republic of one state, in whose harbour floated the flags of all nations, whose merchantmen doubled the Cape of Good Hope two thousand years before it was discovered by di Gama. For Carthage must bear the palm of these commercial discoveries and transactions. In Carthage were banks of wealth, schools of learning, halls of justice, and Carthage caused Rome to tremble when Rome's vast empire swept from the Western Ocean to the River Euphrates and from the Wall of Antioch to the Mountains of the Moon. Shall the standard be democracy? Wherein every citizen has the right to vote, and every citizen is eligible for office? A thousand years before Jesus came into the world there was a democracy; the Jewish democracy was essentially a democracy on earth, theocratic in Heaven. All were eligible for office and yet to the question: What is the destiny of Republics? the Jewish democracy answers "empire." There was no exception in the history of the world. There had been republics long before that of the United States, and there are now many growing republics as there are monarchies. It is a fallacy to suppose that the elements of perpetuity are inherent in a republic. There is nothing perpetual in a republic any more than in a monarchy: the destiny of republics is empire. It is for the Republic of the United States of America to demonstrate to the world that she has discovered the secret of perpetuity, for the world has never lacked advance, and the problem of the ages and of the statesmen has been how to give permanence to progress. What shall be the standard? Shall it be a state religion with a majestic symbolism, a beautiful ritual? The Jews had these, and such a ritual as was inspired from on high, and yet Jerusalem is a heap of ruins bespeaking its former grandeur and pristine glory, while the Jew is a wanderer and a by word and a hissing. What shall be the standard? All these elements combined? Well, let his listeners combine them; put organized nationality, the majesty of law, intellect, culture, wealth of commerce, democracy, a state religion—blend them with the same harmony that you would the colours of the rainbow. What then? There had been nations having all these attributes, and yet they had gone to the charnel house of decay. Is it possible then to approach a definition? May we say it is individual purity, culture, happiness, social morality, thrift, national justice, honesty? Combine these under three heads, and we may catch a glimpse. It has been the dream of the sage and the aspiration of the poet. All civilizations have been abnormal; some characteristic has dominated the others in them like a master. A true civilization must be that in which each element stimulates the others and all move together in harmonious proportion and action. But no civilization on the face of the globe so combined the various elements. Take the United States of America; take the last general election. What was the dominant thought on the rostrum, in the journal? Was it education, which the fathers of the republic declared to be essential to the perpetuity of free institutions? Nothing of the kind. Was it the home life of the republic, the sanctity of marriage? Nothing of the kind. Was it the recognition of the individuality of woman, and her elevation to equality before the law? No. Was it temperance—which gives bliss to the home, happiness to society, and stability to justice, its opposite, intemperance, working the ruin of the individual and the community? No. What was it? It was tariff; and tariff means commerce, and commerce means money. He blushed for his age, and for the civilization of his country. All civilizations, in America, in England, or in France, are abnormal, and it is for us to produce such a civil condition wherein the normal shall supersede the abnormal. It is a mistake to suppose that the dream of a better future, of an ultimate humanity, when justice shall take the place of wrong, when modesty shall supersede insolence, when happiness shall become co-extensive with the business of mankind—it is a mistake to suppose that this is merely the dream of the Prophet of Nazareth when the Son of Mary wandered as a peasant amid the green hills of the north or the crowded cities of the south. Only those ignorant of history, especially of the great thinkers of the age, would ascribe the dream of a millennium to Jesus. For it was that great Englishman—greatest among Englishmen—Francis Bacon, who anticipated the time when man should rise to such supremacy as to be master of the material forces of the universe. Then came Leibnitz, who declared the time would come when war should cease, and that mankind was capable of perfectibility; and Pascal, tender and eloquent, who went before Leibnitz and said that men never died and humanity was ever living and ever growing—a blessed thought this of corporate humanity—that the thoughts of our mind, the principles we have uttered,

and our deeds of charity to man and devotion to God, are reproduced in this corporate humanity and humanity never dies. Then there was Thomas Jefferson, who uttered the sublime saying that "all men are created free." And then there came Christ Jesus, who from a religious standpoint and out of the bosom of the infinite future, declared an ultimate humanity at the head of which He is to stand, when all men shall be brothers. Is it possible? Is it a fancy? Is the pessimist true when he says the world is growing worse? Is the optimist extravagant? Or should the truth be searched for between these two extremes? There were surer guarantees; there were the endowments of capacity. Take for instance the descendants of Shem, the religious thinker of mankind, the high priest of humanity, for all the religions of the world have come from Shem. The West had given many things, but the West was too poor to give a religion. And yet they were the religious thinkers of the world; we sing their psalms, recite their proverbs, and follow their laws. Then take the descendants of Japhet; the Anglo-Saxon, who controls the commerce of the world, has given proof of capacity. The other branch, the descendants of Ham, going westward founded Jerusalem, Tyre and Sidon, and gave the world letters and commerce, for Cadmus proceeded from Sidon and the Tyrian mariners navigated the Mediterranean, passed through the Pillars of Hercules, went as far as the English Channel, founded Carthage, the pride of the race, passed into Egypt, reared the Pyramids, sculptured the Sphinx, and some passed farther south where the sun blackened their faces and kinked their hair. Were he as a student of history to choose between the glory of Ham and the glory of Japhet he would be inclined to choose the glory of Ham. And the question was whether Ham might not yet come to the front and be a black diamond of resplendent glory in the crown of our Lord. He had stood in the valley of separation and seen these three races passing each on its mission, and he had a dream that these three sons of Noah after wandering through the centuries had met on American soil, under the American skies and the American flag, Ham in the person of the negro, Shem as the Chinese, and Japhet as the Anglo-Saxon—these three brothers, a trinity of humanity looking up to a trine God.—(Applause.) Here they had capacity. Infidelity had never given anything to the world; infidelity was iconoclastic; infidelity was a torch to burn but not a hammer to build. They might talk about the mistakes of Moses, but Moses still sits serenely upon the Mount of God and his Ten Commandments are obeyed by mankind. The mistakes of Moses! In America there was an infidel, whose name he never condescended to mention in public, who lectured on the mistakes of Moses. One of the speaker's countrymen, Josh Billings, said—"I would give \$50 to hear that infidel on the mistakes of Moses, but I would give \$100 to hear Moses on the mistakes of that infidel!"—(Laughter and applause.) Whenever men sighed for liberty they had erected an altar to God and when they did not know him it was to the unknown God. The coming of Jesus Christ into the world was a pledge of ultimate humanity, and wherever He was received the gyve fell from the slave, the mind was quickened, and woman was elevated,—all that was worthy in humanity must be ascribed to Jesus Christ. The lecturer spoke not as a minister, but as a student of the philosophy of history; he entered the arena as a student and threw down the gauntlet. He asserted that whatever is true and beautiful and lovely in our humanity must be ascribed to Jesus Christ our Lord. Look at the facts, the fundamental laws by which society advances to a better future. Guizot rather than Buckle was right; for he began with the individual, and the collective man of any age never rises above the individual. Advance was a three-fold movement; there is he who like John the Baptist stands on the mountain top to catch the first rays of the coming dawn; whose psalm of life is "Excelsior;" who is a hundred years in advance of his time, who was called insane,—though the insane of to-day are the sane of to-morrow, and the martyrs of this hour the prophets of the next; then there is the pessimist, the conservative, whose eyes should be in the back of his head for he is always looking to the past; and then comes the middle man who extends one hand to him in advance and the other to him in the rear. And humanity thus marches forward in threes, amid the music of the centuries. There is a man in the United States Senate who never rises to speak without exciting a smile of ridicule on the faces of his colleagues; but when those who smile at him are dead and forgotten then will come the posthumous glory of that man, who stands for prohibition, for woman's elevation, and for universal education. So time is the essential element in advancement

and in God's government. Instantaneous perfection would be instantaneous destruction. A thousand years of time are as yesterday when past, and as a tale that has been told. It required four hundred years for the Hebrews to be called to march to the promised land; it required five centuries to bring in the era of Solomon's glory, and it required a thousand years thereafter to bring Jesus into the world. Jesus could not have come sooner: his coming could not have been delayed. So the birth of the Great Republic came in the nick of time under the operation of this great law. The speaker was not impatient at what seemed to be delay, for what appeared delay, to man was progress to God, and what was progression to man was delay to God. So revolution was an ordination of Heaven, for it seems to be true that the present exhausts the resources of the past and by enlarged development needs new resources; and consequently there comes revolution, and the social fabric is broken into a thousand pieces. At such times men lose their wits and cry out, "Where is God?" but when the smoke of battle has cleared they recognise his presence. It is a great fact that in these revolutions nothing is lost. All the great thoughts of philosophy, of religion, of charity are reproduced in numberless forms in future generations. He did not believe in lost arts, or sciences. That which is external to them may disappear, but, as Comte says, there is more mind on earth to-day than ever in the past; there is physical development greater than in the past, greater brain power and greater mentality, and it is due to the fact that nothing is lost in the realm of thought. He was therefore not disturbed by revolution, for that was an ordination of heaven growing out of the exigencies of the limitations of mankind and human nature; and the progress must be step by step till the heights are attained. The advance of the better future is like the incoming of the tide: the undertow for a moment leaves bare the shore but each incoming wave mounts a little higher. So the revolutions that have occurred in the annals of history are so many seas marking the advance of the race. And it is also a fact worthy of consideration that this advance is by toil and suffering. John Stuart Mill has written a most terrible indictment against the evils of nature, and yet he should have remembered that this was the order and constitution of nature, and that when he was writing against religion under cover of nature he was calling into question that constitution of which he was a part. This fact stands out conspicuously to cheer us in our great work of philanthropy. Take war. It is a monster that marches to the music of the widow's sigh, and the orphan's cry. And yet it is an ordination of Heaven—he would not say in all forms; but he would say that Providence over-ruled war for the largest benefit of the race. War springs from jealousy, from ambition for domination, but then war must cease. There is nothing more poetic in history than to watch the reversion of the verdicts of history. In their childhood they had read with interest and delight the story of Bonaparte, and now that they had reached manhood they turned away with a loathsome feeling from the Man of Corsica and the Prisoner of St. Helena. So the time will come when the warriors of the past, who fought for glory and empire, will be esteemed as the geologist esteems some geological monster representing an extinct savagism. Who are the great warriors in the minds of mankind? In a plain tomb in St. Paul's in London lies the dust of the Iron Duke who drew his sword for the constitutional liberty of England; and on the banks of the Potomac, in a plain republican tomb, without a monument sleeps the warrior who drew his sword for human rights; and when the canvass has faded, while sun, moon and stars shall shine, the name of Washington shall for ever be held in memory, because he drew his sword for justice and for right.—(Applause.) He, the lecturer, would not be surprised by a street fight, but he would be surprised that men created in the image of God should be in such a moral condition as to make a fight possible, and so if he learned to-morrow that all Europe was in arms he would not be surprised; his surprise would be that the great statesmen of Europe should be in such a moral condition as to render such a war possible. He was not a fatalist, but he believed that the advance would be made to a better future just as a column marched over the bodies of those who fell, never halting till the flag was planted on the highest citadel of the enemy. Every age had its martyrs. There was much solemnity in that word "must;" Luther must go to the Diet of Worms; Latimer, Cranmer, and Ridley must go to the stake; Stephen must be stoned; Jesus Christ must suffer death on the cross; and yet out of these conditions issued, from Luther Protestant

liberty; from Cranmer, Latimer, and Ridley English liberty, and from Jesus Christ that Divine religion which is a benediction to man and a doxology to God. Here then was a great fact: that what is essential to the advancement of the race is the recognition of those fundamental principles of Christianity which always supplement nature. For there is nothing so natural in the whole realm of personal thought as the religion of Jesus; it is the religion of nature, the supplement of nature; and no religious teacher referred to the constitution of nature so frequently as He, and always with accuracy. A great English writer had taken exception to this proposition, and had said that all the great upward movements of the race were preceded by an intellectual revival. No better master of English rhetoric than Buckle; and yet had the lecturer a boy to educate he would not put a copy of Buckle in his hands unless it were expurgated. He dealt with half truths and false facts, for a fact may be a fact and yet false when used out of its historical sequence. The rev. speaker then proceeded to deal with various statements of Buckle, and going on to speak of intellect, said the greatest monsters that had afflicted humanity had been men of powerful intellects and splendid scholarship. If he were compelled to choose between a black heart with culture and a white heart allied to ignorance of intellect, he would take the latter. Having referred to the career of a once famous American lawyer who now lies in a drunkard's grave, and shown that intellect and scholarship are not enough, Dr. Newman went on to say that he had lived to see some of the marvels of ultimate humanity; especially in the recognition of individuality. He did not care what the form of Government is so long as this great principle is incorporated in the Constitution and in the statutory enactments of mankind. It is not possible to judge of its great realizations in a lustum, or a decade, or a cycle; they must sweep through the majesty of a hundred years. In this view the speaker then proceeded to contrast the condition of the various countries of Europe a century ago with their state now, recalling *en passant* that when he was a student in Rome so careful were they of his soul that they erased from newspapers sent to him articles that were thought dangerous. But Rome has had a resurrection, the Romans are now free, and an American missionary stands on the steps of St. Peter's with a copy of King James' Bible in his hand to present to the Sovereign Pontiff whenever he shall dare to come out. To be sure Rome never changes. She is infallible and immutable. There is in Washington a Cardinal who avows himself in favour of liberty; but the Cardinal could not deceive him. He reminded the lecturer of a Professor of cadaverous appearance who was the possessor of a skeleton, which he had so fixed in a cupboard that on the opening of the door the skeleton walked out. A boy coming in to sell oranges one day opened by mistake the door of the cupboard, and, being confronted by the skeleton, fled out into the street. Thence he saw, at the window of the room he had just left, the Professor, who, stretching out one bony hand and exhibiting his lantern jaws and row of grinning teeth, called to him to return and get his oranges. "No," responded the boy, "no you don't, if you have got your clothes on."—(Laughter.) So he, Dr. Newman, always said to his beloved Cardinal at Washington "No you don't, if you have got your clothes on."—(Laughter.) England, he went on to say, is recognising the great fact of the individuality of man. The other day an English statesman died. He was refused burial in Westminster Abbey, but while the men that refused him are dead and forgotten the name of John Bright will live for ever.—(Applause.) But he was the friend of Cobden, worked with him to abolish the Corn Laws, and was of the people, with the people, and for the people, and when the old toadies and Tories of the present generation are forgotten, John Bright's name will live. Here in Japan soon a parliament is to meet representing the suffrages of the people of Japan.—(Applause.) Japan has moved forward touching on the summits of the centuries. He was here 17 years ago and stayed in Japan, and went through the empire; he returned now to new Japan where there were these mighty changes and this recognition of individuality. And annual conference in which there were so many come from that Japanese Parliament that would he heard all around the globe. His audience would cheer that some of these days. His audience would the close of his remarks, the rev. lecturer said he had a dream that some of those days there shall be a confederation of the nations, and a Parliament of the world. That great soldier who slept on the

banks of the Hudson, whose pastor he was—these hands baptised him in the hour of his sickness, and these lips pronounced his funeral oration—told him once of a dream he had of arbitration by a Supreme Court of the World. He said—Just as the citizens of our States appear before the Supreme Court of the United States so there will come a time when there will be a Supreme Court of the World. The citizens of America, of England, and of Japan shall appear before that Supreme Court, but who shall be the judge? And so the great soldier dreamed that war would be adjusted by peaceful arbitration. It was a beautiful dream. In the same way the speaker anticipated a Parliament of the world, when representatives shall come from all the nations: from the banks of the Niger and the Congo, from the Jordan and the Nile, from the Euphrates and the Tigris, from the Jumna and the Ganges, the Bosphorus and the Golden Horn, the Rhine and the Danube, the Severn and the Thames, the Mississippi, and the Hudson; and wherever they are gathered—whether in St. Paul's in London, or St. Peter's in Rome, or St. Sophia's in Constantinople, or the Mosque of Omar in Jerusalem—they shall declare that war shall be no more; all men are brothers; Jesus Christ is the only great efficient reformer known to mankind, and He is the essential element in Christian civilization, and high over it shall be the cross, the symbol of universal liberty, and there shall be two flags, the flag of England and the flag of America, the symbols of universal peace.—(Loud applause.)

Mr. Greathouse, in proposing a vote of thanks to the rev. lecturer for his eloquent address, invited subscriptions towards the object for which the proceeds of the lecture were designed.

This brought the proceedings to a close.

THE DIRECT EXPORT OF RAW SILK.

(Translated from the *Fiji Shimpō*.)

The Dōshin Kaisha is now, by the withdrawal of Government assistance in the form of the exchange business which it has enjoyed since 1876, brought face to face with the question of suspending the direct export to the United States of that staple. The company has in consequence petitioned the Government either to continue the exchange business referred to or to grant a subsidy towards its aid. But the Government has found it difficult from the nature of its financial system to grant any such privilege, although it certainly is not inclined to ignore the decline and extinction of a business which it has encouraged so long. With a view, therefore, to the continuance of the direct export business, the Minister of State for Finance consulted the other day with Messrs. Hara, Mogi, and other silk merchants of Yokohama. It seems probable that as the result of this action Count Matsukata entertains the hope of inducing the Yokohama silk merchants to lend pecuniary assistance to the Dōshin Kaisha in order to maintain that firm in the field of direct export. What the company is chiefly apprehensive of is not the smallness of the funds that it may be able to borrow, but the low rate of interest that it can return on such funds. Raw silk is an article of high value, and to handle it requires a large amount of capital.

The trouble then lies in this: that there are at present in Japan a scarcity of money and a very high rate of interest, so that capital may not be profitably employed in mercantile undertakings unless a return of at least ten per cent. can be depended on. The case is different with foreign countries. There interest is generally low, and the common return on capital varies from 3 to 5 per cent.

The attempt of our merchants therefore to enter into competition with countries in which such a low rate of interest prevails, by the export of the raw silk that they purchase in Japan with capital on which a high rate of interest must be paid, is not at all likely to bear good fruit. The fact that the Government has given to direct exporters of raw silk direct subsidies, or has allowed them the advantage of Government exchange business, is the outcome of a desire to place at their disposal money at low interest, and thus enable them to carry on their business in the foreign raw silk markets. Will the Government now absolutely withdraw its support from the Dōshin Kaisha consequent on the change in its financial system, and allow the Yokohama silk merchants to extend the aid it cannot now continue? Although the silk merchants are bound to place in the hands of the company low interest capital, yet both they and the company are equally merchants of a country in which high interest prevails, and they must endeavour to earn 10 per cent. upon their working capital. The advantages that accrue indirectly

to the Yokohama silk merchants from the direct export of raw silk be taken into account, the abolition of that branch of business must prove a serious injury to the country at large, inasmuch as the resident foreign merchants will naturally strive to profit by the occasion. Moreover, the production of raw silk shows a yearly increase which requires a further extension of its markets. But it is now confronted in the American market by European silk on the one hand and by Chinese silk on the other, and under such circumstances, the exhibition of our disability will it is feared encourage encroachments on the field we have hitherto occupied. In such an event if those who have been long engaged in the raw silk business decide to sacrifice their own personal interests for the benefit of the country, and encourage direct export by lending their capital at from 4 to 5 per cent. interest in place of over 10 per cent., which they claim now, it may be easy to obtain the necessary funds.

But have the Yokohama silk merchants such zeal, and can they look beyond their own immediate business interests?

It is plain that the business of direct export will not be developed or improved if ordinary business men simply utilize their capital for its purpose, and then divide among themselves the profits that may be realised by it. The difficulty of obtaining capital at a low rate of interest being then the main point, the only course open to the Dōshin Kaisha, in the event of individual merchants refusing to let it have funds on favourable terms, is to seek the aid of the Government, either in the form of exchange business or of a direct subsidy. The question is really a national one, for on the dimensions of the raw silk trade depend the welfare of the silk industry and manufacture, as well as of the whole body of silk merchants.

Let us take the export of raw silk at thirty million yen per annum. If by irregularities or imperfections in the methods of conducting this trade loss should be sustained, amounting we shall say to 5 per cent., then the nation is the poorer by about yen 1,500,000. In this view it may easily be conceded that the functions of the Government include investigation and enquiry as to the best methods of protecting, encouraging, and regulating a trade of such paramount importance to the country at large. Besides it is not, in the light of past experience, an unusual or unlikely contingency that the Government will ignore the claims of the silk trade, and we take it that if the Administration desires not to concern itself in the matter it cannot be said to be lacking in reasonable excuses for doing so. If the authorities decide to completely withdraw their countenance from the Dōshin Kaisha and leave it to work out its own destiny, what course are direct exporters of raw silk likely to adopt? Will they abandon all further efforts in the line of direct export, and, as it were, commit commercial suicide by giving up their business? It is evident that if the undertaking falls into the hands of inexperienced persons, profit or advantage will be out of the question. The Government may therefore be able to see its way to encourage the organization of a company of enterprising business men, with plenty of capital to support them, who will specially devote themselves to the provision of such facilities of communication as will keep silk people here perfectly acquainted with the state of the foreign markets, and for the purposes of whose business it would probably be thought advisable to open an office in New York. The company should make it its aim to try the foreign taste by means of samples, and then having ascertained the popular tendency abroad, to engage in the direct export of the goods sought for. The expense of carrying on such a business could be kept within due limits, each individual member of the corporation bearing his proportion. We have heard it said that when Holland had all but succumbed to the blows of the First Napoleon, the national flag still floated above the factory at Doshima, and that from this spot the national life again received an access of impulse and quickening. We cannot speak with certainty of the Government's intentions, but it may well be that if the Dōshin Kaisha is to collapse, the principle of direct export may still be preserved for future activity by the presence in New York of the office of a Japanese direct export company.

POETRY.

THE CYCLE OF CHANGE.

TO A MOUNTAIN STREAM.

From an illegible inscription, supposed to be by a Buddhist, deciphered by Dr. MARTIN of Peking).

Little river! little river!

Why forsake your mountain home,

Like an arrow from a quiver

Flashing by in froth and foam?

Downward dashing, plunging leaping,

Is it rest that you pursue?

Is it in you lake that, sleeping,

Calmly seems to wait for you?

In that lake you may not tarry—

Brief the pause allowed you there;

Soon you'll leave with all you carry,

Rushing on your mad career.

A larger lakelet next receives you;

Longer respite it bestows;

Its seeming calm again deceives you—

Respite only, not repose.

Will you seek it in the Ocean,

Mingling with its boundless blue?

Speedily dismiss the notion—

That the sea has rest for you.

With its restless billows blending,

Tempest-tossed and turned to rain,

On some mountain top descending,

You'll begin your course again.

While the sun continues burning,

I, like you, my race must run—

The wheel of change for ever turning—

Nowhere rest beneath the sun!

Yumoto, July 5th, 1890.

W. A. P. M.

BASEBALL.

The Baseball match between the Y. C. and A. C. team and nine from the Omaha came off on the 11th inst. with a result that must have astonished the "blue-jackets" after all that has been said and written of the local nine. The Tokyo players may tremble now for the safety of their laurels, and if the Yokohama nine can give another such exhibition as they did yesterday when they next meet the players from the capital the game will be a most interesting one. Following are the scores:—

"OMAHA."

	RUNS.	OUTS.	P.O.	A.	E.
Mr. Cronke	1	3	1	1	1
Mr. Reeves	1	4	1	1	1
Mr. Barrett	1	4	1	1	1
Mr. Douglass	1	4	1	1	1
Mr. Ferguson	1	3	1	1	1
Mr. Daly	1	3	1	1	1
Mr. Baumgartner	1	4	1	1	1
Mr. McConigle	1	4	1	1	1
Mr. Wright	1	4	1	1	1
Y. C. & A. C.	1	27	27	14	10

	RUNS.	OUTS.	P.O.	A.	E.
Mr. Nash	1	4	1	1	1
Mr. Knox	1	4	1	1	1
Mr. Tilden	1	4	1	1	1
Mr. Kinney	1	4	1	1	1
Mr. McNair	1	4	1	1	1
Mr. Fay	1	4	1	1	1
Mr. Wignore	1	4	1	1	1
Mr. Merdman, W.L.	1	4	1	1	1
Mr. Macdonald	1	4	1	1	1
Y. C. & A. C.	1	27	27	14	10

	INNINGS.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	TOTAL.
"Omaha"	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	12
Y. C. & A. C.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12

FRENCH NATIONAL HOLIDAY.

The French Community on Monday celebrated their National Holiday, and though many firms of other nationalities continued business, the settlement presented quite a gay appearance in consequence of the numbers of flags displayed. The men-of-war in harbour dressed ship and fired a salute at noon; numerous lanterns decked the French Consulate, the Grand Hotel, and other buildings in the evening, and altogether the day was celebrated by our Gallic friends with much spirit. At night a capital display of fireworks took place on barges moored off the Grand Hotel, and the band of the Hotel played for several hours. A set piece of the most beautiful colours, in which the letters R.F. appeared amid heraldic accessories, finished up the pyrotechnical display, and was received by loud cheers, the large assemblage in the grounds of the Hotel enthusiastically singing the "Marseillaise" to the music of the band. During the evening the French Consulate was beautifully illuminated, as also were the premises of Messrs. Bing & Co., and other places of business.

In honour of the day a sailing race was promoted by the Committee of the Sailing Club.

SAILING RACES.

The sailing race same day was marked by very favourable weather for a long race, and the boats finished in good time. The race was also distinguished by one or two casualties, which served to heighten the interest very greatly. The course was across a line between a flagboat off the P. and O. office and the red buoy, to a flagboat moored off the Kisaradzu coast under Miyoken San (Daddy's Bluff), then across the bay to the Kita-Nakane buoy, round that mark and home round the Lightship, finishing across a line between the Boat-club Hatoba and the bathing barge. A capital start was made at 9.5 a.m., most of the boats getting away together on the starboard tack, *Molly* from an outside berth cutting in on the port tack, but incurring disqualification by putting *Mosquito* about. The big cutters, *Lesbielle* and *Maid Marion*, stood out in the direction of the Lightship, but the others preferred to work along inshore and thus were able to avoid the flood tide. All, steering by compass, were fairly successful in hitting off the Kisaradzu mark, the *Maid* getting round first. *Princess Maud* was so unfortunate as to lose her topmast immediately after rounding the mark, but by smart work was able to use her top-sail and make a very creditable show. Across to the Kita-Nakane buoy was an easy reach, but all failed to make sufficient allowance for the flood tide and thus fetched short of the buoy, *Maid Marion* alone laying correctly for the mark and thus avoiding the short board which the others were compelled to make. The *Maid* had now disentangled herself from the body of the yachts and with a long lead came away booming under spinnaker and looking well for the first place despite the heavy allowances that she had to give. Rounding the Lightship she handed spinnaker. Halfway in, the strain of topsail and jib topsail which had kept the topmast bent like a whip handle proved too much, and the stick gave way, the jib topsail collapsing under the bows, while the gaff topsail, ripped across, hung down to leeward. Apart from this accident, however, *Daimyo* was too closeup, and drawing ahead of *Lesbielle* came in an easy winner without reckoning allowance.

Scow finished too late to be timed, coming home about eight o'clock with very little wind. Mr. Beart acted as officer of the day. The following are the times:—

	Above 26 Raters.	Kisara- dzu.	Kita Nakane.	Light- ship.	Finish.
	h.m.s.	h.m.s.	h.m.s.	h.m.s.	h.m.s.
<i>Maid Marion</i>	39	11:57:35	1:21:30	5:12:30	3:09:35
<i>Lesbielle</i>	38	11:57:34	1:21:30	5:12:30	3:09:35
<i>Daimyo</i>	32	11:53:49	1:21:30	5:12:30	3:09:35
	26 Raters.				
<i>Lady Louise</i>	26	11:53:55	1:21:30	5:12:30	3:09:35
<i>Molly Barton</i>	25	11:54:10	1:21:30	5:12:30	3:09:35
<i>Mosquito</i>	25	12:12:41	1:21:30	5:12:30	3:09:35
<i>Princess Maud</i>	24	12:15:12	1:21:30	5:12:30	3:09:35
Scow	23	1:10:00			

A match was sailed on Saturday between the following 17 Raters, *Fessie* (16), *Dot* (16), *La Belle* (16), *Queenie* (13½), and *Sayonara* (13½) rating. Captain Owston gave the starting gun at 2 p.m., in the absence of Mr. West, officer of the day. There was a nice breeze from the south-west which enabled the boats to run to the Green Lightship and reach round the rest of the course, which they did at a very good pace, as will be seen from the times given below. *Fessie* and *Sayonara* carried whole sail, the others each had a reef in.

Fessie was first across the line and at once set her spinnaker; the others soon followed and winged their way down to the Green Lightship at their top speed. At the Lightship *Queenie* got into trouble, and took so much water on board that her crew were glad to be taken in tow by *Daimyo*. *Fessie* maintained her lead to the flag-boat at Kanagawa, and *Dot* drew away from *La Belle* and *Sayonara*, the latter sailing remarkably well and pertinaciously sticking to the heels of her larger opponents. On going about at Kanagawa for the reach home *La Belle* missed stays and lost some time. On the homeward journey *Fessie* continued to increase her lead, and finished first. *Dot* was next and took second prize. *Fessie* therefore obtains two record points and *Dot* one.

The following are the recorded times:—

	Light- ship.	Kana- gawa.	Finish.	Allow.	Cor- rected.
	h.m.s.	h.m.s.	h.m.s.	min.	h.m.s.
<i>La Belle</i>	2:10:00	2:29:45	2:55:40	—	2:55:40
<i>Dot</i>	2:09:45	2:29:15	2:55:30	—	2:55:30
<i>Fessie</i>	2:08:00	2:26:30	2:47:30	—	2:47:30
<i>Queenie</i>	2:09:45	2:26:30	2:47:30	—	2:47:30
<i>Sayonara</i>	2:09:00	2:30:00	2:54:00	3:07	2:54:53

LETTER FROM SAN FRANCISCO.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

San Francisco, June 24th.

The most important event in the pending congressional controversy over the tariff has been a speech delivered by Secretary Blaine before the Senate Committee on Appropriations on Saturday. Your readers will remember that in the campaign of 1888, as in that of 1884, Mr. Blaine led the protectionist folks, and that the election was won on his war-cry that, but for protection in this country, wages would fall to the level of European pauper labour. The readers of the *Mail* will also readily understand that the protectionist policy which Mr. Harrison was elected to carry out involved placing sugar on the free list, because, if duties continued to be paid on sugar, a reduction of duties on manufactures would have become necessary in order to prevent the accumulation of an inconvenient surplus in the treasury. In fulfillment of this policy, the McKinley bill proposed to put sugar on the free list. Against this, Mr. Blaine took the occasion of his appearance before the committee to protest. His argument, as condensed by his friend and confidant Mr. W. E. Curtis, was as follows:—

He recalled the result of placing coffee on the free list some years ago. It was done for the same reason that is proposed to place sugar on the free list at this time, to meet a supposed political exigency, but instead of affording "a free breakfast for the working man," which was the shibboleth in those days, the Empire of Brazil placed an export duty on coffee and the price of the article remained the same. Brazil would have removed her duty from our fl and other breadstuffs at that time had we asked it, but the elections were approaching and Congress could not wait to trade.

Mr. Blaine demonstrated to the committee too that the removal of the duty on sugar was not going to relieve the farmer from the depression in prices. The farmer does not use raw sugar but refined sugar, and the duty on the latter is increased by the McKinley bill. He would be even more at the mercy of the sugar trust, or any other monopoly that might be established, for the domestic manufacturer of sugar would be in a position to increase the price of the refined article any time he chose, although he would set his raw material a great deal cheaper.

The public expectation of the benefit of the legislation to sugar manufacturers is shown by the increase in the value of sugar trust certificates, which were quoted at \$20 on the 1st of January before the House committee took up the question of free sugar, and at \$25 on May 21st, when the bill was reported to the Senate, but there has been no increase in the value of corn or wheat or potatoes or anything the farmers hold.

Mr. Blaine endeavoured to convince the committee that if they wanted to do something to benefit the farmer they could do it best by providing him with a profitable market for his surplus products. This was much more important than to cheapen the price of his sugar one cent a pound. A farmer's family uses a hundred pounds of sugar a year, perhaps, on which the reduction would amount to \$1. He could afford to sacrifice that if the wheat, corn, and other agricultural products could be advanced even one cent a bushel.

Mr. Blaine likewise protested against increasing the duty on wool and hides, which would tend to defeat the objects lately sought by the Pan American Conference. Warning with his subject, he said that the McKinley tariff was the most inexcusable price of folly that the Republicans were ever guilty of; that the leaders of the party in Congress would realise it before many months are over; and that if he were in the Senate he would fight it to the best of his ability. He said that he would give two years of his life for two hours on the floor of the Senate when the tariff was under discussion.

This speech proved a bombshell in the ranks of the administration party in Congress. It spread dismay on every side, and McKinley and his staff have not yet recovered their composure. Among keen observers, it has always been suspected that Mr. Blaine, whose intelligence is beyond question, was at heart a disbeliever in the absurdities of protection; and their opinion of his moral fibre has enabled them to reconcile this supposed disbelief with his protectionist harangues on the stump. These persons have always expected him, at some convenient moment, to follow the example set by Sir Robert Peel when he "caught the whigs bathing and stole their clothes." The question is—does he deem the present moment the right time for his flop?

The census is being taken, and the country is agitated over its results. Towns which have been claiming a larger population than they hold are furious over what they call the negligence of the enumerators; and people all over the country are exasperated at the impertinence of the census takers in attempting to gather vital statistics. Commissioner Porter—little English Bob, as they call him—is a person of no tact or discretion. In the hope of gathering figures respecting disease and crime, he has directed his enumerators to ask every one whether they have any lunatics, or ex-convicts, or imbeciles in the family; and of course, where the official happens to be as devoid of judgment as his chief, the questions are put in an offensive manner, and breaches of the peace result. No official statement of the figures compiled has been given to the public; enough is known to show that the two cities which have increased the most in population during the past decade are New York and Chicago. In the former city, the

increase during the past ten years will probably be not less than 60 per cent., in Boston 25 per cent., in Philadelphia 10 per cent., and in San Francisco about 7 per cent. The increase in all cases is chiefly due to immigration. It is doubtful whether the natural increase amounts to anything. Our death rate trends closely on the heels of our birth rate.

The pugilist La Pine, who killed McBride in a prize fight at the Golden Gate Athletic Club, has been arraigned for murder, and his seconds and the officers of the club were held as his accomplices. An impression prevails that their trial will prove a farce. Prize fighting is a popular sport in this city, even in the best regulated circles. And after the usual amount of vituperative indignation, a pliant justice and a complaisant District Attorney will probably conspire with a packed jury to secure the acquittal of the defendants.

The judgment of the New York Court against the Sugar Trust has been confirmed on appeal, and the Trust is in bad case. The Court of Appeals declared:—

The defendant corporation has violated its charter and failed in the performance of its corporate duties, and that in a respect so material and important as to justify a judgment of dissolution. We hold besides that in this State there can be no partnerships of separate and independent corporations, whether directly or indirectly through the medium of trusts, and no substantial consolidations which avoid and disregard statutory provisions and restraints, but that manufacturing corporations must be and remain several as they were created, or one under the statute. The judgment appealed from is affirmed, with costs.

Trust certificates are nevertheless firmly held. The public evidently believes that the Trust will prove stranger than the Courts.

A romantic story of shipwreck was revealed when the U.S. ship *Adams* arrived last week from Samoa. She brought two negroes who had been sailors on a schooner, the *Challenger*, and had been set adrift in an open boat by a brutal captain. Their story, which was as follows, reads like a chapter from Robinson Crusoe:—

We left Apia on January 5th, when the breeze sprang up, and soon got out of sight of land. We had a good breeze all that night. Next morning when we turned to the mate, Dallas, told us to rig staves and place them over the side to clip the rust off the dead-eyes. We did so. A nasty sea was on, and the vessel rolled cross-grain, and we got wet. I came on deck and told the mate that we did not care to get wet and stand the risk of getting washed off the stage, and he told the captain.

The captain then ordered the boat over the side and told us to scrape and paint from that. We did so, being on the lee-side, and he told us to hold the bow of the boat, and a bridle to hold her in at the stern under the counter. There was quite a sea, but scarcely any wind, and the vessel just had headway.

A heavy squall of wind and rain came up and the schooner went along lively. She was light, and as she rose on the sea and fell again the counter came down on the boat and threatened to swamp her. I cut the bridle and hollered out "on deck there." Our boat was full of water. The man in the wheel heard me holler, and looked over the taffrail.

He made a run and cut the painter, and there we were adrift. We thought the schooner would come back for us, but a heavy rain-squall came up and we saw her no more. The boat was full of water. We had one bucket, an oar and a gunny-sack in it. We tried to bail the boat out, but it filled as rapidly as we bailed out.

We tried a number of schemes. We both got on the stern and then jumped into the water quickly, and some water flew out at the bow, but it quickly filled again. Finally we both got on the lee-side, and by good bailing got her clear of water.

We were very glad when we were out of the way of the schooner. We did not know where we were or which way to steer. We had nothing to eat. We broke off one of the thwart and rigged it as a jury mast, with the gunny sack for a sail. We took turns at steering with the oar, not knowing where we were going. A heavy gale sprang up and for five days and nights we ran before it, drenched through all the time.

On the fifth day, we despaired—we were played out. I said to Ennis, "We ought to pray." He did pray, and asked the Lord to give us a show, and you bet he did so. Shortly after, Ennis said, "I see the loom of the land." I said, "No you don't; it's top of the sea, we saw the cloud getting plainer, and I was the land, sure enough."

We got off a cluster of three islands at 10 o'clock that night, and the natives came off to us in canoes, and gave us breadfruit, taro, and fish to eat, and piloted us ashore. We landed on the island of Manna. There were two white traders there and missionary or Kanakas. The natives were kind to us, as was a

When we had been there four weeks a small trading boat commanded by Captain Fisher, who runs one of Young's stores at Pago Pago, came to Manna. He would not take us off, but he took word to Apia, and two weeks after the *Adams* came for us, and took us from the island. We have been aboard her ever since.

Yesterday afternoon, by a vote of 152 to 735, the House of Representatives refused to concur in the Senate amendment of the Silver Bill providing for free coinage. This extinguishes the last hope of the extreme silver men, who proposed to coin more silver than the mines produce, in the hope of raising the market price of the metal. The bill now goes back to the Senate, and will be referred to a committee of conference which will probably report in favour of a provision requiring the Mint to coin at least \$4,000,000 a month of silver dollars. As the product of the mines is less than \$45,000,000, the effect of this enactment would not essentially diminish administration will in any event fail to command the support of its own party, and it is noted, as the new pocket borough senators from the Dakotas and Washington voted against the Government which got their constituents into the union.

The event of the day in sporting circles is the defeat of the great New York racer Zerry by the California colt *Salvator*, at Sheephead, Long Island yesterday. The race was a mile and a quarter, and the time of the winner was 2.05, which is

1½ seconds better than the record. *Salvator* won by a neck. The race was for \$5,000 a side, to which the Club added \$10,000, but it is said there was at least half a million dollars in the hands of the bookmakers on the result of the race. *Salvator* is four years old, and won \$70,000 for his owner, Mr. Haggin, last year. When a horse can win, he generally proves good property for his owner.

ENQUIRY AS TO DEATH AT SEA.

An enquiry into the circumstances attending the death of Ebenzer Crooks, chief mate of the steamer *Algoma*, was held in H.B.M.'s Consulate on Wednesday before Mr. Enslie, H.B.M.'s Consul.

John George, master of the *Algoma*, deposed that the cause of the death of deceased was dysentery. He fell ill on June 29th, the day after leaving Singapore, but witness thought that he had been ill for some days before that, but had not reported it. He complained of looseness and pains in the head when he reported himself ill. He took to his bed the day after. Witness attended him and gave him medicine daily, and had him in the cabin, sometimes in bed and sometimes in an easy chair. He did not complain much of any particular pains, but there was great looseness of the bowels. At times he had pains in the stomach, and witness applied linseed poultices to the left side. He continued in that state, getting worse and very weak, until the day of his death. He was conscious all the time and at his death. He was well attended to. He had kidney complaint about three years ago, and left the last ship he was in on account of illness, joining witness again this voyage. He was with witness when he suffered from the kidney complaint in another ship. Witness could not attribute his death to any other cause but severe diarrhoea. The log book, being read by Mr. Enslie, confirmed the captain's statement.

Thomas George, second officer, confirmed the captain's evidence, and said further that there never was a man better treated and attended to than the deceased. The steward and one of the quarter-masters were continually with him. Witness could not attribute his death to anything else than diarrhoea. He caught cold after leaving Rangoon as did all of them, but, having diarrhoea, it might have been worse for him than for the rest.

William Jones, the steward, deposed that he did not know any other cause for the death of deceased but diarrhoea. He was supplied with medicine by the captain and witness constantly. He did not complain of pain except on the first day. It was simply looseness. He did not lay much on the bed it being very hot there, but mostly on a chair and cushions. A quarter-master was with him day and night, and they were changed every two hours.

John Samball, quarter-master, deposed that the previous evidence was correct. The only cause of death he could think of was looseness. Witness attended him whenever he was not at the wheel. Every one had done their best for deceased. Witness had noticed no illness besides diarrhoea, except that deceased coughed a little, but not very badly.

His Honour said he found that deceased died at sea from what appeared to be very severe diarrhoea, and that every possible care was taken of him during his illness.

IN H.B.M. COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before J. J. ENSLIE, Esq., Acting-Assistant Judge
FRIDAY, June 18th, 1890.

ALLEGED BREACH OF CONTRACT BY AN ENGINEER.

An action was heard to-day which was brought by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha against Robert Atkins for the sum of \$1,000 alleged to be due to the Company through the non-fulfilment of a contract on the part of the defendant. Mr. Wallard was for the prosecution; the defendant did not appear.

William Nicol Wright deposed that the petition in the case was served on Robert Atkins by him. The signature was that of witness. It was served on May 28th, and no answer had been put in.

By Mr. Wallard—It was served on board the steamer *Parthia*. Witness heard that the defendant was third engineer on that ship. He also served the notice of the hearing of the case on July 8th on him on board the *Parthia*.

Mr. Wallard said that the action was brought up on an agreement made in Glasgow in September, 1888, under which the company engaged the defendant for three years as an engineer in their service. At that time Atkins had served as an engineer, but had no capacity as a marine en-

gineer; the company had been at much expense in training him as an engineer, and this expense they looked forward to recoup themselves by his three years' service. Atkins had come out on the *Kobe Maru*, which happened to be leaving England at the time. He arrived on October 30th and received a certificate of competency in January, 1889. He did not commence his duties till March, 1889, but Counsel would with his Honour's permission amend that part of his petition and state that from the time of receiving his certificate of competency defendant was under service to the company, and really commenced his duties on January 25th, 1889, and served the company till March 17th, 1890. Then he deserted the company and shipped on board the *Parthia*, where he was still. The company had a year and a half of his service which failed to requite them for their outlay. They had been obliged to send to England for a man to replace him and were at great inconvenience. Counsel, though not knowing the exact sum, could give his Honour some idea of the damage the company had sustained. The defendant was brought out on one of the company's ships, the fare of which was £60. What he cost them for messing was half-a-crown a day, and amounted to £7. Then since his arrival in Japan from October 30th to January 25th, 1889, he received a mess allowance of \$1 per day and that came to £13. From the time of his engagement, September 3rd, 1888, to January 25th, 1889, he received payments which came to £42. The expense was £62 without taking into account his passage from England; £62 was spent on him, and £60 might have been spent on him for passage. The company had to send to Great Britain for another man who would have to go through the same training as Atkins and would cost another £62, and would also cost £60 for passage out. The company would have to get him a passage by an outside line which would cost from £45 to £50, so that with £62 already spent and £62 more to be spent on another man and £50 for the passage, the total was £174. Then there was some consideration to be taken of the great inconvenience the company were put to by the loss of one of their engineers, and the time lost in getting another to fill his place. The only way they could get another was from Great Britain on a three years' agreement. The company particularly wanted the men who were under this agreement to understand that if they desert the service they do so at their own cost, under penalty of damages.

Alexander McMillan deposed that he was the foreign director of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. He received the agreement with Atkins from their agents in Glasgow. It was forwarded to him by Captain Brown who was then their agent for ships, etc., in Glasgow. The almost invariable custom was to recruit their staff of engineers by bringing out men from Great Britain who had not been to sea before but had had a good practical training in workshops, which made them good workmen, but as a rule they had no marine experience. When they came out they were almost invariably put on board ships as supernumerary engineers until they were able to keep a watch at sea. They were of no practical use on board as there was a competent number of engineers without them; therefore they were an additional expense to the company. They would have a second class passage coming out, the approximate cost of which would be £35. The present cost by the P. & O. boats was 43 guineas. They were almost invariably engaged for three years; the term was important, as a short period would fail to recoup the company for the expense and outlay. The experience of the company was that it was impossible to get good men here; it had been tried but would not work. The defendant came out in the *Kobe Maru*, which left early in September, 1888, and arrived on October 30th. There were four other engineers who came out on the same ship, at the same time as Atkins did, and on the same terms. He came out as a passenger, there being five men in the engine-room. He would doubtless be called upon to go into the engine-room, but only as a matter of form, as there would be no work for him to do there. There was only one passenger rate on that voyage—the ship not having been advertised as carrying passengers, and taking only a few, and that was £60. The average rate of the mess allowance on the ship was half a crown a day per head. It was reported to witness in March that the defendant was on the sick list. He heard that he had deserted and gone on board the *Parthia*, but was at first misinformed being told it was the *Abyssinia*. Defendant was last in the service of the company on the *Yokohama Maru*, and was on that ship when he applied for sick leave for which he produced a doctor's certificate and had been allowed it. He then got half-pay and mess allowance which he received regularly. He got every-

thing which was due to him under the agreement. In the portage bill for the *Yokohama Maru* is his receipt for wages up to March 14th, 1890. His expenses were from October 30th, 1888, to January 25th and his mess cost \$1 per day or \$30 per month. He was paid at the rate of £9 per month from September, 1888, to January 25th, 1889. The result of his desertion was that they would have to engage another man in Great Britain to come out and fill the vacancy, the cost of which would be: his passage out 45 guineas, and his railway expenses to the port he shipped at, which would bring it up to £50. It would be a fair allowance to allow two months to qualify him when out here, and would cost at the rate of £9 per month for wages, and he \$30 per month for messing. The company would not be able to provide a passage for him in one of their own boats, there being no immediate departures from England.

William Barrie deposed that he was the superintending engineer of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha; had charge of the engineers, and appointed them to their ships. They came out from England on a three years' agreement and are under witness's superintendence. They always require some training; the time is from one to four months, but it depends greatly upon the men. The defendant came out by the *Kobe Maru*. He left in the early part of September, 1888, witness thought on the 3rd, and arrived on October 30th. Witness was acquainted with Atkins writing and signature, and recognized his signature on the portage bill. He was not appointed as a junior engineer but was put on the reserve list as a supernumerary engineer, and was taken on board one of the larger ships, but his services were of no value at that time. His services to the company were from March, 1889. Witness did not remember the exact date. Witness remembered appointing him fourth engineer, it was three or four months after his arrival. As fourth engineer he was in various ships, the last of which was the *Yokohama Maru*. There is no other engineer of the same name in that ship or in the service. He left the *Yokohama Maru* on March 14th on account of sickness, for which he produced a doctor's certificate. He went on shore and was put on half-pay and full mess allowance. Witness not hearing from him for a week or ten days, made enquiries and found that he had shipped on the *Parthia* as fourth engineer. He was a good engineer, and a man likely to get promotion, and was the next on the list for promotion as third engineer. The engineers generally became of more value as they rise to become third and second and sometimes first. The company derived most value from them when they became second engineer. It was necessary to send for another man in order to keep up the staff of engineers.

George Hodges deposed that he was in charge of the shipping department at the Consulate. He had the entry of Robert Atkins in his books. In the register of men shipped and men discharged No. 67, of 1890, there was an entry—"R. H. Atkins entered on March 19th, aged 25, engaged on the *Parthia* as fourth engineer at \$70 per month." He stated that he had been discharged from the *Yokohama Maru*.

Mr. Walford said that was his case, and the damages, as he had already stated were £60 passage on the *Kobe Maru*, £7 for mess, which if the passage claim was allowed would of course be included in that. There was \$1 per day for his mess allowance from October 4th to January 25th, and his pay from the commencement to January 25th, £42. For the new man to come out the cost would be about the same. By defendant's agreement he was to get £9 per month, but his salary had been raised as he got more useful, and his Honour would see on the portage bill that his salary at the time of his desertion was \$65 per month, which was a considerable rise.

His Honour reserved judgment.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, July 12th.

The Senate has adopted the Conference Committee's Silver Bill by thirty-one to twenty-six.

July 13th.

The House of Representatives has voted the Silver Bill by 122 to 90. The majority were all Republicans.

London, July 15th.

President Harrison has approved the Silver Bill. The Bill will take effect from the 13th of August.

[FROM THE "SINGAPORE FREE PRESS."]

London, June 23rd.

In the Chamber of Duties, M. Ribot declared that by virtue of the Anglo-French Convention of 1862, England cannot assume the protectorate of Zanzibar, without previous agreement with France.

London, June 24th.

The Government has withdrawn the licensing clauses of the Local Taxation Bill, inserting an Amendment that sums already voted for that purpose be permitted to accumulate until Parliament devises a use for them.

London, June 25th.

The Speaker ruling that the Accumulation proposal is without precedent, the Government is considering the advisability of withdrawing all the licensing clauses.

The Conservative Press condemns the Government.

London, June 26th.

The Government has deleted the licensing clauses.

London, June 27th.

The cruiser *Emerald* has seized two British lobster-canning factories on the ground that their continuance would be a violation of the *modus vivendi* with France.

There is the greatest excitement in the Colony.

The steamship *Prinz Hendrick*, outward bound to Java, sank after collision on the 25th instant. The captain and 93 passengers were saved by the colliding vessel and brought into Falmouth.

The Prussian War Minister has resigned.

London, June 29th.

Sir James Fergusson, in reply to a question in the House of Commons, said that the African Agreement with Germany involves no new obligation on the part of England towards any European Powers.

London, June 30th.

The Reichstag has passed the Army Bill. Major Panitzka has been shot in accordance with his sentence.

[FROM TONKIN PAPERS.]

Paris, June 25th.

The Anglo-German convention, delimiting the sphere of influence of the two countries in Africa and announcing English protectorate over Zanzibar, is strongly criticised.

Negotiations have been entered into between France and England on the basis of the declaration of 1862 guaranteeing the independence of the Sultan of Zanzibar.

Paris, June 30th.

All the documents connected with the inquiry into the affairs of the Credit Foncier have been published. They disclose no serious irregularity, and prove that the institution is perfectly sound financially.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, via	Nagasaki & per N. Y. K.	Friday, July 25th.
Kobe	per N. Y. K.	
From Hongkong, via	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, July 20th.*
Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, July 25th.†
From Hongkong, via	per C. P. M. Co.	Thursday, July 24th.‡
From America	per P. M. Co.	Sunday, July 27th.¶

* From left Kobe on July 19th. † *Uganda* (with French mail) left Hongkong on July 18th. ‡ *Abyssinia* left Hongkong on July 15th. § *City of Rio de Janeiro* left San Francisco on July 8th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, via	Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd.	Sunday, July 20th.
For Europe, via	Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, July 20th.
For Shanghai, via	Kobe, and	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, July 22nd.
Nagasaki			
For Hongkong, via	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, July 26th.	
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. M. Co.	Saturday, July 26th.	
For America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, July 29th.	
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Aug. 3rd.	

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Carrew, 11th July.—Hakodate 9th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,359, Haswell, 11th July.—Shanghai and ports 5th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 12th July.—Nagasaki 8th July, Coal.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.

Pigmy (6), gunboat, Commander Geo. H. Hewett, 12th July.—Kobe 9th July.

Ingraban, German steamer, 890, Mossmann, 12th July.—Saugon via Hongkong 5th July, Rice.—Grauert.

Arigay, British steamer, 1,181, Cass, 13th July.—Hongkong 5th July, Rice.—H. E. Reynell & Co.

Algoma, British steamer, 1,892, George, 13th July.—Rangoon 21st June, Rice and Sugar.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Oceanic, British steamer, 3,107, W. M. Smith, 13th July.—San Francisco 26th June, General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Hesperia, German steamer, 1,180, Madsen, 14th July.—Hongkong 7th July, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Moray, British steamer, 1,411, Duncan, 14th July.—Kobe 13th July, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Nestor, British steamer, 1,430, Elder, 14th July.—Kobe 13th July, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Satsuna Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Brown, 14th July.—Kobe 12th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Straits of Belle Isle, British steamer, 1,586, Grigs, 14th July.—Kobe 13th July, General.—C. P. M. S.S. Co.

Belgie, British steamer, 2,695, W. H. Walker, 15th July.—Hongkong 8th and Kobe 14th July, General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Christensen, 15th July.—Kobe 14th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hamburg, British bark, 1,698, Caldwell, 16th July.—New York 9th February, 69,876 cases Oil.—China and Japan Trading Co.

Anahuac, American ship, 1,221, Wheldon, 16th July.—New York 26th November, Oil.—R. Isaacs.

John Gill, British bark, 1,010, McKenzie, 16th July.—New York 6th February, Oil.—China and Japan Trading Co.

Dragonair, British steamer, 1,785, Nash, 17th July.—Basine 26th June, Rice.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,357, Drummond, 17th July.—Kobe 16th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Fooksang, British steamer, 890, Hogg, 11th July.—Kobe, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Kwangang, British steamer, 989, Sellar, 11th July.—Kobe, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Hilaria, British ship, 1,675, S. Dick, 11th July.—Chili, Ballast.—Chim and Japan Trading Co.

Akishi Maru, Japanese steamer, 856, Tremut, 11th July.—Nagasaki, General.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,878, W. D. Mudie, 12th July.—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, General.—P. & O. S.S. Co.

Francis, American ship, 1,973, Doane, 12th July.—Tacoma, Tea.—Maullyan, Helmann & Co.

Denbighshire, British steamer, 1,662, Rickard, 12th July.—Kobe, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Glenfallloch, British steamer, 1,429, J. McGregor, 12th July.—Kobe, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Moray, British steamer, 1,411, Duncan, 12th July.—Kobe, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Takao Kan (6), Japanese corvette, Captain G. Yamamoto, 14th July.—Yokosuka.

Oceanic, British steamer, 3,107, W. M. Smith, 15th July.—Hongkong, General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Meiji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,010, Captain Allen, 15th July.—Kobe.—Lighthouse Department.

Alacritty (4), despatch vessel, Captain Chas. H. Adair, 15th July.—Hakodate.

Caroline (14), cruiser, Captain Clutterbuck, 15th July.—Hakodate.

Hyacinth (8), cruiser, Captain Robt. W. Craigie, 15th July.—Hakodate.

Imperieuse (8), flagship, Captain W. H. May, 15th July.—Hakodate.

Leander (10), cruiser, Captain Burgess Watson, 15th July.—Hakodate.

Seymour (12), cruiser, Captain W. H. Hall, 15th July.—Hakodate.

Villars (15), French cruiser, Commander C. H. Mayet, 15th July.—Hakodate.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,735, Haswell, 15th July.—Shanghai and ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Satsuna Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Brown, 15th July.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

St. John, American ship, 1,885, O. H. Fales, 16th July.—Kobe, General.—China and Japan Trading Co.

Ingraban, German steamer, 890, Mossmann, 16th July.—Nagasaki, General.—H. Grauert & Co.

Straits of Belle Isle, British steamer, 1,586, Grigs, 16th July.—Vancouver, B.C., General.—C. P. M. S.S. Co.

Wakamatsu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, P. Hussey, 16th July.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shanghai, British steamer, 2,044, F. W. Tillard, 17th July.—Hongkong via Shanghai, General.—P. & O. S.S. Co.

Belgie, British steamer, 2,695, W. H. Walker, 17th July.—San Francisco, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Christensen, 17th July.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, from Hakodate:—Mr. F. Buchner in cabin; 16 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. Martin, Mrs. Macdonough, Miss Kirkpatrick, Mrs. Delaney, Mrs. Ashton, Mrs. McCann, Mrs. Boyne, Miss E. Williamson, Mrs. Platt, Mrs. Allen, Mrs. Chisaka, Messrs. Endo, Murai, C. A. Taylor, Posch, M. A. Robertson, Matsuo, H. Reimseloff, Ito, Rosenfeld, Yokato, and Pedetin in cabin; Captain Cleveland, Messrs. McJames, Chims, Yamada, Sugiyama, and Yamaoka in second class, and 86 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, from San Francisco:—Hon. J. Helms Ferguson, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Campion and servant, Mr. John Francis Fessenden, Mr. Wm. H. Fessenden, Rev. and Mrs. C. Bishop and infant, Master Carr Bishop, Master Milled Bishop, Miss Faith Bishop, Rev. and Mrs. T. C. Williams, Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Mortimer, Master Harry Mortimer, Mr. Edward Gilger, Miss G. Bancroft, Mr. W. H. Macomber, Lieutenant Baba, Mr. B. Singi, Mr. and Mrs. S. Yasuda, and Mr. Takasaki in cabin. For Chiefloo: Miss M. J. Thornton in cabin. For Hongkong: Mr. James Slauson and Dr. J. S. Owens in cabin.

Per British steamer *Belgie*, from Hongkong:—Hon. A. Lister and servant and Mr. Low Wing Chong in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, from Kobe:—Countess Itagaki and infant, Miss Itagaki, Mrs. Tuomi, Dr. and Mrs. Green and 2 children, Miss Green, Mr. and Mrs. Aoki, Mrs. Noyes, Miss Gill, Miss Holbrook, Messrs. Curtis, Buckley, Madely, McInnes, Hidin, Naruse, and Suyematsu in cabin; Messrs. Waggon, Cooke, Takada, Asai, and Tachibana in second class, and 63 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, from Kobe:—Dr. C. S. Fischer, Miss Bikenheal, Miss Doughaday, Miss C. Gudson, Messrs. Horatsn, Yoshikane, Fukushima, and Takagi in cabin; Miss Owaki, Messrs. M. Tomiyoshi, K. Ouba, G. Ikuta, S. Takasu, H. Hakuno, and Y. Tawano in second class, and 72 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Flint and servant, Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy and servant, Mrs. Brunner and amah, Mrs. Seligmann and 2 children, Rev. W. Ashmore, Messrs. Gillespie, Goodwin, and Mong Ling in cabin; 3 Chinese and 1 European in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Kunne and child, Miss M. J. Thornton, Messrs. C. Gibbons, C. J. Clerk, Conrad Harvey, J. Shiba, A. Niwa, Noma, N. Nakano, E. H. Kishan, Nakayama, and Horiguchi in cabin; Mrs. Takemura, Mrs. T. Terao, Mrs. A. Terao, Messrs. Terao, R. Ferguson, Kamamoto, T. Tamaike, Igarashi, Takahashi, J. C. Donenberg, Ah Foke, and A. Tachibana in second class, and 286 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Belgie*, for San Francisco:—Hon. W. M. Goodman, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Johnston, Mr. Boyd Bredon, Captain A. H. Morse, Mr. J. McQuaig, Mr. and Mrs. McFarlane, Miss Oehr, Mr. P. Francois, Mr. P. S. Morse, Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Cochran and two daughters, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Pott, Miss Pott, Miss Watt, Mr. E. Clark, Mr. and Mrs. J. Romero, Miss Romero, Lieutenant-Commander and Mrs. H. Vail, U.S.N., and infant, Rev. A.

R. Morris, Rev. and Mrs. C. W. Green and three children, Rev. N. M. Frantz, Miss E. Earl, Capt. B. D. Cleveland, Rev. Dr. and Mrs. W. A. P. Martin, Mr. E. H. Tuska, Mr. R. W. Gorrell, Mrs. E. Reese, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Scott, Mr. C. A. Taylor, Mr. S. Rosenfeld, Rev. E. E. Aiken, Rev. D. P. Jinkin, Rev. and Mrs. C. S. Long and four children, and Miss L. B. Smith in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Silk for France, 70 bales.

Per British steamer *Belgie*, for San Francisco:—

	345 FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	OTHER PORTS.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	540	1,807	1,525	3,872
Nagasaki	—	—	147	147
Hyogo	377	2,216	2,215	4,808
Yokohama	9,924	1,425	5,454	16,803
Hongkong	559	3,993	637	5,189
Total	11,400	9,441	9,978	30,819

	345 FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	OTHER PORTS.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	—	185	—	185
Yokohama	—	357	—	357
Total	—	542	—	542

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, Captain Haswell, reports:—Left Shanghai the 5th July at 1 p.m.; had light to moderate N.E. winds and cloudy weather. Arrived at Nagasaki the 7th at 7.30 a.m. and left at 5 p.m.; had fresh northerly winds and heavy sea. Arrived at Shimonoseki the 8th at 7 a.m. and left at 8 a.m.; had light to moderate N.E. winds and fine weather. Arrived at Kobe the 9th at 11 a.m. and left the 10th at noon; had light S.E. airs and light southerly swell to Ooshima; thence to port fine and smooth with light winds. Arrived at Yokohama the 11th July at 5 p.m.

The British steamer *Oceanic*, Captain Smith, reports:—Left San Francisco the 26th June at 4.14 p.m.; had strong head winds with heavy head seas to the meridian; thence moderate and variable winds and smooth sea; weather cloudy, misty and very cold the entire passage; made Imlboy-saki at 11 p.m. July 12th, from midnight till 9 a.m. on 13th had dense fog. Arrived at Yokohama at 10.45 a.m. Time of passage, 16 days, 1 hour.

The British steamer *Belgie*, Captain Walker, reports:—Left Hongkong the 8th July at 1.30 p.m. Arrived at Kobe the 13th at 5.22 a.m. Time 4 days, 14 hours, 1 minute, and left the 14th at 4.14 a.m. Arrived at Yokohama the 15th July at 7.50 a.m. Time from Hongkong 6 days, 16 hours, 11 minutes. Encountered fine weather with light southerly winds to port.

The Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, Captain Christensen, reports:—Left Kobe the 14th July at noon; had light variable airs with clear, pleasant weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 15th July at 4.30 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, Captain Drummond, reports:—Left Kobe the 16th July at noon; had fine weather and light variable breeze; passed Tomagashima at 2.17 p.m. with light westerly breeze; met steamer *Meiji Maru* at 2.40 p.m.; abeam Hino misaki at 4.25 p.m., weather still the same; rounded Ooshima at 8.32 p.m., moderate E.N.E. breeze which continued throughout the night; the 17th at 8.36 a.m. Omai-saki bore N. N.W. dist. 12 miles; passed Rock Island at 11.20 p.m., moderate E.N.E. winds with fine clear weather; abreast of Sagami at 3 p.m.; Kannon-saki at 4.7 p.m., calms and light variable airs. Arrived at Yokohama at 5.20 p.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The Yarn market has continued active, resulting in a large business in English Yarns, but at the close the demand has subsided. The position of Bombay Yarns is unchanged. Shirtings remain the same, without inquiry. An inclination to do business in piece goods has prevailed, and some transactions have been reported in Velvets and Italians. Sales for the week amount to 2,275 bales English, 300 bales Bombays, 15,000 pieces Shirtings, 2,700 pieces Velvets, and 1,000 pieces Italians.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	Yds.	Per Bale.
Grey Shirtings—84 in, 38 1/2 yds. 59 inches	11 55	11 2.00
Grey Shirtings—66 in, 38 1/2 yds. 45 inches	1 35	11 2.55
P. Cloth—7 1/2, 24 yards, 32 inches	1 30	11 1.50
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1 25	11 1.60
Prints—Assorted, 21 yards, 30 inches	1 70	11 2.00
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	0 07	11 0.14

Turkey Reds—1½ to 2½, 21 yards, 30 inches	1.19½ to 1.22½
Turkey Reds—2½ to 3½, 21 yards, 30 inches	1.25 to 1.35
Turkey Reds—3½ to 4½, 21 yards, 30 inches	1.75 to 2.05
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	4.50 to 6.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 inches	0.50 to 0.65
Falbalas, 12 yards, 42 inches	1.35 to 1.25

WOOLLENS.

Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches	\$1.00 to 1.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.26½ to 30
Medium	0.21 to 26
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.17 to 21½
Common	0.13 to 17
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.30 to 0.45
Cloths—Pilot, 51 to 56 inches	0.30 to 0.60
Cloths—Presidents, 51 to 56 inches	0.35 to 0.60
Cloths—Union, 51 to 56 inches	0.35 to 0.60
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3½ lb. per lb.	0.30 to 0.58

COTTON VARIETIES.

Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	\$27.00 to 28.50
Nos. 16/24, Medium	28.50 to 29.50
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	29.75 to 30.50
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	31.50 to 32.50
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	30.50 to 31.00
Nos. 28/32, Medium	31.00 to 32.50
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	33.75 to 35.75
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	36.50 to 39.00
Nos. 32s, Two-fold	36.00 to 37.50
Nos. 42s, Two-fold	36.00 to 39.50
Nos. 20s, Bombay	74.00 to 80.00
Nos. 16s, Bombay	74.50 to 79.50
Nos. 10s, Bombay	—

METALS.

There has been some little enquiry at very low prices, and buyers now hold off for lower prices still, as the advance in Sterling exchange makes the lay down cost of future arrivals less. The reported sales include some few parcels Bars and Wire Nails.

Flat Bars, 1 inch	\$2.90 to 3.00
Flat Bars, 1 inch	3.00 to 3.10
Round and square up to 2 inch	2.90 to 3.10
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.
Nailrod, small size	Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	3.20 to 3.30
Sheet iron	3.50 to 3.90
Galvanized iron sheets	6.50 to 6.75
Wire Nails, assorted	4.00 to 4.75
Tin Plates, per box	4.80 to 5.10
Pig iron, No. 3	1.40 to 1.50

KEROSENE.

Arrivals since the *Argyll* on 5th instant have been three cargoes, all from New York, the *Hamburg*, *Anahua*, and *John Gill*. No sales to date, although the market is perhaps a little firmer than it was a week ago. All quotations quite nominal, and Japanese intimate that they will look for some reduction now that exchange is rapidly advancing.

QUOTATIONS.

Chester	Nom. 15.75 to 8.30
Comet	Nom. 1.70 to 1.72½
Devon	Nom. 1.67½ to 1.70
Russian	Nom. 1.65 to 1.67½

SUGAR.

A hand to mouth trade has been done during the week, with but few sales. Takao has sold slowly; 5,000 piculs were taken at \$4.50 per picul, superior grade; and 2,075 piculs Manila fetched \$4.40 to \$4.50, according to quality, besides 500 piculs of Common cake at \$3.70. The market for White Refined is weak, and these Sugars are slow of sale.

White Refined	\$5.75 to 8.30
Manila	3.70 to 4.50
Taiwanfoo	— to —
Pentam	2.85 to 2.90
Manilla	2.80 to 2.85
Cake	— to 3.70
Brown Takao	4.20 to 4.25

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 11th instant, since which date Settlements in this market are entered as 301 piculs, divided thus:—*Filatures* 135, *Reels* 151, *Kakeda* 15. Additional to these figures Direct shipments are 91 bales, thus making the export trade of the week equal to about 400 piculs.

As will be seen from the above paragraph considerable business has been done, and prices have been well maintained. Yesterday, however, after the departure of the *Belgic* things came to a stand. The higher price of silver (50½ pence) called from London and the consequent rise in exchange here put the break on. Buyers want a reduction before they buy further, while sellers profess to stand, against the prospect, and say that they cannot reduce prices without incurring a serious loss which they do not like to face.

Meanwhile, lower prices are wired from Italy,

and it seems that consumers can buy cheaper there than here. The natural result of the rise in silver will be that gold-using countries will be placed in a better position for competing in the raising of produce, with those lands which have a silver standard. Countries like Japan, China, and India will therefore have to face the music, and lower their prices if they want to keep up in the commercial race. It will doubtless take some time for things to find their level in this respect.

There have been two shipping opportunities during the interval, Canadian and American mails of the 16th and 17th instant. The former (*Straits of Belle Isle*) had 70 bales, and the latter (*Belgic*) 357 bales all for the U.S. trade. These departures bring the present shipments up to 974 piculs, against 1,010 piculs last year and 1,911 piculs at same date in 1888.

Hanks.—No business at all during the week, and prices are all nominal. For a long time sellers held out for extreme rates, and have not yet made up their minds to sell at reasonable figures. Prices at the moment quite nominal.

Filatures.—Several parcels both *Shinshu* and *Koshi* have been bought for the American trade at the following high prices:—*Kaimoisha* \$730, *Hiranosha*, *Higashi-Gatoshu*, *Toei-sha*, *Shunmei-sha* and equal thereto at \$720; *Shichi-yo-sai* brought the same figure; and just before the *Belgic* sailed the owner of *Kaimoisha* accepted \$715 for about 20 piculs, but this reduction did not equal the rise in exchange. While writing, a consignment of 118 boxes Old *Filatures* is being arranged through a foreign house, and a parcel of Old *Ise* *Filatures* (*Muoyama*) is reported to have been settled for Europe at \$730.

Re-reels.—Considerable business in good *Joshu* at the following prices:—*Five-Girl* \$685, *Tortoise* \$682½, *Kanrakusha* \$682½, *Kirihana* \$670, No. 2 *Tortoise* \$660, No. 2 *Kirihana* \$650. Prices are working slowly down as exchange rises, but owners refused \$650 yesterday for *Shorusha* first sorting.

Kakeda.—Supplies are coming in, and a few sample lots have found buyers, at from \$650 to \$590 according to grade. None of best quality have been seen as yet.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No. 1	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ to 3	Nom. \$560
Hanks—No. 3	—
Hanks—No. 3½	Nom. 530 to 535
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	—
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	730 to 740
Filatures—No. 1, 10/12 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	710 to 720
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	690 to 700
Filatures—No. 2, 10/12 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	670 to 680
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Shinshu and Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	670 to 680
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	650 to 660
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	640 to 645
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	620 to 630
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	590 to 600
Kakeda—Extra	—
Kakeda—No. 1	—
Kakeda—No. 11	670 to 680
Kakeda—No. 2	650 to 660
Kakeda—No. 24	630 to 640
Kakeda—No. 3	610 to 620
Kakeda—No. 34	590 to 600
Oshu Sendai—No. 24	—
Hamaizuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hamaizuki—No. 3	—
Sodai—No. 24	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 18th July, 1890:—

	SEASON 1890-91.	1889-90.	1888-89.
	BALRS.	BALRS.	BALRS.
Europe	234	387	1,382
America	715	625	546
Total	949	1,012	1,908
{ Bales	949	1,012	1,908
{ Piculs	974	1,010	1,911
Settlements and Direct	800	1,250	1,300
Export from 1st July	—	—	—
Stock, 18th July	3,500	1,100	3,200
Available supplies to date	4,300	2,350	4,500

WASTE SILK.

Since the 11th instant settlements have been only 86 piculs old fibre, divided thus:—*Noshi* 25, *Kibiso* 61 piculs. No direct export at present.

The supplies of new waste do not come in very rapidly, and although sellers are now getting more willing to do business yet buyers are still out of the market. The rapid advance in foreign exchange must have the effect of ultimately depressing silver values of produce here.

The English mail steamer *Ancona* (12th inst.) took 9 bales *Noshi* for Marseilles, thus bringing the present export figures up to 535 piculs against

97 last year, and 870 piculs on the 18th July, 1888.

Pierced Cocoons.—Some few bales have arrived and seem to be of good white colour, fair quality, but considerably stained. No price made as yet, although sellers maintain that they cost the equivalent of \$120 up country.

Noshi.—Nothing done beyond a few more piculs of old *Filature* at last quotations, with a parcel *Oshu* at \$145.

Kibiso.—Some few purchasers in old fibre, comprising *Filature* at \$105 and *Sandanshu* at \$21. A little *Kusuto* also noted at \$80.

Nothing done in *Mawata* or *Sundries*.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito— <i>Filature</i> , Best	—
Noshi-ito— <i>Filature</i> , Good	—
Noshi-ito— <i>Filature</i> , Medium	—
Noshi-ito— <i>Oshu</i> , Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito— <i>Shinshu</i> , Best	—
Noshi-ito— <i>Shinshu</i> , Good	—
Noshi-ito— <i>Shinshu</i> , Medium	—
Noshi-ito— <i>Shinshu</i> , Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito— <i>Shinshu</i> , Best	—
Noshi-ito— <i>Shinshu</i> , Good	—
Noshi-ito— <i>Shinshu</i> , Ordinary	—
Noshi-ito— <i>Filature</i> , Best selected	—
Kibiso— <i>Filature</i> , Seconds	—
Kibiso— <i>Oshu</i> , Good to Best	—
Kibiso— <i>Shinshu</i> , Best	—
Kibiso— <i>Shinshu</i> , Seconds	—
Kibiso— <i>Shinshu</i> , Good to Fair	—
Kibiso— <i>Shinshu</i> , Middling to Common	—
Kibiso— <i>Hachioji</i> , Good	—
Kibiso— <i>Hachioji</i> , Medium to Low	—
Kibiso— <i>Neri</i> , Good to Common	—
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 18th July, 1890:—

	SEASON 1890-91.	1889-90.	1888-89.
	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Waste Silk	535	80	870
Pierced Cocoons	—	17	—
	535	97	870
Settlements and Direct	250	70	100
Export from 1st July	—	—	—
Stock, 18th July	4,950	3,230	3,000
Available supplies to date	5,200	3,300	3,100

Exchange has risen rapidly of late, following the passing of the Silver Bill in the U.S. Congress. Present rates are:—London, 4m/s. Credits 3/7½; Documents 3/7½; 6m/s. Credits 3/8; Documents 3/8½; New York, 30 d/s. U.S.G., \$88; 4m/s. U.S.G., \$88½; Paris, 4 m/s., fcs. 4.61; 6m/s. fcs. 4.63.

Estimated Silk Stock, 18th July, 1890:—

	RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	100	100	Cocoons	100
Filatures	1,500	1,500	Noshi-ito	1,000
Re-reels	1,550	1,550	Kibiso	3,472
Kakeda	100	100	Mawata	354
Oshu	150	150	Sundries	24
Taysam Kinds	—	—		
Total piculs	3,500	3,500	Total piculs	4,950

TEA.

Settlements total 6,245 piculs for seven days ending to-day, and consist principally of low grades. There are now some 12,300 piculs in stock, 8,000 piculs of which consist of Medium and downwards. Prices for Common to Medium grades are now fifty cents per picul cheaper than they were a week ago; higher grades, however, show no quotable change. The total shipments of Tea from Japan are 6,225,059 lbs. for New York, 9,224,601 lbs. for Chicago, 4,109,303 lbs. for Canada, and 802,104 lbs. for the Pacific Coast trade; total 20,361,067 lbs. against 18,256,880 lbs. for the same period last year.

	PER PICUL.
Common	\$10 & under
Good Common	10½ to 12½
Medium	13 to 14
Good Medium	15 to 16
Fine	17 to 19
Finest	20 to 22
Choice	23 to 25
Choicest	28 to 30
Extra Choicest	—

EXCHANGE.

Exchange, in sympathy with silver in London, has steadily risen till yesterday, when a slight but not unexpected reaction set in.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/6½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/7½
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/7½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/7½
On Paris—Bank sight	4.50
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4.60
On Hongkong—Bank sight	Par.
On Hongkong—Private to days' sight	1 1/2, dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72
On Shanghai—Private to days' sight	73
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	84½
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	85½
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	84½
On San Francisco—Private to days' sight	85½

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 4.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, JULY 26TH, 1890.

通傳省認可

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 26, 1890.

DEATH.

By telegram, dated London, 18th July, EDGAR ARBOTT, of Yokohama, aged 42 years.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

COUNT INOUE will leave the capital in a few days for Yamaguchi Prefecture.

HER MAJESTY THE EMPRESS will pay a visit to the Nobles' (Girls) School on the morning of the 22nd instant.

HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR will pay a visit to the Military College on the 26th instant, leaving the Palace at 8.30 a.m.

H.I.H. PRINCE KACHO will leave Japan in August for Germany, where His Highness will spend ten years in study.

MARCHIONESS HACHISUKA proceeded to the Imperial Palace on the 21st instant to pay her respects to the Empress.

THE *Tsukuba Kan*, with a number of graduates of the Naval College, sailed for Chefoo on the 7th instant from Shanghai.

MR. INOUE, President of the Legislative Bureau, received the additional appointment of Privy Councillor on the 19th instant.

HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR was present at a meeting of the Privy Council held on the 17th instant, returning to the Palace at noon.

PRINCE SANJO left Tokyo on the 20th instant for Fujisawa, and Count Yamagata proceeded to Oiso on the same day from Yokohama.

It is stated that revised Public Meetings Regulations, having been passed by the Privy Council, will be promulgated in two or three days.

THE Exhibition was visited by 918,369 persons during the period from the 1st April to the 18th inst., of whom 6,883 were distinguished, 38,097 special, and 847,067 ordinary visitors.

26,111 being students, and 211 foreigners holding special invitations. The daily average was 8,425.

H.I.H. PRINCE KITASHIRAKAWA, who had been staying at the villa of Mr. Hara Rokuro at Noge, Yokohama, for some time, returned to Tokyo on the 20th instant.

THE ceremony of conferring certificates on graduates of the Tokyo Senmon School, established by Count Okuma, took place on the 20th instant.

H.R.H. PRINCE BHASAKARAWONGSE paid a visit to the Exhibition on the 22nd instant, under the guidance of Mr. Hanabusa, Chief of the Exhibition Bureau.

THE line of the Kyushu Railway Company between Hakata and Satosaki, which is now in course of construction, will be opened in September for traffic.

ONE hundred and eighty-eight inhabitants of Toisugawa, Nara Prefecture, who suffered by the floods last year, will leave their native villages on the 28th instant for Hokkaido.

THE chiefs of various districts of Tokyo held a meeting on the 19th instant at the Tokyo City Government Office for the purpose of discussing methods of preventing the spread of cholera.

THE ceremony of presenting diplomas to graduates of the Nobles' (Girls) School took place on the 22nd instant in presence of Her Majesty the Empress and H.I.H. Princess Kitashirakawa.

NINETEEN rice-brokers, members of the Osaka Rice Exchange, were sentenced in the Osaka Correctional Court on the 19th instant to pay fines ranging from yen 500 down to yen 30 for having infringed the Exchange Regulations.

THE number of visitors to the Exhibition on the 21st instant was 4,274, consisting of 34 distinguished, 143 special, and 4,095 ordinary visitors, two being foreigners holding special invitations. The sum of yen 286.65 was realized by the sale of ordinary tickets.

A SHOCK of earthquake was experienced in Tokyo on the 19th instant at 4h. 18. 50s. p.m. The duration was 50 seconds, the maximum horizontal motion being 0.2 millimetre in 0.4 second. A slight shock was felt in the capital on the following day at 9h. 15m. 45s. p.m.

MR. SHIRANE, Vice-Minister for Home Affairs, Mr. Kiyoura, Chief Commissioner of the Police Bureau, and the Directors of various bureaux of the Home Department held a meeting on the 22nd instant, to discuss methods of preventing the spread of cholera, and also to deliberate on important changes which are to be effected shortly in the Department.

H.R.H. PRINCE BHASAKARAWONGSE arrived in Tokyo on the 20th instant from Hongkong. His Highness was received at Shimbashi Station by H.I.H. Prince Komatsu, Count Oyama, and other high officials of the Imperial Household Department. The Prince, accompanied by Viscount Aoki, paid a visit to the Nakamura Theatre on the evening of the 20th instant. His Highness will proceed to Nikko in a few days.

THE half-yearly meeting of shareholders of the 1st National Bank was held on the 20th instant at the Bankers' Club at Sakamotocho. The net profits for the past half-year were yen 257,930.733, of which yen 50,000 was set apart as a reserve fund, and yen 180,000 was appropriated as a dividend at the rate of 16 per cent.

per share per annum, the remaining yen 27,930.733 being carried forward to the next account.

A FARWELL entertainment was given at the Seiyoken on the 22nd instant to Mr. Watanabe, Japanese Minister to Austria, who is about to leave Japan for his post, by members of the Tokyo Statistical Society, of which Mr. Watanabe has long acted as President.

A MEETING of shareholders of the Omi Rice Exchange was held the other day. During the past half-year 2,548,520 *koku* (one *koku*=2½ piculs) of rice changed hands in the Exchange. The net profits during the period were yen 15,364.68, of which yen 6,549.156 was set apart towards business tax, yen 1,000 as a reserve fund, and yen 5,550 was appropriated as a dividend at the rate of 37 per cent. per share per annum, the remainder being carried forward to the next account.

THE half-yearly meeting of shareholders of the Tokyo Railway Company was held on the 18th instant. The net profits for the past half-year were yen 44,892.243, to which yen 137.856 brought over from the last account was added, making a total of yen 45,030.099. Of this amount, yen 897.360 was set apart towards business tax, yen 4,000 as rewards to officers, and yen 642.599 was carried forward to the next account, the remainder being appropriated as a dividend at the rate of 16 per cent. per share per annum.

THE half-yearly meeting of shareholders of the Yokohama 2nd National Bank was held the other day. The net profits for the last half-year were yen 71,517.262, to which yen 16,140.445, brought over from the last account, was added, making a total of yen 87,657.707. Of this amount yen 1,400 was set apart towards business tax, yen 17,000 as a reserve fund, yen 6,800 as rewards to officers, and yen 45,000 was appropriated as a dividend at the rate of 18 per cent. per share per annum, the remainder being carried forward to the next account.

THE half-yearly meeting of shareholders of the 15th National Bank was held the other day. The net profits for the past half-year were yen 1,970,616.166, to which yen 89,650.010 brought over from the last account was added, making a total of yen 2,060,266.176. Of this amount yen 229,371.824 was set apart towards miscellaneous expenses, yen 49,913.080 as business tax, yen 16,038.481 as rewards to officers, and yen 630,000 as a reserve fund, yen 1,069,566 being appropriated as a dividend at the rate of yen 6 per share per annum, and the remainder carried forward to the next account.

THE Import trade is again dull, the demand last week for Manchester goods having almost entirely subsided, and Yarns, Shirtings, and T.-Cloths are again neglected. Italians have been enquired for, and Velvets have received some attention, a fair amount having been bought for future delivery. Heavy stocks of Metals have seen no reduction, and large arrivals of Kerosene continue with no business; consequently in both these trades prices are nominal. Sugar has been sparingly taken, but no change in values has occurred. The condition of exchange continues to restrain the Silk trade, and buyers generally will not look at anything at present rates. The Tea trade is steady, though not extensive, grades Good Common and down being mostly in request. Exchange has not fluctuated much, though the general tendency is still upward.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE CRISIS AVERTED.

It is impossible, as we have often before been compelled to admit—it is impossible for foreign observers to forecast the issue of any combination of causes in Japan. The principles by which judgment is correctly guided in the West, are found to be here inapplicable in practice. Why such should be the case we cannot pretend to say with assurance, but we sometimes think that the difficulty of drawing foreign conclusions from Japanese premises is due to the comparative weakness of individualism in Japan. Under given circumstances ■ Japanese does not act as a European or an American acts: he adapts himself more readily to general expediency, and insists less upon the strict rights of the individual. It is, perhaps, because of the pliability resulting from this disposition that crises are tided over or prevented, as has once more been the case on the present occasion. Three months ago everything pointed to very serious eventualities in the money market, but by skilful management the feeling of uneasiness has been dissipated. Public securities and the shares of companies are recovering from the depreciation that overtook them in the early part of the year, and confidence is said to be again restored. Add to this that the price of rice maintains the downward tendency noted in these columns some time ago, and it will not appear extravagant to say that times have mended. An idea of the state of the share-market may be gathered from the following figures:—

	Price ruling on 27th June.	Price ruling on 16th of July.	Face value of share.
First National Bank	102.00	105.00	100
Japan Railway Company	109.50	110.00	100
Marine Insurance Company	130.00	131.00	100
Japan Mail S.S. Company	72.50	73.70	50
Tokyo Tramway Company	91.00	90.00	50
Kanagata Spinning Company	39.50	35.50	50
Domestic Carrying Company	47.50	49.00	50
Mye Spinning Company	41.00	44.00	50
Kinshu Railway Company	33.50	31.50	50
Japan Beer Company	15.00	34.50	50
Japan Sausage Company	13.00	26.00	50
Mito Railway Company	38.00	40.00	50
Tokyo Gas Company	39.00	43.00	50
Tokyo Woolen Manufacturing Company	40.00	33.00	45

Among those fourteen securities no less than twelve show a marked appreciation. It may therefore be fairly inferred that the share market has recovered its tone. Turning now to the rice market, we find the following:—

UNCURED RICE, TIME BARGAINS.			
Quotations on 27th June	For delivery in July	For delivery in August	
8.85 yen per koku	8.75 yen per koku	8.75 yen per koku	
Quotations on 16th July	For delivery in July	For delivery in August	
8.07 yen per koku	7.75 yen per koku	7.75 yen per koku	
	For delivery in September	7.53 yen per koku	

CLEAN RICE.					
First class.	Second class.	Third class.	Fourth class.	Fifth class.	
Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.
June 27th	15.40	15.07	14.50	13.90	13.51
July 16th	15.15	14.70	13.90	13.33	12.84

This drop in price, though not large, is regarded as significant, and good judges assert that it is likely to become more marked ere long, for, as is often the case, persons who held up their rice carefully so long as the market was rising, are now hastening to realize, the result being that considerable stocks are offered for sale.

THE HOUSE OF PEERS.

THERE is still some uncertainty as to the composition of the House of Peers. We have explained that an edict declared the ineligibility of all noblemen connected with the service of the Imperial Household, and that sixteen peers who had been duly elected, were consequently unseated. Rumour at the same time said that members of the Privy Council would probably be recommended not to accept seats in the House, inasmuch as the intention was to reserve to the Privy Council the position of an advisory body standing between the Throne and Parliament, and entirely independent of the latter. This rumour was subsequently confirmed by the resignation of eight Privy Councillors who had been elected by their Orders. Thus the number of vacancies to be filled reached twenty-four, and the Government adopted the course of declaring that these seats should be filled by the peers who had received the greatest number of votes after those previously elected.

Count Yamada, Minister of State for Justice, is among those who enter the House of Peers by this arrangement. The complete list of substituted names is as follows:—

COUNTS.

Kiyosu Iyenori, votes 26, new creation.
Yamada Akiyoshi, votes 25, *shizoku* of Yamaguchi Prefecture, Minister of State for Justice.
Ogimachi Sanemasa, votes 25, former Court Noble, now an official of the Bureau of Imperial Physicians.

VISCOUNTS.

Karashi Atimasa, votes 125, former Court Noble, now a local official of Ibaraki Prefecture.
Saisho Atsushi, votes 123, former *shizoku* of Kagoshima, now a Court Councillor.

Kawahire Sanefumi, votes 121, former Court Noble, Senator.

Hitotsuyanagi Suyenori, votes 119, former *shizoku* of Harima.

Omura Sumio, votes 119, ex-Daimyo of Omura.

Nabeshima Naotora, votes 119, ex-Daimyo of Kojiro, Hizen.

Hiramatsu Tokitsun, votes 119, former Court Noble, Senator.

Hosokawa Okitsura, votes 113, ex-Daimyo of Hitachi.

Hinonishi Mitsuyoshi, votes 115, former Court Noble, now Priest of Toyokuni shrine.

Ito Sukeharo, votes 109, former *shizoku* of Kagoshima, now a Senator.

Akita Akiyue, votes 106, ex-Daimyo of Miharu, Iwaki.

Hijikata Katsuyuki, votes 98, ex-Daimyo of Hiro, Ise.

Nagatani Nobutatsu, votes 96, former Court Noble.

Matsudaira Yasutami, votes 82, ex-Daimyo of Tanyama, Mimasaka.

Kyogoku Takanori, votes 80, ex-Daimyo of Maru, game, Sanuki.

Kurushima Michihito, votes 71, ex-Daimyo of Mori, Bungo.

Tsugami Tsugumitsu, votes 79, ex-Daimyo of Kuroishi, Mutsu.

Honjo Hisanao, votes 79, ex-Daimyo of Takatomi, Mino.

Sakurai Tadaaki, votes 78, ex-Daimyo of Amagasaki, Settsu.

BARONS.

Honda Sukemoto, votes 41, ex-Daimyo of Fukui, now local official of Fukui Prefecture.

Fujiyeda Masayuki, votes 31, former Shinto Priest, now an official of the Household Department.

MR. TAGUCHI UKICHI.

THE *Keizai Zasshi* (*Economist*) publishes the first letter received from its editor, Mr. Taguchi, who, as noticed in these columns at the time, left Shinagawa in May last on a voyage to the South-sea Islands, in the steamship *Tenryu Maru*. The letter is dated June 17th, at Apra (アプラ), Guam (グアム) Island, Mariana Group. He states that he left Ogasawara-jima on May 29th and arrived at the above mentioned island on June 11th. The voyage between the two places was as tranquil and smooth as though the Sumida River, not the open sea, were the route of the ship. Arrived at the port of Apra, his party had to undergo much annoyance and inconvenience on account of their ship having brought no certificate of health from the Spanish Consul at Yokohama. The consequence was that, after being compelled to remain on board several days, the party was only suffered to land on payment of a fine of 50 dollars. The Governor of the island, however, was very kind, and subsequently remitted the fine. At Agaña, the capital town of the island, whither they had gone to pay the fine and make commercial researches, they were very well received by the inhabitants, Spanish and native, especially the latter. The natives, Mr. Taguchi mentions, maintain that they are descendants of the Japanese, and in fact their physical appearance is said to be extremely like that of the people of this country. But from a linguistic standpoint Mr. Taguchi is sceptical of the truth of the alleged connection between the two races. The natives live and dress much like Spaniards, and there exists no ill feeling between the ruling and the subject races. There is a native gentleman, says Mr. Taguchi, named Joseph, who regularly makes three voyages to Yokohama every year, so that Japanese articles are found in every house. It was through the kindness of this merchant that Mr. Taguchi's letter was forwarded to Tokyo. Mr. Taguchi found more or less demand for the merchandise he had on

board his ship, though his main object in visiting this island was to get water and make researches. He states that nobody believed him when he explained that the object of his voyage was purely commercial. The temperature was about 87° F. in the day and 84°-85° at night. He tells us that the island produces a certain kind of wood which is extremely durable and of fine appearance. He thinks it will pay to export it. The party, he states in conclusion, will shortly start for the Pelew, Caroline, and Marshall Islands, and their return home will not be before October.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Who will be elected President of the House of Representatives? is a question now eagerly asked by the public. The general opinion some time ago was that Mr. Mutsu would be chosen, but the fact of his holding a Ministerial position is now regarded as an obstacle in the path, for it is very doubtful whether a post of such peculiar responsibility as that of President of the House of Representatives could be conveniently combined with Cabinet duties. At all events rumour says that the progressive parties are resolved to exclude him from the position, so long as he retains his portfolio of Agriculture and Commerce. There remain two statesmen conspicuous enough to attract public notice as probable candidates for the Presidency. They are Senator Kusumoto and Mr. Nakashima Nobuyuki, formerly Vice-President of the old *Jiyu-to*. The various sections of the Liberal party (*Daido-ha*, resuscitated *Jiyu-to* and *Aikokukoto*) will support Mr. Nakashima. Mr. Kusumoto's chances are thus very slender, unless he can obtain the support of the *Kaishin-to* and the so-called "Independents." But those who know best are inclined to believe that the *Kaishin-to*, being very anxious to combine with the Liberal party, will prefer rather to support a candidate set up by the latter than to nominate a rival of its own choosing. At the same time, it cannot be doubted that the *Kaishin-to* would like to see one of its members Vice-President of the House of Representatives, and if Mr. Kusumoto could induce himself to join that party, he would probably succeed in obtaining the latter post. The duties of the first President of the Lower House will be of a very arduous character, and it is evident that to whomsoever they are entrusted, he must make up his mind to abandon party politics altogether, and occupy a perfectly neutral position. It is difficult to imagine that such a course is seriously contemplated by either Mr. Mutsu or Mr. Nakashima.

THE ROYAL LITERARY FUND.

THE celebration of the Centenary of the Royal Literary Fund in May last was the occasion for the delivery of several speeches of unusual interest. The Prince of Wales, who took the chair, in the course of his address mentioned several facts bearing on the pecuniary circumstances of literary men that are not generally known. It seems that, despite the taste for literature which is so marked a characteristic of our times, the calling of an author in England is an extremely precarious one. The administrators of the Royal Literary Fund have actually been obliged to relieve the widow and children of Mr. Proctor, the great astronomer, and the family of even such an eminent writer as the Rev. J. G. Wood, the naturalist. These facts were divulged by the recipients of bounty themselves. Otherwise the public would not know of them, as one of the rules of the Literary Fund Committee is to preserve in strict secrecy the names of the persons assisted. The Prince of Wales dwelt on some of the causes that make the career of a literary man so liable to heavy reverses. Many of the best books are not a commercial success, at least in the lifetime of their authors. A writer has to apply himself to his work year after year with great assiduity if he is to keep his head above water. A long illness is often sufficient to cause him serious pecuniary embarrassments. "He is the first," remarks the Prince of Wales, "to

feel the depression of trade, for when a family is about to economise it begins by buying no more books." His Royal Highness went on to observe that though the sphere of the author has been enlarged in modern times, his earnings are as uncertain as ever, that length of service, so far from improving his position, often deprives him of his sole means of support, for there is a fashion in literature, as in other things, and books in demand to-day are superseded to-morrow. One pleasing feature in the celebration of the Centenary was the cordiality with which men of opposite schools of thought supported the cause. Mr. Morley's speech followed that of the Bishop of Ripon. As is remarked in the leading columns of *The Times*: "It is quite certain that a century ago no official representative of the Anglican Church would have ventured to interchange compliments even upon the neutral ground of literature with a writer who, like Mr. Morley, had bitterly attacked the most cherished ideals of orthodoxy. Nor would Mr. Morley's predecessors have been capable of the geniality and the tolerance he showed in his reply." The speeches of the two men alluded to were equally brilliant. The Bishop of Ripon's theme was the rich additions that have been made to our literature during the past hundred years; Mr. Morley's was the number of disappointed writers that at the present time are to be met with in the literary world. "I often wonder," says Mr. Morley, "whether there are 50, or even 20, men and women who are earning a competence by the authorship of books, putting school books out of the question." Mr. Morley draws attention to the fact that journalism offers the most inviting field for the gifted writer in modern days. Unlike the historian of the Council of Trent, who said that it was enough for him if he got a dozen readers in an age, the journalist writes to entertain and instruct "two hundred thousand readers for two minutes after breakfast." The chair was taken at the first meeting of the society by the Duke of Kent, in 1842 by the Prince Consort, who then declared that "the fund stands unrivalled" in any country. The Prince of Wales took the chair 26 years ago, this being the first occasion on which His Royal Highness had figured as a chairman at a public meeting. The largest sum ever subscribed at an anniversary of the society was forthcoming this year, being no less than £4,000.

PROPOSED PRESENTATION TO MR. GEO. WHITEFIELD.

A MOVEMENT, started some time ago, by members of the Yokohama Sailing Club, to present to Mr. Geo. Whitefield with a souvenir of his connection with and interest in the affairs of the Club, has all but arrived at accomplishment. The gift which the Committee have agreed on will be an album, the covers of which are to be of highly ornate and artistic character, bearing a *takara-bune* (vessel of good luck) in gold lacquer and ivory, somewhat similar in design to the Jubilee trophy, and the volume will contain the photographs of as many members as can supply those articles. Each photograph will be mounted amid beautifully painted Japanese work, and the whole will doubtless prove to Mr. Whitefield an interesting memento of his relations with the members, relations which were enhanced as much by high appreciation on the part of the latter of his sterling personal qualities, as by the sincere respect which his experience and yachting knowledge won from all. Even the experts who, from the Boat Club verandah, are wont to comment lucidly on the tactics of the various skippers, have never dared to suggest that *Maid Marion*, with her builder at the tiller, failed to "turn round" quickly enough.

THE DIET AND TREATY REVISION.

WITH reference to the course which the Diet may be expected to pursue in respect of Treaty Revision, a remarkable series of articles appeared lately in the *Daido Shimbun*. They were remarkable in two senses; first, because of the wide erudition displayed by the writer, and, secondly, because of the fact that the *Daido*

Shimbun is now supposed to represent the views of the Great Liberal Party whose combined sections seem likely to outweigh all opposition in Parliament. The articles filled many columns of our Tokyo contemporary, and offered an exceptional example of close reasoning and careful research: indeed, so conspicuous were they in these respects, that their readers could not choose but attribute them to some of the most prominent men in the Liberal camp. Briefly summarized, their object was to establish two principal propositions. The first of these was that, though the treaty-making power belongs to the Imperial prerogative, the Sovereign is bound to consult Parliament in all cases where the exercise of that power affects the duties of the people. In support of this contention, the writer quoted articles from the constitutions of Germany, Prussia, Austria, Belgium, Portugal, Italy, and Spain, establishing his position very fully. Indeed, from a practical point of view, the question need scarcely have been raised; for since a revised treaty between Japan and Western States would surely involve, in order to its carrying out, the enactment of new laws, and since such laws could not be passed without the consent of Parliament, it is plain that the ultimate fate of the treaty must rest with the latter. The writer's second proposition was that, even in respect of treaties the operation of which has no assigned limit of time, either of the high contracting parties is always entitled to withdraw from the covenant should its domestic circumstances have ceased to be suited to the conditions involved, or should its policy have undergone any change inconsistent with the observance of the compact. In support of this proposition also numerous quotations were given from the highest authorities on international law, but educated foreigners require no such evidence, being already prepared to grant the proposition as a matter of plain expediency and even necessity. Thus much premised, the *Daido Shimbun* proceeded to show that Japan has undergone changes amply sufficient to bring her within the scope of the second proposition; a fact which will scarcely be denied by anyone. Then followed the conclusion that, since the ablest statesmen of the empire had failed to effect a satisfactory arrangement with Foreign Powers, and since no reasonable prospect offered of such an arrangement being reached by the medium of negotiation, the plain duty of the Diet would be to repudiate the treaties—a course involving no real difficulty or danger, in the writer's opinion, if only the nation be resolute and unanimous. We take this to be a very significant utterance.

THE NIKKO RAILWAY.

THE railway from Utsunomiya to Imaichi now carries travellers to within five miles of Nikko, thus materially facilitating access to the prince of Japanese mausolea. Some tolerably heavy gradients have to be negotiated in the latter half of the journey, but the train makes fairly good time, traversing the fifteen miles in 75 minutes. Thus far, however, the baggage arrangements seem to be quite unorganised. It is said, indeed, that the railway authorities refuse to take goods until the line is finished right through to Nikko. Whether or no this be the case, it is certain that people who expect to have their traps transported more quickly in consequence of apparently improved facilities, are doomed to disappointment. As far as Utsunomiya the railway is available, but for the rest of the journey carts must be employed, as was the case before the opening of the line to Imaichi. It is necessary, therefore, to allow four days for the transport of goods from Tokyo to Nikko, a state of affairs that speaks ill for the organising capacities of the carrying companies. We are promised, however, that the last section of the line will be opened on the 1st of August, and there is no apparent reason why the promise should not be fulfilled, for the road is completed to within a very short distance of the terminus. It passes, throughout the greater part of its length, on the west of the celebrated pine avenue, now and then approaching the latter so close that the embankment on which the cryp-

tomeria stand almost forms a base for that carrying the rails. At only one place, however, are the trees disturbed, and that is where the line crosses the avenue on a bridge. There some twenty of the beautiful pines have been sacrificed. It is sad to see their noble trunks lying prostrate beside the iron track, and still sadder to find the matchless vista blocked by a stone bridge of the solidest and least graceful description, but after all what need be said of the loss of a few trees in comparison with the huge vandalism of pushing a railway into the sacred solitudes of the renowned mausolea. Nature has happily interfered to prevent the consummation of the sacrilege. Engineering difficulties forbid the construction of the line beyond the southern end of the village of Nikko, so that the locomotive whistle will be barely audible at the tomb of Ireyasu. Meanwhile the railway does not bring any promise of prosperity to Nikko. It has immensely multiplied the number of persons visiting the mausolea, but, on the other hand, it has made coming and going so easy that whereas formerly anyone accomplishing the arduous journey felt himself entitled to a rest of three or four days at the village inns, a stay of one night is now the limit of the most leisurely worshipper's delay. Thus, while the priests and guides are rejoicing, the hotel-keepers declare themselves grievously disappointed.

WITHOUT BENEFIT OF CLERGY.

WE reproduce in this issue, from the *Singapore Free Press*, a short story with the above title from the pen of Rudyard Kipling, the star who recently flashed upon the literary firmament of London and is now the talk of the town. Referring to the new author, "Litch-Key," one of the London correspondents of *Hoges' Sporting News*, says:—"Have you read Rudyard Kipling?" is the question which people are asking each other now-a-days. The question was put to me a dozen times, and I was bound to confess that I had imagined 'Rudyard Kipling' to be a new sauce. He is a new sauce; and a very pungent one, too. Everybody is talking about him. In clubs, in literary and artistic salons—even, I verily believe, in Fleet-street pubs,—the one question of the day is, 'Have you read Rudyard Kipling?' I bought two of his little books the other day for a shilling a-piece, and I sent the whole of the glorious, leafy, sunshiny day reading them. They are wonderful—fascinating and wonderful. . . . What Bret Harte did in realistically depicting the wild life of the Californian miners, Mr. Kipling does in showing us the lives of our soldiers in India. But he is far in advance of Bret Harte as a realist. Bret Harte, despite his wholly admirable "Outcasts of Poker Flat," took care to infuse a sentimental interest in his sketches of rough miners—a picturesque and effective, but false, interest, as one is inclined to think. But this Rudyard Kipling is uncompromising. He tells barrack stories of Indian garrison life, and—well, he just knows all about it, and that fills the ticket. He takes for his "machinery" the idea of "The three Musketeers" of Dumas. His three soldiers—all devoted to each other, but differing widely in disposition—are Private Mulvaney, an Irishman; "Jock" Learoyd, a Yorkshireman; and Others, a Cockney. . . . Private Mulvaney is simply a marvel. The three figures stand out boldly. They are three live men, with faults and weaknesses frankly disclosed, and all three are capable of heroism which has nothing theatrical in it."

VILLAS BUILT BY FOREIGNERS.

SPEAKING of villas in our leading columns, we should not fail to notice that foreign example has probably contributed to develop Japanese taste in this direction. Several foreign residents have advanced money for the building of villas at chosen spots, under conditions as to lease which, though sufficiently adapted to the convenience of the tenant, are at the same time exceedingly favourable to the ultimate interests of the landlord. Among sea-side edifices of this nature, one of the most happily situated and handsomely construct-

ed is that of the Italian Minister at Horinei, near Dzushi. Built on a series of terraces—a method common in Italy, but hitherto little practised in Japan—the house may be said to dip its feet in the sea while, at the same time, standing at such an elevation that a cool breeze from the water circulates constantly about it. The shore at its base slopes gently seaward under slowly-growing depths of perfectly pellucid water that overlies firm, shingleless sand, and is protected against the tumbling waves of the outer ocean by a picturesque reef, stretching its jagged arms across the bay. Right opposite, Fujiyama rises majestically, and richly wooded hills slope away from the very verandahs of the villa behind. The charms of the place are further enhanced by beautifully laid-out grounds which surround it, their shrubs and turf stretching down almost to the water's edge. Nature, indeed, when she encircled with magnificent scenery this amphitheatre of placid sea, seems to have designated it as an ideal resort, whence one can look from the beauties in the immediate neighbourhood to such celebrated spots as Kamakura, Yeno-shima, Oyama, Fujisan, the Idzu mountains down to the Amaki Cape, the volcanic Oshima, and the gently-curving promontory which forms the northerly arm of the bay, a historical spot where Yoritomo had his summer palace in the 12th century, and where the State now jealously asserts its right of property.

The Italian method of terracing is not the only foreign feature recently introduced at Horinei. The sturdy fishermen have also been initiated into the mysteries of water tournaments after the Italian fashion, and very skilfully do they bear their part in the sport. The tournament is fought with lance and buckler, the latter of iron, the former of bamboo, sometimes twelve feet long, having the haft heavily loaded and the point protected by a gutta-percha ball which effectually destroys every element of danger. The combatants, instead of being on horseback, are mounted on platforms projecting from the sides of boats propelled at full speed by six heavy Japanese oars. After the boats have taken up their stations at fixed points marked by buoys carrying the distinguishing flags of the combatants, a signal is given, whereupon the crafts dash forward at their utmost velocity, the champion of each boat standing on his platform with lance in rest and buckler on arm. The points of the spears are received on the bucklers, and the shock generally carries the weaker spearsman—frequently indeed it precipitates them both—off the platform and leaves him struggling in the water. By and by bucklers are laid aside and the men offer their bare bosoms to the softened points of the lances, evidently deriving as much pleasure as the spectators from the fine manly sport. Many of the sea-side folks are endowed with splendid muscles and perfect proportions. Seeing these stalwart combatants, with lances in rest, charging each other at the highest speed that a crew of excited oarsmen can impart to a swift Japanese boat, and seeing them receive the shock of impact with the spears so firmly braced that though their stout bamboo lances curve like bows the men yield not an inch to the blow, fancy carries us back to Italy of ancient times and to some Roman gladiators' show on the shores of Baia or Pompei, where scarcely less exquisite scenery smiled upon the arena of many such combats in former days.

DEATH OF MR. EDGAR ABBOTT.

A VERY wide circle of residents in the Far East will learn with deep regret of the death in London of Mr. E. Abbott, which is announced by telegraph. To nearly all who had been brought into close contact with the deceased gentleman, and had been privileged to enjoy his friendship, it will be difficult to realize the stroke which has thus removed from their midst one of the brightest and most charming presences that ever graced an alien community in any land. While in the full enjoyment of vigour and strength—even, indeed, after failing health had begun to show itself only too plainly—Mr. Abbott was the very life and soul of the

Settlement, and few events of importance to Yokohama within recent years can be referred to without mentioning his name as that of a leading actor. His friends had noted for some time with anxious solicitude the gradual sapping of his strength, and when, only a few months ago, on recovering from a lengthened spell of illness caused by an injury to one of his eyes, he decided to leave for home, it was earnestly hoped that the change would benefit him. The seeds of disease, however, had been too deeply sown. It was feared at the time that during a visit which he made to Bandai-san in 1888, shortly after the volcanic outburst of the mountain, he had over-exerted himself by making the circuit of the devastated regions under circumstances of great difficulty. But, although the walk was of no ordinary character, we believe that it was only one of many similar incidents, all combining to undermine Mr. Abbott's constitution. His, in truth, was one of those not infrequent cases where a man is betrayed into athletic excesses by the splendid physical gifts with which nature has endowed him. Long after the age when most persons are satisfied with the memory of their successes in the Gymnasium, Mr. Abbott continued to take part in matches with unabated enthusiasm, and there can be little doubt that by thus over-taxing his strength he gradually impaired the action of his heart, and invited the disease to which he has now succumbed. The latest news of his condition, previous to the announcement of the catastrophe, was that a six-month's course of the most absolute rest in a recumbent posture had been prescribed for him. He was to lie perpetually on his back, and not even to turn in bed without assistance. It was hoped but with little real sanguineness, that this extreme measure might strengthen the walls of the aorta, and thus postpone the end for a few years longer. Apparently the experiment had hardly been commenced when death interrupted it. We can scarcely realize the loss, under such circumstances, of one who always seemed the personification of manly vigour, and surely we can never sufficiently mourn the premature removal of a dear friend whose winning and gracious character, not less than his enthusiasm in all that tended to the welfare of the community, will long be a memory of mixed pleasure and sadness.

THE "HOCHI SHIMBUN."

THE public was recently surprised by an announcement in the *Hochi Shimbun* that it would henceforth maintain no connection with any political party, but preserve a strictly neutral and independent position in politics. This statement was as incomprehensible as unexpected. The editorial department is said to be under the charge of Messrs. Minoura Masato and Kato Masanosuke, while Messrs. Yano Fumio and Fujita Mokichi lend their occasional assistance in the direction of the general affairs of the journal. Men naturally ask themselves how these persons, who are not only avowed but principal members of the *Kaishin-to*, are to conduct their paper on a strictly independent basis. The *Nippon* offers an explanation for the solution of the enigma. We do not guarantee the truth of that paper's story, but it looks probable enough. Mr. Yano, on declining the proposal to stand for his native province, is represented to have stated, as the reason of his unwillingness to sit in the first Diet, that his connection with the *Kaishin-to* having been very close in the past, he should be compelled, if he entered the Diet, to devote his whole energies towards promoting the interests of his party, but that, under the existing state of things, his party being apparently incapable of obtaining the majority in the Diet, he could not hope to effect any substantial good, but might, on the contrary, contribute to weaken the power of his old friends and associates. Mr. Yano, the *Nippon* tells us, is enthusiastically desirous of effecting a combination among the various progressive parties, and for the attainment of this object he thinks it necessary that he should at present hold aloof from party politics and maintain a neutral attitude. It is this

circumstance, says the *Nippon*, that has necessitated the above-mentioned change in the character of Mr. Yano's paper. The *Nippon* goes so far as to state that the distinguished leader of the *Kaishin-to* has in contemplation the probable return to office, under the support of the combined progressive parties, of Count Okuma and himself, and their resumption of the negotiations for the revision of the treaties. It is, at all events, very significant that a politician of Mr. Yano's calibre should virtually confess, in public, the inability of his party to accomplish anything single-handed, and should pledge himself to abandon its leadership and maintain a neutral attitude. The incident is, in our opinion, one of the most important that has occurred for a long time in the field of Japanese politics.

THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

THE seventh annual session of the Japan Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church was held in Goucher Hall, Aoyama, Tokyo, from the 10th to the 18th instant. This is one of the smaller of one hundred and eleven annual conferences that were represented at the Quadrennial General Conference of this Church. It is composed of 43 members and 11 probationers, of whom 20 are Americans and the balance Japanese. The presiding officer present this year was the well known Bishop J. P. Newman, whose kind but efficient administration added greatly to the success of the meetings held. In connection with the Conference the members of the mission force (Americans) have separate sessions at a time so as not to conflict with the main—and according to the law of the church—the only legal body. The ladies of the Methodist Episcopal Church have a separate missionary organization, and their workers in this field, together with the wives of the missionaries of the main Board, form a Woman's Conference which was also held at Aoyama during the same week. Legislation is not the function of an Annual Conference, as that pertains to the General Conference, but as an executive body its work is by no means small. Each preacher's character must be passed upon, literary examinations are held, and during the first four years of a preacher's connection with the body he must annually pass satisfactorily or fail to be advanced in his standing. The Conference is divided into districts and each is reported by its chairman—technically known as the Presiding Elder. Numerous committees are appointed to consider the various phases of the work and report to the Conference for action. The most notable actions of the body were: first, the appointment of a committee of six Japanese preachers and two laymen to sit with the members of the mission when the estimates for the evangelistic and educational work are under consideration. This is a new departure, but it is hoped that it will prove to be of great value in uniting more closely the foreign and native elements in the work. The second point was the appointment of a "Board of Deaconesses," which shall take steps for the organization of a force of Deaconesses among the Japanese women in the church. Their services will be purely voluntary; no vow will be required, so that they may retire at any time. It is hoped that the usefulness of this institution as demonstrated in America and other countries may be realized here also. Two members of the conference were transferred to other fields of labour, and two returned home on leave of absence. Two were received by transfer to effective relations, after having been lay preachers for some time. Six young men were admitted on trial. The reports of the work presented by each pastor showed that this had not been a year of great prosperity; and the membership shows a slightly decreased total from that of last year, though the contributions are larger. The statistics have been taken with greater exactitude than previously, which may account for the diminution mentioned. In addition to the regular sessions of the Conference, there were several anniversary exercises and many interesting addresses. The Sabbath services were of special interest. The Bishop's sermons were

greatly enjoyed by all. At the close of the morning sermon one deacon and three elders were ordained. The evening was devoted to a mass meeting in the Koseikan, the speakers being all Japanese. The Conference will meet next year at the same time and place.

RELIEF OF THE POOR.

Writing on this subject, the *Tokyo Economist* (*Keisai Zasshi*) observes that the giving of money to the helpless poor, though not in the abstract blameworthy, is by no means the most wholesome method of helping the indigent. Our contemporary asks philanthropists to pay more attention to the problem how to enable the destitute to help themselves. There are in the opinion of the *Economist* three ways of doing this. In the first place, the poorer classes should be encouraged to save their earnings. There are savings banks throughout the country, but the facilities afforded by them can by no means be considered satisfactory, and our contemporary sees many things requiring improvement in the system now followed by the savings banks, both Governmental and private. Poor people get two advantages from depositing their savings in secure places; first they have the direct advantage of at any time using the money saved, and secondly, the money deposited by them can be employed in some productive enterprise, thus adding to their opportunities to earn a livelihood, this last consideration being of more importance than the first. Had the custom of saving been more prevalent among the labouring classes, the *Tokyo* journal thinks that the present trade depression would not have been so severe, for then the large sums of money that have been paid out by the numerous new companies would have been available, to some extent at least, for trade purposes. Secondly, our contemporary remarks that the labouring classes should be taught and encouraged to form co-operative companies, as is so advantageously done by their *confrères* in England and Germany. To emphasise its opinion, the *Economist* gives a brief sketch of the origin and success of a famous corporation of the kind at Rochdale in England. Thirdly and lastly, the *Tokyo* journal calls the attention of its readers to the importance of encouraging emigration to foreign countries. Most unfortunately, some events have lately occurred which are not calculated to stimulate the growing spirit of enterprise. Our contemporary advises the Government to give special facilities to persons emigrating to foreign countries.

SILVER.

THE *World*, of the 11th ult. has the following on silver:—"The multiplying signs around us that the world is recovering its senses again on the question of silver, and that the gold craze is decidedly on the wane, induce us without fear to chatter a little on the subject, seeing that the great stimulus which the exciting silver movement in the New World is imparting to Europe is already being keenly felt. The sale of the Roumanian silver a few weeks ago is likely to remain the last of the series, and to be the crowning folly of the "gold-bug" party: the wind of opinion seems now to be veering round. Servia is going to increase her silver coinage, and is advertising for tenders to supply it; but the most important movement is in Austria-Hungary. The object-lesson which that country furnishes is so clear that it is worth while to dwell upon it for awhile. Austria-Hungary originally possessed a silver standard; the silver florin was, and is still, full legal tender. But in years gone by, when the price of silver stood at 60d. an ounce, Austria issued inconvertible paper, which fell to a discount. Then came the demonetisation of silver by Germany and the consequent fall in price, and one day silver and paper again stood at the same price in Austria; not because the price of the paper had risen, but because the price of silver had fallen. This was Austria's opportunity to obtain the necessary silver and resume specie payments on the old system. But Austria was afraid, and instead suspended the free coinage of silver for account of private holders. Thus it came to pass that for some years

the paper currency in Austria was more valuable than silver, upon which it had been originally based. During the past year the banking party in Austria considered that the time had fully arrived to strike a final blow at silver by going to a gold standard on the actual parity of paper, which, they thought, would cause no inconvenience or disturbance. But in the mean time, in expectation of this gold standard, the currency rose, and there can be but little doubt that eventually it would have risen to nearly two shillings per florin—that is, as if the ratio of silver to gold stood at 15 to 1. In this case the adoption of the gold standard would, for Austria, have meant a benefit to the creditor classes of from 20 to 30 per cent on their claims. Against this monstrous scheme, however, Hungary, as a portion of the empire, has revolted. Now Hungary is in the Austrian Empire what the West is in the American Union. If it were as well educated as to its interests as the Western States, this proposed spoliation would at once have been knocked on the head; but it is learning its lesson fast, and we shall probably hear but little more of the Austrian gold standard. Let America go on fearlessly in her good work, and the liberating silver gospel proclaimed in Washington will soon be preached, practised, and understood in all the agricultural portions of Europe."

FRANCE IN AFRICA.

"ALL the States between the Kingdom of Samory and the Gulf of Guinea," says the *Temps* of Paris, "are now, thanks to Captain Binger's treaties, our exclusive property; our stations in the French Soudan are now connected with those on the Gold Coast; and one may henceforth travel from Cape Blanco to Grand Bassam without once leaving territory subject to France." With a perhaps pardonable, but certainly harmless grandiloquence, the French paper adds that "the enclosed English colonies along the Gambia River and the Sierra Leone Coast, as also the Liberian Republic and the Portuguese Guinea, are like islands swimming about in this vast ocean of land." The Captain Binger in question was a protégé of the late General Faidherbe, "the Restorer of the Senegal," and owes his present fame to the timely recommendations of the valiant leader of the former Army of the North. Sent to advance from the French Soudan to the Gulf of Guinea, Captain Binger started from Bammakoo on the upper Niger, turned southward to avoid the hostile country of Sego, and gradually approached the Kingdom of Samory, who has risen from the rank of a common trader to that of sovereign of the Wassoulou, and Almamy, a half priestly, half secular dignity, of the Upper Niger districts, and who, since 1882, has been considered an ally of France. As Samory was then at war with the city of Sikasso, permission to enter his kingdom could not speedily be obtained, and Binger was thus forced by the hostile attitude of the natives to fall back upon Bammakoo. Permission being finally received, the expedition entered the country. When they reached the Ula Ba, or Red River, Samory requested by letter the present of a cannon in order to take the strong Sikasso. Though unable to comply with this request, Binger marched to Samory's camp. On the way, he saw in the war-stricken districts the destroyed villages and the bleaching bones of those that had fallen victims to the raids and the famine; in short, all the horrible accompaniments of African warfare. Samory, who was himself in great straits, and Binger, who had no artillery, could not be of any assistance to each other; yet it was only after great difficulties that the French captain and his small expedition were at length allowed to leave the camp of their friend and ally. So wretched was the condition of the country near Sikasso that Binger and his men lived on rice exclusively, a quarter of a pound being their daily ration. Prevented from entering Tengrela, the expedition traversed the unexplored lands of the Senoofou tribe, and finally reached the town of Niéle. One chief there, though otherwise kind and hospitable, refused to see Binger, lest the

aspect of a white man should prove instantly fatal to himself. Thence the famous Kong country was entered, and the western head stream of the Okba, or Comoé River, that enters the large lagoon at Grand Bassam, was discovered, thus proving that the river in question has a course of 500 miles, and not one of only 120, as had been supposed, and that a water shed of very little elevation, and much farther to the north than hitherto believed, separates the Niger from the streams of the Ivory and Gold coasts. The Kong Mountains, the existence of which had long been doubted, thus disappear finally from our maps. The inland emporium of Kong, never before visited by white men, was soon reached, and the traveller was received there with great curiosity, but without feelings either of comity or friendship. The king of the country and the chief of the city, each seated under a large tree on the market place, took the expedition under their protection, and a dwelling belonging to the king was assigned to the captain. The inhabitants of the city, about 15,000 in number, are Moslems and quite intelligent; few of them are unable either to read the Koran or to write with the Arabian letters. Rifles and ammunition, the curse of Africa and the chief props of the slave trade, were in much demand at the time, and were secured from the coast. Gold dust and cowries imported from the Maldiv Islands and Zanzibar are in use as money, while credit is given, but only for five days. After this Binger entered the country of More (or Mossi), in the capital of which, Wogodoghe, he was kindly received. The protection of the country, however, by France was firmly declined by the king, whose suspicions and fears had been aroused by the rumoured advance of a German expedition under Lieutenant François from the Togo Coast. Returning to Banema, the heir to the throne and brother of the King of More, offered the captain three African beauties as wives; but, declining the gift for himself, he selected husbands for them among the servants supplied him; and, when leaving the hospitable city, he was informed by the women that they would call their first born boys after him. Hence the captain warns future explorers not to be unduly surprised should they meet somewhere "little black citizens of the name of Binger." After much trouble Salaga, or Selga, the great emporium and well known slave mart, was reached next, and thence, westward along the Volta, the town of Kintampo, in northern Ashantee. Treich-Lapène, who had been sent to find Binger, and who had in the meantime placed Bondookoo under French protection, met Binger at Kong, and both made a treaty with the king there, by which only French merchants and missionaries are allowed to settle in his dominions. After concluding similar treaties elsewhere, the two travellers took canoes down the Akba River, and entered Grand Bassam as the first Europeans that had reached the Ivory Coast from the north. It will be seen, therefore, that French explorers have done extensive and enterprising work in the Dark Continent. But as Englishmen we do not find ourselves much disturbed by the implied predictions of the *Temps*. The history of British and French colonization leads us to think that where a few islands of British occupation lie swimming in an ocean of French colonies, the fate of the former is not by any means to be swallowed up in the latter.

JAPANESE TROOPS IN SŌUL.

WE observe with surprise that the *Chinese Times* and other journals persist in speaking of the withdrawal of a body of Japanese troops recently reported to have been sent to SŌul. At the time when this rumour was first put into circulation we denied it emphatically, having ascertained its untruth. Indeed the story was from the first open to the gravest doubt, for it is well-known that in the present state of the treaty relations between China and Japan, neither Power would be in the least likely to send an armed force to the Korean capital without previous consultation with the other. The *Chinese Times* is thoroughly posted in these questions, and in giving credence to the rumour

our Tientsin contemporary does not display its wonted judgment. That a force of blue-jackets from the U.S. steamer *Suvarata* proceeded to Seoul in accordance with the U.S. Minister's requisition is beyond dispute. But there are no grounds for asserting that any similar measure was adopted by Japan. We cannot but take this opportunity of protesting against the strangely persistent tendency to mischief-making shown by some writers who discuss Korean affairs or describe the course of events in the little Kingdom. Thus a correspondent of the *Chinese Times* signing himself "Viator" and dating his letter from Nagasaki, asks the public to believe that the despatch of a detachment from the S.S. *Suvarata* to Seoul was connected with the failure of the Korean Government to pay arrears of salary said to be due to Mr. Denny. Such a statement is quite incredible, and its circulation cannot serve any good purpose. Elements of trouble already exist in sufficient quantity in Korea, without these efforts on the part of foreigners to multiply and aggravate them.

FAREWELL DINNER TO MR. WATANABE.

MR. H. WATANABE, who for several years filled the important position of President of the Imperial University, and who is now about to leave Japan for the purpose of representing his country at the Court of Austria-Hungary, was entertained at a farewell dinner by the members of the Tokyo Club, last Friday. Mr. Watanabe had acted for a long time as one of the Vice-Presidents of the Club, and in that capacity had spared no pains to further the interests of the institution and to promote the good fellowship which it was founded to bring about between Japanese and foreigners. About fifty members attended the dinner, and a much larger number would certainly have been present had not the summer holidays already induced many to leave the capital. Mr. H. W. Denison, who had been Mr. Watanabe's colleague in the Vice-Presidency, occupied the chair, and there were also present Marquis Nabeshima, Viscount Aoki, the Representatives of Holland and Hawaii, the First Secretaries of the American and Austro-Hungarian Legations, Captain Ingles, R.N., Mr. T. B. Clarke-Thornhill, &c. Mr. Denison proposed the health of the guest of the evening in the following terms:—

YOUR EXCELLENCIES AND GENTLEMEN,—Your presence here this evening to do honour to our retiring Vice-President is by far a more eloquent tribute to his good qualities of head and heart than anything I can hope to say. The purpose for which the Tokyo Club was organized, was, so our General Rules declare, "to promote social ties and to bring Japanese and foreigners into closer intercourse." In the endeavour to fulfill that purpose Mr. Watanabe has, both as a member and an officer of the Club, borne a conspicuous part. That his efforts have been crowned with success and are appreciated, this large gathering to-night bears ample testimony. The exigencies of the public service, tempered as such exigencies should be, by the provident desire of the Imperial Government to be well and ably represented abroad compel our guest to leave us for a season. He carries with him our cordial goodwill and he has our best wishes for his success. Your Excellencies and Gentlemen, I propose the health and happiness of our guest, Mr. Watanabe.

Mr. Watanabe replied as follows:—

GENTLEMEN,—I thank you very heartily for having assembled here in such numbers this evening, despite the great heat of the weather, with the kind intention of giving me a farewell entertainment. I cannot pretend to be in any way entitled to such consideration; it is quite out of proportion to the trifling services I have been able to render as one of the promoters and afterwards as Vice-President of the Tokyo Club. At the same time, Gentlemen, I can most sincerely assure you that, however valueless my efforts, they were always inspired by the warmest desire to assist in strengthening the Club and in promoting harmony among its members of all nationalities. The Tokyo Club has for its object, on the one hand, the cultivation of friendship between gentlemen of the Occident and those of Japan, and on the other to contribute to the wider aim of bringing all peoples into a common bond of harmony and preventing misunderstandings opposed to the spirit of international hospitality. The Club owes its existence originally to Count Inouye, but his successors at

the Foreign Office, Counts Ito and Okuma, and the present Minister of Foreign Affairs, Viscount Aoki, are to be regarded as its supporters and patrons. The incentive given by these statesmen has stimulated the President, Vice-Presidents, the Honorary Secretary and the Committee to labour in the cause of the institution with a degree of earnestness the happy results of which are before you to-day. In the course of the Club's seven or eight years' existence, social and political changes in this country have sometimes threatened to cool the warmth of friendly feeling that unites the numerous nationalities from which its members are drawn. But happily that feeling has survived all such influences, and I think we may confidently assert that the Club has played its part not only in cementing union between its own members, but also in contributing to the maintenance of international friendship. Let us hope, Gentlemen, that our institution may continue to discharge the honourable and useful function of encouraging friendship between Occidental and Oriental peoples, and that, day by day and year by year, it may help to bring about that universal brotherhood which is the true aim of modern civilization. I cannot tell you how much pleasure I feel in hearing of and witnessing the success achieved by the Club, through the exertions of its President, its Vice-President, Mr. Denison, the Honorary Secretary, and the members generally. During my stay in Europe, whither duty calls me, I will be present with you in spirit, and if I can help to further your interests, I shall not fail to do so, knowing as I do how much the credit I bring to the discharge of my new functions will be augmented by the fact that I had the honour of being your Vice-President. Permit me once more to thank you most heartily for your kind farewell, and to join with you in wishing perennial prosperity to an institution where we have spent so many happy hours.

Viscount Aoki said that as Mr. Watanabe had kindly mentioned his name, he begged permission to say a word. Eminently successful as Mr. Watanabe had been in the discharge of his duties as Vice-President, there was unfortunately one shortcoming which had to be laid to his charge: he had not learned to play billiards. It was to be hoped that in the honourable and important position which he was now about to fill, he would not fail to correct this hiatus in his accomplishments, so that on his return to Japan his sphere of useful effort as a Vice-President might be widened. The Hawaiian Representative, Mr. R. Irwin, then briefly proposed Viscount Aoki's health, and Baron Nagaoka proposed that of Mr. H. W. Denison.

CORALS.

In a series of articles on Natural History, now appearing in *Hayes' Sporting News*, we find the following on "Corals," a certain kind of which, *sango-ju* (*Corallium rubrum*), are in great repute in Japan as ornaments:—

What is a Coral? Very few persons unless they be naturalists can answer the question. Popularly they are supposed to be formed by insects, though in reality corals are as far removed zoologically from insects as any two groups of the animal kingdom. Until quite recently a perfectly erroneous opinion was held with regard to the living portions of corals called polypæ, and the relations they bear to the skeletons everyone knows by the name of corals. People thought that the polypæ answered to bees amongst insects, and the skeletons to the honeycomb, and that the coral was of the nature of a hive or nest into which the coral "insects" could take refuge. We must make any comparison at all with other orders, we might say that the coral skeleton answers to the shell of a shell-fish; but with this difference, that whereas every shell-fish, such as an oyster, has its own separate and independent shell, the coral shell is very often a colonial one, being formed by and giving shelter to a multitude of polypæ, each of which, though housed in its own compartment, is in a degree connected with its neighbours. The hard parts of the coral, it must be understood, are formed outside the body of the polypæ like a molluscan shell, not inside like a vertebrate skeleton, and this is why it might perhaps be more consistent to call them coral "shells." Instead of coral "skeletons," as is more generally done. Further misunderstanding may, however, arise, as although the calcareous shell of the coral is truly formed outside the coral polypæ, it very frequently has the appearance of being inside and enclosed by them. This is entirely due to the overlapping of the soft parts over the complex process of budding, so as time goes on more and more of the calcareous skeleton is formed, and layer upon layer, and the new over the old, and new branches growing out and down, and on. Endless are the varieties of form assumed by pure carbonate of lime in a salt which is present in solution in the coral polypæ, and secreted again by them as the solid cover the skeleton. The soft or fleshy parts of the coral completely if we could imagine the soft parts drawn or pulled off face of the skeleton on their underside. Of the true corals the most important and largely exported family is that of the *Madrepores*. They may be readily distinguished by the fact that they possess distinct cups for the polypæ, and that these cups all directions by numerous pores and are thoroughly perforated in another. Many *Madrepores* have extremely graceful and beautiful forms, being sometimes fan-shaped, sometimes considerably branched like a small bush or shrub, sometimes like a number of blunt fingers standing upon a swollen wrist. Besides the which form solid calcareous skeletons, the first of these is the blue coral, which forms thick folds and plates of spongy lime-stone of a pale blue colour; and the organ-pipe coral, which builds

up huge red clumps of small pipes traversing layer upon layer of transverse plates. The precious coral of commerce (known in science as *Corallium rubrum*) belongs to this order. It is, however, never found in warm tropical waters. Can it be stated with certainty what corals feed upon? It has been usually assumed that their food consists almost exclusively of small free swimming sea animals which they catch with the tentacles as the tides flow over them. There can be no doubt that, broadly speaking, this assumption is true. The batteries of stinging cells found upon their tentacles must be for the purpose of paralyzing or killing small organisms which come in contact with them, and from the analogy of sea-anemones, we are justified in assuming that organisms thus killed are conveyed to the mouth by the tentacles and swallowed. On the other hand, sections of reef polypæ of various kinds have been carefully examined, but no remnants of animal food in the body-cavity or throat of any of them has been discovered. It seems probable, therefore, that their means of actual food, of a size large enough to be distinguished with the microscope, are few and far between, so that we are hardly justified in assuming that the corals are dependent entirely upon the small crustacea and the like which are brought to them by the tides. The currents of water which are constantly kept up in and around the throat of the polypæ by the action of thousands of minute cilia or hairs with which they are furnished must bring with them numerous extremely minute organisms upon which the corals may feed. But food, which is brought to the polypæ by this means, must be of a very heterogeneous description, and mixed with particles of sediment floating in the water. Particles of vegetable matter caused by the decomposition and disintegration of fruits, leaves and wood from the adjacent shore which, in the neighbourhood of coral reefs, is almost always mangrove swamp, have frequently been found in the stomachs of the polypæ. There is then some reason for believing that many of the corals may be partially at least vegetable feeders. Corals, though generally looked upon as mere curiosities, are of some considerable importance to man, particularly so in tropical countries. Large tracts of land are by degrees and through countless ages made through their agency, and in the shape of barrier reefs and atolls, the corals often perform a useful part in keeping off the heavy swell and surf of the tide from the shores, so that it is often possible to proceed in boats for miles in smooth water between the shore and the coral reef. The precious coral of commerce has been alluded to. An immense trade is done in it, the greater portion of the commoner small kinds finding its way to India, where it is made up into necklaces and worn by Hindus of all ranks. The most valuable coral of all is of a beautiful pale pink colour, which is never obtained in large quantities or of any great size, and may often be seen mounted in jewellery. The question of the origin of barrier reefs and atolls is still a vexed one, and has exercised the minds of our most naturalists, from Charles Darwin to Dr. Sidney J. Hickson, who has quite recently spent some time on Northern Celebes investigating the question, which even now is by no means settled. If this article has served to remove from the minds of some of its readers the notion that corals are "insects," or will cause them to take more interest in the skeletons or shells of corals than they may have, it will have served its purpose. To those who wish to see corals "at home," we would recommend a sea trip to the Andamans or to Singapore, where they abound, and can be examined at leisure and in all their living glories of exquisite colours and forms.

THE CONVENT OF THE FRENCH SISTERS OF ST. PAUL.

At 4 o'clock in the afternoon of the 16th instant, the ceremony of distributing prizes took place at the Convent of the Sisters of Saint Paul, in Kanda, Tokyo. Among those present were Bishop Osouf, who presided, the Portuguese Representative, H.E. Mr. Tsuji, Vice-Minister of Education, Viscountess Aoki, Madame Sienkiewicz, and a number of Japanese and foreign ladies and gentlemen. The programme of the ceremony was most interesting, and the students performed the various items excellently. It was really astonishing to hear French and English spoken so correctly by young Japanese, who had studied only two or three years at most. With regard to the latter language, however, it is to be remarked that the recitations, though verbally faultless, were delivered with a strong French accent, from which we infer that the presence of an English sister would add greatly to the usefulness of the institution. The principal piece, "La Treille du Roi," into which songs were introduced, was performed with great precision and spirit; so much so indeed that the costume of the little actresses alone distinguished them from ladies of honour of a mediæval Court. After languages, which are the principal subject of instruction, the place of honour is given to music, and it was a real pleasure to hear the children performing vocal and instrumental pieces in a manner so satisfactory. Special note should be taken of the Overture to the "Barbier de Séville," for piano and organ, and the "Andante de Symphonie en Sol," pour piano à six mains. The execution of both these pieces showed the little performers to be possessed of more than mechanical skill, just as "La Treille du Roi" proved that memory was not the only faculty exercised by them. Their evident appreciation of the various parts and their intelligent rendering, spoke much for the ability of pupils and teachers alike. A visit to the exhibition of work proved also that European and Japanese dress-making, embroidery, and tapestry properly constitute important items of instruction. Japanese education, too, is plainly not neglected, for a little French girl, Miss Marie Modeste, whose father is in the Japanese service, gave a recitation in Japanese and spoke it like a native. Mr. Tsuji, the Vice-Minister of Education, made a long and laudatory speech.

His Excellency is evidently much interested in all foreign schools and spares no pains to give them every encouragement and support. We cannot but congratulate mistresses and scholars on the success to which the ceremony of the 16th bore witness, and we wish all prosperity to a school destined to work more and more good the better it is known and appreciated.

DISTRICT GOVERNMENT.

THE *Hochi Shimbun* is strongly of opinion that all arrangements for the carrying out of the Regulations with regard to the Organization of Rural Districts ought to precede and, as it were, prepare the way for, the Regulations as to the Organization of Cities and Prefectures. Further our contemporary points out that to properly arrange the economy of rural districts and to regulate their expenditures it is absolutely necessary that clear and explicit provisions as to roads and rivers should exist. Such information will be found in the Roads and Rivers Regulations, which are still under the consideration of the Authorities. It is plain that any attempt to carry into effect the Rural Districts Regulations without regard to the standards which will thus be enforced as to the administration of roads and rivers, must be a comparative failure, and it is therefore to be regretted that, according to present appearances, the Senate will be unable to finish, before the date on which it must be abolished, the consideration of the Roads and Rivers measure. Moreover, if the regulations come before the House of Representatives further delay will be certain to ensue, so that as regards the carrying into practice of regulations for the local government of cities, prefectures and rural districts the outlook is not at all promising.

OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS.

THE *Official Gazette* of on Thursday announces the appointment of several gentlemen to the post of Parliamentary Secretary. Mr. Nishiyama Shunpei, at present Secretary of the Senate; and Mr. Yashiro Kisaho, at present Secretary of the Temporary Parliamentary Bureau, are named Secretaries of the House of Lords, and the following are gazetted to the same post in the Lower House:—Mr. Kawada Kin, Private Secretary, originally an official of the Temporary Construction Bureau; Mr. Ota Minesaburo, Probationary Councillor of the Legislative Bureau; Mr. Kiuchi Jushiro, Probationary Councillor of the Legislative Bureau; Mr. Ariga Nagabumi, Probationary Councillor of the Temporary Parliamentary Bureau; Mr. Nakahashi Tokugoro, Councillor of the Legislative Bureau; Mr. Kojima Ryotaro, Secretary of the Temporary Parliamentary Bureau; Mr. Hayashida Kametaro, Secretary of the Temporary Parliamentary Bureau; Mr. Saito Kokin, Probationary Councillor of the Legislative Bureau; Mr. Nakai Kumaji, Probationary Councillor of the Temporary Parliamentary Bureau; Mr. Yoshiwara Saburo, Probationary Councillor of the Temporary Parliamentary Bureau, and Mr. Koike Seichi, Secretary of the Temporary Parliamentary Bureau. Finally, Mr. Mizuno Jun is gazetted a Secretary of the Diet in addition to his present office of Councillor of the Legislative Bureau. According to the Constitution, the staff of each House is to include a Chief Secretary and several Secretaries, the former of *chokunin* and the latter of *sonin* rank. Their emoluments are not fixed as yet.

CHINESE WOMEN.

MR. A. H. SMITH read a most interesting paper at the recently held Missionary Conference in Shanghai. Here are one or two extracts from it:

The intellectual Torpor of the Chinese Woman forms the fifth great hindrance to her Christian training like the Lady of Shalott, a spell seems thrown around her. She cannot reason. Her power of attention has never been developed. Her mind seems like the chaos that rested over the world at its creation. She cannot keep two ideas separate; they run together like the pictures in a composite photograph. Let us take a concrete example. Here are three ignorant but docile women. We will make a lesson so simple that infancy in arms could not stumble over it. "Our Father which art in Heaven," that means

three things; remember, *three*. First, a Father, who loves you. Second, our Father, yours, mine, everybody's. If one Father, we are all brothers and sisters in this world. Third, "Which art in Heaven" Heaven, our Father's home, ours, the old ancestral home, which is ready and waiting for the good children who mind the Father. These He will one day call home. The next day you venture a fresh lesson. "Thy will be done." If you really want God's will done, you must help. How can you help to make people do it? In three ways: First, pray for people that they may be willing to hear what God's will is. Second, preach to them, that they may have something to hear. Third, set them a good example, so that your practice may not undo your preaching. After careful and painstaking drill, you examine them on this lesson. "How can you help people to do God's will?" Number One beams with a new-found intelligence, and says promptly, "Father in Heaven." You shake your head. Number Two? Number Two knows better, and answers triumphantly, "Ancestral home." "No! no! Now Number Three, be careful, think first." Number Three deliberates. She brightens up with a sudden illumination. She has it. How queer the others could not think of it when it was so plain! "Pray to your brothers and sisters."

Mental Torpor is, however, not so grave a hindrance as the sixth embarrassment met, which is: *Spiritual Lethargy*.—The evidences of this lethargy are not far to seek. A Chinese woman has no clear idea of an undying spirit, but vaguely confuses it with animal life. What shall he said of the spiritual perception of a being who believes, not that there is one immortal soul within her, her real self, that which shall one day give account of its deeds; but that three souls and seven animal spirits frisk around within her mortal tenement, like spring lambs in a meadow! Instead of that sweet and solemn thing which life is to the Christian, what a hideous nightmare of masquerading must it seem to those who believe in the transmigration of souls!

Again, although the Chinese sacrifice to the dead, and report the departure of their deceased relatives to the local god and through him to the City god, as if they expected them to do something about it, it is far from certain that they have any clear idea of a future life or immortality. We have questioned many a group about the far-off shadowy land, which had swallowed up their departed. There is but one answer to such questions, "Who knows?" "When the sacred books have been read, the priest's stomach is full. When paper money is burnt, the wind blows it away. When one has burned incense, there is left only a pile of ashes. When one has sacrificed to the gods, he then devours his own sacrifice." In spite of this, their own melancholy and pathetic commentary on their own highest form of devotion, force of habit, still urges them on. The spiritual torpor is further shown by the fact that they have no dawning idea who their gods originally were. Nor do they especially care. It does not seem to worry them to learn that some of the gods are mere myths, and never really existed at all. Women who have worshipped Buddha for fifty years have received, with a shock of sorrow, the news that he, when alive, was only a poor, tired, hungry, dying mortal, like the rest of us, and not even their own countryman. So easy-going is idolatry that the gods need not be decently moral, nor even have any personality whatever. The *Yen Wangs*, or Chinese Plutos, who are supposed to receive the souls of the dead, were only vicious princes of ancient times. The universal popular worship of "Heaven and Earth" does not imply any personality on the part of these objects of worship, and it is frequently impossible to interest the Chinese in the question whether "heaven and earth" can or cannot hear and answer the prayers made to them, but at the same time the posture in which those prayers are offered seems to the worshippers a matter of supreme importance. A new comer at our Pang Chuang chapel said that he approved of us, because we had such good customs. The last prayer after the Sunday morning sermon coming about twelve o'clock, we all rose and knelt at our benches, thus facing the South, and this he took for our regular noon worship of the sun!

JUMPING EXTRAORDINARY.

WE gave an account some time ago of the wonderful performances of a horse at Chicago named Ontario, over hurdles. The jumping at Chicago was well authenticated, otherwise it seemed almost incredible. Ontario has now topped his previous best effort by more than an inch. The following is an account of the affair:—Ontario, the property of Mr. S. S. Howland, of Mount Morris, N.Y., at the recent Boston horse show was entered to jump seven feet for a five hundred dollar cup. The night he tried to accomplish the feat the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals interfered and stopped his efforts. Mr. Howland, anxious to prove that his horse could accomplish the task, this afternoon invited about one hundred and fifty friends to the Washington Riding Academy to see the effort made. Ontario was ridden by the usual rider, James Freyling, weighing, with saddle and bridle, 159 pounds. Freyling rode

him in Chicago, where he leaped six feet ten and three-quarter inches, and at Boston. The jumping commenced at four feet six, and the bar was raised four inches at a time until seven feet was reached. Ontario up to this height never made a mistake, clearing the respective heights without difficulty on the first effort. When the bar was raised to seven feet a committee, consisting of Judge John Davis, of the Court of Claims; Colonel Carpenter, U.S.A., commander at Fort Myers; Count Sala, of the French Legation; Sevelon Brown, chief clerk of the State Department, and Neilson Brown, of Philadelphia, were called in to measure the jump, and pronounced it full seven feet. At the first effort Ontario got over, but pulled off the top bar. At the second, with a superb jump, he cleared the whole, and landed safely on the other side. The excitement was intense, for a jump had been made never equalled by any horse in the world.

CHINA.

WE find the following items in the *Chinese Times* of the 12th inst.—H.M. gunboat *Firebrand* left her moorings on the 7th, and anchored half way down the Tientsin Reach, where she remained till near noon on the 8th. Then taking advantage of the extraordinary tide caused by the easterly gale in the Gulf, which gave 11ft. 6in. in the Tientsin Reach, she made her way gradually to Tongku. She had very dirty weather for her passage down, and experienced more than ordinary difficulties in keeping clear of junks which were lying across the river. The Municipality sent the Band to the Bund, and as the little vessel swung round the Band played "Home, sweet home." . . . Professor John A. Church, whose term of service under the Viceroy Li Hung-chang has expired, has left the Silver Mine at Jeho and gone with his family to Japan. From there Mr. Church will proceed to Hongkong under arrangement with the Directors of the Tien Wa Mining Company there, who have recently opened two promising silver mines, one in the Heangshan district about 40 miles from Canton, and the other a few miles from Hongkong. Mr. Church will advise the Directors as to the best means of smelting the ore, and after a few months return to the United States. . . . Shop-lifting is a very common form of pleasantry with Chinese when they visit a foreign store, their wide sleeves and loose garments favouring the disposition of soft goods, etc., without in the slightest degree interfering with their elegance of form. On more than one occasion thieves have been caught, but owing to the difficulties placed in the way of the outraged storekeeper, the delinquents have invariably got off scot-free. An instance once occurred in which a Consul refused to prosecute even though stolen property was taken from a native thief in his presence, and to the consternation of the foreigner the thief was liberated. Since then, of course, punishment for offences of this kind has been administered under the authority of another judge, who is well-known in some of the Western States. Things have now, however, changed for the better, and civilization resumes its sway. On the 7th inst., a richly dressed Chinaman entered the New Store, and thinking no one was looking quietly "sleeved" half-a-dozen pairs of socks and hid a trower stretcher of all things under his silk gown; but an eye was upon him, and a gentle hand near to guide him to the Municipal Secretary, who handed him to H.B.M. Consul, who regardless of evil precedents, saw the case in its proper light, and handed the light-fingered one over to the Yamen authorities, by whom it is said he has since received twenty blows with the big bamboo. . . . Messrs. Kinder and Cox, and Wu Nankow, who started a little more than two months ago with a party of Chinese officials to examine the route for proposed railways in Manchuria, have returned to Tientsin via Vladivostok. They travelled from Newchwang to Kirin via Moukden, and thence eastwards to the Russian frontier taking steamer at Vladivostok. The survey was of course of

the most preliminary character, undertaken with the simple view of determining in what direction detailed surveys should be hereafter conducted. The party returned by sea because the rains set in early, and the roads would have been impassable. The Survey party has no doubt brought back a considerable amount of useful information. The maps of the country traversed were found, as might be expected very inaccurate; and many published descriptions, even in Crown 8vo., exceedingly misleading. The navigability of the Songari, for example, has been much exaggerated. The Russian Authorities at Vladivostok received the party with the greatest civility and kindness; and the freest intercourse is permitted across the frontier. As to the railway project itself there is, we believe, no idea of extending it beyond Kirin, as the country to the eastward is quite uncultivated, nor are colonists from other provinces permitted to settle there.

THE CHOLERA.

As might almost have been expected, the case of cholera on board the Turkish man-of-war *Ertugroul* has been followed by others, no less than five fresh cases having been reported to the police authorities on Sunday. We learn that several days ago a man died on board the vessel, but in reporting the death the ship's surgeon, who accompanied one of the officers on shore for that purpose, stated that in his opinion the disease was scurvy. Satisfied with this declaration, the police took no steps in the matter, and the body was conveyed ten miles out to sea and sunk. On the following day a case of cholera occurred, resulting fatally, and in this instance also the corpse, with the permission of the Kencho authorities, was buried in the bay. A police surgeon was at once sent on board, accompanied by a Kencho official, to carry out proper disinfection and fumigation, but, despite the precautions taken, five new cases were reported on Sunday. It is not pleasant to think of a plague-stricken vessel riding at anchor within a few hundred yards of where both foreigners and Japanese bathe in large numbers, but it is satisfactory to know that her removal was accomplished with the least possible delay. As to the interment of the body of the man who died from cholera, we are informed that, no precedent existing which forbade burial in the sea, the authorities did not find themselves justified in prohibiting the course which the Turkish commander had announced his intention of taking.

An impression prevails that the bodies of the Turkish seamen were buried off Hommoku. This is incorrect. The tenets of the Mussulman faith forbid interment in foreign soil, and therefore burial in the sea was the only course open to the commanding officer of the *Ertugroul*. On being applied to for concurrence in this view, the Kencho authorities saw no reason for objection, medical opinion being to the effect that if the body were interred outside the bay and after being disinfected, no danger could exist—the effect of the sea water indeed being a furtherance of safety. The corpses were therefore removed under the supervision of officials of the Kencho outside Kannousaki, and there, in the open sea and ten miles from land, securely wrapped up and weighted, they were interred.

Seven new cases occurred on the man-of-war on Monday, so that the total number is now 13, five cases, of which one resulted fatally the same evening, having been reported on Sunday. Doubts are entertained as to the disease being real Asiatic cholera, but a careful analysis is being made to-day in order to determine this point. Meantime the *Ertugroul* is in strict quarantine at Nagaura; should no fresh cases arise her period of detention will be five days, but of course if new cases crop up her release will be postponed, the five days counting from the occurrence of the last case.

Writing of the outbreak of cholera, the *Yiji Shimo* says:—In spite of the precautions of the

Government, the cholera has spread from Nagasaki to Saga, Hiroshima, Fukui, Ehime, and other places. The weather during the present year has been anything but regular, and there has already been a good deal of sickness. The much dreaded influenza has not yet left us, and the poorer classes are in a condition little fitted to withstand the attacks of disease. In these circumstances the descent of cholera in our midst is a contingency sufficiently calamitous to call for all possible efforts of repression. It is evident that if measures of prevention are to be efficacious they must not merely be decreed by the Authorities; the people themselves must give assistance in carrying them out. We learn with pleasure, therefore, that the Metropolitan Police Office has issued a series of instructions which enjoin all the police as well as the public to pay the strictest deference and accord the most implicit obedience to the orders and wishes of medical men, while at the same time the people are assured that they may look for none but the most sympathetic treatment from the constables, who are warned in the very strongest terms to be careful and considerate in their conduct in such trying times.

The latest returns of cholera from Nagasaki are:—

July 19th	New cases 26
	Deaths 25
July 20th	New cases 23
	Deaths 20
July 21st	New cases 33
	Deaths 13
July 22nd	New cases 42
	Deaths 30
July 23rd	New cases 51
	Deaths 27
July 24th	New cases 62
	Deaths 40
Total number of cases since commencement of epidemic..... 644.	
Total number of deaths since commencement of epidemic..... 377.	

The *Official Gazette* says that the epidemic has been most virulent in Tomachi-mura, Nishisonoki District, where 51 persons have been attacked since the beginning of the epidemic, and the places next in order of suffering are Urakamibuchi-mura (22 cases), and Iwojima (19 cases). Other cases reported are as follow:—

In Hirokawa-mura, Fukuoka Prefecture, one man, who had been on a visit to Nagasaki.

In Nagase-mura, Nagano Prefecture, one case on the 12th instant. In Hicano-mura, same Prefecture, one case (a woman). In Nagatoka-mura, same Prefecture, one case. The two last cases ended fatally the day (13th instant) after the attack.

In the harbour of Okiyama, Yamaguchi Prefecture, two cases on board a passenger ship which had come from Shimonoseki the preceding evening (19th instant), and one case at Shimonoseki in the *Ebisu-maru*.

In Yamashiro, Saga Prefecture, one case on the 15th instant, and in Saga-ichi, same Prefecture one case on the 16th instant, both ending fatally the day after seizure.

In Oike-mura, Kumamoto Prefecture, fifteen cases occurred in the course of several days, but were not reported till the 19th instant.

In Sonezaki-mura, Osaka, one case on the 15th instant, which terminated fatally the same day. The sufferer had been to Nagasaki and was attacked diarrhoea on board ship on his return voyage.

In Furukawa-machi and Fukushima-mura, Osaka city, one case each occurred on the 19th instant. Both of the men had been to Nagasaki. One case ended fatally at once.

In Machida-mura and in Chojamachi (Yokohama), Kanagawa Prefecture, one case each of choleraic character on the 21st instant.

In Kanno-mura, Niigata Prefecture, one case on the 15th instant which ended fatally the next day.

In Sobaishi-mura, Yamaguchi Prefecture, one case on the 17th instant, terminated fatally on the 18th.

In Yamai-mura and Itohi-mura, Fukui Prefecture, one case each on the 17th and 18th inst. respectively, the latter ending fatally on the day of seizure.

In Kokubu-mura, Hiroshima Prefecture and in Miyoshimachi of the same Prefecture, one case each on the 13th and 14th instant respectively. Both were women, and both ended fatally at once.

In Suki-mura, Yamaguchi Prefecture, one case on the 13th instant.

In Ikada-mura, Wakayama Prefecture, one case on the 15th instant, ending fatally the next day.

The following are also reported:—

Place.	Prefecture or City.	Date.	Remarks.
Okiya-mura	Yamaguchi	19th	Of two men, already reported as having been attacked on board ship while returning from Nagasaki, one has died, the other is not seriously ill. Another case is reported from the same place, the man having also returned from Nagasaki.

Nakate-misu.	Kagoshima Prefecture	One man attacked on the 17th; infection passed to his mother on the 18th, to another man on the 19th, and to three other persons of both sexes on the 20th.
Veirakuchi.	Yokohama	One man attacked on the 21st instant.
Anakukawa.	Wakayama Prefecture	One man attacked on the 17th instant.
Inabuzawa.	Shizuoka Prefecture	One man on the 19th instant.

It is plain from these figures that our recently expressed hopes as to the diminution of the epidemic were ill-founded. But, on the other hand, we have the consolation of reflecting that, thus far, the maximum number of daily cases is only a fraction—little more than one-fifth—of the maximum number during the epidemic of 1886. The suburb of Nishi-Sonoki continues to be the most unhappy district: the cases there amounted to 27 on the 23rd instant, against 9 in the town of Nagasaki. The remainder of the official return for the 24th instant is as follows:—

Place.	City or Prefecture.	Remarks.
Ashiya-mura	Fukuoka	Two cases occurred on the 17th inst., and immediately afterwards the disease developed great virulence, the number of persons attacked by the 20th inst. being 22.
Omuda and Shikawa.	Fukuoka	Eight persons were simultaneously attacked in one family, and in the neighbouring village of Shikawa, 2 persons.
Iriyemachi	Yamaguchi	One woman attacked on the 22nd inst., died same day.
Miyamata	Kumamoto	One man, attacked on the 21st inst.
Futaye	Kumamoto	Three cases.
(Amakusa).		
Sakitsu	Kumamoto	Two cases.
Tsururo	Kumamoto	One case.
Yokohama	Kanagawa	One man, attacked on the 21st, died the following day.
Nagaura	Kanagawa	Two cases on the 22nd inst. in the Turkish man-of-war. One of these and one of the former cases terminated fatally.
Sambongi	Kyoto	Twenty-one cases on the 19th instant.
Shuki-mura	Tottori	One case.

Judging from these returns, Kinshu seems destined to a general epidemic, both Fukuoka Prefecture and Kumamoto Prefecture being now fairly invaded. Very disquieting, too, is the news from Kyoto. Twenty-one cases appear to have occurred there in one day, a state of affairs which forbids us to hope that the city can be kept outside the pale of infection. It is singular, however, that fuller details are not published with regard to an incident so significant. We are strongly disposed to think that, by some error, a case occurring on the 21st inst. has been reported as 21 cases. Kyoto has always escaped comparatively lightly, its excellent water guaranteeing it against serious trouble.

It is certainly very singular that the Turkish frigate *Ertugroul* should have been invaded by cholera. The disease has not yet fastened upon Yokohama, for though a sporadic case has occurred here and there in Kanagawa Prefecture, such visitations are the regular annual routine and would scarcely be noticed did not the epidemic in Nagasaki impart to them vicarious significance. Whence, then, came the sudden outbreak in the Turkish vessel? The first case was that of a man who had been on leave. He was seized almost immediately after returning to his ship, and death ensued in a few hours. Thenceforth the disease spread rapidly and the vessel, as she now lies at Nagaura, is threatened with the loss of many of her men. Considerable excitement seems to have been caused by a false report that the body of the first victim had been thrown overboard at a distance of only three miles from the shore. Subsequently, however, it was officially stated that the burial had taken place at a point some 10 miles distant from land and outside the Bay of Tokyo. We read, nevertheless, in the *Tokyo Shimo*, that considerable injury was suffered by the fishermen of Awa and Kadzusa owing to the false rumour. The question is, however, whence did the epidemic in the *Ertugroul* originate? Is there some peculiarity about this cholera which has the effect of confining it to people of Oriental race? There has been no instance that we can recall of the epidemic

taking hold of the crew of a European or American ship in Japanese waters, even when the disease was rife among the native population of the port; yet here is a Turkish vessel invaded by the plague although the Japanese on shore are still unattacked. Is it conceivable that the bacillus developed under the conditions indigenous in an Oriental country finds a favourable nidus in the stomachs of people of Oriental origin only? Such is not the case in India at all events. Here in Japan, however, the immunity usually enjoyed by Europeans and Americans, and the peculiar susceptibility displayed by the Turks are very singular facts. As for the unfortunate *Erlougraul*, we are surprised that her commander does not take her to sea at once. That course has always been recognised as the wisest under such circumstances, and seldom fails to be efficacious. Lying at Nagaura within sight of a cholera hospital and disinfecting station is certainly not the plan that would commend itself to the commander of a British man-of-war.

Other cases reported by the *Official Gazette* are as follow:—

Place.	Prefecture or City.	Remarks.
Takiya-mura	Yamaguchi	A woman engaged in nursing cholera patients was attacked by the disease on the 23rd instant.
Aizawa-machi, Koji-machi	Shimonoseki (Yamaguchi)	One man attacked on the 23rd instant.
Ashikita-mizumata	Kuma	Five seizures and two deaths (motos) on the 22nd instant.
Kobikicho	Tokyo	One case (non-Asiatic) on the 23rd instant, terminating fatally the next day.
Omachi, Nishifuta-machi	Sakai (Osaka)	One case (a female) in each of these places on the 20th instant.
Nagatani-mura	Osaka	Instant.
Aioicho	Yokohama	One case on the 24th.
Kasacho	Saitama	One woman attacked on the 19th by non Asiatic cholera, died the next day.
Nagaoka-mura	Nagano	One case (a woman) on the 20th instant, ended fatally the same day.
Haruye-mura	Fukui	One case (a woman) in each of these places on the 20th instant (non-Asiatic).
Katsuyama-machi		Instant.
Hasuye-mura	Ishikawa	One case (a woman) on the 19th instant, ended fatally the same day.
Kanro-mura	Tokushima	One case on the 19th instant.

TERRIBLE ENCOUNTER WITH A TIGER.

MR. H. W. GIBSON, Deputy Commissioner of Bahraich, tells the story of a fight with a tiger in the *Pioneer*. He says, referring to the woman who told it:—"I repeat her story as she related it to me, free from embellishment and exaggeration. Her narrative has been corroborated in every particular:—

We were encamped in the Kuchila jungle. Two Ahirs informed us at noon that a tiger lay asleep in the Bandih Ali Khan nullah, three miles from our camp. As our elephants were away I tried to dissuade the sahib from going, but in vain. We had never been after tigers on foot. The sahib insisted, and we started in the following order: the Ahirs first, showing the way, then myself on foot with a double barrel muzzle-loading rifle; next the sahib mounted on a camel with a double barrel breech-loading rifle, followed by a Pahari with a double barrel breech-loader, and Madar, a butcher who supplied the camp with meat. When 50 yards from the spot the sahib at the suggestion of the Ahirs dismounted, and leaving the camel we proceeded to the nullah, when one of the Ahirs pointed out a tiger asleep 30 paces from us. The sahib told me to keep cool and reserve my fire till he had had a shot. He fired, and then he and I fired simultaneously. We fired again as the tiger broke. Seeing as he charged, and we took refuge behind a tree. Here the rest of the party who had fled rejoined us. The tiger remained in the nullah. We thought he was prevented from following us by the precipitous bank. The sahib said he would go back to the tiger. I implored him to avoid the danger, but he abused me, and said his face would be blackened if he retreated and left the tiger there. He said he would be killed and not I. I exchanged rifles with the Pahari and foot to foot the Sahib and I returned to the nullah. Directly we reached crossing the tiger charged us from a distance of 20 paces. We fired, the sahib hitting him in the chest and I in the neck; but he still came on and, knocking the sahib down, seized him by the shirt. I broke my rifle over the tiger's head and he turned on me, knocking me down and standing over me. The sahib seized him in order to get him away from me and the animal attacked him again. They struggled and fell together down the nullah. The sahib was more or less conscious, but the tiger was almost insensible. The sahib called out to me to shoot the tiger or he himself would be killed. I ran off and getting the Pahari's rifle I jumped down the nullah and found the sahib's hand in the tiger's mouth. He told me to shoot by the ear. I fired and the tiger released the sahib. We then hurried away. The sahib had been bitten through a hand and leg and was also scratched. I was only clawed on the head and shoulders. After dressing our wounds the sahib went back and found the tiger dead. By this time villagers had come from Bonategowri and helped us

to put the tiger on the camel. A cot was sent for on which the sahib was carried to our camp. I accompanied him on foot. He died.

The woman who exhibited this faithful courage is a Kariman, originally an Ahirin, now a Mahomedan. The sahib she intrepidly risked her life to save was Edward William Maclean of Amba, Bahraich, aged 56, timber merchant, fatally wounded by a tiger on the 30th April, died at Segowli, Bahraich, on the 17th May, 1890.

THE ELECTIONS.

It will be remembered that owing to some error in the electoral arrangements, the voting for a member of the Diet to represent the Fourth Division of Iwate Prefecture did not come off at the same time as the voting in the other districts throughout the Empire. The election was, however, held on the 18th instant, and resulted in the return of Mr. Shimoizaka Gozaburo, member of the Prefectural Assembly and an adherent of the *Fiyu-to*. We still remain uncertain as to the exact composition of the Lower House, but the most trustworthy returns as yet published give the following results:—

Independent	107
Daigo Danketsu	62
Kaishin to	50
Aikoku to	30
Fiyu-to	20
Kinshu Shimo	8
Fichu to	9
Hoshu to	4
Total	290

It is, of course, highly creditable to the Authorities that, on the first occasion of an election in Japan, they succeeded in organising everything so thoroughly that only one district out of nearly three hundred was the scene of any confusion. This, supplemented by the fact that no rioting took place anywhere, constitutes a record of which Japan may justly be proud.

GOLD AND SILVER RATIOS.

The *Official Gazette* gives the following table of comparative values of gold and silver coins and of the pound sterling for the week ended the 19th inst., as derived from the returns of the Bank of Japan and the Yokohama Specie Bank:—

Days	Gold Coin. (Per yen 100) Silver Yen.	Pound Sterling. (Per £1) Silver Yen.
14th	117.846	A.M. 5.8006 P.M. 5.8006
15th	117.46	A.M. 5.8046 P.M. 5.7142
16th	116.113	A.M. 5.7142 P.M. 5.6140
17th	113.600	A.M. 5.6140 P.M. 5.5491
18th	111.700	A.M. 5.5491 P.M. 5.5813
19th	112.300	A.M. 5.6140 P.M. 5.6638
Averages	114.901	5.6638

The above averages show for gold coin a decrease in value of yen 4.012, and for the pound sterling a decrease in value of yen 0.1810 as compared with the previous week.

THE BANK OF JAPAN.

The amounts of convertible notes and reserves in the Bank of Japan for the week ended the 19th inst. were as follows:—

CONVERTIBLE NOTES.	RESERVE AND SECURITIES.
YEN.	YEN.
Notes issued..... 72,051,136	Gold coin and bullion. 24,295,247
	Silver coin and bullion. 25,595,536
	Public Loan Bonds..... 19,479,450
	Treasury Bills..... —
	Government Bills..... 4,733,182
	Other securities..... 3,059,721
	Commercial Bills..... —
	72,051,136

Of the above total issue of notes, the sum of yen 3,744,050 is in the treasury of the Bank, and yen 68,307,086 in actual circulation, the latter showing a decrease of yen 665,313 as compared with yen 68,972,399 at the end of the previous week.

MR. COLBORN BABER.

"THE British Consular Service," says the *Chinese Times*, "has sustained another severe loss in the death of Mr. Colborn Baber at his post in Burmah. Mr. Baber had been long in poor health, and the climate of Burmah is not salubrious, so that the sad event can scarcely have

surprised Mr. Baber's friends. No man of the present generation has left his mark more distinctly on the service he adorned, or more widened its scope than Mr. Baber has done. His geographical paper bore the unmistakable impress of genius, and much as he accomplished outside the routine work of the government service, it will be a matter of regret that time, health, and opportunity did not more happily combine to enable him to do justice to his great talents."

PARTY ON THE SUMIDA RIVER.

MR. MORIOKA, President of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, and Mr. Yoshikawa, Vice-President, entertained a number of their friends, Japanese and foreign, at a water party on the 20th instant. The whole of the celebrated tea-house Ueyeha, at Mukojima, was engaged by the hospitable hosts. The party assembled there early in the afternoon, and after partaking of slight refreshments, embarked in boats at 4 o'clock and floated down the river, watching a beautiful display of day and night fire-works, and discussing a sumptuous repast with the most charming *danteuses* of the capital officiating as waitresses.

INDIA AND JAPAN.

A LECTURE on the trade of India with Japan was delivered on Monday evening in the Chamber of Commerce, Tokyo, by Mr. K. M. Shroff, who had been invited by the Committee of the Chamber to give an address on that subject. Mr. Shroff, who is proprietor and editor of a newspaper in Bombay, the *Jame-Jamshid*, is on a visit to Japan to enquire into commercial conditions in this country, and with that object in view proposes to make a lengthened stay. The Committee of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce recently entertained Mr. Shroff at the Seiyoken Hotel.

OFFICIAL CHANGES.

THE post of Vice-Minister of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce has at length been filled by the appointment of Mr. Ishida Eikichi, hitherto Prefect of Chiba. It had been expected that the position would be given to Mr. Saito Shuichiro, one of the ablest among the younger officials of the present day. But this forecast has not been fulfilled, the only change in Mr. Saito's position being that, in addition to the chiefship of the Bureau of Commerce and Industry, he becomes chief of the Bureau of Agriculture.

ATTEMPTED MURDER AND SUICIDE.

A SERIOUS assault was committed on Wednesday evening about eight o'clock by a man named Iwasaki Kojiro, 23 years of age, who attacked his wife with a kitchen knife in a house at Tokiwacho, Gochome, Yokohama. After inflicting some fifteen wounds, chiefly on the neck, arms and shoulders of the woman, Iwasaki thrust the knife into his own throat, and died almost immediately. The woman is not expected to live. The police are unable to discover any cause for the crime.

THE JAPANESE REPORTER AGAIN.

THE *Fiji Shimo* states that on the 19th inst. while the British Minister was travelling between Yokohama and Ofuna, in the train which left the former place at 10 a.m., a decoration conferred on Mr. Fraser by Her Majesty the Queen was stolen from him, but as Mr. Fraser does not possess an English decoration, and did not happen to be travelling on the line in question, we cannot see how any such incident could have occurred.

THE GRENADIER GUARDS.

THE 2nd Battalion Grenadier Guards, ordered abroad somewhat mysteriously, according to this morning's telegram, is under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel David Makgill-Crichton-Maitland. The last foreign service of the 2nd Bat. Grenadiers was in Egypt, whence they returned in 1882.

THE British ship *Lizzie C. Troop*, Captain Fownes, from Philadelphia for Hyogo with a cargo of oil, passed Anjer on the 30th ult.

VILLAS.

THERE have been many unaccountable fashions in Japan during the past twenty years, and happily it may be said of the great majority of them that nothing survives save their memory. Recently, however, when, judging by past experience, men began to look for the recurrence of some costly and frivolous fancy, it appeared that a wholesome tendency had developed itself, and that instead of spending great sums upon rabbits, roses, pigs, or rare plants, the wealthy classes were inspired by a desire to acquire country villas. Long ago we predicted that this wish would grow into active existence, and we looked for its earliest symptoms in a quarter little considered at the time. It seemed to us that with his vastly improved social status, the Japanese merchant must experience a longing to improve his manner of living. During feudal times his domestic arrangements were precisely analogous to those of a petty tradesman in London to-day. He lived in the same compound with his shop; not indeed necessarily under the same roof, since his refined disposition always led him to spend a considerable part of his profits on the construction of separate apartments and a pretty garden; but still within earshot of the voices of his customers and the rattle of his *banto's* abacus. The idea of absolute escape in leisure moments from the range of his business; the conception of utterly banishing the surroundings of trade during a portion of the twenty-four hours, did not occur to him, or if it occurred, must have appeared impossible of realization. The difficulty of locomotion alone would have proved deterrent, for where men had to choose between the degrading resource of walking and the slow, cramping alternative of the *kago*, they naturally preferred to have their homes side by side with their warehouses. Yet, while obeying this dictate of expediency, the prosperous merchant managed to surround himself with so many adjuncts of aristocratic life, and to separate his dwelling from his shop by such an elysium of mossy rockeries, miniature lakes, and toy waterfalls, that one could easily foresee the steps he was likely to take when carriages, railways, and tramcars should make the city's suburbs as accessible as his fire-proof godown, and when public opinion, looking up to him as the nation's wealth-winner, should recognise his right to live as his means permitted rather than as his birth dictated. When then, after the grand old suburban parks and palaces of the feudal nobility had been sacrificed at the shrine of an iconoclastic mania, men began to observe that many and many a decade of constructive effort would be needed to restore even a part of the beauties which a moment's madness had effaced—when this happy reaction set it, we looked to see the mercantile classes among its chief

leaders. The great tradesman of a city like Tokyo, having been suffered to take his place on the same social platform with the possessor of a title or the holder of a ministerial portfolio, could not choose but provide himself with a residence worthy of his altered circumstances and removed beyond the atmosphere of his counting-house. Such, indeed, proved to be the case. It would be easy to name a dozen big merchants of Tokyo who possess, beyond the limits of the city proper, villas where a man might dream his life away, wholly unconscious that humanity survives only by the sordid process of money-making, or that mortals are born for any purpose other than to feast their eyes upon the loveliness of nature. Thus far, then, the course of events has justified anticipation. But now the craving for beauty and seclusion has taken a wider range, and the object of almost everyone's ambition is a villa among the hills or by the sea-side. One must confess that Providence seems to have designed Japan with the special object of tempting men to this extravagance. Everywhere among the mountains are to be found dells of ideal loveliness, bright in spring-time with wild azaleas, camellias, and cherry-bloom; glowing in summer with the lily and its numerous contemporaries; rich in the autumn with a profusion of glorious tints, and resonant at all times with the voice of the cascade or the babble of the healing hot-spring. In many of these much favoured spots one finds rustic hamlets where travellers come for a season to bathe in medicinal waters or breathe light air, and in the immediate neighbourhood innumerable sites offer where, at trifling cost, summer villas idealistically charming might be built by anyone desiring to recuperate his body and rejuvenate his mind. The sea-shores, too, are not less wealthily gifted. Such softly curving stretches of sand and shingle, such picturesque reaches of bay and foreland, such endlessly varying views, from placid cove and wave-worn reef to richly wooded knoll and towering mountain, would elsewhere have attracted thousands of holiday-makers and health-seekers. But by some singular discrepancy between instinct and action, the Japanese, than whom no more truly nature-loving nation exists, have hitherto abandoned their sea-shores to the sailor and their hills to the hunter. Only where a thermal spring carries to the surface some products of nature's laboratory, do they think it worth while to build inns and make provision for brief respite from the heat of the dog-days. It must be confessed that these old-time inns possessed all the charms of a country villa without any of the drawbacks of a hostelry. The easy simplicity of a Japanese dwelling, however, exalted its masters; the perfect politeness and mutual consideration of the Japanese people, however humble their rank; the wide prevalence of the canons of good

taste, and the well-ordered habits of all classes—these things made it possible to be as thoroughly at home in the apartments of an inn as in one's own house. Perhaps something of the charm has been lost since the invasion of Japan by foreigners. The thought is unwelcome, but we cannot altogether dismiss it when we compare our memory of what a Japanese inn was twenty years ago with our experience of what it is at present. Be this as it may, however, there has always been difficulty in understanding why the Japanese remained, until quite lately, indifferent to the capabilities their country possesses for country villas and sea side retreats. Until some analyst more astute than we undertakes to elucidate the mystery, we must be content simply to congratulate them on their improved appreciation of the gifts their land offers. It is pleasant to see villas spring up here and there in lovely spots among the hills or on the coast, and to know that if the pellucid air which once bathed even the cities of Japan in opalescent tints is beginning to be defiled by the smuts of manufacture and the smoke of Western civilization, the people are learning to turn for comfort to the incomparable gifts provided for them by the gods beyond the sites of the mart and the factory. Wealth-earning, as Occidentals practise it, is a grimy, unambrosial sort of business, but if its pursuit has summoned Japan from artistic dreamland to the realm of harsh reality, she will find some consolation in applying her earnings to the construction of these delightful villas now happily springing up to lighten the lives of her people and utilize her hitherto neglected loveliness.

MUTILATED ENGLISH.

A JAPANESE correspondent of this journal having remonstrated with some warmth against the constant publication by a local contemporary of English letters attributed to Japanese writers and betraying such a confused and rudimentary knowledge of the English language as to be supremely ridiculous, has been roughly handled by the newspaper against which he inveighs. He is laughed at for sensitive vanity and reminded that if his countrymen invite criticism by writing extraordinary English, they must consent to be criticised. To a certain extent we are disposed to endorse this rejoinder. True, it is disfigured by the usual blemish of low suspicion. Not to impute dishonesty, in some form or other, to everyone differing from them in opinion, seems quite impossible to a certain class of critics in this Settlement. Thus our correspondent, having used the signature "SUMIYOSHI," and having declared himself, almost in so many words, to be a Japanese, the journal he complains of does not hesitate to express itself "exceedingly doubtful whether his

letter emanated from a Japanese pen at all." Apart, however, from this characteristic imputation of crooked conduct, we are constrained to admit that the recklessness of the Japanese in respect of English composition has often surprised us greatly. Numerous signboards in the capital and chief cities bear witness to the fact that anyone who has studied English at an elementary school thinks himself competent to compose sentences in that language without aid. Even in official catalogues, on the labels of museums, and in the pages of books we find evidence of the same strange confidence, involving the same laughable results. It is beyond question that this mass of ever present testimony must bring incomparably more ridicule on Japanese students of English than the occasional publication of a curiously worded letter in the columns of a local newspaper. The writers of such letters are, in almost every instance, youths whose straightened circumstances impel them to subserve the question of scholarship to the necessity of finding employment. What to them are dislocated syntax or disordered phraseology compared with the hope of finding some means of livelihood or ladder to promotion? Their halting efforts to pen intelligible appeals ought to move sympathily rather than to excite derision, and everyone will agree that their publication in the columns of a newspaper for the sake of making mirth is at least questionable taste. But, on the other hand, such compositions are estimated at their true value by foreigners, and to charge their publisher with bringing ridicule on Japanese linguistic competence is truly to strain at a gnat. The real sources of ridicule are the sign-boards, the labels, the catalogues, and the books which, by their utterly deformed English, depreciate the attainments of Japanese students. Some critics assert that these parodies of decent prose accuse their authors of over-weening conceit as well as of immature scholarship. No Englishman, it is averred, would venture to publish so much as a single Japanese sentence of his own composition without having previously submitted it to Japanese revision. We ourselves doubt, however, whether the fault does not lie in ignorance rather than in assurance. Comparatively strange to the study of foreign languages, the Japanese have not yet learned to appreciate the fact that among ten thousand students of a strange tongue, there is not more than one, on the average, who can succeed in writing it correctly. To disseminate the knowledge of this fact; to persuade Japanese learning English that so surely as they undertake to write it without English assistance, so surely will they make themselves ridiculous, would be a worthy task for our correspondent "SUMIYOSHII" and for the many well educated Japanese who, like him, are keenly anxious to vindicate their country's

scholarship. The circumstance that has evoked this discussion is trivial, but the point at issue is decidedly important. Failure to comprehend the difficulties of the task they essay repeatedly betrays the Japanese into publishing English compositions which, to English eyes, convict their authors either of reckless slovenliness or overweening self-conceit. In this tendency, not in the occasional reproduction of an indigent youth's ill-worded appeals for employment, lies a real danger to the reputation of Japanese scholarship. Of course we do not speak thus because we claim immaculateness for English students of Japanese. There is no Englishman in Japan who can speak Japanese without error; still less is there an Englishman who can write it correctly. But Englishmen know their weakness and generally refrain from exposing it, being greatly assisted in concealment by the exquisite courtesy of the Japanese, who never smile at a foreigner speaking their tongue faultily or deride one writing it wrongly. The Japanese, on the contrary, exercise no such caution, and are protected by no such consideration. Therefore it were well if "SUMIYOSHII" and his friends applied themselves to correct the source of the trouble instead of railing against the ridicule its exhibition evokes. Having no ground to hope for gentle treatment at the hands of foreign local critics, their best plan is to deprive criticism of material by teaching their countryman that to write, without English aid, English which shall not be laughable, is only given to one among ten thousand Japanese scholars, just as to write, without Japanese aid, Japanese which shall not faulty, has never been given to any English student.

THE SIAM BOUNDARY QUESTION.

THE latest news from India shows that matters on the Siam-Burmah frontier are far from satisfactory. The British Commissioners for delimitation met with the passive resistance and veiled hostility of the Siamese, and unless the complexion of affairs alters greatly the Indian Government is not unlikely to have some difficulty in defining the boundaries between the Siamese Shan States and those now under British rule. Under the most favourable circumstances the settlement of boundaries in these regions is a complicated and difficult task, owing to the vast area of debateable land. The history of the rival claims is given by Mr. HOLT HALLETT in his valuable work "A Thousand Miles on an Elephant in the Shan States." It appears that up to 1774 the Shan States, now under Siam, together with the present Siamese province of Rabeng, were incorporated in the Burmese dominions. In that year the Zimmé Shans, who occupied the country to the south of the valley of the Meh Khoke, a

river which enters the Cambodia River near Kiang Hsen, rebelled against the Burmese, and asked for and accepted the protection of Siam. The Shans of the valley of the Meh Khoke and of the States to the north of it remained tributary to Burmah, and intermittent warfare, consisting of predatory raids, has since been waged between them and their neighbours till the present time. For a hundred miles to the south of the Meh Khoke, and for fifty miles to the north of that river, the country for many years was rendered so unsafe by this border warfare that it was thrown out of cultivation and deserted. Zimmé, the capital of a large Shan State of the same name, was not re-occupied till 1796, and Lapoon, the capital of another State, remained vacant until 1820. Of late years the Siamese Shans have gradually encroached upon the debateable land, causing retaliatory raids on the part of the Burmese Shans. In 1842 the Siamese Shans advanced into the valley of the Meh Khoke and occupied Kiang Hai, and in 1881 crossed the river and settled in Kiang Hsen, which is claimed by the Burmese Shan Chief of Kiang Tung as his territory, and is still, therefore, a bone of contention. Even since we annexed Upper Burmah and declared our protection over the Burmese Shan States, the Siamese have encroached for a distance of 22 miles, and been so bold as to build a fort in the British territory. This has given rise to frequent attacks on the recently erected Siamese Shan villages in the disputed territory, and the country is likely to remain in a turmoil until the rival claims of the Siamese and Burmese Shans are settled. The serious rebellion in the Shan State of Zimmé that borders the new British possessions, which was due to the imposition of burdensome and vexatious taxation by the Siamese, and the fact that M. PAVIE, the French Consul at Luang Prabang, is inciting the Shans to throw off their allegiance to Siam and to accept the protection of France, constitute a state of affairs which is of serious importance to Great Britain. If these States are allowed to fall into French hands the path of the Burmah-Siam-China Railway will be blocked, and a great disappointment will be in store for British commercial and industrial classes, who for many years have set their hearts upon pushing their trade by means of this projected railway into Central Indo-China and the western land-locked half of the great Empire of China. The importance of the project, formulated by Messrs. HALLETT and COLQUHOUN, to British commerce has for years been recognized by statesmen of all shades of opinion. It is the only known route by which Burmah can be connected by rail with China. Lord DUFFERIN, in his recent address to the London Chamber of Commerce, laid great stress upon the importance of this connection to our future trade. He said:—"Before no very

distant date, I prophesy that our chief means of communication with China will be either through the north or east of Burmah." The competition for the trade of China is every year becoming more fierce. Foreign lines of steamers now run direct from the continent of Europe to Chinese ports, and foreign merchants are doing their utmost to push their goods into the country. China is hemmed in on every side, excepting the sea-board, by foreign Powers. Russia borders it on the north; the French in Tonquin on the south-east; and the British, in Burmah and the Shan States, on the west and the south-west. Each of these Powers has therefore special advantages for pushing its trade in the provinces of China which neighbour its territory. Each is bent upon connecting its seaboard by rail with certain points on the Chinese frontier in order to decrease the cost of carriage for its goods, and to induce the Chinese to develop systems of railways from those points into various parts of their Empire. The foreign trade of China and Hongkong, which of late years has been rapidly increasing, in 1888 was valued at fifty-four millions sterling, and of this the share of Great Britain amounted to thirty-seven millions, having advanced in value from twenty-three millions in 1881. With the French competing with us from their vantage ground in Tonquin for the trade of the Shan States and Southern and Central China; with the Russians making a railway neighbouring the northern provinces of China, and devising branches to tap the trade of those provinces at certain points of the frontier; and with the increasing competition we have to meet at the Chinese seaports, it behoves us to look sharply after British interests, and to do all we can to avail ourselves of our advantageous position in Burmah to open out the neighbouring markets in China and the Shan States to our trade by connecting them with our Burmese seaboard by means of the projected railway. The commercial policy of France and Russia is one of protection. Wherever the French or Russian flag flies in the East, their barriers of prohibitive tariffs are raised against the entrance of the goods of other nations. Our trade in Central Asia, since that region came under Russian rule, may be said to have become extinct, and Russian goods are now competing with ours in Northern and Western China as well as in Persia, Afghanistan, and neighbouring countries. The French, finding that their *tariff general* was insufficient to prevent British manufactures from competing with them in their Eastern possessions, lately increased their duties by sixty per cent., with the avowed intention of keeping English goods from entering the country and passing thence into the Shan States and the neighbouring Chinese provinces. If we allow Siam and its Shan States to fall to the French we shall, therefore, not

only have our road to China blocked, and thus lose all chance of increasing our trade with the western half of that great and populous empire, but we shall inevitably lose our present markets in Siam and the Shan States. Our commercial interests in Siam as compared with those of the rest of the world, according to our Minister at Bangkok, are "in fixed capital, as 2 to 1; in steamers as 8 to 1; in exports, as 9 to 2; in imports, as 2 to 1." In his despatch to Lord GRANVILLE in 1885, he stated that "it is further to be noted that the import duties are only three per cent. *ad valorem*. If Siam proper were to pass into the hands of any European Power with protectionist tendencies, it cannot be doubted that the tariff would be greatly increased." It was pointed out by the Commissioners on Trade Depression, in their Final Report, that owing to the restrictive tariff on the continent and elsewhere the demand for our commodities had fallen off in quarters where formerly our goods found a certain and remunerative market; and the Commissioners expressed their opinion that in order to further extend our trade it is obvious that we must display greater activity in the search for new markets. This is not a time, therefore, when we can afford to lose any of our Eastern markets, or to neglect to take the necessary precautions to prevent our only known practicable railway approach to China from being blocked by the threatened aggression of our French protectionist rivals. The present condition of Siam, according to Mr. HALLETT's description, can only be paralleled by that of the Malay States before we took them under our protection. Even in the capital a man or woman can seldom be found outside the Chinese, who is not the slave of the wealthy or the noble. The Government appears to be vicious in the extreme. It encourages the vices of the people by granting monopolies for gambling, opium, and spirits. It places the people under unscrupulous and tyrannical masters—merciless, heartless, and exorbitant leeches—who, unless heavily bribed, force the peasantry to do their three months' *corvée* labour at times and seasons that necessarily break up all habits of industry and ruin all plans to engage in successful business. It imposes taxes upon everything grown in the country, and upon every industry. The mesh of the Government net is so small that even charcoal and bamboos are taxed to the extent of 1 in 10, and firewood 1 in 5, in kind. This burdensome taxation is levied in the most vexatious manner that can be conceived; for the taxes are let out to unscrupulous Chinamen, who are thus able to squeeze, cheat, and rob the people mercilessly. It is no use appealing from the tax-gatherer to the officials. Money wins its way, and justice is unknown in Siam. Everyone who has not a friend at Court is preyed upon by the governors

and their rapacious underlings. If a man is believed to be in possession of money, false charges are brought against him, directly or indirectly, by the officials, in order to wring his money out of him. Everyone that Mr. HALLETT questioned in Bangkok was of opinion that the state of the people could not be much worse than it is. So unsafe are they from false charges and lawsuits, that they willingly become the slaves of the powerful in order to gain their protection. Siam is socially and politically rotten to the core. There is no visible leaven in it that can lead to reform. Its Laos provinces in the Valley of the Meh Kong, or Cambodia River, will doubtless before long be annexed by the French, whose officials have urged the policy upon their Government ever since they first put foot in the country, and have lately been taking steps in this direction. In the valleys of the Meh Nam and its branches, which comprise Siam proper and its Shan States, the French have up till now acknowledged that the interests of Great Britain are supreme. It rests with us to carefully watch events and determine the boundary where the projected French annexations must cease. The impudent encroachment of Siam upon the territories of our vassals, and the absurd claims which it makes to territory rightly appertaining to our Burmese Shan States, necessitate sharp correction on our part, and will doubtless be intelligently dealt with by Mr. NEV ELIAS, the very able political officer who is at the head of the Commission for defining the frontier.

THE COAL SUPPLY OF THE WORLD.

A SEMI-OFFICIAL statement respecting the coal supply of the world, so far as it is at present known, has been published in England. Its effect is reassuring, for it shows that whatever the world may have to fear, anything like the exhaustion of the coal supplies available, even at a greatly increased rate of consumption, is not likely to happen within a measurable distance of time. Geological examinations carried on in recent years have had the effect of showing that coal, like petroleum, is one of the most widely distributed substances in nature, and that workable coalfields exist in nearly every country on the earth, while in some places the mineral is heaped up in quantities that appear incredibly large. For instance, the comparatively small island of Formosa contains within its limited area no less than 10,000 square miles of coal deposits, and the coal veins there reach the enormous thickness in parts of 96ft. When it is remembered that 9ft. and 10ft. is considered a good thick vein, the value of the Formosa supplies will be more readily understood. The deposits of that island alone would suffice to keep the world going for centuries, and yet only a

few years ago the fact that the mineral existed there was quite unknown to Europeans. Leaving out of consideration England, Europe possesses an area of coal deposits far larger than is generally supposed, and the German *Handel's Museum* has recently given its readers a few figures relating to them of considerable interest. The Low Countries, Belgium, and Holland, Switzerland, Denmark, Germany, and Bohemia, possess an available coal area of nearly 60,000 square miles. Then Austria, Spain, Portugal, Italy, and Greece contain coal deposits estimated to cover an extent of between 30,000 and 40,000 square miles. And it must not be forgotten that a fractional proportion of these has yet been only touched. Russia has already surveyed coal-fields extending over 22,000 square miles. But the mineral is widely distributed throughout the Russian Empire, in Poland, and in Siberia, in the basin of the Donetz, the Ural region, and the Caucasus. Only a month or two ago the discovery of a rich deposit of anthracite coal in the Ekaterinoslaw Government was announced, and there is no doubt that more careful surveys of the country will lead to fresh finds of the mineral there. The Russian deposits are being turned to good account, moreover, and properly worked. The production of the Central Russian collieries has been attracting a good deal of attention lately by reason of their growing output. In 1888 the collieries of the Kursk-Karkow, Sea of Azov, and Donetz districts produced about 1,500,000 tons of coal all told. In 1889 they had raised the output to nearly 2,225,000 tons, an increase of almost 50 per cent. Coming to Asia, there are rich stores of coal in the northern half of Asia Minor. The extent of the Turkish coal deposits can only be guessed at, for a geological survey of even the rudest kind has never yet been attempted in this part of the SULTAN'S dominions. But the area within which the mineral occurs must be very large, judging from the nature and lay of the country. The neighbouring State, Persia, is believed to possess some 9,000 square miles of coal-fields. Afghanistan is known to contain coal, and in Turkestan and Central Asia the Russian Government has been officially notified of the discovery of coal deposits. India possesses deposits extending over an area of no less than 35,000 square miles, and there is little doubt that similar seams of the mineral will be traced in Burmah. The Japanese official statistics respecting coal production in these islands are then quoted. But, surpassing in extent and value all other deposits in Asia, there are the coalfields of the Chinese Empire to take into reckoning. They are estimated to cover upwards of 400,000 square miles, an area greater than that of all the remaining coal deposits of the Old World taken together. The vast store of fuel heaped up in these seams has

not even been touched as yet. It is still a virgin treasure, for the extent to which coal is worked by the Chinese is too insignificant to be worth taking into account. With the stores of China alone to draw upon, the world would for ages have little reason to fear a coal famine, and when the other unworked areas of Europe and Asia are added to the 400,000 square miles available in the Middle Kingdom, it is abundantly clear that the period within which the supplies of the Old World will be exhausted must be very remote indeed. The extent of the United States coalfields is tolerably well-known; but they are far from being the richest and most valuable in the New World. It is not all unlikely that the deposits of the Dominion of Canada will prove quite as extensive and important as those of the Republic. British Columbia is one mass of coal, and Nova Scotia is developing its collieries at a rate that bids fair to make it the great coal country of the north of America. The Cape Breton pits are turning out now about 1,000,000 tons a year, employing about 5,000 men. The coal shipments of this little colony are handled by about 2,550 vessels, with an aggregate of 250,000 tons, and crews numbering 24,000. This is not a bad mining record for a State like Nova Scotia. British Columbia is handicapped by the heavy protective duties of the United States, but the output of Vancouver Island, where there are about 10,000 square miles of coalfields, was fully 500,000 tons in 1889. The Dominion of Canada raised in 1888, according to the Report of the Geological Survey, between 5,000,000 and 6,000,000 tons of coal—a very respectable total. But the mineral deposits of the northern half of the American Continent will not compare with those of the central and southern portions of the New World. Mexico has not less than 10,000 to 12,000 square miles of coalfields. Brazil has extensive fields, in which the veins run from 17 feet to 25 feet in thickness. The State of Columbia, the whole of Patagonia, and the Republic of Peru have enormous stores of the mineral which have never yet been drawn upon to the extent of a single pound. The Falkland Islands are similarly endowed. But the most extraordinary deposits in the whole world are undoubtedly those of Chili, the "nitrate land." Nothing like them is known to exist, for the whole of the southern half of Chili is simply one vast single deposit of coal. The country, in fact, is raised upon a foundation of coal. But even should the stores of the New World be exhausted in process of time, there will be a reserve to fall back upon in Australia, New Zealand, Tasmania, New Caledonia, and Natal. The mineral resources of all these countries are scarcely yet known. Only portions have been geologically "surveyed." But already deposits reaching over 100,000 square miles in extent

have been found to exist in Tasmania, New Caledonia, and Natal; and there is yet the whole of the vast interior of Africa to be explored. The enormous stretches of inner Australia have still to be examined by surveyors, and geologists have yet to tell us what are the mineral resources of Borneo and the islands—all rich in deposits of metals, fuel, and petroleum—of the Eastern Archipelago. We know from indications apparent that coal deposits will be found to exist in all these parts, and most likely on a very large scale, to add to the available supplies of the world in due time. At all events, the figures above given relating to the unworked area of coal in existence, will serve to show that there is no cause for immediate anxiety on the score of the world's coal supply. The British collieries are estimated to have raised in 1889 over 173,000,000 tons of the mineral, the largest output ever recorded in the United Kingdom, and the produce may be increased in perfect assurance that when, at some yet remote period, the British fields are exhausted, there are plenty of other deposits to which recourse can be had.

THE OLD PROBLEM.

I.

THE writing evoked by recent correspondence and a leading article in *The Times* on the subject of Treaty Revision, is typical of the whole course of the weary negotiations. At this eleventh hour we might at least expect that the question would be soberly discussed on its merits without exhibitions of gross prejudice. Vain expectation. Two out of the three writers who devote their pens to representing what they are pleased to call the foreign side of the problem, have practically nothing to set forth except a silly and characteristic tirade against the great London journal, which, they assert, has allowed itself to be hoodwinked into espousing the Japanese cause pure and simple, with gullibility as fatuous and almost as criminal as that which marked its attitude towards the PIGGOTT forgeries. The Japanese cause forsooth! What is the Japanese cause and what the foreign? Half a dozen years ago, a feeble agitation having been raised in Yokohama for the purpose of recovering control of the Settlement's municipal affairs, the land-renters met and discussed the question with more spirit than sense. In the course of the debate a certain orator rose and warned the meeting to be wary, lest, by overfrankness of controversy, they should "show their hand to the Japanese." The caution was warmly applauded, few perceiving apparently that the sentiment of hostility it embodied must be fatal to anything like a satisfactory arrangement. The same unreasoning spirit of opposition prevails to-day, though happily, we be-

lieve, within a greatly narrowed circle, and every fresh display of it places a fresh obstacle in the path to an amicable settlement. The Japanese cause and the foreign cause are identical in this matter. Whatever really conduces to the interest of the one, conduces equally to the interest of the other. As for *The Times*, to speak of it as being "hoodwinked into Japanese service" is very childish. The columns of the leading journal are open to all correspondence respectably written by respectable persons. The authorities at Printing House Square have access to the best possible sources of information, and do not fail to exhaust them before committing their newspaper to any definite line of policy. Yet for years they have themselves steadily advocated in their leading columns, and have suffered correspondents to advocate in their correspondence columns, the expediency of solving the Treaty Revision problem in a liberal and generous spirit. How does it happen that, during all this time, no one has succeeded in uncovering the eyes of the "hoodwinked" newspaper? The persons who call it a victim of deception and who, according to their own showing, have a deep interest in disseminating the truth—are they so impotent, or do they command so little respect, that they cannot rescue the leading journal from its humiliating position? It is not as though they had made no effort. One of them, a gentleman who for years had been a warm advocate of the views consistently endorsed by *The Times*, recently made a startling *volte face*, and submitted to the Office in Printing House Square a statement of "the other side" of the problem. A subtle and skilful advocate, he did not allow accuracy to impede the marshalling of his arguments, or justice to weaken the colours of his ungrateful picture. *The Times* published his communication, but was it thereby turned even so much as a hair's breadth from its previous course? Surely some evil fate must have been suffered to assume the mischievous direction of this affair. Into the service of one side are pressed victims of prejudice, slaves to self-interest, and creatures of chicanery; yet somehow the leading English journals and all the authors of note who have visited the East, espouse the views of these recreants and allow themselves to be blinded by their spurious sentimentality; whereas the pure-souled, impartial, disinterested and manly exponents of "the other side" cry vainly in waste places and no man hearkens unto them. Truth has seldom fallen upon such evil times.

As for the particular subject of renewed discussion, it seems to us very simple. The correspondent of *The Times* denies the practical utility of the guarantee by which foreign suitors were promised that, in the event of reaching the Supreme Court by appeal, their cases should be adjudicated by a mixed bench of Japanese

and foreign experts, the latter in the majority. He says that, inasmuch as the Supreme Court could be reached in respect of errors of law alone, the foreign suitor would be unprotected in respect of the far more important question of errors of fact. "The other side," on the contrary, maintains that this guarantee is vital; that it constituted "the real heart" of Japan's proposals, and that it cannot possibly be dispensed with. Now it so happens that a tribunal whose verdict these objectors will scarcely be disposed to doubt, has pronounced definitely as to the value of a few judges of foreign origin in the Supreme Court. That tribunal is the British Government. The English-Foreign Office's chief objection to Count OKUMA's proposals, as the *London and China Express* truly explains, is understood to have been that the Judges Guarantee, in its reduced form, had become comparatively worthless. The negotiators in Downing Street did not claim, we believe, that the employment of foreigners in a judicial capacity by Japan must be considered an essential condition of Treaty Revision. But they did claim that if such a condition be internationally offered and accepted, it must possess practical utility, and that England could not, without loss of dignity, assume the position of attaching public importance to an engagement of such slender application as that proposed. We think that in this matter England's course was true to the eminently practical and sensible rules by which her international dealings have invariably been guided. At all events, if she was right, then the correspondent of *The Times* is also right; if she was wrong, then he too errs in her company. The ready though irrelevant answer will doubtless be that if the guarantee, in the shape advanced last year and accepted by America, Germany, Russia and France, possessed little practical value, then the only proper course was to restore it approximately to the dimensions it had in Count INOUE's programme. This contention, though from a logical point of view it deserves no notice, brings us to another phase of the question; a phase which, as we think, really occupies the leading place and deserves to be briefly discussed in a separate article.

II.

We have shown that the assertion of *The Times'* correspondent as to the practical inutility of the Judges Guarantee in its reduced form, accords with the view taken by HER MAJESTY'S Government during the negotiations. If, therefore, any guarantee as to the quality of the Japanese judiciary be required, it must be a guarantee of more extensive character than that embodied in Count OKUMA's proposals. Does any one imagine for a moment that the Japanese nation can be induced to give such a guarantee? The conditions to be dealt with have radically changed since the negotiations for revi-

sion entered the field of practical politics in 1881, and it would be the merest fatuity to close our eyes to the change. Japan has learned what an independent country is entitled to expect at the hands of other States. The mood of confiding docility which possessed her in the early days of her renewed intercourse with the West, has been replaced by a strong sense of offended dignity and illiberal treatment. That is the broad fact that must be kept in view before everything else. Some foreign critics may assert, for example, that the plea of unconstitutionality urged last year by the opponents of the Judges Guarantee, cannot be sustained. The Japanese simply reply that it is for them alone to interpret their own Constitution, and that in common, for the matter of that, with other competent foreign critics, they consider the proposed guarantee opposed indirectly to the letter and directly to the spirit of the Constitution. Will any Occidental Government undertake the unwarrantable and hopeless task of proving to them that they are in error? Such conclusions are among the verdicts which every free nation has a right to pronounce absolutely, and an equal right to exclude from the sphere of foreign discussion. So, too, it may be urged that but for political agitation and the friction of parties, Japanese public opinion would never have shown itself so exacting as it did last year. What is the value of such a contention? Party politics and the agitation they engender are among the factors which have to be reckoned with in modern Japan. To deny the efficiency of public opinion because it is moulded by such agencies, is as though an autocratically governed State should decline to accept as representative the opinions expressed by parliament in a constitutional country. We must take Japan as she is, instead of futilely imagining that she remains what she was when we first made her acquaintance. No longer controlled by the hands of a few virtually irresponsible statesmen, the nation has assumed the direction of many of its own affairs, notably of the Treaty Revision problem. It is true that the terms which the country rejected last year would have been gladly accepted by it three years previously. It is true that the guarantee which chiefly excited opposition was intrinsically a trifling concession, whatever magnitude it possessed from a sentimental point of view. It is true that the proposals from which Japan ultimately receded were of her own statesmen's choosing, and that, in accepting them, foreign Powers behaved with liberality and consideration. But to cite all this is merely to adduce illustrations of the fact that, for purposes of international negotiation, Japan has undergone a radical change. She now knows exactly what as a free State she is entitled to claim, and she will be content with nothing less. It would have been a happy thing could

she and all the great Powers have been induced to accept the compromise proposed by Count OKUMA last year, and we, among others, spared no pains to bring about that result, just as, three years previously, we had endeavoured to secure assent to Count INOUE's terms—terms far exceeding anything that foreigners can hope for again. Each of those successive failures added to the difficulty of a situation already sufficiently difficult, and if the error of mistaking facts is to be repeated for the third time, the result will be most deplorable. It is not as though the problem might be quietly left to work out its own solution. It is not as though foreigners might placidly fold their hands and wait until their scepticism about the trustworthiness of Japanese Judges had been dispelled by some undefined and indefinable process. Japan will not wait. She understands just as well as we do that until her Judges are afforded an opportunity of proving their competence, they cannot establish a title to trust. Many years have elapsed since she began to equip colleges for the legal training of her people, and to send chosen students of law to America and Europe to complete their education. Does she find that all this earnest effort has brought her perceptibly nearer her goal? Let *The Times'* exponent of "the other side" reply, who does not hesitate to assert that she has made no attempt whatever to provide a competent judiciary and that the Western conception of administering justice is wholly strange to her. Fifteen years' service have not qualified her even for the hand of LEAH; will another fifteen years, under similar conditions, secure for her the gift of RACHEL? She will not wait, we repeat. The temper of her people to-day shows plainly that their patience is well nigh exhausted. Thoughtless persons may describe that temper as a recrudescence of the old-time anti-foreign spirit. What is the old-time anti-foreign spirit? Is it the spirit that induced the Japanese in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries to welcome with open arms the Spaniards, the Portuguese and the Dutch, and to grant the English free trade access to every part of the empire? Or is it the spirit of distrust and disgust that grew out of the religious intolerance, the treacherous intrigues, the mutual recriminations, and the greed of those early propagandists and settlers? There never was any anti-foreign spirit in Japan until foreigners themselves educated it, and if history is now repeating itself, we can clearly decipher the steps of the process. The present feeling of umbrage and soreness—for undoubtedly such a feeling exists—is simply an outcome of the treatment which the Japanese have suffered at foreign hands, and is inevitably destined to grow deeper and stronger so long as that treatment remains unaltered. The existence of such a feeling must at any time have proved highly uncomfortable

and inconvenient for foreign residents; its development at the present time when the people are on the eve of acquiring power to make their voice heard in the councils of State, is ominous. Our wise folks shrink from the danger of miscarriages of justice under Japanese jurisdiction, but fail to appreciate the far greater peril incurred by persisting in such obstinate timidity. It is true, indeed, that the Constitution reserves the conduct of the country's foreign relations to the EMPEROR. But it is equally true that the support of the Diet will be withheld from any Cabinet which fails to adopt and assert the nation's present estimate of its dignity and rights. We, in our capacity of English journalists, are not disposed to forecast accurately the steps which Parliament may take to accomplish its purpose. But that it will take some steps, and that their results will greatly aggravate the situation for foreigners, cannot reasonably be doubted. The problem is fast outgrowing the control of those who would have been content to patiently work out its amicable solution.

THE ADMINISTRATIVE COURT.

LAW No. 48.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Regulations relating to the Law of the Administrative Court, and order the same to be duly promulgated.

[His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.]
[Great Seal.]

Dated June 28th, 1890.

(Countersigned)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.

COUNT SAIGO TSUKUMICHI,
Minister of State for Home Affairs.

COUNT YAMADA AKIYOSHI,
Minister of State for Justice.

COUNT MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of State for Finance.

COUNT OYAMA IWAO,
Minister of State for War.

COUNT GOTO SHOJIRO,
Minister of State for Communications.

VISCOUNT AOKI SHUZO,
Minister of State for Foreign Affairs.

VISCOUNT KABAYAMA SUKENORI,
Minister of State for the Navy.

YOSHIKAWA AKIMASA,
Minister of State for Education.

MUTSU MUNEMITSU,
Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

CHAPTER I.—ORGANIZATION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COURT.

Article 1.—The Administrative Court shall be established in Tokyo.

Article 2.—In the Administrative Court there shall be one President and various Councillors, the number of whom shall be fixed by Imperial Ordinance. Clerks also shall be attached to the Administrative Court, whose number and office shall be fixed by Imperial Ordinance.

Article 3.—The President shall be of *chokunin* rank; the Councillors shall be of *chokunin* or *sonin* rank. The President and Councillors shall be appointed on the nomination of the Minister President of State from among officials whose ages are above 30 years, and who have held office as higher administrative officials or as judges during a period of more than 5 years.

Clerks shall be appointed by the President.

Article 4.—The President as well as the Councillors are prohibited from doing the following things during their term of office:—

1. Concerning themselves publicly with politics.
2. Becoming partisans of any political party, members of any political association, members of the House of Representatives, or of city, prefectural, rural, district, municipal,

town, or village assemblies, or of any meeting of Councillors.

3. Holding a public office to which a salary is attached, or holding public office with the intention of gaining monetary advantage, except in the case of their being appointed to additional office (*Kenkwan*).

4. Engaging in any commercial occupation, or any occupation which is incompatible with administrative order.

Article 5.—The President and Councillors may not be ordered to retire, or be removed from their office, or placed on the *hishoku* list against their wish (unless by judgment under the Penal Code or by correctional punishment, except in the case of Article 6).

The last paragraph shall also apply to those officials who may hold the office of President or Councillor of the Administrative Court as additional offices.

The law of correctional punishment shall be decided separately by Imperial Ordinance.

Article 6.—Should the President or Councillors become incapable of discharging their duties owing to bodily or mental ailment, the Minister President of State may advise their retirement in accordance with the decision of a general meeting of the Administrative Court.

Article 7.—The President shall preside over the affairs of the Administrative Court.

Should the President be prevented from discharging his duties, the Councillor of highest rank shall represent him; should there be Councillors of equal rank, that one who was appointed first shall represent the President.

Article 8.—The President may himself become Chief Judge, or appoint any councillor Chief Judge.

Should it be necessary to divide the work of the Court such division and distribution of business shall be decided by Imperial Ordinance.

Article 9.—The judgments of the Administrative Court shall be subjected to the consideration of a bench of more than five Judges, including the Chief Judge and Councillors. The number of Judges must, however, be an odd number. Should the number, by the non-attendance of any, be an even one, Councillors of lowest rank or of most recent appointment, should their rank be the same, shall be exempted from voting.

Judgment shall be given according to the vote of the majority (*kahansu*).

Article 10.—Neither the President nor any Councillor is permitted to take part in the decision or discussion of the Court in the following cases:—

1. When the matters to be decided are related to himself or his parents, brothers or sisters, wife or children.
2. When the matter to be decided has been treated by him in the position of a manager (*rijisha*), agent, or in some other capacity outside the Court, or when he has already expressed a private opinion in regard to the matters to be decided.
3. When he has had connection with the treatment, or decision of the case to be decided, in the capacity of an administrative official.

Article 11.—The plaintiff as well as the defendant may challenge the presence of the President or of any Councillor by means of written or oral statements, giving his reasons in the case of the last article.

The Administrative Court shall decide as to the exclusion of any official under this article.

Article 12.—When the President or any Councillor states facts relating to circumstances which are the cause of challenge or exclusion; or when the President or any Councillor seems doubtful of his capability to take part in any discussion or decision, the Administrative Court shall decide as to the exclusion of such official.

Article 13.—Regulations to deal with the affairs of the Administrative Court shall be decided in accordance with Imperial Ordinance.

Article 14.—Advocates (*bengoshi*) licensed by the Administrative Court can only plead in administrative suits.

CHAPTER 2.—AUTHORITY OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COURT.

Article 15.—The Administrative Court shall conduct trial and give judgments in all cases which come within its province under Laws and Imperial Ordinances.

Article 16.—The Administrative Court shall not try or decide any suit for damages.

Article 17.—No administrative suit may be raised until after it has come before the highest local administrative office, and the decision of the same has been obtained, except those which are specially provided for in Laws or Imperial Ordinances.

Administrative suits may be raised directly against the action of any Minister of State for any

Department, or of any office under the direct control of the Cabinet, or of any higher local administrative office.

An administrative suit may not be raised when a petition relative thereto has been presented to any Department or to the Cabinet.

Article 18.—The decisions of the Administrative Court shall bind all administrative offices which are related to the cases so decided.

Article 19.—A new trial may not be sanctioned against the judgment of the Administrative Court.

Article 20.—The Administrative Court shall decide the authorities or jurisdiction (*kengen*) which govern it.

The Court of Authority (*Kengen Saibansho*) shall decide disputes relating to jurisdiction between the Administrative Court and any ordinary or special court.

Article 21.—The execution of judgments of the Administrative Court may be entrusted to any ordinary court.

CHAPTER 3.—PROCEDURE IN ADMINISTRATIVE SUITS.

Article 22.—An administrative suit must be raised within 60 days after the document of treatment or decision complained against has been delivered or intimated to the Administrative Office; after which time no administrative suit can be raised. Cases which are specially provided for by Laws and Ordinances shall, however, be excepted.

The Regulations of the Law of Civil Procedure shall be applied in fixing the period within which a suit has to be filed, or the period of delay which may be allowed in case of misfortune or accident.

Article 23.—The raising of an administrative suit shall not suspend the execution of the action or decision of an administrative office, except in the cases specially provided for in Laws and Imperial Ordinances. The Administrative Court or Administrative Offices may suspend execution of action or decision, either *ex officio* or in accordance with the petition of the plaintiff, if such a course is deemed necessary.

Article 24.—Administrative suits shall be raised in the Administrative Court by means of documents. Legal practitioners deemed to be so in accordance with Laws, may raise administrative suits.

Article 25.—A statement of claims shall be signed and sealed by the plaintiff, describing the following matters:—

1. The personal status (*mibun*), occupation, residence and age of the plaintiff.
2. The Administrative Office which is in the position of defendant or co-defendant.
3. The subject of claim and the reasons therefor.
4. Evidence.
5. Date.

Petitions and decisions, as well as evidence relied on by the plaintiff, shall be filed in addition to the statement of claim.

Article 26.—Copies of the necessary documents shall be filed with the statement of claim for communication to the defendant.

Article 27.—The Administrative Court shall examine the plaintiff's statement of claim, and shall cause it to be withdrawn if it be not in accordance with legal procedure, or if it does not show good grounds for the raising of a suit.

Suits in which the statement of claim is informal shall be sent back for amendment within a certain period.

Article 28.—When a statement of claim is presented to the Administrative Court, a copy of the same shall be sent to the defendant, who shall be ordered to file his defence within a reasonable time.

Copies of the necessary documents shall also be filed for transmission to the plaintiff.

Article 29.—The Administrative Court shall order the plaintiff and defendant respectively to file statements of reply (*benpakusho*) and statements of rejoinder within a period to be appointed, should it consider the same to be necessary.

Article 30.—The Administrative Court may require both the plaintiff and the defendant to inspect copies of documents attached to the statements of claim and of defence, instead of sending such documents to the plaintiff and defendant respectively.

Article 31.—The Administrative Court may permit a third party interested in the suit to plead in it in accordance with the petition of one of the parties.

Article 32.—Any Administrative Office may be represented in any suit by an official or a committee appointed by the responsible Minister of State. Any person who thus represents an office shall prove his capacity as agent by means of a power of attorney.

Article 33.—The Administrative Court shall summon the plaintiff, defendant, and other persons concerned, open the trial and conduct the same orally, on a day appointed beforehand.

The Administrative Court may give judgment solely on written proof, if the plaintiff, defendant, and the third party aver that they do not wish an oral trial.

Article 34.—The explanations of the plaintiff, defendant, and third party shall be heard in Court. Persons who obtain permission from the Chief Judge may address the Court.

Plaintiffs, defendants, and third parties may supply omissions in documents, remedy mistakes, and file new proofs or documents, as to points of fact as well as of law.

Article 35.—A Minister of State may depute a delegate to attend the Court in order to watch the public interest in cases of necessity.

The Administrative Court shall require such delegate to express his opinion before it shall give judgment.

Article 36.—All trials and judgments of the Administrative Court shall take place in public.

The Administrative Court may decide not to make a trial public if there are grounds for supposing the public peace, good order, or established custom may be interfered with, or if a request is made by an Administrative Office to that effect.

Article 37.—The decision to suspend an open trial shall be pronounced before the public are excluded.

Article 38.—The Administrative Court shall order the attendance of the plaintiff, defendant and third party, and may collect evidence and summon witnesses and experts whose evidence and opinion are required and are necessary.

With regard to the duty of giving evidence and opinions, or attending trial as witnesses or expert, the regulations of Civil Procedure shall be applied, and the Administrative Court shall of itself decide the penalty which will be inflicted on those who do not discharge their duty.

The Administrative Court may take evidence at an oral trial, or may request the same to be taken by Councillors or by an Administrative Office.

Article 39.—When a civil suit is raised in regard to a case pending in the Administrative Court and it appears advisable to await judgment in such civil suit, the trial in the Administrative Court may be suspended.

Article 40.—The Administrative Court shall decide of itself motions (*koshu no moshitate*) relating to the procedure of the trial.

Article 41.—The Administrative Court shall not necessarily suspend a trial though the plaintiff or the defendant or the third person may not attend at the date mentioned in the summons.

The Administrative Court may give judgment directly without conducting any trial should the plaintiff, defendant and third party fail to attend.

Article 42.—The Chief Judge, Judges, and clerk shall append their names and seals to the judgment, adding proper reasons for the same, and a copy of each shall be given to the plaintiff, the defendant, and the third party, under the seal of the Administrative Court.

Stamps for civil procedure need not be attached to the documents of an administrative suit.

Article 43.—Regulations relating to civil procedure may be applied to the procedure of an administrative suit for which no provisions exist in this law, in accordance with the order of the Administrative Court.

CHAPTER 4.—SUPPLEMENTARY RULES.

Article 44.—This law shall come in force on and after the 1st day of the 10th month of the 23rd year of Meiji.

Article 45.—Questions relating to authority or jurisdiction (*kengen*) mentioned in Article 20, paragraph 2, shall be decided by the Privy Council until the Court of Authority (*Kengen Saibansho*) shall be established.

The form of such decision shall be settled by Imperial Ordinance.

Article 46.—All previous laws and ordinances which conflict with this law shall be abolished on and after the day on which this law shall come in force.

Article 47.—Suits pending, which have been received already as administrative suits before the carrying out of this law, shall be dealt with in accordance with former regulations.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. III.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Regulations relating to the number of Judges and the number and duties of Clerks of the Admini-

strative Court, and order the same to be duly promulgated.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.)
(Great Seal.)

Dated, June 28th, 1890.
(Countersigned.)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.

Article 1.—There shall be eleven Judges of the Administrative Court.

The number of clerks of the Administrative Court shall be 15.

Article 2.—Clerks of the Administrative Court shall deal with affairs specially settled by the Law of the Administrative Court and by other Laws and Ordinances.

Article 3.—Clerks of the Administrative Court shall conduct correspondence, and keep accounts, records, and other affairs.

Article 4.—Clerks of the Administrative Court shall be under the orders of the President of the Administrative Court.

The orders of the Chief Judge shall be paramount as to trials and judgments.

LAW No. 47.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Amendment of the Regulations of New Trials in cases of Misdemeanour (*Keizai*), promulgated by Notification No. 2, January, the 18th year of Meiji, and order the same to be duly promulgated. This law shall come in force on and after November 1st the 23rd year of Meiji.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.)
(Great Seal.)

Dated, June 28th, 1890.
(Countersigned.)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.

COUNT YAMADA AKIYOSHI,
Minister of State for Justice.

The clause "against sentence in public suits" (*Koso*) in Article 3, Notification 2, of January, the 18th year of Meiji, shall be amended to read "with respect to public suits." Articles 1, 2, and 5 shall be deleted.

CONSULAR FEES ON JAPANESE SHIPPING.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 34.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Amendment of the Regulations for Consuls of the Japanese Empire, and order the same to be duly promulgated.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.)
(Great Seal.)

Dated July 21st, 1890.
(Countersigned)

VISCOUNT AOKI SHUZO,
Minister of State for Foreign Affairs.

Paragraph 9 in the list of fees and costs of attendance of Consuls at places other than their Consulates, laid down in the Regulations for Consuls of the Japanese Empire, shall be amended as follows:—

9. The clearance and entrance of vessels as well as the custody of documents relating to vessels.
- | | |
|---|---------|
| Over 15 and below 60 registered tons; | |
| above 150 <i>koku</i> and below 500 <i>koku</i> | yen 30. |
| Over 50 and below 100 registered tons; | |
| above 500 <i>koku</i> and below 1,000 <i>koku</i> | yen 50. |
| Over 100 and below 200 registered tons; | |
| above 1,000 <i>koku</i> | yen 1. |
| Over 200 and below 500 registered tons | yen 3. |
| Over 500 tons | yen 5. |
- No fees shall, however, be levied on fishing vessels.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A GRIEVANCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me to trespass upon your space to say a few words regarding the letters that are published in the *Japan Gazette* from time to time and said to be written by Japanese—a specimen of which appeared in its issue of 14th inst. The *Japan Gazette* appears to think it a smart thing to laugh at other people and their writings. I notice that it delights in publish-

ing "English as she is write," by Japanese especially. I am at a loss to know the cause of this. If it is to show that we, Japanese, cannot write English, the *Japan Gazette* is quite mistaken. There are many of us who can take up any correspondence in English perfectly well, and better than some Englishmen too. I don't profess to be an excellent writer, and I dare not include myself in the number of those efficient writers just mentioned.

My countrymen generally feel hurt at such paragraphs as published in the *Japan Gazette*, a foreign newspaper, and one that is published in our own country. If one Japanese has written a letter in absurd English, it does not signify that all Japanese write the same. Does the *Japan Gazette* contain such wonderfully written articles that they should despise the less fortunate? Should, however, what I conjecture be wrong, should the only motive of the *Japan Gazette* in publishing such letters be to induce the writers to improve and be careful so as to avoid seeing their letters in print, the *Japan Gazette* should act otherwise than expose the unfortunate writers to public ridicule, and make them the laughing stock of the whole community.

I would like to point out to the *Japan Gazette*, and those who side with it, that it is a great mistake to think that, being Japanese, we can be treated anyhow. It must be remembered that we are in our own country and foreigners are trading with us. I consider that we are as good as anybody; and an honest man, and one who behaves as he should, is second to none in this world, no matter what position he holds, whether he be tall or short, rich or poor, high or low in rank, &c.

Hoping you will be good enough to insert this letter in your next issue, and apologizing for the trouble, I remain, yours respectfully,

SUMIYOSHI.

Yokohama, 17th July, 1890.

SANITATION IN YOKOHAMA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Several times in years past I have, through your columns, drawn the attention of the Japanese Authorities to the filthy state of the Market in Yokohama; but neither they, nor the medical fraternity here, appear to take any interest in the matter. Now that the cholera-morbus is nearing us, it is no more possible for the Authorities to ignore the existing state of affairs.

The state of the Creek also demands some attention. The refuse of the houses along it is thrown into it (not to speak of dead dogs, cats, &c.), and a pestilential smell comes from it at low water even in the winter, but now when the sun is strong the stench is enough to knock one down when the tide is out.

It is scarcely possible that the medical men of Yokohama, constantly driving about the town as they do, are not aware of the insanitary condition of many parts of it, and one would imagine that some of them possessed sufficient influence with the Authorities—of they cared to open their mouths—to have attention paid to their suggestions.

I do not ask that any expense be incurred by the Authorities, because the Police on duty could walk through the market daily, and as to the condition of the Creek it is only a question of preventing filth from being thrown into it. It is only near the banks that the ground is exposed to the rays of the sun, and if these heaps of muck were not increased by constant additions they would soon disappear, with the frequent scour the Creek is subject to—at all events the condition of the Creek would be vastly improved. This is not the weather perhaps to disturb the mass of putrefaction on the banks of the Creek, but at a small expense at the proper time the ditch that surrounds this Settlement might be made wholesome.

I enclose my card, and sign, **SANTAS.**
Yokohama, July 23rd, 1890.

SAILING RACE.

Saturday's sailing race for the large boats proved a capital race for the 26 raters; *Maid Marion*, however, had no competition in her class, *Lesbiote* not starting. *Daimyo*, being on a scientific cruise, did not start either. The wind was at S.E., a good whole sail breeze and the start was a capital one. *Molly* got first across the line, 17 seconds after the starting gun, *Lady Louise* 34 seconds, *Scow*, *Maid Marion*, and *Princess Maud* 45 seconds, and *Tortoise* over a minute after. The reach to the North Mark was a fast one. *Maid Marion* after some trouble with her jib-topsail, which would not break out from the

stops, got away smartly from the ruck. *Princess Maud*, with her balloon pulling her along fast, overhauled *Lady Louise*, *Mosquito* also getting away somewhat inexplicably from *Molly* which lagged greatly, her head sheets looking as if too much pinned in. The *Maid* was of course first at the North Mark, and after a minute and a half's work on the starboard tack went round and held in towards the shipping. The others kept on, *Lady Louise* being the first to follow the *Maid's* example, while *Princess Maud*, hoping the wind would free as she got out, stuck to the starboard tack in spite of the flood tide, but had eventually to give up and follow the others. *Maid Marion* stood well in—so far indeed that when she went round for the Lightship the trip was an easy one. *Lady Louise* and *Molly* did not go far, and when they tacked for the Lightship they had the small cutter well under their lee. The blue yacht fetched close astern of the Lightship, *Molly* hit it off with comparative ease; but the *Princess*, pinched too much latterly, had to hold well out to clear the mark. *Mosquito* coming up later on went about at 3h. 3m. 30 sec. but misjudging the distance failed to weather, and had to try again. Meanwhile *Maid Marion* rounded the Home Mark and set spinnaker to starboard, the wind having shifted to the southward, *Lady Louise* and *Molly*—the latter especially—being terribly bothered by a large junk. *Lady Louise* after jibing twice elected to run out under plain sail only; *Molly* setting spinnaker improved her position relative to the blue cutter, *Princess Maud* also drawing up noticeably by the aid of her big canvas. *Molly* was round first, but as soon as sheets were pinned in for the Lightship *Lady Louise* began to eat out to windward, of *Louise* and was soon hanging well up on the Doctor's weather quarter. *Princess Maud* still carried jib topsail which she had set after rounding the Lightship, and was perceptibly sagging down to leeward. Nearing the Lightship the wind hardened a trifle and *Molly* handed her jib topsail, thenceforward maintaining if not improving her condition with regard to Captain Owston. But as both yachts on the starboard tack came in view to windward of the Lightship, the blue cutter's advantage became most markedly apparent, for *Molly* had not room to tack. With her allowance of 34 seconds the race was now, humanly speaking, a sure thing for *Molly Bawn*. For on the first round (though to be sure Lightship times can never be taken with perfect accuracy when that mark has to be tacked round), the had reached in in less time than *Lady Louise*, and in any case by waiting till the latter went round she could have been in stays half a dozen seconds later, and would certainly have held her opponent in. This was what it seemed to outsiders *Molly* might have done to escape from a dilemma in which she now found herself by no fault of her own but simply by the superior weatherly qualities of the other. *Molly*, however, tacked and, Captain Owston continuing to stand on—having now the right of way, found herself compelled to luff to avoid a foul, thence by an easy transition got in irons and gathering stem-way was soon under the lee of the Lightship—a position from which she disentangled herself after much waste of time. The race thus fell easily to *Lady Louise*, *Molly* taking second place. *Mosquito*, sailed very well throughout, failed to score on her allowance, and *Scow* was completely out of it. *Maid Marion* thus gets two record points, *Lady Louise* two, and *Molly* one. As a matter of interest it may be noted that had *Lady Louise* been racing with the big cutter on measurement allowance (to m. 26 sec.) she would have beat the *Maid* by four minutes and a half, while *Molly Bawn* on her allowance by measurement (11 min.) would have been one minute to the good. Mr. W. W. Campbell was officer of the day, being accommodated in a launch kindly lent by Capt. Weston. The following are the official times:—

	North Mark.	Light-ship.	Home Mark.	North Mark.
	39 RATERS.			
	h. m. s.	h. m. s.	h. m. s.	h. m. s.
<i>Maid Marion</i>	2.20.00	2.52.30	3.11.35	3.36.20
	26 RATERS.			
<i>Lady Louise</i>	2.22.55	2.59.00	3.18.45	3.43.35
<i>Molly Bawn</i>	2.24.26	2.59.55	3.19.30	3.43.06
<i>Tortoise</i>	2.23.25	3.06.00	3.29.12	3.59.00
<i>Princess Maud</i>	2.22.30	3.01.00	3.22.25	3.45.23
<i>Scow</i>	2.26.20	3.23.00	3.49.10	4.12.00
	Light-ship. Pinish. Allow. Cor-rected.			
	h. m. s.	h. m. s.	min.	h. m. s.
<i>Maid Marion</i>	4.04.30	4.21.20	—	4.21.20
<i>Lady Louise</i>	4.11.10	4.27.25	—	4.27.25
<i>Molly Bawn</i>	4.14.10	4.31.20	0.34	4.30.46
<i>Tortoise</i>	4.20.30	4.42.32	0.34	4.41.58
<i>Princess Maud</i>	4.15.30	4.33.35	2.23	4.33.12
<i>Scow</i>	5.01.45	5.21.15	5.59	5.15.53

IN H.B.M.'S COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before J. J. ENSLIE Esq., Acting Assistant Judge.—TUESDAY, July 22nd, 1890.

BREACH OF CONTRACT BY AN ENGINEER.

Judgment was given to-day in the action raised by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha against Robert Atkins, concluding for \$1,000 damages.

His Honour said—When a defendant in an action brought on a contract can be regarded as a wrongdoer, great latitude is allowed to a jury in assessing damages. In the matter of the breach of contract, the cause of this action, the defendant has constituted himself a wilful wrongdoer. He has deliberately broken the conditions of his former engagement to make others in a new one, to his personal advantage, and greatly to the detriment of the other parties to the contract under consideration. There will be judgment for the plaintiffs in the full amount claimed, with costs.

Mr. Walford (who appeared for the plaintiffs) —Will your Honour fix the costs?

His Honour—I cannot do that off-hand now.

Mr. Walford—They will come, I think, to \$100, but I am quite willing to take \$75 including Court fees. It is quite immaterial of course, but it would save a great deal of trouble in taxing if the defendant is not here. They will come to a great deal more than \$100 if they are taxed.

The Judge—Very well; I fix them at \$75 including Court fees.

Mr. Walford—Will your Honour also give permission now for us to uplift the sum of \$100 paid into Court as security for costs.

His Honour—Certainly.

DEATH AT SEA.

An inquiry into the death of Charles McDonald, first mate of the bark *Hamburg*, who was washed overboard on May 8th, was held on Tuesday morning in H.B.M.'s Court before Mr. Ensle.

Carl Andrew Caldwell, master of the bark, deposed that the man was washed overboard on May 8th in latitude 39 South and longitude 84 East on the voyage from New York to Yokohama. There were strong gales and heavy hailstorms at the time. It was impossible to do anything at all to save him. Witness was below asleep at the time and did not see him go overboard.

His Honour read the entry in the log-book dated May 8th:—"Charles McDonald washed overboard in a heavy sea. Nothing could be done to save him. It was blowing a heavy gale at the time."

Witness said the entry was correct.

Hans Hansen, an able seaman, deposed that he saw the deceased when he was at the wheel. They shipped a heavy sea. Witness did not see the mate go overboard. He saw him in the water, but did not know who it was. They could not save him because of the heavy sea. He sank in three minutes.

Christian Strohte, steward, deposed that he had just come out of the galley when he heard the mate giving some orders to the sailors about lashing spars. Witness went to the midship house and was only there a moment, when he heard a heavy sea come over. Then he heard the two men at the wheel shouting "man overboard." Witness ran aft to the poop, but saw nothing. It was impossible to do anything for the man overboard because the sea was so heavy and the weather was very bad.

By the Court—Deceased was on the main deck, by the spars when he gave the order to lash them.

His Honour said he found that the man who was washed overboard, was the mate, and that he came by his death through being washed overboard on May 8th, and that it was impossible to do anything to assist him.

FOR NERVOUS DYSPESIA USE HORSFORD'S ACID PHOSPHATE.

Dr. A. G. RAWSON HARRIS, L.R.C.P., and M. R.C.S., Pembroke, Eng., says: "I am sure that it is destined to be more than a merely fashionable remedy of the hour. I used it in a case of nervous dyspepsia, of long standing, where for years there had been a great wear and tear of the nervous system. This objectionable symptom was speedily relieved in a way that no other remedy has ever effected."

WITHOUT BENEFIT OF CLERGY.

BY RUDYARD KIPLING.

Author of "Departmental Ditties," "Plain Tales from the Hills," &c., &c.

"But if it be a girl?"

"Lord of my life, it cannot be. I have prayed for so many nights, and sent gifts to Sheikh Badl's shrine so often, that I know God will give us a son—a man-child that shall grow into a man. Think of this and be glad. My mother shall be his mother till I can take him again and the mulah of the Pattan mosque shall cast his nativity—God send he be born in an auspicious hour!—and then, and then thou wilt never weary of me, thy slave."

"Since when hast thou been a slave, my queen?"

"Since the beginning—till this mercy came to me. How could I be sure of thy love when I knew that I had been bought with silver?"

"Nay, that was the dowry. I paid it to thy mother."

"And she has buried it, and sits upon it all day long like a hen. What talk is yours of dower! I was bought as though I had been a Lucknow dancing-girl instead of a child."

"Art thou sorry for the sale?"

"I have sorrowed; but to-day I am glad. Thou wilt never cease to love me now?—answer, my king."

"Never—never. No."

"Not even though the *mem-log*—the white women of thy own blood—love thee? And remember, I have watched them driving in the evening; they are very fair."

"I have seen fire-balloons by the hundred. I have seen the moon, and—then I saw no more fire-balloons."

Ameera clapped her hands and laughed. "Very good talk," she said. Then with an assumption of great stateliness: "It is enough. Thou hast my permission to depart,—if thou wilt."

The man did not move. He was sitting on a low red-lacquered couch in a room furnished only with a blue and white floor-cloth, some rugs, and a very complete collection of native cushions. At his feet sat a woman of sixteen, and she was all but all the world in his eyes. By every rule and law she should have been otherwise, for he was an Englishman, and she a Mussulman's daughter bought two years before from her mother, who, being left without money, would have sold Ameera shrieking to the Prince of Darkness if the price had been sufficient.

It was a contract entered into with a light heart; but even before the girl had reached her bloom she came to fill the greater portion of John Holden's life. For her, and the withered hag her mother, he had taken a little house overlooking the great red-walled city, and found,—when the marigolds had sprung up by the well in the courtyard, and Ameera had established herself according to her own ideas of comfort, and her mother had ceased grumbling at the inadequacy of the cooking-places, the distance from the daily market, and at matters of house-keeping in general,—that the house was to him his home. Any one could enter his bachelor's bungalow by day or night, and the life that he led there was an unlovely one. In the house in the city his feet only could pass beyond the outer court-yard to the women's rooms; and when the big wooden gate was bolted behind him he was king in his own territory, with Ameera for queen. And there was going to be added to this kingdom a third person whose arrival Holden felt inclined to resent. It interfered with his perfect happiness. It disarranged the orderly peace of the house that was his own. But Ameera was wild with delight at the thought of it, and her mother not less so. The love of a man, and particularly a white man, was at the best an inconstant affair, but it might, both women argued, be held fast by the baby's hands. "And then," Ameera would always say, "then he will never care for the *mem-log*. I hate them all—I hate them all."

"He will go back to his own people in time," said the mother; "but by the blessing of God that time is yet afar off."

Holden sat silent on the couch thinking of the future, and his thoughts were not pleasant. The drawbacks of a double life are manifold. The Government, with singular care, had ordered him out of the station for a fortnight on special duty in the place of a man who was watching by the bedside of a sick wife. The verbal notification of the transfer had been edged by a cheerful remark that Holden ought to think himself lucky in being a bachelor and a free man. He came to break the news to Ameera.

"It is not good," she said slowly, "but it is not

all bad. There is my mother here; and no harm will come to me—unless indeed I die of pure joy. Go thou to thy work and think no troublesome thoughts. When the days are done I believe . . . nay, I am sure. And—then I shall lay him in thy arms, and thou wilt love me for ever. The train goes to-night, at midnight is it not? Go now, and do not let thy heart be heavy by cause of me. But thou wilt not delay in returning? Thou wilt not stay on the road to talk to the bold *mem-log*. Come back to me swiftly, my life."

As he left the court-yard to reach his horse that was tethered to the gate-post, Holden spoke to the white-haired old watchman who guarded the house, and bade him under certain contingencies despatch the filled-up telegraph-form that Holden gave him. It was all that could be done, and with the sensations of a man who has attended his own funeral Holden went away by the night-mail to his exile. Every hour of the day he dreaded the arrival of the telegram, and every hour of the night he pictured to himself the death of Ameera. In consequence his work for the State was not of first-rate quality, nor was his temper towards his colleagues of the most amiable. The fortnight ended without a sign from his home, and, torn to pieces by his anxieties, Holden returned to be swallowed up for two precious hours by a dinner at the club, wherein he heard, as a man hears in a swoon, voices telling him how execrably he had performed the other man's duties, and how he had endeared himself to all his associates. Then he fled on horseback through the night with his heart in his mouth. There was no answer at first to his blows on the gate, and he had just wheeled his horse round to kick it in when Pir Khan appeared with a lantern and held his stirrup.

"Has aught occurred?" said Holden.

"The news does not come from my mouth, Protector of the Poor, but ——" He held out his shaking hand as befitted the bearer of good news who is entitled to a reward.

Holden hurried through the court-yard. A light burned in the upper room. His horse neighed in the gate-way, and he heard a shrill little wail that sent all the blood into the apple of his throat. It was a new voice, but it did not prove that Ameera was alive.

"Who is there?" he called up the narrow brick staircase.

There was a cry of delight from Ameera, and then the voice of the mother, tremulous with old age and pride—"We be two women and—the—man—thy—son."

On the threshold of the room Holden stepped on a naked dagger, that was laid there to avert ill-luck, and it broke at the hilt under his impatient heel.

"God is great!" cooed Ameera in the hall-light.

"Thou hast taken his misfortunes on thy head."

"Ay, but how is it with thee, life of my life? Old woman, how is it with her?"

"She has forgotten her sufferings for joy that the child is born. There is no harm; but speak softly," said the mother.

"It only needed thy presence to make me all well," said Ameera. "My king, thou hast been very long away. What gifts hast for me? Ah, ah! It is I that bring gifts this time. Look, my life, look. Was there ever such a babe? Nay, I am too weak even to clear my arm from him."

"Rest then, and do not talk. I am here, *bachari* (little woman)."

"Well said, for there is a bond and a heel-rope (*peecharee*) between us now that nothing can break. Look—canst thou see in this light? He is without spot or blemish. Never was such a man-child. *Ya iltah!* he shall be a pundit—no, a trooper of the Queen. And, my life, dost thou love me as well as ever, though I am faint and sick and worn? Answer truly."

"Vea. I love as I have loved, with all my soul. Lie still, and rest."

"Then do not go. Sit by my side here—so. Mother, the lord of this house needs a cushion. Bring it." There was an almost imperceptible movement on the part of the new life that lay in the hollow of Ameera's arm. "Aho!" she said, her voice breaking with love. "The babe is a champion from his birth. He is kicking me in the side with mighty kicks. Was there ever such a babe! And he is ours to us—thine and mine. Put thy hand on his head, but carefully, for he is very young, and men are unskilled in such matters."

Very cautiously Holden touched with the tips of his fingers the downy head.

"He is of the Faith," said Ameera; "for lying here in the night-watches I whispered the call to prayer and profession of faith into his ears. And it is most marvellous that he was born upon a Friday, as I was born. Be careful of him, my life, but he can almost grip with his hands."

Holden found one helpless little hand that closed feebly on his finger. And the clutch ran through

his limbs till it settled about his heart. Till then his sole thought had been for Ameera. He began to realize that there was some one else in the world, but he could not feel that it was a veritable son with a soul. He sat down to think, and Ameera dozed lightly.

"Get hence, *sahib*," said her mother under her breath. "It is not good that she should find you here on waking. She must be still."

"I go," said Holden submissively. "Here be rupees. See that my *baba* gets fat and find all that he needs."

The clink of the silver roused Ameera. "I am his mother, and no hireling," she said, weakly. "Shall I look to him more or less for sake of money? Mother, give it back. I have born my lord a son."

The deep sleep of weakness came upon her almost before the sentence was completed. Holden went down to the court-yard very softly with his heart at ease. Pir Khan, the old watchman, was chuckling with delight. "This house is now complete," he said, and without further comment thrust into Holden's hands the hilt of a sabre worn many years ago when he, Pir Khan, served the Queen in the police. The bleat of a tethered goat came from the well-kerb.

"There be two," said Pir Khan, "two goats of the best. I bought them, and they cost much money; and since there is no birth-party assembled their flesh will be all mine. Strike craftily, *sahib!* 'Tis an ill-balanced sabre at the best. Wait till they raise their heads from cropping the marigolds."

"And why?" said Holden, bewildered.

"For the birth-sacrifice. What else? Otherwise the child, being unguarded from fate, may die. The Protector of the Poor knows the fitting words to be said."

Holden had learned them once with little thought that he would ever speak them in earnest. The touch of the cold sabre-hilt in his palm turned suddenly to the clinging grip of the child up stairs—the child that was his own son—and a dread of loss filled him.

"Strike!" said Pir Khan. "Never life came into the world but life was paid for it. See, the goats have raised their heads. Now! With a drawing cut!"

Hardly knowing what he did, Holden cut twice as he muttered the Mohammedan prayer that runs:—"Almighty! In place of this my son I offer life for life, blood for blood, head for head, bone for bone, hair for hair, skin for skin." The waiting horse snorted and bounded in his pickets at the smell of the raw blood that spirted over Holden's riding-boots.

"Well smitten!" said Pir Khan, wiping the sabre. "A swordsmen was lost in thee. Go with a light heart, heaven-born. I am thy servant, and the servant of thy son. May the Presence live a thousand years, and . . . the flesh of the goats is all mine?" Pir Khan drew back richer by a mouth's pay. Holden swung himself into the saddle and rode off through the low-hanging wood-smoke of the evening. He was full of riotous exultation, alternating with a vast vague tenderness directed towards no particular object, that made him choke as he bent over the neck of his uneasy horse. "I never felt like this in my life," he thought. "I'll go to the club and pull myself together."

A game of pool was beginning, and the room was full of men. Holden entered, eager to get to the light and the company of his fellows, singing at the top of his voice.

In Baltimore a-walking, a lady I did meet!

"Did you?" said the club secretary from his corner. "Did she happen to tell you that your boots were wringing wet? Great Goodness, man, it's blood!"

"Bosh!" said Holden, picking his cue from the rack. "May I cut in! It's dew. I've been riding through high crops. My faith! my boots are in a mess though!"

And if it be a girl she shall wear a wedding ring,
And if it be a boy he shall grip with his king,
With his dirk, and his cap, and his little jacket blue,
He shall walk the quarter-deck!"

"Yellow on blue—green next player," said the marker monotonously.

"He shall walk the quarter-deck,—am I green, marker? He shall walk the quarter-deck,—eh! that's a bad shot—as his daddy used to do!"

"I don't see that you have anything to crow about," said a zealous junior civilian acidly. "The Government is not exactly pleased with your work when you relieved Sanders."

"Does that mean a wiggling from head-quarters?" said Holden with an abstracted smile. "I think I can stand it."

The talk beat up round the ever-fresh subject of each man's work, and steadied Holden till it was time to go to his dark empty bungalow, where his butler received him as one who knew all his affairs.

Holden remained awake for the greater part of the night, and his dreams were pleasant ones.

"How old is he now?"

"*Ya illah!* What a man's question! He is all but six weeks old; and on this night I go up to the house-top with thee, my life, to count the stars. For that is auspicious. And he was born on a Friday under the sign of the sun, and it has been told to me that he will outlive us both and get wealth. Can we wish for aught better, beloved?"

"There is nothing better. Let us go up to the roof, and thou shalt count the stars—but a few only, for the sky is heavy with cloud."

"The winter rains are late, and may be they come out of season. Come, before all the stars are hid, I have put on my richest jewels."

"Thou hast forgotten the best of all."

"*Al! Ours.* He comes also. He has never yet seen the skies."

Ameera climbed the narrow staircase that led to the flat roof. The child, placid and unwinking, lay in the hollow of her right arm, gorgeous in silver fringed muslin with a small skull-cap on his head. Ameera wore all that she valued most. The diamond nose-stud that takes the place of the Western patch in drawing attention to the curve of the nostril, the gold ornament in the centre of the forehead studded with tallow-drop emeralds and flawed rubies, the heavy cincture of beaten gold that was fastened round her neck by the softness of the pure metal, and the chinking curb-patterned silver anklets hanging low over the rosy ankle-bone. She was dressed in jade-green muslin as befitted a daughter of the Faith, and from shoulder to elbow and elbow to wrist ran bracelets of silver tied with floss silk, frail glass bangles slipped over the wrist in proof of the slenderness of the hand, and certain heavy gold bracelets that had no part in her country's ornaments but, since they were Holden's gift and fastened with a cunning European snap, delighted her immensely.

They sat down by the low white parapet of the roof, overlooking the city and its lights.

"They are happy down there," said Ameera.

"But I do not think that they are as happy as we. Nor do I think the white *mem-log* are as happy. And thou?"

"I know they are not."

"How dost thou know?"

"They give their children over to the nurses."

"I have never seen that," said Ameera with a sigh, "nor do I wish to see. *Al! P!*—she dropped her head on Holden's shoulder,—"I have counted forty stars, and I am tired. Look at the child, love of life, he is counting too."

The baby was staring with round eyes at the ark of the heavens. Ameera had placed him in Holden's arms, and he lay there without a cry.

What shall we call him among ourselves?"

id. "Look! Art thou ever tired of looking!"

ies thy very eyes. But the mouth—"

ne, most dear. Who should know better

as such a feeble mouth. Oh, so small! And

it holds my heart between its lips. Give him to me now. He has been too long away."

"Nay, let him lie; he has not yet begun to cry."

"When he cries thou wilt give him back—eh! What a man of mankind thou art. If he cried he were only the dearer to me. But, my life, what little name shall we give him?"

The small body lay close to Holden's heart. It was utterly helpless and very soft. He scarcely dared to breathe for fear of crushing it. The caged green parrot that is regarded as a sort of guardian spirit in most native households moved on its perch and fluttered a drowsy wing.

"There is the answer," said Holden. "Mian Mittu has spoken. He shall be thy Parrot. When he is ready he will talk mightily and run about. Mian Mittu is the parrot in thy—in the Mussulman tongue, is it not?"

"Why put me so far off?" said Ameera, fretfully. "Let it be like unto some English name—but not wholly. For he is mine."

"Then call him Tota, for that is likeliest English."

"Ay, Tota, and that is still the parrot. Forgive me, my lord, for a minute ago, but in truth he is too little to wear all the weight of Mian Mittu for name. He shall be Tota—our Tota to us. Hearest thou, oh, small one? Littlest, thou art Tota."

She touched the child's cheek, and he, waking, wailed, and it was necessary to return him to his mother, who soothed him with the wonderful rhyme of *Aré koto, Fa ré koto!* which says:—

Oh, crow! Go crow! Baby's sleeping sound,

And the wild plums grow in the jungle, only a penny a pound,

Only a penny a pound, *baba*. Only a penny a pound.

Reassured many times as to the price of those plums, Tota cuddled himself down to sleep. The two sleek, white well-bullocks in the court-yard were steadily chewing the cud of their evening meal; old Pir Khan squatted at the head of Holden's horse, his police sabre across his knees, pulling drowsily at a big water-pipe that croaked

like a bull-frog in a pond. Ameera's mother sat spinning in the lower verandah, and the wooden gate was shut and barred. The music of a marriage procession came to the roof above the gentle hum of the city, and a string of flying-foxes crossed the face of the low moon.

"I have prayed," said Ameera after a long pause, "I have prayed for two things. First, that I may die in thy stead if thy death is demanded, and in the second that I may die in the place of the child. I have prayed to the Prophet and to Beebe Miriam [the Virgin Mary]. Thinkest thou either will hear?"

"From thy lips who would not hear the lightest word?"

"I asked for straight talk, and thou hast given me sweet talk. Will my prayers be heard?"

"How can I say? God is very good."

"Of that I am not sure. Listen now. When I die, or the child dies, what is thy fate? Living thou wilt return to the bold white *mem-log*, for kind calls to kind."

"Not always."

"With a woman, no; with a man it is otherwise. Thou wilt in this life, later on, go back to thine own folk. That I could almost endure, for I should be dead. But in thy very death thou wilt be taken away to a strange place and a paradise that I do not know."

"Will it be paradise?"

"Surely, for who would harm thee? But we two—I and the child—shall be elsewhere, and we cannot come to thee, nor canst thou come to us. In the old days before the child was born, I did not think of these things; but now I think of them always. It is very hard talk."

"It will fall as it will fall. To-morrow we do not know, but to-day and love we know well. Surely we are happy now."

"So happy that it were well to make our happiness assured. And thy Beebe Miriam should listen to me; for she is also a woman. But then she would envy me! It is not seemly for men to worship a woman!"

Holden laughed aloud at Ameera's little spasm of jealousy.

"It is not seemly? Why didst thou not turn me from worship of thee, then?"

"Thou a worshipper! And of me! My king, for all thy sweet words, well I know that I am thy servant and thy slave, and the dust under thy feet. And I would not have it otherwise. See!"

Before Holden could prevent her she stooped forward and touched his feet; recovering herself with a little laugh she hugged Tota closer to her bosom. Then, almost savagely—

"Is it true that the bold white *mem-log* live for three times the length of my life? Is it true that they make their marriages not before they are old women?"

"They marry as do others—when they are women."

"That I know, but they wed when they are twenty-five. Is that true?"

"That is true."

"*Ya illah!* At twenty-five! Who would of his own will take a wife even of eighteen? She is a woman—aging every hour. Twenty-five! I shall be an old woman at that age, and—those *mem-log* remain young for ever. How I hate them!"

"What have they to do with us?"

"I cannot tell. I know only that there may now be alive on this earth a woman ten years older than I who may come to thee and take thy love ten years after I am an old woman, grey-headed, and the nurse of Tota's son. That is unjust and evil. They should die too."

"Now, for all thy years thou art a child, and should be picked up and carried down the staircase."

"Tota! Have a care of Tota, my lord! Thou at least art as foolish as any babe!" Ameera tucked Tota out of harm's way in the hollow of her neck, and was carried down stairs laughing in Holden's arms, while Tota opened his eyes and smiled after the manner of the lesser angels.

He was a silent infant, and, almost before Holden could realise that he was in the world, developed into a small gold-coloured little god and unquestioned despot of the house overlooking the city. Those were months of absolute happiness to Holden and Ameera—happiness withdrawn from the world, shut in behind the wooden gate that Pir Khan guarded. By day Holden did his work with an immense pity for such as were not so fortunate as himself, and a sympathy for small children that amazed and amused many mothers at the little station gatherings. At nightfall he returned to Ameera—Ameera full of the wondrous doings of Tota, how he had been seen to clap his hands together and move his fingers with intention and purpose—which was manifestly a miracle—how later, he had of his own initiative crawled out of

his low bedstead on to the floor and swayed on both feet for the space of three breaths.

"And they were long breaths, for my heart stood still with delight," said Ameera.

Then he took the beasts into his councils—the well-bullocks, the little grey squirrels, the mongoose that lived in a hole near the well, and especially Mian Mittu, the parrot, whose tail he grievously pulled, and Mian Mittu screamed till Ameera and Holden arrived.

"Oh, villain! Child of strength! This to thy brother on the house-top! *Tobah, tobah!* Fie! Fie! But I know a charm to make him wise as Suleiman and Aflatoun [Solomon and Plato]. Now look," said Ameera. She drew from an embroidered bag a handful of almonds. "See! we count seven. In the name of God!"

She placed Mian Mittu, very angry and ruffled, on the top of his cage, and seating herself between the babe and the bird she cracked and peeled an almond less white than her teeth.

"This is a true charm, my life, and do not laugh. See! I give the parrot one half and Tota the other." Mian Mittu with careful beak took his share from between Ameera's lips, and she kissed the other half into the mouth of the child, who ate it slowly with wondering eyes. "This I will do each day of seven, and without doubt he who is ours will be a bold speaker and wise. Eh, Tota, what wilt thou be when thou art a man and I am grey-headed?" Tota tucked his fat legs into adorable creases. He could crawl, but he was not going to waste the spring of his youth in idle speech. He wanted Mian Mittu's tail to tweak.

When he was advanced to the dignity of a silver belt—which, with a magic-square engraved on silver and hung round his neck made up the greater part of his clothing—he staggered on a perilous journey down the garden to Pir Khan and proffered him all his jewels in exchange for one little ride on Holden's horse, having seen his mother's mother chaffering with pedlars in the verandah. Pir Khan wept and set the untired feet on his own grey head in sign of fealty, and brought the bold adventurer to the mother's arms, vowing that Tota would be a leader of men ere his beard was grown.

One hot evening while he sat on the roof between his father and mother watching the never-ending warfare of the kites that the city boys flew, he demanded a kite of his own with Pir Khan to fly it, because he had fear of dealing with anything larger than himself, and when Holden called him a "spark," he rose to his feet and answered slowly in defence of his new-found individuality: "*Hum-park nahin hai. Hom admi hai.* (I am no spark, but a man.)"

The protest made Holden choke and devote himself very seriously to a consideration of Tota's future. He need hardly have taken the trouble. The delight of that life was too perfect to endure. Therefore it was taken away as many things are taken away in India—suddenly and without warning.

The little lord of the house, as Pir Khan called him, grew sorrowful and complained of pains, he who had never known the meaning of pain. Ameera, wild with terror, watched him through the night, and in the dawning of the second day the life was shaken out of him by fever—the seasonal autumn fever. It seemed altogether impossible that he could die, and neither Ameera or Holden at first believed the evidence of the little body on the bedstead. Then Ameera beat her head against the wall, and would have flung herself down the well in the garden had Holden not restrained her by main force.

One mercy only was granted to Holden. He rode to his office in broad daylight and found waiting him an unusually heavy mail that demanded concentrated attention and hard work. He was not, however, alive to this kindness of the gods.

The first shock of the bullet is no more than a brisk pinch. The wrecked body does not send in its protest to the soul till ten or fifteen seconds later. Holden realized his pain slowly, exactly as he had realized his happiness, and with the same impetuous necessity for hiding all trace of it. In the beginning he only felt that there had been a loss, and that Ameera needed comforting, where she sat with her head on her knees shivering as Mian Mittu from the house-top called *Tota! Tota! Tota!* Later all his world and the daily life of it rose up to hurt him. It was an outrage that any one of the children at the bandstand in the evening should be alive and clamorous, when his own child lay dead. It was more than mere pain, when one of them touched him, and stories told by over-fond fathers of their children's latest performances cut him to the quick. He could not declare his pain. He had neither help, comfort, nor sympathy; and Ameera at the end of each weary day would lead him through the hell of self-questioning reproach which is reserved for those who have lost a child, and believe that with a little—just a little more

care—it might have been saved. "Perhaps," Ameera would say, "I did not take sufficient heed. Did I, or did I not? The sun on the roof that day when he played so long alone and I was—*ah!*! braiding my hair—it may be that the sun then bred the fever. If I had warned him from the sun he might have lived. But, oh my life, say that I am guiltless! Thou knowest that I loved him as I love thee. Say that there is no blame on me, or I shall die—I shall die!"

"There is no blame,—before God, none. It was written and how could we do aught to save? What has been, has been. Let it go, beloved."

"He was all my heart to me. How can I let the thought go, when my arm tells me every night that he is not here? *Ah! Ah!* Oh, Tota, come back to me—come back again, and let us be all together as it was before!"

"Peace, peace! For thine own sake, and for mine also, if thou lovest me—rest."

"By this I know thou dost not care; and how shouldst thou? The white men have hearts of stone and souls of iron. Oh that I had married a man of mine own people—though he beat me, and had never eaten the bread of an alien!"

"Am I an alien—mother of my son!"

"What else—*sahib*? . . . Oh forgive me—forgive! The death has driven me mad. Thou art the life of my heart, and the light of my eyes, and the breath of my life, and—and I have put thee from me, though it was but for a moment. If thou goest away to whom shall I look for help? Do not be angry. Indeed, it was the pain that spoke and not thy slave."

"I know, I know. We be two who were three. The greater need therefore that we should be one."

They were sitting on the roof as of custom. The night was a warm one in early spring, and sheet-lightning was dancing on the horizon to a broken tune played by far-off thunder. Ameera settled herself in Holden's arms.

"The dry earth is lowing like a cow for the rain, and I—I am afraid. It was not like this when we counted the stars. But thou lovest me as much as before, though a bond is taken away? Answer!"

"I love more because a new bond has come out of the sorrow that we have eaten together, and that thou knowest."

"Yes, I know," said Ameera in a very small whisper. "But it is good to hear thee say so, my life, who art so strong to help. I will be a child no more, but a woman and an aid to thee. Listen! Give me my *sitar* and I will sing bravely."

She took the light silver-studded *sitar* and began a song of the great hero Rajal Rasalu. The hand failed on the strings, the tune halted, checked, and at a low note turned off to the poor little nurse-rhyme about the wicked crow:—

And the wild plums grow in the jungle,
only a penny a pound,
Only a penny a pound, *baba*—only . . .

Then came the tears, and the piteous rebellion against fate till she slept, moaning a little in her sleep with the right arm thrown clear of the body as though it protected something that was not there. It was after this night that life became a little easier for Holden. The ever-present pain of loss drove him into his work, and the work repaid him by filling up his mind for eight or nine hours a day. Ameera sat alone in the house and brooded but grew happier when she understood that Holden was more at ease, according to the custom of women. They touched happiness again, but this time with caution.

"It was because we loved Tota that he died. The jealousy of God was upon us," said Ameera. "I have hung up a large black jar before our window to turn the evil eye from us, and we must make no protestations of delight but go softly underneath the stars, lest God find us out. Is that not good talk, worthless one?"

She had shifted the accent on the word that means "beloved," in proof of the sincerity of her purpose. But the kiss that followed the new christening was a thing that any deity might have envied. They went about henceforward saying, "It is naught, it is naught;" and hoping that all the Powers heard.

The Powers were busy on other things. They had allowed thirty million people four years of plenty wherein men fed well and the crops were certain and the birthrate rose year by year: the districts reported a purely agricultural population varying from nine hundred to two thousand to the square mile of the overburdened earth; and the Member for Lower Tooting, wandering about India in top-hat and frock coat, talked largely of the benefits of British rule, and suggested as the one thing needful the establishment of a duly qualified electoral system and a general bestowal of the franchise. His long-suffering hosts smiled and made him welcome, and when he paused to admire, with pretty picked words, the blossom of the blood-red *dhak* tree that had flowered untimely

for a sign of what was coming, they smiled more than ever.

It was the Deputy Commissioner of Kot-Kumharsen, staying at the club for a day, who lightly told a tale that made Holden's blood run cold as he overheard the end.

"He won't bother any one any more. Never saw a man so astonished in 'life. By Jove, I thought he meant to ask a question in the House about it. Fellow-passenger in this ship—dined next him—bowed over by cholera and died in eighteen hours. You needn't laugh, you fellows. The Member for Lower Tooting is awfully angry about it; but he's more scared. I think he's going to take his enlightened self out of India."

"I'd give a good deal if he were knocked over. It might keep a few vestry-men of his kidney to their own parish. But what's this about cholera? It's full early for anything of that kind," said a warden of an unprofitable salt-lick.

"Don't know," said the Deputy Commissioner reflectively. "We've got locusts with us. There's sporadic cholera all along the north—at least we're calling it sporadic for decency's sake. The spring crops are short in five districts, and nobody seems to know where the rains are. It's nearly March now. I don't want to scare anybody, but it seems to me that Nature's going to audit her accounts with a big red pencil this summer."

"Just when I wanted to take leave, too!" said a voice across the room.

"There won't be much leave this year, but there ought to be a great deal of promotion. I've come in to persuade the Government to put my pet canal on the list of famine relief-works. Its an ill-wind that blows no one good. I shall get that canal finished at last."

"It is the old programme then," said Holden; "famine, fever, and cholera?"

"Oh, no. Only local scarcity and unusual sickness. You'll find it all in the reports if you five till next year. You're a lucky chap. You haven't got a wife to put out of harm's way. The hill stations ought to be full of women this year."

"I think you're inclined to exaggerate the talk in the *bazaars*," said a young civilian in the Secretariat. "Now I have observed—"

"I dare say you have," said the Deputy Commissioner, "but you've a great deal more to observe, my son. In the meantime, I wish to observe to you—" and he drew him aside to discuss the construction of the canal that was so dear to his heart. Holden went to his bungalow and began to understand that he was not alone in the world, and also that he was afraid for the sake of another,—which is the most soul-satisfying fear known to man.

Two months later, as the Deputy had foretold, Nature began to audit her accounts with a red pencil. On the heels of the spring reapings came a cry for bread, and the Government, which had decreed that no man should die of want, sent wheat. Then came the cholera from all four quarters of the compass. It struck a pilgrim-gathering of half a million at a sacred shrine. Many died at the feet of their god; the others broke and ran over the face of the land carrying the pestilence with them. It smote a walled city and killed two hundred a day. The people crowded the trains, hanging on to the footboards and squatting on the roofs of the carriages, and the cholera followed them, for at each station they dragged out the dead and the dying. They died by the roadside, and the horses of the Englishmen shied at the corpses in the grass. The rains did not come, and the earth turned to iron lest man should escape death by hiding in her. The English sent their wives away to the hills and went about their work, coming forward as they were bidden to fill the gaps in the fighting line. Holden, sick with fear of losing his chiefest treasure on earth, had done his best to persuade Ameera to go away with her mother to the Himalayas.

"Why should I go?" said she, one evening on the roof.

"There is sickness, and people are dying, and all the white *mem-log* have gone."

"All of them?"

"All—unless perhaps there remain some old scald-head who vexes her husband's heart by running risk of death."

"Nay; who stays is my sister, and thou must not abuse her, for I will be a scald-head too. I am glad all the bold *mem-log* are gone."

"Do I speak to a woman or a babe? Go to the hills and I will see to it that thou goes like a queen's daughter. Think, child. In a red-lacquered bullock cart, veiled and curtained, with brass peacocks upon the pole and red cloth hangings. I will send two orderlies for guard and—"

"Peace! Thou art the babe in speaking thus. What use are those toys to me? He would have patted the bullocks and played with the housings. For his sake, perhaps,—thou hast made me very

English.—I might have gone. Now, I will not. Let the *mem-log* run."

"Their husbands are sending them, beloved."

"Very good talk. Since when hast thou been my husband to tell me what to do? I have but born thee a son. Thou art only all the desire of my soul to me. How shall I depart when I know that if evil befall thee by the breadth of so much as my littlest finger nail—is that not small?—I should be aware of it though I were in paradise. And here, this summer thou mayst die—*ai, jannee*, die! and in dying they might call to tend thee a white woman, and she would rob me in the last of thy love!"

"But love is not born in a moment or a death-bed!"

"What dost thou know of love, stone-heart? She would take thy thanks at least and, by God and the Prophet and Beebe Miriam the mother of thy Prophet, that I will never endure. My lord and my love, let there be no more foolish talk of going away. Where thou art, I am. It is enough." She put an arm round his neck and a hand on his mouth.

There are not many happinesses so complete as those that are snatched under the shadow of the sword. They sat together and laughed, calling each other openly by every pet name that could move the wrath of the gods. The city below them was locked up in its own tortments. Sulphur fires blazed the streets; the conches in the Hindu temples screamed and belled, for the gods were inattentive in these days. There was a service in the great Mahomedan shrine, and the call to prayer from the minarets was almost unceasing. They heard the wailing in the houses of the dead, and once the shrieks of a mother who had lost a child and was calling for its return. In the grey dawn they saw the dead borne out through the city gates, each litter with its own little knot of mourners. Wherefore they kissed each other and shivered.

It was a red and heavy audit, for the land was very sick and needed a little breathing-space ere the torrent of cheap life should flood it anew. The children of immature fathers and undeveloped mothers made no resistance. They were cowed and sat still, waiting till the sword should be sheathed in November, if it were so willed. There were gaps among the English, but the gaps were filled. The work of superintending famine-relief, cholera-sheds, medicine-distribution, and what little sanitation was possible went forward because it was so ordered.

Holden had been told to keep himself in readiness to move to replace the next man who should fall. There were twelve hours in each day when he could not see Ameera, and she might die in three. He was considering what his pain would be if he could not see her for three months, or if she died out of his sight. He was absolutely certain that her death would be demanded—so certain that when he looked up from the telegram and saw Pir Khan breathless in the doorway, he laughed aloud. "And?" said he—

"When there is a cry in the night and the spirit flutters into the throat, who has a charm that will restore? Come swiftly,—heaven-born. It is the black cholera."

Holden galloped to his home. The sky was heavy with clouds, for the long deferred rains were near and the heat was stifling. Ameera's mother met him in the court-yard, whimpering. "She is dying. She is nursing herself into death. She is all but dead. What shall I do, *sahib*?"

Ameera was lying in the room in which Tota had been born. She made no sign when Holden entered, because the human soul is a very lonely thing and, when it is getting ready to go away, hides itself in a misty border-land where the living may not follow. The black cholera does its work quietly and without explanation. Ameera was being thrust out of life as though the Angel of Death had himself put his hand upon her. The quick breathing seemed to show that she was neither afraid nor in pain, but neither eyes nor mouth gave any answer to Holden's kisses. There was nothing to be said or done. Holden could only wait and suffer. The first drops of the rain began to fall on the roof, and he could hear shouts of joy in the parched city.

The soul came back a little and the lips moved. Holden bent down to listen. "Keep nothing of mine," said Ameera. "Take no hair from my head. She would make thee burn it later on. That flame I should feel. Lower! Stoop lower! Remember only that I was thine and bore thee a son. Though thou wed a white woman to-morrow, the pleasure of receiving in thy arms thy first son is taken from thee for ever. Remember me when thy son is born—the one that shall carry thy name before all men. His misfortunes be on my head. I bear witness—I bear witness"—the lips were

forming the words on his ear—"that there is no God but—there, beloved!"

Then she died. Holden sat still, and all thought was taken from him,—till he heard Ameera's mother lift the curtain.

"Is she dead, *sahib*?"

"She is dead."

"Then I will mourn, and afterwards take an inventory of the furniture in this house. For that will be mine. The *sahib* does not mean to resume it? It is so little, so very little, *sahib*, and I am an old woman. I would like to lie softly."

"For the mercy of God be silent a while. Go out and mourn where I cannot hear."

"*Sahib*, she will be buried in four hours."

"I know the custom. I shall go ere she is taken away. That matter is in thy hands. Look to it, that the head on which—on which she lies—"

"Aha! That beautiful red lacquered bed. I have long desired—"

"That the bed is left here untouched for my disposal. All else in the house is thine. Hire a cart, take everything, go hence, and before sunrise let there be nothing in this house but that which I have ordered thee to respect."

"I am an old woman. I would stay at least for the days of mourning, and the rains have just broken. Whither shall I go?"

"What is that to me? My order is that there is a going. The house-gear is worth a thousand rupees and my orderly shall bring thee a hundred rupees to-night."

"That is very little. Think of the cart hire."

"It shall be nothing unless thou gnest, and with speed. O woman, get hence and leave me to my death."

The mother shuffled down the staircase, and in her anxiety to take stock of the house-fittings forgot to mourn. Holden stayed by Ameera's side, and the rain roared on the roof. He could not think connectedly by reason of the noise, though he made many attempts to do so. Then four sheeted ghosts glided dripping into the room and stared at him through their veils. They were the washers of the dead. Holden left the room and went out to his horse. He had come in a dead, stifling calm through ankle deep dust. He found the courtyard a rain-lashed pond alive with frogs; a torrent of yellow water ran under the gate, and a roaring wind drove the bolts of the rain like buck-shot against the mud walls. Pir Khan was shivering in his little hut by the gate, and the horse was stamping uneasily in the water.

"I have been told the *sahib's* order," said Pir Khan. "It is well. This house is now desolate. I go also, for my monkey-face would be a reminder of that which has been. Concerning the bed, I will bring that to thy house yonder in the morning; but remember, *sahib*, it will be to thee a knife turned in a green wound. I go upon a pilgrimage, and I will take no money. I have grown fat in the protection of the Presence whose sorrow is my sorrow. For the last time I hold his stirrup."

He touched Holden's foot with both hands and the horse sprang out into the road where the creaking bamboos were whipping the sky and all the frogs were clucking. Holden could not see for the rain in his face. He put his hands before his eyes and muttered:—

"Oh, you brute! You utter brute!"

The news of his trouble was already in his bungalow. He read the knowledge in his butler's eyes when Ahmed Khan brought in food, and for the first and last time in his life laid a hand upon his master's shoulder, saying "Eat, *sahib*, eat. Meat is good against sorrow. I also have known. Moreover the shadows come and go, *sahib*; the shadows come and go. Those be curried eggs."

Holden could neither eat nor sleep. The heavens sent down eight inches of rain in that night and washed the earth clean. The waters tore down walls, broke roads, and scoured open the shallow graves on the Mohammedan burying-ground. All next day it rained, and Holden sat in his house considering his sorrow. On the morning of the third day he received a telegram which said only: "Rickells, Myndonia. Dying. Holden relieve. Immediate." Then he thought that before he departed he would look at the house wherein he had been master and lord. There was a break in the weather, and the rank earth steamed with vapour.

He found that the rains had torn down the mud pillars of the gateway, and the heavy wooden gate that had guarded his life hung drunkenly from one hinge. There was grass three inches high in the courtyard; Pir Khan's lodge was empty, and the sudden thatch sagged between the beams. A gray squirrel was in possession of the verandah, as if the house had been untenanted for thirty years instead of three days. Ameera's mother had removed everything except some mildewed matting. The tick-tick of the little scorpions as they hurried across the floor was the only sound in the house.

Ameera's room and the other one where Tota had lived were heavy with mildew; and the narrow staircase leading to the roof was streaked and stained with rain-borne mud. Holden saw all these things, and came out again to meet in the road Durga Dass, his landlord,—portly, affable, clothed in white muslin, and driving a C-spring buggy. He was overlooking his property to see how the roofs stood the stress of the first rains.

"I have heard," said he, "you will not take this place any more, *sahib*?"

"What are you going to do with it?"

"Perhaps I shall let it again."

"Then I will keep it on while I am away."

Durga Dass was silent for some time. "You shall not take it on, *sahib*," he said. "When I was a young man I also—, but to-day I am a member of the Municipality. Ho! Ho! No. When the birds have gone what need to keep the nest? I will have it pulled down—the timber will sell for something always. It shall be pulled down, and the Municipality shall make a road across, as they desire, from the burning *ghaut* to the city wall, so that no man may say where this house stood."

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL"]

London, July 18th.

The Behring Sea fishery dispute, which has been in an acute stage since May, has now culminated in the Marquis of Salisbury's informing America that if British subjects sealing in the Behring Sea are refused ordinary treatment according to the comity of nations, Britain herself will protect them. The Marquis of Salisbury adds that the Behring Sea is a common highway.

The Earl of Rosebery has resigned his position on the County Council.

London, July 20th.

The Imperial Government has resolved to increase the military contributions of both the Straits Settlements and Hongkong, and have under consideration the same course with regard to the Mauritius and Ceylon.

London, July 22nd.

Her Majesty's troopship *Tamar* embarks the 2nd Battalion of the Grenadier Guards to-day for two years' service abroad. All leave has been stopped. The destination of the Guards is unknown, but is believed to be the Cape, though rumour has it that they are proceeding to Bermuda.

[FROM THE "SINGAPORE FREE PRESS"]

London, July 2nd.

The Cabinet has abandoned the Tithes Bill.

London, July 3rd.

Mr. W. S. Caine, finding himself unable to support the Government as a Liberal Unionist, resigned his seat and sought re-election at Barrow as an Independent Liberal. He has, however, been supplanted by a Gladstonian.

The Gas Stokers of Leeds are on strike, and the city is in darkness. Serious disorder prevails, and the Gasworks are guarded by troops.

London, July 7th.

The London police have issued a notice warning shop-keepers and others to close early to-day, and to make their own arrangements to guard their premises, as the force go on strike to-night for certain.

Many constables were suspended yesterday for refusing duty.

London, July 5th.

The House of Lords has read a first time a bill for the cession of Heligoland.

The Leeds gas strike is settled.

London, July 8th.

The second battalion Grenadier Guards refused to answer the bugle-call for kit inspection, and locked themselves in their rooms. On the inspection being abandoned, the men fell in and hooted and hissed the remarks of the Colonel.

[FROM TONKIN PAPERS.]

Paris, July 5th.

The Senate has voted the duty on rice by a large majority. The law will be promulgated on Sunday.

NEW TIME-TABLES.

The following Time-Tables will come into operation on the 1st August, 1890, until further notice:—

NIKKO BRANCH LINE.—UTSUNOMIYA AND NIKKO.

Down Trains.	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.
Utsunomiya	5.25	10.55	12.25	5.5
Togami	5.37	10.57	12.37	5.17
Kanuma	5.54	11.14	12.54	5.35
Fubasami	6.13	11.33	1.13	5.54
Imaichi	6.43	12.03	1.43	6.23
Nikko	7.00	12.40	2.00	6.40
Up Trains.	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.
Nikko	7.20	11.55	2.25	6.55
Imaichi	7.38	12.13	2.43	7.13
Fubasami	8.05	12.41	3.11	7.41
Kanuma	8.25	1.01	3.31	8.01
Togami	8.42	1.18	3.48	8.18
Utsunomiya	8.53	1.30	4.00	8.28

N.B.—* Through Trains to and from Utsunomiya.

Through Tickets will be issued to the above stations from Tokyo (Utsunomiya and Oyama) by the trains leaving Utsunomiya at 6.40, 8.50, and 11.40 a.m., from Shinbashi, Shinagawa, and Shinjuku by the trains leaving at 8.10, 10.10, and 11 a.m.; and from Yokohama to Nikko by the trains leaving there at 7.20 and 10.22 a.m.

Through Tickets will also be issued from all stations on the Branch Line to Tokyo (Utsunomiya and Shinbashi) Shinagawa, Shinjuku, Oyama and Oyama; and from Nikko to Yokohama.

MITO LINE.—OYAMA AND MITO.

Down Trains.	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.
Oyama	6.50	9.25	12.25	5.15
Yuki	7.40	9.39	1.34	5.20
Kawashima	7.12	9.59	1.57	5.37
Shimodate	7.24	9.59	2.04	5.49
Iwase	7.54	10.19	2.24	6.19
Fukuhara	8.09	10.44	2.39	6.34
Kasama	8.25	11.11	2.55	6.50
Shishido	8.39	11.11	3.09	7.11
Utsunomiya	8.50	11.25	3.18	7.15
Mito	9.13	11.48	3.40	7.38
Up Trains.	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.
Utsunomiya	6.25	10.10	2.55	6.55
Shishido	6.49	10.34	3.29	7.19
Kasama	7.12	10.48	3.43	7.33
Fukuhara	7.26	11.15	3.54	7.44
Iwase	7.30	11.15	4.00	7.58
Shimodate	7.49	11.34	4.29	8.17
Kawashima	8.17	12.04	4.59	8.43
Yuki	8.30	12.14	5.00	8.55
Oyama	8.37	12.22	5.07	9.03

Through Tickets will be issued from Shinbashi and Shinagawa by the trains leaving Shinbashi at 11 a.m. and 1.50 p.m., leaving Utsunomiya at 6.40, 8.50 a.m. and 1.40 p.m., and from Utsunomiya by the train leaving there at 4.15 p.m.

Through Tickets will also be issued from all stations except Fukuhara and Utsunomiya on the Mito line to Utsunomiya, Shinagawa, Oyama, Kuki, Kuribashi, Koga, and Utsunomiya.

Until further notice, trains will not stop at Fukuhara Station.

TIME TABLES AND STEAMERS.

TOKYO-YOKOHAMA RAILWAY.

DOWN TRAINS LEAVE SHIMBASHI Station at 6.05,* 6.40, 8.35, 9.30,* 10.25, and 11.45 a.m., and 1.25, 2.30, 3.55, 4.45, 5.50, 6.50, 8.30, 9.55, and 11.15 p.m.

UP TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 6.30, 7.20, 8.10, 9.15, 10.22, and 11.30 a.m., and 12.45, 2.30, 4.25, 5.30, 6.35, 7.50, 9.10, 10.05, and 11.05 p.m.

FARES—First-class, *sen* 60; second-class, *sen* 40 and third-class, *sen* 20.

Trains marked (*) run through without stopping at Omori, Kawasaki, and Kanagawa Stations. Those marked (†) run through without stopping at Omori, Kawasaki, and Tsu-rumi Stations.

TOKAIDO RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA (down) at 6.50, 9.10, 10.20, 11.25 a.m., and 12.40, 3.25, 4.55, 5.35, and 7.45 p.m.; and Kozu (up) at 6.35, 8.40, 9.40, and 11.07 a.m., and 1.17, 2.45, 4.58, 7.25, and 9.46 p.m.

FARES—To Hologaya, first-class *sen* 6, second-class *sen* 4, third-class *sen* 2; to Tototsuka, *sen* 18, *sen* 12, *sen* 6; to Ofuna *sen* 36, *sen* 24, *sen* 12; to Fujisawa, *sen* 42, *sen* 24, *sen* 14; to Hiratsuka, *sen* 60, *sen* 44, *sen* 22; to Oiwa, *sen* 75, *sen* 50, *sen* 25; and to Kozu, *sen* 93, *sen* 62, *sen* 31.

Down trains at 6.50 a.m. run no further than Kyoto arriving there at 11.50 p.m.; at 10.20 a.m. no further than Nagoya, arriving at 10.10 p.m.; at 12.40 p.m. no further than Shizuoka, arriving there at 6.50 p.m.; at 3.25 p.m. no further than Shizuoka, arriving at 8.48 p.m.; and the train at 5.35 p.m. runs to Kobe, arriving at 12.45 p.m. next day.

A tramway runs between Kozu and Yumoto (distance 4 ri. Jinriksha may be hired between Yumoto and MIYANOSHITA distance 12 ri).

SHINJIKU-HACHIOJI RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE SHINJIKU, TOKYO, (down) at 6.55 and 9.55 a.m. and 12.52, 4, and 7 p.m.; and HACHIOJI (up) at 5.25, 8.25, and 11.25 a.m. and 2.20 and 5.30 p.m.

FARES—First-class *sen* 90; second-class *sen* 60; third-class *sen* 30.

TOKYO-MAEBASHI RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE TOKYO (Ueno) (down) at 6.40, 8.50, and 11.40 a.m., and 2.40 and 5.40 p.m.; and MAEBASHI (up) at 6.55, and 11.50 a.m., and 2.50 and 5.50 p.m.

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

STEAMERS LEAVE THE NIPPON HATABA daily at 7.55 and 10.30 a.m., and 1.45 and 4.00 p.m.; and LEAVE YOKOSUKA at 7.10 and 10.30 a.m., and 1.30, and 4.00 p.m.—Fare, *sen* 20.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki, & Kobe	per N. Y. K.	Friday, Aug. 1st.
From Hongkong	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, July 26th.
From America	per U. & O. Co.	Thursday Aug. 7th.

A City of Peking left Kobe on July 25th. A Galic left San Francisco on July 19th. The English mail is on board the steamer Parthia.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Canada, &c.	per C. P. M. Co.	Sunday, July 17th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, July 19th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, July 29th.
For Europe, via Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 3rd.
For America	per U. & O. Co.	Saturday, Aug. 9th.
For Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd.	Sunday, Aug. 17th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 18th July.—Shanghai and ports 12th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
General Werder, German steamer, 1,820, Eichel, 19th July.—Hongkong 13th July, General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.
Thales, British steamer, 820, W. G. Hunter, 20th July.—Takao 13th July, Sugar.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. F. Preston, 20th July.—Hongkong 12th, Nagasaki 16th, and Kobe 19th July, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Pak-Ling, British steamer, 1,910, MacHugh, 21st July.—Kobe 19th July, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.
Milke Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,082, Sommer, 21st July.—Kobe 20th July, Rice, Sugar and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Wachusett, American ship, 1,519, Smith, 22nd July.—New York 21st February, Oil.—R. Isaacs & Bro.
Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 22nd July.—Kobe 21st July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Christensen, 23rd July.—Hakodate 21st July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Benalder, British steamer 1,288, Macintosh, 23rd July.—Kobe 21st July, General.—Cornes & Co.
Kriemhild, German steamer, 1,709, T. Eulers, 23rd July.—Hongkong 17th July, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.
Northern, British steamer, 1,406, Richardson, 23rd July.—Rangoon 8th July, Rice.—Smith, Baker & Co.
Euphrates, British steamer, 1,423, Edwards, 23rd July.—Hongkong 15th July, Rice.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Manuel Llaguno, American ship, 1,650, C. D. Bruce, 24th July.—New York 16th March, 62,100 cases Oil.—China & Japan Trading Co.
Hassia, German steamer, 1,405, Wachsmoth, 24th July.—Shanghai 19th July, General.—China & Japan Trading Co.
Rattler (6), cruiser, Captain J. G. Heugh, 24th July.—Hongkong 16th July.
Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 25th July.—Kobe 23rd July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,240, Conner, 25th July.—Shanghai and ports, 19th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, D. S. Austin, 26th July.—San Francisco 8th July, General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Abyssinia, British steamer, 2,300, G. A. Lee, 26th July.—Hongkong 15th, Shanghai 21st, and Kobe 25th July, General.—C. P. M. S.S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Arday, British steamer, 1,181, Cass, 18th July.—Kobe, General.—H. B. Reynell & Co.
Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, Young, 18th July.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Columbus, German ship, 1,731, Sauerlich, 19th July.—Royal Roads, Ballast.—H. Ahrens & Co.
Hesperia, German steamer, 1,180, Madsen, 19th July.—Kobe, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.
Nestor, British steamer, 1,430, Elder, 19th July.—Kobe, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Itis (4), German gunboat, Captain Ascher, 19th July.—Hakodate.
Algoma, British steamer, 1,802, George, 20th July.—Kobe, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Melbourne, French steamer, 3,400, Vimont, 20th

July.—Shanghai via Kobe, General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.
Ertugroul (14), Turkish frigate, Captain Osman Pacha, 21st July.—Yokosuka.
General Werder, German steamer, 1,820, Eichel, 22nd July.—Hongkong via Kobe, General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.
Benedi, British steamer, 1,452, Clark, 22nd July.—Kobe, General.—Cornes & Co.
Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 22nd July.—Shanghai and ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Thales, British steamer, 820, Hunter, 23rd July.—Kobe, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Milke Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,082, Sommer, 24th July.—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, C. Young, 24th July.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Pak-Ling, British steamer, 1,910, MacHugh, 25th July.—Kobe, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.
Verona, British steamer, 1,876, F. H. Seymour, 26th July.—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer **Yokohama Maru**, from Shanghai and ports:—Prince and Princess Lobanoff de Boston, maid, and 3 children, Rev. and Mrs. E. B. Williams and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Stoddard, Miss Munter, Miss Glover, Bishop Nicolai, Captain Munter, Messrs. G. E. J. Sadner, J. W. Aldes, John Darth, Ed. Meldrum, and J. Yezaki in cabin; 3 passengers in second class, and 81 passengers in steerage.
 Per German steamer **General Werder**, from Hongkong:—H.R.H. Prince Bhasawongsi, H.R.H. Prince Wattana, H.H. Prince Prisdang, Marquis Dechao, Monsieur Luan Chuan, Monsieur Koon Alt, Mr. and Mrs. O. Münch, Messrs. T. Orkney, C. Schütze, T. Stevens, Chinzo Kondo, Dr. Taketsugu Shimada, Messrs. Phra Sia Wala Sund, Koon Balat, Nai Chome, Nai Chang, Nai Meng, and Chock Chew and child in cabin; Sister Babarer, Mr. Hoppe, Mr. Inagaki, and 37 Chinese in steerage.
 Per British steamer **Verona**, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. G. Watson, Rev. A. Magorchis, Captain M. Z. Martin and servant, Mr. Chinasaki, Major Belford, Mr. Usobe and friend, Rev. W. T. Rainer, R.N., Dr. and Mrs. Paterson, Miss Paterson, Messrs. Wing Chong Wo, A. M. Apcar, J. Gregory, and W. S. Martin in cabin; 4 Chinese in steerage.
 Per Japanese steamer **Nagato Maru**, from Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. O. A. Dukes and 2 children, Messrs. C. F. Hooper, K. Ononye, N. Matsumura, T. Matsumura, Dr. Y. M. Kim, Mr. Kirby, Mr. Jones, Miss Graham, Messrs. Calvert, Abe, K. Sumiya, G. Kishimoto, M. Takahama, and K. Yamada in cabin; 40 Japanese and 3 Europeans in steerage.
 Per Japanese steamer **Saikio Maru**, from Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. Bradley, Mrs. Ringer and 2 children, Mrs. Sandford, Messrs. Beattie, Gordon, Sondheim, A. Singleton, Murata, Lee Bon Sang, P. Yuen Chau, H. Yon Sun, W. Wing Yet, Dr. Bringleb, and Master Hirata in cabin; Messrs. Akabahe, G. Pfeil, and 6 Japanese in second class, and 106 passengers in steerage.
 Per American steamer **City of Rio de Janeiro**, from San Francisco:—Mrs. Chester and child, Mr. Geo. A. Newman, Miss Newman, Messrs. G. Matsumoto, S. Endo, A. Van Winkle, A. Marquet, Frank Favre, Y. S. Matsudaira, Frank McCarthy, T. Kawaguchi, and John Powers in cabin. For Hongkong: Mr. and Mrs. R. Wildman and Mr. Chas. L. Smith in cabin.
 Per British steamer **Abyssinia**, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Warren and 2 children, Captain and Mrs. Lambeth, Miss Cushman, Miss Oakland, Messrs. A. J. How, C. A. Pullan, F. A. Burchard, Carle Gattil, and Geo. Taylor, in cabin; Captain and Mrs. Tiddy and 2 children, and 5 Chinese in second class, and 110 Chinese in steerage.
 DEPARTED.
 Per French steamer **Melbourne**, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Messrs. V. M. Koreylin, T. A. Singleton, A. H. Bradley, Harry O. Phillips, M. H. Robertson, Jas. Raymond, G. W. Cottan, K. Naka, H. Golstein, Mrs. C. W. Dassing, Messrs. J. Darbier, M. Legendre, and Major H. P. Knight in cabin.
 Per German steamer **General Werder**, for Hongkong via Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. Munch, Mr. Fugar Orth, Mr. E. Voigt, Masters Braess (3), Mr. Carl Schmitz, Master van der Heyde, Mr. Joh. Christiansen, and Mr. Ah Tung in cabin; 10 Chinese in steerage.
 Per Japanese steamer **Yokohama Maru**, for

Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. A. Thomsen, Mrs. R. Raymond, The Misses Palmer (2), Miss Steadman, Mr. and Mrs. Burton, Major-General Palmer, R.E., Messrs. Yamashita, Okuyama, Matsuo, and W. Smith in cabin; Miss Palmer's maid, Messrs. Sawa and Yokota in second class, and 107 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer **Verona**, for Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. Scott, Rev. Rainer, Rev. A. Chapell and Mrs. Chapell, Rev. A. Magnolis, Lieutenant R. C. Fees, Messrs. J. R. Scott, S. Williams, Wo Show Yen, and Wo Cheong Show in cabin; 6 Chinese in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per French steamer **Melbourne**, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Silk for France 17 bales. Waste Silk for France 19 bales.

Per British steamer **Verona**, for Hongkong via ports:—Silk for France 48 bales.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer **Yokohama Maru**, Captain Swain, reports:—Left Shanghai the 12th July at 7 a.m.; had fine pleasant weather. Arrived at Nagasaki the 14th at 1 a.m. and left at 7-45 p.m. Arrived at Shimonoseki the 15th at 9 a.m. and left at 10 a.m. Arrived at Kobe the 16th at 11 a.m. and left the 17th at 0.30 p.m.; had fine weather throughout the voyage. Arrived at Yokohama the 18th July at 7.20 p.m.

The German steamer **General Werder**, Captain Eichel, reports:—Left Hongkong the 13th July at 5.15 p.m.; had the first 2 days light southerly winds with smooth sea; thence to the Japanese coast strong S.E. and easterly winds with rough sea; the last days fine weather and smooth sea. Arrived at Yokohama the 19th July at 8.50 a.m.

The Japanese steamer **Yamashiro Maru**, Captain Young, reports:—Left Kobe the 21st July at noon; had moderate to light W.S.W. winds and fine weather throughout to Vries Island at 1 p.m. on the 22nd whence light southerly breeze to Kannon-saki at 4 p.m.; thence to port calm and variable airs. Arrived at Yokohama at 5 p.m., passed American ship J T G S off Kannon-saki.

The Japanese steamer **Omi Maru**, Captain Christensen, reports:—Left Hakodate the 21st July at 5.15 a.m.; had moderate to fresh southerly and S.W. winds with unsettled weather and low barometer to Kinkasan; thence light westerly winds and fine clear weather to port; a high southerly swell from Yamada head to Inuboye. Arrived at Yokohama the 23rd July at 5.15 a.m.

The Japanese steamer **Nagato Maru**, Captain Ekstrand, reports:—Left Kobe the 23rd July at noon; had light breeze and fine weather, south of Cape Itsye passed an American ship in ballast beating up. On the 24th at 9.30 a.m. passed American ship **Burgess** and **Snow** off Omai-saki beating up to Yokohama; had fine weather with smooth sea during passage. Arrived at Yokohama at 5 p.m.

The Japanese steamer **Saikio Maru**, Captain Conner, reports:—Left Shanghai the 19th July at 0.30 p.m.; had fine weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Nagasaki the 21st at 5 a.m. and left at 5 p.m.; had fine weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Shimonoseki the 22nd at 6.15 a.m. and left at 7.10 a.m. Arrived at Kobe the 23rd at 5 a.m. and left the 24th at noon; had light variable winds and fine weather to Rock Island; thence moderate N.E. winds and rain to port. Arrived at Yokohama the 25th July at 9.15 p.m. Quarantined 4 hours at Naga-ura; saw 2 sailing ships outside bound in.

The American steamer **City of Rio de Janeiro**, Captain Austin, reports:—Left San Francisco the 8th July at 4.20 p.m.; had fine weather with light westerly winds most of the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 26th July at 1.09 a.m. Passage, 16 days, 15 hours, and 21 minutes.

The British steamer **Abyssinia**, Captain Lee, reports:—Left Hongkong the 16th July, Shanghai the 31st, Kobe via Inland Sea the 25th. Arrived at Yokohama the 26th 7 a.m.; detained 1 hour at Quarantine Station. Time from Kobe 26 hours. From Kobe to Oosima variable winds and fine weather, thence to port moderate E.N.E. winds and cloudy weather, smooth sea throughout the passage.

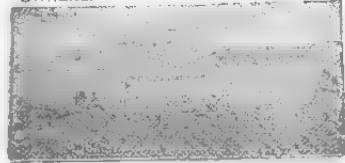
LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The demand for Yarn has entirely ceased during the week; the business done in English Spinnings has been very small, and in Bomblays not a sale has been reported. Shirts and T. Cloths are equally neglected. Velvets have had considerable attention, but are weaker at the close. Italians have also been inquired for, but no business has been reported, although there is every reason to

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/64
Sterling—Bank 1 months' sight	3/72
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/72
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On Paris—Bank sight	50
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4.00
On Hongkong—Bank sight	2 1/2
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	4% dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	7 1/2
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	7 1/2
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	86 1/2
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	87 1/2
On San Francisco—Bank bills on demand	86 1/2
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	87 1/2

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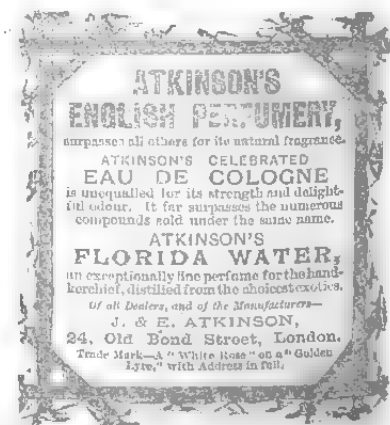
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 5.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, AUGUST 2ND, 1890.

通信會認可

[Vol. XIV.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, AUGUST 2, 1890.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

A SHOCK of earthquake was experienced in the capital on the 25th ult., at 2h. 57m. 25s. p.m.

H.R.H. PRINCE BHASAKARAWONGSE and suite paid a visit to the Government Printing Bureau on the 26th ult.

H.R.H. PRINCE BHANURANGSI was decorated with the First Class Order of the Rising Sun on the 26th ult.

THE *Chiyoda Kan*, ordered by the Naval Department from England, will be brought out to Japan about the end of September.

It is stated that the revised Newspapers Regulations, which are now under discussion in the Senate, will be promulgated at an early date.

At the half-yearly meeting of the Matsushiro 63th National Bank, held the other day, a dividend was declared at the rate of yen 3 per annum.

MR. YOKOSE FUMHIKO, a councillor of the Finance Department, was appointed a manager of the Osaka Mint on the 28th ult., being raised to third class of *sonin* rank.

MR. MIYABARA, judge of the Tokyo Court of First Instance, was raised to seventh class, first grade from seventh class, second grade on the 28th ult., by special order of the Emperor.

THE revised Mining Regulations were promulgated on the 29th ult. over the signatures of Count Yamagata and Mr. Mutsu, Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

An outbreak of fire took place on the night of the 19th ultimo in the branch office of the Mitsui Products Company at Otaru, Hokkaido, and before the flames could be got under con-

trol, the building in which they originated, the Hokkai Ginko, the Mitsui Ginko, and other thirty houses were entirely destroyed.

A MEETING of the Privy Council was held on the 28th ult. at which Counts Oki, Higashikuze, Katsu and Soejima, Viscounts Sano, Enomoto, and Fukuoka, and Mr. Kono were present.

It is stated that the Seven Islands of Idzu, which are now under the control of the Tokyo City Government, will be transferred to the jurisdiction of the Kanagawa Prefectural Government.

THEIR MAJESTIES THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS have granted yen 1,000 and yen 500 respectively to the Japan Sanitary Association, which gives medical assistance gratuitously to persons attacked by cholera.

An outbreak of fire took place on the night of the 19th ult. in a house at Tsunotatecho, Senhoku, Akita Prefecture, and fourteen houses and one godown were entirely burned before the flames could be subdued.

THE usual meeting of the Cabinet was held on the 28th ult., at which Counts Yamagata, Saigo, Yamada, and Matsukata, and Viscount Aoki and Mr. Mutsu were present, the proceedings lasting till a late hour.

THE graduation ceremony of the Naval Medical School took place on the 28th ult. in presence of Viscount Kabayama, Minister of State for the Navy, Rear-Admiral Ito, Vice-Minister for the Navy, and about fifty naval officers.

An outbreak of fire took place on the night of the 13th ult. in a house of Takakuramura, Susu, Ishikawa Prefecture and thirty dwellings and three godowns were entirely destroyed before the flames could be extinguished.

THE receipts of the Sanyo Railway Company during the month of June last were yen 12,915,965, the daily average being yen 430,532, and 12,207 passengers were carried during the same period, showing an average of 2,407 daily.

FIRE occurred early in the morning of the 19th ultimo in a house at Yagicho, Takaichi, Nara Prefecture, and twelve houses were entirely destroyed, four dwellings being partially burned before the flames could be subdued. On the 24th ultimo fifteen dwellings and one elementary school were burned to the ground at Suishucho, Hiroshima.

ACCORDING to investigations made by the Department of Communications during the latter half of last year the various post offices in the Empire dealt with 27,693,194 letters, 33,562,138 postal cards, 11,033,140 newspapers and magazines, 898,188 books, 36,177 samples, 8,509 letters containing money, 3,777,020 free letters, and 1,650, 903 registered letters.

FIRE occurred on the night of the 22nd ultimo in a house at Inahosakicho, Iwauchi, Shiribeshi, Hokkaido, and forty houses were entirely destroyed before the flames could be extinguished. On the 21st ult. twenty-one houses, one hospital, one elementary school, and two godowns were burned to the ground at Kusakura, Higashikanbara, Niigata Prefecture.

THE half-yearly meeting of shareholders of the Tokyo Cotton Spinning Company was held on the 25th ult. The net profits for the past half-year were yen 5,541,262, of which yen 900 was set apart towards a reserve fund, and yen

4,500 was appropriated as a dividend at the rate of 3 per cent. per annum, the remaining yen 141,262 being carried forward to the next account.

THE half-yearly meeting of shareholders of the Tokyo Gas Company was held the other day. The receipts during the past half-year were yen 45,564,435, of which yen 25,731,435 was set apart towards miscellaneous expenses, yen 4,383.30 as a reserve fund, yen 2,578.29 as rewards to officers, and yen 14,175 was appropriated as a dividend at the rate of 9 per cent. per annum, the remainder being carried forward to the next account.

H.R.H. PRINCE BHASAKARAWONGSE was received in audience by the Emperor and Empress on the evening of the 26th ult., and afterwards His Royal Highness and Their Imperial Highness Princes Fushimi, Komatsu, Marquises Tokudaiji and Kito, Count Oyama, Viscounts Aoki and Kagawa, and several other officials of the Imperial Household Department, had the honour of dining with the Emperor.

It is stated that the following gentlemen will be nominated by the Emperor as members of the House of Peers:—Messrs. Shibusawa Eichii, President of the 1st National Bank; Tomita Tetsunosuke, late President of the Bank of Japan; Shimamoto Nakamichi, Oi Kentaro, of the *Jiyu-to* party, Iwasaki Yanosuke, Fuku-zawa Yukichi, Yano Fumio (*Hochi Shimbun*), and Fukuchi Genichiro, late chief editor of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.

THE half-yearly meeting of shareholders of the Mito 104th National Bank was held the other day. The net profits for the past half-year were yen 25,067,481, of which yen 4,698,641 was set apart towards miscellaneous expenses, yen 336, towards the payment of business tax, yen 1,450 as a reserve fund, and yen 1,204,645 as rewards to officers, yen 7,200 being provided as dividend, to be declared at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum, and the remainder carried forward to the next account.

THE ordinary half-yearly meeting of shareholders of the 17th National Bank (Fukuoka) was held the other day. The net profits for the past half year were yen 73,531,226, of which yen 17,691,712 was set apart towards miscellaneous expenses, yen 560 towards payment of business tax, yen 2,400 as a reserve fund, yen 2,200 as rewards to officers and yen 17,500 was appropriated as a dividend at the rate of 15 per cent. per annum, the remainder being carried forward to the next account.

IMPORTS generally are only in small demand, and Manchester goods are dull, Yarns being very quiet, and Piece-goods slow of sale. Metals are in no better request, even at lower rates, and Kerosine is inactive, with very heavy stocks in hand. There have been moderate sales of Sugar, mostly Takao, at late figures. The wide gulf between holders and buyers of Silk continues, the breach being accentuated by continuously rising rates of exchange which sellers attempt to ignore, but which buyers take full account of. The stock is now well assorted and ample, but, if the present condition of consuming markets continues, large concessions on the rates for which Silk is now held must be made before transactions of any magnitude can be effected. There has not been a single transaction in Waste Silk, which is entirely due to the high prices for which the commodity is held. Arrivals come in freely and the stock accumulates. The Tea trade remains steady, and prices are unaltered. Exchange continues to mount upward, and present rates are apparently quite firm.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

COUNT GOTO'S POSITION.

CONTRARY to all expectation, the *Daido Danketsu*, whose final disappearance from the political arena had been at one time thought a mere question of time, has apparently recovered its old energy during the last few months. At all events it has come out of the recent elections nearly at the head of all the political parties in the country. People are therefore asking curiously what course of policy Count Goto, its leader, may be expected to adopt. Writing on this subject, the *Keizai Zasshi* of the 19th ult. discusses the peculiar nature of the situation in which Count Goto now finds himself. "Is he going," asks our contemporary, "to remain faithful to the present Cabinet and induce his party to support it, or is he going to accomplish the original object of demolishing class government by suffering his party to swell the ranks of the Opposition?" At first sight it may appear impossible for the Count to adopt the latter course, considering that some promises which he is understood to have made to the Yamagata Cabinet lie directly in his path. But, however, inconvenient and inconsistent it might be for him to break his engagements and attack clan government, our contemporary is sceptical as to whether he will be able to resist the force of the general tide and stick to his plighted words. It was the *Daido Danketsu* that enabled him to enter the Cabinet, and it is the same party that enables him to retain his position there with any show of dignity and power. Thus far that party has presented the appearance of being a mere instrument in the hands of its leader, but the *Keizai Zasshi* is certain that its members will not long remain content with such a situation; they must insist on the accomplishment of their original object, the destruction of clan government. It is true that Count Goto may be able to bring over to the Government's side a few of his confidential followers, but it is inconceivable, says the Tokyo journal, that the bulk of the party will be blind enough to follow him so far. Without the support of his party, Count Goto would have no power; therefore our contemporary is sure that he will not be foolish enough to estrange his followers. What, then, is he going to do? The time has arrived for him to take a decided step one way or the other. It is no longer possible for him to remain indifferent. "An alliance" says the *Keizai Zasshi*, "is about to be effected among the progressive parties. Should the alliance become a fact, the combined parties will proceed to fix a certain number of questions to be brought forward in the Diet. Among such questions, that of clan government will certainly be included, and when it really comes before the Diet, what attitude will Count Goto take? Will he endeavour to weaken the forces of the Opposition and support the Government, or will he act as he acted in the era of Keio, when he advised the Tokugawa Government to restore the control of affairs to the Imperial Court?" We do not ourselves think that this question has strong practical interest. If Government by clan were a fact recognised and approved by those in power, its fate might become a point for immediate discussion. But, on the contrary, it is avowedly condemned by the statesmen in office, and those who are counted supporters of the present Cabinet, as strongly as by the leaders of the *Daido Danketsu*. How, then, is it to become a great practical issue in Parliament?

CENSUS IN SHANGHAI.

THE census of the Foreign and Chinese population of Shanghai has just been completed. A census is taken every five years. The result, as published in the *North China Daily News*, reveals many interesting points. First it may be noticed that the number of Japanese residents has strikingly declined, there being at the present time but 386 adults and children as compared with 595 in 1885. Besides the Japa-

nese, the Spanish, Austrian, Italian, Belgian, Greek, and natives of India, Malay, &c., show a more or less marked decrease. This is in the English and American concessions. In the French concession, which as our readers know is under totally distinct municipal control, we are unable to judge, a comparative table not having been drawn up. There were only 17 Japanese in the French concession, however. Unlike their sister concessions, the French, English, American, and German head the list. The leading nationalities in numbers at least in the concessions south of the Yang King Pang are the British, Portuguese, Japanese, American, and German. Portugal as well as Japan, we observe, shows a considerable falling off in the number of its citizens in the Model Settlement. The total number of British subjects is 1,574, as compared with 1,453 in 1885, 1,057 in 1880, 892 in 1876, and 894 in 1870. The total comprises 769 adult males, 377 females, and 428 children. In the English and American settlements there are now 3,821 foreigners (2,790 being adults), representing an increase of a little under 150 for the five years. The French settlement numbers 454, 296 over 15 years of age, 148 younger than fifteen. Of Chinese, the returns give a gross number of 168,129 for the Anglo-Saxon concessions (39,850 of this total are children, however) as compared with 34,722 in the French concession. Of the hundred and sixty odd thousand in the English and American concessions, over thirty-nine thousand are children. Still there are no less than 128,279 adults, an increase of close upon 26,000 in the five years. This is an incomparably larger increase than has ever been known before. Of the thirty-five thousand in the French concession, young people under 15 years of age number a little short of ten thousand. There are no less than 6,342 (4,583 males, 614 females, and 1,145 children) living "in shipping and boats" in the immediate vicinity of the English and American settlements. The figures here given represent in the aggregate 207,116, which may therefore be regarded as the official estimate of the foreign and native population of the English and American and French Settlements of Shanghai. Of this total, over two hundred and two thousand are Chinese.

THE TREATY REVISION PROGRAMME.

Most of the Tokyo newspapers contain references to the Treaty revision programme indicated in a recent letter to *The Times* from its Tokyo correspondent. One journal contradicts a rumour which it says had obtained currency that *The Times* correspondent is a secretary of the British or United States Legations. Another equally sapient seer corrects the impression that the information had been procured by a foreigner at much cost, and declares that the Japanese Government were willing parties to the divulging of the programme.

General Tani's opinion has been asked with regard to the new project of Treaty Revision, and in reply he is reported to have said that he objected to last year's programme on the score of loyalty and patriotism. To Viscount Aoki's new scheme, as communicated to him by a friend he had no objection, but he regarded the information given in *The Times* as vague, and not worthy of criticism.

The *Hochi Shimbun*, while admitting that the new programme is a good one, doubts whether it can be carried through.

The *Daido Shimbun* does not feel called on either to applaud or condemn the scheme, till it is laid before the public in greater detail. Our contemporary, however, cannot approve of the proposal to open the country without permitting foreigners to own real estate, which it thinks will not be agreed to.

The *Choya Shimbun*, finding that the new programme goes far beyond Count Okuma's cillor of the Temporary Parliamentary Bureau;

Mr. Yoshiwara Saburo, Probationary Councillor of the Temporary Parliamentary Bureau, and Mr. Koike Seichichi, Secretary of the Temporary Parliamentary Bureau. Finally, Mr. Mizuno Jun is gazetted a Secretary of the Diet in addition to his present office of Councillor of the Legislative Bureau. According to the Constitution, the staff of each House is to include a Chief Secretary and several Secretaries, the former of *chokunin* and the latter of *sonin* rank. Their emoluments are not fixed as yet.

CHINESE OFFICIALS.

THE Chinese are eminently practical folks. If a man embezzles money, they think chiefly of recovering the coin and attach quite a secondary importance to the punishment of the offender. Indeed, if the latter happens to be an official, there seems to be no insuperable objection to replacing him in a position where he can resume his speculative practices, provided only that he disgorges a fair portion of his previous takings. A case in point is that of the Superintendent of the Canton Arsenal. This official, according to the *Peking Gazette* as translated by the *Chinese Times*, "together with two subordinates had been suspected of some shady transactions, and the Viceroy had been ordered to hold an investigation. The result was that Wen Tze-shao (the Superintendent) was degraded, and ordered to pay Tls. 200,000, supposed to have been squeezed by him while in office; also to complete some buildings at the Arsenal at his own expense. His two subordinates were similarly treated. On condition, however, of the money being paid up, their rank was to be restored." The money was promptly paid, and the neat incident of the affair was a memorial recommending the officials for re-instatement, which document was submitted to the Board of Civil Offices "for examination and report."

THE "KOKU-HON."

A NEW journal of high standing has just made its appearance in Tokyo, under the editorship of Mr. Kikuchi Kumataro, formerly editor of the now defunct *Bun*. It is called the *Koku-hon* (*National Resource*) and is to be published thrice a month. The type, judging from the first number, is clear and the paper good. It professes to maintain a strictly independent attitude, making reason and justice its sole standard of guidance, and it engages never to prostitute itself for party purposes. In discussing important topics of the day, it promises to avoid the tendency to obstruction and theory so common in Japanese journalism, and to seek rather for as much information as possible from men of special eminence and experience. The tone of the first number is calm and sober, as might indeed have been expected from the past writings of its editor.

An article entitled "Japanese Politics," tells us that Mr. Kikuchi is not one of those sanguine reformers who think that, on the establishment of parliamentary institutions, the country will be ready to put into practice the principles of party government. He does not, of course, consider that the present system of clan government can be maintained for ever or that it is the best form of government. The relations between the Sovereign and his subjects in Japan are of unique character. Nothing analogous is to be seen in any other country. Mr. Kikuchi seems to think, therefore, that the national polity is in some fundamental respects incompatible with the principles of party government as practised in the democratic countries of the West. He advises Japanese statesmen to be deliberate in introducing new practices into political spheres. He further recommends the members of the coming Diet to avoid all problems of principle and doctrine which have little connection with practical affairs, and to confine their attention to such questions as possess an immediate bearing on the interests and welfare of the people. By way of example he adduces the question of education, which, he says, awaits intelligent solution, and inasmuch as many years have elapsed since the

new system of education was introduced, there should be a sufficiency of practical experience for forming a sound judgment. The same is also true of military, naval, financial, and industrial questions, and so forth. The members of the first diet will do well to devote their attention to these questions, and not to travel beyond them.

In an open letter to Count Ito, our contemporary advises that statesman to assume again the chief direction of affairs as soon as possible. The public does not regard the Count as the greatest man of the age, but still he enjoys unbounded popularity, and high expectations are entertained about him. "What is it that makes Your Excellency so popular? In our humble opinion, you do not possess either the indefatigable zeal of Count Itagaki, the intrepid boldness of Count Kuroda, the matchless cleverness of Count Inouye, the large-heartedness of Count Okuma, the strenuous perseverance of Count Matsukata, the military glory of Count Yamagata, or the spotless purity of Viscount Tani. That among these statesmen Your Excellency enjoys the largest measure of the nation's confidence, is owing, among other things, to your justice in the conduct of affairs and your freedom from prejudice in your dealings with other men. Judging from your past career, you are to the late Marquis Okubo what the late Marquis Tseng was to Li Hung-Chang. You enjoyed the confidence of the greatest statesman of modern Japan, and you seem to have looked to him as a standard on which to mould your conduct. You endeavour to walk in the road of right and justice, without straying into by-paths. Moreover, you are naturally sagacious, and your knowledge makes you conspicuous in any Ministry of the present day. As to your achievements in the sphere of civil affairs, you may well be proud of not a few works of lasting importance. Not without reason, therefore, does the public entertain high expectations about your Excellency." Our contemporary then goes on to observe that, though some men call Count Ito rash and fickle, and describe him as a politician little concerned to promote the interests of practical business and industry, every thoughtful person admits that, of all the statesmen who have ever accomplished great things in Japan, he has the smallest number of political enemies. Further, he enjoys the confidence of the Emperor in such a large measure that not a Ministerial crisis occurs but the Sovereign turns to him. Our contemporary also begs to bring to the notice of the Count that in certain quarters men regret his connection with statesmen who are considered selfish, and lament his inability to withstand the attacks of some jealous men of Choshu. Yet while even the late Marquis Kido was unable to divest himself of his character of a mere Choshu statesman, the *Koku-hon* avers that men generally acknowledge Count Ito to be a statesman of Japan and not of Choshu. Such being the position of the illustrious politician, our contemporary calls upon him to respond to the appeal of his country, and once more to take in his hand the helm of state.

Mr. Miyake Yujiro, formerly editor of the *Koko Shimbun*, contributes an article on the subject of "Discontent among Noblemen." The article does not contain much that is novel, but it possesses a certain amount of interest just now in connection with the recent extraordinary elections among the nobles. The writer reproduces a paper said to have been brought before the *Dohō-kwai* (Nobles' Club) by Viscount Funahashi, formerly a court noble of Kyoto. In this paper the Viscount observes that there is a vast difference between nobles of different classes from a pecuniary point of view. While there are *Kwasoku* worth more than a million yen, there are others who support themselves on property scarcely amounting to a thousand yen in value. The Viscount remarks that his fellow noblemen of the *kuge* class mostly occupy the lowest position in the list. In contrast to them, the noblemen of new creation have all received suitable sums according to their respective orders, the Counts

receiving 30,000 yen, the Viscounts 20,000 yen, and the Barons 10,000 yen. The discontented essayist further maintains that there is no reason why noblemen should meekly obey the Government, that they ought to maintain their independence, and further that, whenever they consider the Government to be pursuing a pernicious policy, they are entitled to stand in direct opposition to those in power. Mr. Miyake does not tell us when the paper was laid before the *Dohō Kwai*, and what induced Viscount Funahashi to address his peers in such terms. But there is no doubt that the essay had its origin in the excitement about the elections. Viewed in that light it has some significance, as it explains, to a certain extent, the causes of the unexpected results of the election among the three lower orders of nobility. Mr. Miyake thinks that the paper is like the first drops of rain presaging a storm, but we are unable to follow him to such a length. There are several other articles of high merit on current topics, but space does not allow us to epitomise them.

CUSTOMS RETURNS.

The following is a summary of the Customs Returns for June, showing the foreign trade of Japan for the month:—

	1889.		1890.	
	SILVER YEN.	1889.	SILVER YEN.	1890.
Exports	4,781,012.790		4,673,045.830	
Imports	5,238,613.420		7,124,532.890	
Total exports and imports		11,797,578.420		2,451,487.060
Excess of imports				
CUSTOMS DUTIES.				
Exports		136,959.009		
Imports		200,287.885		
Miscellaneous		9,645.135		
Total		346,892.029		

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS TO AND IMPORTS FROM VARIOUS FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.
Great Britain	688,777.160	1,274,086.030	2,262,863.790
United States of America	1,901,753.080	749,665.290	2,651,418.370
China	310,486.690	704,202.730	1,014,689.420
Hongkong	789,651.030	358,422.370	1,147,073.400
British India	79,541.360	449,210.390	528,751.750
France	339,597.740	490,590.140	830,187.880
Korea	75,324.140	600,517.940	675,842.080
Germany	65,720.500	364,850.290	430,570.790
Australia	34,343.130	—	34,343.130
Canada & other British	9,743.380	1,869.300	11,612.680
Switzerland	—	69,312.520	69,312.520
Australia	34,343.130	—	34,343.130
Belgium	3,049.490	75,817.490	78,866.980
Russia	23,697.640	4,529.540	28,227.180
Philippine Islands	20,590.000	13,113.180	33,703.180
Italy	20,593.540	3,311.520	23,905.060
Austria	17,202.870	1,030.140	18,233.010
Denmark	—	4,710.020	4,710.020
Spain	285.000	426.900	711.900
Holland	1,522.000	1,128.080	2,650.080
Siam	—	156,517.220	156,517.220
Portugal	570.000	762.400	1,332.400
Hawaii	2,493.540	100.000	2,593.540
Peru	—	1,883.000	1,883.000
Turkey	—	379.360	379.360
Other Countries	71,578.430	1,515,453.430	1,587,031.860
Total	4,531,381.970	7,124,532.890	11,655,914.870

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS FROM AND TO EACH PORT.

	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.
Yokohama	2,210,445.520	3,580,506.050	5,790,951.570
Kobe	1,943,809.330	2,410,897.370	4,354,706.700
Osaka	534,455.000	595,486.930	1,129,941.930
Nagasaki	301,070.830	459,674.230	760,745.060
Hakodate	45,713.210	—	45,713.210
Shimonoseki	25,844.440	149,495.070	175,339.510
Hakata	328.000	9,469.810	9,797.810
Mot	40,180.000	—	40,180.000
Kuchinotsu	24,910.250	—	24,910.250
Misumi	17,797.000	—	17,797.000

Specie and Bullion { Exports	690,080.800
{ Imports	94,674.940

Total	784,755.740
Excess of exports	595,405.860

VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS BY JAPANESE MERCHANTS AND GOVERNMENT.

By Japanese Merchants { Exports	474,812.700
{ Imports	1,675,615.230
Imported by Government	113,494.780

THE TYPHOON AT SHANGHAI.

The *North China Daily News* of the 19th inst., writes as follows of the typhoon which visited Shanghai on the preceding day:—

The weather was very boisterous yesterday and at noon the indications at one time were that a typhoon was coming direct to Shanghai. According to the signals at the Semaphore Station, and telegrams, a typhoon had entered the Formosa Channel and gone to the mainland near Foochow. Another typhoon apparently was travelling from the south northwards, and it was this typhoon that seemed to threaten Shanghai, but at 3 p.m. No. 63 was hoisted at the Signal Station, in-

dicating that the typhoon had changed its direction somewhat to pass to the west of Shanghai with the wind S.E., S., and S.W. The wind blew fiercely in the river, causing white crested waves such as had not been seen here for many years and all traffic was stopped on the river. The damage done was, fortunately, inconsiderable. A part of the reclaimed Garden slope was washed away, but it was not seriously damaged, and some house boats were blown ashore. A P. & O. cargo-boat was blown ashore inside the Nanking Road jetty, fouling and damaging the pontoon, and when the *Gutzlaff* was trying to haul her away from the jetty, she let go her anchor, and on recovering picked up the mooring anchor of the *Yuenfah's* floating kitchen, the result being that the kitchen drifted on the *Yuenfah* and did some little damage, but nothing of any consequence. The trees on the Bund and in Hongkew suffered a good deal; the streets were strewn with leaves and small branches, and several telephone lines were broken. At the back of the Settlement some damage was done. A native constable saw a high wall at the corner of Foochow and Hupei Roads tottering, and he had just time to call out to the people to warn them of their danger, when some thirty feet of the wall fell outwards, completely covering the road. At the Pakhoi Road a theatre a portion of the roof of one of the outhouses caved in, slightly injuring a Chinaman, and the front walls of two unoccupied houses, also in Pakhoi Road, fell down. The *Ying* dragged her moorings, and had to get up steam and find fresh anchorage, and a ship's boat broke away and drifted up the Soochow Creek. All the sampans and cargo-boats, with a few exceptions, went up the creeks for shelter, and those that neglected this precaution had rather a rough time of it. The yacht *Undine* was towed over to Pootung early in the morning by one of the tugs, most of the other yachts having sought shelter previously, though two mosquito yachts drifted ashore, both being eventually taken out of danger. At Wocsung, the tide rose to 24 feet 10 inches, and the wind blew with force of 8 and 9, and at Gutzlaff, 8. The *Chungking*, which left here on Thursday afternoon to assist the *Wenchow*, only succeeded in getting as far as the Little Beacon at 4 a.m. yesterday, and the *Hacan*, which left yesterday morning for Tientsin, anchored below Fanchan's Lower Dock till the weather moderated. The *Iehang* experienced a S.E. gale and easterly winds. The *Yiksang*, which arrived on Thursday night from Swatow, experienced light variable airs and calm clear weather from Hongkong to Swatow, then to Steep Island strong N.E. winds, cloudy weather and very heavy N.E. swell; to port, light N.E. winds and fine weather. The following is the Siciawei weather report, 18th July, 8 a.m.—The typhoon already reported as having entered the Formosa Channel by the south, has gone overland near Foochow and is now moving northward, to a.m.—Yesterday the barometer fell quickly at Amoy and Foochow. The wind, north-east at both these stations, in the morning, shifted in the afternoon to S.W. at Amoy, remaining strong from N.E. at Foochow. The barometer at Shanghai has continued falling. The typhoon appears to be coming direct to Shanghai.

MR. SUGIURA JUKO AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

On the 25th ultimo all the leading journals in the capital continued in the contributors' column an article from the pen of Mr. Sugiura Juko, in which that gentleman takes pains to show that candidates for the Presidency of the House of Representatives should be limited to men who have never held any official post. As is well known, Mr. Sugiura is one of the leading spirits of the new conservative party, and has more lately been recognized as the head of the movement by which about fifty of the independent members of the Diet are expected to form a close parliamentary alliance. His opinion, therefore, carries with it considerable weight, and may perhaps be taken as representing the views held by his party in regard to this topic of political discussion and prediction. It is an eminently democratic doctrine that any previous connection with official life should disqualify a man for the important post of President of the Lower House. In the face of the undeniable fact that in this country officialism has always attracted to its service a far greater proportion of the ability and experience of the nation than is the case in most other States, people will at first find difficulty in accepting the principle that the choice of a President for the House of Representatives should be made outside that circle. Weighed in Mr. Sugiura's balance, all the gentlemen whose names have hitherto been associated with the coveted post, are found wanting. Let us, however, state his argument. The most essential point, he premises, is that the dignity of the House of Representatives should be fully maintained *vis-à-vis* the Cabinet. Everything which has the least tendency to magnify the

Executive at the expense of the Legislative should be studiously avoided. To secure this end much depends upon the personality of the man chosen to preside over the House. Now as the whole list of members elected to the House contains not one who can be compared to present or past Cabinet Ministers in respect of official reputation, the elevation of any of these members to the presidency would necessarily result in lowering the dignity of the House in the estimation of the public, who would naturally be inclined to take the President's official career as a criterion of comparison between him and the Cabinet Ministers. If, on the other hand, some person who has never served in official ranks be chosen, the effect will be entirely different. In that case, there would be no danger of the President's being sentenced to an inferior place in public estimation by the common though prejudiced habit of measuring everything by an official standard. If he has no record to demonstrate his superiority to the Cabinet Ministers, neither will he have any that may be quoted to his disadvantage. Everything will then be *in posse*, and not *in esse*. He may be equal, nay far superior, to any of the Cabinet Ministers in his mental capacities. The public will invest him with the intrinsic dignity of the august body, over which he presides. Instead of being judged by a past which condemns him, he will be allowed to write his own record on the *tabula rasa* of public estimation. Mr. Sugiura's second argument is that the course he recommends would produce a salutary effect by discountenancing the pernicious tendency to glorify every thing official and belittle everything civil. Though much weakened by the spread of the doctrine of popular rights, this baneful mental habit is not yet wholly eradicated in Japan. It crops out very frequently in the field of practical politics. Mr. Sugiura deems it significant that the persons hitherto proposed for the presidency of the House are all men who have had official careers, and concludes that the plain duty of thoughtful politicians is to exhaust every means of correcting this worship of officialdom. In conclusion, he exhorts his fellow-members—for he is himself a member elect—to lay aside all party prejudice and selfish considerations, and to act in this important matter with eyes single to the duty of making their first work in the first Diet an example to posterity.

THIEVES.

CURIOUS evidence of the extreme difficulty experienced by Japanese thieves in making away with stolen articles has lately been furnished. On Saturday the 19th ultimo as the Honble. Mrs. Napier was entering the Kodzu train at Yokohama, accompanied by her English maid, a thief succeeded in possessing himself of a hand-bag carried by the latter, containing several articles of jewelry, a decoration presented by the Duchess of Connaught to Mrs. Napier, and a purse with a sum of money, fortunately not large. The theft was not discovered immediately, for Mrs. Napier and her maid being alone and finding themselves jostled by some rough-looking Japanese, had their attention distracted for a moment. The train had scarcely started, however, when the bag was missed, and steps were quickly taken to telegraph to the H.B.M.'s Consulate in Tokyo and to all the stations from Yokohama southwards. By and by the bag was discovered lying in the waiting-room at Yokohama, where Mrs. Napier had not been. The thief had opened it and doubtless examined its contents carefully, coming ultimately to the conclusion that the only thing he might safely remove was the purse. So persuaded was he of the difficulty of eluding the police that he replaced Mrs. Napier's complimentary ticket for the Ueno Exhibition which had been in the purse, probably thinking that the possession, for however brief a period, of a document bearing her name might expose him to danger. The recovery of the jewelry and other contents of the bag was very fortunate, but travellers by train will do well to watch their belongings with attention while passing along the railway platforms. The employés of the

railway are themselves above all suspicion. It is indeed quite remarkable with what certainty a passenger can count on recovering articles forgotten in a carriage or waiting-room. We have known innumerable cases of travellers who, on reaching their destination, found that they had lost something for which, judging by experience in other countries, search seemed quite hopeless, yet on application at Shimbashi or Yokohama the article was discovered in the safe-keeping of the railway officials. Such unvarying honesty deserves high praise.

* * *

Another case of discriminating speculation is that of a Tokyo resident whose house was entered by thieves a few nights ago. The burglar, evidently well informed of the family's absence, made his way into the study; opened every receptacle where money might have been kept; passed up stairs; examined chests of drawers and boxes containing numerous articles of valuable Japanese wearing apparel, and ended by taking nothing except the clock on the study mantel-piece, which he doubtless intends to keep for his own use. Unless a wholesome fear of the police's methods had been before this man's eyes, he would assuredly have carried away clothing, knickknacks, and other articles easily convertible into cash under ordinary circumstances. But thieves have not altogether a free hand in a city where every dealer in second-hand goods is compelled by law to keep accurate records of each article passing through his hands, and to submit his books at any moment for police inspection. In a settlement like Yokohama no such system is applicable, foreign—especially Chinese—receivers of stolen goods being beyond the pale of Japanese police supervision.

THE NEW ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION, LTD.
THE Sixth Annual Report of the Board of Directors presented to the shareholders at the ordinary general meeting, held in London, on Thursday, 3rd July, says:—In submitting to the shareholders the sixth annual balance-sheet, and statement of profit and loss for the year ended 31st March, 1890, the Directors have pleasure in being again able to show a satisfactory result of the bank's operations. After payment of working expenses, interest, income-tax, rebate, exchange on foreign assets, and making full provision for bad and doubtful debts, the net profit (including £22,511 12s. 11d. brought forward) amounts to £62,440 16s. 4d. An interim dividend of 6s. per share, being at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, for the half-year ended 30th September, 1889, was paid, free of income tax, in January last, and the board now recommend a further dividend of six shillings per share, being at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, also free of income tax, for the half-year ended 31st March last, the same to be paid on the 16th July. They also recommend that all dividends payable at all branches be paid free of local income tax.

THE PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THE *Kokumin Shimbun* mentions as names that have lately been much referred to in connection with the office of President of the Lower House, Messrs. Mutsu Munemitsu, Nakajima Nobuyuki, Kusumoto Masataka, Yoshino Seikei, Hayashi Yuzo, and Kataoka Kenkichi, while with the Vice-Presidency there have been associated the names of Messrs. Kono Hironaka, Oye Taku, Kawashima Jun, Matsuda Masahisa, Shimada Saburo, and Sugiura Jugo. Who are to be chosen for office? asks our contemporary. Mr. Mutsu is impossible because though a most able man he is a Minister of State; Mr. Nakajima is wise and honest, though lacking in zeal and brilliance; Mr. Kusumoto is official; though Mr. Yoshino makes a good appearance in the City Assembly we do not know whether he could preside over the Lower House successfully; Mr. Hayashi is active and enterprising but we cannot think that he would be much of an authority on the laws and customs of the Diet; Mr. Kataoka would make a model mem-

ber, but would not be so successful as President; the sobriety and sedateness of Mr. Kono, the methodical care of Mr. Oye, the activity and elasticity of Mr. Kawashima, the unconventionality of Mr. Matsuda, the prudence of Mr. Shimada, and the daring and activity of Mr. Sugiura are qualities which sufficiently distinguish those gentlemen from the ordinary mob, but as candidates for the Presidency or Vice-Presidency of the Senate there is in each case a weak point. Yet the President and Vice-President must, so far as at present appears, be chosen from among the persons we have mentioned.

* * *

The name of Mr. Matsuda Masahisa is probably not as familiar to our readers as the others. Mr. Matsuda is, however, a gentleman of much learning and ability. Sent to France by the War Office for purposes of study, he devoted his attention to politics and law instead of military tactics, and on his return home published, in conjunction with Marquis Saionji and Mr. Nakaye Tokusuke, the now well known *Toyo Jiyu Shimbun*. He was recently elected President of Nagasaki Prefectural Assembly, and is a member of the *Kiushu Shimpō-to*. He is a native of Saga Prefecture.

* * *

The *Hochi Shimbun* published the other day a letter from Mr. Sugiura in which that gentleman expressed the hope that the President of the House of Representatives will be chosen from among those who have never been in office. If a man who has once been an official be selected then as his office must probably have been lower than that of Minister of State, people will fall into the habit of regarding the House as below the Cabinet instead of equal to that body as is the case. The *Hochi* endorses this opinion as a very reasonable one.

THE SWITCH-BACK.

THE switch-back railway at Ueno is one of the great attractions to persons visiting the park at present. The line is raised on a rough but strongly constructed platform under the trees behind the big bronze Buddha. The length traversed in each direction is about fifty yards, but the car does not perform the whole circuit without stopping: passengers are obliged to alight at either end so that the vehicle may be drawn by hand from the point at which it comes to rest to the point whence it resumes its journey, a distance of a few feet. There are three ascents and as many descents, the last being by far the steepest. Indeed, by the time one reaches the bottom of the third valley for the first time, one feels that a soberer method of transport would be a thing to be thankful for. The feat of merely sitting on one of the little benches, with a tight grasp of the guard-iron on either side, is sufficiently satisfying to the novice's sense of daring. But a few transits educate the familiarity that breeds contempt, and passengers begin to place themselves with their backs to the horses and even to stand throughout the journey. Timid individuals who object to being bobbed about like a pea on a drum while rattling down a steep hill at the rate of thirty miles an hour, may be pleased to learn that a minimum of motion is experienced in the third seat from the front, and that the seats at the ends of the car are incomparably the roughest. A small sensation was created lately by a young and beautiful English lady who had sufficient courage and command of muscle to stand in the front seat during the whole transit, a performance which must be seen to be appreciated. We have not yet heard of any one standing with his back towards the direction of motion, so that something still remains to be accomplished by aspirants for fame. The enterprise is said to be paying well, and so indeed it ought if the fashion set by foreign visitors were followed, for these, when they go "switch-backing," are by no means content with half a dozen rides. The Japanese take their fun in smaller doses, but as one transit costs three *sen* and several hundreds of people enter the cars daily, while the original outlay

for construction cannot have exceeded three or four thousand yen, the affair is about as rosy as any of our joint-stock-company promoters could wish.

THE DOSHIN KAISHA.

The ninth ordinary meeting of the shareholders of the Yokohama Doshin Kaisha was held on the 23rd ultimo, at half-past one in the afternoon, the place of assembly being the City Hall, Yokohama. Mr. Kawase, the President, gave a full account of the financial difficulties in which the company was involved in consequence of the discontinuance of Government exchange business, and spoke about an arrangement subsequently made with the Yokohama Specie Bank for assisting the company by means of official protection. The financial report was then made for the year commencing in March, 1889, and ending in February, 1890, by which a dividend of seven per cent. was declared. All the officers were re-elected with the single exception of Mr. Kawamura who declined to accept reappointment as Vice-President, and was consequently succeeded by Mr. Kazuma.

THE CHOLERA AT NAGASAKI.

We are all familiar with those exceedingly astute wisecracks who know exactly how everything ought to be done, and who are prepared to furnish an infallible panacea at a moment's notice for any and every conceivable difficulty or trouble. Generally the assurance of these persons is in the inverse ratio of their capacity; the less title they have to be regarded as omniscient physicians, the more clamorously do they prescribe their remedies. A prominent type, well known "in these parts," is the editor of a petty local newspaper, a man with scant education and scantier brains, who poses as a teacher of the whole art of statecraft, the complete science of political economy, and the exact principles of administration. Most edifying is it to hear this individual descant, in imposing periods, on the disgraceful failure of the Authorities to do so and so, or on the perfect ease with which some big national problem could be solved if only the methods recommended by him were adopted. Surely the *North China Daily News* must have made the acquaintance of this type of individual, and knowing him should have refrained from penning the following silly paragraph on the strength of diatribes in the *Nagasaki Rising Sun*:—"It appears that this outbreak of cholera at Nagasaki has been dreaded for some time by foreign medical men, who advised the native officials of the threatened danger, but of course no heed was paid to this warning. When cholera did declare itself everything seems to have been left to the mismanagement of the police officials, who know about as much of sanitary organization as a mud turtle does of the Chinese classics. Improved methods of sanitation under the direction of experienced medical men would doubtless soon rid the town and surrounding country of the disease." "Improved methods of sanitation under the direction of experienced medical men!" When were these methods invented, and where have they ever been employed successfully? Newspapers with such fathomless stores of knowledge at their command ought to be less chary of sharing it with their fellow-creatures. As for the Japanese Government, if it fails to engage the editors of the *North China Daily News* and the *Nagasaki Rising Sun* as sanitary experts, and to entrust to them the duty of eradicating cholera, it will have a large share of bloodguiltiness at its door.

MISS FAWCETT.

Apropos Miss Fawcett's success at Cambridge, the *Pail Mail Budget* writes:—"Miss Fawcett's triumph in the Mathematical Tripos puts the crown on a long series of successes by lady students at Cambridge. There have now been lady "Seniors" in all the important Triposes (except Law). Here is the list:—*Moral Sciences Tripos*: In 1880, Miss Jones was bracketed Senior. In 1881 Miss Moberly was Senior, and so in 1884 was Miss Hughes. *Historical Tripos*: In 1886, Miss Rolleston

(daughter of the late Oxford Professor of Zoology) was bracketed Senior, and in 1887 Miss Blanche Paull was similarly placed. *Medieval and Modern Languages Tripos*: Here there have been four lady Seniors. In 1886, two ladies and no men were placed in the first class. The ladies, who were placed in alphabetical order, were Miss Chamberlin and Miss Skeat (daughter of Professor Skeat). In 1887, Miss Hervey was Senior; and in 1888, Miss Tuke (whose father is well known in connection with schemes of Irish emigration). Finally, there are the success of Miss Ramsay in the *Classical Tripos* (1887), and of Miss Fawcett in the *Mathematical* (1890). Of these eleven lady Seniors, two came from Girton (Miss Jones and Miss Ramsay), the rest from Newnham. It is often asked what becomes of lady students when they leave college. A few particulars about some of these lady Seniors may therefore be added. Miss Ramsay is now Mrs. Montague Butler, the wife of the Master of Trinity. Miss Moberly is Head-mistress of the Tonbridge Wells High School for Girls. Miss Hughes is Head of a training college at Cambridge. Miss Chamberlin is instructor in German at Bryn Mawr College, Philadelphia; and Miss Jones is Moral Science lecturer at Girton.

TREATY REVISION.

THE unexpected appearance of the new proposals for treaty revision in the columns of *The Times* has elicited many comments and reports. Among others a rumour was circulated to the effect that Viscount Tani was again in the van of the opposition. But, judging from what the Viscount is reported to have replied to an interviewer, the rumour appears to be wholly groundless. These are his own words:—"There is no truth whatever in the rumour that I am opposed to the new proposals for treaty revision. The truth is that I have not yet formed any definite opinion either pro. or con. in regard to this question. It is true I did all in my power to resist the former proposals, which, I was fully convinced, would be most detrimental to the best interests of this country, but as I am informed by trustworthy persons that the new proposals contain nothing injurious to our national honour, I believe they will not be so obnoxious as their predecessors. As to the proposals which appeared in *The Times*, I think they are entirely too vague and indefinite to warrant any hard and fast opinion."

THE MEETINGS REGULATIONS.

THE *Hochi Shimbun* learns from a good source that the Revised Meetings Regulations have been duly sanctioned and approved, and will be promulgated in a few days under the title of *Ketsusha-ho* (Law as to Associations). Under the new law public meetings may be held twenty-four hours after the intention to hold them has been communicated to the Authorities—official permission not being required; and official action in reference to objectionable language shall be limited to suspension of the particular speaker who has offended. A new article, however, has been introduced which will doubtless create a good deal of surprise, for it provides that no political speeches shall, during the session of the Diet, be delivered within a radius of three miles of the Imperial Palace. In point of fact the revised Regulations were promulgated in our extra issue of the *Official Gazette* on the 25th ultimo. We shall publish a translation at an early date.

EASTERN GOSSIP FROM LONDON.

THE Colonial Service has seen the last of Sir John Pope Hennessy for the present. He has retired on a pension, which is said to be £1,500 a year, and has been definitely accepted by Mr. Parnell as a member of the Irish party, and he is to have a seat at a very early opportunity as a follower of the "uncrowned king." It is rumoured that he is in a "tight place" in one respect. He is a member of the Carlton, having been elected a few years ago by some special rule, and through the help of friends, as a former member of the Conservative party. When in town he is to be seen daily at the club. Of

course his nationalist tendencies were well known, for he never concealed them; but the question will be different when he enters Parliament as a follower of Mr. Parnell, i.e. of Mr. Gladstone, and an anti-Conservative on the chief question dividing the two parties. Presumably he will be expected to vote Gladstonian on all party questions; yet he is a Conservative! And if he leaves the Carlton, he cannot join the Reform or the Devonshire, because he is not a Liberal but a Conservative! Was ever politician in such a fix? It is said that Sir John proposes to meet the question by quietly absenting himself from the Carlton for the present; like Brer' Rabbit he will lay low; he will wait until the clouds roll by, and then act according to circumstances. Meanwhile, he will trust to his friends to prevent any action being taken at the Carlton, and he is now looking out for a suitable club without a political character. It will be really interesting to see how this wily old bird flies during the next few years. Some time ago there was a very strong prejudice in the Irish party against him; *United Ireland* abused him in a couple of columns, and accused him of flitting in 1882 with the Irish party. We don't remember what the particular complaint against him was, but there is a general prejudice in Irish political circles against all politicians of the pre-Parnellite days. Sir Charles Gavan Duffey has been anathematized because he used some strong expressions about the policy of obstruction when in its infancy. Sir John Hennessy has been more prudent, and so he has been able to make his peace with the Irish party. Mr. Parnell is probably glad to obtain such a distinguished recruit. Men say that the whole matter has been arranged by the vice-leader of the party, Mr. Justin McCarthy, who was a school-fellow, and has ever been a friend, of the ex-governor. At a recent date the latter was busy arranging about his new Irish mansion and estate. He has sold the latter to the tenants under Lord Ashburne's Act, retaining the "castle" and demesne around it. It is on the shores of Cork Harbour, and rumour avers that he has a contract with one of the Transatlantic mail companies to supply their vessels with grapes, vegetables, &c., for the saloon passengers from his gardens, while a Liverpool dealer takes thousands of rabbits per annum from a warren on the property. Thus it will be perceived that his ex-Excellency has his hands full, what with politics and society, gardening and rabbit rearing, and financing.

Mr. Archibald Little was to leave London towards the end of June for China. Travelling by the Canadian Pacific route, he intended to arrive in Vancouver in time to join an excursion from there to Alsaka. On arriving in China he purposed to go up, without needless delay, to Chungking in order to see what the prospects of business there are. It is understood that a good deal may turn upon this journey, for Mr. Little has succeeded in obtaining from capitalists in England definite promises of support, provided he finds, on reaching Chungking, that there are fair opportunities for enterprise. He has lately been lecturing in Glasgow and elsewhere on Western China, and in the middle of June he had an interview with a section of the Committee of the London Chamber of Commerce in reference to Chungking. His aim is to impress on those concerned or interested in the subject the great importance of having a Foreign Concession in Chungking, so that foreigners may live as in Shanghai, Tientsin, and most other ports, and not here and there about the native town, as in Ichang for example. The great importance of this subject for the comfort and health of foreigners requires no emphasizing to anyone who has been in China, but it has to be made clear in England. He has also completed an article on "Western China, its Products and Trade," for the July number of the *Quarterly Review*. The article is nominally a review of certain blue books and others, but is, in fact, an original contribution upon the subject with which it deals. In a note there is a delightful sketch of an interview between a foreign Mini-

ster and the Ministers of the Yamên in Peking. Towards the conclusion, Mr. Little sums up his views about China generally and especially about her future, and apparently he favours the idea that China will, for a time at any rate, be a second Turkey. Another literary labour which Mr. Little has just completed is an introduction to a volume which is about to appear from the pen of Mr. Alexander Hosie, of H.M. Consular Service, entitled "Three Years in Western China." Mr. Hosie, as many of our readers will remember, resided for some time as Consular Agent at Chungking, and from that point made journeys in various directions for the purpose of studying commercial matters. He travelled, if we remember rightly, about 5,000 miles on his three principal journeys. The blue books of the time contain the ordinary official records of these journeys, but as no one reads these publications Mr. Hosie seems to have done wisely in publishing his travels in a form in which they are likely to be reached and read by the general public. The book will contain a good deal of information about the aboriginal tribes of Yunnan and Kweichow, and will also give an account of the journey which he made in the interests of the Royal Gardens at Kew for the purpose of collecting information respecting Chinese insect wax. Mr. Little in his introduction says:—"The result of these extensive explorations is an elaborate monograph on the province of Szechuen, such as has not yet been written of any other of the eighteen provinces into which China proper is divided. It provides a mine of information to the traveller and to the merchant, and appears at a most opportune moment, now that, by the establishment of Chungking as a treaty port, this rich and interesting land is at last thrown open to Western enterprise." This will serve to give your readers a general idea of the contents of the volume, which is to be published before the end of June. The introduction, which occupies about twenty pages, describes the circumstances under which Chungking comes to be open to foreign trade, and gives details of the present imports of foreign manufactures into Szechuen.

There has been a change of late in the Japan Fine Art Association of New Bond Street. It was started in 1881, with Mr. Larkin, formerly of the Japanese Telegraph Service, as Director. He was always, we believe, chief proprietor, his co-proprietors being old residents of Kobe, where he lived for some years. Some put in money, others put in money and their collections. The Association hung out, its flag from a pretty gallery in Grafton Street, which runs between Bond Street and Albermarle Street. We believe its early years were not free from the troubles that always beset infancy. Its Japanese members were the first to leave, and in course of time all the foreign members, save two, went also. Mr. Larkin all the time remaining the "Managing Director." Two years ago it moved into New Bond Street, in the midst of all the galleries, picture, and bric-a-brac shops. Last year the only European, besides Mr. Larkin, was bought out, and the Managing Director became sole proprietor. A few months ago Mr. Larkin returned from a visit to China and Japan, and he is now advertising that he is the association, so that in future we are to have Mr. Larkin's galleries as we have Mr. Wertheimer's, Mr. Dowdeswell's, Mr. Agnew's, and so on. Persons who have lately visited them say that they exhibit every sign of prosperity. A couple of years ago they were confined to the ground floor, where they were extremely prettily upholstered and arranged; now they fill the whole house. The first three floors are public galleries, while the three upper are used for offices and storage. A whole house in Bond Street, as our readers will readily understand, is no trifle. The rent alone must be £500 a year, and it requires a good business to support this with the proportionate rates and taxes. Mr. Larkin, being a man of enterprise, and seeing how pictures of Japan done by English artists have taken the public fancy, has decided to despatch an artist of his own to Japan. For this purpose he has selected Mr. John Varley, of

the Grove End Studios, a well-known water colour artist, to spend a year in Japan, and make a series of drawings during all four seasons. Mr. Varley's work has been principally in the East since 1871. Year after year he has gone to Egypt and sent home drawings of scenery along the Nile up to the second cataract, which have been collected into successive small exhibitions. Mr. Varley comes of an artistic family, being the grandson of one of two brothers who were both prominent founders of the Old Water Colour Society in 1804, and both were exhibitors in that year. During the present season Mr. Varley has two drawings at the Royal Academy and two at the Grosvenor Gallery, all four being Nile subjects. One who knows his work says he has thoroughly mastered the difficulty which besets the path of the average home-staying British artist in treating Oriental subjects, namely Oriental atmospheric effects. It is intended to hold an exhibition of his Japanese drawings at Mr. Larkin's gallery so soon as they are completed.

We learn with sorrow that *The Asiatic Quarterly Review* will not appear again. It was established four or five years ago by Sir Lepel Griffin, and has been for sale for some months back to any one who chose to take it over. At the time it was established Sir Lepel was Resident at Hyderabad, and Mr. Demetrius Boulger, the well-known writer on Eastern subjects, was appointed its editor. Indeed in the first instance we are not sure whether he was not also part proprietor: in some quarters an impression prevailed that he was sole proprietor. However this may be, during the latter portion of the magazine's career Sir Lepel was sole proprietor with Mr. Boulger as editor. It was one of the best printed periodicals in London, comparing very favourably in this respect with the larger half-crown magazines. Its literary contents, too, were all that could be desired; the ablest men in their respective subjects being contributors to its pages. The well-known article of the Marquis Tseng on what he called "the Awakening of China" appeared in it; so did Lady Dufferin's manifesto about her scheme for the appointment of nurses for Indian women. Indeed Mr. Boulger was the English Secretary of this latter movement. The late Sir Henry Yule wrote some of his most charming papers in the *Asiatic Quarterly*, and Sir Lepel Griffin's own articles, which were very numerous, were not only excellent in form but very striking in substance. The subscription was only a pound a year, and the periodical appeared to be well supplied with advertisements. In spite of all these advantages it has failed, probably because readers in the East, and especially in India, never took a fancy to it. It had to compete with what is perhaps the best magazine in the British Empire outside the British Islands, namely, the *Calcutta Review*, which was established by Sir John Kaye about forty years ago, and which he has himself declared to be the greatest work he ever did for India. It is extremely difficult to say at any time what are the conditions of success in a periodical published in London. For our own part we think the chief condition is that it should belong to a leading publisher, i.e. be his property. In such a case it is perfectly certain to have shoals of advertisements from other publishers, who, in their turn, receive advertisements for their magazines from the publisher in question. It is a case of "scratch my back and I'll scratch yours." In the vast majority of cases the advertisements belong to the publishers, so that unless the publisher be also proprietor, the latter goes to the wall. In speaking of the Marquis Tseng's famous article, there can be no harm in mentioning now that he never saw the article until he received a copy of the magazine containing it in Peking. He was asked to write it and consented after some hesitation; he then discussed the contents fully with the gentleman who actually clothed it in English, but neither in manuscript nor in print did he see it afterwards. The whole matter was arranged at a single interview, but the writer was intimately acquainted with the Marquis's

views, and many of the expressions used in the article which subsequently struck the public by reason of their vigour, originality, and appositeness were really expressions used by the Marquis himself on previous occasions, though not in view of the article. *The Times'* review of the article extended to three columns, and was in fact longer than the original itself. The three columns were, we believe, written under great pressure; the race was against time, and it is said that the critique was concluded in a little over three hours, or at the rate of about a column an hour. It should be mentioned that the article, though written under these circumstances, did not contain ten lines of quotations from the original. This feat was beaten, however, by *The Times'* obituary of Darwin, which extended to seven columns, and which was all written after six o'clock in the evening by a writer who, then for the first time, had learned that the illustrious man of science was dead. He began, it is said, by obtaining from the publisher a complete list of Darwin's works and a complete set of the volumes of *Nature* with their indices. But the mere mechanical copying of such an article, would, one might have thought, have occupied more than the time given to compose it, for the very latest hour for inserting matter in *The Times* is 2.15 a.m. The paper has then to be printed and got ready for despatch by the newspaper trains, which as a rule leave all the important London stations at five o'clock.

Japan is not often mentioned in the House of Commons, which perhaps is no great loss to Japan. However, last week Sir George Campbell, on the Diplomatic and Consular vote, in the course of a speech in which he referred to Mr. Clifford Lloyd, Erzeroum, Armenia, the New Hebrides, the Orange River, East Africa, Zanzibar, Mr. Stanley, &c., &c., happened in his roving to light on Japan, with the following result, as reported in *The Times*:—"Having next complained of the setting up of a Consular Court in Japan, he asked the Government to explain the position of affairs in the New Hebrides." Sir James Fergusson, the Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, had of course to refer to all these and many other parts of the world in his reply. The following is his reference to Japan, and we must say, making every allowance for possible abbreviations in reporting, it requires some explanation. However here it is for what it is worth:—"With regard to the treaty with Japan, the fact was that the Japanese Government had carried on negotiations up to an advanced point and had then broken them off, so that they had to be commenced again from the beginning. It was not the case that other nations had concluded treaties from which we shrank. The United States of America did conclude a treaty with Japan, but afterwards themselves withdrew from it. Her Majesty's Government were acting in concert with other Powers in endeavouring to obtain full recognition of the rights of foreigners in the Japanese Courts on terms which would be honourable to the Japanese, and at the same time acceptable and satisfactory to Europeans."

In the deaths' column of *The Times* in the middle of June there appeared the following announcement, which has already been copied by Yokohama journals:—

On the 6th May, at Oxford, MABEL DESBOROUGH, wife of EGERTON B. LAVETT-SCHREYER, Esq., and second daughter of Sir HARRY PARKES, K.C.B., late of China and Japan. Killed by the fall of her horse while riding.

This was more than a month after the frightful event which it recorded. We have now obtained the full report of the tragedy from a local journal, and append it in the belief that many of our readers will be anxious to know the details of the sad end of one whom, in the old days when Sir Harry Parkes reigned and ruled in Kojimachi, many of us remember as a bright and lively child, walking by the side of that universally beloved lady, her mother, or driving out with her in the well known Legation phaeton with its pair of spirited Manila ponies. One

can scarcely trust one's self to speak of such a sudden termination of a life so full of promise of happiness.

On Tuesday afternoon, at about half-past two o'clock, a shocking accident happened on the Botley-road, near Osney, which unhappily was attended with fatal consequences. It appears that Lieut. E. B. B. Levett-Scrivener, Bursar of Keble College, and his wife were riding on horseback, and when near the railway bridge which crosses the road the lady's horse was startled by the whistling and escape of steam of an engine, and becoming restive it started at a canter. When near the new bridge over the river it suddenly swerved to the left, and getting on the pavement it slipped and fell, throwing its rider violently off into the road way on to her head, and rolling on her. Mrs. Scrivener was removed, bleeding and insensible, into the house of Mr. Bell, where every attention was paid to her: the horse ambulance was sent for, and the injured lady was removed to the residence of Dr. Sankey in St. Giles's, and thence to her home, No. 10, Canterbury-road, but she never spoke after the accident, nor did she become conscious, and death took place at about four o'clock. She had sustained a fracture of the skull, and there was a large bruise over the left eye. The deceased was but 25 years of age, and has left a family of young children: she was accustomed to equestrian exercise, and it was after the noise made by the engine that a cabman startled the horse again by "smacking" his whip. It is somewhat singular that the G.W.R. Company have recently had a hoarding erected on each side of the bridge, but apparently with little or no beneficial result.

The Coroner's inquiry was held before E. L. Hussey, Esq., on Thursday at noon, Mr. Elliott being chosen Foreman of the Jury.

The Coroner having remarked that the case was a very distressing one, and briefly alluded to the circumstances under which the accident happened, said he was not aware that there was any blame to be attributed to anyone. It was a long time since anything of this kind had happened—as far as he knew, forty years ago—when a lady was thrown from her horse on Cumor Hill, and died from the injuries received. He thought that was very creditable to the training which saddle horses had under horse-keepers in Oxford. He thought it also spoke well of the skill of ladies who rode them, that so many years had passed since anything of the kind had happened.

The Jury having viewed the body, Lieut. E. B. B. Levett-Scrivener, R.N., Bursar of Keble College, stated that the deceased was his wife, and she was nearly 26 years of age. She used to ride a good deal before they were married six years ago, but had only ridden about three or four times lately. She had good control over her horse, and could manage it well. He knew the horse which she was riding on Tuesday, his wife having ridden it before. He also knew several other ladies who had ridden it. He did not blame Mr. Holford in the least, as it was a horse which witness had selected himself. On Tuesday afternoon about 2.30 witness and his wife started on horseback from their residence with the intention of going to Longworth. Before passing under the G.W.R. Company's bridge on Botley-road he saw an engine standing on it, and knowing this to be dangerous he stopped to let the train go over. The engine which was attached to a goods train was taking in water. He waited until the train had gone in the direction of London. Meanwhile the horse upon which Mrs. Scrivener was riding half-bolted. Whilst he was waiting he believed the engine blew off some steam, as far as he could recollect, and this startled his wife's horse, which turned and made off towards the town. His wife stopped the animal by the time it got to the L.N.W.R. Station. They turned, and just as they passed under the railway bridge a cabman "smacked" his whip. Mrs. Scrivener's horse went off in a canter until it got near the new Osney Bridge, near the corner of which it got on the pavement. His impression at the time was that the animal was going to "take" the bridge and "go" for it. It got on the pavement, slipped down, and not recovering, his wife fell off. The horse slipped down and plunged, and this was what he thought threw her. He followed behind on purpose to watch her. Mrs. Scrivener was rendered insensible by being thrown off, and was taken into the house of Mr. Bell near by. A horse ambulance was obtained, and the deceased conveyed home. Dr. Sankey was called upon on the way, and accompanied witness to his home. The deceased never spoke afterwards, and died in his presence about a quarter-past four o'clock.

The Foreman of the Jury observed that if there was any danger caused by engines standing on the bridge a representation should be made to the Great Western Railway Company, but it was pointed out that a hoarding forbidding locomotives to stand on that bridge had been put up a week or two ago.

A Juror remarked that he thought the accident was to be attributed to the smack of the cabman's whip.

Edward Reynolds, of 3, Henley-street, messenger at Mr. Emberton's, said that he had been delivering parcels at Osney on Tuesday afternoon. He was returning about 2.45 p.m., and just as he got on to the pavement leading under the bridge he saw a lady and gentleman on horseback. The lady was in front, and he noticed that when her horse got under the railway bridge it began prancing and then began to gallop. When it got to the gate-house it "cocked up its head, looked round, and away it went." It got on to the pavement

going at a "tidy" rate until it got within ten yards of Osney Bridge. He could see the deceased pulling the reins, and she must have given a sharp tug before she got to the bridge. The horse fell sideways, and the lady with it. As far as he could see she touched the ground. She was picked up insensible, and taken to a house close by.

By a Juror—Witness did not hear a cabman cracking his whip.

In answer to the Coroner, the witness said the foot pavement near the bridge was a little higher than the roadway.

Dr. J. O. Sankey, 35, St. Giles's, said Lieut. Scrivener came to his house about 3.40 on Tuesday afternoon, having his wife in a horse ambulance. At Mr. Scrivener's request witness accompanied them home. He found Mrs. Scrivener quite insensible. There was a bruise, and she was in so critical a condition that he did not have her moved off the stretcher, but had her brought into the house just as she was. He could not make a complete examination of her then; she died in about a quarter of an hour. He thought her skull was fractured by the injuries which her husband had described, and that was the cause of death. He subsequently examined the body, but could not find that any limbs or ribs were broken.

A verdict of "Accidental death" was recorded.

The body was taken on Thursday to the Great Western Railway Station, and was conveyed by the 1.40 train to Piddington, en route to Silton Abbey, Suffolk, for interment, which took place on Friday. The funeral arrangements were in the care of Messrs. Elliston and Cavell, of Oxford.

NEW GUIDE TO NIKKO.

MESSRS. MARIYA & Co., Tokyo, have just published a new pocket guide to Nikko and neighbourhood, by Mr. U. Ban. The little work contains a map of the roads, rivers, and mountains of the Nikko range, including the lakes at Chuzenji and Yumoto, also a map of the country lying between Tokyo and Imaichi in one direction, and Takasaki and Utsunomiya in the other, showing the railways in the district. There are also railway time-tables, fares, and distances. The present issue of this guide will doubtless soon be exhausted, as it is well printed and nicely bound in cloth, and only costs 30 sen. The publishers should then have the English revised, as the work now contains several blemishes of composition, and the author would do well to go over the ground again and correct some palpable errors. He refers to the bridges of fag-gots crossing the river in the gorge on the road to Chuzenji. These are now done away with, the new road cut on the north side of the stream rendering the old bridges unnecessary. Speaking of the lake at Chuzenji, he says:—"This is one of the principal points to which visitors will direct their steps," but farther on he remarks, "as there are no comfortable inns at the lake at Chuzenji it is best for visitors to go on to Yumoto," &c. This is a mistake. Foreigners who have stayed at the Komeya at Chuzenji have expressed their satisfaction with the cookery and accommodation afforded by that establishment, which view, considering that it is a Japanese inn pure and simple, we can endorse. Mr. Ban might measure the Kegon-no-taki—no difficult task—if he wishes to give the height of the fall, but it is not necessary to do so to determine that it is not 750 feet, though popular belief assigns that height to it.

THE COMMERCIAL CODE.

THE Tokyo Merchants' and Manufacturers' Association has joined the ranks of those who advocate the postponement of the date for putting the Commercial Code into force. A meeting of the members was held on the evening of the 21st inst. at which, after listening to an address by Mr. Shirofi, an Indian gentleman, the members discussed the Code at some length. Mr. T. Abe expressed the opinion that certain parts only of the Code need be postponed; Mr. Masuda supported this view, and suggested that the concurrence of all Chambers of Commerce throughout the empire should be obtained to a memorial to be presented to the Government. Mr. S. Umeura advocated the immediate presentation of a memorial. Mr. Yoshida was against the putting into force of certain parts of the Code, and thought all its provisions should be postponed, and Mr. Yamana expressed a similar opinion. Mr. Okura was in favour of a date being fixed as that to which the enforcement of the Code should

be postponed. It was eventually agreed that the Commercial Code ought to be postponed till the date on which the Civil Code will come into operation, and that meanwhile the opinions of other commercial bodies should be invited.

OCCIDENTAL CIVILIZATION AND JAPANESE SELF-CONFIDENCE.

THE *Kokumin-no-Tomo* of the 23rd ultimo has an interesting article on the self-confidence of the Japanese nation as affected by the advent of Occidental civilization. The gist of the article is as follows:—"At critical moments in a country's history, nothing can be more deplorable than that its people should possess little confidence in their own power. Comparing the present state of things in Japan with what existed a little more than twenty years ago, we are struck by a grievous decadence in the self-confidence of our countrymen. Where is now that youthful vigour and boundless assurance which pulled down the mighty edifice of feudalism and inaugurated a wholly new order of things? Now that we are arrived at a second Restoration, we cannot persuade ourselves that the nation looks as hopeful as it did two decades ago. The Japanese are not naturally wanting in self-confidence; in some instances the exact reverse is the case; occasionally our countrymen are conspicuous for their self-conceit and egotism. But the self-confidence of the nation seems to have been very much shaken since the opening of the ports for foreign intercourse. The map of the world has disappointed the Japanese by showing that the country of which they have hitherto been so proud is a mere dot, which a careless eye may fail to notice. They have been disappointed by the sight of Western races, beside whose fine physique their small and short bodies look hopelessly weak. Jurisprudence, medicine, science, religion, in fact everything brought here in the train of the new civilization, has been, in one sense, a source of disappointment and a cause of dejection. Those of our countrymen who have visited Europe and America have all brought home as their *miyage* (gift to friends and relatives) disappointment or its seeds. There is a body of men who are loud in condemning the modern tendency to denationalization. They profess the profoundest aversion for indiscriminate imitation, and have shown laudable zeal in checking Japan's pernicious proneness to self-effacement. But they are not on that account a whit less wanting in self-confidence than the rest of the nation; on the contrary, they are conspicuous for their timidity and faint-heartedness. Men of this school—popularly called *Kokusui-hozonronsha*—are opposed to the influx of foreigners into the interior of the country, because they have little faith in their own capacity to stand their ground successfully in a commercial and industrial contest with European races. The whole tone of their argument is so depressing and melancholy that we might almost imagine the country to be actually on the verge of ruin and extermination. Such is not the kind of argument usually expected from men possessing manly belief in themselves and their abilities. It would seem, then, that intercourse with foreign countries has made one section of the nation mere imitators, and the other section timid exclusionists; while both sections resemble each other in their want of self-confidence. Is there any reason why our country should not maintain its position as a first-rate Power in the East? No elaborate statistics are required to decide this question. The answer must come from the heart of every true born Japanese. Look at modern Italy. After having been for many centuries trodden under foot by other nations, the whole peninsula has again been united under one Sovereign, and is now successfully aspiring to take its place among the leading Powers of Europe. What is the cause of the greatness of modern Italy? Nothing but the confidence of her people in their own strength and destiny. What is the state of things in Japan? Most of the leaders of the nation, who in the past served their country in every critical moment, are busy amassing fortunes and amusing themselves. Such of them as have

some regard for the good of the State, seem resolved to entrench themselves behind laws and regulations; at any rate their sole occupation now seems to be the framing and issuing of law after law and regulation after regulation. We cannot but sympathise, to some extent, with their assiduity, but, on the other hand, we cannot but marvel at their narrow-mindedness. They rely on laws and ordinances because they have little confidence in themselves. But what are laws and ordinances if the statesmen who frame them have no ability to inspire the nation with trust and hope in its rulers? What are the men outside the Government doing? They give no more evidence of realizing the vast responsibility of the situation than do the narrow-minded statesmen in power. Politicians who have been returned for the coming Diet seem to think only of their good luck while the unsuccessful candidates have either abandoned themselves to dejection or are taking all possible pains to find means of blackening the character of their happier rivals. Thus both the Government and the people seem to be passing through the present important crisis in the history of the State without realizing the grave responsibility devolving on every true lover of his country. Goethe tells us that each man's place in the world is determined by his own aspirations. If we Japanese only have confidence in ourselves, and if, realizing the nature of our situation, we make our hearts as that of one man, then nothing can prevent us from winning for our country an honourable and dignified status among the nations of the world."

TREATY REVISION.

Thus far no political party has taken any definite attitude on the new proposals for treaty revision which appeared in *The Times*. But now report has it that a certain party entertain a somewhat hostile view in regard to this matter. Apart from the merits of the new programme they are reported to say, it is quite incomprehensible why the Government should be inclined to hasten revision, considering that the Diet is to be opened in the very near future. Granted that the function of concluding treaties with foreign Powers is among the prerogatives of the Emperor, it seems at the same time to be the proper course that the main features of the proposals should first obtain the endorsement of the Diet. In fact such endorsement is necessary in the case of the commercial treaties for putting them into operation. Why then have the Government made these proposals of their own initiative with the assembly of the Diet actually in sight? "In regard to this point," says the *Tokyo Shimpō*, from which we extract our news, "it may possibly be found necessary to take some active steps." But perhaps the *Tokyo Shimpō*, since it has set the example of discussing this subject, will pardon us for reminding it that in no country in the world is Parliament consulted about the preliminary stages of treaty-making. If such a course were pursued, the conclusion of international covenants would become wholly impossible. It is quite true that the Diet will have a final voice in respect of Treaty Revision, since it must be asked to legislate for the purpose of putting the new treaties into operation. But to enlist its aid and co-operation for the purpose of drafting proposals would be indeed a strange, unpractical, and unprecedented course. The representatives of the people must be content with the reflection that the ultimate fate of the treaty will be in their hands, but that their interference in the initiatory stages would be fatal to the conclusion of any treaty at all.

THE STENOGRAPH SHORTHAND MACHINE.

Messrs. KELLY and WALSH have now for sale a very ingenious little machine which is designed by its inventor to take the place of the shorthand reporter—indeed, we believe an impression exists that it may find a place in the official reporters' gallery of the Japanese Houses of Parliament. The alphabet of the machine consists of various arrangements, on a narrow paper ribbon, of short vertical strokes. These strokes may be printed in

five positions across the tape, a stroke on the edge of the ribbon nearer the operator representing "d" while "n" "r" "t" and "s" are placed in the other positions, the last named letters being shown by a stroke on the edge farther from the operator. The other letters of the alphabet are represented by various combinations of the radical strokes, to obtain which the corresponding keys are struck simultaneously. The keys of the instrument, ten in number, consist of a spacing key, the key for "d" which is to be struck by either thumb, and four other keys on each side, representing the four remaining positions on the ribbon, this provision of two keys for each character being designed of course to permit the use of the fingers of both hands. The little instrument is of the most simple nature and a breakdown would seem to be almost impossible. A high rate of speed is said to have been attained on it; certainly its operation calls for the merest trifle of exertion as compared with the labour of shorthand writing. Whether the principles of shortening words by lopping off terminations, reducing the spelling to a partially phonetic basis, or representing phrases by such letter combinations as "vhl" for "of the" are consistent with legibility, is a question which can only be answered after trial. Of one thing, however, the designer may be certain: before the machine can be utilized for reporting Japanese its alphabet must be entirely changed so as to adapt it to the requirements of that language. The single strokes are at present allocated to the most frequently recurring letters in English; in Japanese an entirely different set of consonants would call for representation by the simple strokes. The alphabet is essentially consonantal, which of course increases the tendency to illegibility when, as here, no means exist of indicating vowels by the position of the consonants.

AUCTIONS OF SHARES.

THE auction in Messrs. Eytan & Pratt's rooms on Tuesday forenoon of Grand Hotel shares drew such an assemblage of the capitalists of the Settlement as can rarely be witnessed. The shares advertised, 200 in number, were put up in lots of ten. The first lot went to Dr. Tripler for \$148 each; seven lots were purchased, in the order given in the following table for \$143. Paymaster McDonald bidding on behalf of the purchasers; Mr. Halphen then raised the figure a dollar per share and took in three lots; four "tens" were knocked down to Mr. McDonald acting for other purchasers at \$143, one lot at \$145, and the remaining four tens for \$143. Mr. McDonald now called on the auctioneer to put up 200 shares in one lot; for these the bidding, beginning at \$125, rose to \$137, at which figure Mr. Beyfus became the purchaser. The following is a list of the sales:—

	£	\$
Dr. Tripler	148	1,480
Mr. Reisinger	143	1,430
Mr. Murdoch	143	1,430
Mr. Cook	143	1,430
Mr. Diefenbach	143	1,430
Mr. Trott	143	1,430
Mr. Howell	143	1,430
Mr. Britton	143	1,430
Mr. Halphen	144	1,440
Mr. Lazard	143	1,430
Mr. Moffat	143	1,430
Mr. Wilde	143	1,430
Mr. Greir	143	1,430
Mr. Hines	145	1,450
Mr. Berry	143	1,430
Mr. Ackerman	143	1,430
Mr. Boyd	143	1,430
Mr. Heyvyn	143	1,430
Mr. Beyfus	300 at 137	27,400
Total		\$56,100

On Wednesday forenoon another lot of 250 Grand Hotel shares were offered for sale by public auction in Messrs. Eytan & Pratt's rooms. There was a very large attendance. The shares were put up in one lot and ran rapidly up to 130. Thence they rose by bids of a dollar till they stood at 135½, which figure was offered by Mr. Witkowski. Mr. Beyfus capped it with a bid of 136, at which the lot was knocked down to him. A lot of 250 shares in the Yokohama Engine Works were also put up, but were bought in at 124½.

LAUNCH OF A STEAMER.

On Saturday morning last, says the *Rising Sun*

of the 23rd ult., at 9.15 a.m. prompt, the *Kisogawa Maru*, the second of the three steel steamers being built by the Mitsu Bishi Dockyard and Engine Works, for the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, was most successfully launched from the Company's ship-yard at Tategami, the christening ceremony being performed by a young daughter of Mr. M. Yamawaki, local director of the Mitsu Bishi Co. The *Kisogawa* (the name of a river which runs through the province of Owari) is sister ship to the *Chikugogawa*, launched from the same yard about four months ago. She is a two-decked vessel, constructed according to Lloyd's Rules, and classed 100A; is fitted with water ballast tanks; her machinery is of the triple-compound surface-condensing type, with cylinders of 15 in., 23 in., and 59 in. dia., with a stroke of 30 in. Steam, at 150 lbs. pressure, will be supplied from a large steel boiler, having three furnaces, fitted with Fox's corrugated flues, the total heating surface being 1,570 square feet, and the weight of the boiler 33 tons. The engines, boiler, and fittings have all been constructed at the Mitsu Bishi Works.

THE CLOSING OF THE EXHIBITION.

On Thursday afternoon the ceremony of closing the Third Domestic Exhibition at Ueno took place, and this morning the operation of removing the exhibits begins. The grounds of the great show were crowded same on Thursday as the hour of closing drew near, and at five o'clock a large assemblage of high officials of various departments and of exhibitors collected in a structure erected in front of the temporary museum, similar to that in which the opening ceremony took place. This structure, which was canvas roofed, was hung round with flags and purple cloth bearing the chrysanthemum, and almost in the centre was a platform (approached by a gangway) on which the chief actors in the ceremony had their places. Outside the Guards' Band played at intervals, and at the conclusion of the function a performance was given on a small platform near the band stand. Soon after five o'clock H.I.H. Prince Fushimi, President of the Exhibition, took his place on the platform beside a small table near its centre, supported on the left by Mr. Mutsu, Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, while facing him at some little distance stood Mr. Hanabusa, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Exhibition, and Mr. Kuki, Director-General of the Imperial Museum. Mr. Hanabusa stepped forward and read a brief address, after which the Prince in a short speech declared the exhibition closed. Marquis Hachisuka, on behalf of the various *chiji* of cities and prefectures, read another short address which closed the proceedings, the President then leaving the platform.

We learn from the *Official Gazette* that from 1st April up to the 30th ult. (Wednesday), the total number of persons who visited the exhibition was 1,017,857, of which 7,602 were distinguished, 42,005 special, and 941,300 ordinary visitors, 26,709 students, and 241 foreigners holding special invitations. This shows an average for each day opened of 8,412.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UPPER HOUSE.

SOMETIME ago, we read in the *Nippon*, Viscount Watanabe addressed a circular to the recently elected members of the House of Peers, advising that the President of the House should be nominated privately, and his name submitted for the consideration of H.M. the Emperor. This suggestion met with strong opposition at the hands of Viscount Tani and others, who maintained that the contemplated action was entirely repugnant to the spirit of the Law of the Houses. Viscount Watanabe subsequently wrote a lengthy reply to his opponents, and also delivered an address in the Peers' Club explaining his views, but the great majority of the peers appear to be strongly opposed to his scheme, and the movement will prove abortive.

THE ABOLITION OF RICE EXCHANGES.

THE *Tokyo Koron* notes with some surprise that though Mr. Minami Teisuke, who with a

member of the Tokyo Rice Exchange, was sent abroad to make enquiries as to foreign bourses returned home some months ago, no report embodying the result of his investigations has yet been issued. The impression prevails largely among members of Rice Exchanges that this delay can only mean an intention on the part of the Government to continue the existence of the exchanges after the time (June next year) to which their charters were extended. Our contemporary, however, holds the opinion that the exchanges will be closed in June, and their place taken by bourses (*tori-hiki-sho*) for the purchase and sale of grain by sample (*mihan-bai*), such bourses, however, differing very materially from the establishments provided for in the Bourse Regulations promulgated in 1888.

CHOLERA.

The latest cholera returns for Nagasaki are:—

July 25th	New cases 76
Deaths	34
July 26th	New cases 49
Deaths	36
July 27th	New cases 74
Deaths	31
July 28th	New cases 53
Deaths	13
July 29th	New cases 60
Deaths	34
July 30th	New cases 32
Deaths	21
July 31st	New cases 82
Deaths	52

These figures bring the total number of seizures since the commencement of the epidemic to 1,067, and the total number of deaths to 598. The Nishi-Sonoki district of Nagasaki continues to be the most gravely affected, the number of new cases there on the 25th ultimo having been 48, and the number of deaths 23; the number of new cases there on the 29th ultimo were 20, and the number of deaths 17; and on the 30th new cases 17, and deaths 15. The disease seems to be widening its area of operations, for seven districts, including the city proper, are now shown as having been invaded. The remaining returns published by the *Official Gazette* are as follow:—

Places.	City or Prefecture.	Remarks.
Kuma-no-jogo	Kagoshima	Four cases on the 23rd and 24th.
Demizu-mura	Kagoshima	Four cases. All these eight cases terminated fatally.
Takemoto	Kagoshima	One case.
Ashiya	Fukuoka	Eleven cases on the 22nd and 23rd, and fourteen cases in other parts of the same district.
Omuda	Fukuoka	Two cases.
Mikawa	Fukuoka	Three cases.
Yoshimi-mura	Yamaguchi	One fatal case on the 24th.
Onike	Kumamoto	Two cases.
Goryo-mura	Kumamoto	One case each on the 24th.
Tokoro-mura	Kyoto	One case (non-Asiatic) on the 19th ultimo.
Kumura	Kyoto	One case (non-Asiatic) on the 19th ultimo.
Kitajoshin-mura	Osaka	One fatal case on the 21st.
Minami-dori Nichome	Osaka	One case (non-Asiatic).
Kokuho-mura	Hyogo	One case on the 16th ult.
Shikata-mura	Hyogo	One case (a woman) on the 20th.
Kojima-mura	Shizuoka	One case on the 21st, ended fatally next day.
Houchi-mura	Toyama	One case, immediately fatal, on the 21st ultimo.
Miyabara-mura	Hiroshima	One case on the 19th ult.
Yamadanoji-mura	Kochi	One case, immediately fatal, on the 19th ultimo.
Akamagasaki	Yamaguchi	One woman attacked on the 25th ultimo.
Udogori, Ashi- hitagori, Ama- kusagori and Ikinkuni	Kumamoto	Two men attacked on the 25th ultimo in each of these districts (gun and province).
Kagoshima Har- bour	Kagoshima	One man in the steamer <i>Raiden Maru</i> which came from Nagasaki on the 25th ultimo.
Demidzugori	Kagoshima	Three men attacked and two of them died on the 25th ultimo.
The Turkish man- of-war at Yoko- hama	Kanagawa	Eighteen cases and five deaths since the commencement on the 18th ultimo up to the 25th.
Ushigome, Kyobashi, and Kojimachi	Tokyo	One man attacked on the 25th in each of these districts.
Higashiku	Osaka	One man attacked on the 23rd.
Nagaura	Kanagawa	One Turk attacked on the 25th, and two Turks on the 26th.
Jinto-gori	Hyogo	One man attacked on the 26th.
Shikikami-gori	Nara	One man attacked on the 22nd.
Myoto-gori	Tokushima	One man attacked on the 19th and died on the 22nd.
Kumamoto	Kumamoto	46 men attacked and 19 men died during 40 days from 11th June to the 20th ult.

Akamagasaki, Toyama and Oshima-gori	Yamaguchi	3 cases in each place.
Akuta-gori and Amakusa-gori	Kumamoto	1 case in each place.
Ashikita-gori	Kumamoto	10 cases.
Demidzu-gori	Kagoshima	2 cases and 6 deaths on the 27th.
Satsuma-gori	Kagoshima	2 cases and 2 deaths on the 27th.
Asakusa and Shiba	Tokyo	1 case in each place.
Higashiku and Nishi- nai-gun	Osaka	1 case in each place.
Kitasaitama-gun	Saitama	1 case.
Moda-gun	Chiba	1 case on the 24th and 1 death on the 25th.
Miyagi-gun and Toda-gun	Miyagi	4 cases.
Sakai-gori and Nin-gun, Mutsu	Mutsu	4 cases and two deaths.
Hatto-gun	Tottori	1 case.
Nishi-Sajo-gun	Okayama	1 case.
Kochi-gun and Wake-gun	Yehime	1 case in each gun.
Nishi-Kokuto-gun	Oita	1 case.
Yamato Miike-gun	Fukuoka	One case in each district on the 27th ultimo.
Demidzu and Sa- tsuna-gun	Kagoshima	Five cases and three deaths in the former and three cases and one death in the latter district on the 28th ultimo.
Udo and Ama- kusa-gun	Kumamoto	One case in each district on the 27th ultimo.
Akuta-gun	Kumamoto	5 cases on the 17th ult.
Nagaura	Kanagawa	3 cases (Turks) on the 28th ultimo.
Kita-Kambara-gun	Niigata	1 case on the 22nd ult.
Hiraga-gori	Aicita	1 case.
Nishi-Sajo-gun	Okayama	1 person attacked and died immediately.
Iyo-gun	Yehime	1 case.
Kumamoto Muni- cipality	Kumamoto	One case on the 28th ult.
Akuta-gun	Kumamoto	Two cases on the 28th ult.
Udogori	Kumamoto	One case on the 28th ult.
Ashikita-gori	Kumamoto	Five cases on the 28th ult.
Amakusa-gori	Kumamoto	Three cases on the 28th ultimo.
Nagaura and Hirose-mura	Kagoshima	One death in each place on the 28th ultimo.
Nihonhashi and Koji- machi	Tokyo	One case in each place on the 28th ultimo.
Asakusa	Tokyo	One case on the 29th ult.
Tosei-gun	Osaka	One woman and one man attacked, and the woman died on the 25th ultimo.
Nagaura Disinfect- ion Office and Yokohama	Kanagawa	One man attacked in each place, the former being a <i>sendo</i> of the office, on the 29th ultimo.
Juto-gun	Hyogo	One man attacked and died on the 27th ultimo.
Minami-Tsuguru	Aomori	One woman attacked and died on the 24th ultimo.
Kamo-gori	Hiroshima	One woman on the 21st and 22nd ultimo.
Toga-gori	Fukuoka	Sixty cases on the 28th and 29th.
Miike-gori	Fukuoka	18 cases on the 28th and 29th.
Mitsuma-gori	Fukuoka	Nine cases on the 28th and 29th.
All the rural districts	Fukuoka	14th deaths on the 28th and 29th.
Kyobashi & Asakusa	Tokyo	One man attacked on the 29th and died on the 30th in the former place and a girl attacked and died on the 30th in the latter place.
Osaka	Osaka	One woman attacked on the 28th.
Yokohama	Kanagawa	A woman and a man attacked at Minatocho on the 31st ultimo, and one man attacked at Itocho on the same day.
Ono-gori	Fukui	One woman attacked on the 25th.
Sakai-gori	Fukui	One woman attacked on the 26th.
Niu-gori	Fukui	One man attacked and died on the 27th.
Niikawa-gori	Toyama	One man attacked and died on the 25th.

The latest returns for Yamaguchi Prefecture are:—

July 28th	New cases 14
Deaths	6
July 29th	New cases 6
Deaths	3
July 30th	New cases 13
Deaths	10

These figures bring the total number of seizures since the commencement of the epidemic to 81, and the total number of deaths to 53. This total shows some difference as compared with that previously given, owing to failures in reporting cases to the Authorities.

The latest returns for Kumamoto are:—

July 30th	New Cases	9
Deaths		

These figures bring the total number of seizures since the commencement of the epidemic to 135, and the total number of deaths to 57.

The latest returns for Kagoshima are:—

July 30th	New Cases	11
Deaths		6

These figures bring the total number of seizures since the commencement of the epidemic to 51, and the total number of deaths to 26.

The following story is told by the *Koron*:—Sudden and numerous seizures of cholera occurred in Nishisomaki district, Nagasaki Prefecture, on the 21st and 22nd ultimo. Their number is said to have been 82, and their cause the eating of sharks' flesh. The account given is that two sharks were caught in the sea near Amakusa by some fishermen of Tameishi-mura. The fish were taken ashore, and cut up and sold, portions being retained by the captors. All the persons attacked by cholera were of the number of those who had partaken of the sharks' flesh. Official experts have been dispatched to investigate the matter.

GOLD AND SILVER RATIOS.

The *Official Gazette* gives the following table of comparative values of gold and silver coins and of the pound sterling for the week ended the 26th ult., as derived from the returns of the Bank of Japan and the Yokohama Specie Bank:—

Days	Gold Coin, (Per yen 100)	Pound Sterling, (Per £1)
21st	114.000	A.M. 5.6149 P.M. 5.5813
22nd	113.400	A.M. 5.5813 P.M. 5.5813
23rd	113.400	A.M. 5.5813 P.M. 5.5813
24th	113.400	A.M. 5.5813 P.M. 5.6140
25th	113.600	A.M. 5.6140 P.M. 5.6140
26th	113.600	A.M. 5.6140 P.M. 5.6140
Averages	113.567	5.5977

The above averages show for gold coin a decrease in value of yen 1.334, and for the pound sterling a decrease in value of yen 0.0661 as compared with the previous week.

THE BANK OF JAPAN.

The amounts of convertible notes and reserves in the Bank of Japan for the week ended the 26th ult. were as follows:—

Convertible Notes.	YEN.	Reserves and Securities.	YEN.
Notes issued	71,819,695	Gold coin and bullion	24,295,247
		Silver coin and bullion	25,305,091
		Public Loan Bonds	13,470,450
		Treasury Bills	—
		Government Bills	—
		Other securities	4,732,183
		Commercial Bills	3,959,721
	71,819,695		71,819,695

Of the above total issue of notes, the sum of yen 4,572,434 is in the treasury of the Bank, and yen 67,247,261 in actual circulation, the latter showing a decrease of yen 1,059,825 as compared with yen 68,307,086 at the end of the previous week.

LOCAL OFFICIALS AND THE CITIES AND PREFECTURES REGULATIONS.

The arrival in Tokyo of many prefectural Governors and Secretaries is noted by the *Daido Shimpō*, which attributes their coming to a desire on the part of the Government to learn their views as to the Regulations for the Organization of Cities and Prefectures prior to the carrying out of those enactments. Meetings of the local officials will open about the beginning of August in the Home Office.

"THE LIBERAL."

In regard to the nature of the *Jiyu Shimbun* (*The Liberal*), various rumours have been circulated, but the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* is informed by a trustworthy person that the newspaper is not intended to be the political organ of either Count Itagaki, or of the *Atokoku-ko*. Nor is it to serve as the exponent of the Koin Club. Its true object is to devote itself to the promotion of the interests of liberalism in general, without exclusive reference to any of that party's different sections.

THE DEFENCE OF HOKKAIDO.

We learn from the *Hochi Shimbun* that with a view to the more efficient defence of the island of Hokkaido, the War Office has decided to add annually one *daitai* (regiment) to the Colonial Militia, the yearly cost being put at yen 500,000.

REYNELL & CO. v. THE SIAM SHOKWAI.

THE charge of fraud recently preferred and established against certain Japanese tradesmen by Messrs. REYNELL & Co., of Yokohama and Kobe, seems to have excited some interest. One of our local English contemporaries, reviewing the case, has expressed views favourable to the acumen and expeditious procedure, of the Tokyo Appeal Court, accompanying them, however, by comments which do not commend themselves as either just or courteous. We are well aware that foreign suitors have had many and good reasons to complain of the difficulty of obtaining justice under the provisions of Japanese law, but even among the greatest sufferers there are few, we imagine, who would not condemn as thoughtless exaggeration the statement that now only, and as an inference from this one case, is there "just a chance of foreign rights being vindicated and Japanese fraud punished by the native courts." It is especially singular that such an assertion should appear in a journal which, half-a-dozen years ago, devoted one of its leading columns to panegyrics of the procedure of the Japanese law courts at Kanagawa and rejoicings over the justice which foreign suitors had uniformly obtained from those tribunals throughout the year which the journal happened to be reviewing. However, there is little use in discussing lightly penned phrases of hyperbole and contradiction. Laws and their administrators must everywhere and always remain the mark of hostile criticism, whether a DICKENS attacks them in "Bleak House" or a Yokohama editor inveighs against them in little read columns.

The case of Messrs. REYNELL & Co. v. the Siam Shokwai may be briefly stated. A Japanese named UYENO established an association with the avowed object of trading between Japan and Siam. Having no capital himself, he persuaded three friends, IWAMOTO, SAITO, and ISHII, to contribute a certain amount. At the outset UYENO tried to induce Messrs. REYNELL & Co. to undertake the importation of teak-wood for use at the Yokosuka Dockyard, with which he had established business relations. Messrs. REYNELL & Co. failed to come to terms, however. A few months later Messrs. JARDINE, MATHESON & Co. imported a cargo of teak. UYENO, hearing of this, reopened negotiations with Messrs. REYNELL & Co., and finally induced them to purchase the cargo from Messrs. JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., UYENO falsely representing that the Yokosuka folks had agreed to take over the whole of the wood, whereas in truth they had only promised to take over a part. In carrying out this arrangement, UYENO alone, so far as we can gather, was to transact business with the Yokosuka Dockyard, receiving payment for the teak and handing the

money to Messrs. REYNELL & Co., who were to make a certain calculated profit and to pay UYENO a fixed commission. UYENO received \$16,000 from the Dockyard Officials. Instead of transmitting the money to Messrs. REYNELL & Co., however, he appropriated it, giving a portion to his three partners. Proceedings were instituted against him, but before their conclusion and while undergoing examination in Court, he died of paralysis. IWAMOTO, one of the other partners of the Siam Shokwai, was then arrested, and with SAITO and ISHII arraigned on a charge of fraud. His defence was conducted by one of the ablest barristers in Japan, Mr. HATOVAMA, the counsel for Messrs. REYNELL & Co. being the well known Mr. R. MASUJIMA. The principal line taken by the defence was that no sufficient evidence of fraudulent intention existed against the defendants, their claim being that they had received the money from UYENO believing it to be profit earned by legitimate trade. This plea succeeded in the lower Court, but the Public Prosecutor carried the case to the Appeal Court, and there obtained a verdict condemning IWAMOTO to 18 months' imprisonment and SAITO and ISHII to a year each, and recognising all Messrs. REYNELL & Co.'s civil claims against the Siam Shokwai.

It will be perceived that the act of fraud established against the defendants by the Public Prosecutor under Articles 390 and 395 of the Criminal Code, began when UYENO, the chief partner of the defendant firm, attempted to conceal and abscond with money received by him from the Yokosuka Dockyard as proceeds of the sale of teak-wood bought and paid for by Messrs. REYNELL & Co. If, however, we trace the course of events farther back, it appears that the Siam Shokwai had virtually no capital except a few thousand yen contributed by UYENO's subordinate partners. The firm, therefore, was not possessed of means to purchase the whole cargo of teak imported by Messrs. JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., whereas the latter declined to sell a part. UYENO then resorted to the subterfuge of falsely informing Messrs. REYNELL & Co. that the Dockyard Authorities had agreed to take over the whole cargo at a price per cubic foot which would leave a handsome profit. Evidently fraudulent proceedings began then, and Mr. MASUJIMA, counsel for the plaintiffs, endeavoured to have the defendant's crime dated from that period. He failed, however, on the technical ground that, according to Japanese law, plaintiffs in the position of Messrs. REYNELL & Co. are precluded from becoming parties in a criminal process except in so far as the damages claimed by them can be shown to be connected with the criminal charge. The provisions of law under which the prosecution was instituted are sufficiently wide in terms, but it is not always easy to draw the line clearly between civil and criminal

acts. We do not, therefore, contend that the Public Prosecutor failed to utilize the law to its fullest extent, though we regret that he could not see his way to extend the scope of the charge. Much of the practical beauty of legal enactments must depend on the discretion and judgment with which they are applied. If foreigners have often been disappointed in obtaining due redress from Japanese tribunals, it does not, we think, necessarily follow that the Japanese view of moral obligations is theoretically less comprehensive than the European or American. The present case has been cited as a happy evidence of judicial progress, but it is by no means a solitary case. We are, persuaded that a more intimate acquaintance with Japanese courts would re-assure many as to the practical existence of that finer appreciation of modern conditions without which the spirit of the law cannot be fully carried into its practice. There is little cause to complain of the Japanese Criminal Codes, and every evidence of their sensible application inspires additional confidence in the benefits which the country will derive, both domestically and internationally, from the promulgation and enforcement of the new civil laws.

JAPAN AND SIAM.

OUR distinguished Siamese visitors have been devoting themselves to the Exhibition, of which they are loud in their praise, and in which they found a great deal that is of special interest to themselves. So far from having any political object, they come simply as holiday-makers. His Majesty the KING of Siam has just returned from a long tour round his dependencies in the Malay Peninsula, in the course of which he visited also Perak, Penang, Singapore, and Pahang, in the first and last of which he desired to see for himself the differences between British and Malay Administration. HIS MAJESTY is a man of great intelligence and acute observation, speaking and reading English with ease, and during the whole of his long journey, which encircled the entire Malay Peninsula from Burmese territory on the north-west coast right round to Siam proper on the north-east, he was at every point the most eager inquirer and the keenest critic. So far as British Malay possessions and protectorates are concerned, few things would be more interesting than to "see ourselves as others see us" through the medium of HIS MAJESTY'S private diary, if such a thing were possible. The Royal journey lasted over three months, and the KING took with him a fleet of a dozen ships and most of his Ministers of State, including Prince DEVAWONGSE, the well-known Minister for Foreign Affairs, through whose hands all the official intercourse between Siam and the rest of the world passes, and also no inconsiderable part of its domestic administration. All this time H.R.H.

Prince CHOW FA BHANURANGSI SWANGWONGSE held the reins of Government in Bangkok, and naturally enough, after HIS MAJESTY'S, return he started upon a well-earned holiday.

"Somdetch Krom Pra Ong Noi," to give Prince BHANURANGSI his proper Siamese title, is a very well-known figure in Bangkok. He is the younger of the KING's two own brothers, the elder, whose title is "Ong Yai," living in semi-retirement on account of ill-health, although nominally the administrative head of the national finances. The "Ong Noi," as our Royal visitor is familiarly called by foreigners in Siam, bears a remarkable resemblance to HIS MAJESTY in features, in voice, in manner, and in kindness and thoughtful consideration for all who are brought into contact with him. Among the latter, unfortunately, are very few foreigners, the relations between the foreign representatives and the Siamese officials not having been exactly cordial for some time past. It is not necessary here to discuss the grounds of international misunderstanding: experiences nearer home will lead us to conclude that neither side is wholly responsible. And so far as Great Britain and Siam are concerned, it is pleasing to know that on the arrival of Captain JONES, V.C., our new Minister to Siam, the most friendly advances were made by both parties, and a new era of good feeling seemed assured. In such an era Prince BHANURANGSI should play a prominent part. His rank, his official position as Commander-in-Chief, his magnificent palace at Bangkok, filled with collections of everything Siamese that is rare and beautiful, afford him unrivalled opportunities of exerting the most powerful social influence, and his hospitality even in the past, when occasions for it have been few, has been extended with the utmost charm and cordiality.

The truth is that Siam has reached an extremely interesting if not a critical period in her history, and a period, moreover, that should attract the attention and awaken the sympathies of everybody in Japan. What Japan did nearly a quarter of a century ago, Siam is doing to-day—she is just turning the leaf of the volume of her history which separates the old past from the new future. Siam is in many ways walking in the footsteps of Japan, and nowhere are Japanese events and undertakings watched more carefully than in the land of the White Elephant. Like Japan, Siam is reorganizing and endeavouring to develop and Europeanize her administration—army, navy, customs, police, law; like Japan, she feels keenly the evil of extra-territoriality; like Japan, her Constitution has been changed and is to be changed further; like Japan, she has the European Powers at her gates, in a sort of peaceful blockade. She has, however, greater difficulties than Japan ever had. She be-

gan further back and with a social system requiring greater and more vital alterations. She has vast extents of territory over which her sovereignty is exercised with difficulty; China is a sullen neighbour behind the Yunnan borders on the North; England is busily measuring and mapping her frontiers on the West; France is airily presenting claim after claim on the East. But fortunately, like Japan again, Siam has the men for her crisis—her KING himself; and second only to him, Prince DE-VAWONGSE, to whose tact and tireless energy Siam will owe in great part whatever of good her future brings; more than one of her other Ministers of State, and among the foremost, Japan's present distinguished guest.

THE CHARGES AGAINST THE "JAPAN MAIL."

GR^EAT pains have taken by a local contemporary to convict this journal of inconsistency in the matter of Treaty Revision, but even though recourse is had to the familiar device of mutilating our statements and putting in our mouth assertions which we never made, the result of the attempt is a complete failure. Of course it is not our intention to waste space in following our assailant through the intricacies of his very disingenuous argument. It will suffice to repeat in the briefest terms our real position. We hold, then, that the employment of foreign legal experts in the capacity of Japanese judges would have been a desirable measure for all parties, but especially for the Japanese. We hold that the nation has irrevocably made up its mind not to concede these judges, and that to try and turn it from its resolve would be the veriest folly. We hold that the letter of the Constitution cannot, in our view, be construed as prohibiting the employment of foreigners in a judicial capacity for a special international purpose, and so long as this question was in the balance, we spared no effort to enforce our contention. We hold, however, that by far the more influential section of the nation has determined to interpret the spirit of the Constitution in a sense opposed to the enrolment of foreigners in the Japanese judiciary, and that, since this is a point which Japan must decide absolutely for herself, it would be fruitless and vexatious on the part of foreign States to assail her decision. We hold that Western Governments are not at all likely to abandon unconditionally the position of vantage they occupy as actual possessors of certain privileges, and that Japan would be merely inviting failure and humiliation did she expect them so to abandon it. But we hold also that this contention is not as strong now as it was a twelvemonth ago; that it is very far from being as strong as it was four years ago, and that every

year which passes weakens it materially. For foreign States have been gradually coming face to face with a new *vis-à-vis* in Japan; the Japanese Government has been steadily losing the virtually uncontrolled power it possessed for purposes of negotiation; the Japanese nation has almost taken the matter into its own hands and will assume complete control of it ere long; and when a nation undertakes to assert its own independent rights, no treaties that interfere with their enjoyment are worth the paper on which they are written. We hold to everything we wrote last year about the favourable nature of the terms obtained by Japan from some of the Great Powers, and we deem it a matter of lasting regret for all sides that an agreement based on those terms could not be universally concluded. But we hold also, as we wrote at the time, that if in truth the effect of revision on such a basis would be to replace the physical barriers of the old treaties by moral barriers of umbrage and dissatisfaction; equally conducive to the growth of race prejudice and far more difficult to remove subsequently, then the introduction of the contemplated system would be a serious error. We hold that the attitude of the country emphatically indicates that such a result would have ensued, and that since the Japanese statesmen directly engaged in Treaty Revision failed to gauge public opinion correctly or to control it suitably, nothing remained but to change their ground. As to the consequences to Japan herself of such a change, we have expressed no new opinion whatsoever, nor do we propose to express any. Neither have we anywhere said, as our critic most untruly and ungrammatically asserts, that "such a programme as Viscount AOKI has submitted is a 'basis of recklessness.'" This is a pure invention, as it is also to pretend that in connection with Japan's retirement from her position of last year we have called her "a State maltreated, slighted, and scorned." Every one of these epithets properly applies to the treatment she has often received in the past at the hands of Western Powers, and if there be persons too blind to see this or too cowardly to say it, we have no desire to interfere with the free exercise of their self-deception and pusillanimity. But when they pretend that we have urged anything of the kind on Japan's behalf because her changed programme has not yet obtained European and American assent, they speak falsely. It ought to be the hearty wish of every thoughtful person to see the Treaty Revision problem satisfactorily solved, for the pernicious influence it exercises at present on the country's foreign relations and on the development of her resources admits of no controversy. Yet there are writers here who apparently make it their sole aim to accentuate the difficulties of the situation, to influence public opinion to

Japan's prejudice, and to create the false impression that nothing presses except the expediency of delay. No doubt the history of all perplexing and intricate questions has been disfigured by similarly mischievous interference, but that reflection does not mitigate the nuisance. Time and perseverance, however, will work their wonted results. One of these days western folks will look back upon all this frivolous opposition with as much amusement and wonder as that with which we now regard the ridiculous persons who claim that our expressions of sympathy with Japan's dilemma have stirred her to strong anger against foreigners, whereas their own perennial display of rude contempt for her aspirations, their exulting parade of her faults, and their supercilious ridicule of her national claims, have not roused any feeling of resentment in her breast. Perhaps they rightly gauge their own influence, but we are charitable enough to judge them by the mischief they aspire to work, rather than by the insignificance they succeed in achieving.

PRIZES AT THE EXHIBITION.

THE manner of distributing prizes at the Industrial Exhibition has not apparently given universal satisfaction, but neither could it have been expected to do so. As a rule Japanese artisans are very modest about the work of their hands. The last thing they seem to imagine is that they deserve to be conspicuously rewarded or distinguished for their productions. But we never can be quite sure how much of this retiring mood is a superficial evidence of training and tradition. Probably a Japanese manufacturer or producer feels defeat by his rivals as much as any other manufacturer or producer, and probably there are as many sore hearts among the unsuccessful exhibitors at Ueno as there would be under similar circumstances in London or Paris. Confining ourselves to exhibits which have chiefly attracted foreign attention, namely, objects of art, we must say that, for the most part, the rewards seem to have been bestowed with judgment and discrimination. In porcelain and pottery, lacquer, enamels, embroideries, ivories, and metal work, the Judges have selected exhibits which certainly deserve to be distinguished. But we cannot extend this endorsement to the case of wood-carvings and paintings. Standing conspicuous in the Art Gallery is a colossal wood-carving, supposed to represent the Emperor JIMMU, nominal founder of the present Imperial Dynasty. We have examined this figure again and again with profound astonishment, marveling that such a work should have been granted standing-room in the most honourable section of the Exhibition. To foreign eyes it has absolutely no point to recommend it, being at once clumsy, undignified,

heavy, crude in conception, and rough in execution. Within a glass case in the same building may be seen another wood carving, about one-tenth of the size of the JIMMU image. The subject is a carpenter adzing a plank of wood. It would be difficult to sculpture anything truer to life. Every muscle, every point of anatomy, is perfect. The work, in short, would command admiration in any exhibition of glyptic art anywhere. Yet this beautiful specimen of sculpture has only received a third prize, whereas the huge, ungainly figure of the Emperor JIMMU is honoured with a second prize for excellence. We do not profess to understand the principle of this singular distinction, but there is evidently something in the larger figure which commends it to Japanese admiration, for not only has it been thus rewarded by the Judges, but a full-page picture of it was published in a recent number of the *Kokkwa*, with a highly eulogistic notice. Scarcely less incomprehensible is the result of the judging in the pictorial section. Only one first prize has been awarded, and that is to a painting in Japanese style, the autumnal scene by HASHIMOTO GAHO, which has been already spoken of more than once in these columns. Now there can be no doubt that Mr. HASHIMOTO's picture shows much beauty of colouring; that the effect of falling water is excellently rendered, and that the work has the great, and in Japanese paintings almost unique, merit of showing us a complete scene. But its faults of technique are very glaring. The rocks have so little body and such strongly marked outlines that they resemble thin laminæ of cardboard pasted on the picture, and the white cloud or mist floating down the dell looks like a stain accidentally impressed on the silk, so little semblance of evanescence does it present and so sharply marked are its edges. We cannot but think that if Mr. HASHIMOTO's picture deserved the highest obtainable prize, some of the oil-paintings possessed claims to equal distinction. The Judges, however, came to a different conclusion, and still further emphasized their opinion of the inferiority of the oil-paintings by awarding a second prize to only one of them, while bestowing no less than sixteen second prizes on Japanese pictures. As for the oil painting thus placed at the head of its school, it undoubtedly possesses much merit, but we venture to say that no foreign expert would endorse the verdict of the Judges. The artist is Mr. TSUKAHARA RISSHI, and the subject chosen is the celebrated authoress and lady-in-waiting popularly known as SEI SHONAGON. The painter depicts this historical personage in one of the most graceful and dignified attitudes of the Japanese religious dance. The pose is excellently rendered, the drapery skilfully represented, and the red lacquer floor on which she stands is really a wonderful piece of successful technique. But

the picture is not without grave faults, and to place it above Mr. SAKUMA's powerfully depicted and strongly conceived painting of WAKI NO KIYOMARU, as he prays the gods to aid him in deposing DOKYO, the priestly favourite of the EMPRESS, seems to us an unaccountable judgment. Mr. SAKUMA, however, is rewarded with a third prize only. Five third prizes have been awarded to oil paintings against thirty-three given to Japanese pictures; the works bracketted with Mr. SAKUMA's "Waki no Kiyomaru" being Mr. ISHIWARA's "Street in wind and snow," Mr. ANDO's "Hanami" (flower viewing), Mr. HARADA's portrait of Prince MORI, and Mr. KAMEI's "Koto Player." It will be unanimously agreed by foreign critics that every one of these works deserved a prize, but the most diligent and indulgent searcher would have failed to discover more than one or two Japanese pictures worthy to stand on the same plane, whereas no less than thirty-three have been thus honoured. We are not surprised to learn, therefore, that the awards of the Judges have given much umbrage. The honours showered on the Japanese paintings become even more inexplicable when we remember that several of the best artists, dissatisfied with the awards at previous exhibitions, refrained from contributing on this occasion, whereas the students of oil paintings seem to have put forth their full strength. It is, however, very probable that one result of these decisions will be to stimulate both schools of artists to a renewed effort, and that we shall see an interesting and thoroughly representative exhibition of paintings organised independently in the autumn or early winter. The conviction impressed on the public by the Ueno Hakurankai is that a future full of promise lies before the Japanese painter in oils, and while we have every faith in the conscientious and painstaking efforts of the Judges to distinguish real merit, we must confess to a feeling of regret that their decisions have tended to discourage the students of the new art.

THE SENSE OF MOTION.

ON the Switchback Railway at Ueno, Tokyo, we have a good opportunity of experimenting on our sense of motion. It is only recently that scientific men have demonstrated the existence of this Sense as worthy in all respects to be ranked with the proverbial Five. Why its recognition should have been so long delayed is only to be explained, as most other similar discoveries are, in terms of man's conservative stupidity. And yet the feelings that have to do with this sense are in themselves curious enough, oftentimes delightful. Ask any child why swings and see-saws are so much to its fancy, or ask any American lady why she dotes so on her rocking chair. The answer is the same, "it feels so nice." In these cases,

the mind is of course prepared for what is to follow; on the Switchback, however, the victim is taken by surprise. For our sense of motion is not so much a sense of motion merely as a sense of change of motion. And if this change, whether in amount or in direction, takes place in an altogether unexpected or even unwonted manner, the sensation is correspondingly peculiar. In their simpler forms, these sensations of motion are familiar enough to all who have made rapid ascents and descents in a lift, or who have been rocked in helpless misery in the cradle of the deep. The sensation is the more complex on the Switchback because of the unusually rapid changes, both in speed and direction of motion, that take place simultaneously. The change in speed is perceived by what we may call one sense of translation; and the change in direction by one sense of rotation.

If we are sitting upright in a railway car which is rounding a curve, we are rotating about a vertical axis. As we speed along a bend of a Switchback, we are rotating about a horizontal axis, which may be from ear to ear, or from face to back of head, according to the position we chance to occupy. A very little consideration will show that there is a sensation of rotation quite independent of probable changes of pressure on different parts of the body, or of the indirect suggestions of vision. If there are sensations there must be organs corresponding. Where, then, are these organs? There seems little doubt now that they lie near the ear, being the so-called semicircular canals whose function long remained a mystery to physiologists. Each ear is provided with three of these canals, lying roughly in planes approximately perpendicular to one another, one being nearly horizontal and the others nearly vertical. Into the mechanism of their action we cannot here enter. Suffice it to say that because of the inertia of the fluids contained in these canals variations of pressure are produced in one, in two, or in all, when any rotation occurs; that these variations of pressure affect the ends of the appropriate nerves and so communicate the sensations to the brain. It is this sense of motion that gives us a feeling of the true vertical and of directions generally.

There is no difficulty in making experiments on one's self, so as to better appreciate the existence of these sensations. For instance, stand upright and turn briskly round some two or three times; then stop and suddenly drop your chin upon your breast. You will feel a tendency to topple over towards the right or left hand according to the direction in which you have just been spinning round. Or, if a very striking effect is wanted, try the familiar practical joke of getting some one to place his head on the top of an upright poker, walk several times round it in the constrained bent

position, then stand upright and stride forwards. The victim will almost certainly fall. His motion round the poker brings into existence a sensation of rotation about an axis running from his forehead to the back of his head. In his erect position, this sensation still continues, but the axis is now nearly horizontal. Hence he feels as if his feet were revolving round his head; and in his endeavour to resist this sensation of falling, he experiences a real fall in the opposite direction.

Some very instructive experiments have been made with the subject set blind-fold on a revolving table, or within a revolving chamber with translucent walls. By such methods, all possible extraneous effects on the senses are prevented, and the sense of motion is left to exercise itself freely. It has been found that the subject has a very clear idea of the angle through which he may be suddenly rotated; but that he soon loses all sensation of rotation if his spinning motion is kept steady for some time. This shows, in fact, what has been already mentioned, that it is a sense of change of motion rather than a sense of motion which we possess.

Man is not of course the only animal that is supplied with this sense. Birds, beasts, and fishes must all have it. In tumbler pigeons the organ corresponding to the sense of rotation has probably been pathologically developed by artificial selection; but we are not aware that anatomists have studied the organ from this point of view. The power cats have of always landing on their feet is probably associated with some specially sensitive development of the organs of the sense of motion. We should expect such animals to evince a human-like uneasiness on the Switchback; the experiment would be well worth trying by some one possessed of a specially intelligent dog.

COMMERCIAL REGISTRATION.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 133.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Regulations relating to Commercial and Shipping Registration and order the same to be promulgated.

[His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.]
[Great Seal.]

Dated July 16th, 1890.
(Countersigned.)

COUNT YAMADA AKIYOSHI,
Minister of State for Justice.
COUNT MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of State for Finance.

Article 1.—Fees for commercial registration shall be as follows:—

- (1.) *Sen* 30 for the registration of each tradal name (*shogo*), guardian, infant, contract of marriage, and agency, without respect to main or branch stores. In addition a similar fee shall be charged for each registry of change of or addition to the above.
- (2.) *Yen* 6 in the case of firms (*Gomei Kwaisha*), and to in the case of joint-stock companies or companies of shareholders (*Kabushiki Kwaisha*) for each registration without respect to main or branch offices; *sen* 30 for each registration of change of or addition to the above.
- (3.) *Sen* 10 for examination of the registry book.
- (4.) *Sen* 10 per page for extracts from the registry book. Each page shall consist of 20 lines, each line of 20 characters, reckoning 11 lines and above as one page, and 10 lines and below as a half page.

Article 2.—*Yen* 3 shall be charged for registration under Article 825 of the Commercial Code. *Sen* 15 shall be charged for additional registration of changes under Article 829 of the Commercial Code.

THE CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE.

LAW No. 50.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Regulations relating to the Law for the carrying into practice of the Code of Civil Procedure, and order the same to be duly promulgated. We also command that this law shall be in force on and after the 1st day of the 1st month of the 24th year of Meiji.

[His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.]
[Great Seal.]

Dated July 16th, 1890.
(Countersigned)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.
COUNT YAMADA AKIYOSHI,
Minister of State for Justice.

Article 1.—Procedure in civil actions raised before the carrying into practice of the Code of Civil Procedure shall afterwards be conducted in accordance with the Code of Civil Procedure.

Article 2.—Complaints may be raised in accordance with the Code of Civil Procedure, as to judgments delivered without the attendance of a party or parties previous to the Code of Civil Procedure coming into force.

The period during which complaints have to be made shall be counted from the day on which the Code comes into force. Should the period so reckoned, however, be longer than that allowed for appeals or new trials, the latter period shall be taken.

Article 3.—The period for new trials against judgments delivered before the carrying into practice of the Code of Civil Procedure shall be reckoned from the date on which the Code shall come in force, in accordance with the term for new trials or appeals provided in the new Code. Should the new term, however, exceed the term for new trials or appeals under the old law, the latter term shall be observed.

Article 4.—Second trials (*saishin*) may be requested on judgments given before the carrying out of the Code of Civil Procedure, in accordance with the new Code. Should, however, the conditions under which a second trial is necessary occur before the carrying out of the Code of Civil Procedure, the term for the second trial shall be counted from the date on which such conditions occurred.

Article 5.—The compulsory execution of judgments delivered before the enforcement of the Code of Civil Procedure shall be carried out in accordance with the Code. In cases when intimation of bankruptcy has been posted, or a public sale has begun, the old laws shall be observed until such measures are concluded.

Article 6.—Persons who desire certificates in accordance with the regulations of Article 499 of the Code of Civil Procedure, in cases where an order for the execution of a judgment delivered before the carrying out of the Code of Civil Procedure cannot be obtained, may require the same from the Court where the records of the case are kept.

Article 7.—Cases in which petitions for arbitration (*Kwanhai*) were filed before the carrying out of the Code of Civil Procedure, but in which arbitration has not been concluded, may be taken up and concluded by a local court in accordance with Article 381 of the Code of Civil Procedure.

Article 8.—Affairs which come within the province of a headman of a municipality, town, or village in accordance with the regulations of the Code of Civil Procedure, shall be dealt with by officials who discharge the duties of headmen at places where headmen are not situated.

Article 9.—Relations, so called, in the Code of Civil Procedure, shall for the present be the relations regulated in the Penal Code.

Article 10.—In cases where there are special customs involved in actions relating to marriage, divorce, adoption, &c., such customs shall for the present be observed.

Article 11.—Notification No. 6 of the 8th year of Meiji shall for the present continue in force. Article 12.—The phrase "Court of Cassation," in Article 16 of the Regulations, relating to procedure in Appeals and New Trials, Notification No. 19 of the 10th year of Meiji, shall be amended to "Court of Appeal" (*Tokoku-saibanchu*), and the same article shall for the present continue in force.

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Relieves the Feeling of Lassitude so common in mid-summer, and imparts vitality.

THE SERVICE OF LEGAL DOCUMENTS.

LAW 51.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Regulations relating to the Rules of Process-servers (*Shitsutatsuri*), and order the same to be duly promulgated. These Rules shall come into force on and after November 1st, 1890.

[His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual,
[Great Seal.]

Dated July 24th, 1890.

(Countersigned.)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.

COUNT YAMADA AKIYOSHI,
Minister of State for Justice.

Article 1.—Process-servers shall belong to local courts (*Ku-saiban-sho*), and shall serve documents pertaining to suits and execute judgments in accordance with laws.

Article 2.—Process-servers may by request of parties deal with the following affairs:—

- (1.) Serving of notices and bills (*Saikoku*.)
- (2.) The auction of movables and immovables.
- (3.) Drawing documents of protest (*Kobami shoshu*.)

Article 3.—Process-servers are responsible for the transaction of business proper to their office, especially the following matters, in accordance with the orders of courts and public procurators' offices, in addition to the duties mentioned in laws and rules:—

- (1.) The service of documents, &c.
- (2.) The collection of fines, penalties, &c., as well as the sequestration or sale of confiscated goods.
- (3.) The execution of processes.

Article 4.—Process-servers shall be under the superintendence of one of the judges or of the chief judge of the local court to which they belong. Should other judges or public procurators, *ex officio*, issue orders to any process-server, such process-server shall for the time being be under the control of such judge or public procurator.

Article 5.—Process-servers shall reside in the locality of the local court to which they are attached. They may, however, live anywhere within the jurisdiction of the local court, provided they have obtained the permission of the chief judge of such court.

Article 6.—Process-servers shall have their offices in the place where the local court to which they belong is situated.

Article 7.—Should there be more than one process-server in a local court, the duties entrusted to them by the judges or procurators, or by the clerks of the court shall be distributed among them. Such distribution shall as far as possible be in accordance with the topographical divisions of the district.

Such distribution of duties shall be decided beforehand by a judge or by the chief judge of the local court at the end of each judicial year.

All acts performed by a process-server must be regular and effective though they may not be included in his duties under the distribution of work above noted.

Article 8.—Process-servers shall be prohibited from the discharge of their duties in the following cases:—

- (1.) When they or their wives are parties or injured persons, or have relations, as possessors of rights or dischargers of duties in joint account or having responsibility as security, with one or both of the parties or injured persons.
- (2.) When they or their wives are related to one or both of the parties or injured persons. This provision shall not apply when marriages have been dissolved.
- (3.) When they have to be examined as witnesses or experts in the same case, or may be, or have been agents in the same in accordance with law.

Article 9.—Process-servers may attend courts as agents or give assistance in suits on behalf of their wives, or their own or their wives' relations. This regulation shall not apply when the relations of marriage are dissolved.

Article 10.—Process-servers are not permitted without proper reason to refuse to obey commands or requests for the discharge of their duties.

Article 11.—Process-servers may, taking the responsibility on themselves, entrust the discharge of their duties temporarily to the following persons, except in cases where special orders or requests have been given:—

- (1.) Persons who have successfully passed examination for process-servers.

(2.) Persons who have been attached to the office of a process-server for over three months, as apprentices to such office.

(3.) Persons who have successfully passed examination for court clerks.

(4.) Persons who are deemed by a judge or the chief judge of a local court to be able to discharge the duties of process-servers.

Article 12.—When process-servers cannot, for some reasonable cause, discharge their duties or entrust the same to others, the matter should be communicated directly to the court or public procurators' office whence the order was issued, or to the person who requested their services.

When it is impossible to communicate such matter to the person who requested their services, or when it is necessary to act with promptitude, such fact shall be made known to a judge or to the Chief Judge of the local court.

Article 13.—In the above case, as well as in other cases where process-servers are obstructed, a judge or the chief judge of the local court may order any of the persons mentioned in Article 11, either by request or *ex officio*, to undertake the duties of process-servers.

Article 14.—Process-servers shall wear uniform clothing.

Persons who are entrusted with the temporary discharge of process-serving duties shall have a ticket delivered to them by the local court.

Article 15.—Process-servers shall receive settled fees, and shall be repaid all moneys disbursed by them in the discharge of their duties whether the same be done directly or by the orders of court clerks.

Process-servers are not permitted to increase or reduce the settled fees, nor can they obtain any compensation beyond fees or moneys paid by them.

Article 16.—Process-servers may not receive fees except for duties as provided for in Article 3.

Article 17.—When process-servers delegate the carrying out of their duties temporarily to others in the cases mentioned in Article 11, they shall pay to such delegates not less than three-tenths ($\frac{3}{10}$) of the usual fee.

Article 18.—Persons who discharge the duties of process-servers temporarily in the cases mentioned in Article 13, shall receive settled fees and reimbursement of moneys paid by them.

Article 19.—Should the fees received by a process-server during one year amount to less than yen 180, the deficit shall be paid from the Treasury.

Article 20.—Should a process-server die or be suspended or dismissed from his office, or be imprisoned, a judge or the chief judge of the local court shall

- (1.) Cause the production to the local court, of his official seal, records and other documents.
- (2.) Use necessary means for the safety of goods and documents in the custody of such process-server.

Article 21.—Process-servers shall receive pensions in accordance with the Law of Official Pensions, and the yearly amount of pension shall be reckoned on the basis of the salary as mentioned in Article 19 of that Law.

Article 22.—Process-servers shall, in matters not provided for in these rules, be accorded the treatment of officials.

SUPPLEMENTARY RULES.

Article 23.—Clerks of local courts shall, in the absence of process-servers, conduct the duties of the latter. In such case the office may be delegated temporarily to persons mentioned in Article 11, or persons whom they deem to be qualified, taking the responsibility on themselves.

When a clerk of court delegates process-serving duties to another under the last paragraph, he shall give seven-tenths ($\frac{7}{10}$) of the settled fee to the person thus delegated.

CORRESPONDENCE.

CHRISTIAN CHARITY AND CHRISTIAN ACCURACY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I am afraid that while the retained defenders of Christianity use language such as that of Bishop Newman in his lecture on "The March of Christian Civilisation," the "better future" of which that gentleman dreams, "when modesty shall supersede insolence," will be a long time coming. If such words as, "In America there was an infidel, whose name he never condescended to mention in public," are to be the keynote of the language of sweetness and light in the onward march of humanity, and if the persecuting spirit of

Christianity is to be thus incorporated into the religion of the future, I fear that intolerance of conduct and intemperance of language will always exist. What has Ingersoll done that, though a world-renowned thinker like William Ewart Gladstone considers him a foeman worthy of his steel, yet his name must not not sully the lips of the Rev. J. P. Newman, D.D., LL.D., Bishop of the M. E. Church? Does the Bishop use language of this description simply because Ingersoll, in the search for Truth, has reached different conclusions to his own? Can the Bishop, beating in mind the fate of some clerical libellers in the States, say a word against the private life of Mr. Ingersoll; or are his words to be taken in a Pickwickian sense, and used simply as an easy trick to catch applause from a Christian audience?

This is the way a more unprejudiced writer, Mr. Joseph Hatton, in his book *To-day in America*, speaks of the man whose name must not sully the lips of this Methodist Bishop:—"Ingersoll lives his sermon of domestic tenderness. He preaches fraternal affection, love of home, duty to children, do unto others as you would they should do unto you, and his theory of life is that man makes his own heaven or his own hell; that it pays best to be a good fellow; that if you get worldly prosperity in a dishonourable way you are sure to be unhappy whether you believe in God or not; that in short, honesty is the best policy. 'You cannot help God in any way,' he said. 'He is beyond anything you can possibly do for him; but you can plant a flower daily in the path of your child from its earliest years, until the day comes when you die in that child's arms.' There were homely touches of this kind from the beginning to the end of his address, and there were tears in the eyes of many of his hearers as he contrasted with the uncertain bliss of heaven the certain happiness of kindly deeds and domestic duties well fulfilled on earth."

Here, then, we have a sketch of the teaching of Ingersoll, whom Henry Ward Beecher praised so highly, but whose name the Christian charity of the Bishop will not allow him to mention in public. The Rev. Dr. Newman professes to blush for his age and to blush for the civilisation of his country, but it seems to me that the sooner he and his like commence to blush for themselves, the nearer will be the approach of that millennium whose coming he so wordily hails.

"Infidelity has never given anything to the world," the Bishop cries. (The use of the word "infidelity" has, as Huxley points out, that advantage of "being somewhat offensive to the persons attacked, which is so dear to the less refined sort of controversialist." Never mind; let us use it.) I answer, "Infidelity" has quenched the fires of persecution lighted by Christians; "infidelity" has abolished the fiendish treatment of old women for the Bible-created offence of witchcraft ("Thou shalt not suffer a witch to live," Ex. XXII. 18); "infidelity" has fought for and won that privilege of thinking and writing freely which has given so great an impetus to progress in the present age. The Bishop professes to have read Buckle. Does he not remember that writer's sonorous summing up of what we owe to the spirit of doubt, or in other words scepticism, or in the language of Christian charity, "infidelity?" "To scepticism we owe that spirit of inquiry which, during the last two centuries, has gradually encroached on every possible subject, has reformed every department of practical and speculative knowledge, has weakened the authority of the privileged classes, and thus placed liberty on a surer foundation, has chastised the despotism of princes, has restrained the arrogance of the nobles, and has even diminished the prejudices of the clergy. In a word it is this which has remedied the three fundamental errors of the older time—errors which made people in politics too confiding, in science too credulous, in religion too intolerant."

Even if infidelity be destructive rather than constructive, it might well be argued that the world is frequently the better for the destruction of many things. When fever seizes upon a man he does not want to know what the doctor will put in its place; no, his wish is for the destruction of the fever and restoration to health. Humanity for many thousands of years has been afflicted with the fever of Gods and Devils, has been woefully concerned about what Carlyle calls its "miserable soul"; and instead of striving to make this world better, to cure the ever present evils of vice, disease, and ignorance, has been dreadfully distressed about the life men are going to live after their bodies are dead. "You take from us the blessed and comforting doctrine of hell; you will not allow us to believe in a God of love who could condemn his own son to a dreadful death in order to appease his own wrath; you

say it cannot be true God is going to send the great majority of mankind to endless perdition—what are you going to put in place of these consoling doctrines?" This is the bitter cry which is voiced by Bishop Newman, which is heard waiving through all Christian communities, and which shows about as much grasp of the questions at issue as Josh Billings' remark that he would give \$100 to hear Moses on the mistakes of "that infidel," meaning Ingersoll. The matter in dispute is this:—Ingersoll has put forward in a popular form the thousand and one discrepancies in and critical objections to much of the teaching of the Bible—a book which, it is claimed, is divinely inspired—and Bishop Newman thinks with Josh Billings that it is sufficient answer to such criticism to say that Moses might be able to point out mistakes in Ingersoll. The fatuous puerility of such an argument is seen when it is considered that to read any sense whatever into it, Ingersoll must be taken as laying claim on his side to inspiration also.

But what need is there for the Bishop to wait for Moses to point out the mistakes of Ingersoll? Why doesn't he do it himself? Why summon from his well earned repose the man who records his own death and burial when presumably the Bishop in his condescension could so easily put at rest for ever those knotty questions which have puzzled so many hundreds of learned critics and are to day shaking the Church of England to its foundations.

However, let us leave this somewhat glaring instance of "No case; abuse the plaintiff's attorney," and come to another portion of the Bishop's address. To say that where Christ was received "the gyve fell from the slave, the mind was quickened, and woman was elevated," is simply to say what is not the fact. With reference to the first clause of this sentence, can the Bishop point out a single text in the Bible, either in the Old or New Testament, in which slavery is condemned? Surely he cannot recently have examined some of the laws laid down by the Moses who "still sits serenely upon the Mount of God" (whatever that may mean), and I beg therefore space to refresh his memory. One of the laws given by Moses reads as follows:—"Both thy bondmen and thy bondmaids, which thou shalt have, shall be of the heathen that are round about you; of them shall ye buy bondmen and bondmaids. Moreover, of the children of the strangers that do sojourn among you, of them shall ye buy, and of their families that are with you, which they begat in your land; and they shall be your possession. And ye shall take them as an inheritance for your children after you, to inherit them for a possession; they shall be your bondmen for ever." (Lev. XXV. 44-46).

To talk of Christ striking the gyve from the slave when such laws are laid down "for ever" in a book which forms the very foundation of Christianity, seems to show curious ignorance of the teachings of that book. Does Bishop Newman not know that, so far from Christianity being considered to be on the side of the slave, Abolitionists in America were sneered at because of the numbers of "infidels" in their ranks? One of the English leaders in the battle against slavery, William Wilberforce, bitterly complained that the Anti-Slavery party were stigmatised as "infidels" and disciples of Tom Paine for their opposition to the curse of slavery. William Lloyd Garrison told Mr. Bradlaugh that he had been denounced in most of the pulpits for his efforts against slavery, that after an Abolition speech in Boston the elders of a Christian Church assisted in dragging him to a lamp-post to be hanged, and that in Boston, which prides itself upon its churches, he could not get a room, a hall, a school, or a church in which he might denounce the evils of slavery. The Rev. Elijah Lovejoy was shot in Missouri by the elders of a Christian Church, led by the clergy, because he refused to break up his Abolition paper. Elias Hicks, the Abolitionist, was denounced as an Atheist. The Christian Corporation of Liverpool only one hundred years ago conferred the formal thanks of the city and a purse of gold on a prominent clergyman of Liverpool for having preached the best sermon of the day in defence of slavery. Bishop Newman's brother bishop of the Church of England followed out the teaching of the Bible in favour of slavery by assisting, time after time, to reject the Bills brought in for the amendment of the laws relating to slavery in the West Indies.

But the *Japan Mail* could be filled with such instances, and I will therefore simply ask Bishop Newman to explain how it came to pass, if "wherever Christ was received, the gyve fell from the slave," that for more than eighteen hundred years Christian nations recognised and supported the institution of slavery, denounced as infidels those who opposed it, left it to "infidel" France to be the first nation to show the example of libera-

tion, and why, when humanity got too strong for Moses, the bitterest and most intense opposition came from the members of Christian Churches.

With regard to the second clause of the claim for Christianity made in the sentence quoted above, "that it quickened the mind," it is only necessary for a student of history to point to the darkness of ignorance which spread over Europe for hundreds of years after the acceptance of Christianity—a period which Christians themselves refer to as the "dark ages," to the treatment of Galileo and Bruno, and many others, by the ignorant priesthood of the Christian Church; and to the fact that any progress whatever was only made in the teeth of the bitterest opposition from the Church.

Such a claim for Christianity is as preposterous as false, and shows as much want of knowledge of history as the third clause of Bishop Newman's threefold claim for Christianity, that it elevated the position of women. Let us take the testimony of the Bible first. I should like the Bishop to refer to Deut. XXIX. 1, "When a man hath taken a wife and married her, and it come to pass that she find no favour in his eyes . . . then let him write her a bill of divorcement, and give it in her hand, and send her out of his house." Is it to the advantage of humanity that this particular commandment of Moses be obeyed, and is this one of the teachings which has resulted in the elevation of woman? Take a passage from the New Testament. Paul, in the epistle to Timothy, shows his appreciation of the position of women by saying, "Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection" (1 Tim. ii. 11)—a most "elevating," a generous injunction, truly.

Let us see what effect such "elevating" teaching had upon the early Church. In an article in the *Contemporary Review* for last September, Principal Donaldson, LL.D., gives an account of some investigations he has made into the "Position of Women among the early Christians." As a result he has been greatly disappointed. "It is a prevalent opinion," he says, "that woman owes her present high position to Christianity, and the influences of the Teutonic mind. I used to believe this opinion, but in the first three centuries I have not been able to see that Christianity had any favourable effect on the position of women, but, on the contrary, that it tended to lower their character and contract the range of their activity." He then points out the high position to which women in Rome had attained when Christianity dawned upon the world. "Tradition," he says, "was in favour of restriction, but by a concurrence of circumstances women had been liberated from the enslaving fetters of the old legal forms, and they enjoyed freedom of intercourse in society; they walked and drove in the public thoroughfares with veils that did not conceal their faces, they dined in the company of men, they studied literature and philosophy, they took part in political movements, they were allowed to defend their own law cases if they liked, and they helped their husbands in the government of provinces and the writing of books." He then points out, in a passage too long to quote, the honoured position held by Roman women in public worship. Among the orthodox Christians, however, the practice came to be very different. Women were shut out of every post of honour, and were permitted only to discharge the humblest duties. The early Fathers heaped degradation upon degradation on the sex. "This," the Professor says, "is the way in which Tertullian addresses women: 'Do you not know that each one of you is an Eve? The sentence of God on this sex of yours lives in this age. The guilt must of necessity live too. You are the devil's gateway; you are the unsealer of that forbidden tree; you are the first deserter of the Divine law; you are she who persuaded him whom the devil was not valiant enough to attack. You destroyed so easily God's image, man. On account of your desert, that is death, even the son of God had to die.' " And the gentle Clement of Alexandria hits her hard when he says:—"Nothing disgraceful is proper for man, who is endowed with reason, much less for woman, to whom it brings shame even to reflect of what nature she is." Even to-day, though the growth of humanitarian principles in recent years is resulting in the steady raising of women from the degradation due to Christian teaching, we are very far still from the concession of equal rights to our sisters. Without examining into the civil and religious disabilities which are still imposed upon women, it is sufficient to mention as example that, as the English law stands to-day, though a man can obtain divorce merely by proving adultery on the part of his wife, it is impossible for a woman to obtain divorce by pleading adultery on the part of her husband unless she can prove cruelty as well. Laws have been made by Christian men for Christian men, and the spirit of the teaching that the woman should

"learn in silence with all subjection" has assuredly not been lost sight of by Christian legislators.

Now, to bring these somewhat lengthy remarks to a close, Bishop Newman either knows these things or he does not. If he does not know them, he is incompetent to discuss those matters about which he expresses so confident an opinion; if he does know them, and conceals his knowledge, then I am afraid that I must characterise his attitude by a still stronger epithet.

And yet, after all, he may be wholly unconscious of unverity in these matters. The profession of Christianity seems to me to exercise a most unfortunate influence in dulling the conscience in many of its adherents, causing them to shut their eyes to plain facts, virtually obliterate certain portions of the Bible, twist texts, and forget history—and do it all thoroughly believing that they are supporting Truth and making for Righteousness. I am therefore loth to accuse any one, without actual knowledge of conscious unverity. All the same it is a serious charge against present day Christianity, but a charge which can be proved up to the hilt.

Christians, in truth, have outgrown in many respects the limits of their creed. They read into it a morality which is the result of the steady accumulation of experience, and the early enunciations of which, so far from being indebted to Christianity for assistance, have almost invariably found its teachings, its priests, and its adherents most violently opposed to them.

To-day the battle against slavery may be said to be won, knowledge is gradually being placed within the reach of all, and the position of women is being steadily raised. The advocates of Christianity, seeing that these things are good, now come in and claim the harvest as theirs, when in truth we have only to be thankful that the tares of Christianity have not utterly choked the good seed of Humanity.

Enclosing my card, I am, yours, &c.,

SECULARIAN.

Kobe, July 21st, 1890.

"SECULARIAN" AND BISHOP NEWMAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—It is not my intention to defend the utterances of the Bishop; I think myself that something could have been better said, or had been better unsaid. At the same time the attack of Secularian is so full of astounding statements which some of your readers may mistake for logic that I ask permission to point out one or more of the fallacies which vitiate the whole of his argument:—

1.—He confounds the details of Mosaism with Christianity, whereas Christ repudiated expressly the very thing that Secularian cites in condemnation of Christianity. (Mk. 10.5).

2.—It is a mistake to confound many of the teachings of Theologians with Christianity. Theology is Humanity attempting to systematize the truths enunciated by Christ—and often succeeds in displaying more of human error than of Christ. Much less is the caricature of Theology indulged in by Secularian Christian teaching.

3.—It is a mistake to confound ecclesiastical establishments with Christianity. The Church is Humanity trying to organize the principles of Christ into working shape. And very often Humanity comes very much to the fore and very little of Christ is seen.

4.—It is a fallacy to confound the mistaken acts of men professing Christianity with Christianity. These people are too often Humanity pleased with the theory of Christianity, but in whom human selfishness is too strong for the practical Christ—lip service and lying life.

5.—It is a mistake to attribute the excellencies in the teaching and practice of Ingersoll, the Abolitionists, etc., to their unbelief in Christianity. They are simply other specimens of Humanity who have rejected the theory and have adopted the practical side of Christ's teaching to that extent. Where else can such excellencies be found but in lands permeated more or less by Christian influence?

6.—It is a mistake to call the laws of any land under heaven the legislation of Christian men. They are the laws of selfish Humanity more or less moulded by the influence of the amount of Christianity prevailing. But we have a good piece to go yet before we get to Christian legislation, though things are moving in that direction.

But little as Christianity has mastered Humanity she has done very much directly and indirectly for the betterment of Humanity, which has been accomplished by no other force, and but for her never would have been possible. Let Secularian point

out a single spot on the face of the earth where thought is free and science has won her triumphs, where laws are mostly just and benevolent, where customs are for the most part sweet, where uplifted womanhood is honoured and protected, where organized charity for the benefit of the poor, the down-trodden, and the ignorant, moves the hearts of masses of men to noble gifts of time and money, and then prove that Christianity did not go before to prepare the way and stay to make these things possible. There has been and is to-day a good deal of Humanity and Secularism in this world untrammelled of Christianity in any form; let Secularism point out what they have done on these lines independently.

Yours, etc.,

VOX.

July 31st, 1890.

ELECTION RETURNS.

For convenience of reference we collect and republish the results of the elections for the House of Representatives, as our readers have hitherto had them in disconnected form only:—

TOKYO.

- First District.—Mr. Kusumoto Masataka, Vice-President of the Senate.
 Second District.—Mr. Tanimoto Michiyuki, President of Tokyo Tramway Company. *Kyushu Shimpō-to.*
 Third District.—Mr. Kazama Shinkichi, attorney-at-law. Independent.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Fujita Mokichi, editor, *Hochi Shimbun*. *Kaishin-to.*
 Fifth District.—Mr. Ota Minoru, former Chief of Honjo. Independent.
 Sixth District.—Mr. Takamashi Tetsushiro, barrister. Originally *Kaishin-to*, but subsequently *Fichi-to*.
 Seventh District.—Mr. Oyagi Bi-ichiro, barrister. Independent.
 Eighth District.—Mr. Tsuda Shindo, Senator.
 Ninth District.—Mr. Yoshino Seikei, former President of the Tokyo City Assembly. Independent.
 Tenth District.—Mr. Mori Tokinosuke, Bank President. Independent.
 Eleventh District.—Mr. Asaka Kokko, member of Tokyo City Assembly. Progressive.
 Twelfth District.—Mr. Takagi Masatoshi, member of Tokyo City Assembly. Progressive.

KYOTO.

- First District.—Mr. Hamaoka Kotetsu. Independent.
 Second District.—Mr. Nakamura Eisuke. Independent.
 Third District.—Mr. Matsuno Shinkuro (farmer). Independent.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Ito Kumao (President of the Yamashiro Tea Company and of the Fushimi Bank). *Fiyu-to.*
 Fifth District.—Mr. Tanaka Genjiro (President of City Assembly). *Fiyu-to.*
 Mr. Ishihara Hanzayemon (farmer). Independent.
 Sixth District.—Mr. Kamimuchi Tomotsune (Retired list. Formerly assistant chief of the Revenue Bureau of the Financial Department). Independent.

OSAKA CITY.

- First District.—Mr. Awaya Shinazo (member of City Assembly). Independent.
 Second District.—Mr. Toyoda Busaburo (member of City Assembly). *Daido Party.*
 Third District.—Mr. Ukita Keizo (former Headman). Independent.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Nakaye Tokusuke (journalist). *Aikoku-to.*
 Mr. Sasaki Masayuki (member of the City Assembly). Independent.
 Fifth District.—Mr. Kikuchi Kanji (barrister). *Daido Party.*
 Sixth District.—Mr. Matano Kageyama (former chief of a rural district). Independent.
 Seventh District.—Mr. Higashino Heitaro (Chairman of City Assembly). *Daido Party.*
 Eighth District.—Mr. Yokoyama Katsusaburo (member of City Assembly). Independent.
 Ninth District.—Mr. Sasaki Seiyu (banker). *Aikoku-to.*

KANAGAWA PREFECTURE.

- First District.—Mr. Shimada Saburo, editor *Mainichi Shimbun*. *Kaishin-to.*
 Second District.—Mr. Yamada Taizo (barrister). Radical.
 Third District.—Mr. Ishizaka Masataka (farmer). *Aikoku-to.*
 Mr. Setooka Tamechiro (Member of Prefectural Assembly). Liberal.

- Fourth District.—Mr. Yamada Toji. *Kaishin-to.*
 Fifth District.—Mr. Nakajima Nobuyuki. *Koin Club.*
 Sixth District.—Mr. Yamaguchi Sahichiro (farmer). Radical.

HYOGO PREFECTURE.

- First District.—Mr. Kashima Hidemaro. *Kaishin-to.*
 Second District.—Mr. Hori Zensho. Conservative Party.
 Third District.—Mr. Hoki Hatsu. *Aikoku-to.*
 Fourth District.—Mr. Ishida Kwannosuke (President of Prefectural Assembly). *Aikoku-to.*
 Fifth District.—Mr. Uozumi Itsuji. *Kaishin-to.*
 Sixth District.—Mr. Takase Tojiro (farmer). *Aikoku-to.*
 Seventh District.—Mr. Naito Rihachi (President of Assembly of Rural Districts). *Kaishin-to.*
 Eighth District.—Mr. Shibahara Masataro (farmer). *Aikoku-to.*
 Mr. Kaino Kozo (member of Prefectural Assembly). *Aikoku-to.*
 Ninth District.—Mr. Sato Bunpei (farmer). *Kaishin-to.*
 Mr. Aoki Kyo (journalist) *Kaishin-to.*
 Tenth District.—Mr. Sano Sumisaku. *Aikoku-to.*

NAGASAKI PREFECTURE.

- First District.—Mr. Iyenaga Yoshihiko (attorney-at-law). *Kyushu Shimpō-to.*
 Mr. Tominaga Hayata. *Kaishin-to.*
 Second District.—Mr. Asanaga Shiuo (Vice-President of Prefectural Assembly). *Kyushu Shimpō-to.*
 Third District.—Mr. Maki Bokushin (President of the So-bu Railway Company). Independent.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Tareishi Kwanshi (member of Prefectural Assembly). *Kyushu Shimpō-to.*
 Fifth District.—Mr. Miyasaki Yeiji (farmer). *Hoshu-to.*
 Sixth District.—Mr. Sagara Masaki (former Chief of a rural district). Independent.

NIIGATA PREFECTURE.

- First District.—Mr. Yamakiwa Hichishi (farmer). *Daido Party.*
 Second District.—Mr. Tango Naohie. *Daido Party.*
 Mr. Kato Katsuya (principal of a school). *Daido Party.*
 Third District.—Mr. Takaoka Chuhei. *Daido Party.*
 Fourth District.—Mr. Nishigata Tamezo (farmer). *Daido Party.*
 Fifth District.—Mr. Kobayashi Yuhichiro (Editor of the *Tohoku Nippo*). *Daido Party.*
 Mr. Hasegawa Tai (physician). *Daido Party.*
 Sixth District.—Mr. Matsumura Bunjiro (farmer). *Daido Party.*
 Seventh District.—Mr. Sekiyo Magozayemon. *Kaishin-to.*
 Mr. Motoyama Kenji (farmer). *Kaishin-to.*
 Eighth District.—Mr. Mura Kojiro. *Kaishin-to.*
 Mr. Suzuki Shoji (President of Prefectural Assembly). *Daido Party.*
 Ninth District.—Mr. Ukai Ikujiro (farmer). *Daido Party.*

SAITAMA PREFECTURE.

- First District.—Mr. Amano Saburo. Independent.
 Second District.—Mr. Takata Sanaye (journalist). *Kaishin-to.*
 Mr. Shimidzu Munenori (*Shizoku*). *Fiyu-to.*
 Third District.—Mr. Manaka Tadanao (*Shizoku*). *Kaishin-to.*
 Mr. Manaka Shinsui (headman of a rural district). Independent.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Horikoshi Kwansuke (farmer). *Aikoku-to.*
 Mr. Yumoto Yoshino (farmer). Independent.
 Fifth District.—Mr. Yamanaka Rm-no-suke (banker). *Kaishin-to.*

GUNMA PREFECTURE.

- First District.—Mr. Arai Go. *Fiyu-to.*
 Second District.—Mr. Takei Itei. Independent.
 Third District.—Mr. Nomura Toda (member of Prefectural Assembly). Independent.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Kokure Taketayu (merchant). Independent.
 Fifth District.—Mr. Yuasa Jiro. *Kaishin-to.*

CHIBA PREFECTURE.

- First District.—Mr. Chiba Teitaro. *Aikoku-to.*
 Second District.—Mr. Hamano Noboru. *Aikoku-to.*
 Mr. Narushima Kichiro. *Kaishin-to.*
 Third District.—Mr. Osuka Yonosuke (former chief of a rural district). Independent.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Iwasaki Shigejiro. *Kaishin-to.*
 Fifth District.—Mr. Itakura Chu (attorney-at-law). *Daido Party.*
 Sixth District.—Mr. Itakura Jushin. *Aikoku-to.*
 Seventh District.—Mr. Shigeki Tamotsu (former chief of a rural district). Independent.

- Eighth District.—Mr. Yasuda Kun (farmer). *Kaishin-to.*

IBARAKI PREFECTURE.

- First District.—Mr. Matsunobu Gen. Independent.
 Mr. Watanabe Osamu (journalist). *Fichi-to.*
 Second District.—Mr. Otsu Junichiro (an official of the Prefectural Office). Independent.
 Mr. Tachikawa Ko. *Kaishin-to.*
 Third District.—Mr. Iimura Josaburo. Independent.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Mori Ryusuke. *Fiyu-to.*
 Fifth District.—Mr. Shikikawa Saburobei. *Kaishin-to.*
 Sixth District.—Mr. Sekiguchi Haclibei. Independent.

TOCHIGI PREFECTURE.

- First District.—Mr. Yokobori Sanshi. Independent.
 Second District.—Mr. Arai Shogo (President of Prefectural Assembly). *Fiyu-to.*
 Mr. Iwasaki Manjico. *Fiyu-to.*
 Third District.—Mr. Tanaka Shirozo. *Kaishin-to.*
 Fourth District.—Mr. Shoda Okuzo (former Chairman of Prefectural Assembly). *Aikoku-to.*

NARA PREFECTURE.

- First District.—Mr. Imamura Kinzo. *Kaishin-to.*
 Second District.—Mr. Horiuchi Chushi. Independent.
 Mr. Homma Choku. *Fiyu-to.*
 Third District.—Mr. Sakurai Tokutaro. *Daido Party.*

MIYE PREFECTURE.

- First District.—Mr. Kuribara Ryoichi (journalist). *Aikoku-to.*
 Second District.—Mr. Ito Yuken. *Kaishin-to.*
 Third District.—Mr. Amaharu Bunyei. *Daido Party.*
 Fourth District.—Mr. Ito Kenkichi. *Daido Party.*
 Fifth District.—Mr. Ozaki Yukio (journalist). *Kaishin-to.*
 Mr. Kitagawa Kuichi. Independent.
 Sixth District.—Mr. Tachiiri Kiichi. *Kaishin-to.*

AICHI PREFECTURE.

- First District.—Mr. Horibe Katsushiro. Independent.
 Second District.—Mr. Nagai Matsuyemon (President of a Company). Independent.
 Third District.—Mr. Kajita Kizayemon (farmer). Independent.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Miyata Shinichiro (President of Prefectural Assembly). *Daido Party.*
 Fifth District.—Mr. Mori Toichiro (former Chairman of Prefectural Assembly). Independent.
 Sixth District.—Mr. Aoki Yeiji (former Headman). Independent.
 Seventh District.—Mr. Hayama Chuzayemon (former Chairman of Prefectural Assembly). Independent.
 Eighth District.—Mr. Hayakawa Ryusuke (Vice-President of Prefectural Assembly). Independent.
 Ninth District.—Mr. Imai Isoichiro. Independent.
 Tenth District.—Mr. Kato Rokuzo (member of Prefectural Assembly). Independent.
 Eleventh District.—Mr. Minobe Teiryō. *Koin Club.*

SHIZUOKA PREFECTURE.

- First District.—Mr. Inouye Hikozaemon (farmer). *Kaishin-to.*
 Second District.—Mr. Kageyama Hideki (farmer). *Daido Party.*
 Third District.—Mr. Okayama Kenkichi (attorney-at-law). *Kaishin-to.*
 Fourth District.—Mr. Okada Riyoichiro (farmer). *Fichi-to.*
 Fifth District.—Mr. Nishio Denzo. Independent.
 Sixth District.—Mr. Kondo Jumpei (former Headman of gun). Independent.
 Seventh District.—Mr. Yoda Sajihiei. Independent.
 Mr. Yehara Soroku (director of a school). *Daido Party.*

YAMANASHI PREFECTURE.

- First District.—Mr. Yamaki Kuma (President of the Prefectural Assembly). Independent.
 Second District.—Mr. Tanabe Yuyei (member of Prefectural Assembly). Independent.
 Third District.—Mr. Furuya Senzo. *Daido Party.*

SHIGA PREFECTURE.

- First District.—Mr. Sugiura Choko. *Kokumin-ha.*
 Second District.—Mr. Yamazaki Tomokichi. Independent.
 Third District.—Mr. Daito Gitetsu (President of the Tokyo Fish and Poultry Company). Independent.
 Mr. Iba Teizo (principal of a school). Independent.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Soma Yei-in (Director of the Yokohama Specie Bank). Independent.

GIFU PREFECTURE.

- First District.—Mr. Amano Jakuyen (former priest). Independent.
 Second District.—Mr. Shimizu Sanzo (farmer). Independent.
 Third District.—Mr. Yoshida Kohei (member of Prefectural Assembly). Independent.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Yano Saijiro (member of Prefectural Assembly). *Kaishin-to*.
 Fifth District.—Mr. Nagao Shiroeyemon. Independent.
 Sixth District.—Mr. Hayashi Koichiro (farmer). *Aikoku-to*.
 Seventh District.—Mr. Nakamura Shinobu (president of a private school). Independent.

NAGANO PREFECTURE.

- First District.—Mr. Kozaka Zen-no-suke (banker). Radical.
 Second District.—Mr. Shimazu Tadasada (president of Prefectural Assembly). Radical.
 Third District.—Mr. Horiochi Kenro (member of Prefectural Assembly). *Daido* Party.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Kozato Yoshinaka (member of Local Assembly). *Daido* Party.
 Mr. Yebashi Atsushii (attorney-at-law). *Daido* Party.
 Fifth District.—Mr. Minowa Kanaye (former Headman). Independent.
 Sixth District.—Mr. Nakamura Yaro (former dendrological official). Independent.
 Seventh District.—Mr. Ito Daihachi. *Daido* Party.

MIYAGI PREFECTURE.

- First District.—Mr. Masuda Shigeyuki. Independent.
 Second District.—Mr. Musha Denjiro (former Headman). Independent.
 Third District.—Mr. Jiumonji Shinsuke (former Headman). Independent.
 Fourth District.—Atsumi Magojiro (Retired List, Headman). *Miyagi* Political Section.
 Fifth District.—Mr. Yendo On (vice-president of Prefectural Assembly). *Miyagi* Political Section.

FUKUSHIMA PREFECTURE.

- First District.—Mr. Sato Tadamochi. Independent.
 Second District.—Abei Hankon (member of Prefectural Assembly). Independent.
 Third District.—Mr. Kono Hironaka. *Daido* Party.
 Mr. Suzuki Manjiro (physician). *Daido* Party.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Yamaguchi Chiyosaku. *Aiden Kyokai*.
 Mr. Miura Shinroku (member of Prefectural Assembly). Independent.
 Fifth District.—Mr. Shirai Yempei (headman of Nishi-Shirakawa gun). Independent.

IWATE PREFECTURE.

- First District.—Mr. Tanikawa Shochiu (vice-president of Prefectural Assembly). *Aikoku-to*.
 Second District.—Mr. Ito Keisuke (barrister). *Aikoku-to*.
 Third District.—Mr. Sato Shozo (former Headman). Independent.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Ohsaka Gonsaburo.
 Fifth District.—Mr. Oye Taku. *Daido* Party.

AOMORI PREFECTURE.

- First District.—Mr. Kudo Kokan (former Headman). *Daido* Party.
 Mr. Nasukawa Mitsukata (President of Prefectural Assembly). *Daido* Party.
 Second District.—Mr. Sakaki Yoga (attorney-at-law). *Daido* Party.
 Third District.—Mr. Kikuchi Kuro (mayor of Hiromaye Municipality). *Daido* Party.

YAMAGATA PREFECTURE.

- First District.—Mr. Miyagi Koze (former councillor of Judicial Department). *Uyo-seigi-kwai*.
 Mr. Sato Riji (president of Prefectural Assembly). *Daido* Party.
 Second District.—Mr. Igarashi Risuke (former president of Prefectural Assembly). Independent.
 Third District.—Mr. Toriumi Juro (vice-president of Prefectural Assembly). *Daido* Party.
 Mr. Komabayashi Koun (member of Prefectural Assembly). *Daido* Party.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Maruyama Toki (president of Prefectural Assembly). *Daido* Party.

AKITA PREFECTURE.

- First District.—Mr. Okubo Tetsusaku (member of Prefectural Assembly). *Daido* Party.
 Second District.—Mr. Narita Chokuyei. *Hoshu Chusei* Party.
 Third District.—Mr. Sato Toshiro. *Daido* Party.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Takeishi (member of Prefectural Assembly). *Daido* Party.
 Mr. Saito Kanichi (member of Prefectural Assembly). *Daido* Party.

FUKUI PREFECTURE.

- First District.—Mr. Aoyama Shobeshi. *Aikoku-to*.

Second District.—Mr. Sugita Teiichi (member of Prefectural Assembly). *Aikoku-to*.

Third District.—Mr. Nagata Sadayemon (vice-president of Prefectural Assembly). *Aikoku-to*.

Fourth District.—Mr. Fujita Magobei. *Aikoku-to*.

ISHIKAWA PREFECTURE.

- First District.—Mr. Yendo Hidekage (president of Prefectural Assembly). *Daido* Party.
 Mr. Matsuda Kichisaburo. *Daido* Party.
 Second District.—Mr. Aikawa Hisataro (attorney-at-law). Independent.
 Third District.—Mr. Jinno Ryo (member of Prefectural Assembly). *Kaishin-to*.
 Mr. Asano Junpei (member of Prefectural Assembly). *Kaishin-to*.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Koma Shuku (standing committee of Prefectural Assembly). *Aikoku-to*.

TOYAMA PREFECTURE.

- First District.—Mr. Sekino Zenjiro (bank president). *Kaishin-to*.
 Mr. Isobe Shiro (Public Procurator). *Daido* Party.
 Second District.—Mr. Tamura Isho (member of Prefectural Assembly). *Kaishin-to*.
 Third District.—Mr. Minami Isochiro (member of Prefectural Assembly). *Daido* Party.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Shimada Takayuki. *Kaishin-to*.

TOTTORI PREFECTURE.

- First District.—Mr. Okazaki Heina. Radical.
 Second District.—Mr. Yamase Yukito (standing committee of Prefectural Assembly). Independent.
 Third District.—Mr. Matsunami Koga (member of Tokyo City Assembly). Independent.

SHIMANE PREFECTURE.

- First District.—Mr. Okasaki Unpei (president of Prefectural Assembly). Independent.
 Second District.—Mr. Sasaki Zemyemon. Independent.
 Third District.—Mr. Takahashi Kyujiro (member of Prefectural Assembly). Independent.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Suge Ryoho (chief editor of the *Daido Shimbun*). *Daido* Party.
 Fifth District.—Mr. Sasada Tsutomu (member of Prefectural Assembly). *Kaishin-to*.
 Sixth District.—Mr. Yoshioka Imaro.

OKAYAMA PREFECTURE.

- First District.—Mr. Kobayashi Kusuo (*Shizoku*). *Aikoku-to*.
 Mr. Tsubota Haru. *Kyushu Shimpō* Party.
 Second District.—Mr. Nishi Kiechi. Independent.
 Third District.—Mr. Inugai Ki. *Kaishin-to*.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Sakata Johei. Independent.
 Fifth District.—Mr. Watanabe Raizo. Independent.
 Sixth District.—Mr. Tateishi Ki. *Daido* Party.
 Seventh District.—Mr. Kato Heishiro. *Aikoku-to*.

HIROSHIMA PREFECTURE.

- First District.—Mr. Toyoda Jitsuyei. *Kaishin-to*.
 Mr. Watanabe Matasaburo. Conservative.
 Second District.—Mr. Hotta Kinjiro. Independent.
 Third District.—Mr. Kaneo Ryogan. Conservative.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Akagawa Reigan (former priest). Conservative.
 Fifth District.—Mr. Waki Yaitaro. *Kaishin-to*.
 Sixth District.—Mr. Tanabe Sangoro. Independent.
 Seventh District.—Mr. Satake Yoshikatsu. Conservative.
 Eighth District.—Mr. Kurata Jungoro. *Kaishin-to*.
 Ninth District.—Mr. Miura Giken. Independent.

YAMAGUCHI PREFECTURE.

- First District.—Mr. Yoshitomi Kanichi. *Fichi-to*.
 Mr. Suyematsu Saburo (councillor of the Department of Communications). *Daido* Party.
 Second District.—Mr. Inouye Shoichi (councillor of the Judicial Department). Independent.
 Third District.—Mr. Ooka Ikuzo (attorney-at-law). *Fichi-to*.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Horiye Yoshisuke (a Senator). Conservative.
 Fifth District.—Mr. Yoshikawa Tsutomu. *Fichi-to*.

WAKAYAMA PREFECTURE.

- First District.—Mr. Mutsu Munemitsu (Minister). *Fichi-to*.
 Mr. Wada Yoshu (attorney-at-law). *Fichi-to*.
 Second District.—Mr. Kodama Chiiji. *Fichi-to*.
 Third District.—Mr. Matsumoto Kanaye. *Fichi-to*.

Mr. Seki Naohiko (journalist). *Fichi-to*.

TOKUSHIMA PREFECTURE.

- First District.—Mr. Inouye Kokaku. Radical.
 Second District.—Mr. Morino Tamegoro.
 Third District.—Mr. Kawamada Tokusaburo.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Hashimoto Kyutaro. *Kaishin-to*.
 Fifth District.—Mr. Abe Akihito (secretary of Osaka City Office). Independent.

KAGAWA PREFECTURE.

- First District.—Mr. Nakano Buyei (merchant). *Kaishin-to*.
 Second District.—Mr. Konishi Jin-no-suke (farmer). Radical.
 Third District.—Mr. Ayai Bufu. *Daido* party.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Misaki Kamenosuke (journalist). *Koin Club*.
 Fifth District.—Mr. Ito Ichiro. *Fiyu-to*.

YEHIME PREFECTURE.

- First District.—Mr. Nagaya Tadaakira. *Aikoku-to*.
 Mr. Suzuki Shigeto. *Daido* party.
 Second District.—Mr. Ishihara Shigeki. *Kaishin-to*.
 Third District.—Mr. Aritomo Masachiga (farmer). *Kaishin-to*.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Suzuki Shigeto. *Daido* Party.
 Fifth District.—Mr. Makino Junzo (farmer). *Daido* Party.
 Sixth District.—Mr. Suyeshiro Shigeyasu (journalist). *Daido* Party.

KOCHI PREFECTURE.

- First District.—Mr. Takemuchi Ko. Radical.
 Second District.—Mr. Kataoka Kenkichi. *Aikoku-to*.
 Mr. Hayashi Yuzo. *Aikoku-to*.
 Third District.—Mr. Uyeiki Yemori. Patriotic Party.

FUKUOKA PREFECTURE.

- First District.—Mr. Tsuda Morihiko (member of Prefectural Assembly). *Kyushu Shimpō*.
 Second District.—Mr. Ono Ryusuke (Headman). Independent.
 Mr. Kodsuki Dakei. Conservative.
 Third District.—Mr. Gondo Kwanichi. Independent.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Sasaki Masazo (member of Prefectural Assembly). *Kyushu Shimpō*.
 Fifth District.—Mr. Totoki Ichiro (former Headman). Independent.
 Sixth District.—Mr. Okada Koroku. *Daido* Party.
 Seventh District.—Mr. Tsutsumi Yutku (*zoku* of Prefectural Office). Independent.
 Eighth District.—Mr. Suyematsu Kencho (Chief of the Bureau for Management of Prefectures). Independent.

OITA PREFECTURE.

- First District.—Mr. Motoda Hajime (attorney-at-law). Independent.
 Second District.—Mr. Minoura Katsudo. (editor of the *Hochi*).
 Third District.—Mr. Asakura Chikatame (Headman). Independent.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Usami Harusaburo (farmer). *Kaishin-to*.
 Fifth District.—Mr. Motoda Hajime. Independent.
 Sixth District.—Mr. Koretsune Shinshu (president of the Tokyo Transport Company). Independent.

SAGA PREFECTURE.

- First District.—Mr. Matsuda Masahira. *Kyoto-kai*.
 Mr. Taketomi Tokitoshi. *Kyoto-kai*.
 Second District.—Mr. Amano Tameyuki. *Kaishin-to*.
 Third District.—Mr. Nii Keicho (former Headman). Independent.

KUMAMOTO PREFECTURE.

- First District.—Mr. Sasa Tomofusa. Conservative.
 Mr. Mayeda Kagashi. *Daido* Party.
 Second District.—Mr. Kinoshita Sukeyuki (farmer). Independent.
 Third District.—Mr. Furusho Kamon. *Kokken-to*.
 Mr. Shito Kanji (*Shizoku*). Conservative.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Oka Jiroaro. *Kokken-to*.
 Fifth District.—Mr. Yamada Buho. *Kaishin-to*.
 Sixth District.—Mr. Matsuyama Moriyoshi. *Kyushu Shimpō*.

MIYAZAKI PREFECTURE.

- First District.—Mr. Kawagoye Susumu. Independent.
 Second District.—Mr. Yasuda Yuitsu. Independent.
 Third District.—Mr. Miyake Masashige. Independent.

KAGOSHIMA PREFECTURE.

- First District.—Mr. Kabayama Sukeoyoshi. *Doshikai-ha*.

Original from

Second District.—Mr. Orita Kenchi (President of Prefectural Assembly). *Kyushu Shimpō to.*
 Third District.—Mr. Hasegawa Junko. Independent.
 Fourth District.—Mr. Utsunomiya Heichi. *Kyushu Shimpō to.*
 Fifth District.—Mr. Kawashima Jun. *Kyushu Shimpō to.*
 Sixth District.—Mr. Gamo Sen. *Kyushu Shimpō to.*
 Seventh District.—Mr. Motoi Shunryo (farmer). *Shimpō to.*

OITA PREFECTURE.

Japanese law does not permit one member to represent more than one district, so that Mr. Motoda will have to resign one of his seats. This was the case with Mr. Suzuki of Yehime Prefecture. Mr. Nagaya Tadaaki was chosen in his place for the first district of that Prefecture.

THE EIGHT VIEWS OF MITO.

Almost all residents and tourists in Japan are aware of the practice in many localities of selecting from the adjacent country "eight views" (*hakkei*) as especially beautiful. This custom, which is said to be Chinese in its origin, was first applied in Japan to scenes around the Lake of Omi, or Lake Biwa; but it afterwards spread, till at last in each large daimiate *hakkei* can be found. I have long heard of the *Mito Hakkei*, which were selected by Prince Nariaki (Rekkō) during the first half of this century; and have had a desire to visit them. It is only too true, that, "in order to enjoy these beauties the places named must be visited at the proper hours and seasons." But, as such a proceeding would involve many trips and considerable trouble, I conceived the idea of visiting them, regardless of appropriateness, all in one trip in one day. I arranged, therefore, with a High School pupil who knew the way, to be my guide, and to act as interpreter, if my fluency in the vernacular failed to be duly respected by those with whom I might wish to communicate. (I ought, perhaps, to add, that he proved as needful in the one case as in the other; for, strange to say, my Japanese periods were not always appreciated by the natives!).

Our original plan was to leave Mito about four a.m., so as to get back, if possible, before dark; but "the best-laid schemes of mice and men," etc. (Burns never lived in Japan, and did not know, that the Japanese mice and rats seldom fail in their plans.) About three o'clock that morning it rained, and even at four o'clock looked dubious; but, about five o'clock, the prospect seemed so much better, that I sent one *jinrikisha* man ahead to arouse my guide, and soon followed myself. My companion, being taken unawares, was delayed some in getting ready; but we managed to get out of Mito a little before six o'clock.

Ordinarily, we should have taken the direct road to the sea-shore; but, as that was under repair and impassable, we had to make a circuit which cost us at least an extra half hour. But the beauty of the round-about way repaid us a little for the loss of time. It was up and down, over hill and dale, through woods and open fields. The grass, grain, vegetables, and flowers looked a bright green, and showed the beneficial effects of the rain of the two preceding days.

About eight o'clock, we had arrived at the Hirato-bashi, which crosses the Hinuma-gawa, about one mile from the sea-shore. Here, with the kind aid of a policeman, we succeeded in defeating the exorbitance of a boatman, and made a reasonable bargain for the trip up the river. All the way along, we came now and then upon fishing-craft, whose occupants were after the shell-fish, called *shijimi*, which is abundant in the bottom of the river, and is a staple article of diet in those parts. The occupants of the boats were usually two, male and female, probably man and wife; though sometimes one person managed the whole affair. The manner of fishing was new to me; but it may be common to many readers of the *Mail*. The boat was tied to a long bamboo pole, secured at some distance in the river. The woman managed a wheel, by which she gradually pulled the boat nearer the pole; while the man, with a basket, attached to another long bamboo pole, scooped up the shells, as the boat moved.

One trifling, but interesting, diversion of the long trip was to watch the antics of the fresh-water crabs about their holes in the sides of the river-banks. I wish that I could describe the lovely scenery of the river; but I am awkward with my pen, and have already wandered from the subject. In about two hours we had been paddled up to a large marsh, called Hinuma, part of which is named Hiroura. Here is the location of one of the *hakkei*, entitled *Hiroura [no] Aki [no] Tsuki*,

or "The Autumn Moon from Hiroura." Since Reiko, although one of the most practical among the Princes of Mito, was also quite poetical, one might naturally expect to find a tablet inscribed with a commemorative poem; but there is only a rude stone, containing simply the appellation of the view. This stone is set up at the point of a narrow cape, jutting out into the marsh. We have been told that this view is, indeed, magnificent; and it was not difficult to imagine that the full moon of a delightful autumn evening would shed a calm silvery lustre over the waters about, as they lie quietly in the lap of the surrounding hills. This scene is considered by many as the best of the eight.

In two more hours we were back at the bridge whence we had started up the river; but, as our *jinrikisha* men had been sent ahead to wait for us, we kept on down stream about a *ri* to the place where that river empties into the Naka-gawa. Landing here, we climbed the hill which stands in a corner at the junction of these two rivers, and at the verge we found another of the *hakkei*. From the name of the hill it is called *Iwafune [no] sekishō*, or "The Evening Glow of Iwafune." The outlook to the west-ward is over the low-lying fields to the Mito hills and the Tsukuba mountains, with a sight in very clear weather of Nikko; and it must present a fine view of the glorious Japanese sunsets which can so often be seen.

Walking a few rods to town, we joined our *jinrikisha* men; and, crossing the Naka-gawa by ferry, at 1 o'clock, entered the port called Nakaminato, at the mouth of that river. We had lunched on the way; but, as I had forgotten to give the coolies some change, they had not yet eaten their *kira-meshi*. So, while they were satisfying themselves in that respect, we walked out to the promontory near by, to the view called *Minato [no] Ki-han*, or "The Homeward-bound Sails of Minato." This promontory commands a fine view of the ocean, and would easily inspire a Byron to an "Apostrophe;" but neither my guide nor myself was even a machine poet. But I could easily imagine that the sight of the "deep blue sea" dotted with the white sails of the homeward-bound vessels would be exceedingly beautiful. This view, considered by some as the best, is ranked by many as second among the eight.

But now we were in a quandary: it was almost two o'clock, and there were twelve or thirteen *ri* yet to be travelled. It began to look rather dubious for the foreigner who had only a day passport, and could not spend the night anywhere except in his own home in Mito! The "impossible" of our kind policeman of the morning seemed likely to be verified. But we concluded at any rate to go on to the next place; and then, if it was too late, to return directly to Mito. We found the road, with the exception of two stretches of sand, very good; and, as our coolies hurried, we arrived somewhat earlier than we expected at Muramatsu. Climbing a literal sand-hill, we came to our fourth view, called *Muramatsu [no] Seiran*, or "The Clear Sky and Breeze of Muramatsu." The view of the ocean over the sand-hills is pleasant, and, under the appropriate circumstances is probably charming.

As it was then only four o'clock, we determined to keep our original purpose, even though we should be late in reaching home. From Muramatsu for a long way we had to walk through sand, and afterwards followed many "unbeaten tracks;" but at 6 o'clock we entered the town of Ota, and breathed easier, for we knew well the good, broad high way to Mito, and had no fear of darkness on such a road. Leaving our coolies to eat their supper, we walked across the rice-fields in fifteen minutes to a small hill, on which is set up the stone inscribed *Yamadera [no] Gunshō*, or "The Evening Bell of Yamadera (Hill Temple)." But there is no more opportunity of hearing the Buddhist "curfew;" for no temple stands there now with rich-topped bell to peal out into the stillness of the evening air. There is only a rude pavilion, with rough seats and table, and frequented by huge spiders.

Returning to town, my guide stopped at an inn to eat his supper, and I rode to the other end of the place to inspect another view, *Ota [no] Raku-gan*, or the "Decent of the Wild Geese at Ota." The wild geese were absent: but the prospect of a carpet of green fields stretching to the neighbouring hills was quite pretty.

Just as "the shades of night were falling fast," we started out on our home-stretch of five *ri* or more. We jogged along at a fair rate, and thoroughly enjoyed the cool night air. Toward the last the half-moon deigned to shine on us for a quarter of an hour; and then, probably satisfied that the foreigner without a passport could get home safely even without moon-shine, went behind the clouds, from which she peeped out only now and then. At ten o'clock we were at Aoyagi, a village on the Naka-gawa, just opposite Mito;

and here with lanterns we went in search of our seventh view, which we finally discovered. It is called *Aoyagi [no] yoru [no] Ame*, or "The Night Rain of Aoyagi;" and it impressed us all as being the most insignificant of the whole number.

Crossing the Naka-gawa by a bridge, and being almost thrown out by a huge log which probably, mischievous boys had laid across the bridge, we climbed the Mito hill. We found the city a little bright and noisy over a *matsuri*, in honour of Tennō Sama, or Susanō no Mikoto, brother of the sun-goddess. This particular Tennō Sama lives in the country, but comes to Mito once every year to make merry with his city cousins, and becomes extremely *yakamashi*.

We ought to have visited one more view, which is in Mito; but, as we had often been there, we omitted it, and by half-past ten o'clock were safe, each in his own home. The stone of this last view is set up just below Tokiwa Park, overlooking a marsh or swamp, which is politely denominated a lake. The stone is inscribed *Senko [no] Bosetsu*, or "The Evening Snow of Lake Semba."

Of all these views three (The Evening Bell, The Descent of the Wild Geese, and The Night Rain) are denominated "sad" (*Kanashi*); the others, therefore, are probably considered "pleasant." Moreover, with but one exception, all are in the night or evening; and, in the case of the exception (at Muramatsu), the calm breeze from the ocean would be likely to set in late in the afternoon.

In our trip we were away almost seventeen hours, of which we spent four and a half hours on the water (not including ferries), twelve and a half hours in *jinrikisha* or on foot, and the remainder in waiting. We travelled about twenty *ri*, of which fifteen *ri* were by *jinrikisha* or on foot, and the remainder by water. We had refreshing weather, with a little rain now and then in the afternoon, but only enough to keep the air cool. We had a pleasant time; and we saw a great variety of beautiful scenery, such as Nippon only can exhibit, both at and between the localities of the *Mito Hakkei*.

Mito, July 28th, 1890.

CLEM.

SAILING RACES.

The sailing races on Saturday were favoured with good weather, a light S.E. breeze prevailing at the start, freshening up during the progress of the races, but dropping at the close.

The small boats started half an hour after the larger craft, but of course finished much earlier. *Scamp* had the best of the start, but the bigger craft soon overhauled her on the reach to the Green Lightship, *Fessie* rounding first and *La Belle* next. The positions were not altered on the run down to the *Ronin* moored off the Kanagawa shore, except that *Violet* overhauled *Sayonara*, the latter having had considerable trouble with her steering gear. On turning to windward after rounding the Kanagawa mark *Fessie* at once began to walk away from the others. Off the English Hatoba her lead was a very long one, but in making a series of short boards thence to the finishing line she lost much time and the wind failing her left her 50 yards from the line almost unmanageable. She succeeded in crossing, however, well ahead of her opponents. The finish between *Sayonara* and *La Belle* was a close one, but the canoe squeezed through first. A similar tussle took place at the close between *Scamp* and *Violet*, the latter getting the best of it. On time allowance for prizes and points, therefore, *Fessie* scores a win and takes the cup, which by the way was offered by her owner, and *Sayonara* takes second prize and place.

		Green	Ronin
		Light ship.	h.m.s.
<i>La Belle</i>	16	1:43.40	2:10.25
<i>Dol</i>	16	—	did not start
<i>Fessie</i>	16	1:43.15	2:08.35
<i>Violet</i>	16	1:44.45	2:11.05
<i>Sayonara</i>	18	1:43.45	2:11.35
<i>Scamp</i>	10	1:44.39	2:13.30
		Allow-	Corrected.
		ance.	h.m.s.
<i>La Belle</i>	16	3:12.15	—
<i>Dol</i>	16	—	3:12.15
<i>Fessie</i>	16	3:00.30	—
<i>Violet</i>	16	3:33.00	—
<i>Sayonara</i>	18	3:17.10	3:07
<i>Scamp</i>	10	3:35.20	3:25.27

The large yachts got across the line at nine o'clock, the competing craft being *Daimyo*, *Lady Louise*, *Princess Maud*, and *Scow*. *Molly* was unable to start, being unprepared when the first gun went, and *Mosquito* which had to beat up to the line crossed twenty minutes after the starting gun. The wind was still light but promising a little more, when *Lady Louise* having had a little the best of the working to windward eased off outside the Lightship and laid her course for the Nakane buoy. *Princess Maud* was to windward of the blue cutter and *Daimyo* astern of both. *Princess Maud*

after edging up on Capt. Owston's weather beam at length drew ahead of him and rounded the buoy three minutes earlier, *Daimyo* being the same time astern of the second boat, while *Scow* and *Mosquito* were still far off the mark, the latter, however, having come up wonderfully. The small cutter did some good work on the run back to the Lightship with spinnaker, actually increasing her lead on *Daimyo*, and establishing a thumping advantage so far as concerned *Lady Louise*. Once round the Lightship, however, *Princess Maud* began to lose the wind; *Daimyo* brought it in to within a couple of hundred yards of her and there also lost it, and *Lady Louise*, after a good deal of squeezing to weather a junk, and thus avoid being set out like the others by the flow from the Creek, also found herself in the doldrums. Stray and uncertain airs still remained sufficient to bring the boats across the starting line. *Scow* had meanwhile hove in sight, and her big allowance of 57½ minutes from *Daimyo* and 47½ minutes from *Princess Maud* made her still a factor in the race, especially as she seemed to carry along with her a decent kind of breeze. Rounding the Lightship at 5h. 53m. she still had till 6h. 23m. 49sec. to win from *Princess Maud* and till 6h. 34m. 34sec. to win from *Daimyo*, and her prospects of even the first prize looked for a while very promising. It seemed to the spectators that she should hold on until close to the bathing barge and then if necessary make a short board to weather it. *Scow*, however, went about opposite the mouth of the Creek in the face of the current coming out and after a weary crawl in from the Lightship crossed the line at 6h. 28m. 45sec. thus taking the second prize, *Daimyo* being relegated to third place on the handicap. *Mosquito*, coming in very late, did not cross the line. For the record points under measurement handicap *Princess Maud* gets a first and *Daimyo* a second place. In the absence of Mr. Beatt, Mr. R. Haynacted as officer of the day. The following are the times:—

	Rating.	Nakane.	Light-ship.
<i>Daimyo</i>	38	3:50.00	5:15.00
<i>Lady Louise</i>	36	3:47.00	5:21.40
<i>Molly Barton</i>	51½	did not start	—
<i>Tartan</i>	25½	4:32.00	6:11.05
<i>Princess Maud</i>	24	3:44.00	5:08.25
<i>Scow</i>	23	4:17.30	5:53.00

	Cor. Allowance	Points.
<i>Daimyo</i>	5:37.05	38
<i>Lady Louise</i>	5:46.50	36
<i>Molly Barton</i>	—	—
<i>Tartan</i>	5:55	51½
<i>Princess Maud</i>	5:36.20	24
<i>Scow</i>	6:28.45	23

LETTER FROM SAN FRANCISCO.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

San Francisco, July 31st.

The sensation of the hour is a pronunciamento from the new Chinese Minister, Tsui, on the subject of the recent anti-Chinese legislation in this country. Its immediate occasion was the passage by the Board of Supervisors in this city of an Ordinance requiring Chinamen to evacuate Chinatown and to take up their abode in a remote suburb. Some months have passed since the enactment of the Ordinance, and lawyers are agreed that it is invalid. But the news of its passage seems only to have reached Peking at the time Tsui received his final instructions. He now takes it up in conjunction with the famous Scott Act of 1883 which was drawn and passed in the hope that it would secure the vote of California for the Democrats, and is the one damning blot on Mr. Cleveland's record. Minister Tsui states that ever since the Act was passed the Chinese Government has been labouring ineffectually to secure its repeal. He adds that unless that repeal is effected, the Government of Peking will treat Americans to a case of their own medicine, and citizens of the United States will be excluded from the Chinese Empire. He describes the feeling roused in China by the Scott Act as much more intense than had been suspected; a mob, he says, burned down the house of a Minister who concluded a treaty with the United States containing a provision for exclusion.

The San Francisco press lives in such terror of the hoodlum that it scorns the warnings, and challenges China to a rivalry in barbarous legislation. The *Bulletin* thinks that Mr. Harrison should send Minister Tsui his passport for hinting that a country so enlightened as this should treat the Chinese as it treats other human beings. Just so before the war, the Southern Editors were in favour of lynching abolitionists or any other persons who claimed that negroes had rights. The white trash of Alabama had no one to gaisay them at home; and our white trash are so far from China that they can venture to make faces at the Chinese Government,

and to swear like Bob Acres until Captain Absolute appears. But in the East there is some chance that the voice of humanity and common sense may be heard, and that at all events the intelligent class may conclude there has been enough trucking to the sand lot, and abasement before the hoodlum. Deference to the labour unions will cost high if it involves an embargo on trade with China, and the expulsion of American Missionaries. Even politicians are likely to be reckoning in these days that sacrifice of principle does not always pay. The Scott Act was drawn by a democratic Congressman, and passed under whip and spur to please a Democratic President, but three months afterward California went Republican by a smart majority.

The conflict between the Moulders' Union and the Foundries is in its last stage. A non-union workman was threatened with violence if he did not desert his employers. One of the latter, Mr. Kerr, an intrepid Scotchman, undertook to escort him back and forth from his work. The pair were set upon by strikers, and beaten; whereupon Mr. Kerr drew a pistol, and shot one of his assailants dead. He gave himself up to the police at once. A Coroner's inquest was held. The prisoner refused to produce witnesses, whereupon the jury brought in a verdict of manslaughter, instead of justifiable homicide. Kerr was admitted to bail in the sum of \$75,000. If the strikers succeed in getting a man or two on the jury which tries him he will not be acquitted.

Republican circles at Washington are still agast at Blaine's bolt. People don't seem to be able to discover whether he spoke for the Administration or for himself alone. There is an effort in circles friendly to the President to show that he concurs with his secretary; but the belief rests on no evidence, and the suspicion commonly entertained is that the President's personal views are reflected by Noble and Wannamaker, who are men of the same calibre as himself.

The House has passed the bill placing congressional elections under the control of Commissioners to be appointed by Federal judges; the Senate will doubtless concur. The object is to afford protection to southern negroes who are supposed to be desirous of voting the Republican ticket, but are prevented from doing so by bull-dozing and violence. As a matter of fact, the ex-slaves divide on politics like their masters; they are far from being unanimous in favour of the Republican side. The chief blow in the bill is that it constitutes a precedent for federal interference in State elections. The Tariff Bill is in *statu quo*; it has not recovered from Blaine's sachdologer. Last evening the Conference Committee on the Silver Bill agreed to a compromise by which the Treasury department is to buy 4,500,000 ounces of silver each month. For this silver, Treasury Notes are to be issued which shall be a legal tender and shall be redeemable in gold or silver coin at the option of the Secretary. They are to be receivable in payment of customs duties and all other dues to the Government. Thus the silver men have carried their point. An artificial market is created for silver, which will consume more than the annual output of the domestic mines, and will compel importations of silver from Mexico, South America, and possibly from Europe. The calculation is that this artificial demand for the metal will cause it to appreciate in gold value, until the old parity between the two metals is restored. Political economists are slow to believe that values can be permanently regulated by statutes. They are apprehension of serious results to flow from an inflation of the currency to the extent of four and a half millions of dollars a month. But after all, so long as the skies are serene, and the country keeps out of trouble, we may try lots of dangerous experiments without evil consequences.

The pension bill looks as if it would become a law in spite of the protests of reasonable people. Even the *New York Tribune*, which is the leading organ of the administration, has called a halt. But Ingalls and the extreme Republicans realise the value of the ex-soldier vote, and they are bent on securing it at any cost. It is reckoned that the amount that will have been paid to pensioners when the last one dies, will be equal to the whole cost of the war.

The situation in Behring's Sea is curious. A number of sealing steamers, armed and equipped for defence, have sailed from the ports of British Columbia; and simultaneously, two American revenue cutters have sailed for the same waters, with sealed orders. So far as is known, no British men-of-war have entered the sea. Newspapers on both sides of the line predict collisions and seizures which will strain the relations between the two countries. No apprehensions appear to be felt by the administration. Mr. Blaine has gone to Bar Harbor in search of cool breezes, and Sir Julian Pauncefote, the British Minister, has fol-

lowed him to that delightful retreat. When interrogated by reporters, Sir Julian contented himself with stating that negotiations were pending between him and the Secretary, and that he hoped for results which would be satisfactory to both nations. It is said that Russia offers to back up the United States in the contention that Behring's is a closed sea. *Non tali auxilio nec defensoribus istis, &c.*

There is more trouble in Central America. As the day approaches for the ratification of the agreement consolidating the states into a Union, politicians evince nervous apprehension. The other day, a ball was given to celebrate the anniversary of the inauguration of President Melendez of Salvador, the successor of Zaldimar. At the close of the German, Melendez was found to be dead, and the dancers, under the guidance of the leader of the German, proceeded to elect his successor. Whether he died a natural death, or was assassinated, nobody knows, and nobody cares. The régime of anarchy and disorder which is about to make way for a régime of quiet government and peaceful development in that part of the world, cannot be got rid of without some friction. We may expect further bloodshed before the 14th September—which is the day set for a vote for or against consolidation.

This is the gay season at the summer watering places, and the butterflies of fashion flutter their pretty wings more gaudily than ever. Some of the belles have histories. Your correspondent lately watched with interest the evolutions of a beautiful blonde, who was the centre of an admiring circle, and who shot deadly shafts from a pair of eyes as bright as ever shone. Six or seven years ago, she was a reigning belle, and was thought to have invested her beauty judiciously when she captured a middle aged millionaire, with many acres, and a long Spanish pedigree. Four years afterward, at a given signal, the door of her boudoir was suddenly burst open, and the husband, escorted by two detectives, burst in. What they saw, the Court subsequently refused to allow them to state until the Court room had been cleared. It was enough to secure for the husband a divorce, with custody of his child. The beautiful blonde was left penniless, and disgraced. But she was not crushed. By a series of dexterous manoeuvres, she succeeded in kidnapping her child, and baffled all the efforts of the father to recapture her. In the contest which ensued, she met her husband, and once more he fell at her feet, and besought her to forgive and forget. She stipulated that, as an evidence of his good faith, he should make a suitable settlement on her. He complied, and then she told him that while he would always be a welcome guest at her house, or under convenient circumstances, in her apartments, she proposed to lead the life which she chose. He is to be seen smoking strong cigars, and grinding his teeth on the balcony, while she dances in the drawing-room.

IN H.B.M. COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before J. J. ENSLIE, Esq., Acting-Assistant Judge.
TUESDAY, July 26th, 1890.

DEGRON V. GABARETTA.

The case of Degron v. Gabaretta came up again to-day on an application by the plaintiff for the examination of the defendant under General Rule 129 of the Court.

Mr. Litchfield appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Walford for the defendant.

Richard Gabaretta, sworn, deposed in answer to Mr. Litchfield:—I live at No. 138, Settlement. I am an engine-driver by occupation. I am engine-driver of the steam fire engines. I receive for that \$70 a month. I have no other business whatsoever.

What property have you got to meet the judgment in Degron v. Gabaretta?—The only property I have is lot No. 50a, Bluff.

Two years ago you had considerable property on the Bluff?—I had some, not considerable. I had lot 26c and 50a and 50b on the Bluff. I had 26a a long time ago, but I disposed of it. I sold 26c, but had only part payment for it. I sold 50b and received payment for it. It was sold in 1883. The purchase price of 50b was about \$900, reduced by expenses and repairs to about \$800.

You also owned 22a, Bluff, that you have not told us of?—I never possessed that lot.

Nor any part of it 2248?—Not a fraction.

Was it registered in your name?—No, Sir.

You say you still own 50a and upon that you say there is a mortgage for \$350?—Yes, Sir.

When was that mortgage made?—In January this year.

What have you done with that money?—Some

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URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

I sent home to my family and some I spent on my own family out here.

How was the money paid to you by Mrs. Witt?—She paid \$100 in January and \$250 in the beginning of March. If I am not mistaken she paid me in cash—the last payment I now think was a cheque.

Do you keep any banking account?—No, I wish I could.

Where did you cash that cheque?—I am not positive whether she gave me cash or a cheque, but it was on the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank.

What do you mean? If it was not a cheque, what was it?—I think it was a cheque on the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. I cashed the cheque of course. The first \$100 I got in January I sent home; the \$250 I spent on my family here. I sent part of the first payment to pay the expenses of my father's funeral.

Who is Margaret Gabaretta?—My wife.

Where did she get the money from to buy 224, Bluff, in February this year?—She bought it with her own money.

I am afraid I must ask you again where she got the money?—She had before our marriage five or six hundred dollars of her own money; she worked up that money until she has about \$1,200 now.

None of that \$800 you got for No. 50 went to make up that \$1,200?—None. My wife had \$500; we have been ten years married, and she has increased her capital to \$1,200. Not a cent of the \$800 I received for No. 50 went to make up that \$1,200! I was married about nine years ago before Mr. Martin Dohmen.

When did Mrs. Gabaretta first purchase No. 224?—Sometime in the beginning of this year.

From Mr. Kirkwood?—Yes, Sir.

How is it that there is an entry in the Consular books of a transfer from you to Mr. Kirkwood some years ago?—I do not know. It must be a mistake. I never possessed the lot. I never put my foot on it.

Have you the title-deeds of No. 224, Bluff?—No, Sir.

Was it you or Mrs. Witt that effected the registration of the mortgage on lot No. 50?—I did not do it.

Can you tell me why that mortgage was not registered till May this year?—I don't know.

How was it not registered till Mr. Degron came to Yokohama?—I don't know.

How was it that the transfer of your house was not registered till Mr. Degron came?—I don't know. I don't know in what month Mr. Degron came.

Don't you think it very curious that neither the transfer of No. 224 nor the mortgage of No. 50 were registered till Mr. Degron came to Yokohama this year and made application to you for a considerable sum of money?—Oh, no, not by any means.

On the motion of Mr. Litchfield, an adjournment was granted till 10.30 a.m. to-morrow in order that the plaintiff might subpoena Mrs. Gabaretta to produce the title-deeds of No. 224, Bluff.

WEDNESDAY, July 30th, 1890.

This case came up again to-day on proceedings taken on a judgment summons.

Margaret Gabaretta was called by Mr. Litchfield for the plaintiff.

Mr. Walford, for the judgment debtor, said if Mr. Litchfield only wished production of the title-deeds of No. 224, Bluff, Mr. Gabaretta would produce them now.

Mr. Litchfield said he had some questions to ask. Witness, who said her Japanese name was Chiyo, was examined through an interpreter, and deposed:—I am Mr. Gabaretta's wife. I now produce the title-deeds of lot No. 224, Bluff.

This conveyance is from Mr. M. Kirkwood to Margaret Gabaretta of No. 224 c. Bluff, dated 22nd February, 1890, registered in the Kencho 28th February, 1890, and registered at the British Consulate 6th May, 1890. Was the consideration money for that deed, \$1,050, paid at the time of the transfer?—The consideration money was paid all at one time.

When was it paid and how?—At the time of purchase \$500 was paid; afterwards \$200. I am not certain when the balance was paid, but I think it was in March.

How long have you been married to Mr. Gabaretta?—About nine years.

Have you been trading on your own account all this time?—I have not traded on my own account since my marriage, but I have lent money to friends.

Have you sold that land in the interior?—Yes.

When was it sold?—After I became a British subject.

Have you received any money from your husband since you were married?—No.

Who pays the household expenses?—Mr. Gabaretta. He sometimes pays the household bills himself and sometimes not.

Where did you get that \$350 you say you paid to Mr. Kirkwood in March?—It was my own money.

Who was it lent to?—It was lent to a friend of mine.

Hadn't the friend any name?—It was lent on my account by Gabaretta to Japanese. It was not all lent to one person.

You received this \$350 through the hands of your husband in March of this year?—No. I had money paid back to me in March.

From whom?—From Japanese—two persons. It was money that I had lent myself.

Who advised you to register the conveyance of No. 224 in the British Consulate—Mr. Gabaretta?—It was a friend of mine—I do not know the name—who advised me to register it.

What reason did he give for his advice?—I thought that because I had become a British subject I ought to register it.

Then you did it without advice from a friend?—Yes.

You thought it right to register it in the Consulate 4 months after it had been registered in the Kencho?—Yes. The title-deeds I received when the transfer was registered in the Kencho. Gabaretta took the title-deeds to the Kencho.

And I suppose Gabaretta paid the money to Mr. Kirkwood?—Yes.

Now was it not your husband who advised you to register the transfer in the Consulate?—No, it was my own idea.

Mr. Walford had no questions to ask.

Gabaretta's evidence was then read over to him. He corrected it by stating that he had a banking account, but none of the money belonged to him.

Nicholas Morgin deposed, in answer to Mr. Litchfield—I am an Austro-Hungarian subject, and am connected with the Fire Brigade department, No. 238, being superintendent of hand fire engines. Mr. Gabaretta lives on the same lot. I witnessed a mortgage I think in the present year, but what month I could not swear to. I have had conversation since with Mr. Gabaretta on the subject of that deed.

Did he give you any reason for making it?—He said, "You see what trouble I am in now just because I wanted to do another man good." He said, "Mr. Degron, I believe, is coming out here," but I do not know what he meant by it.

Did he say anything as to what the result would be to his property if Mr. Degron did come out?—No, he told me that he had bought No. 224, and asked me what I thought of it. I offered to buy it from him, but he would not sell it. He did not say anything to me about whether he had bought it in his own or his wife's name.

Mr. Walford had no questions.

Mr. Litchfield (to the Court)—Will you ask Mr. Gabaretta what proposals he has to make for the settlement of this claim.

Mr. Gabaretta—I have a list of my effects.

The Judge—Have you any suggestion to make as to the settlement or payment of this judgment? What do you produce doing in the matter?

Mr. Gabaretta—I propose to give up my furniture and whatever I have in the house. As for cash of course there is the lot of ground, and they can sell that for what it can realize; for the rest I have no other means.

Mr. Walford said Mr. Litchfield had a statement of the assets of Mr. Gabaretta, which showed that the total value of his property was only \$790. Of course Mr. Litchfield was at liberty to do what he wished with the assets as far as they would go.

Mr. Litchfield said he had a list of certain effects the debtor was supposed to possess, but there had been no suggestion as yet that any payment should be made out of them. Of course the kind of application counsel would have to make to the Court would depend on the debtor's action in the matter. There was a strongly suspicious circumstance in this case connected with the \$350 borrowed in the early part of this year. Mr. Gabaretta said part of it was applied to the support of his family at the time, but they had this peculiar circumstance that shortly afterwards a sum of exactly the same amount was paid as an instalment for the purchase of No. 224, Bluff—a purchase made in the name of the wife. Of course under the Married Women's Property Act a wife was allowed to hold property on her own account, but that Act excepted any gifts made by a husband in defrauding of his creditors. The money in this case could be followed, and there was a very strong presumption that the money raised upon No. 50-a was applied to the purchase of No. 224. Mr. Gabaretta said that when his wife was married she had five or six hundred dollars. Five hundred dollars was the

amount paid as the first instalment for the purchase of No. 224, and the other instalments paid subsequently were one of \$200 and one of \$350. He submitted that the latter of these sums was the amount borrowed on No. 50-a. Of course the story told by Mrs. Gabaretta of her dealings with the money was a very good one, and if it were true he should say she was lucky to be able to get her money back from Japanese when it was wanted. He thought the experience of most would go the other way, especially in the present year when Japanese were more ready to borrow than to pay. Under those very suspicious circumstances he must ask before making any application to the Court under the rules, for some suggestion as how the money was to be paid. If Mr. Gabaretta was willing to save the plaintiff any further trouble then possibly counsel would accept his proposition, otherwise he should ask the Court to deal with him.

Mr. Walford said of course there was not the slightest evidence that this \$350 was the money that had been borrowed, and it was a very reasonable suggestion that in nine years \$500 would, at the very high rate of interest which Japanese were willing to pay, be increased to \$1,200. There was no evidence that any of Mrs. Gabaretta's money had been spent on the household expenses of the family. There had been no cross-examination on the point, and Mr. Litchfield had not connected the two sums nor in any way given any foundation for the suspicion which he said attached to this transaction. Counsel thought the Court should not in any way regard that as a suspicious circumstance, especially in the face of the evidence given by Mr. and Mrs. Gabaretta. In the matter of a settlement the assets were so extremely small in comparison with the total of the judgment debt, that it was difficult for the debtor to suggest what should be done. The assets were only \$790, and practically the debtor was at the mercy of the other side, so that it seemed to counsel as if any suggestion should come from the other side.

Mr. Litchfield said in the circumstances he must ask the Court to make an order for the committal of the debtor. He asked whether the Court was not satisfied that the debtor had with intent to defraud his creditors or any of them "made or suffered any gift, delivery, or transfer of any property, or charged, removed or concealed any property." He also asked that execution might ensue for such property as the debtor had, and that order be made for the payment of the balance of the debt by instalments out of his salary.

Mr. Walford contended there was no evidence of any fraud on the creditor under section 131. Mr. Gabaretta thought he might be able to raise \$500 on the assets he had mentioned; more than that he could not possibly promise to do.

The Judge said he did not see his way to make the committal order. With regard to an arrangement, it struck him that it was a matter that might be taken into consideration, and he thought if both parties were to consider the question some sort of a more or less satisfactory arrangement might be arrived at. For that purpose and in view of any other order he might make in this matter, his Honour would adjourn the case till Wednesday the 6th at 10.30 a.m.

THE MATHEMATICAL TRIPOS.

For the first time in the history of the University of Cambridge a woman has been placed at the head of the Mathematical Tripos, and practically declared to be Senior Wrangler for the year. So remarkable a result of the movement which the present generation has witnessed in this country for the higher education of women is eminently worthy of special record and comment. It gives new dignity and encouragement to efforts which have not always secured the sympathy of everybody, and to institutions which have had to struggle in their time against much opposition, indifference, and disdain. But the award of the position of Senior Wrangler to a woman is not merely the triumph of a social movement and the academical consummation of a new departure in education. The lady who distanced all her competitors in the Tripos, and is declared to be placed above the nominally Senior Wrangler bears the honoured name of Fawcett. She is only daughter of a statesman whose strenuous life and consistent career have made that name known and respected throughout the length and breadth of the British Empire, while his untimely death and his heroic mastery of an infirmity which might well have quenched the energies of a man of ordinary fibre have invested his memory with a deep and widespread sentiment of personal sympathy. Many people who never knew Mr. Fawcett, or

knew him only as a public man, will accordingly rejoice in the academical triumph of his daughter with a feeling akin to personal and familiar congratulation. The placing of a woman for the first time at the head of the Tripos would, indeed, have been a memorable and significant event if the lady's only title to fame had been her attainment of the position. It is certainly more memorable and more significant in a personal sense, at least, when the lady is the daughter of the blind Postmaster-General whom all the world knew, sympathized with, and respected, and of Mrs. Fawcett, who is and has long been a leader among her sex in the work of educational, and social and political reform; and the niece of one of the first of those who overcame the prejudice against the study and practice of medicine by women.

Miss Fawcett, however, though the first Senior Wrangler of her sex on record, is not, of course, the first lady who has attained the place of honour in a Cambridge Tripos. Her triumph was anticipated a few years ago in regard to the Classical Tripos by Miss Ramsay, now Mrs. Butler, the wife of the Master of Trinity. But though the number of the celebrated female mathematicians has, perhaps, exceeded that of celebrated female classical scholars, and though it might be thought, on abstract grounds, that mathematical eminence is more easily attainable by women than classical, yet it can hardly be doubted that the achievement of Miss Fawcett is more likely to strike and impress the popular imagination than the previous achievement of Mrs. Butler. The Mathematical Tripos is to the popular mind the Cambridge examination *par excellence*. The Senior Wrangler of his or her year—as we must henceforth say—is pre-eminently the Cambridge hero or heroine of that year. It is no disparagement to classical scholarship as compared with high mathematical attainment that this should be the case. It is simply the result of a time-honoured system which has impressed the popular mind and has invested the Senior Wrangler with an unrivalled halo of academical distinction. It is true that both Triposes have been greatly modified of late years, so that the attainments both of Senior Wranglers and of Senior Classics—that is, of those who are respectively placed first in the First Part of their respective Triposes—are less advanced than those of their earlier predecessors in the old undivided Triposes. But the distinction, being at best comparative, is essentially as great as ever. Miss Fawcett has distanced all her competitors in an examination designed to test their comparative capacities in a specified range of mathematical study, and, the tests being searching and the range an extensive one, there is at least *prima facie* reason to suppose that the superiority she has now displayed would be maintained if her studies were extended into the wider field covered by the Second Part of the Tripos, and their results hereafter tested against the same competitors. Her success, indeed, was not wholly unexpected. The Cambridge system has not been so much altered but that those who have the training of the candidates can measure their respective chances and capacities and predict beforehand with tolerable accuracy what their place in the Tripos is likely to be. A word of sympathy is, perhaps, due to the gentleman who, but for Miss Fawcett's success in an examination where her name is not allowed to take the place which belongs to it, would have been and, we suppose, according to strict academical usage and phraseology, is, the Senior Wrangler of the year. Mr. Bennett's name will go down to academical posterity as that of the first Senior Wrangler who was beaten by a woman. If the names of men and women were printed indiscriminately according to order of merit in the same list, he would simply have been Second instead of Senior Wrangler; and though he might naturally have been disappointed at not having attained the first place, his native chivalry would, we are sure, have revolted at any suggestion that his defeat was rendered more disappointing by the fact that the first place was assigned to a woman rather than to a man. But his actual position is anomalous and, perhaps, needlessly vexatious. To be beaten by a woman is nothing in itself. To have nominally taken the first place and yet to have been beaten by a woman in an examination in which women, though allowed to compete, are not allowed to take their proper place in the formal declaration of results, is a position which, perhaps, unnecessarily emphasizes the distinction of sex to the disadvantage of the sex which, as some people will think, ought no longer to be called the stronger.

Now that one lady has attained the virtual position of Senior Classic, and another that of Senior Wrangler, and that several ladies have obtained high classes in Moderations at Oxford, it is manifest that the time is past for anything like a general discussion of the principles involved in

the question raised by the movement, which is so characteristic of our age and country, for the Higher Education of Women. The main question has practically solved itself by the best and most unanswerable of all methods of solution, that of the accomplished fact. There is no longer any occasion to ask ourselves whether it is desirable that women should be afforded the same opportunities of advanced education as have long been enjoyed by men, because in principle and in substance women, through the devoted aid and support of those who have made themselves the pioneers of the movement, have already secured these opportunities for themselves. A further and a more difficult question is already beginning to present itself, and that is, What use are women to make of the results of the opportunities they have secured? Are they to enter into direct competition with men for the prizes of human endeavour? Education, theoretically considered, is doubtless an end in itself. For purposes it is and must be regarded as a means also—an equipment, that is, for the general struggle for existence. How does the higher education of women operate in this direction? It would take us too far to attempt to answer or even to discuss this question, and we must content ourselves with observing that it is one which raises a host of wide and difficult issues. In the meantime, it may not be amiss to consider a subsidiary question connected with this subject, which was raised the other day by Mr. Gladstone in his evidence given before the Flintshire County Council. "I must own," said Mr. Gladstone, "that I resent extremely . . . the arrangement under which girls and young women are brought to the University and absolutely precluded from touching one farthing of the vast wealth of the Universities and Colleges, and I hope in what will be done under the Intermediate Education Act the ladies will have fair play." Surely there is here a somewhat mischievous confusion between two questions which are, and ought to be, kept perfectly distinct. In dealing with new educational endowments it is reasonable and just to make equal or at least equivalent provision for both sexes. But that is altogether a different thing from saying that women have an indefeasible claim to a share of endowments already allocated to purposes admittedly fulfilled. New purposes require new endowments, and in justice to the public spirit of this country it must be said that as soon as new purposes are acknowledged to be worthy the new endowments have generally been forthcoming: The history of Oxford and Cambridge is the history of new intellectual impulses finding their expression in new educational foundations. The very name of New College is a standing witness of the fact, and the intellectual history of England may be traced from the days of Walter de Merton to those of John Keble in the successive academical foundations from the thirteenth century to the nineteenth which have made Oxford and Cambridge what they are. The new colleges as they were successively founded did not go begging to the old for a share of what must have seemed their "vast wealth." They were content to begin, as the women's colleges in Oxford and Cambridge have begun in our times, with small beginnings and strenuous efforts, and a faith in the generosity of the wealthy and the public spirit of the benevolent, which was invariably justified in the end. We cannot doubt that the success of Miss Fawcett, following on that of Mrs. Butler, not to mention the similar though less individually famous successes of women at Oxford, will stimulate this faith in the case of the Higher Education of Women and once more justify it abundantly. There could be no more appropriate memorial to such a man as Mr. Fawcett was, so true to the cause of women, so faithful in his love of Cambridge, than one which made his daughter's attainment to the highest distinction which Cambridge can bestow on a student the occasion for renewed efforts on behalf of the Higher Education of Woman.—Times.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, July 24th.

The 2nd Battalion Grenadier Guards has sailed for Bermuda. The Duke of Cambridge is so much ashamed of the disgrace to the uniform of the Guards that he has disowned his connection with the Regiment.

British delegates are going to Paris for the purpose of entering into negotiations to bring about an understanding for an extension of the zone of French influence in the Lake Chad re-

gion as a set-off against admitting the British protectorate of Zanzibar.

[A telegram in the Singapore papers, which did not reach Japan, solves the somewhat mysterious departure of the Grenadiers. It appears that the battalion refused to turn out for inspection, and subsequently when addressed by their Colonel-Commandant, the latter was hissed. The Duke of Cambridge has been Colonel of the Regiment since 1861.—Ed.]

London, July 26th.

In the Cricket Match, All England v. The Australian Team, the former won by seven wickets.

Sharp diplomatic correspondence between the English and United States Governments, in regard to the seal fishery dispute in Behring Sea, has been published.

London, July 29th.

A military revolt has occurred at Buenos Ayres. The President [Dr. Miguel Juarez Celman] has fled, and the rebel government has proclaimed its authority.

The negotiations are approaching a conclusion between England and France regarding the English position at Zanzibar and the French protectorate in Madagascar and the extension of French influence in the direction of Lake Chad.

London, July 30th.

The House of Commons has finally passed the bill for the cession of the Island of Heligoland to Germany.

Desperate fighting between the Government troops and the revolutionary party is reported from Buenos Ayres.

TIME TABLES AND STEAMERS.

TOKYO-YOKOHAMA RAILWAY.

DOWN TRAINS LEAVE SHIMIZU Station at 6.05,* 6.40, 8.35, 9.30,* 10.25, and 11.45 a.m., and 1.25, 2.30, 3.55, 4.45, 5.50, 6.50, 8.30, 9.55, and 11.15 p.m.
UP TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 6.30, 7.20, 8.10, 9.15, 10.22, and 11.30 a.m., and 12.45, 2.3, 4.25, 5.30, 6.35, 7.50, 9.10, 10.05, and 11.05 p.m.
FARES—First-class, *sen* 60; second-class, *sen* 40 and third-class, *sen* 20.

Trains marked (*) run through without stopping at Omori, Kawasaki, Tenjimi, and Kanagawa Stations. Those marked (t) run through without stopping at Omori, Kawasaki, and Tsurumi Stations.

TOKAIDO RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA (down) at 6.50, 9.10, 10.20, 11.25 a.m., and 12.40, 3.25, 4.55, 5.35, and 7.45 p.m.; and KOZU (up) at 6.35, 8.40, 9.40, and 11.07 a.m., and 1.17, 2.45, 4.58, 7.25, and 9.46 p.m.

FARES—To Hologaya, first-class *sen* 6, second-class *sen* 4, third-class *sen* 2; to Totsuka, *sen* 18, *sen* 12, *sen* 6; to Ofuna *sen* 36, *sen* 24, *sen* 12; to Fujisawa, *sen* 42, *sen* 28, *sen* 14; to Hiratsuka, *sen* 66, *sen* 44, *sen* 22; to Oiso, *sen* 75, *sen* 50, *sen* 25; and to Kozu, *sen* 93, *sen* 62, *sen* 31.

Down trains at 6.50 a.m. run no further than Kyoto arriving there at 11.30 p.m.; at 10.30 a.m. no further than Nagoya, arriving at 10.10 p.m.; at 12.40 p.m. no further than Shizuoka, arriving there at 6.50 p.m.; at 3.35 p.m. no further than Shizuoka, arriving at 8.16 p.m.; and the train at 5.35 p.m. runs to Kobe, arriving at 12.45 p.m. next day.

A tramway runs between Kozu and Yumoto (distance 4 vi. Jirikisha may be hired between Yumoto and Miyakosuta distance 14 vi.)

OFUNA-YOKOSUKA RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE OFUNA (down) at 7.30 and 9.40 a.m., and 12.05, 1.30, 4.03, 6.14, and 8.30 p.m.; KAMAKURA (down) at 7.41 and 9.51 a.m., and 12.16, 1.41, 4.14, 6.25, and 8.41 p.m.; and ZUSHIMURA (down) at 7.50 and 10 a.m., and 12.25, 1.50, 4.23, 6.34, and 8.50 p.m.; YOKOSUKA (up) at 6.45, 8.55, and 11.20 a.m., and 12.50, 3, 5.10, and 7.45 p.m.; ZUSHIMURA (up) at 7.01, 9.12, and 11.36 a.m., and 1.06, 3.16, 5.26, and 8.01 p.m.; and KAMAKURA (up) at 7.11, 9.22, and 11.46 a.m., and 1.15, 3.26, 5.36 and 8.10 p.m.

FARES—To Kamakura, first-class *sen* 9, second-class *sen* 6, third-class *sen* 3; to Zushimura *sen* 15, *sen* 10, *sen* 5; and to Yokosuka *sen* 30, *sen* 20, *sen* 10.

OYAMA-MITO RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE OYAMA (down) at 6.50 and 9.25 a.m., and 2.20 and 5.15 p.m.; and MITO (up) at 6.25 and 10.10 a.m., and 2.05 and 4.55 p.m.

FARES—First-class, *sen* 1.26; second-class, *sen* 84; third-class, *sen* 42.

UTSUNOMIYA-NIKKO RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE UTSUNOMIYA (down) at 5.25 and 10.05 a.m., and 12.25* and 3.05 p.m.; and NIKKO (up) at 7.20 and 11.55 a.m., and 2.25 and 4.55* p.m.

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

STEAMERS LEAVE the Nippon Hatoba daily at 7.55 and 10.30 a.m., and 1.45 and 4.00 p.m.; and LEAVE YOKOSUKA at 7.10 and 10.30 a.m., and 1.30, and 4.00 p.m.—FARE, *sen* 20.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, } Nagasaki & } per N. Y. K. Friday, Aug. 8th. Kobe	
From America ... per O. & O. Co. Thursday, Aug. 7th.*	
From Hongkong ... per P. & O. Co. Sunday, Aug. 3rd.	
From Hongkong ... per C. P. M. Co. Sunday, Aug. 3rd.	
From Canton, &c. per C. P. M. Co. Saturday, Aug. 10th.	
From Hongkong ... per O. & O. Co. Thursday, Aug. 7th.	
From Europe, via } Hongkong ... per M. M. Co. Saturday, Aug. 9th.	

* *Gladie* left San Francisco on July 16th. *Arcona* left Kobe on August 2nd. *Parthia* (with English mail) left Shanghai on July 23rd. *Batavia* left Vancouver on July 28th. *Oceanic* (with French mail) left Hongkong on July 31st. *Gongo* left Hongkong on July 31st.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, via } Shanghai ... per M. M. Co. Sunday, Aug. 3rd. Kobe, and } Nagasaki ... per N. Y. K. Tuesday, Aug. 5th.	
For Canada, &c. ... per C. P. M. Co. Thursday, Aug. 7th.	
For America ... per O. & O. Co. Saturday, Aug. 9th.	
For Hongkong ... per P. & O. Co. Saturday, Aug. 9th.	
For Europe, via } Hongkong ... per N. D. Lloyd. Sunday, Aug. 17th.	
For America ... per P. M. Co. Thursday, Aug. 21st.	

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Djemnah, French steamer, 2,200, Bonneloy, 26th July.—Hongkong 16th, Shanghai 21st, and Kobe 24th July, General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. M. Cavarly, 26th July.—Hongkong 19th, and Kobe 25th July, General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Snow and Burgess, American ship, 1,655, Anderson, 26th July.—Kobe 19th July, Tea.—Mourilyan, Heimann & Co.

Apenrade, German steamer, 1,476, Holthmann, 27th July.—Hongkong 20th July, Rice.—Mourilyan, Heimann & Co.

Renie Rickmers, German ship, 2,064, Westermairer, 27th July.—Saigon 29th June, Rice.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Brown, 28th July.—Kobe 27th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, P. Hussey, 28th July, Hakodate 26th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 596, Kasuga, 29th July.—Hakodate 27th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuso, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 29th July.—Nagasaki 25th July, General.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.

Mutine (10), screw-sloop, Captain J. H. Martin, 29th July.—Hongkong 20th July.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Christensen, 29th July.—Kobe 28th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,182, Kenderdine, 30th July.—Otaru 26th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 30th July.—Hakodate 28th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,240, Pender, 31st July.—Otaru 18th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Laertes, British steamer, 1,351, R. F. Scales, 30th July.—Kobe 29th July, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Omaha (12), U.S. flagship, Captain Cromwell, 31st July.—From a cruise.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,357, Drummond, 31st July.—Kobe 30th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Hassia, German steamer, 1,405, Wachsmoth, 26th July.—Kobe, General.—China & Japan Trading Co.

Abyssinia, British steamer, 2,300, G. A. Lee, 27th July.—San Francisco via Vancouver, B.C., General.—C. P. M. S. S. Co.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, Wm. Ward, 27th July.—Hongkong, General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Dragoman, British steamer, 1,785, Nasli, 27th July.—Nagasaki, General.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Rattler (6), cruiser, Captain J. G. Heugh, 28th July.—Hakodate.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,129, J. M. Cavarly, 29th July.—San Francisco via Victoria, B.C., General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Sakia Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 29th July.—Shanghai and ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Furo, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 30th July.—Nagasaki, General.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.

Mutine (10), screw-sloop, Captain J. H. Martin, 30th July.—Hakodate.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,182, Kenderdine, 30th July.—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, P. Hussey, 30th July.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Argyll, British bark, 1,222, C. O. Allen, 31st July.—Chili, Ballast.—China & Japan Trading Co.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Christensen, 31st July.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kriehild, German steamer, 1,638, T. Ehlers, 31st July.—Kobe, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 596, Kasuga, 31st July.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per French steamer *Djemnah*, from Hongkong via ports.—Dr. Muraoka, Mr. Togota, Mr. O. Sullivan, Mr. da Luz, Mr. Bedat, Mr. Goulas, Mr. and Mrs. Church and child, Mr. Halton, Mrs. Campbell, and Miss Parker in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for Victoria, B.C.—Miss L. R. Schaffner in cabin. For San Francisco: Mrs. Bond, Miss Bond, and Mr. Bradley in cabin. For Yokohama: Miss Dr. Broomall, Commander Baissie, Messrs. A. Kinpeu, W. A. Keay, and M. Berthon in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Satsuma Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. Shinjiro and child, Mr. and Mrs. Fuchimoto and 2 children, Mr. Odate, and Mr. Pow Ek Sam in cabin; 7 Japanese in second class, and 72 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, from Kobe:—Mrs. H. Thomas, Miss Yamamoto, the Misses Shimada, Messrs. H. Kondo, K. Watanabe, R. Fukumo, K. Oka, and C. Sewaki in cabin; 232 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. M. D. Gardiner in cabin; Messrs. F. Nomura and M. Ohnaga in second class, and 29 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Abyssinia*, for San Francisco via Vancouver, B.C.—Mr. J. W. Bacon, Dr. and Mrs. Nevius, and Miss Bainbridge, Mr. A. Cumine, Miss Cameron, Miss Owsen, Miss Nile, Miss Miyagawa, Mr. E. D. Murray, Rev. Mr. Mainas, Mr. K. Kingdon, Miss Swift, Mr. and Mrs. Morrison, Mrs. Platt, Mr. T. Nomura, Miss J. Suzuy, Mr. Alfred Powers, and Mr. Isaac Hughes in cabin. From Shanghai: Messrs. John Death, F. A. Burchardie, Carlo Gatti, C. A. Pullam, Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Warren and 2 children, Miss L. E. Oakland, and Mr. A. J. How in cabin. From Kobe: Captain and Mrs. Tiddy and 2 children, Mr. G. V. Taylor, Captain and Mrs. Lambeth, and Mr. R. H. Greely in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco via Victoria, B.C.—Mr. J. Waldis, Mr. G. E. J. Gardiner, Rev. and Mrs. J. B. Smith, two children, and two infants, Mr. A. H. Bradley, Mrs. Bond, Miss Bond, Miss Shaffner, Mr. Charles Avil, Mr. Geo. Feray, Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Davis, Mr. W. B. Hall, Mr. and Mrs. J. McCoon, Mr. C. H. Fay, Rev. Bishop J. P. Newman, Messrs. W. S. Kahnweiler, W. A. Keay, S. Kaube, Jas. J. Raymond, Mrs. E. Kildayle, two infants, and Japanese amah, Mrs. Warnecke, Rev. and Mrs. D. N. McNittuff and three children, Rev. H. Yamaka, Mr. Robert Blum, Miss M. Brittan, Mrs. E. Howell, Miss M. Boyd, Mr. L. Rosenfield, Mr. A. B. Rosenfield, Miss A. E. Rosenfield, Miss M. Rosenfield, Miss A. Rosenfield, Messrs. J. Roberts, James Lee, M. Looney, H. Haywood, Edward Tomks, P. Smith, A. Cameron, and G. P. Pfeil in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Sakia Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Rev. and Mrs. J. P. Ludlow and son, Messrs. Frank McCarthy, H. Lotz, Takenouchi, Kosoyokawa, Hoashi, Murai, Namba and child in cabin; Mrs. Kosoyokawa and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. Osawa, Mrs. Tamukai, Mrs. Takagi, Messrs. T. Osawa, Nagayama, J. Powers, Ike, S. Tamukai, and Shindo in second class, and 118 passengers in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Abyssinia*, for Vancouver, B.C.:

	TEA.	CHINA.	NEW YORK.	PACIFIC.	TOTAL.
Shanghai ...	1,295	1,844	1,968	949	6,057
Hyogo ...	2,028	581	235	307	3,151
Yokohama ...	3,800	693	—	2,615	7,113
Hongkong ...	—	—	—	205	305
Fouchow ...	2,980	249	1,501	281	5,395
Amoy ...	—	316	2,240	—	2,556
Total	10,104	3,681	6,337	4,457	24,549

	SILK.	NEW YORK.	TOTAL.
Shanghai ...	18	—	18
Hongkong ...	1	—	1
Yokohama ...	86	—	86
Canton ...	5	—	5
Total	110	—	110

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco:

	TEA.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai ...	4,834	1,029	1,223	7,086
Hyogo ...	—	691	2,002	2,693
Yokohama ...	10,404	1,050	1,751	13,211
Hongkong ...	1,172	492	3,571	5,235
Total	16,410	3,268	8,547	28,225

	SILK.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai ...	—	20	—	20
Hongkong ...	—	146	—	146
Yokohama ...	—	395	—	395
Total	—	471	—	471

REPORTS.

The American steamer *City of Peking*, Captain Cavarly, reports:—Left Hongkong the 19th July at 2.26 p.m. arrived at Kobe the 24th July at 6.00 a.m.; sailed again the 25th at 5.57 p.m. arriving at Yokohama the 26th July at 10.30 p.m.; had fine weather, smooth sea, and light winds the entire passage.

The Japanese steamer *Satsuma Maru*, Captain Brown, reports:—Left Kobe the 26th July at noon; passed Oosima at 9.40 p.m.; Rock Island the 27th at 00.32 p.m., from Kobe to Sagami had light easterly winds and gloomy weather with smooth sea; thence to port moderate W.S.W. winds and cloudy weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 27th July at 6.20 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Captain Hussey, reports:—Left Hakodate the 26th July at 4 a.m.; had light variable winds and fine weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Oginohama the 27th at 5 a.m. and left at 11.30 a.m.; had light southerly winds and cloudy weather; passed Inuboye the 28th at 2.45 a.m., with fresh winds from S.W. and cloudy weather; passed Noshima at 10.30 a.m., had light southerly winds and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama at 2.30 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, Captain Christensen, reports:—Left Kobe the 28th July at noon; had moderate southerly winds with squally weather to Ooshima; thence light variable winds, overcast and cloudy weather to Rock Island with light S.E. swell; thence to port S.E. breeze and cloudy weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 29th July at 5 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, Captain Young, reports:—Left Hakodate the 28th July at 5 a.m.; had dull misty weather and light variable air; rounded Shiriya-saki in a fog and had light S.E. to south-westerly breeze and smooth sea, dull overcast sky and more or less fog down to Inuboye the 29th at 5 p.m.; thence moderate W.S.W. breeze and dull cloudy weather to Noshima at midnight, when had continuous heavy rain and inky darkness with plenty of lightning till 3.30 a.m.; thence to port light variable winds and dull cloudy weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 30th July at 7 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, Captain Drummond, reports:—Left Kobe the 30th July at noon; had fine weather and light variable breeze; rounded Tomanga-shima at 2.25 p.m., with light southerly breeze; abreast Hino-misaki at 4.45 p.m., breeze shifted to S.E.; passed Ooshima at 9.15 p.m., light breeze and occasional showers throughout the night; passed Rock Island the 31st at 11.50 a.m., moderate to light south-easterly breeze to port, which was reached at 5.45 p.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The Yarn market has continued very dull during the week, there being no demand for either 16/24's or 28/32's English Spinnings. Bombays are about a dollar lower, without much doing. Shirtings remain very quiet. A small business has been done in Italians. Sales for the week amount to:—English Yarns 175 bales, Bombays 70 bales, Shirtings 3,750 pieces, and Italians 1,000 pieces.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	YARDS.	PRICE.
Grey Shirtings—84 yds. 39 inches	11.55	to 2.00
Grey Shirtings—66 yds. 45 inches	1.35	to 2.55
T. Cloth—7 yds. 21 yards, 32 inches	1.30	to 1.50
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.25	to 1.50
Prints—Assorted, 21 yards, 30 inches	1.70	to 2.00
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 34 inches	0.07	to 0.14

Turkey Reds—1½ to 2½, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.19 to 1.23
Turkey Reds—2½ to 3½, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.25 to 1.35
Turkey Reds—3½ to 4½, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.75 to 2.05
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	4.50 to 6.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.50 to 0.65
Taffetas, 22 yards, 43 inches	1.35 to 2.25

WOOLLENS.

Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches	\$1.00 to 1.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.26 to 0.30
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.21 to 0.26
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.17 to 0.21
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.13 to 0.17
Cloths—Pinks, 51 to 56 inches	0.30 to 0.45
Cloths—Presidents, 51 to 56 inches	0.50 to 0.60
Cloths—Union, 51 to 56 inches	0.35 to 0.60
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3½, per lb	0.30 to 0.38

COTTON YARNS.

Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	\$7.00 to 28.50
Nos. 16/24, Medium	28.50 to 29.50
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	29.75 to 30.50
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	31.50 to 32.50
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	30.50 to 31.00
Nos. 28/32, Medium	31.00 to 32.50
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	33.75 to 33.75
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	35.50 to 36.00
No. 328, Two-fold	36.00 to 37.50
No. 428, Two-fold	36.00 to 39.50
No. 208, Bombay	74.00 to 80.00
No. 168, Bombay	74.50 to 79.50
No. 144, Bombay	74.50 to 79.50

METALS.

Quotations must be reduced this week, but even at these figures the courage of buyers has evaporated, and very small business has been done. Stocks are ample, and the trade does not seem to be at all profitable.

Flat Bars, 1 inch	\$2.80 to 2.90
Flat Bars, 1 inch	2.90 to 3.10
Round and square up to 1 inch	2.80 to 3.00
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.
Nailrod, small size	Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	3.00 to 3.15
Sheet Iron	3.40 to 3.70
Galvanized iron sheets	6.30 to 6.70
Wire Nails, assorted	4.00 to 4.50
Tin Plates, per box	4.80 to 5.10
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.35 to 1.40

KEROSENE.

No fresh arrivals since the large cargoes noted last week. These are being landed, and the present stock must be fully 600,000 cases. Chester, Comet, and Devoe are all in good supply now, and the market, although called steady, is very dull and inactive at present. Quotations unchanged but well-nigh nominal, and some reduction would have to be made to induce large transactions.

QUOTATIONS.

Chester	Nom. \$1.75 to 1.77½
Comet	Nom. 1.70 to 1.72½
Devoe	Nom. 1.67½ to 1.70
Russian	Nom. 1.65 to 1.67½

SUGAR.

Transactions in Sugar have been fairly good, especially in Takao Brands, which have found buyers to the extent of 10,000 piculs, divided thus:—8,000 piculs at \$4.35 per picul (superior), and common 2,000 piculs at \$4.20 per picul. There have been small sales of White Refined, in all 3,586 piculs, at \$8.15 per picul for 650 piculs; \$7.75 per picul for 1,000 piculs; \$7.20 per picul for 1,036 piculs, and 900 piculs at \$6.35.

White Refined	\$5.75 to 8.30
Manila	3.70 to 4.50
Taiwanfoo	— to —
Pentana	2.85 to 2.90
Namida	2.80 to 2.85
Cake	— to 3.70
Brown Takao	4.15 to 4.20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 25th ultimo, since which date we have had a more active market, and settlements are noted as 237 piculs, divided thus:—Hanks 20, Filatures 145, Re-reels 113, Oshu 9. Direct shipments also account for a further 63 piculs, making the total business of the week for export equal to 350 piculs.

The demand is full, and at present quotations buying is confined to few hands: Considerable business was done for the States just before the departure of the Vancouver steamers: but since they left things have subsided a bit, and rumour has it that the New York market is tending downwards. It is a hard struggle day by day between holders and buyers, the former contending that every picul of silk they sell at present quotations leaves them a loss, while the latter argue that an

advancing exchange coupled with poor news from consumers must have the effect of eventually depressing prices here.

Supplies are now more ample, and a fair assortment of most kinds is on offer: this, however, seems to affect holders but little; they say they prefer to carry their stocks and pay the necessary interest rather than submit to the losses which present prices entail. The whole mischief seems to arise from the unwarranted rise of a month ago. Had we seen a steady market on the basis of values at which the campaign opened, we should have had a fair trade all along; remunerative to reeler, dealer, shipper, and consumer alike.

There have been three shipping opportunities during the interval, English, Canadian, and United States mail steamers all taking something. The *Verona* (26th July) had 48 bales for Lyons. The *Abyssinia* (27th) took 86 bales for New York, and the *City of Peking* left port on the 29th with 305 bales for the same destination. These departures bring the present export figures to 1,463 piculs against 1,748 last year, and 2,868 at same date in 1888.

Hanks.—The sale of *Hachoji* mentioned in our last has been followed by a parcel of *Maibashi* at \$545. The stock in this class is not large, and holders appear content to wait events.

Filatures.—Here supplies are ample, but owners are apparently able to hold till further notice. Some of them would like to be moving, but hesitate about reducing prices to such a point as would tempt buyers. Telegraphic advices from over the Pacific do not seem very rosy, and the consequence is that for the present very little business is being done. Dealers hope for another little spurt previous to the departure of next American mail, but unless at reduced prices there is no prospect of any considerable trade. The last prices made include *Hakuzuru* \$690, *Kairossha* \$685, and *Kanayama* at \$680. Nothing done in pure *Koshu* silks—holders are strong and ask long figures for their wares.

Re-reels.—Some few parcels were taken for last American mail, including *Torloise* \$675, *Shorusha* \$650, *Kirihana* \$650, with 2nd quality at \$635. A parcel of *Bushu Kodama* also done at \$635, with inferior grades at \$605. Holders fight strenuously against any reduction on these figures notwithstanding the rise in exchange.

Kakeda.—No business this week; several well-known brands are now on the market; but so far, little or no business has resulted.

Hanatsuki.—Two or three parcels "*Katsuhama*" taken up for Europe at \$547½.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No. 14	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Oshu)	—
Hanks—No. 24 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 24 (Oshu)	—
Hanks—No. 24 to 3	\$540 to 550
Hanks—No. 3	—
Hanks—No. 34	510 to 515
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	—
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	700 to 710
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	680 to 690
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	670 to 675
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	640 to 650
Filatures—No. 2, 12/18 deniers	650 to 660
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Shinshu and Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	660 to 670
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	640 to 650
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	620 to 630
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	600 to 610
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	570 to 580
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No. 1	—
Kakedas—No. 14	Nom.
Kakedas—No. 2	Nom.
Kakedas—No. 24	Nom.
Kakedas—No. 3	Nom.
Kakedas—No. 34	Nom.
Oshu Sendai—No. 24	—
Hanatsuki—No. 1, 2	545 to 550
Hanatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 24	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 1st August, 1890:—

	SEASON 1890-91.	1889-90.	1888-89.
Europe	299	915	1,940
America	1,106	804	922
Total	1,405	1,749	2,862
	Piculs	1,463	2,868
Settlements and Direct	1,300	2,750	2,630
Export from 1st July	1,300	2,750	2,630
Stock, 1st August	5,300	1,750	3,700
Available supplies to date	6,600	4,500	6,330

WASTE SILK.

Not a single transaction this week either in old or new fibre. Statistics of settlements are there-

fore unchanged, although the Stock-figures are much higher than last week.

Holders and buyers maintain an attitude of observation; dealers do indeed begin to name a price for some of their wares, but they open their mouths so wide that no man responds.

The *City of Peking* took one bale *Mawata* for New York, and that solitary bale forms the export for the week. Shipments for the season to date are now 630 piculs, against 312 bales last year and 1,118 at 1st August, 1888.

Pierced Cocoons.—These are coming to hand pretty freely now. Owners want \$16 per bu, or say \$20 for 75 per cent. yield. This does not meet buyers' ideas at all, and there will be a struggle for lower prices before much business is done.

Noshi.—Stock of *Noshi* is piling up, but holders do not appear to be inclined for serious business. They ask \$85 for very poor assortment, while shippers' notion for the same quality is \$75.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	\$140 to \$150
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Bushi, Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshi, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshi, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Joshi, Ordinary	—
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	—
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshi, Good to Fair	—
Kibiso—Joshi, Middling to Common	—
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good	—
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	—
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	—
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 1st Aug., 1890:—

	SEASON 1890-91.	1889-90.	1888-89.
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Waste Silk	630	295	1,118
Pierced Cocoons	—	17	—
	630	312	1,118
Settlements and Direct	300	100	180
Export from 1st July	300	100	180
Stock, 1st August	6,400	4,000	3,350
Available supplies to date	6,700	4,100	3,530

Exchange has moved up in sympathy with a rising market for Silver:—London, 4m/s. Credits 3/8½; Documents 3/8½; 6m/s. Credits, 3/8½; Documents 3/8½; NEW YORK, 30 d/s. U.S.G., \$89½; 4m/s. U.S.G., \$90½; PARIS, 4 m/s. fcs. 4.67; 6m/s. fcs. 4.69.

Estimated Silk Stock, 1st Aug., 1890:—

	RAW.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	125	Cocoons	450
Filatures	2,750	Noshi-ito	1,610
Re-reels	2,070	Kibiso	3,800
Kakeda	183	Mawata	360
Oshu	170	Sundries	180
Taysam Kinds	2		
Total piculs	5,300	Total piculs	6,400

TEA.

A steady business has been done during the week, and the grades settled are as follows:—Common 1,970 piculs, Good Common 795 piculs, Medium 885 piculs, Good Medium 435 piculs, Fine 820 piculs, Finest 230 piculs, Choice 40 piculs, Choicest 10 piculs, Extra Choicest 15 piculs; total, 5,200 piculs. Third Crop leaf is now coming in, but the parcels to hand are very dark in cup. Prices are unchanged.

	PER PICUL.
Common	\$10 under
Good Common	104 to 124
Medium	13 to 14
Good Medium	15 to 16
Fine	17 to 19
Finest	20 to 22
Choice	23 to 25
Choicest	26 to 30
Extra Choicest	—

EXCHANGE.

Exchange moves upward steadily, and there appears to be a good deal of firmness in present rates.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/7½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/8
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/8
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/8
On Paris—Bank sight	4.58
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4.69
On Hongkong—Bank sight	Par.
On Hongkong—Private to days' sight	1 1/2% dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72
On Shanghai—Private to days' sight	72
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	88½
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	89
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	88½
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	89

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 6.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, AUGUST 9TH, 1890.

通信省認可

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, AUGUST 9, 1890.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

H.I.H. PRINCE ARISUGAWA TAKEHITO started from Shinagawa on the 4th instant for Ogino-hama.

It is stated that the Law for carrying out the Commercial Code will be promulgated in a few days.

THE number of foreign residents in Tokyo on the 30th June last was 783, consisting of 496 males and 287 females.

It is stated that Mr. Kuki, Director of the Imperial Library, will be appointed Japanese Minister to the United States shortly.

On the 25th ultimo a violent whirlwind visited Hasuikemura, Kansaki, Saga Prefecture, destroying seven houses and one godown.

On the afternoon of the 30th ult. six houses were entirely destroyed by lightning at Tomamura, Shishikui, Hyogo Prefecture, but no lives were lost.

LIEUT. COLONEL HARAGUCHI, Assistant Director of the Military College, has been ordered by the Minister of State for War to proceed to Germany.

DURING the month of July last the number of visitors to the Zoological Garden was 21,788, of whom 19,582 were adults, 1,925 children and 281 students.

AT the ordinary half-yearly meeting of the Hamamatsu 138th National Bank, held the other day, a dividend was declared at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum.

THE ordinary half-yearly meeting of shareholders of the Kochi 7th National Bank was held the other day. The receipts for the first half of the present year were yen 29,700.250, of which yen 8,353.290 was set apart as miscellaneous expenses, yen 392 as business tax,

yen 1,400 as a reserve, yen 11,000 as a special reserve, and the remainder was carried forward to the next account, no dividend being declared.

It is stated that Mr. Mutsu, Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, and Mr. Yoshikawa, Minister of State for Education, will be ennobled shortly.

THE number of persons attacked by cholera throughout the Empire from the commencement of the epidemic up to the 1st instant was 1,839, of whom 857 died.

H.I.H. PRINCE BHANURANGSI, who was accompanied by H.I.H. Prince Komatsu and several military officers to Shimbashi Station, left Tokyo on the 4th instant for Nagoya.

THE receipts of the Tokyo Tramway Company during the month of July last were yen 18,080.53, showing an increase of yen 9,113.89 as compared with the same month of last year.

In an extra of the *Official Gazette* on the 4th instant Supplementary Rules of the Law of Finance were promulgated by way of commentary on the 67th article of the Constitution, over the signatures of all the Ministers of State.

DURING the month of May last 5,365 steamers entered at Osaka and 5,320 steamers sailed from the port. During the same period the number of foreign built vessels which entered and cleared from the port was 838 and 861 respectively.

MR. NAKAMURA DOTA and six other merchants of Tokyo have been permitted by the Tokyo City Government to establish a company under the name of the Susaki Electric Light Company, with a capital of yen 150,000, the temporary office being situated at Hiraishinden, Fukagawa.

A SHOCK of earthquake was felt in the capital on the 2nd instant at 11h. 6m. 35s. p.m. The duration was 68 seconds, the maximum horizontal motion being 0.25m. in 1.2s. The shock was a sharp one. A slight shock was experienced in Tokyo on the 4th instant at 9h. 38m. 14s. a.m.

COMMANDER URI, Lieutenants Miwa, Hitaka, Amagasa, and other officers of the *Naniwa Kan*, which recently returned to Japan from Korea and Vladivostok, were received in audience by the Emperor on the morning of the 5th instant, and afterwards paid visits to the Imperial Sanctuary.

THE amended Regulations as to the organization of Prisons and Temporary Prisons were promulgated on the 2nd inst. over the signatures of Counts Yamagata and Saigo. On the same day the revised Regulations as to the organization of the Central Sanitary Association were promulgated.

THE half-yearly meeting of shareholders of the Yawata 47th National Bank was held the other day. The receipts during the past half-year were yen 8,330.802, of which yen 266 were set apart towards the payment of business tax, yen 1,050 as a reserve fund, yen 1,550 as miscellaneous expenses, yen 130 as rewards to officers, and yen 5,130 was appropriated as a dividend at the rate of yen 5.40 per cent. per annum, the remainder being carried forward to the next account.

THE ordinary half-yearly meeting of shareholders of the Hokkaido Coal Mining Railway Company was held on the 5th instant at the Koseikan. The receipts for the past half-year were yen 130,674.687, of which yen 19,601 was set apart towards a reserve fund and rewards to officers, and yen 11,273.687 was car-

ried forward to the next account, the remaining yen 99,800 being appropriated as a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum.

ACCORDING to a report by the Okinawa Prefectural Government the number of persons bitten by poisonous snakes in Okinawa Prefecture during the first half of the present year was 46, of whom 18 died.

THE ordinary half-yearly meeting of shareholders of the Tokyo Marine Insurance Company was held recently. The net profits for the first half of the present year were yen 73,323.961, of which yen 6,007.235 was set apart as rewards to officers, yen 27,332.795 as a reserve, yen 2,723.280 as a special reserve, and yen 33,000 as a dividend to be declared at the rate of 11 per cent. per annum, the remainder being carried to the next account.

THE half-yearly meeting of shareholders of the Iwakuni 103rd National Bank was held recently. The net profits for the past half-year were yen 8,417.973, of which yen 140 was set apart towards the payment of business tax, yen 500 as a reserve fund, yen 3,550 as miscellaneous expenses, yen 393 as rewards to officers, and yen 3,600 was appropriated as a dividend at the rate of 9 per cent. per annum, the remainder being carried forward to the next account.

THE ordinary half-yearly meeting of shareholders of the 87th National Bank (Kokura) was held the other day. The net profits for the past half-year were yen 31,849.051, of which yen 14,404.233 was set apart towards miscellaneous expenses, yen 140 for the payment of business tax, yen 1,300 as a reserve fund, yen 996 as rewards to officers, and yen 12,500 was appropriated as a dividend at the rate of yen 5 per cent. per annum, the remainder being carried forward to the next account.

THE ordinary half-yearly meeting of shareholders of the Kyoto 111th National Bank was held the other day. The net profits for the first half of the present year were yen 24,729.072, of which yen 420 was set apart towards payment of business tax, yen 1,500 as a reserve fund, yen 7,000 as miscellaneous expenses, yen 420 as remuneration to officers, yen 200 as a special reserve fund, and yen 15,000 was appropriated as a dividend at the rate of yen 5 per share of yen 100 per annum, the remainder being carried forward to the next account.

VERY little change is noticeable in the Import trade, Yarns, Shirtings, and Piece-goods being reported dull and slow of sale. There are large stocks of Metals and few sales, Iron Bars having moved off to a small extent, but at lower prices. Of Kerosene there are over 600,000 cases in stock, and the only sales reported are a few small parcels of Devoo, but the figure has not transpired, and rates may still be called nominal. But little Formosa Sugar has yet to arrive, and the stock in hand is held for more money, the 13,000 piculs sold during the week having fetched considerably higher prices; Whites are about the same as last week. The Silk trade is of only moderate dimensions, holders failing to make due allowance for the condition of exchange, but they appear with few exceptions to be strong enough to hold out for the rates asked, hence the paucity of transactions. Nothing new in Tea; sales and prices about the same as for the last few weeks, though fully five and a half million pounds more have been shipped this season than last year at same date. Exchange has fluctuated slightly, but the latest movement is again upward and rates close firm.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

COUNT ITO.

THE *Koku-hon* of July 25th again addresses an open letter to Count Ito. The gist of the letter is as follows:—In our last issue, we endeavoured to tell Your Excellency how impatient the public is to see you once more assume the supreme direction of affairs. We hope that you will not take an unfavourable view of our humble recommendations. We should not have been so bold as to offer advice to a statesman of your position, had there not been some questions of vital importance which make the present political situation extremely complicated. In the first place, there is the question of Treaty Revision. Statesmen like Counts Inouye and Okuma having successively failed to bring the negotiations to a successful issue, it is very doubtful whether the present Minister of Foreign Affairs, who has the unfortunate record of having had a share in the failures of his two predecessors, will be any more happy than they. Further, the opening of the Diet is drawing nigh. The coming session will witness animated debates on many exciting questions, such, for instance, as the reduction of public expenditures, the interpretation of the Constitution, the decrease of the land tax, and so forth. Will the present Government be able to remain in harmony with the Diet, when these questions come before the latter? Yet another thing demanding skilful management is the temper of the noble members of the Diet. At the time of their elections, they invited contemptuous criticisms on the part of the public by unbecoming intrigues and unworthy devices to which they resorted for the purpose of getting themselves elected. As a consequence, you know that only yourself and Counts Matsukata and Katsu have been elected, out of the whole number of Counts of recent creation. It is thus evident that a House which is to be constituted of such Members requires extremely dexterous management on the part of the Cabinet. Will the present Ministers be capable of accomplishing this? The consideration of these circumstances has induced us to approach your Excellency at the present juncture. We know that men of Satsuma extraction may regard you as wanting in dogged intrepidity, while those of Choshu origin may blame you as being somewhat indifferent to the interests of your birthplace. On the other hand, the men of Tosa may consider you as a despot, while you may be disliked by the devotees of the *Shinto* cult as a champion of freedom. Each of these coteries only look at your Excellency through the spectacles of prejudice; their occasional complaints can by no means detract from the great services you have rendered to the State. Among all the statesmen of the present day, there is not one who wields a strong influence over so large a number of talented men as your Excellency does. Among financiers, the section led by Count Matsukata is understood to place their confidence in you; while that under the immediate influence of Count Inouye is also desirous of obtaining your help. Among diplomatists you have the support of such men as Viscounts Kawase, Enomoto, Tanaka and Yoshida, and Messrs. Mutsu, Kuki, Watanabe, and Hanabusa. Your Excellency also enjoys the confidence of a number of men known for their devotion to the Imperial House, such, for instance, as Counts Katsu, Soeshima, and Yoshii, Viscount Kaieda, Baron Takasaki, and Messrs. Motoda, Hayashi, Saisho, and Maruyama. Among men credited with legislative ability, you exercise influence over Counts Yamada and Yanagiwara, Senators Murata, Ozaki, and Hosokawa, Messrs. Mitsuaki, Nakashima, Inouye (Ki), Kôno, Kaneko, Ito, Suematsu, and a number of talented persons out of office. You are also on good terms with such military and Naval officers as Generals Saigô, Yamakawa, Takashima, Oyama, and Kawakami, and Admiral Kabayama, and their followers. Moreover, educationalists like Messrs. Nakamura, Kato, Fukuzawa, Hamano, Tsuji, and others also place their confidence in you. Among men of business, you have the support of Messrs. Narabara, Tamura, Morioka,

Hamaoka, Tanaka, Mayeda, Hirokawa, and so forth. Besides these already mentioned, you enjoy the confidence of most of the members of the nobility and of a majority of the men noted for their erudition. Above all, we congratulate you on the happiness of enjoying the confidence of your Imperial Master. We ourselves are also convinced of the disinterested zeal and loyalty with which your Excellency has hitherto responded to the calls of your countrymen."

REPORT OF MR. NAKAHAMA ON THE CHOLERA.

MR. NAKAHAMA, an official expert attached to the Home Department, who was ordered to proceed to Nagasaki at the end of June, returned to the capital on the 16th ultimo. The following is the substance of the report he has made to the Home Office:—"The examination of the matter discharged from the patients has confirmed the presence of the comma bacillus, thus proving the present epidemic to be Asiatic cholera of pure type. Moreover, the case of Idsumito Kiku, the first patient, has been traced to a foreign vessel, in which her husband was employed as a labourer on the day previous to her sickness, while the third patient, Harada Odokichi, was one of the working hands employed by a German vessel, which had come into the port from Hongkong with foreign rice. In regard to the cause of the present epidemic, various surmises have been formed; some persons attributing it to the unwholesome food which the poorer class have been compelled to use owing to the exorbitant price of rice, while others think that germs of endemic cholera were called into activity in consequence of the excavation made for constructing the Nagasaki Water-works. There is, however, no evidence warranting the reference of the disease to these sources. The real cause is evidently communication held with foreign vessels. Shanghai and other places are yearly visited by cholera, various forms of fever have been prevailing this year, and although the existence of cholera among the crews of the vessels referred to above is not proved, little doubt can be entertained that contagion took place through the medium of the cargoes, &c., of those vessels. Thus in Tsunoguchi, nearly every case can be clearly traced to the *Foritomo-maru*, a vessel plying between that place and Shanghai (without going to Nagasaki). Among the victims at that place, Taguchi Fusa and her sister had lovers whom they frequently met among the crew of the vessel, and Mori Matsuburo was a labourer engaged in carrying coal to the same vessel, while Yamazaki Sei was the concubine of the captain. In short, out of the ten cases that appeared there, six have been directly traced to the above-named vessel." We commend these facts to the notice of the very wise journalists who recently informed the public that defective sanitation was the sole cause of cholera in Nagasaki, and that a little good management would soon eradicate the plague.

VISITORS TO THE EXHIBITION.

IN one sense the Industrial Exhibition which was closed on Thursday proved a success: the number of persons who visited it was greater than the number at either of the preceding Exhibitions. The figures are as follow:—

First Exhibition, total number of visitors ...	451,168
Second Exhibition, total number of visitors ...	822,305
Third Exhibition, total number of visitors ...	1,023,691
The last total is made up thus:—	
Complimentary ticket-holders	7,667
Special ticket-holders	42,609
Ordinary visitors	946,802
Students	26,709

An increase of two hundred thousand visitors in 1890, as compared with 1881, though to a certain extent satisfactory, falls considerably below what might have been expected. The facilities for travel are so much greater now than they were nine years ago, that if the exhibition had attracted even two million visitors, no one need have been surprised. Thus, though the vernacular press alludes with satisfaction to the above figures, we must confess that to us they are a disappointment. Indeed, in many respects,

the Exhibition has created a bad impression many foreign observers. It has shown, indeed, that all the old artistic skill of Japan survives and many are turned to excellent account, but it has shown also a lack of business organization which argues ill for the development of the country's resources.

TREATY REVISION AND ENGLISHMEN.

WRITING on the question of treaty revision, which has once more begun to attract public attention, the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* of the 23rd instant addresses to Englishmen a few words of warning. Hitherto, it observes, the United States of America has been the first gate through which every proposal for the revision of the treaties had to pass. But now the plan has been changed, and it is to England that the first appeal is made. Once through this gate, the success of the battle will be secured, but "to carry the gate is a task of immense difficulty." Why is England so tardy to admit Japanese claims? "Simply because," says our contemporary, "England does not know the true worth of our country, or, in other words, because she does not recognize the progress which Japan has made in the past twenty years along the path of Occidental civilization. Are Englishmen blind? Are they deaf? They know the value of Australian hides and Indian jewels, but they do not seem to have eyes to see, or ears to hear of, a country as big as their own, shining by its own light on the horizon of the East. 'To die for the sake of one's true friend' (*onore wo shiru mono no tame ni shisu*), is a principle guiding the conduct of Orientals. You Englishmen ought then to consider what our feelings would be to those who are unfriendly to us. The Japanese may be a prejudiced people, but then they are preëminently patriotic. Thirty years ago, we bore enmity towards foreigners; we considered them little better than beasts, and some of us did not hesitate to kill them wherever we found them. The custom of regarding foreigners as barbarians has long since disappeared, but the instinct of patriotism and the courage to avenge an insult and to resent any ignominy cast upon the honour of the country, cannot be removed from the heart of the nation in the short interval of thirty years. Whether Englishmen preserve their prestige and influence in this country or not, depends entirely upon whether or not they revise their treaty with us on the basis of equality. The continuance of England's commercial ascendancy in Japan cannot but be seriously affected by the course which she may decide to take in respect of this question. It is not a question which England can afford to treat with indifference."

THE "KIUSHU DOSHIKAI."

AMONG the parties pretty largely represented at the recent elections there was one calling itself the *Kiushu Doshikai*, or the fellow-thinkers of Kiushu. It is not easy for foreigners to form a clear idea of the aims and creeds of the many sections into which, through lack of any really inspiring purpose, Japanese politicians are divided, and when a political coterie calls itself by no more distinctive title than that of "fellow-thinkers," the perplexity of outsiders becomes still more marked. With regard to the *Doshikai*, however, we read in the vernacular press that the leading members met, on the 22nd instant, in Fukuoka, and that, under the presidency of Mr. Okada Koroku, they passed various resolutions, constituting themselves a party, and subscribing to the following platform:—(1) That in accordance with the fundamental principles of Constitutional Government, the line of demarcation between the Legislative and the Executive be distinctly drawn; (2) that the Imperial prerogatives be constitutionally determined and the responsibility of Ministers of State towards the Legislature be clearly defined; (3) that the supervisory power (*Kintoku-ken*) of the Legislature over the Executive be satisfactorily determined; (4) that the power of pronouncing upon official measures and of impeachment be vested in the Legislature, as well as the power of judging all questions of national importance; (5) that the national expenditure

be economised and a proper fiscal system organized; (6) that the national income be duly calculated, the system of taxation reformed, and the national resources fostered; (7) that the fiscal system of local Governments be reformed and steps taken to develop local autonomy; (8) that official interference be excluded from the field of commerce and industry, and the system of official protection abandoned; (9) that the Newspaper, Publication and Meetings Regulations be reformed; (10) that the power of the courts and the police be curtailed, and the rights of the subject increased; (11) that the franchise be extended and the manner of determining electoral districts amended.

The meeting also discussed and adopted another schedule of propositions some even more general than the above and some relating to organization. They are as follow:—(1) The Party shall be organized on principles of progress; (2) the party shall devote itself to political reform and to increasing the rights of the people, on the basis of parliamentary government; (3) the members of the party shall not be at liberty to form other political associations at will; (4) the party shall have a place of business; (5) the party shall have a standing committee of 42 members, who shall meet for general purposes in the 3rd month of each year, but special meetings may be held at the request of 18 committee-men or upwards; (6) should it be deemed necessary by the committee in session, a general meeting of the whole party or a meeting of representatives may be summoned; (7) six members shall be chosen from each prefectural organization to constitute the standing committee, and the choice shall be made in a manner suited to local conditions; (8) these rules must not be altered except by a decision of the standing committee. The place of business mentioned in the fourth article has been fixed in Fukuoka, and the Radical Club hitherto established in that city is to be moved elsewhere.

HYPNOTISM.

RECENTLY the *British Medical Journal* published an account of certain experiments into the phenomena attending hypnotism conducted at Leeds in the presence of a large concourse of physicians and surgeons—attention was confined to the use of hypnotism as an anæsthetic during the performance of dental and surgical operations. The absolute insensibility to pain which characterised the operations seems less astonishing than the circumstance that one of the patients is reported to have been hypnotised by a written order. "I send you," wrote Dr. Milne Bramwell, of Goole to the operating dentist, "a patient with enclosed order. When you give it her she will fall asleep at once and obey your commands." The order, which operated with perfect success, was given in the following terms:—"Go to sleep by order of Dr. Bramwell and obey Mr. Terner's commands." An example given by Dr. Charcot of Paris, in a paper which appeared in the *Forum* early this year, indicates the wonderful force of suggestion. He persuaded a hypnotised patient that a sheet of blank paper was his photograph. He next placed the pseudo-photograph among a score of other blank sheets exactly alike, and gave her the pack, telling her to find whether it contained anything she had seen before. As soon as she came to the imaginary photograph she instantly recognised it, and never failed to do so as often as the experiment was repeated. But something more marvellous is to come. The operator had but to express a wish to the patient before awakening her, and "for hours, nay for days, sometimes for weeks," the hallucination survived after the mind had resumed its normal life and function, and she still identified the blank sheet as a portrait. Similarly a criminal "suggestion" may be impressed on the mind of the patient. At the Salpêtrière a paper knife has often been placed in the hands of a hypnotic subject with an order to murder one of the persons present, and on awaking the patient has deliberately and often cunningly attempted to

execute the command. According to MM. Binet and Féré, the colleagues of Dr. Charcot, "the danger of these criminal suggestions is increased by the fact that at the will of the experimenter the act may be accomplished several hours, and even several days after the date of suggestion." Those who act under the influence of suggestion display more daring and courage, and even more intelligence, than when they act from their own impulse. Loss of memory is one chief characteristics of the facts of suggestion, so that the hypnotic subject does not while awake know from whom, when, or how the suggestion was received; and even when hypnotised anew, he will be unable to reveal anything if in the first trance he has received a special suggestion of complete oblivion. Finally, the time required for putting in train a scheme of crime in almost inconceivably brief. "We have observed," write these authorities, "that in the course of fifteen seconds we could throw a subject into a lethargy, and then into somnambulism, suggest an act, and then awake him." To these facilities for the criminal use of hypnotic suggestion it may, apparently, now be added that by means of a fabricated order or telegram an irresponsible third person may assume control of a hypnotic subject. But notwithstanding all these apparent facilities for the perpetration of crime and the security of the criminal, hypnotic suggestion is, according to Dr. Charcot, by no means so simple, safe, and certain a weapon as it at first appears. Even hysterical men, are seldom and only with difficulty hypnotisable. Fit subjects are comparatively few, and they frequently require training—a task which is not easy and which needs time. Moral resistance has next to be taken into account. Some subjects positively refuse to obey even in hypnotic sleep commands which they would resist if awake. Supposing, however, the suggestion—one of murder, for instance—has been accepted. The assassin, overmastered by the suggestion, lies in ambush for his victim. "But if the victim does not pass. What then? Will he put off the crime till the next day? By no means. The victim must be there at the appointed hour, else, as I know very well from repeated experiments, a fit of hysteria will in most cases be the ending of the matter. Or perhaps the subject will have an attack of acute delirium or of babbling mania, very unfortunate for the magnetiser; and this cannot be checked save by counter suggestions that it is always very difficult to make the subject accept." What Dr. Charcot calls "laboratory crimes" are, on the whole, simple operations in which the elements of chance, accident, and circumstances are eliminated; but he greatly doubts the possibility of a scheme of crime being successfully executed in real life by means of hypnotic suggestion. At any rate, no single crime actually committed by these means has, he contends, ever been discovered. Whatever hypnotism may in the future contribute, under any of its aspects, to our knowledge or advantage, there can be no doubt that its use by the ignorant and irresponsible is as dangerous and often as disastrous as its phenomena are attractive. Dr. Charcot asserts that the course of the mesmeric showman may be traced from city to city by the nervous maladies and mental diseases which he leaves behind him; and there is little doubt that the results of private experiment, prompted by mere curiosity or performed simply for amusement, are of the same mischievous character.

THE "TEN-SOKU."

THE *Ten-soku*, which has hitherto been edited entirely by Mr. Kato Hiroyuki, has been transferred to the joint editorship of the members of the Tetsugaku Kenkyu Kwai (Association for Philosophical Investigations), of which Mr. Kato is President. The change became advisable in consequence of his appointment to the position of President of the Imperial University. In the first number under the new management, Mr. Kato writes about Natural Laws and explains the mode of their operation in the human as well as the physical world. Mr. Inouye Enryō,

a Buddhist philosopher, defines the term *tetsugaku* (philosophy) about which some erroneous notions are popularly entertained. The next article is on Industrial Depression, by Mr. Hamada Kenjiro. He alludes to the periodical occurrence of trade depression in Japan, and explains at some length the theory advanced by Mill, Jevons, and other economists of the English school. Lastly, Mr. Suzuki Kentaro contributes an essay on Man, which is a mere collection of questions relating to the origin and destiny of the human race. A few reviews of current publications, two or three poems, and some comments on current events, complete the table of contents. Judging from this number, we cannot say that the magazine has acquired greater interest or developed additional merit under its new management, but we may fairly hope that in future times, the members of the Tetsugaku Kenkyu Kwai will show themselves more competent to maintain the high standard which the *Ten-soku* always preserved under the sole editorship of Mr. Kato.

SHIMA SPRINGS.

As the hot weather comes, spa-going has become the order of the day. Those who are ruraly inclined, may take interest in the following letter from a correspondent of the *Yiji Shimo* at Shima thermal springs in Joshiu, dated the 23rd ult.:—"At present, visitors number about two hundred, most of them country people. The temperature is comfortable; all that could be desired, in fact, for ease and for the purpose of idling. In the hottest part of the day the mercury stands at a point ranging between eighty-five and seventy degrees Fah. The Tokyo mail gets here in a day. Tokyo visitors desiring to come here should take the first train bound for Kodsuke, and alight at Takasaki, whence the trip to this place can be accomplished before sunset.

A "SOSHI" AND THE CHIEF OF THE POLICE.

A GENTLEMAN, by name Sugeno Michichika, who is apparently a leader of the Osaka *Soshi*, though we confess with humiliation that his name only now becomes known to us, has interviewed Viscount Tanaka, Chief of the Metropolitan Police, with results which the *Hochi Shimbun* describes as calculated to produce a wholesome and satisfying effect on the mind of the representative of physical force. Received very courteously, Mr. Sugeno opened the conversation by enquiring whether the harsh measures of repression adopted by the police towards the *Soshi* were planned by the Cabinet or whether Viscount Tanaka alone was responsible. "In the latter event," the visitor proceeded to remark, "I have to remind you that even though we *Soshi* be thrown into prison, others will know how to proceed." To this curious query and its accompanying intimation, Viscount Tanaka replied that the Chief of Police acts on the authority of his office, and that he does not consult the Cabinet except in cases of exceptional gravity. Up to the present all his action had been taken without any reference to the Cabinet. He denied, however, that any harsh measures had been adopted. The only object kept in view had been to prevent disturbance. Let the *Soshi* be ever so clever, they could not have thoroughly thought out every problem. "I too, in my youth," the Viscount added, "yielding to the impetuosity that accompanies juvenility, often resorted to perilous proceedings, and when, from the standpoint of my present experience, I look back upon those times, I see how much I erred. No one, therefore, is less likely to resort to severe measures of repression, towards those who only repeat the mistakes he once made himself. Mr. Sugeno then went on to enquire what course the Government intended to pursue when the Diet assembled, but upon that topic Viscount Tanaka would give no information except that, while desiring and hoping to follow a lenient course, the Government would know how to proceed should emergencies arise. To this Mr. Sugeno replied that as the *Soshi* were inspired by purely patriotic motives, there was no fear of

their disturbing the peace, and he therefore hoped that the power of their police would not be lightly employed against them. But Viscount Tanaka answered that the power of the police had not been lightly employed in the past, and that he, on his side, hoped to see the *Soshi* conduct themselves with such honest consideration for the national welfare as to obviate all occasion for the exercise of that power. Mr. Sugeno is said to have retired content, a fact which indicates that his nature is not exacting. It is certain that since Viscount Tanaka's assumption of office as Chief of Police, the public has heard very little of the doings of *Soshi*.

THE IMPERIAL NOMINEES IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

WITH regard to the members of the House of Peers who remain to be nominated by His Majesty the Emperor for meritorious services to the State or for erudition, the *Mainichi Shimbun* says that things have not fallen out quite as the public had expected. The general idea was that as the Emperor might be expected to confer the honour of nomination upon the titled members of the Senate, the Peers, in electing representatives from their several Orders, would avoid voting for Senators. It was found, however, that no such precaution commended itself to the Peers, for, with a very few exceptions, they cast their ballots for the titled members of the Senate. Many conjectures are consequently afloat as to the persons upon whom the Imperial choice will fall. The *Mainichi* avers that Mr. Fukuzawa and Mr. Iwasaki Yanosuke are generally talked of, and it is certain that foreign opinion would strongly endorse such a selection. We have often spoken of Mr. Fukuzawa, and expressed the hope that his eloquence and erudition might find a fitting field for their display in the Diet, while with regard to Mr. Iwasaki Yanosuke, considered in respect of the immense services he has rendered the country by developing her resources, and the benefit he has conferred on the reputation of her business-men for enterprise and integrity, his nomination to the House of Peers would be universally applauded. But we are persuaded that, however high the honour of being thus selected by the Sovereign, neither Mr. Iwasaki nor Mr. Fukuzawa covets it. The latter is resolutely wedded to his often expressed wish of standing aloof from politics, for the present at all events, and the former is one of those rare men who, with all the means and temptations to live a life of ease, are nevertheless unable to separate themselves from business. Doubtless this is one of the secrets of Mr. Iwasaki's success, and being a person who never puts his hand to anything unless he can be sure of giving it a measure of earnest energy, he would probably regard nomination to the Upper House with no sort of satisfaction.

DISSOLUTION OF THE "DAIDO DANKETSU" AND "JIYU-TO" PARTIES.

LAST Wednesday was the day on which the *Daido Danketsu* and the *Jiyu-to* were to take final action in regard to the question of dissolving their respective party organizations as a preliminary step toward the much talked-of triple alliance. Since the consummation of this alliance scheme depended directly upon the issue of Wednesday's deliberations, it was watched with keen interest. From the report of the *Kokumin Shimbun*, we learn that the *Daido Danketsu* party opened an official meeting, in which the resolution to dissolve was adapted by a large majority. A few, however, including Messrs. Suehiro, the present editor of the *Daido Shimpō*, Inouye Kakugoro, and Oye Taku, objected to this course. Some of them even went so far as to express their willingness to ally with the *Aikoku-to* and the *Jiyu-to*. But the provincial members of the *Daido Club* supported almost in a body the resolution to dissolve, and, after much discussion, succeeded in carrying their point. Commenting on this, the editor of the *Kokumin* observes that, the *Daido Danketsu* having now taken this final move, the triple alliance is a foregone con-

clusion, and the time is not far off when we shall see the grand alliance of all progressive parties successfully accomplished. As to the movements of the *Jiyu-to*, the *Yomiuri Shimbun* reports that Messrs. Oi, Naido, Kiyama, Arai, and others convened a meeting in the Fujimiro, and formally resolved to dissolve the *Jiyu-to*. Some of the members expressed a desire to establish a social club, but this proposition was rejected on the ground that it might wound the feelings of others.

FATAL ACCIDENT ON THE "OMAHA."

AN accident resulting in the death of two of the crew of the U.S.S. *Omaha* occurred on board that vessel on Wednesday afternoon, while at rapid firing practice off Ōwari Bay. The occurrence took place while the crew of one of the starboard guns, a Dahlgren 9-in. muzzle loader, were ramming home a projectile, and it is supposed that a spark had remained in the chamber from the previous charge. Both sponger and loader were killed by the discharge, the former, J. E. Kirke, being blown clean from the ship, while the latter, Carl Emanuelson, a Swede, was frightfully injured, the top of his skull being destroyed, his left arm torn off, and his chest crushed. Kirke, who was a native of Baltimore, was 31 years of age, and Emanuelson was 27 years of age. Both men were much liked by their officers and comrades, and the sad occurrence is most deeply felt by the whole ship's company. The Admiral, we are informed, has returned to the port to hold an inquiry into the accident.

THE CONTRACT FOR THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.

WHILE Count Inouye occupied the office of President of the Temporary Construction Board, a proposal to build the Houses of Parliament on the Hibiya Parade Ground, at a cost, to be defrayed in ten years, of yen 8,160,000, found considerable favour with the authorities. The German style of architecture was believed to be most suitable, and in order that nothing should be wanting to secure success the work was entrusted to the German firm of Messrs. Indo and Beckman, who came to Japan in 1886, and after making surveys entered into a contract with the Japanese Government. One of the conditions of this contract was that yen 30,000 should be paid annually for five years as the cost of drawing plans, &c., and that Mr. James and other four persons should be employed to conduct surveys, on allowances of four or five hundred yen each per annum during the same period. On Viscount Yamao assuming charge of the Temporary Construction Board exception was taken to this arrangement on the score of its very great expense, which it was felt ought not to be incurred in view of the empire's financial position. The five persons mentioned were dismissed, receiving their salaries in full for the five years, and the firm of architects were notified of the determination of the contract. They are understood now, however, to decline abrogation of the contract, and the Authorities, according to the *Hochi Shimbun*—from which we take the above story—are a good deal embarrassed as to the course which they ought to pursue.

GENERAL GRANT'S ENTERTAINMENT.

OF course there is not a grain of truth in the statement gravely made by a correspondent of one of our local contemporaries that "the poor of Tokyo were so ground down by a special tax to pay for the entertainment of General Grant that they were driven to the necessity of selling their clothes to pay for it." It is surprising that grown men can be found credulous enough to believe such silly canards, and that newspapers can be reckless enough to publish them. The facts about entertainments to General Grant are that Messrs. Masuda, Shibusawa, Okura, and others, "citizens of Tokyo" as they called themselves, held a meeting at which a committee was appointed, and subscriptions were then and there raised to the amount of from sixty to seventy thousand yen. The contributions were purely voluntary, the subscribers being bankers, business men, and well-to-do folks of the capital.

This sum was subsequently increased largely by further voluntary contributions. The Government had nothing whatever to do with the matter, and the poor did not pay one *sen*, voluntarily, or by way of tax. The idea of entertaining General Grant on his arrival in Tokyo originated with Mr. Masuda, and was prompted by a desire to return the civility shown by the citizens of New York to the first Japanese embassy to America. The fêtes at Ueno, the theatrical performance at Shintomiza, the ball at the Kobu-daigakko, and so forth were all paid for out of these voluntary subscriptions, and no tax of any kind was levied for the purpose. The correspondent signing himself, "British Subject," who makes the above extraordinary statement, and supplements it by the still stranger comment that if "General Grant had known how the money was obtained, he would not have remained in the country an hour after the departure of the first steamer that could take him away," has been the means of disseminating a gross error, and will doubtless regret his mistake sincerely.

GERMANY AND AUSTRIA.

IN an article on Count Andrassy that has just appeared in the June number of *North and South*, a widely read German magazine, the curtain hitherto veiling the inner history of the negotiations that led to the German-Austrian alliance has been partly drawn aside, and we are told that the terms of this famous treaty did not altogether correspond to Prince Bismarck's wishes. The latter, according to the authority quoted, urged Austria to assume the obligation to aid Germany even in case of a war with France alone, a proposal opposed by Count Andrassy on the ground that he could not guarantee its execution should it be accepted; so much, he said, would such an obligation be at variance with the sentiments of Emperor Francis Joseph's subjects. Prince Bismarck, however, who in the first article of the treaty had bound Germany with all her military forces to aid Austria in case of an attack by Russia, insisted that it was the express wish of his Emperor that Austria should render Germany the same service *vis-à-vis* France, and added that the alliance itself probably depended on this one point. Count Andrassy then declared that, in case of hopeless disagreement on that point, he was ready to ask his Emperor to name another negotiator in his stead; as for himself he could not conscientiously put his name to a treaty the chief stipulation of which, according to his firm conviction, was altogether impossible of execution. For days this one point was the one difficulty of the negotiations, and the hope of a satisfactory result gradually vanished. All things have an end, and Bismarck's departure was at hand. The day before, the *Hôtel Impérial* was once more the scene of anxious but useless negotiations lasting till midnight. Andrassy wearied and exhausted, retired to Schönbrunn, with the conviction that nothing had been and, indeed, that nothing could be done. The next day, early in the morning, Bismarck appeared in Andrassy's residence: once more he urged his proposal, once more the old arguments were passed in review. The Austrian premier, though not without fear and misgivings, remained firm. Bismarck, getting more and more excited, finally exclaimed in a loud voice: "In case you are irrevocably opposed to this, well then," here followed a long pause—"I'll put my name to the treaty as it is."

THE OFFICIAL INTERPRETATION OF THE NEW PUBLIC MEETINGS, ETC., LAW.

MESSRS. KONO HIRONAKA, Suehiro Shigeyasu, Oye Taku, Inouye Kakugoro, and other leading members of the *Daido Club*, were summoned on Friday morning last to the police office of the Kyobashi district and were informed that they must take speedy steps to abolish the *Koin Club*, since it is regarded by the Authorities as a combination of political associations in direct conflict with Article 28 of the Law of Meetings and Political Associations. They were told that the Authorities refrained from adopting legal measures against them in consideration of

the fact that the *Koin* Club had been formed previously to the publication of the law, and also because the Government did not wish to exercise severity in political matters. They were therefore given a week's time for careful consideration before being required to declare a definite course in respect of this matter. They were also warned of the illegality of the intention ascribed to them of forming an alliance of all the progressive parties. On the same day, Messrs. Kataoka Kenkichi, Sugita Teiichi, Uyeki Yemori, and two other representatives of the *Aikokuko* Party were summoned to the Atagoshita Police Office, where they were ordered within one week either to dissolve their party organization, or to give to the proper authority the intimation required by the Law of Public Meetings and Political Associations. Simultaneously with the above proceedings, the police served the same summons on prominent members of the *Jiyu-to* and the *Kaishin-to*, and admonished them in regard to the alliance of the progressive parties.

THE FIXED EXPENDITURES.

A SPECIAL issue of the *Official Gazette* of Monday reported the promulgation of a law, in regard to the fixed expenditures referred to in Art. 67 of the Constitution, which has for some time past formed the subject of political discussion both in official and journalistic circles. The following is a translation of the text of the law:—

We, with the advice of our Privy Council, hereby give our sanction to subsidiary Regulations of the Law of Finance, and order the same to be duly promulgated.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual).
(Great Seal).

Dated August 2nd, 1890.

(Countersigned)

Count YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.

Count SAIGO TSUKUMICHI,
Minister of State for Home Affairs.

Count YAMADA AKIYOSHI,
Minister of State for Justice.

Count MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of State for Finance.

Count OYAMA IWAO,
Minister of State for War.

Count GOTO SHOJIRO,
Minister of State for Communications.

Viscount AOKI SHUZO,
Minister of State for Foreign Affairs.

Viscount KABAYAMA SUKENORI,
Minister of State for the Navy.

YOSHIKAWA AKIMASA,
Minister of State for Education.

MUTSU MUNEMITSU,
Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

LAW No. 57.

Art. 1.—The following items of expenditure included in the estimate of the annual expenditures for the 23rd year of Meiji, shall be treated in the budget of the 24th year of Meiji, as the Fixed Expenditures provided in Art. 67 of the Constitution:—

- (1.) The salaries of civil and military officers, and allowances granted to civil officers on retiring from office.
- (2.) Expenses for the maintenance of the army, the navy, the gendarmerie, and the Colonial Militia.
- (3.) Expenses for decorations, pensions, and rewards.
- (4.) Expenditures arising from the operation of treaties and agreements concluded with foreign countries.
- (5.) The current expenses, and the ordinary expenses for repairs, of government offices.

Art. 2.—The following items of expenditure based upon laws and ordinances promulgated before the opening of the Imperial Diet, shall be regarded as the "expenditures arising by the effect of laws":—

- (1.) The expenses for the Imperial Diet.
- (2.) The ordinary expenses for Courts of Law, and for the Board of Audit.
- (3.) Allowances granted for good service, and superannuation.
- (4.) Expenses for military conscription.
- (5.) Expenses for the collection of taxes and revenue.

- (6.) Prison expenses.
- (7.) Expenses for matters relating to communications, and for marks and signals for navigation.
- (8.) Expenses for shipwrecked vessels, both native and foreign.
- (9.) The local expenses of Okinawa Prefecture (Riukiu) and Ogasawara-jima (Bonin Islands).
- (10.) Famine Relief Fund (*Biko Chochiku*).
- (11.) Expenses for the purchase of land in Hokkaido sold by the Government.
- (12.) Rewards and relief funds.

Art. 3.—The following items of expenditure shall be treated in the budget for the 24th year of Meiji as the "Expenditures arising from the legal obligations of the Government," according to the provision made in the second paragraph of Art. 67 of the Constitution.

- (1.) Expenses for shrines and temples.
- (2.) Expenses for redeeming public loans, their interest, and expenses connected with paying the same.
- (3.) Subsidies annually granted on public works and police expenses in different places, in compliance with ordinances which have already gone into operation.
- (4.) Various kinds of pension bonds of Okinawa Prefecture.
- (5.) Subsidies and guarantees given to various enterprises of navigation, railroads, manufactures, and industries, as well as to schools and hospitals.
- (6.) The salaries, rewards and grants (*oukin oyubi tei ate*) for foreigners in the Government employment.
- (7.) Legal damages and costs.
- (8.) Moneys to be paid back.
- (9.) Expenses for the management of money in the Treasury.
- (10.) Interest on money in the Government's keeping (*adsuke kin*).
- (11.) Rent of buildings and lots which have already been hired.

Art. 4.—Expenses relating to Government undertakings requiring several years for completion, which have been provided for in the Budget before the 23rd year of Meiji, and which cannot be completed before the 24th year, shall be regarded as continuing expenditures.

It may be assumed that before committing itself by Imperial Rescript to a hard and fast definition of the interpretation of Article Sixty-seven, the Cabinet gave the fullest consideration to this important matter. For some time rumour had assigned to Ministers the intention of supplementing the much disputed article by an ordinance, but public opinion, very freely expressed in the newspapers, was against any such step, and we scarcely expected that it would be taken. But the Government is under the necessity of laying an annual Budget before Parliament, and to compile the Budget involved a practical decision as to the significance of Article Sixty-seven. Apparently it has been deemed expedient to clothe that decision with conclusive authority by the endorsement of an Imperial Rescript. Parliament will now be precluded from raising any question as to the construction of the Budget in respect of Article Sixty-seven. We should have thought, however, that the same end might have been obtained for all practical purposes without recourse to the special issue of a Rescript, for any Budget, compiled by the Minister of Finance with the approval of the Cabinet, and submitted to the Diet in the name of the Government, must have been accepted as embodying the Emperor's interpretation of the Law of Finance. But the Government must be assumed to know its own business best. It doubtless foresaw that nothing short of the issue of this Rescript could prevent inconvenient discussion.

With regard to the interpretation put on the 67th Article, our readers will observe that it tallies almost exactly with that given in Count Ito's Commentary on the Constitution. Count Ito's words are:—"Ordinary expenditures required by the organization of the different branches of the Administration and by that of the Army and Navy, the salaries of all civil and military officers, and expenditures that may be required in consequence of treaties concluded with foreign countries, are to be regarded as expenditures based by the Constitution upon the powers

appertaining to the Emperor." Among "expenditures that have arisen by the effect of law," he includes "the expenses of the Houses of the Diet, annual allowances and other miscellaneous allowances to the members, pensions, annuities, expenses and salaries required by the organization of offices determined by law, and other expenses of a like nature;" while "expenditures that appertain to the legal obligations of the Government" are stated to be "interest on the national debt, redemption of the same, subsidies or guarantees to companies, expenses necessitated by the civil obligations of the Government, compensations of all kinds, and the like." It thus appears, as indeed might have been anticipated, that the drafters of the recent Law have strictly adhered to the intention of the Constitution interpreted by its principal framer.

THE AMENDED MEETINGS REGULATIONS.

Writing of the Amended Meetings Regulations, the *Mainichi Shimbun* while noting various respects in which the new enactment shows improvement on the old law, describes the provision excluding women and minors from participation in political meetings as a point involving considerable severity. Our contemporary finds itself unable to understand why the Government should prohibit women from listening to speeches, and why combination of and communication between parties should not be allowed. The provision, also, requiring 48 hours' notice of a meeting seems to be uncalled for. As a whole, however, the amendments embodied in the new regulations are distinctly on lines of improvement, and while congratulating the public as well as the Authorities on this fact, the *Mainichi* hopes to see the spirit of tolerance more largely introduced in the treatment accorded to the press by official circles.

The *Hochi Shimbun*, while admitting that the tendency of the new measure is undoubtedly less in the direction of severity, looks forward to still greater freedom in the future, for in the present state of the public mind the *Hochi* finds nothing but cause for regret in anything that may tend to give rise to ill feeling or resentment towards the Authorities. Our contemporary desires greater moderation in connection with the articles prohibiting the sending out of letters or delegates in advocacy of a party's principles, and combination or correspondence by parties, regarding these restrictions as not only useless but tending to introduce inconvenience and obstruction in the new era of constitutional government.

The *Daido Shimbun* thinks that the work of legislating for the matters covered by these regulations should fall more properly within the scope of the Imperial Diet. The *Daido* condemns the provision excluding women from political meetings; that which forbids meetings and processions within three miles of the Houses of Parliament while the latter are in session; and that which prohibits combination and communication between parties. The progress of society, the Tokyo journal thinks, necessarily involves the coming forward of women in political matters; the limit within which crowds may not meet and move about should be reduced to ten *cho*; while the third restriction is unnecessarily harassing, and must interfere with the natural growth and development of parties.

JAPAN AND CHICAGO.

The *Fiji Shimpō*, always watching for opportunities to advance the material interests of the nation, calls attention to the importance of making full preparations for the International Exhibition, to be held in Chicago in 1893. The United States is Japan's best customer, being the largest purchaser of Japanese staples. In the countries of the Old World, people have long been educated to admire a certain style of fine arts. Taste and skill are fully developed there on fixed lines. As a natural consequence, men are very slow to appreciate the value and beauty of Japanese fine art. Even if they de-

fect some features that command their admiration, they modify and transform them to suit their own canons of art. Therefore the most that Japan can expect from the display of her objects of art in European exhibitions is the hollow fame of being endowed with artistic taste. No substantial benefit results in the way of obtaining a market. But it is entirely different in the case of the United States. America is a new country keenly engrossed with the business of practical life. A large portion of the inhabitants are only emigrants from the lower orders of European society. These, having no predilection for any special style of fine arts, are apt to become admirers of purely Japanese articles. The display of Japan's fine art articles in the Philadelphia Exhibition resulted in the creation of a large market in the eastern part of the States. But in this eastern regions of America, the population is increasing and labour becomes more abundant year by year, so that it has become possible to supply local wants by local manufactures instead of purchasing from abroad. There is consequently little prospect of maintaining, much less of widening, Japan's market in these sections of the Republic. But in the great West, thousands of broad acres replete with undeveloped resources still wait to absorb the whole energy of the people in the busy pursuits of practical life. There men have no time to spare for the cultivation of fine art and the manufacture of decorative articles. For such things they must depend entirely on foreign supply. Moreover, these people are mostly men of great wealth, possessing an enormous amount of purchasing power and very fond of displaying their riches, as is only too natural in the case of persons who have acquired sudden opulence. What stupendous encouragement would be given to Japan's foreign trade, could she only succeed in making the inhabitants of the Western States appreciate the true merits of her industrial arts! The Chicago Exhibition affords just the needed opportunity for attaining this most desirable end. By its means Japanese artists can display the riches of their taste and genius. It must be borne in mind, however, that articles of true merit cannot be produced in the course of a few months or even years. This, then, is the time to begin preparations in order to utilize so rare an opportunity. As a preliminary and most essential step, our Tokyo contemporary recommends that the executive commissioners of the present Exhibition should exert every effort to impress upon the minds of exhibitors the great importance and advantage of showing their artistic skill to the American public in the coming exhibition of Chicago.

We do not wish to write a word that can be construed in the sense of deterring Japanese art artisans from following the wholesome advice given by the *Jiji Shimpō*. It is vitally necessary that they should put forth all their energies to make a worthy display at the Chicago Exhibition, for they will there have an exceptional opportunity of appealing, not to America alone, but to the whole world. Nevertheless, our respected contemporary's enthusiasm carries it beyond the boundaries of veracity. What is meant by saying that the artistic taste of Europe, fitted to a conservative groove, is incapable of appreciating the beautiful novelty of Japanese style, and that a wide market for this country's objects of art cannot be looked for in the Old World? How singular is this misapprehension, and how painful the ingratitude underlying it. Will the *Jiji Shimpō* pause for a moment and consider gravely who have been the exponents of Japanese Art, and who its introducers to the Occidental world. Anderson, Franks, Gouse, Rein, Audsley and Bowes, Huish, Dresser, Conder, Cutler, the Editors of *Artistic Japan*—are not these the men who have taught the world the alphabet of Japanese art, and is it not through the labours of these men and these men only that her artistic genius has been interpreted and proclaimed? Judged by the standard of published work, there is not so much as one American citizen who can claim to belong to the first rank of Japan's

art apostles. By and by we anticipate that Professor Fenollosa and perhaps Professor Morse will greatly modify this verdict, but our present business is with accomplished facts not with eventualities, and from that point of view it is beyond dispute that Englishmen, Frenchmen, and Germans have been the Western exponents of Japanese art. Turning to the more practical question of a market, we assert, with equal confidence that Paris and London, not New York, are the great centres of demand for Japanese objects of art. The American collector, with the true instinct of a decorative furnisher, seeks above all things for fine Chinese porcelains, and cares comparatively little for the less striking though more exquisitely finished productions of old Japan. It is not so with the Frenchman or Englishman. He is an eager buyer of everything Japanese that is really fine and that dates from an era prior to the Restoration, and it is to France and England that the great bulk of Japan's choicest *chefs-d'œuvre* have found their way. American taste remains to be educated, and if the opportunity of the Chicago Exhibition can be utilized for that purpose, the benefit to Japan will be immense. Thus our contention does not militate in any degree against the recommendation of the *Jiji Shimpō*, though we have thought it right to protest against some of that journal's statements.

ACCIDENT TO THE "DAIMOYO" SCIENTIFIC PARTY. News has come from Misaki, whither the *Daimyo*, as we mentioned the other day, had gone with a scientific party, of a rather serious accident, which has abruptly cut short the programme of Professor West and his guests. It seems that on Tuesday arrangements had been made to conduct a series of experiments with apparatus designed to take submarine photographs. *Daimyo* was moored about two miles off Misaki in the position where the experiments were to be carried and a boat containing the gear had been brought out from the shore, with Professors Burton and Mitsukuri on board. When the boat came alongside *Daimyo*, her sando jumped on board, and in doing so upset the gear which instantly exploded. It should be said that the photographic apparatus was designed to be operated by the agency of an explosive put up in a glass bottle. The effect of the explosion was to seriously injure *Daimyo's* sando about the body while Professor Burton was a good deal hurt about the legs. The gear, which was very valuable, went to the bottom but was afterwards recovered. As showing the power of the explosion it may be stated that the report was heard at Misaki, two miles away.

THE SUSPENSION OF THREE TOKYO PAPERS.

THREE of the metropolitan dailies, the *Choya Shimbun*, the *Miyako Shimbun*, and the *Nippon*, were recently placed under the ban of suspension on the ground of having circulated opinions prejudicial to peace and good order. The offence of the *Nippon* does not, strictly speaking, seem to be political, the obnoxious article being, so far as we can judge, one in which the military authorities are spoken of as being steeped in corruption in pecuniary matters. So far as the *Nippon* is concerned, therefore, the public does not attach much importance to the stringent measure taken against it. But criticism is pretty busy about the propriety of the official measure in respect of the suspension of the other two papers, for in their case there is no doubt that the offence consists in an attempt to discredit the present Government, and the nature of an offence of this kind naturally appears in different lights to men differently situated. Apart from the question whether the Authorities have acted wisely in giving importance to what, without much danger, might perhaps have been left to its own fate, we may observe that the *Choya* lately took much pains to prove that the present Cabinet is in a state of hopeless embarrassment, that it is deserted and attacked by its own servants, and in effect that its authority is gone. Such seems, on the most favourable construction, to be the object of the two

articles in our contemporary's issues of the 21st and 22nd ultimo; for, although the issue officially declared obnoxious is that of the latter date, we cannot separate from the offence a remarkable article in the issue of the preceding day. As to the *Miyako Shimbun*, it assumed a tone somewhat similar to that of the *Choya*. In an article entitled "Difficulties of the Cabinet," it took the trouble to map out three courses of policy, either one of which the Government might pursue in view of the approaching opening of the Diet: first to servilely obey the dictates of the Diet; secondly, to stand aloof from the Diet altogether; and thirdly, to remain in office by contending against the opposition according to parliamentary methods. The first course no manly Government could stoop to adopt. As to the second course, the *Miyako* thought that it would be impracticable, for to pursue such a line of policy the Government would have either to manage the Opposition in the Diet with a skill and authority not apparently possessed by the present Cabinet, or to resort to a military despotism incompatible with the representative system of government inaugurated by the grace of the Emperor. The third and last course, our contemporary declared the Government entirely disqualified to pursue, the present Ministers being most of them more skilled to command troops than to wield the pen or wag the tongue. "The Cabinet being unable to pursue any of these courses," the *Miyako* continued, "is it then doomed to perish? We answer, such is about the fate of the present Government." In conclusion, however, our contemporary condescended to charitably advise "the clan Cabinet" to rally its forces, small as they are, and try the last chances of parliamentary warfare, "for it is more manly to dare death bravely than to timidly await its advent." It is plain that according to the present system of press censorship, such articles as these were most unlikely to escape official censure. If the Government's control of newspapers have any vitality whatever, the *Choya* and the *Miyako* were doomed to suffer. Of course their fate has awakened the usual chorus of foreign critics who hold the press sacred, and have persuaded themselves to think that its complete freedom is a crucial test of civilization. Perhaps they are right, but of one thing we are quite certain, namely, that the conduct of free newspapers does not always redound to the credit of civilization.

THE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE HEALTH BUREAU ON CHOLERA.

THE *Hochi Shimbun* reports and comments upon a speech delivered the other day by the Superintendent of the Sanitary Bureau (Mr. Nagayo Sensai) on the treatment of cholera. Mr. Nagayo said the principle involved in recent amendments of the rules governing the treatment of cholera, was the withdrawal of power and responsibility from the police, and their transference to the medical faculty. The carrying out of methods of disinfection, etc., must now be performed by members of a patient's family under medical orders, while other steps that do not come within the province of a medical man are delegated to neighbours. The functions of the police, then, are mainly of inspection, and when necessary of guidance. Formerly patients had to be conveyed to a disinfecting station (*hihyo-in*) in accordance with the orders of the police, but now only those who cannot be properly treated in their own houses, or who wish to go to hospital, or people residing in hotels need be subjected to removal. By this means it is hoped to banish from the public mind that fear of removal to the hospital which has been found in many cases to lead to concealment of disease. In short the new rules dispense as much as possible with official interference, and encourage the people to act for themselves in cases of emergency. Our contemporary applauds the spirit that has prompted the changes thus described, and urges on the Authorities the advisability of requiring the public to elect—in addition to the official medical staff—several local doctors for each

ward, who may be expected to more successfully inculcate on the residents of their particular locality the nature of their responsibilities, and who will at any rate be generally acquainted with the condition of neighbouring families.

JAPANESE WALL-PAPER.

JAPANESE wall-paper made in imitation of leather first came before the foreign public at the Austrian Exhibition of 1871, but its capabilities were so imperfectly understood at that time that its exhibitor, Mr. Yamada Jirobei, offered it as a substitute for carpeting. It was then made in pieces 36 feet long, and of various widths, but though its superior quality evoked favourable notice it failed to commend itself as a floor covering, being too thin and fragile for such a purpose. From an English gentleman, however, who had observed the adaptability of the fabric as wall-paper, Mr. Yamada received an order, and subsequently a small export business was done in the article. In 1877 Mr. Yamada exhibited 200 rolls in the Paris Exhibition, and in the following year, attention having been directed to the product, employment in the Government Printing Bureau was offered to him which, however, he refused. About this period various competitors entered the field, and bad workmanship soon caused a decrease in the export business. Mr. Yamada in his attempts to maintain the quality of his manufacture being reduced by the high rate of wages and price of materials, to applying to the Department of Agriculture and Commerce for financial aid. This he obtained in the form of a grant of yen 30,000, and by its means he was able to produce a paper which gained a second class silver medal in the Second Industrial Exhibition of 1887, and he has now received a first class prize of merit in the Exhibition just closed. Mr. Yamada owns five factories, in which he employs a thousand hands.

THE "JIJI SHIMPO'S" ADVICE TO THE GOVERNMENT AND THE DIET.

We do not doubt that the following advice of the *Jiji Shimpō* has the endorsement of many sober-minded Japanese. The editor writes thus:—"Now that the elections are over and the opening of the Imperial Diet is near at hand, both the Government and the people are busy preparing for the coming event, and the political world is roused to unwonted life and activity. The Authorities have, indeed, been engaged for years past making preparations for this great crisis, but now being brought face to face with its actuality, they may naturally find that their foresight was not quite equal to the occasion. Thus, while we fully recognize the necessity imposed on them of making as many preparations as may appear prudent, we cannot, at the same time, think that mere preparations based on theoretical estimates will enable them to successfully weather the coming storm. It is of the greatest importance that they should set before them a definite line of action for their guidance through all phases of practical affairs with which the Diet may concern itself. We are informed that the Government, being specially anxious to be well prepared in matters relating to the budget, entertain the idea of defining by laws and ordinances the exact limits of the so-called "fixed expenditures," that the Diet may have no opportunity to interfere with this part of the budget. We do not gainsay the Government's wisdom in being very cautious *vis-à-vis* the first representative body, but to convene the Diet and yet to try to restrain its action by such measures, is, we venture to assert, just as improper and injudicious as to extend to a full-grown man the treatment of a child. We do not at all pretend to deny the very serious blunder of leaving in the hands of the Assembly the fate of vitally important expenditures, such for instance as those for the national defence upon which our very existence as a State must depend. But we cannot persuade ourselves that the Japanese Diet is capable of claiming any control of such questions. Even on the supposition that such a thing may possibly, and contrary to all expectation, come to pass, surely the Government will

still have time to take a firm stand. It would be highly injudicious to fetter the action of the legislative body simply in deference to the apprehension of such a remote possibility. The true foundation of a Government's strength *vis-à-vis* a representative body lies in the confidence of the country. This foundation once laid, there will be no occasion to be disturbed by any hostile mood of the opposition. To take refuge in the set terms of laws and ordinances for controlling the Diet, is by no means a measure well calculated to inspire the nation with confidence. From from accomplishing its purpose, such a measure could not fail to engender a spirit of discontent and hostility, and thus defeat its own end. From these considerations, it is our earnest hope that the Government will take an open-hearted and manly attitude towards the Diet, giving to the latter's action the same full scope that they claim for their own. Turning now to the Diet itself, we wish to remark that at present political parties exist only in name in our country. Mere cliques there are, magnified into political parties under various high sounding names, but a grand organization with a really efficient following is a thing yet unseen in Japan. Moreover, the members of these little parties, as well as persons professing independence, have formed no definite plan of action to guide their movements in the Diet. All their efforts thus far have been to secure a seat in the House, not to hold it, when secured. We need not dwell upon the evil consequences that will inevitably follow, if members representing so many little cliques and divergent views should make the Diet an arena for petty strife. Some of them have doubtless given pledges to their constituencies, but should they, in order to redeem these pledges, be disposed to place undue importance upon matters of such comparatively minor consideration as the reduction of the Government expenses, the number of officials and so forth, and should they raise clamorous debates on the floor of the first Parliament, the only result will be to lower the dignity of Japan's first representative body as well as to destroy their own reputation. In short, as the members of the coming Diet have had no time to arrange among themselves any plan of united action this year, they will be very apt to follow the bent of their own fancies, like an army having no discipline. To advance to the attack with such disorganised forces would be a fatal error of tactics. The Diet's best plan will be to act on the defensive rather than on the offensive, and to take every precaution to strengthen its position. Instead of attacking the Government it should seek to erect a strong line of fortifications round its rights and privileges with full determination to dispute every inch of ground in case of encroachment. Such a course would not only be tactically the most advantageous, but would also tend to lay a permanent foundation of future parliamentary strength."

THE JUDGES OF SOY AT THE EXHIBITION.

AMONG the complaints made by exhibitors who feel aggrieved about the Judges' awards at the Ueno Exhibition, the most vehement is that of Mr. Iwasaki Juiro, a well-known manufacturer of soy (*shoyu*) in Chiba Prefecture. His firm sent to the Exhibition samples of the soy called *Yamaju-shoyu*, and received only a third-class prize, the soy of other manufacturers being placed higher. Of course this means a great deal to Mr. Iwasaki, for in Japan people set much store by official awards, and an article of consumption which has been publicly placed below its rivals is not likely to find a large sale. But what recourse is possible? We should have thought that nothing remained for Mr. Iwasaki except to sit down quietly and suffer in patience. He does not think so himself, however, and what is more to the point, he has found two eminent barristers, Messrs. Masujima and Oyagi, who advise him that he ought not to resign himself to the unfavourable verdict. A suit has accordingly been instituted against the three Judges—Messrs. Akimoto, Shinizu, and Hida—praying that their award may be upset, and that they be compelled to

pay to the plaintiff damages amounting to 21,428,568 yen, together with the costs of the suit, and to grant such other relief as the nature of the case may require. We do not know how the three places of decimals in the estimate of damages was arrived at, but they convey a clear impression of the minute injury to which the plaintiff has been subjected. The complaint addressed to the Court makes no reference to any law or regulation, and the question which will occur to most persons, as it does to us, is whether legal relief can properly be invoked under such circumstances. Could it be proved that the jurors at the Exhibition had been guilty of corrupt practices, a case would obviously lie against them for fraudulent conduct. But nothing of the kind appears to be claimed. The only ground of petition is that an error has been made, to the grave detriment of the plaintiff's business. Jurors at an Exhibition seem to us to be a kind of private tribunal before which exhibitors come of their own free will, voluntarily submitting their manufactures for mutual comparison. The jurors, so long as they refrain from fraudulent or corrupt practices, for which everyone in every capacity of life is criminally responsible, cannot be required to justify their opinion before a law court. Mr. Iwasaki Juiro consented, of his own choice, to submit his soy to the verdict of the jurors, and however largely the result may entitle him to public sympathy, it certainly does not entitle him to legal redress. If the principle were once admitted that the jurors may be summoned before a law court to answer for every decision they pronounce, the discharge of their functions would become quite impossible. Mr. Iwasaki Juiro has probably by this procedure advertised his *shoyu* far more effectually than the award of a gold medal would have advertised it, so that, on the whole, he is not perhaps to be greatly pitied.

THE ISHIKAWAJIMA CONVICTS.

THE *Daido Shimbun* writes as follows on the condition of the Ishikawajima convicts:—There were in the prison on the 28th ult. 1,959 persons, which shows an increase of 200 as compared with the same date last year. The prisoners range in age between twenty and thirty, very few indeed being above the latter limit, from which it may be concluded that the criminal classes are largely recruited from those in whom the passions of youth still hold sway. Some surprise may be expressed because the high price of rice has not driven a larger proportion of the population to evil courses, but it should be remembered that if food is dearer people can get along on less in lot than in cold weather. Many of the prisoners are quite unable to read, and a deplorably large number do not know their age, their own, or their parents' names. These latter are mostly those who have while young been subjected to imprisonment, and have spent much of their time since in the prison. The chief ailments of convicts are indigestion, consumption, &c., and the Authorities are most careful to guard their health, especially from the attacks of cholera.

RESOLUTIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE "KAISHIN TO."

THE caucus of the *Kaishin-to*, attended by more than twenty leading members of the party, was held in the afternoon of the 2nd inst. in their office at Minaminabecho. As the special business of the day, the sense of the assembly was taken on the premonitory caution given by the police authorities to Messrs. Shimada, Ozaki, and Kato in regard to the formation of an alliance between all progressive parties. Some held the opinion that the earnest desire of the *Kaishin-to* for this alliance as a step most conducive to the best interests of the nation, should not be abandoned on the appearance of so slight an obstacle, and that they should dissolve the existing party organization and organize a grand party with all men of the same political sentiment throughout the country. Others, opposing this opinion, maintained that this was not an occasion for taking any rash step under the influence of passionate feelings, and recom-

mended the more moderate course of obeying the admonition of the authorities. Various other views were advanced, but the moderate opinion prevailed in the end, with the understanding that another caucus should be convened in the near future to deliberate carefully what line of action ought to be adopted hereafter. Messrs. Shimada, Ozaki, and Kato were then instructed to convey to the police the reply of the party in the above sense. At the same meeting a motion was adopted unanimously for presenting a memorial to the Government recommending the amendment of the Law of Meetings and Political Associations. A committee consisting of Messrs. Koyedzuka Riu, Kato Masanosuke, and Yoshida Kiroku were appointed to prepare the draft forthwith, so that it may be presented to the proper quarter at an early day after receiving the signatures of all fellow thinkers. It was further resolved that, for realizing the object of this memorial, the party should take steps as active as are allowed within the limits of law, in order to arouse public opinion through the medium of the press and speech. Should they still fail to obtain a favourable hearing from the Government, they purpose to make the subject the first question on the opening of the Imperial Diet by virtue of the provision made in Art. 62 of the Law of the Diet.

In regard to the same matter, the *Fyū-to*, the *Aikoku-koto*, and the *Koin Club* have already taken steps to give the police authorities proper notice of their intention to dissolve their respective party organizations. On the other hand, the *Daido Danketsu* still remains undecided. Judging from statements in the vernacular papers, it appears that men who occupy the position of political satellites to Count Goto, or "the body-guard of Count Goto" as the editor of the *Choya Shimbun* calls it, are strenuous advocates of the maintenance of the *Daido Danketsu* as an independent party, renouncing the idea of forming an alliance with other parties except in respect of living issues on the floor of the Diet. On the other hand, the rank and file of the party, chiefly composed of provincial members, are inclined to the dissolution of the party, with the purpose of paving the way for the formation of a new party embracing all men of progressive principles.

THE "SOSHI."

In recent times the so-called *soshi* cut no unimportant figure in the political affairs of the country, and seemed to enjoy a pretty free hand. But if we may credit what is stated in the *Fiji Shimpō*, they will soon be subjected to a dose of their own particular kind of medicine. In a certain part of Kiushiu, says our contemporary, there is a band of resolute youths, who, having heard that the so-called *soshi* are strutting about in Tokyo and other places, violently intruding upon political meetings and generally indulging in disgraceful intimidation and mob law, have become very indignant, and determined that the character of chivalrous and patriotic Japanese would suffer were these desperadoes allowed to wield their pernicious power without restraint, especially now that the opening of the Diet is so near at hand. They have, therefore, formed themselves into what is styled "The *Soshi* Suppression Band," and about fifty of them are reported to be on their way to Tokyo with the determination of thrashing the *soshi* into sense and teaching a lesson to the student class generally. It is further reported that they will not care a straw for such a trifling matter as the loss of their own lives, if only they succeed in their purpose.

A NEW EDUCATIONAL DEPARTURE.

THE Tokyo Semmon Gakko has introduced into its curriculum a new feature of great importance from a literary point of view, as it marks the public recognition of the efforts of the *literati* of the rising school. Hitherto the Imperial University and other educational institutions of high standing, whether Governmental or private, have all recognized the importance of giving instructions in the much

neglected native language and Chinese literature. But the instructors appointed for this purpose being in almost every case men educated according to the old system, have proved themselves singularly deficient in capacity for systematizing what they were asked to teach. Meanwhile, many young men, fully trained under the new system, have applied themselves to the study of the Japanese and Chinese literature, and under their influence the chaotic mass of Japanese national literature is now being brought into order and system. Clothed thus in wholly new garments by leaders of the modern school, the study of Japanese and Chinese literature, hitherto the duldest of all studies, has begun to fascinate every young student of imaginative tendency. But the honour of affording public recognition to the literary men of the new school for the first time belongs to the Tokyo Semmon Gakko. That college, it is announced, has obtained the services of Mr. Morita Shiken as instructor in Chinese; of Mr. Mori Kwainan, as instructor in poetry, Chinese novels, and the drama; of Mr. Mori Ogwai, as instructor in esthetics; and of Mr. Aiba Kōson as instructor in the Japanese drama. These gentlemen are now very well known in Japan among the rising *literati*. Mr. Morita Shiken is the literary editor of the *Hochi Shimbun*, and his miscellaneous sketches are admired for simplicity and grace of style. Mr. Mori Kwainan, son of the late Mr. Mori Shuntō, one of the best poets of his time, is already recognized as a worthy successor of his father's fame in a certain branch of versification. He is an extremely fascinating writer. Mr. Mori Ogwai is a military surgeon by profession. Having graduated with distinction at the Medical College of the Imperial University, he subsequently spent several years in Germany completing his professional studies. But he is best known as a literary man, the most celebrated of his stories being *Mai Hime*, which appeared in the literary supplement of the first number of this year's *Kokumin-no-Tomo*. Mr. Aiba Kōson has long been, and we think still is, on the staff of the *Yomiuri Shimbun*. He is one of the most prolific novelists of the new school. The range of his ideas does not seem very comprehensive, yet there is no gain-saying that he is among the best living masters of pure Japanese.

PANORAMA.

CONSIDERING how matter-of-fact the Japanese are in matters of every-day life, we are often surprised and amused to observe their habitual tendency to attribute highly philanthropic motives to enterprises of a purely business character. Probably this is chiefly because every one engaging in any undertaking seeks above all things to secure official patronage and protection, and is consequently anxious to pose as a public benefactor. The panorama at Ueno is a case in point. It was originally projected by Mr. Okura Kihachiro with the same object, we presume, that would have influenced any other shrewd man of business. But the *Tokyo Shimpō* now assures us that the main purpose of the enterprise was to convey instruction to students and soldiers, and that a profit of some ten thousand *yen* which has resulted is quite an unexpected pleasure. The main point, however, is that the panorama has proved a success and that it is to be kept open until winter, when the total net earnings are to be converted into a capital fund for a panorama company, which will establish relations with other companies abroad so as to obtain a constant supply of new views. It is also in contemplation to erect a solid building upon which insurance can be effected, and to let it to panorama companies from foreign countries should they visit Japan. We congratulate Mr. Okura on the result of his scheme, and are glad to think that he has been the means of introducing a harmless and instructive kind of entertainment.

LESSONS OF THE RECENT ELECTIONS.

TAUGHT by the experience of the recent elections, the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* calls attention to the desirability of altering some of the provisions

of the Public Meetings Regulations and the Law of Election. As to the former, the provision which has proved most inconvenient is contained in Art. I., which requires that, whenever a public meeting is to be held for political purposes, notice should be given to the police three days previous to the date of the meeting. Any one who knows what an election means need not be told how irksome such a provision is. It is admitted that at the recent elections, the police authorities did not insist on the strict observance of the provision; but in some cases the law had the indirect effect of encouraging corruption by compelling the candidates to appeal to the electors personally. In other words, the provisions became either a dead letter or a positive nuisance. The *Kokumin-no-Tomo* demands an entire modification of the provision. Still more productive of evil at the recent elections was the rule requiring electors to write their own names on the ballot. The effect of this rule is that some electors were induced to vote against their conscience through fear of offending relatives, friends, landlords, or creditors. At the time of polling it was remarked that the number of persons failing to exercise the franchise was greater in localities where there were numerous candidates than in localities where there were few. The plain inference is that, appealed to by numerous rival candidates, many electors were so afraid of giving offence that they preferred to stand aloof altogether rather than run the risk of either giving umbrage to persons with whom they or their relatives desired to remain on good terms, or damaging their custom and patronage. The object of legislators, says the *Tokyo journal*, was to impress upon electors the grave importance of the franchise, but "human nature is weaker than our law-makers seem to think."

It is absolutely necessary that the rule be altered and that voters be permitted to vote without giving their own names. The *Kokumin-no-Tomo* also complains of the narrow limits of the franchise. A certain class of men argue that this circumstance prevented the prevalence of bribery at the recent elections. But the *Tokyo periodical*, while to a certain extent acknowledging the truth of this opinion, contends that it is absurd on that account to exclude from the franchise the intelligent middle class, the numbers of which generally pay from five to fifteen *yen* in direct national taxes. Men of this class take a keen interest in political matters, and at the elections they showed themselves very active in canvassing for their favourite candidates. So our contemporary believes that the extension of the limits of the franchise will become the subject of an animated discussion when Parliament meets. Lastly, we are assured that the provision in the Law of Election declaring the non-eligibility of *Fu, Ken, or Gun* officials within the locality under their control failed in many cases to accomplish its purpose. For, according to the *Kokumin-no-Tomo*, there were many local officials who, having completed all necessary preparations while holding their official positions, resigned on the eve of election and presented themselves as candidates. Among these there are no doubt some who were elected by fair means, but there were also others who, in our contemporary's opinion, used the authority of their office to secure votes. The *Kokumin* suggests that the provision be so modified as to make local officials disqualified for election for one full year after their resignation.

DISTRESS IN TIENTSIN.

THERE seems to be considerable distress in and about Tientsin. We read in the *Chinese Times* translations from the *Shih Pao* that "the city has recently been crowded with poor and starving people from the country places. The sight of them would draw forth pity from any one who has seen them. Some of these poor people are selling their own flesh and blood to save them from starvation. The other day a man and his wife were leading through the streets two beautiful little girls of about three or four years old to sell to the people for slaves; their faces showed the want of nourishing food, and

- they were wailing and begging for something to appease their hunger, and finally they were sold to a brothel keeper for a mere pittance. May," says the *Shih Pao*, "this pitiable instance be brought to the notice of the local charitable institutions, and it is hoped that some means may be devised to prevent innocent young children falling into the hands of those who will make ill use of them."

CHOLERA RETURNS.

The following are the latest cholera returns, taken from official sources:—

Prefecture.	Date.	New Cases.	Deaths.
Nagasaki	1st	62	21
	2nd	64	40
	3rd	60	51
	4th	13	24
	5th	88	64
	6th	65	45
	7th	76	43
	8th	63	41
Yamaguchi	1st	10	5
	2nd	11	9
	3rd	28	10
	4th	26	7
	5th	30	21
	6th	24	12
	7th	28	12
	8th	19	10
Fukuoka	1st	33	3
	2nd	68	21
	3rd	71	20
	4th	49	10
	5th	96	51
	6th	45	21
	7th	83	20
	8th	33	—
Kumamoto	1st	7	—
	2nd	18	—
	3rd	9	—
	4th	8	10
	5th	16	9
	6th	21	9
	7th	21	6
	8th	5	2
Kagoshima	1st	12	7
	2nd	12	8
	3rd	12	11
	4th	7	3
	5th	3	2
	6th	7	6
	7th	7	6
	8th	4	2
Saga	1st	4	1
	2nd	5	4
	3rd	5	4
	4th	6	1
	5th	12	4
	6th	6	2
	7th	8	6
	8th	6	2
Oita	1st	0	—
	2nd	0	—
	3rd	3	—
	4th	3	—
	5th	3	—
	6th	3	—
	7th	3	—
	8th	3	—

The numbers of cases and deaths since the commencement of the epidemic, inclusive of the above figures, appear in the following table:—

Prefecture.	Cases.	Deaths.
Nagasaki	759	310
Yamaguchi	447	139
Fukuoka	711	330
Saga	101	61
Kumamoto	253	123
Kagoshima	124	80
Oita	15	4

The *Official Gazette* during the week contained the following additional returns:—

Place.	Prefecture or City.	Remarks.
Kobe	Hyogo	A student in the <i>Meiji Maru</i> of the Department of Communications, which came from Moji harbor, Oita, Kyushu, was attacked on the 30th ult. and sent to the Wada Cholera Hospital.
Mitsuma-gun	Fukuoka	4 men seized on the 1st.
Toga-gun	Ditto	at men seized on the 1st.
Fukuoka-shi, Kamagata-gun, and Shima-gun	Ditto	One case in each place on the 1st.
Kamitsuma-gun	Ditto	One man seized and one man died on the 1st.
Miike-gun	Ditto	3 cases and 1 death on the 1st.
Nagaura	Kanagawa	2 cases in the Turkish man-of-war, and three cases among cholera nurses of the Nagaura Cholera Hospital on the 31st.
Yokohama	Ditto	Three men and 2 women seized on the 31st ultimo.
Innan-gun	Hyogo	One woman on the 25th ultimo.
Kasai-gun	Ditto	One case on the 25th ult.
Itsuno-gun and Aizawa-gun	Ditto	One man seized and one died in each place on the 25th.
Ubara-gun	Ditto	One man and one woman attacked and died in these places on the 25th ultimo.
Iwafune-gun	Niigata	One man on the 27th ult.
Kitamuro-gun	Miyagi	One man on the 27th ult.
Momou-gun	Miyagi	One case on the 27th.
Kamimihagi-gun	Okayama	One case on the 26th.
Vebara-gori	Tokyo	One woman seized and died on the 1st instant.
Honjo	Ditto	One man on the 1st inst.
Nishiku	Osaka	One woman seized and died on the 29th ultimo.

Nagaura	Kanagawa	Two Turks and one Japanese on the 1st instant.
Yokohama	Ditto	3 men on the 1st instant.
Yofu-gun	Hyogo	A traveller attacked on the 25th and died on the 26th ultimo.
Shirosaki-gun	Ditto	One woman on the 26th ult.
Jinto-gun	Ditto	One woman on the 27th ult.
Yoshida-gun	Fukui	One man on the 27th ult.
Savagi-gun	Hiroshima	One woman on the 25th ult.
Hiroshima-shi	Ditto	One woman on the 26th ult.
Takamiya-gun	Ditto	One man on the 26th ult.
Urato-minato	Kochi	A man in a vessel at anchor became ill on the 27th ult.
Oita-gun and Usa	Oita	One man in each district on the 26th ult.
Nima-gun	Shimane	One man attacked and died on board a ship near Susa, Yamaguchi Prefecture.
Hyogo	Hyogo	One man died on board the <i>Meiji Maru</i> on the 1st inst.
Kyobashi & Kanda	Tokyo	One man in each district on the 2nd and 3rd inst.
Osaka-shi	Osaka	1 case on the 30th ult.
Yokohama	Kanagawa	15 cases from the commencement of the epidemic on the 13th ultimo up to the 31st ult., of which 8 died, 3 recovered and the remaining four are convalescent.
Nagaura	Ditto	27 cases since the commencement of the epidemic on the 18th ult. up to the 31st ult. on board the <i>Eriougroul</i> , of which 8 died, 5 were cured and the remaining 11 are convalescent.
Nagaura	Ditto	One seaman of the cholera guard-vessel died, and one nurse was seized, since the commencement of the epidemic up to the 31st ultimo.
Nagaura	Ditto	One Turk and one Japanese on the 2nd instant.
Yokohama	Ditto	2 cases on the 2nd instant.
Kuraki-gun and Kitatama-gun	Ditto	One case in each district on the 3rd instant.
Kako-gun	Hyogo	One woman who died on the 30th ultimo.
Nishikubiki-gun	Niigata	One man in the former district on the 28th ultimo, and one woman in the latter on the 29th ult.
Moda-guo	Chiba	One man who died on the 30th ult.
Higashiyamanashi-gun	Yamanashi	One case on the 28th ult.
Nakakoma-gun	Ditto	One case on the 1st inst.
Kamido-gun	Okayama	One case on the 1st inst.
Sayeguni-gun	Hiroshima	One case in the first place on the 23rd ult., one case at Aki on the 25th ult., and one case in Hiroshima on the 27th ult.
Nagasaki-gun	Kochi	One case on the 29th ult.
Yoshiwara, Asakusa	Tokyo	A woman on the 4th.
Daicho, Hongo	Ditto	A woman on the 4th.
Kamezawacho	Ditto	A man on the 4th.
Honjo	Ditto	(These three cases were non-Asiatic.)
Kobikicho, Kyobashi	Ditto	One man on the 5th.
Sanyacho, Asakusa	Ditto	A woman who died on the 5th. (These two cases were non-Asiatic.)
Masagocho	Yokohama, Kanagawa	A woman on the 4th.
Hagoromocho	Yokohama	Ditto
Yoshihamacho	Yokohama	Ditto
Isecho Nihonbashi	Tokyo	One woman who died on the 5th.
Shin-Funamatsu	Ditto	A <i>godairiki sendo</i> (non-Asiatic) on the 5th.
Tamachi	Ditto	One man who died on the 1st (non-Asiatic).
Kawarayamachi	Miyazaki, Osaka	One woman on the 1st.
Ajikawa-dori, Kitaku	Ditto	A man on the 2nd.
English Hatoba	Kanagawa	A man and a woman on the 5th.
Homoku, Kuraki-gun	Yokohama	Ditto
Fukuzi-mura	Yokohama	A man on the 5th.
Murato-mura	Kobe	A man who died on the 2nd.
Nishigumma	Gumma	One woman who died on the 29th ultimo.
Hatcho-boi	Tokyo	One man on the 5th.
Senzoku-mura	Ditto	One woman on the 6th.
Asakusa	Ditto	One woman on the 6th.
Konyacho	Ditto	Five women and one man on the 6th.
Kyobashi	Ditto	One man on the 6th (Mr. Hanaka Kyojoro, a leading member of the <i>Jiyu-to</i> party, who was only released last year from prison, whether he had been considered some years ago for revolutionary schemes).
Hamaguricho	Fukagawa	Ditto
Iriyecho, Honjo	Ditto	One woman who died on the 5th.

Minami-Sakumacho, Shiba	Ditto	One man seized and died on the 5th.
Sugamo-cho	Ditto	One man on the 6th.
Kita-Toshima	Ditto	One man on the 6th.
Nakashima-cho	Ditto	One woman seized and died on the 6th.
Futagawa	Ditto	One woman seized and died on the 6th.
Kawaoka-mura	Kyoto	One man (non-Asiatic).
Minato-bashi	Yokohama	One man on the 6th.
Naka-cho, Ishikawa	Ditto	Two men on the 6th.
Horai-cho	Ditto	One man on the 6th.
Choja-machi	Ditto	One man on the 6th.
Disinfecting Station	Ditto	One man on the 6th.
Kanagawa-cho	Kanagawa	Two men on the 6th.
Kitsukegori	Ditto	One man on the 6th.
Odawara-cho	Ditto	One man on the 6th.
Asahigaragori	Ditto	One man on the 6th.
Nakamura	Yokohama	One man on the 6th.
Takino-mura	Yamanashi	One woman on the 3rd (non-Asiatic).
Koya-mura	Okayama	One man on the 1st.
Higashi-Nanjo	Okayama	One man on the 1st.
Miyomura, Iitaka-gun	Wakayama	One man on the 29th ult. (non-Asiatic).
Minami-Konyacho	Tokyo	Five women and 3 men.
Kobikicho, Kyobashi	Ditto	One man.
Yamahushicho	Ditto	One man.
Shitaya	Ditto	One woman.
Hamamatsucho	Ditto	One woman.
Shin-Fukucho	Ditto	One man.
Asakusa	Ditto	One man on board the vessel <i>Bishamon Maru</i> .
Etchujima	Ditto	One man on board the vessel <i>Bishamon Maru</i> .
Yazamonocho	Ditto	One man, a beggar. (The above 14 cases all occurred between noon on the 7th and 6 a.m. on the 8th.)
Kyobashi	Ditto	One case on the 7th.
Wakabacho	Yokohama	One case on the 7th.
Tsurumi, Tsukigori	Kanagawa	One case on the 7th.
Sueshiro-mura	Niigata	One woman on the 1st (non-Asiatic).
Yoshida-mura	Nagano	One woman on the 2nd (non-Asiatic).

On the 1st instant three cases occurred in Yokohama, one in Masagocho, Ichome, and two at the Disinfecting Station in Hinodecho, one of the latter resulting fatally. On the 1st also three cases were reported from the *Eriougroul* at Nagaura, one of the patients dying the same day. On the 2nd inst. one man, a Japanese sendo, was seized in Motomachi, Ichome, and died on Sunday; and three cases were reported from the *Eriougroul* of which two proved fatal. This morning a case of supposed cholera at Masagocho, Sancho, was brought to the notice of the authorities.

A seaman on board the outgoing Shanghai steamer *Kobe Maru* was attacked by cholera on Wednesday, and the vessel was consequently taken to the Quarantine Station at Nagaura where she will remain until disinfected. The man was first seized with vomiting at five a.m., and was removed to the Ishikawa Cholera Hospital, where his case was pronounced to be genuine cholera. The *Kobe Maru* was at Nagasaki on the 28th ult. and arrived here on the 1st inst. A case is also reported to have occurred on the *Takachiho Maru* on the Nagasaki-Vladivostok route.

FLOODS AT MITO.

A CORRESPONDENT writing on the 7th inst. from Mito, says:—"After a heavy down-pour of rain during yesterday afternoon and late into the night, the Naka River began to rise, and has deluged the surrounding country almost as badly as during the great floods of last August. Houses have been washed away, bridges broken, but, so far as known yet, no lives have been lost. The river, however, is still (noon) rising, and is flowing with a very swift current. The crops, which had been doing nicely, are badly damaged. High winds and an abundance of rain have marked the past few days."

TOKYO WATER SUPPLY.

By way of prelude to the construction of water-works in the capital, an accurate estimate of the amount likely to accrue from the charges for water has been undertaken by the Tokyo City Improvement Committee. The task was completed on the 31st ultimo, and the result reported to Mr. Yoshikawa, chairman of

the committee. According to this estimate, the income from the above source is estimated at 540,000 *yen*, while the expenditure for the maintenance of the Aqueduct Office is estimated at 220,000 *yen* per annum, thus leaving a net annual profit of 320,000 *yen*. These charges will be collected on three different scales according to the quantity of water consumed. The charge for an ordinary householder's consumption will be about 54 *sen* per month. We take these particulars from the *Fiji Shimpō*.

ANT TOWERS.

The *Daido Shimbun* has been favoured with a description of several very curious works which it calls "ant-towers." These edifices are situated in a godown of the Obinagami at Chiyoda-mura, Nishi Yamanashi, Yamanashi Prefecture. They are carefully concealed from the public view because the late owner of the godown died immediately after exhibiting them in connection with the festival of Mitakesan, but the *Daido's* informant was successful in obtaining a peep at them. The "towers" are three in number, and while one is three feet in height, the others are respectively one and two feet high. They are of a dark colour, and are very hard and solid. The "towers" are perforated by numerous holes, and suggest the idea that they are fortalices of some powerful ant magnate. It is conjectured that the death of the former proprietor of the godown and its curious contents was in some way due to the formic acid secreted by the ants. The *Daido* commends the ant strongholds to the attention of scientific persons.

THE DIET AND THE BUDGET.

It is reported, according to the *Tokyo Shimpō*, that there exists a difference of opinion in official circles in respect of the question whether or not the right of making motions to increase the amount of the budget submitted to the Diet belongs to that body. Those who adopt the negative side of this question argue that the Diet might possibly be led by some political chicanery to abuse the right. They point out that in England no such function is exercised by Parliament. On the other hand, those who hold the affirmative, contend that there is no express provision on this subject in the English constitution, and that in some cases the British Parliament has actually taken such a course. No evil effect, in their opinion, would follow the concession of the right, provided the sphere of the "fixed expenditures" defined in Article 67 of the Constitution be kept sufficiently extensive. It is said that the latter opinion will probably be adopted, but we have only the authority of the *Tokyo Shimpō* for the assertion.

THE PRESS REGULATIONS.

The *Tokyo Shimpō* says numerous instances have appeared of late in which newspapers have suffered loss in consequence of mischievous writings, while in very few cases have there come forward journals courageous enough to face and combat evils. Meanwhile, the attitude of the Government towards the press is one of severity. This is not as it should be. Journals should be fair and candid in their actions, and the authorities should allow moderation to influence them more largely than at present. The press ought to discuss such matters as seem to call for treatment, and if the Government deems that cause for suspension exists it should accompany its action with a statement of the reasons which warrant suspension. On the other hand, newspapers should have the right to apply for redress to the Administration Court if they think themselves unfairly treated.

MOVEMENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMBERS OF THE DIET.

On Thursday last, Messrs. Sugiura, Oyagi, and other members of the Diet, who profess no attachment to any of the existing political parties, opened a meeting in the Charyo restaurant on the Hoshigaoka Hill, with a view to forming an independent party in the coming Diet. We learn from the *Fiji Shimpō* that they are intended to unite all the members of the Diet professing neutrality throughout the country, and

for this purpose, letters have already been forwarded, urging these members to come to the capital before the 20th proximo to be ready to attend the general meeting of the Independents. The names of Messrs. Mutsu and Suyematsu have been associated with the movement by some newsmongers, but the report is contradicted.

GOLD AND SILVER RATIOS.

The *Official Gazette* gives the following table of comparative values of gold and silver coins and of the pound sterling for the week ended the 2nd inst., as derived from the returns of the Bank of Japan and the Yokohama Specie Bank:—

Days	Gold Coin. (Per yen 100) Silver Yen.	Pound Sterling. Per Yen.
28th	113.800	A.M. 5.6304 P.M. 5.6304
29th	114.000	A.M. 5.5976 P.M. 5.5976
30th	113.300	A.M. 5.5976 P.M. 5.5976
31st	113.300	A.M. 5.5976 P.M. 5.5976
1st	113.300	A.M. 5.5976 P.M. 5.5976
2nd	113.000	A.M. 5.5172 P.M. 5.5172
Averages	113.250	5.5777

The above averages show for gold coin a decrease in value of *yen* .317, and for the pound sterling a decrease in value of *yen* 0.0200 as compared with the previous week.

THE BANK OF JAPAN.

The amounts of convertible notes and reserves in the Bank of Japan for the week ended the 2nd inst. were as follows:—

Convertible Notes.	Reserves and Securities.
Yen.	Yen.
Notes issued	Gold coin and bullion
71,548,331	24,205,247
	Silver coin and bullion
	24,077,004
	Public Loan Bonds
	13,470,450
	Treasury Bills
	—
	Government Bills
	—
	Other securities
	4,734,183
	Commercial Bills
	4,307,328
71,548,331	71,548,331

Of the above total issue of notes, the sum of *yen* 4,410,132 is in the treasury of the Bank, and *yen* 67,138,199 in actual circulation, the latter showing a decrease of *yen* 109,062 as compared with *yen* 67,247,261 at the end of the previous week.

SATURDAY'S SAILING RACE.

SATURDAY'S sailing race was brought to a premature conclusion by the disinclination of the yachtsmen to go round the course in the face of certain very threatening weather indications. *Maid Marion*, *Lady Louise*, *Molly Bawn*, *Mosquito*, *Princess Maud*, *Scow*, and *Ronin*, were started by Mr. Campbell, who acted as officer of the day, and with a fresh breeze from the S.E. got out to the Lightship close hauled. Shortly after two o'clock, however, a heavy rain-squall came up, and as the weather looked very forbidding the leading boats after getting some distance on the reach to the Tomioka Mark put about and ran back. *Ronin* persisted in the intention to go round the course, but the officer of the day declared the race off, and so all returned to their moorings.

THE CURE OF RHEUMATISM.

From the *Daido Shimpō* we learn that Dr. Tsuno Kōyō, who has opened a special hospital at No. 5, Nishi Kōya-cho, Kyobashi, Tokyo, is the proprietor of a sovereign remedy for rheumatism. This ailment, in its various Japanese forms of *tsufu*, *fudoku*, *fushitsu* and others, has many victims in this country, and Dr. Tsuno's attention, while attached to the *Kakke* Section of the Medical College (Imperial University) and later as professor of the acupuncture and moxa methods of treatment, was long devoted to the attempt to obtain a cure. A description of his methods appeared not long ago in the *Tokyo Medical Journal*.

CENTRAL TELEPHONE EXCHANGE.

The building for the Central Telephone Exchange is already in course of construction at the former site of the Tatsunokuchi Bazaar. The posts which are now being erected are considerably thicker and generally more substantial than common telegraph posts, and

can carry a hundred and fifty lines each. At present the central office is expected to commence business with three hundred lines, but there is a good prospect that this number will be much increased ere long. For the convenience of those who live at a distance, branch lines will be extended in various directions. The business is expected to come into full operation early in September.

THE INDEPENDENT MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The *Koron* states that a few days ago a number of gentlemen who have been chosen members of the Lower House, and who are not connected with any party, met at Hoshigaoka. An address was delivered by Mr. Oyaki, one of the promoters of the meeting, who expressed the opinion that the independent members should hold themselves aloof from parties, and decide for themselves what policy they should pursue towards questions that may crop up. The essential feature of independence, our contemporary thinks, is that those professing such principles should act on their own discretion; for should they combine then they must lose their independence.

ALLIANCE OF THE PROGRESSIVE PARTIES IN THE SEVEN PROVINCES OF THE NORTH-EAST.

We are informed by the *Yomuri Shimbun* that a telegram has been received to the effect that the union meeting held in Akita, by the progressive parties of the seven provinces of the North-East, has resulted in the formation of an alliance. According to the same journal, an understanding has at last been arrived at between the three sections of the progressive party in the other provinces of the empire. If this be so, we may expect soon to see these sections break up their present organizations, with the view of amalgamation on a wide basis.

UNSOLD ARTICLES IN THE EXHIBITION.

SEVERAL plans have been proposed, says the *Kokumin Shimbun*, for the disposal of the unsold articles in the Ueno Exhibition. The latest scheme is that the Authorities should give a certain amount of bounty to the exhibitors. The articles will be appraised and should there be found a difference between the prices fixed by the appraisers and those asked by the exhibitors, a certain portion of the difference will be given by the Authorities. The money needed for this purpose will be defrayed from the amount realized by the sale of tickets.

THE "KOIN CLUB."

THE time for opening the general meeting of the *Koin Club* is at present fixed for the 10th August, but, owing to a certain difference of opinion held by the *Daido* wing of the Club, the date may have to be postponed. At present the executive committee of the Club are very busily engaged in the preparation of the matters to be submitted to the meeting for deliberation.

THE CABINET.

THE *Fiji Shimpō* reports that all the Ministers of State met in the Cabinet on the 29th ultimo, and continued their deliberations till five o'clock in the afternoon. As a Cabinet meeting with so full an attendance is of rather rare occurrence during the summer vacation, the *Tokyo* journal construes it as a sign that some matter of great importance is engaging the attention of Ministers.

We are informed by the Agent of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company that telegraphic information has been received reporting an accident to the *City of Rio de Janeiro*. It seems that, while lying at her buoy in Hong-kong Harbour, she was run into on Monday and damaged about the bows. The injury is not serious, but the vessel must go into dock, which will cause a detention of a few days in her departure from this port for San Francisco.

We have to acknowledge the receipt of \$5 from the Rev. Dr. T. Romeyn Beck and \$5 from H. M. & Co., for the relief fund of the Jizen-kai.

THE AMENDED MEETINGS REGULATIONS.

LONG looked for and earnestly desired, the amended Regulations for Public Meetings have not, of course, given unalloyed satisfaction, though the friends of liberty welcome their promulgation with considerable enthusiasm. One great change effected by them is that the projectors of a political meeting, instead of being obliged to petition for official permission at least three days previously, are now required only to intimate their intention forty-eight hours beforehand. Moreover, no power of discrimination is reserved to the police. It is not even prescribed that the subject or subjects of proposed discussion shall be mentioned in the intimation forwarded by the projectors of a meeting. Only the place and date of the meeting, as well as the names, residences, and ages of intending speakers, together with the signature and seal of the projector, are required. It will be seen that this is, in effect, a concession of the vital principle that the right to assemble for purposes of political discussion is vested in the people, and that the Authorities cannot interfere with its employment except in the event of actual abuse. The police are still authorized to attend meetings and to disperse them in the event of any breach of the Regulations, or any action or language considered prejudicial to the cause of peace and good order. Moreover, since it will still rest with the police to decide what constitutes action or language prejudicial to peace and good order, liberty of speech remains much as it was before. But the right of public meeting is undoubtedly conceded in a full sense, and we are somewhat surprised that the fact has not received more emphatic recognition at the hands of Japanese journalists. Increased liberty is also granted in that the advertisement of projected political speeches is permitted, whereas formerly it was forbidden, and the police are not directed to dissolve a meeting merely because some one speaker's address is considered improper: it suffices to prohibit that particular speaker from proceeding. As a set-off, however, to these liberal provisions, the 28th Article is viewed with great disfavour. It interdicts attempts to influence public opinion by issuing manifestoes or dispatching deputies, and it also forbids a political association to establish branch offices, or combine or correspond with other political associations. We confess inability to understand precisely what is meant by these prohibitions. Manifestoes and deputies are ordinary resources of political propaganda everywhere, and combination and correspondence with other parties cannot scarcely be deemed improper measures under ordinary circumstances. It is next to idle to conjecture, and we possess no means of ascertaining, why the Govern-

ment felt obliged to enact these restrictions, but since the tendency in official circles sets strongly in the direction of full recognition of personal rights we must conclude that convincing reasons exist for the prohibitions still enforced by the law. The vernacular press does not recognise any such reasons, but then the vernacular press has never failed to advocate entire freedom of speech and public meeting—advocacy the persistence and age of which are becoming in themselves evidences of its justice.

Of a different character is the prohibition that while the Diet is in session no open air meeting or procession will be permitted within a circle of three miles radius from the Houses of Parliament. Demonstrations by mobs are at once a dangerous and intimidatory species of political agitation, and we do not, for our own part, think this provision unbecoming or reactionary. The Japanese newspapers, however, condemn it, as they do also and unanimously the article prohibiting women from becoming members of political parties. We should have imagined that this veto would have escaped all censure in Japan, but apparently there is a strong disposition in liberal circles to concede political rights to women, and possibly we shall soon see Japanese ladies organizing Primrose Leagues or canvassing for their male friends. May the day be far distant! On the whole it does not seem that the public takes any very keen interest in these amended Regulations. Had they been issued before the elections greater practical value would have attached to them; but the evident feeling with regard to all such legislation now is that within four months it will have to run the gauntlet of parliamentary discussion, and that whatever old-fashioned or irksome provisions it enacts are not likely to survive the ordeal. The fact will nevertheless stand to the Government's credit that it endeavoured to be as liberal as possible within the limits of safety.

JAPANESE EMIGRATION TO HAWAII.

EMIGRATION to Hawaii has unquestionably proved a most fortunate thing for Japan. The meaning of it is simply this—that a Japanese who, living in his own country, can scarcely hope to keep body and soul together, is by emigration provided with employment on such terms that, at the end of five years, he can return home with savings amounting to six or seven hundred dollars in gold. Nor do we by any means count this the limit of the benefit conferred. There is the further consideration that Japanese employed in Hawaii learn the advantage of continuous work, unbroken by the multitude of petty interruptions which, in this country, are suffered to interfere between a labourer and his task. Neither in thrift, industry,

nor perseverance do the Japanese rank below other nations, but in appreciation of the value of persistent, unremitting toil they are assuredly inferior to Europeans and Americans. Hawaii is a school where this wholesome lesson is taught, and every Japanese who returns thence brings home with him experience of the greatest usefulness. A school where valuable practical lessons are inculcated, while, at the same time, the scholars acquire a sum of capital sufficient to raise them permanently from the low stratum of life in which they were born—such a school is a veritable boon to any people. Fourteen thousand Japanese have been educated, or are undergoing education, in Hawaii, and by these men and women, originally common labourers without any prospect of saving money, sums aggregating no less than two million *yen* have been sent to their country, within a space of five years, and half of a million *yen* has been paid as passage-money to the principal Japanese steamship company. Many have found employment as domestic servants; a position much coveted, since its occupants are able to save three times as much as their fellow-countrymen working on the sugar plantations. In other words, a Japanese who becomes a house servant in Hawaii, and who behaves with ordinary steadiness and thrift, can lay up about two thousand gold dollars in five years. Two thousand dollars is not a fortune; still less is six or seven hundred. But think what even the smaller of these amounts signifies to a Japanese who counts himself secure against hunger and cold if he can reckon on an income of five dollars monthly. The fact is that those who return from Hawaii with practically ingrained ideas of industry and with a capital of several hundred dollars, become thenceforth, in nine instances out of every ten, material contributors to the national wealth. None of the objections usually urged against emigration apply to their case. Their labour, so far from being lost to their country, is most profitably employed in the nation's behalf, and draws from abroad a solid increment of wealth. It is probable that these great advantages are not secured without some cost. The world has nothing to bestow on men without grit to work or courage to endure, and it has sometimes struck us as a very discouraging element of Japanese character that people should be willing to listen to and circulate complaints about the supposed hardships which the emigrants to Hawaii have to endure. If the Japanese cry out the moment they feel the pinch of toil, there is little hope of their achieving national greatness. We believe, however, that they are made of sterner stuff, and that they know how to estimate the thoughtless murmurs of effeminate sentimentalists. The Hawaiian planters have always shown themselves most willing to consider and adopt any suggestions made on behalf of the Japanese immi-

grants, who, for the rest, are protected by a treaty probably the most comprehensive and inelastic that was ever framed in the interest of any body of settlers. At present Korea and Hawaii may be called the trial grounds of Japan. In the former the Japanese merchant has almost shown that he can hold his own against both Western and Chinese competitors; in the latter the Japanese labourer is fairly on the way to contradict the pessimists who used to declare him incapable of regular and sustained toil. It is to be hoped that neither experiment will be interrupted. Nothing would surprise us less than to see the Japanese in Hawaii rise from subordinate positions to be themselves owners of plantations. If sugar can only find its way into the United States on greatly changed terms, as the new tariff proposes, the conditions of its production in Hawaii will be so altered as to increase the premium on Japanese coöperation. Without pausing to consider this question, however, it seems to us that the nation may well congratulate itself on an undertaking which, in the space of five years, has enabled fourteen thousand of its labouring folks—eleven thousand men and three thousand women—to transmit two million dollars from a foreign country to their own, and which, at the same time, has put half a million dollars into the pockets of the principal Japanese Steamship Company. There cannot be much doubt about the expediency of prosecuting and if possible developing such an enterprise.

MR. NOSE ON THE ART OF MANAGING SCHOOLS.

ENCOURAGED by the success of his "Science of Education," which was noticed at some length in these columns, Mr. NOSE has just published another bulky volume on the Management of Schools. On the title page are inscribed in English the words:—"Dedicated to the memory of Viscount MORI ARINORI, late Minister of Education, at whose request this volume was written, and for whose untimely end its author feels a deeper regret than words can express or tears reveal."

The materials Mr. NOSE has collected and digested into one volume embrace everything of interest in the history of Japanese education from the days of the Emperor TENCHI down to the present time. It seems to us that a volume of this kind would well bear translating into English as a book of reference on education in Japan. Hitherto such treatises on education as have been published have been almost exclusively confined to generalities, to theories, to characteristics which are common to most countries alike. Mr. NOSE has set himself the task of writing a history of Japanese education, as it was and as it is, and of sketching the outlines of what it may become under pro-

per guidance. In order to give some idea of the scope of the book, we append a table of contents. The work is divided into sixteen chapters. The headings of these chapters, usually give a good idea of the subjects discussed, when they do not we add sub-headings:—

Chap. I.—History of Japanese Education. (1) The systems pursued in ancient times, from the days of Tenchi (A.D. 668-672) to the beginning of the Meiji era. (2) The modern system. Chap. II.—The necessity of suiting the method of education to the occupations of the people concerned. Chap. III.—The two theories of education. (1) Education as culture. (2) Education as the imparting of knowledge. Chap. IV.—The distinction between individual and national education. Chap. V.—Necessary qualification in teachers. Chap. VI.—The difficulties of teachers. (1) From parents. (2) From incompetent predecessors less proficient than themselves. (4) From unsuitable pupils. (5) Connected with the removal of unpromising elements either in the pupils or their parents, or purely national elements. (6) From the slowness or irregular attendance of pupils. Chap. VII.—System of teaching. Chap. VIII.—Methods of division into classes. Chap. IX.—The division of time. Chap. X.—Discipline. Chap. XI.—Rewards and punishments. Chap. XII.—Examinations. Chap. XIII.—School buildings. XIV.—School furniture. Chap. XV.—Economy in schools. Chap. XVI.—School registers.

The minute details into which Mr. NOSE enters on each subject constitute, in our opinion, the chief value of his work. Our own peregrinations through the country and examination of a great number of schools have convinced us that, as a rule, the local school authorities fail in carrying out those numerous details of arrangement which in the West prove so conducive to the health, comfort, and general progress of the pupils.

In speaking of ancient systems of education, Mr. NOSE maintains that in so far as the Government had anything to do with them, their main object was the training of officials. For centuries this was so much the case that until recent years to be educated at a Government school was considered a sure prelude to receiving an official appointment, and in the event of this appointment not being forthcoming the parents or guardians of the youth concerned felt aggrieved. This way of regarding education is by no means uncommon even at the present day, if not among parents and guardians at any rate among the crowds of students who year by year flock to the capital. That the number of those who obtain employment under Government is comparatively small goes without saying. The remainder find it difficult to make a living by means of the book learning they have acquired, and in the hopes of gaining some kind of celebrity wander about the country as political orators, or as leaders of agitation against the powers and things that be. Government education in ancient times, Mr. NOSE argues, left the masses out of account. It was designed for the select few. Hence that the books which were used as text-books should be full of advice to officials, should discourse of the art of government and of the sphere that official life offers for the display of the highest virtue is no cause for surprise. For the small section of the community for

whom the training was designed, and taking into consideration the despotic character of the Government in those days, the knowledge imparted by these books was not unsuitable. What is now known as *Futsu kyō-iku*, or general education, did not exist prior to the Meiji era. The only education outside the Government schools to be obtained in those days consisted of the instruction imparted by parents to their children, or what was obtainable from the *Tenarai Shisho* or writing masters. This was confined to the elements of the three Rs.

The issue in August, 1872, of a Government order on education inaugurated a new era. The system of elementary education adopted by the Government at that time was not, Mr. NOSE argues, well adapted to the needs of the country. It was the American system combined with the old Chinese method, as practised here from ancient times. The main defect of this system, Mr. NOSE contends, was that it was too complicated and too high class to suit the mental status of the masses.

A general simplification of methods and subjects took place in 1886 under the supervision of the late Viscount MORI. But even now, in Mr. NOSE's opinion the system followed needs further simplification and adaptation. He says that in every place the influence of the *shizoku* predominates over that of other classes: councillors, representatives, heads of villages, commissioners, are all of this class. And as a body, in educational matters, the *shizoku* are conservative and unpractical. They hold in deep regard a system of education that is theoretic and high-flown, but nothing beyond. They never ask whether such a system is required or not; they pay no regard to questions of economy; they delight in nothing but theorising and in appearing to be deeper than they actually are. They have the field to themselves. The mercantile classes become rich without education, the poorer classes fail to see how education can help them to become rich and hence take no interest in it whatever. Thus, according to Mr. NOSE, the education of the country is managed by a select few, who have not freed themselves from the trammels of the old way of regarding learning and its objects.

Mr. NOSE thus sums up the present situation:—"Waga kuni no kyō-iku wa chūtō shakwai, koto ni shizoku jinshu no senyubutsu to nari, masumasu kōshō ni nase, zaisan no toboshiku gakusha wo haishutsu shi, fusha no chishiki wa sōshin suru koto naku, katō jimmin wa masumasa mugaku ni ochiiru nomi." Which may be rendered thus: "Education in this country is the exclusive property of the middle classes, specially of the *shizoku*. It is rapidly becoming more and more high-class. It is producing a race of scholars who have no property, and does nothing in the way of enlightening the real owners

of property. And as for the lower orders, they are lapsing more and more into ignorance."

Mr. NOSE goes on to observe that there is no saying to what disastrous results these things may lead, whether in the minds of the uneducated lower classes, and in those of the over-educated but moneyless middle orders socialism may not find a congenial soil, and society be revolutionised by its reign. We ourselves, while entirely agreeing with Mr. NOSE as to the unsatisfactory mental condition of the youth of Japan, and while thinking that he is correct in the causes to which he attributes this state, believe that there are counter-acting influences of sufficient force to prevent the spread of socialism to any extent.

Into the numerous details of Mr. NOSE'S valuable book we have no space to enter. To the teacher and to those who have the control of scholastic affairs it cannot but prove of immense value. The practicality with which every subject is discussed is no less commendable than rare in a production of this kind.

The main point of Mr. NOSE'S book is the necessity of simplifying and adapting to Japanese means of livelihood the education of the lower orders and the middle classes. He is on the right track, but it may comfort him and those who think with him to know that, even in countries where education has been studied as a science for many decades, there is the same complaint against the unpractical nature of the information imparted in schools. A copy of *The Times* which has just reached us contains a leader on the new Educational Code; the London journal concludes with these words: "Manual training, the acquisition of artistic capacity, and the qualities which contribute to the making of a helpful citizen, are to profit at the expense of mere book knowledge. We have taken twenty years to learn the lesson that the accumulation of unpractical knowledge is a rather barren exercise for boys and girls who have to make their way in the world! but we are now in a fair way of turning the discovery to a good account."

A JAPANESE ON THE EASTERN QUESTION.

A VOLUME has just been published in London which is of interest in more than one respect. It is entitled "Japan and the Pacific, and a Japanese view of the Eastern Question." The Author is Mr. MANJIRO INAGAKI, a Graduate of Cambridge. The most striking feature about the book is that a Japanese gentleman should have the courage to undertake to discuss the Eastern Question for the English reading public. The book consists of two parts which are wholly distinct; the first, occupying about seventy pages, is devoted to a discussion of the position and power, present and future, of Japan in the

Pacific, which practically means, in the world; while the second part is nothing more than an account of that series of complicated and sometimes dangerous problems popularly called the Eastern Question. Obviously to the English reader the first part is by far the more interesting. In the preface the author says that his object has been two-fold. He desires to arouse his own countrymen to a sense of the great rôle they have to play in the 20th century, and also to call the attention of Englishmen to the important position Japan occupies in respect of British interests in the Far East. He explains that he deals, in the second part of his book, with the Eastern Question because he considers that the position of Japan in the Pacific has in effect become part and parcel of that question, and because he believes that an acquaintance with the Eastern Question will be a necessity for Japanese statesmen in the future. In the present volume he confines himself to England and Russia in Asia, but he promises to continue his investigation in regard to Eastern Europe and other countries. The volume, by the way, is dedicated to Professor SEELY, and apparently the author has been assisted by several eminent Cambridge men. At the same time it is clear from the style, and, it might even be said, from the grammar, that the book is from Mr. INAGAKI'S own pen. None of the information given in its pages is new. One cannot fail to perceive that the writer has carefully studied official and other publications relating to England and the East and to Russia; but neither in originality nor in arrangement would the book pass muster now-a-days did it come from the pen of an English author. At the same time, the views of a cultivated Japanese on his own country and especially on her foreign relations, are always interesting.

Mr. INAGAKI argues strongly, in the first place, for an alliance between Great Britain and Japan against Russia. The gist of his argument may be stated in the words with which he concludes his first chapter:—"This fact remains a certainty that will one day come to pass, that England and Russia will at some future period fight for supremacy in the North Pacific. Japan lies between the future combatants!" Commenting on the occupation of Port Hamilton by Great Britain, he observes that although that island forms the gate to the Yellow Sea, it could never become the base of operations for an attack upon Russia in the Pacific without Japanese alliance, for Japan holds the key to the situation in Tsushima, and could keep the British fleet from attacking Russia through the Japan Sea. Moreover, he says that a Japanese occupation of Fusan would render the Sea of Japan impregnable to any attack from the South. It is fair to add that these speculations of the writer are grounded upon

certain observations of Sir CHARLES DILKE in his recent work, "The present condition of European Politics." After referring to the military and naval progress of his country, Mr. INAGAKI says that Japan would be able to sever communications between Port Hamilton and either Canada or Hongkong, for "*without doubt Japan is the key of the Pacific.*" He approves, however, of the abandonment of Port Hamilton, because by that step "England not only regained a firm and complete commercial alliance, but also maintained and strengthened a political alliance against Russian attacks from Korea and indirectly from Manchuria and Mongolia." The latter appears to him the only feasible plan for a Russian attack on an Anglo-Chinese alliance. He believes that a Russian annexation of Korea would be followed by an alliance of England, China, and Japan, and might cause a second Crimean War, this time in the Pacific and not in the Black Sea.

On the commercial side of the question, Mr. INAGAKI points out that a canal of some description to connect the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans through Central America is sure to be constructed, and that Japan would then be the most important centre of trade in these regions. The Siberian railway must also add to her importance, and will lead to the inevitable construction of railways in China. "Thus," he says, "Japan has not only a splendid future before her with regard to commercial greatness, but has every chance of rising to the head of manufacturing nations. In the latter respect she has advantages over Vancouver's Island and New South Wales, her rivals in the Pacific. These advantages are her mineral reserves, her climate, abundance of good harbours, cheap labour, and her physical position enabling her to readily import raw material." He comes unhesitatingly to the conclusion that England is not able to secure absolute power in the North Pacific with her present forces and with Hongkong as a military centre but he thinks that she could hold her ground if she occupied Formosa. In regard to the strategical position of this island he gives some information, and comes to the conclusion that in all probability England will occupy it.

So much for the first part of the book. As will be seen from this summary, there is much that is academical, much that is outside the range of practical politics, and much also that is sensible and well-informed. We need take little notice of the second part, which traces the history of the Eastern Question down to the treaty of Berlin and in the last chapter discusses the situation in Central Asia. We fear that in this section of the book the author has obeyed a propensity for arranging nations as one would arrange chess-men in a combination. He thinks that England's true policy in Central Asia is to

construct a railway to India from the Mediterranean, and he winds up by saying that an alliance of England, France, Turkey, Austria, and Italy would effectively thwart Russian schemes. No doubt it would, but it would be easier for single-handed England to "thwart Russian schemes" than to secure an alliance between these five Powers. On the whole, there is a good deal that smacks of the young University man, of the Youthful Orators of the Unions of Oxford and Cambridge in Mr. INAGAKI'S book, but youth, as Mr. PARNELL said on a famous occasion, "is a fault that time invariably cures."

PUT THE SADDLE ON THE RIGHT HORSE.

PEOPLE have been known to become persuaded of the truth of a great many curious things which they were sufficiently anxious to believe, and which they repeated to themselves often enough. Charity prompts us to attribute this kind of selfish and mechanical credulity to the folks who try so hard to prove that the *Japan Mail* has created bad blood between Japanese and foreigners, and that, but for its writings, the Japanese people would give themselves no real concern about Treaty Revision. Men who profess to put faith in such absurdities cannot be expected to exercise discernment about anything else, yet surely they should be able to appreciate the unfortunate position in which they are placed by their own pretence. For they themselves habitually write, and have long habitually written, about everything Japanese in a tone of insolent contempt that would stir the pulses of the most phlegmatic people under the sun, whereas our rôle has been to protest against such writing, and to insist that it no more represents the genuine feelings of decent Englishmen than the mud on a river's bank represents the colour of the current. Is it credible that our words of remonstrance and sympathy have provoked hatred and engendered ill-feeling, whereas the harsh taunts and scornful intolerance of the other side have passed unnoticed and unresented? Then, in the matter of Treaty Revision, it is asserted that this journal is alone responsible for Japan's aspirations, and that if our columns were silent the question would be suffered to lapse into the limbo of apathy and forgetfulness. Is our influence indeed so paramount, and are the voices of our opponents so powerless? We estimate them at the value which they put on themselves, and when they assure us that it is we who have created all the commotion, whereas their own unremitting efforts to calm it have proved quite abortive, we know not which to admire more, their self-effacement, or the animosity that prompts them to strike even though they impale themselves in the act. But in

truth it were worse than idle to waste a moment's serious attention on such childish pretences. They are as futile to turn any thinking man from his purpose, or to influence the course of public events, as an atom of dust is to deflect the sun from its path. Treaty Revision will be accomplished, by negotiation or by repudiation, whatever clamour its feeble and evil-tongued opponents may raise, and its accomplishment will be welcomed most heartily by Englishmen, for neither political intrigue, nor passing fancy, nor yet the graceless virulence of journalists who parody British sentiment, can in any degree obscure the fact that Englishmen, above all Westerns, have assisted Japan to adopt her new civilization, and that England, above all Western countries, is interested in promoting that development of Japan's material resources which can only follow the removal of every restriction upon trade and industry.

Considering the overwhelming strength of the forces that make for this event, as compared with the puny and ever weakening struggles of its opponents, one experiences a strong repugnance to notice the petty bickerings and frivolous arguments still indulged in by the parasites of that now discredited form of patriotism which consists simply in truculence and intolerance. We ourselves have long learned to count the calumny and abuse of such patriots as the best compliment that could be paid to us: their applause alone would be intolerable. Yet it has seemed worth while to answer their charges of inconsistency, and we may repeat here what we have already asserted, namely, that we retract nothing of what we wrote either last year or in preceding years. We strongly advocated the adoption of Count INOUE'S scheme of Treaty Revision, not indeed in the extraordinary and impossible form which it ultimately assumed, but in its original and simple shape. We regarded it, and do still regard it, as the best settlement that could have been made at the time. Count OKUMA'S scheme was but a modification of Count INOUE'S; a modification very favourable to Japan, though it embodied the limits of the concessions which her statesmen dared to make. That scheme also we supported, holding, as we still hold, that it met the situation well. Unfortunately or fortunately—who shall decide?—some of the Great Powers hesitated to accept it, and while they waited, Japanese public opinion grew more and more resolute, until at length the scene witnessed in 1887 was repeated on a much larger scale in 1889. We said then, and we now repeat, that, in our opinion, it would have been far better for Japan could she have reconciled herself to Count OKUMA'S compromise, and that by rejecting it at the eleventh hour she did herself great injury. But the fact is that she did reject it, and that any Cabinet now proposing to employ foreigners on the Japanese bench as

a guarantee to Foreign Powers, could not remain in office for 24 hours. On the other hand, the longer the treaties are left unrevised, the longer the present system of restricted intercourse is continued, the bitterer will Japan's feeling grow, and the less liberal will be the terms she can be persuaded to offer. "Let her wait," say the opponents of Revision. Aye, truly, let her wait, when the first item in the programme of every political party in the country is Treaty Revision, and when the conduct of the affair is about to be virtually transferred from the hands of liberal and patient statesmen into those of men who know only what treatment free countries in the West are entitled to expect, and who desire nothing better than to arraign the Government's failure to secure that treatment for their own country. Let her wait, until the sentiment of umbrage now thrusting itself into her daily intercourse with foreigners, ripens into a likeness of the antipathy that grew up in mediæval times, and until history verifies the old adage by repeating its most disagreeable incidents. Let her wait by all means, while fools build a paradise for their kind, and malevolent babblers accuse the barometer of producing the storm which it predicts.

LAW OF MEETINGS AND POLITICAL ASSOCIATIONS.

LAW No. 53.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Regulations relating to the Law of Meetings and Political Associations (*Shukwai oyobi Seisha-ho*), and order the same to be promulgated.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.)
(Great Seal.)

Dated July 25th, 1890.

(Countersigned)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.

COUNT SAIGO TSUKUMICHI,
Minister of State for Home Affairs.

Article 1.—"Political Meetings" in this law mean meetings assembled in public for the delivery of lectures and the discussion of matters relating to politics, whatever such meetings may be called; "political associations" include all organized bodies with objects relating to politics, whatever names such associations may bear.

Article 2.—Each political meeting shall be arranged for by a projector.

When it has been decided to hold a meeting, the projector shall intimate the fact to the police station of the district where the place of meeting is, 48 hours before the opening of the meeting.

On such intimation being made the police station shall at once acknowledge its receipt of the same.

The place and date, the name of the projector of the meeting, as well as the names, residences and ages of the speaker or lecturers, shall be mentioned in the above letter of intimation (*todokeho*), and the signature and seal of the projector shall be affixed to the same.

The effect of the intimation (*todoke-ide*) shall cease, if the meeting be not opened within 3 hours after the period mentioned in the same.

Article 3.—No person other than adult male subjects of Japan in the possession of public rights (*koken*) can be the projector of a political meeting.

Article 4.—Soldiers of the army or seamen of the navy, on service, or with the first and second reserves when mobilized, police officials, instructors and students of Government, public and private schools, infants and women, are not permitted to assemble in political meetings.

In the case of meetings which may be opened to make preparations for the election of members of

an assembly organized by law, the restrictions of this article which shall not apply to those who have the right of electing or of being elected, during the thirty days which precede the date of voting.

Article 5.—No foreigner can speak or lecture in political meetings.

Article 6.—No political meeting can be held in the open air.

Article 7.—Should it be intended to assemble in public or to hold a procession in the open air, the projector of the same shall intimate the place of assembly, the date, and the road through which it is intended to pass, to the police station of the district, 48 hours beforehand and obtain permission for the same. This regulation shall not, however, apply to festivals, religious celebrations or clubs, the games of students or other occasions which are recognized by custom and usage.

Police stations may not give permission should injury to peace and order be apprehended.

Police stations may prohibit meetings and movements of crowds in the open air in any case, should the same be deemed injurious to peace and order.

Article 8.—No meeting or movement of a crowd (procession) in the open air is allowable during the time from the opening till the close of the Houses, within a radius of three miles of the Imperial Diet. The additional sentence of paragraph 1, Article 7, shall also be applied in the case of this Article.

Article 9.—A police station may detail constables in uniform who shall attend political meetings and regulate the same.

Projectors of political meetings shall supply to the police attending the meetings any seats demanded by them, and shall answer whatever questions relating to such meetings may be asked by them. The attendance and superintendence of the police referred to in the first paragraph of this article may take place in the case of meetings deemed to be injurious to peace and order.

Article 10.—No person can attend any assembly, carrying arms or lethal weapons. Persons who carry arms in accordance with regulations are, however, excepted.

Article 11.—No meetings are permitted to be held where speeches are delivered to shield criminals, or to protect or congratulate persons guilty under the criminal law, or persons *pendente lite* of a Criminal Court, or to instigate the commission of crime.

Article 12.—Police officers may challenge any who wilfully conduct themselves in a tumultuous or turbulent manner, and if such do not observe their orders may expel them from the hall.

Article 13.—Police officers may order the dissolution of a meeting in the following case:—

- (1). When the existence of the meeting is a contravention of any of the provisions of this law.
- (2). When Article 11 is contravened, or the meeting is deemed to be injurious to peace and order.
- (3). When the attendance of the police is opposed, or their seats are not provided at their request, or their questions are not answered.
- (4). When the persons assembled are tumultuous, and do not become quiet when ordered to do so.
- (5). When a number of persons contravene Articles 4 and 10 and do not observe the orders of the police to leave the hall.

Article 14.—Should political meetings be held without the communication mentioned in Article 2 being made, the projectors shall be punished by fines of not less than *yen* 10 and not more than *yen* 100; and the persons who lease the hall shall be similarly punished.

Article 15.—Should the information mentioned in Article 2 be false, projectors shall be punished as prescribed in the previous article.

Article 16.—Any person who contravenes Article 3, or who assembles in contravention of Article 4, and any projector who does not prohibit them from doing so, shall be punished by fines of not less than *yen* 2 and not more than *yen* 20.

The penalty on projectors who contravene Article 5 shall be similar to that in the last paragraph. Projectors who cause persons prohibited from assembling in a political meeting, to so assemble by enticing or inducing them, shall be liable to punishment one degree heavier than that mentioned in paragraph 1 of this Article.

Article 17.—Projectors and speakers who contravene Article 6 shall be punished by minor imprisonment for not less than 11 days and not more than 6 months, or by fines of not less than *yen* 5 and not more than *yen* 50.

Article 18.—For contraventions of Article 7, projectors or instigators shall be punished by fines of not less than *yen* 10 and not more than *yen* 100.

Article 19.—For contraventions of Article 8,

projectors and instigators shall be punished by minor imprisonment for not less than 11 days and not more than 6 months, or by fines of not less than *yen* 10 and not more than *yen* 100.

Article 20.—Contraventions of Article 10 shall be punished by minor imprisonment for not less than 11 days and not more than 6 months; projectors who fail to prohibit such contravention shall be similarly punished.

Article 21.—Contraventions of Article 11 shall be punished by fines of not less than *yen* 20 and not more than *yen* 200, or by minor imprisonment for not less than 1 month and not more than 6 months.

Article 22.—Persons who refuse to leave a meeting when ordered to do so or who refuse to obey the orders of the police dissolving a meeting, shall be punished by minor imprisonment for not less than 11 days and not more than 6 months, or by fines of not less than 2 *yen* 20.

Article 23.—Political associations shall be controlled by officials (*yakunin*).

Each political association shall intimate its name, its officials, and members to the police station of the district where its office is situated, through the medium of its officials within three days after its formation. The same process is necessary when any change occurs in the matters to be reported as above.

Police stations shall at once intimate the receipt of the information above mentioned.

Officials shall answer whatever questions relating to the association the police may ask.

Article 24.—When a political association shall open a meeting for the delivery of political speeches, Article 2 shall be observed. Meetings held at fixed times, and the places and speakers of which are settled beforehand, need not be reported to the police when intimation has been made of the first meeting, always provided such intimation be made 48 hours before the first meeting. Should changes occur in the matters to be reported, Article 2 shall be observed.

Article 25.—Soldiers or seamen on service, or in the first or second reserve when the same are mobilized, police officials, instructors, and students of Government, public and private schools, infants, women, and males who do not possess public rights, may not become members of political associations.

Article 26.—Foreigners are prohibited from becoming members of political associations.

Article 27.—Political associations may not use marks or flags.

Article 28.—Political associations may not influence the public by issuing documents or sending deputies, or establish branch offices or combine and correspond with other political associations.

Article 29.—No political association is permitted to establish rules making members of any assembly organized by law responsible for their utterances or votes outside said assembly.

Article 30.—Should any political association be deemed injurious to peace and order the Minister of State for Home Affairs may suspend or prohibit it; should such association fail to dissolve when ordered, the offenders shall be punished by minor imprisonment for not less than 2 months and not more than 2 years, or by fines of not less than *yen* 20 and not more than *yen* 200.

Article 31.—Should the necessary report (*todokeide*) of a political association be omitted, or the questions of the police be not answered, in contravention of Article 23, the officials shall be punished by fines of not less than *yen* 10 and not more than *yen* 100.

Should the information mentioned in Article 23 be false, or a false answer be given to any question, punishment one degree heavier than that mentioned in the last paragraph shall be inflicted.

Article 32.—Persons who have become members of any political association, or officials who have caused them to do so, in contravention of Article 25, shall be punished by fines of not less than *yen* 2 and not more than *yen* 20.

Officials who contravene Article 26 shall be similarly punished.

Article 33.—Persons who use marks or flags, in contravention of Article 27, as well as officials of the association concerned, shall be punished by fines of not less than *yen* 2 and not more than *yen* 20.

Article 34.—For contraventions of Article 28 the offending officials or deputies shall be punished by minor imprisonment for not less than 1 month and not more than 1 year, or by fines of not less than *yen* 5 and not more than *yen* 50.

Article 35.—Persons who are actually officials of associations or projectors of meetings shall be conjointly responsible as officials or projectors, without respect to the name used, whether such name be that of one person or of several and other persons.

Article 36.—Offences against this law shall not be treated under the rule as to simultaneous offences (*susai gukatsu*).

Article 37.—The period of prescription for prosecutions under this law shall be 6 months.

Article 38.—Meetings regulated by laws and ordinances shall not be dealt with under this law.

AMENDED ORGANIZATION OF CUSTOM HOUSES.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 142.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Amendment of the Organization of Custom Houses, and order the same to be promulgated.

[His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.]
[Great Seal.]

Dated July 24th, 1890.

(Countersigned)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.

COUNT MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of State for Finance.

Article 1.—Custom Houses shall be under the superintendence of the Minister of State for Finance, and shall deal with business connected with customs.

Article 2.—The following officials shall be attached to the various Custom Houses of the empire:—

Superintendents	6 <i>Sonin</i> rank.
Vice-Superintendents	2 <i>Sonin</i> rank.
Chief Appraisers (<i>Kwantei-kan</i>)	5 <i>Sonin</i> rank.
Probationers for the office of Chief Appraiser (<i>Kwantei-kan shiho</i>)	5
<i>Zoku</i>	207
Appraisers (<i>Kwantei-ri</i>)	21 <i>Hannin</i> rank.
Inspectors (<i>Kwan-ri</i>)	24 <i>Hannin</i> rank.
Assistant-Inspectors	274 Six <i>Hannin</i> rank.

Article 3.—Superintendents of Custom Houses shall be under the guidance and control of the Minister of State for Finance, and shall have control of affairs relating the respective Custom Houses.

Article 4.—Vice-Superintendents of Custom Houses shall be officials of rank below that of the superintendents whom they are to assist, shall be attached one each to the Custom Houses of Yokohama and Kobe, and shall render assistance to the Superintendents of such offices, and discharge the latter's duties should they be prevented by some cause from doing so.

Article 5.—Chief Appraisers shall be guided and controlled by the Superintendents, and shall discharge duties relating to the examination and appraising of goods.

Chief Appraisers may in addition discharge the duties of heads of offices (*kwaicho*).

Article 6.—*Zoku* shall be under the control of their respective superiors, and shall discharge duties pertaining to records, accounts, and book-keeping.

Article 7.—Appraisers shall be under the orders of their respective superiors, and shall be engaged in the examination and appraising of goods.

Article 8.—Inspectors shall be under the control of their respective superiors, and shall deal with affairs connected with the prevention of smuggling and the non-payment of taxes (*datsu-wei*) having control over assistant-inspectors.

Article 9.—Assistant-Inspectors shall assist inspectors in their duties.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 144.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Regulations relating to the appointment of Inspectors and Assistant Inspectors of Custom-Houses, and order the same to be duly promulgated.

[His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.]
[Great Seal.]

Dated July 24th, 1890.

(Countersigned)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.

COUNT MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of State for Finance.

The Minister of State for Finance may frame and issue regulations providing for the special examination and appointment of Inspectors and Assistant Inspectors of Custom-Houses, and officials so examined and appointed may not, without passing the ordinary examination, be transferred to other *hannin* offices.

AMENDED MINING REGULATIONS.

LAW No. 55.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Amendment of the Mining Regulations, and order the same to be promulgated.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.)
(Great Seal.)

Dated July 29th, 1890.

(Countersigned)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.
MUTSU MUNEMITSU,
Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

The Law as to Mining Operations shall be amended to the following effect:—

Chapter II., Art. 5.—Persons desiring permission to commence experimental mining operations shall submit to the Minister President of State a petition to that effect, with plans and sketches. Should two or more petitions be presented in reference to the same piece of land, one of which is by the owner of such land, the petition of such owner shall be granted in preference to others.

Chapter III., Art. 9.—Persons desiring permission to lease a mine shall present a petition to that effect to the Minister President of State, with relative plans and sketches. Should it be difficult to present the plans and sketches at the same time as the petition, they may be submitted within thirty days after the presentation of the petition. The petition, however, shall be void in the event of the plans and sketches not being presented within that period. The area for permission to work which a petition is presented, shall be in the case of coal over 10,000 *tsubo*, and in the case of other minerals over 3,000 *tsubo*, and the maximum area shall be 600,000 *tsubo*.

Art. 10.—Persons presenting petitions for the lease of a mining area must prove the existence within such district of the mineral which it is intended to exploit. Permission may not be granted should the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce not be convinced of the existence of the mineral, or should he deem the experimental or mining operations to be injurious to the public interest; and in such case also he may withdraw and annul permission previously given. Should any person who has applied for permission to conduct experimental operations or to commence mining operations be dissatisfied or aggrieved by the operation of the last provision, he may lay the matter before the Administrative Court. In this case, however, damages may not be sued for. Should it appear that license to commence experimental or mining operations has been obtained by false representation or by mistake, the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce may withdraw the permission so obtained. Any person interested in the matter may, by memorial to the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, call attention to such irregularities. Persons aggrieved by the action of the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce in regard to the foregoing provisions may lay the matter before the Administrative Court.

Chapter V., Art. 22.—With the permission of the local chief, persons desiring of filing a petition for leave to commence experimental or mining operations may make measurement of other or adjoining lands; but such persons must make good any damage caused in so doing. Should it be necessary to use other or adjoining lands for (1) opening a mine shaft; (2) depositing ore, &c.; (3) cutting a tunnel or road, or laying a tramway or railway, or making a canal, ditch, or reservoir; or (4) erecting offices necessary for mining operations, conference shall be had with the owner of such other or adjoining lands; and should such conference be ineffective, the decision of the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce shall be obtained. No owner of, or person connected with such land, can take objection to a lease granted on the decision of the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce. Persons who conduct experimental or mining operations shall pay reasonable compensation for the land they have used. Should any one having a license to begin experimental operations, or having a lease of a mining area, intend to occupy the land for over three years, or to alter the character of the land, or erect buildings on it, he may at the request of the owner of such land be required to purchase the same.

In reference to the use and purchase of land Arts. 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, par. 1, of Art. 26, and Arts 34, 35, 36, and 37 shall be applicable.

THE CENTRAL METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATORY.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 156.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Regulations relating to the Amended Organization of the Central Meteorological Observatory, and order the same to be promulgated.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.)
(Great Seal.)

Dated August 2nd, 1890.

(Countersigned)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.
COUNT SAIGO TSUKUMICHI,
Minister of State for Home Affairs.

Article 1.—The Central Meteorological Observatory shall be under the superintendence of the Minister of State for Home Affairs, and deal with the following subjects:—

- (1.) Meteorological Observations;
- (2.) Meteorological Reports.
- (3.) Meteorological Investigations.
- (4.) Examination of apparatus used in Meteorological Observations.
- (5.) Weather Reports.
- (6.) Hurricane Reports.
- (7.) Measurement of earthquakes.
- (8.) Measurement of the magnetism in the earth.
- (9.) Measurement of electricity in the atmosphere.
- (10.) Measurement of the atmosphere.

Article 2.—The following officials shall be attached to the Meteorological Central Observatory:—

A Chief.
Engineers.
Engineer Probationers.
Gishu.

Article 3.—The Chief of the Observatory shall be an engineer, and shall superintend the affairs of the observatory, and control his subordinate officials under the guidance of the Minister of State for Home Affairs.

Article 4.—Engineers shall be of *souin* rank, and their settled number 4. They shall take respectively a share in the work of the observatory under the guidance of the Chief. There shall be one engineer probationer.

Article 5.—*Gishu* shall be of *kannin* rank and their settled number 15. They shall take a share in the work of the observatory under the guidance of their superiors.

Article 6.—Clerks shall be of *kannin* rank and their settled number 5. They shall deal with miscellaneous business under the guidance of their superiors.

Article 7.—The division of business shall be decided by the Minister of State for Home Affairs.

CORRESPONDENCE.

"SECULARIAN'S" LETTER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In your issue of the 29th ult. appears a letter written by "Secularian" in which the recent utterances of Bishop Newman are severely criticised. In reading that letter I must confess that I was much surprised and pained, surprised at the bald and inaccurate assertions it contained, and pained at the unjust, unkind, and deeply censorious spirit which the writer manifested. I pray that "Secularian's" heart may yet be touched by the power of God, and that his eyes may be opened to the truth. Then he will know that Christianity is not a vicious institution, the enemy of progress and a curse to humanity. In the light of history how can an intelligent man utter such words as these:—"We have only to be thankful that the tares of Christianity have not utterly choked the good seed of humanity." With all due respect to "Secularian," I must affirm that such words savour much more strongly of blind prejudice and bitter hatred than of calm intelligence and dispassionate reason. At any rate, they indicate the absence of that breadth and liberality of spirit and fairness of mind which the enemies of Christianity are wont to claim for themselves. I freely admit that Christians are but human beings and as such are liable to err, and the history of the Churches bears testimony to many glaring inconsistencies, but, whatever else can be said, certainly it can not be said that true followers of Christ are misanthropes, and I appeal to "Secularian's" own experience in defence of the

statement. I am persuaded that a lack of proper discrimination in the use of the term "Christian" led to the above rash and unadvised statement. When reference is made to "fires of persecution lighted by Christians," the implication is that a spirit of religious intolerance is the common heritage of all followers of Christ. But in reality that sect of so-called Christians who kindled these fires is the sect which has substituted traditions of men and conciliatory decrees for the Word of God, viz., Romanists, and those Christians who manifested the greatest intolerance after the overthrow of Romish supremacy were those who were nearest to Rome in ritual, polity, and sympathy, and furthest from the Bible. Religious intolerance and persecution are utterly at variance with the teachings and spirit of Christ. Then, because some who are called Christians, but who have openly forsaken the teachings of Christ, have been guilty of shameful persecution, is it right to stigmatize the whole body of Christians as religious bigots and persecutors? Let there be a judicious discrimination in the use of the word "Christian." Let it be remembered also that Church connection is by no means synonymous with Christianity, but that no one is a Christian until he is born again regenerated by the power of God. I boldly assert, without fear of contradiction, that an unconverted church-membership is one of the great curses of the world.

Now let us examine some of the remarkable statements made by "Secularian." He says: "Infidelity has quenched the fires of persecution lighted by Christians." Of course reference is made here to modern infidelity, for Julian the Apostate may be considered the last representative of ancient infidelity. Modern infidelity takes its rise in the seventeenth century in the person of Lord Herbert of Cherbourg, whose writings were philosophical and original, but contained no polemics against Christianity. After Herbert came Hobbes, Blount, Locke and others whose writings were deistical rather than atheistic, and in which were advocated very strongly many of the fundamental tenets of Christianity. And not till after the middle of the eighteenth century were there any writers to whom the appellation "infidel" seemed peculiarly fitting, the days of Hume, Gibbon, and Paine. But by this time "the fires of persecution lighted by Christians" had almost ceased to burn. The great Reformation had been accomplished, the inquisition and rack had been shorn of their power, and the great battle for religious freedom was practically ended. And what part did infidelity take? None. When the battle was raging fiercest, infidelity was yet unborn. Freedom of thought and of religious conviction are conditions absolutely necessary to the existence of infidelity. The very meaning of the term as popularly employed implies freedom of belief. How then can it be instrumental in gaining religious freedom or quenching the fires of Christian persecution? The conduct of Galileo and his retraction before the dreaded Inquisition illustrates the behaviour of a free-thinker when confronted by a narrow, bigoted, ecclesiastical hierarchy. Exoneration from religious bigotry was gained by Tyndall, Luther, Calvin, Knox, and their noble coadjutors, many of whose bodies were burned at the stake, and not by infidelity. The freedom from intolerance that we now enjoy was bought at the price of martyrs' blood, and there is not that in infidelity which makes martyrs.

Again, "Secularian" claims that "infidelity has abolished the fiendish treatment of old women for the Bible-created offence of witchcraft ('Thou shalt not suffer a witch to live,' Exodus 22:18.). Just here it is worthy of remark that the words "witch" and "witchcraft" do not properly occur in the Bible at all. Exodus 22:18, is wrongly translated in the King James common version. The Hebrew literally rendered would read, "A female practitioner of magic thou shalt not suffer to live," and in the Revised Version it reads, "thou shalt not suffer a sorceress to live." In Exodus 7:11, it is recorded, "Then Pharaoh also called for the wise men and the sorcerers; and they also, the magicians of Egypt, did in like manner with their secret arts." The Hebrew word here translated "sorcerers" is the masculine form plural number of the word which King James' translators rendered "witch." And in every instance in which the word "witch" or "witchcraft" occurs in the common version it is a translation of this same Hebrew word or its derivative. Hence I say that these words do not properly occur in the Bible. Sorcery, divination, augury, and kindred practices are strongly condemned both in the Old and New Testaments, and on just grounds. The nations which surrounded the Israelites were guilty in a remarkable degree of just such abominations, and the enactment and enforcement of very stringent laws were necessary

to prevent Israel's lapse into the same. The grand, central idea of the religion of the Israelites was monotheism, and around this cardinal truth all their laws, ordinances, and restrictions clustered. Now the use by an ignorant and superstitious people predisposed to idolatry, of such degrading and deceptive arts as divination, sorcery, &c., was a practical abandonment of monotheism and could not be tolerated. The sin of divination was classed with that of rebellion, 1 Sam. 15:23. Hence the wisdom of punishing, under the circumstances, such crimes with death is easily demonstrable. Then to say that witchcraft is a "Bible created offence" is certainly unjust and ill-timed; yea more, it is untrue. That a wrong interpretation of the Bible did for many years lend support to the punishment of witches is an indisputable fact, and constitutes one of the dark blots upon the pages of history. But in the name of justice do not ascribe to the Bible the follies and crimes of a people who did not understand it. But the punishment of witchcraft has been discontinued, and the question arises what led to its abandonment? Certainly infidelity did not. It is the result of scientific investigation and a better understanding of God's Word. But that is not infidelity, nor anything resembling it. Infidelity is too ready to arrogate to itself a monopoly of free thought, and herein it exhibits a narrowness even surpassing that ascribed to Christians.

The last remarkable claim that "Secularian" makes for infidelity which I shall notice is this: "infidelity has fought for and won that privilege of thinking and writing freely which has given so great an impetus to progress in the present age." I am constrained to ask, how does "Secularian" read history? If infidel writers fought for and won the great privilege of free-thinking and writing, certainly historians have been delict in recording their names. The revival of learning of which the nineteenth century with its boasted achievements is the result, began in the fourteenth century, perhaps two hundred and fifty years before the first germ of infidelity was known. John Wycliff, the first great apostle of learning and free-thought, did more perhaps for the intellectual freedom of England than any other man, and his greatest work was the translation of the Bible into the vernacular of the English people. Then followed such scholarly men as Tyndall, Colet, Erasmus, and others in England. In Germany John Reuchlin was among the first to rise up and throw off the fetters of ignorance and superstition, the heritage of the "dark ages." All of these were but "reformers before the Reformation," and prepared the way for Luther and his contemporaries. Then came the life and death struggle, the result of which would turn the destiny of the world, the struggle between religious intolerance, intellectual thralldom, ignorance and superstition on the one side, and the liberty of conscience, free-thought, speech, and belief on the other. The latter won, and the world has been blessed, and infidelity, "seeing that these things are good, now comes in and claims the harvest," whereas the brunt of battle was borne before infidelity was conceived of. Now let me say a word or two in regard to "Secularian's" interpretation of the Bible respecting slavery and the position of woman. He quotes Lev. 25: 44-46, in proof of the assertion that the spirit and teaching of the Bible give their support to slavery. First, let me observe that "Secularian's" method of interpretation is exceedingly unjust, and very frequently leads to inaccurate conclusions. He first wrests his passage from the context, and then puts a literal construction thereon, and in this way extorts a meaning that harmonizes with his preconceived opinions. Restoring Lev. 25: 44-46 to its immediate context, we ascertain that Moses is interdicting the enslavement of one Israelite by another. He says, "If thy brother be waxen poor with thee, and sell himself unto thee; thou shalt not make him to serve as a bond-servant: as an hired servant, and as a sojourner, he shall be with thee." He then continues to say that if the Israelites wanted bond-servants they must buy them of the surrounding nations and from the strangers sojourning among them, for it was forbidden for one Israelite to bring another into bondage. All that can be said of this passage is that Moses recognized slavery as an existing institution. He neither advocates nor condemns it, but he does restrict it, and in this restriction is the promise and prophecy of subsequent condemnation. The world was not yet ready for the abolition of slavery, and Moses was wise enough to recognize it, and legislate accordingly, but the very restriction that he threw about it indicates that he perceived its harmful tendency. So in the days of Christ and his Apostles the world was still unprepared to see slavery abolished, and was only prepared by the benign and elevating influences

of the Gospel working through eighteen hundred years. Christ taught the brotherhood of man, and this idea when properly developed and understood tends to obliterate all caste distinction.

In regard to the elevation of woman practically the same line of argument can be followed. In Dent. 29: 1, Moses provides for "a bill of divorcement" in case a woman does not "find favour" in the eyes of her husband. It is also true that polygamy was practised, a most degrading custom. But here also we find in the law of divorce a most wholesome restriction upon the loose and licentious practices of the times, and a recognition of woman's true worth and promise of future elevation. This idea continued to grow and spread until the world was prepared for the lofty teaching of Christ on the subject. In Matt. 5: 17, the words of Christ are: "Think not that I came to destroy the law or the prophets; I came not to destroy but to fulfil." To fulfil means to fill full. Hence, Christ's avowed purpose is not to destroy, but to fulfil the law, develop it, carry it farther in the same direction. Christ then proceeds to give a sort of running commentary on the law of divorce: "It was said also, whosoever shall put away his wife, let him give her a writing of divorcement: but I say unto you, that every one that putteth away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, maketh her an adulteress: and whosoever shall marry her when she is put away committeth adultery." Matt. 5: 31 and 32. Again: "And they said, Moses suffered to write a bill of divorcement, and to put her away. But Jesus said unto them, for your hardness of heart he wrote you this commandment;" Mark 10: 4 and 5. In regard to 1 Tim 2: 11, Paul, recognizing a common weakness of humanity, warns women against making a display of jewelry and fine dress and exhorts them to "adorn themselves in modest apparel," and also forbade them speaking in public. Nothing degrading in this. And be it remembered that woman has maintained her present rank and dignity in observing these very commands which certainly is a practical disproof of their tendency to degrade. So I am still convinced that the teachings of Christ by revealing the true worth and dignity of the human soul have been largely efficacious in "striking the gyves" from the slave and in elevating woman.

JNO. A. BRUNSON.

151, Hill, Kobe, August 4th, 1890.

MR. HOSIE'S TRAVELS IN WESTERN CHINA.

Three Years in Western China: a Narrative of Three Journeys in Szechuan, Kweichow, and Yunnan. By ALEXANDER HOSIE, H.B.M. Consular Service, China. With an introduction by Archibald Little, F.R.G.S. 1890: George Philip & Son, London.

This volume is published at a most appropriate moment. Owing to the arrangement recently concluded by Sir John Walsham for the partial opening of Chungking to British trade, people want to know more about Western China, its trade, productions, routes, and, so to speak, in the nick of time, Mr. Hosie comes forward to answer the questions which commercial communities at home are asking. No one can do so with more authority; for he resided in Western China for three years for the special purpose of investigating topics of interest to foreign trade. He succeeded the late Mr. Baber as Consular Agent at Chungking, and in the course of his duty travelled over five thousand miles, with the intelligent eyes and the keen appreciation of what was important to his mission, which we are in the habit of expecting from members of the British Consular Service in the East. In addition to the special commercial objects of all his journeys, Mr. Hosie studied much else that came within the range of his observation—the scattered aboriginal tribes all over Western China, of which we know so little, and yet which if thoroughly studied would seem capable of revealing so much to the ethnologist and student of the world's history; Mount Omei, the Mecca of Buddhism in Western China since the eight century of our era, and much else of a similarly varied and interesting character. Mr. Hosie's book is not perhaps like Mr. Baber's famous records of his travels in the "Supplementary Papers" of the Royal Geographical Society, for the latter is one of the half dozen most charming books of travel in the language—the late Sir Henry Yule always complained that the press and public took it for a Blue-book because the cover was blue—but the more recent author gives us abundance of information of the kind which we urgently want just now, and gives it and much else of an interesting de-

scription in an entertaining and attractive way. The publishers have also been fortunate in inducing Mr. Archibald Little to write an introduction explaining to the public the causes of the recent convention respecting Chungking, and the value to trade which the concession will be.

The book is mainly occupied with the record of three journeys from Chungking as the centre. Adopting Mr. Little's general summary of these, it may be said that the first, occupying sixty-eight days in the spring of 1882, led due south from Chungking through the province of Kwei-chow, the "Chinese Switzerland," and home of the Miao-tse or aboriginal inhabitants, now almost exterminated by the Chinese, to Kuei-yang Fu, the capital, thence to Yunnan Fu, the metropolis of Yunnan, and from there back to Chungking across the mountains of north-eastern Yunnan, and down the Nan-kwang river to the Yangtze. It was on this journey that Mr. Hosie first met with the white-wax insects, the rearing of which forms, with that of the silk-worm, one of the most interesting illustrations of the ingenuity of the Chinese in applying the minute labours of insects to wholesale industrial purposes. His next journey occupying from February to July, 1883, covered a much larger extent of ground, and enabled him to describe a still more interesting region. Setting out from Chungking in a north-westerly direction, he traversed the celebrated plain of Cheng-tu, the one large expanse of level ground in Western China, a plateau situated one thousand feet above sea level, at the foot of the Tibetan mountains, containing an area of 2,400 square miles, and a population of about three and a half millions, of which Baron von Richthofen, who visited it in 1872, thus speaks:—"There are few regions in China that, if equal areas are compared, can rival with the plain of Cheng-tu Fu as regards wealth and prosperity, density of population and productive power, fertility of climate and perfection of natural irrigation, and there is no other where, at the present time, refinement, and civilisation are so generally diffused among the population." Thence Mr. Hosie turned south-west past the country of the Lolo, that unique aboriginal tribe described by Francis Garnier and by Colborne Baber, to the renowned valley of Chien-chang, which Baber, who visited it in 1877, and Colonel Yule, who has so painstakingly traced each step of the Great Venetian, have identified as Marco Polo's Cain-du, the chief place of birth and early development of the white-wax insect, before he is transported, by running coolies who travel only by night, for his finishing "education" to the prefectural district of Kia-ting, 200 miles to the north-east; thence past the snow-capped mountains of the Tsang-shan and the "Sun-bridge" across the Gold-dust river (as the Yangtze is here called) to Tai-li Fu, the peerless capital of Western Yunnan, the Carajan of the great Marco. From this point Mr. Hosie turned his face homewards, and passing east again through Yunnan Fu, the eastern capital of the province, and thence north by the valley of the Ch'i-hsing to the navigable Yangtze river, he once more reached Chungking after six months' absence. Mr. Hosie's third journey was made in the summer of 1884, mainly with a view to collecting information upon the subject of Chinese Insect Wax, for the benefit of the Royal Gardens at Kew. He passed up the valley of the Kia-ling, the river which, coming from the north, falls into the Yangtze under the walls of Chungking; the main river, and this, its affluent, combining to form the narrow peninsula upon which the city stands. Three days' march brought him to the mart of Ho-chow, situated at the junction of the Fu river, an affluent that here flows into the Kia-ling from the west, and celebrated for its manufactures of Soy, made from the Soy bean, large plantations of which exist in the neighbourhood; hence through highly cultivated, typical Szechuan luxuriance, to the districts of Kia-ling and O-mei, in which flourish the celebrated white wax trees—a species of ash known to the Chinese as the Pai-la-shu. From this point he made the ascent of the great mountain of O-mei, a region entirely devoted to the worship of Buddha, to whom the mountain is said to have been exclusively dedicated by the pious Emperors of the Tang dynasty, in the eighth century of our era; the oldest shrine dating as far back as the Chin dynasty, A.D. 265. Descending the precipitous slopes of the great O-mei mountain, which towers among the clouds, a vast limestone rock eleven thousand feet high, Mr. Hosie turned south across a poor, mountainous country to the banks of the Golden river, which he descended from a point situated fifty miles above Blakiston's highest. He and his party suffered considerable hardship in this journey, being all struck down by fever, to which one of them, the native groom, unfortunately succumbed.

The story of the extraordinary career of the white

wax insect from its cradle to a somewhat dishonoured grave is told in a special chapter, and records one of those curious industries for which the Chinese are celebrated. In March he found attached to the bark of the boughs and twigs of the large-leaved privet numerous brown pea-shaped excrescences. The larger excrescences or scales were readily detachable, and, when opened, presented either a white-brown pulpy mass, or a crowd of minute animals like flour, whose movements were only just perceptible to the naked eye. He plucked the scales from the trees and on opening them found a swarm of brown creatures, crawling about, each provided with six legs and a pair of antennae. Each of these was a white wax insect. Many of the scales also contained a small white bag or cocoon covering a pupa, or perfect imago in the shape of a small black beetle. If left undisturbed in the broken scale the beetle, which, from his ungainly appearance, is called by the Chinese the "buffalo," will, heedless of the cocci which begin to crawl outside and inside the scale, continue to burrow in the inner lining of the scale, which is apparently his food. The Chinese declare that the beetle eats his minute companions in the scale, or at least injures them by the pressure of his comparatively heavy body. Thien-chang valley is the great insect producing country. Two hundred miles to the north-east, and separated from it by a series of mountain ranges, is the prefecture of Chia-ting, within which insect white wax as an article of commerce is produced. In the end of April, the scales are gathered in the Chien-chang valley, and collected for the most part at the town of Te-chang, on the right bank of the An-ning River. To this town porters from Chia-ting annually resort in great numbers—in former years they are said to have numbered as many as ten thousand—to carry the scales across the mountains to Chia-ting. The scales are made up into paper packets, each weighing about sixteen ounces, and a load usually consists of about sixty packets. Great care has to be taken in the transit of the scales. The porters between the Chien-chang valley and Chia-ting travel only during the night, for, at the season of transit, the temperature is already high during the day, and would tend to the rapid development of the insects, and their escape from the scales. At their resting places, the porters open and spread out the packets in cool places. Notwithstanding all these precautions, however, each packet, on arrival at Chia-ting, is found to be more than an ounce lighter than when it started from Chien-chang. In years of plenty, a pound of scales laid down in Chia-ting costs about half-a-crown; but in years of scarcity, the price is doubled.

West from the right bank of the Min River, on which the city of Chia-ting lies, stretches a plain to the foot of the sacred Omei range of mountains. This plain is an immense rice-field, being well-watered by streams from the western mountains. Almost every plot of ground, as well as the bases of the mountains, are thickly edged with stumps, varying from three or four to a dozen feet in height, with numerous sprouts rising from their gnarled heads. These resemble, at a distance, our own pollard willows. The leaves spring in pairs from the branches; they are light green, ovate, pointed, serrated, and deciduous. It is to this, the great home of the wax tree, that the scales are carried from the Chien-chang valley. On their arrival, about the beginning of May, they are made up into small packets of from twenty to thirty scales, which are enclosed in a leaf of the wood-oil tree. The edges of the leaf are tied together with a rice-straw, by which the packet is also suspended close under the branches of the wax tree. A few rough holes are drilled in the leaf with a blunt needle, so that the insects may find their way through them to the branches. On emerging from the scales, the insects creep rapidly up the branches to the leaves, among which they nestle for a period of thirteen days. They then descend to the branches and twigs, on which they take up their positions, the females, doubtless, to provide for a continuation of the race by developing scales in which to deposit their eggs, and the males to excrete the substance known as white wax. The wax first appears as a white coating on the under sides of the boughs and twigs, and resembles very much sulphate of quinine, or a covering of snow. It gradually spreads over the whole branch, and attains, after three months, a thickness of about a quarter of an inch. When the white deposit becomes visible on the branches, the farmer may be seen going the round of his trees, carefully belabouring each stump with a heavy wooden club, in order, as he says, to bring to ground the "wax dog," a declared enemy of the wax insect. This clubbing of the stumps is done during the heat of the day, when the wax insects are said to have a firm hold of the bark.

After the lapse of a hundred days from the placing of the insects on the wax tree, the deposit is complete. The branches are then lopped off, and as much of the wax as possible removed by hand. This is placed in an iron pot of boiling water, and the wax, melting, rises on the surface, is skimmed off, and placed in a round mould, whence it emerges as the white wax of commerce. Where it is found impossible to remove the wax by hand, twigs and branches are thrown into the pot, so that the wax is harder and inferior. Finally, not satisfied that all the wax has been collected, the operator takes the insects, which have meanwhile sunk to the bottom of the pot, and placing them in a bag, squeezes them until they have given up the last drop of their valuable product. They are then—an ignominious ending to their short and industrious career—thrown to the pigs! We have given from Mr. Hosie's chapter this summary of an extraordinary industry in the belief that it cannot fail to interest our readers.

As to the trade of Western China, although Mr. Hosie's chapter is long and detailed, we think it is not difficult to summarise its contents briefly and to some extent in his own words.

There are two water-routes in Yunnan, one in the south and the other in the north, the Songkoi or Red River of Tonquin and the Yangtze. The West River is navigated from Canton to Pe-se, close to the south-eastern frontier of the province, and is a very important trade highway to southern and eastern Yunnan. In default of a waterway in the west, communication is kept up by the Bhano-Tali Fu route, which, being now partly within the Indian Empire, has attracted no little attention, and raised considerable expectations for British trade. These are doomed to disappointment. The total import and export trade of this route three years ago did not exceed half a million sterling. The difficulties of the route are so great that no great improvement is possible. Yunnan is described as a rich province, but it contains a poor population, and, until the condition of the latter is improved, no great development of trade need be looked for in that direction. It is estimated to contain a population of from five to six millions, the great mass of which is engaged in agricultural pursuits. There are copper mines in the north and east, and tin and lead mines in the south of the province; but mining industries are so hampered by official interference as to profit little the owners or the workmen. Agriculture, too, is carried on under a system of small farms, and the absence of good roads and the impossibility of greatly improving those that exist, owing to the mountainous character of the province, do not tend to the enrichment of the peasantry. Immense tracts in the north and west of the province have been laid waste since the Mohammedan rebellion, and owing to the antipathy of the Chinese to settle on lands which they look upon as the property of people who may still be living, or whose descendants may still be living, it must be many years before the agriculture of the province is properly developed.

Kwei-chow, owing to its proximity to the great waterway of China, is better situated for trade than Yunnan, but is even less developed. A large area of the province has been laid waste during the struggle of the last 20 years between the Chinese and the aborigines, and, at the present time, traces are everywhere to be seen in the shape of ruined towns and villages and lands lying waste and desolate. The waterways that lead to the province flow through Szechuan, with the exception of the Yuan River, which flows east and north-east into the Tung-ting Lake, which debouches into the Yangtze, 123 miles to the west of Hankow. Although obstructed by numerous rapids, it is navigated to within 130 miles of Kwei-yang Fu, the capital, and is the trade highway to Eastern Kwei-chow. The trade of the rest is intimately bound up with that of Szechuan, through which it naturally passes. Like Yunnan, it is rich in the variety of its mineral wealth. Coal, iron, copper, and quicksilver exist in large quantities; but they are very imperfectly worked. Szechuan is a picture of what peace, contentment, industry, and trade are able to accomplish. When Yunnan and Kwei-chow were convulsed by civil wars, the people there were peacefully journeying up and down the Great River, disposing of their surplus produce, and bringing back not only what they required to satisfy their actual wants, but also luxuries in the shape of goods of foreign manufacture. On all the numerous rivers of the province there is one constant stream of traffic. No other province in China can vie with it in the richness and variety of its products. It exports eastward opium, silk, salt, sugar, and medicines. Of these, silk is the only article that reaches Europe; but, amongst the minor exports, tobacco, hides, musk, and rhubarb are well-known abroad. The total value of the export trade of Chungking, which is the great trade emporium of the province

amounts to more than five million sterling annually. This does not represent the total value of the surplus produce of the province. There are several other important trade centres each of which contributes its quota to the large export trade of the province last named. The greater part of the surplus wealth is consumed in the purchase of raw cotton, native cottons, and what is of great importance to British commerce, foreign cotton and woollen goods. Raw cotton exceeds, while native and foreign piece-goods are about one million sterling each. Mr. Hosie then enters into a description of the manner in which trade with China is conducted, and explains *likin* and *transit* passes, and much else that is tolerably familiar to most persons in the East though not to those at home. The volume concludes with a chapter, which is most interesting, on the non-native races of China. It is on the whole as interesting a work as has been published on China for a long time, not to speak of all of its practical value especially at this moment, and unless we are mistaken it will have at home that large measure of success which it deserves richly.

LETTER FROM SAN FRANCISCO.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT)

San Francisco, July 19th.

The dog days are upon us, and dullness rules the hour. A dreadful hot wave has just swept over the East, and everybody has wilted under it. In New York the thermometer registered the unprecedented figure of 110°; but the suffering in Chicago, with a temperature of 75° and 80°, is said to have been still greater. You are probably familiar in Japan with the principle that the suffering entailed by heat depends upon its moisture rather than upon its intensity; in Chicago, men and horses fell exhausted when the thermometer stood at 80°, while at Fresno in this State, workmen laboured steadily in the vineyards when the instrument registered 110° in the shade. In the one case the air was charged with moisture from the lake. In the other the air was dry and parched.

At Washington, Congressmen and Senators are mopping their perspiring brows, and wishing they were at home. The administrative party seems as far from the goal of its hopes as ever. Mr. Blaine not only repeats his denunciations of the Mr. Kinley tariff bill to all who will listen, but does not hesitate to denounce also the bill which proposes to place congressional elections under federal control. Simultaneously the chief organ of the Administration—the New York Tribune—calls a halt on pension legislation. It says—positively if tardily—that the party cannot stand any more veteran grabs. Between these two assaults the administrative leaders in Congress stagger demoralized. No one knows whether the President is with Mr. Blaine or Speaker Reed. No Republican can tell where the path of duties, or the dictates of party lead. All the Republicans know is that they are in a very bad box indeed.

A knave discovered that it is a question of law whether the Copyright Act is violated by the publication of a photographed copy of a copyrighted work, and he photographed Webster's Unabridged Dictionary, and offered it for sale at one quarter the price of the regular edition. His agent for distributing the work is John Wanamaker, the Sunday School teacher and Postmaster General.

The difficulty which prevents the adjustment of the Behring's Sea dispute is said to be another dirty job. No American of repute believes that Behring's Sea is a closed sea. But it is said that Mr. Windom and some of his colleagues are partners in the lease of the fur-seal islands, and the Government has got to maintain a position which no constitutional lawyer can justify in order that the lessees may enjoy a monopoly of sealing. Probably this is pure scandal, but it helps to discredit the Administration.

Another instance of the trend of events is the defeat in the Senate of the appropriation for irrigation surveys. In these surveys, as Mulberry Sellers would have said, there are millions, if they are handled discreetly. A system of irrigation will raise the value of land from 25 cents an acre to \$50 an acre: the man who knows where the irrigating canals are to run, in advance of his fellows, can easily make all the money he can use in this world. Accordingly, when Congress was asked to appropriate three quarters of a million for next year's work, Major Parnell, the engineer who has had charge of the work, was immediately beset by a swarm of land grabbers in search of information. He had none to give. They set Senator Stewart to work, and he tried to get the business of irrigation transferred to the Agricultural

tural Bureau, which is run by a friend. Baffled in this, he gathered round him enough Administration Senators to defeat the appropriation altogether.

An American variety of the Jack the Ripper genius has appeared in North Carolina. One Mary Sellers of Maxton was engaged to be married to a man named Crawford. She has another admirer in the person of Simon Ward. She was walking out last Sunday morning with her fiancée when Ward suddenly emerged from the bushes and ordered Crawford to leave her. With a docility which cannot be too warmly commended, Crawford complied. Ward took his place by the girl's side, and begged her to accompany him to church. She refused, and bade him leave her. He pleaded with her to yield to his request, but she was inflexible. On this, without a word of warning and with his fortunate rival watching him from the bush, he struck the girl with a razor in the throat, and severed the jugular vein. She died almost instantly and when she was still, Ward proceeded to cut off her head with his razor and to mutilate her person in the fashion of Jack the Ripper. When he had completed his bloody work, he fled to the woods, and then, but not till then, Crawford crawled out of the bush, and ran to the village to give the alarm. The people turned out *en masse*, and there is no doubt but Ward will be lynched in short order if he can be caught.

The President of the Pacific Mail Company will arrive here next week to consider the subject of running vessels from Tacoma and Vancouver to Yokohama. The Canadian ships will henceforth make this their terminus, stopping *en route* at Vancouver. So the prospect is fair for ample steam communication with your part of the world, and, possibly, for cheaper rates of travel.

THE THEATRE IN JAPAN.

The Japanese theatre, Chinese in origin, when once transplanted, attained remarkable perfection. In this metamorphosis we are made to feel the influence of the taste and sentiment of a race whose life consists mainly in the enjoyment of the wonders of nature and in the pursuit of art.

The pedigree of French comedy is well known; how the comic element was introduced, while yet imperfect, from Italy with the Renaissance, and how it became transformed to the extent of becoming the theatre of Molière, while in its native country it remained almost in its primitive state until the advent of Goldoni, which was not till the end of the last century. China has never had and can never expect to have a Goldoni. We dare not affirm that Japan will have its Molière. In these countries of the far East little is said of reformers in the walk of art. Progress is rather the effect of many influences which are the characteristics of an epoch. Still it cannot be denied that Japan has passed through an era of dramatic reform, for after deriving its theatre from China, it has left China far behind; but this reformation has not been the work of a single man nor of one generation. It has come gradually as the logical consequence of the Japanese taste for scenic representation. The long period of internal peace inaugurated by the coming to shogunal power of the Tokugawa has no doubt had a large share in the perfecting of the theatre, as in the development of all other arts. Iyeyasu, the founder of this Shogun dynasty, may in some sort be considered the promoter of a Japanese Renaissance which coincides with our seventeenth century.

No doubt the principles and rules of Japanese dramatic art have many shortcomings, but such as it is, the kind being conceded, it has arrived at such a point of perfection that further progress is not to be looked for without a change of style. It would cease to be the same art. This is perhaps what has preserved it hitherto from that movement of reform, which has for some years tended to deprive ancient Japan of its local colouring under the whitewash of new institutions and manners pretending to be European, but whose consequences have not yet been seriously regarded except by the Japanese themselves. The theatre has not yet been invaded by the coat and white tie.¹ So that the amateur of local colouring whom business or pleasure brings to Japan cannot do better than seek it at the theatre. He will there find it in its most delicate and original shades. The auditorium and the stage compose between them a field of observation, marvellously adapted as a study of manners and history.

The building is a great square edifice. It is entered by a vestibule on a level with the street,

whose general appearance is that of our entrance halls. There are situated the box offices. Tickets are also to be had in the houses near, but we do not affirm that they are "cheaper than at the theatre." Two doors lead almost directly to the pit, and two staircases, ladders rather, lead to the amphitheatre and to the passages towards the boxes. It must be understood that there is but one story. Garlands of lanterns in the façade, highly coloured banners, a series of paintings of the play in course of acting, all have a rather clamorous note; they are good puffs. The great space which we call the pit is divided into squares of equal size like a draught-board, or rather like a ceiling in compartments. These are boxes for four, but they are often made to hold six persons or even seven. The spectators step over the partitions to gain their place; consequently when once a family is installed in its box—a very suitable name—it cannot very easily get out again. For all that, many of them are emptied at each interval between the acts, for the performances last ten hours or more. But people dine there as they would at home—smoke, nurse children, and are generally at their ease. There are no chairs, the Japanese mode of sitting being to squat upon the heels, which position, being the least tiring and the most convenient, can be retained throughout the day. Two boarded passages, raised above the boxes to about the level of the heads of the audience, whose heads alone are seen above the partitions, run from one end to the other of the auditorium right up to the stage. By these the public of the pit enters; by them also most of the actors during the representation make their exits or their entrances, especially when illusion demands their arrival from a distance, when, in quitting the scene, they have to walk through streets or across country.

The doorkeeper has, in a fashion, the office of a call-boy. To this is added the care of a varied collection of umbrellas and parasols, which he opens and hands to each actor who enters, when the "business of the play" requires those accessories. This distribution goes on under the eyes of the audience; often the dialogue commences in the rear of the public, directly when the artist has set his foot inside the auditorium, and long before he gets to the level of the stage. Sometimes he stops midway to say something, or perhaps turns back, then goes in again, arriving at length at the desired moment. The drama gains much in life in this way, all the spectators participate in the action of the piece. We see what proportions the scenes assume when they thus invade the auditorium above the heads of the spectators. For appeals, parting exhortations, and above all, for provocations, the distance justifies all the tones of the voice. Whilst the principal action unfolds itself before the public, accessory scenes can be simultaneously played at the sides of the auditorium, independent from the actors' point of view, but from the spectators' part and parcel of the events which compose the play. Often the principal action is transferred to the middle of the pit. In that way a triple enlargement of the area of the theatre is gained. This also allows the conspirators, the assassins, liberators, and other personages who have to concert before they can act, deliberately to lay down their plans, or their proposed stroke of business, before arriving at the spot where it is to be carried out. The want of space in our stages often brings about very improbable situations. Thus, for example, we may see an actor who does not know what to do with his hands while waiting for the assassins to have arranged how they shall cut his throat. Nothing of the kind need be apprehended in a Japanese theatre. But it is precisely because this goes on above the heads of the audience that it is practicable. Everyone is in the thick of the drama, and probably is so much the more interested in it. For a spectator who gives the rein to his imagination the boarded passages may become rural roads and the pit a cultivated field; and if he would make his pleasure complete, he would annihilate himself as a man and make himself part of the play as an invisible spirit.

The mounting of the piece is astonishingly exact. If the action takes place in a house, it is represented entire with its approaches and neighbourhood. Moreover, Japanese architecture lends itself to this kind of decoration, for even palaces do not attain monumental proportions. In truth, when a house is completely open, little beyond the framework remains. We see everything that goes on inside; in this case, the theatre needs no illusion. If the scene is played in a closed house, it must be bisected. Still the Japanese give you the roof, the garden, the wall and the entrance gate, in one word all that immediately surrounds the house, all of the same cut.

There are changes of scene. The scenery with its decorations goes round upon a turn-table. This plan has the advantages occasionally of making the play seem more natural. Thus an actor having

entered a house by the doorway, we presently see the interior of the house.² How well all this is conceived to make the audience live in the very midst of the action! There is nothing fictitious or conventional in the exit or the return of this actor; what we see is the reality. It is desired to show the public in succession the front and the rear of a house. So the scene is turned round; what more simple, since the house in its entirety is there? The turntable may contain three pictures, or, more strictly speaking, three theatres at once, so that two changes of scene may be made, one after the other. The area of the scene is much larger than the height of it.³ Some accessory decorations are added at the sides; they are sometimes continued into the auditorium in the midst of the spectators. The curtain is drawn to one side. It is ornamented with some boldly drawn design with a gigantic inscription.

The orchestra is concealed on the left, and is on a level with the stage, behind a decoration of open work, which varies according to the theatre of action. It plays almost without ceasing, accompanying the dialogue with melody grave or gay, discreet or violent, low or noisy, accommodating itself to the situation. This melody is also made to represent the murmur of nature; it is imitative, and becomes by turns the zephyr, storm, tempest, thunder, rain, waterfall, running stream, the noise of a body which is thrown into the water, and the rushing of the water which fills its place.

Japanese music is wholly in the minor key. Suffice it to say that it has no relation to our musical canons, and that the European ear needs time in order to become used to it, and still more to like it. Still that comes about. A peculiarity of Japanese music is, that it is in some sort the counterpart of Chinese music, which, exclusively in the major key, is equally foreign to our notions of harmony. From this fact a curious and yet logical consequence has resulted, that European musicians have amused themselves by obtaining an extremely oriental extract from a combination of the two systems, which, with its fantastic belongings, could be rendered by our instruments.

In its main divisions the Japanese orchestra is not unlike ours. It has three great categories of instruments. The *koto* and the *samisen* resemble the harp and the violin with its allies the violoncello, bass viol, &c. The *koto* likewise produces different effects according to its size. The *samisen* has certain affinities to the guitar. Generally speaking, the strings of the *samisen* and the *koto* are touched with the finger; now and then use is made of a bow of which the strings are scarcely stretched. A kind of flute, of no particular shape, is the principal wind instrument. And there is a series of tambourines and kettledrums of quite an original aspect, which occupy a place much more important among musical instruments than do their congeners in the West.

The chorus is placed at the side opposite to the orchestra, in a small box closed by a blind. This is a personage who is not seen, but may often be heard. His functions are precisely those of the chorus in Greek tragedy; but he is of more importance, although concealed. He represents the good sense and morals of the people, but he chiefly explains the unfolding of the drama. On occasions, he recounts what takes place outside the scene, and unveils the inner sentiments of the *dramatis personæ*. The Japanese drama, a reflection of actual things, often develops through entire scenes in mere pantomime. In real life people are not always talking, but action goes on incessantly, because we are alive. We may be said to act, whether it be for some definite end, whether we repose or think, or are kept motionless by fear, expectation, or fatigue. If we are asleep, we may not seem to act; and yet is not sleep an action *sui generis*, susceptible of many varieties which have their manifestations in dreams and visible signs according as we are agitated or calm, well or ill, happy or unhappy? In any case we exist during sleep, and the world moves about the sleeper, because of him, and in relation to him. Indeed, if we are dead, we still exist as a corpse, as a recollection, as something which has been, and are therefore not extinct in the life of men. The actions of human beings mutually react, they live after death. Directly or indirectly we are always in action. But we only speak now and then. In this respect the European theatre is removed from all probability. Action with us is always associated with words, and if they are suspended to allow of the spectators' attention being concentrated on some capital point of action, that is only for a moment. In Japan, throughout whole scenes the actors may exchange but a few

¹ One may even pass from one play to another in the interior of same house.

² Which does not prevent its holding a house. Japanese houses are generally of one story, called *nika*. Later they have been houses of two stories built in Japan, but these are not introduced in theatres.

words; monologues are rare and always justified, which cannot be said of our dramas. Here it is that the use of the chorus is felt. He recites or chants the piece; he explains the pantomime which is going on before the public, his expressive voice takes suitable intonations—it is terrible or harmonious, it is generally solemn, and sometimes goes off into song. This mode of conducting a drama has caused Japanese actors to be the best mimics in the world. In this art they have attained a surprising perfection, thanks to which the Japanese theatre is always interesting, even to the stranger who knows not a word of the language. Beside them our actors are but commonplace puppets. What can we call for example, the series of conventional gestures with which they load their grimaces, but ridiculous apings, from which the Japanese theatre is entirely exempt. Therein consists its vast superiority in point of resemblance; what the Japanese represent is, they insist, life itself. With us, spoken pieces or pantomime are alike remote from it. In actual life we are not always speaking, but we do speak. The conventional gestures, so piteously grotesque, of our pantomimes are there to take the place of speech when it is absent. Japanese mimics have not to perpetrate these absurdities, because they speak when they have to speak. Life is composed of words and actions. With us the theatre is or nearly so, one or the other. In Japan it is the one and the other. We may thus define Japanese dramatic art as pantomime freed from conventional improbabilities, and where there is speech as there would be in real life. Do the Japanese actors speak naturally? The auditoria not being acoustically constructed, and the spectators also "going in for" actual life, which is far from being silent, the actors are obliged, in order to be heard, to speak out in a way which surprises us at first and is displeasing, but which we soon get used to.

In a future number we shall go behind the scenes and endeavour to give an account of a Japanese drama.—A. LEAUX in *Artistic Japan* for May.

IN H.B.M. COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before J. J. ENSLIE, Esq., Acting-Assistant Judge.
—WEDNESDAY, August 6th, 1890.

DEGRON V. GABARETTA.

This case, adjourned in order to afford parties an opportunity of arriving at an arrangement as to payment of the amount for which the plaintiff received judgment the other day, came up again this morning.

His Honour said he should be glad to hear whether any progress had been made in the direction of a settlement.

Mr. Litchfield said he was afraid the parties had not been able to come to any arrangement; their ideas seemed to diverge very much.

Mr. Walford said what had passed between the parties was as follows:—On the 30th ult., instructed by Mr. Gabaretta, counsel wrote to his learned friend: "Mr. Gabaretta's estimate in your possession shows his assets to be worth some \$800. Whether they will fetch as much in an auction it is of course impossible to say. His salary is \$70 a month, and out of that he has to maintain his wife and five children so that he cannot make any offer to pay his debt to Mr. Degron by instalments out of his salary. Mr. Gabaretta, however, has friends who are willing to help him if their assistance will really relieve him, and if Mr. Degron will accept a present payment of \$1,000 in full discharge of all claims arising out of the action, Mr. Gabaretta will exert himself to the utmost to procure that sum within the week. Kindly let me know Mr. Degron's views in this matter at your early convenience." This was the outside offer that Mr. Gabaretta was able to make, and of course it was entirely beyond his own means, and he depended entirely on the assistance of his friends to carry it out. In reply to that letter he received the following, dated 4th August:—"I submitted the terms of your letter of the 31st ult. to my client but he declines to accept the offer. Mr. Degron writes me that if \$2,000 and the costs of all proceedings are paid he will stay all proceedings, but on no other terms." Counsel wrote back to say that this was impossible as his client could not offer more than \$1,000, which was beyond his own means, and so the matter was at a complete dead lock, for his client could offer nothing more. Of course obviously with a wife and five children to support and the eldest of those children only 16 years old, it was quite impossible that on \$70 a month Mr. Gabaretta could make any offer to pay anything out of his salary. He had carefully estimated his assets and the value appeared to be under \$800, and

therefore he thought Mr. Degron would willingly have accepted an offer of \$1,000.

Mr. Litchfield with the permission of the Court would like to ask defendant one question, as to what really was—

Mr. Ensle said that would be reopening the case, while as a matter of fact the case had been closed.

Mr. Litchfield said he would hand the Court information that had come into his possession since the last hearing, and would take his Honour's decision as to what course he should adopt.

Mr. Ensle said he did not think that at the present stage and in this form he could accept any representation from counsel.

Mr. Litchfield said his contention was either that the property No. 224, Bluff, had been purchased really by the money of the defendant, or that supposing for a moment the whole of it was purchased by the money of the wife, it was personal property which had been reduced into the possession of the husband during coverture, and as such was liable to the claims of the defendant's creditors. There had been such dealing with this money during several years as was shown—

Mr. Ensle said he did not think at this stage he could allow the reopening of the case. The case was really closed, and it was simply adjourned at the last sitting till to-day with the view of affording an opportunity to come to some arrangement. Such arrangement had unfortunately not been arrived at.

Mr. Litchfield said of course if that was the ruling of the Court he should bow to it. He was only stating his reasons for wishing to add further evidence, as the Court had under the rules the power of adjourning from time to time. But if his Honour considered that the case was closed and the adjournment merely for one purpose—

Mr. Ensle said he most decidedly did so, and he had stated so at the time if counsel would remember. He still was of the opinion that he held at the last sitting, that this was evidently a case on which some arrangement might have been arrived at between the parties, and he very much regretted that the facilities he had afforded had not led to the desired result. Of course that being the case the matter rested with the Court. He therefore ordered execution against the estate, in addition to an attachment of the wages of the defendant to the extent of \$20 a month.

LETTER FROM YANG SHIN.

TO CHING SAN, MENG CH'EN, AND TZU CH'EN. WORTHY BROTHERS.

The letter despatched on the 25th of last month from Chan Hwa you will have already perused. On the 26th I arrived at Yang Shin. Ch'ien Cho-fu has now returned home, and I have left with me Wang Chieh-San only. We have already made a house to house investigation of 55 villages among the most impoverished, and were occupied from the 29th to the 3rd in distributing to them. We gave 1,000 cash (½ dollar) to adults and 500 cash to juniors. There are two grades of poverty a shade less extreme than these, besides many who have made no official report of calamity, but whose destitution is very great. We intend to make a further examination of these, and having completed the examination, knowing how many we have to relieve and the amount of money available, we can then fix upon the amount per head. If additional funds are forthcoming from Tientsin we still purpose to continue the rate of 1,000 cash adults, and 500 cash juniors. If there are no further funds from Tientsin we can only make a complete examination and divide what we have among them. It will take until the middle of the month to complete the examination. Apart from those already relieved, the number of households in extreme distress will probably exceed 5,000. All I have left after having distributed to the worst villages (as above) is just 100,000 strings of cash (Tls. 3,300).

On the 6th I go to Ti Chin, and at the quickest, going and returning, shall be ten days. There is great drought throughout the *chou* and *hsien* eastward, and I hear that the whole of Yen San and Ch'ing Yün is covered with locusts in very great numbers, which are a cause of some anxiety.

This year the wheat harvest is very fine, everywhere alike, and the thing to be specially glad about is that the finest of all is in the localities which were (formerly) sand-covered.

On the 28th I went to Wu Ting Fu, and there staying for an early bait I started in the afternoon for Ti San P'u with the purpose of examining the

whole of the country which had been covered with sand. Rather more than five *li* beyond the town I crossed the new embankment of the "Sah" (sand) river. It was this embankment which in the eighth month of last year broke open two or three *li* from Hsi Feng K'ou and flooded the whole of Yang Shin. It has now been repaired, and is very strong: twice as high and as thick as before. The people of Hui Min and Yang Shin, having combined to make this bank, have now some control (over the floods). South of the Sah river the newly over-laid land is good soil, and has a rich growth (of crops) on it. After the waters had gone down last winter it was sown all over with spring wheat, and the extent as you look over it is boundless. It is (almost but) not quite ripe, and waves in yellow clouds over the plain. There was some wheat gathered here last year, but the autumn harvest was destroyed by floods. I am told that the Sah river embankment was opened by the people living here. Looking at the willow trees as I passed (their appearance was as if) the roots extended for 5 or 6 feet up the trunk, and this enabled me to see in imagination what the aspect of things was during the long period when they were surrounded by water. This stretch of more than 100 villages is (fairly) populous, hence the people will be able to straighten themselves up and come safely through their dangerous condition. Proceeding some 10 *li* further south, I expected to see sand-dust obscuring the whole heavens. The day was a very windy one too, but the prospect southwards was clear and bright. Still south for 10 more *li* and approaching Ti San P'u on the west side, I found all was covered with flourishing wheat (stretching away) in boundless beauty, and not a vestige of the white sand to be seen. Coming on to the street of Ti San P'u they were busy with the wheat-floors, and the faces of men and women looking healthy and prosperous, a complete contrast with last year's aspect. I was sadly delighted. It was like a confused dream. The day was drawing late, and after a short pause I went east for another 12 *li* and passed the night at Hsin Tien. All along the way, closely examining the ground, I found a red deposit had been made. It would seem that last year's waters floated away some portion of the sand and covered the whole face of the land with a (fresh) deposit of reddish earth. The whole country is already sown with autumn crops. Though the soil is somewhat cold, and in places (the crops) are not very healthy, yet once it has been well rained on the land will be as good as ever it was.

The population of the villages has become very sparse. There are not more than some 10 families left out of 100. The rest have all taken flight and have not yet returned. One village near Shin Tien, Shing Sheng Lu Chia, has but a single family left, the rest have stopped up their windows and doors with mud and all left. Probably they went last year.

Now the soil of this region is recovered, the stronger ones are returning to cultivate the fields. Their families, there being no food, have not yet ventured to come back. When the autumn crops are ripe they will be able to return. Along this route things are far worse than on the west, south, and north sides of Ti San P'u. It is wonderfully different, however, from last year, when a vast stretch of white sand covered the whole region. By inquiry of the Hsin Tien people (I find) that on their east and extending northwards (the people) are all in good condition. The worst portion is from Ti San P'u to Hsin, some 10 villages which I saw as I passed through them. Elsewhere (in this neighbourhood) there is no distress.

The merciful love of High Heaven in thus restoring to this people the whole of their land, is it not wonderful? The strangest marvel of all though is what they say in Hui Min, that a few days back to the south of Ti San P'u, along the H'u Hai River, locusts appeared, but fortunately they were smothered by the sand and so the plague was arrested. I have been myself to the place and there are indeed no locusts, *neither is there sand*. But the other day, in an interview with his worship Chiao Chien Ch'ien, the Yang Shin official, he told me that the locusts south of Hui Min being very numerous the mandarin went with the people to destroy them, when they found that without (apparent) cause the locusts every one of them were clean dead. The grace of High Heaven, is it not beyond measure wonderful?

If this year the Yellow River does not break its banks there is sure to be a harvest in the autumn, and henceforth the people of this eastern province will easily find their misery converted into happiness. Those for whom there is no salvation are the people entangled within the pit of the river (the bed between its inner and outer banks). From Chi Tung downwards to Pu Tai there is a large number of villages covered by water. Last

year some greatly benevolent gentlemen relieved the entire people of Ch'ing Ch'ing (county) giving them means to move away to any place they might choose. There are still left (in the same state) about 2,000 villages belonging to Chi Tung, Pin Chou, and Pin Tai. Of the population of these villages, the numbers wandering and lost are beyond all attempt to count them, besides those now in the midst of the water, who the live-long day are the companions of fishes and turtles, and who if they are not quickly saved will soon be swept away and nothing be left of them. In about a couple of years they will all be buried in the fishes' bowels. Whoever has merciful thoughts I beg of you to devise in all haste a plan for their recovery. If there is any delay in saving them there will be no one to be saved.

In the eastern part of Li Chin there are also about 100 villages in much the same condition as those in the pit of the river. Whether the bank breaks or not there is no way of escape for them; whether there is a harvest or not they are beyond recovery. These people, however, if they can continue when the waters have receded to construct embankments will not be without resource. But at present with the land under water there is no way of helping them.

The weather is very hot. I have just learnt from Ch'ang Er that though there are locusts at Yen San and Ch'ing Yün the evil is not serious. The day is very close and clouds are rising in the west. The rains perhaps are not far off. This solely for your information with greetings of peace.

CHIN JU CH'U.

Respectfully salutes,

Despatched the 5th day of 5th Month (June 21st, 1890) from the Ch'iu Ching College, Yang Shin.—Chinese Times.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, August 2nd.

Peace has been restored in the Argentine Republic, after severe fighting in which one thousand were killed and five thousand were wounded. The rebel squadron has surrendered. The Argentine Chambers will suspend payment of all obligations for one month. Buenos Ayres is again quiet, and the banks have reopened. Dr. Celman has returned, and remains President. The United States Treasury commences the purchase of silver on the 13th inst.

London, August 5th.

The Emperor of Germany has gone on a visit to Cowes.

Cholera has broken out very badly at Mecca. The cholera continues bad in Spain.

Outrages and rioting have again occurred in the Argentine Republic.

London, August 6th.

The Portuguese have seized a British steamer on the Shiré River. The Authorities in Portugal have ordered severe punishment to be meted out to all its subjects concerned in the affair.

The political excitement at Buenos Ayres is not yet calmed down and the financial crisis continues.

London, August 7th.

Dr. Celman, President of the Argentine Republic, has resigned.

Twenty-four seamen belonging to the British Squadron, whilst at Newport, in America, deserted from the ships' boats. All were recaptured, in the execution of which one man was shot and another disabled by a cutlass.

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

Kobe, August 6th, 4.35 p.m.

Mrs. and Miss Schroeder, who were passengers by the *Kobe Maru* from Shanghai to this port on that vessel's last voyage, have been

seized with cholera. The daughter died this morning, and Mrs. Schroeder is in the Cholera Hospital.

August 7th, 8 a.m.

Mrs. Schroeder died last evening after only eighteen hours illness.

[FROM THE "SINGAPORE FREE PRESS."]

London, July 11th.

The Government drops the Procedure proposals, the Land Purchase Bill, and the Tithes Bill, but will re-introduce them next Session.

Mr. W. H. Smith has changed his decision to go to the Upper House, and will seek re-election to the House of Commons.

London, July 17th.

A Court Martial is ordered upon the recent mutiny of the Grenadier Guards, Second Battalion.

The Spriggs Cabinet has resigned, and Mr. Cecil Rhodes becomes Premier.

London, July 22nd.

The Grenadiers are being sent to Bermuda. The Duke of Cambridge, addressing the regiment, told them he was ashamed of their conduct, that they had disgraced the Queen's uniform, and that he disowned his connection with the second battalion.

The finding of the Court Martial was then read. Three men are sentenced to two years' imprisonment, two others to 18 months'.

Two men thereupon tore off their medals, and threw them across the parade ground.

[FROM TOKYO PAPERS.]

Paris, July 17th.

The Chamber is still discussing the law as to direct taxes.

The Chamber has voted another 300,000 francs for the relief of the sufferers by the fire at Martinique.

TIME TABLES AND STEAMERS.

TOKYO-YOKOHAMA RAILWAY.

DOWN TRAINS LEAVE SHIMBASHI Station at 6.05, 6.40, 8.35, 9.30, 10.25, and 11.45 a.m., and 2.30, 3.55, 4.45, 5.50, 6.50, 8.30, 9.55, and 11.15 p.m.

UP TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 6.30, 7.20, 8.10, 9.15, 10.22, and 11.30 a.m., and 12.45, 2.30, 3.45, 5.30, 6.35, 7.50, 9.10, 10.05, and 11.05 p.m.

FARES—First-class, *sen* 60; second-class, *sen* 40 and third-class, *sen* 20.

Trains marked * run through without stopping at Omori, Kawasaki, Tsunomi, and Kanagawa Stations. Those marked (†) run through without stopping at Omori, Kawasaki, and Tsunomi Stations.

TOKAIDO RAILWAY.

UP TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA (down) at 6.50, 9.10, 11.25 a.m., and 12.40, 3.25, 4.55, 5.35, and 7.45 p.m.; and KOZU (up) at 6.35, 8.40, 9.40, and 11.07 a.m., and 1.17, 2.45, 4.58, 7.25, and 9.46 p.m.

FARES—To Huddogaya, first-class *sen* 6, second-class *sen* 4, third-class *sen* 2; to Totsuka, *sen* 18, *sen* 12, *sen* 6; to Ofuna *sen* 36, *sen* 24, *sen* 12; to Fujisawa, *sen* 42, *sen* 28, *sen* 14; to Hiratsuka, *sen* 66, *sen* 44, *sen* 22; to Oiso, *sen* 75, *sen* 50, *sen* 25; and to Kozu, *sen* 93, *sen* 62, *sen* 31.

Down trains at 6.50 a.m. run no further than Koto arriving there at 11.20 p.m.; at 10.20 a.m. no further than Nagoya, arriving at 6.40 p.m.; at 12.40 p.m. no further than Shizuoka, arriving at 8.45 p.m.; and the train at 5.35 p.m. runs to Kobe, arriving at 12.45 p.m. next day.

A tramway runs between Kozu and Yemoto (distance 4 ri. Jirikiaba may be hired between Yemoto and Miyahoshita distance 14 ri).

OFUNA-YOKOSUKA RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE OFUNA (down) at 7.30 and 9.40 a.m., and 12.05, 1.30, 4.03, 6.14, and 8.30 p.m.; KAMAKURA (down) at 7.41 and 9.51 a.m., and 12.16, 1.41, 4.14, 6.25, and 8.41 p.m.; and ZUSHIMURA (down) at 7.50 and 10 a.m., and 12.25, 1.50, 4.23, 6.34, and 8.50 p.m.; YOKOSUKA (up) at 6.45, 8.55, and 11.20 a.m., and 12.50, 3.50, and 7.45 p.m.; ZUSHIMURA (up) at 7.01, 9.12, and 11.36 a.m., and 1.06, 3.16, 5.26, and 8.01 p.m.; and KAMAKURA (up) at 7.11, 9.22, and 11.46 a.m., and 1.15, 3.26, 5.36 and 8.10 p.m.

FARES—To Kamakura, first-class *sen* 9, second-class *sen* 6, third-class *sen* 3; to Zushimura *sen* 15, *sen* 10, *sen* 5; and to Yokosuka *sen* 30, *sen* 20, *sen* 10.

UTSUNOMIYA-NIKKO RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE UTSUNOMIYA (down) at 5.25 and 10.05 a.m., and 12.25* and 3.05 p.m.; and NIKKO (up) at 7.20 and 11.55 a.m., and 2.25 and 4.55* p.m.

* Through Trains to and from Ueno.

KOZU-KOBE RAILWAY.

DOWN TRAINS LEAVE KOZU at 8.30 a.m., and 12.50, 2.15, 4.57, and 7.10 p.m.; GOTEMBA at 9.52 a.m., and 1.34, 3.35, 6.18, and 8.32 p.m.; NUMAZU at 5.20 and 10.40 a.m., and 2.30, 4.27, 7.09, and 9.24 p.m.; SHIZUOKA at 7.20 a.m., and 12.19, 4.12, 6.50, and 10.59 p.m.; HAMAMATSU at 6 and 10 a.m., and 2.40 and 6.45 p.m., and 1.16 a.m.; TOYOHASHI at 7.10 and 11.10 a.m., and 3.39 and 7.45 p.m., and 2.14 a.m.; OFU at 8.59 a.m., and 1.06, 5.22, and 9.28 p.m., and 4.02 a.m.; NAGOYA at 9.15 and 11.50 a.m., and 2 and 6.08 p.m., and 5 a.m.; Gifu at 10.53 a.m., and 1.30, and 7.09 p.m., and 6 a.m.; OKAZU at 11.24 a.m., and 1.28, 3.33, and 7.38 p.m., and 6.28 a.m.; MAIBARA at 9.45 a.m., and 1.29, 5.07, and 8.55 p.m., and 7.45 a.m.; HIKONE at 10.05 a.m., and 1.18, 3.02, 5.25, and 9.06 p.m., and 7.58 a.m.; BABA (Otsu) at 12.31, 4.40, 7.10, and 10.43 p.m., and 9.34 a.m.; KYOTO at 12.45, 4.05, 5.35, and 8 p.m., and 10.14 a.m.; and OSAKA at 2.25, 5.35, 7.20, and 9.50 p.m., and 11.42 a.m.

UP TRAINS LEAVE KOBE at 5.55 and 9.55 a.m., and 1.55, 3.45, and 5.30 p.m.; OSAKA at 7.06 and 11.06 a.m., and 4.06, 5. and 6.36 p.m.; KYOTO at 5.35 and 8.40 a.m., and 12.40, 4.36, 6.40, and 8.05 p.m.; BABA (Otsu) at 6.18, and 9.31 a.m., and 1.30, 5.25, 7.31, and 8.50 p.m.; HIKONE at 7.56, and 11.05 a.m., and 3.03, 7.02, 9.08, and 10.25 p.m.; MAIBARA at 8.13, and 11.20 a.m., and 3.19, 7.20, and 10.42 p.m.; OKAZU at 9.30 a.m., and 12.36, 4.37, 8.16, and 11.54 p.m.; Gifu at 9.57 a.m., and 1.02, 5.04, and 9.15 p.m., and 12.17 a.m.; NAGOYA at 6 and 11 a.m., and 2.10 and 6.20 p.m., and 1.09 a.m.; OFU at 6.43 and 11.44 a.m., and 2.56 and 7.04 p.m., and 1.41 a.m.; TOYOHASHI at 8.30 a.m., and 1.30, 4.42, and 8.52 p.m., and 3.17 a.m.; HAMAMATSU at 6.30 and 9.45 a.m., and 2.45 and 6 p.m., and 4.25 a.m.; SHIZUOKA at 5.15 and 9.07 a.m., and 12.45, 5.20, and 9.45 p.m., and 7.08 a.m.; NUMAZU at 7.03 and 10.40 a.m., and 2.24 and 7.14 p.m., and 8.43 a.m.; GOTEMBA at 8.15 and 11.58 a.m., and 3.38 and 8.28 p.m., and 9.53 a.m.; and Kozu at 9.40 a.m., and 1.17, 4.58, and 9.47 p.m., and 11.07 a.m.

FARES—Kozu to Gotemba: first-class, *sen* 60; second-class *sen* 44, third-class *sen* 22; to Numazu *sen* 1.11, *sen* 74, *sen* 37; to Shizuoka *sen* 2.13, *sen* 1.42, *sen* 71; to Hamamatsu *sen* 3.57, *sen* 2.38, *sen* 1.19; to Toyohashi *sen* 4.23, *sen* 2.82, *sen* 1.41; to Otsu *sen* 5.22, *sen* 3.48, *sen* 1.74; to Nagoya *sen* 5.58, *sen* 3.72, *sen* 1.80; to Gifu *sen* 6.15, *sen* 4.10, *sen* 2.05; to Okazaki *sen* 6.42, *sen* 4.28, *sen* 2.14; to Maibara *sen* 7.05, *sen* 4.70, *sen* 2.35; to Hikonoe *sen* 7.17, *sen* 4.78, *sen* 2.39; to Baba *sen* 8.10, *sen* 5.40, *sen* 2.70; to Kyoto *sen* 8.40, *sen* 5.60, *sen* 2.80; to Osaka *sen* 9.21, *sen* 6.14, *sen* 3.07; and to Kobe *sen* 9.81, *sen* 6.54, *sen* 3.27.

The down train at 8.32 a.m. runs no further than Kyoto, arriving there at 11.20 p.m.; at 12.12 p.m. no further than Nagoya, arriving at 10.10 p.m.; at 5.05 p.m. no further than Shizuoka, arriving at 9 p.m.; and the train at 7.10 p.m. runs to Kobe, arriving at 12.50 p.m. next day. The up train at 5.55 a.m. runs no further than Shizuoka, arriving there at 6.40 p.m.; at 9.55 a.m. and 1.55 p.m. no further than Nagoya, arriving respectively at 6.57 and 10.45 p.m.; and the train at 5.30 p.m. runs to Shimbashi arriving at 1.40 p.m. next day.

TOKYO-SHIOGAMA RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE UENO (down) at 6.40, 8.50, and 11.40 a.m., and 2.40 and 5.40 p.m.; UTSUNOMIYA (down) at 10 a.m. and 3.03 and 5.59 p.m.; SHIRAKAWA (down) at 8 a.m. and 12.30 and 5.41 p.m.; KORIYAMA (down) at 9.25 a.m. and 1.54 and 6.58 p.m.; FUKUSHIMA (down) at 7.35 and 11.33 a.m., and 3.45 p.m.; SENDAI (down) at 6.15, 10.25, and 10.40 a.m. and 2.30, 6.35, and 6.50 p.m.

TRAINS LEAVE ICHINOSEKI (up) at 6.40 a.m., and 2.50 p.m.; SHIOGAMA (up) at 7 and 11.05 a.m., and 3.10 and 7.15 p.m.; SENDAI (up) at 7.35 and 11.40 a.m., and 3.45 p.m.; FUKUSHIMA (up) at 6.40 and 10.26 a.m., and 2.36 p.m.; KORIYAMA (up) at 8.29 a.m., and 12.22 and 4.28 p.m.; SHIRAKAWA (up) at 6.35 and 9.47 a.m., and 1.40 p.m.; UTSUNOMIYA (up) at 6.20 and 9.05 a.m., and 12.18, 4.14, and 6.33 p.m.

FARES—Ueno to Utsunomiya, first-class *sen* 2, second-class *sen* 1.32, third-class *sen* 66; to Koriyama *sen* 4.10, *sen* 2.74, *sen* 1.37; to Fukushima *sen* 5, *sen* 3.32, *sen* 1.66; to Sendai *sen* 6.45, *sen* 4.30, *sen* 2.15; to Shiogama *sen* 6.75, *sen* 4.50, *sen* 2.25.

TOKYO-MAEBASHI RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE TOKYO (Ueno) (down) at 6.40, 8.50, and 11.40 a.m., and 2.40 and 5.40 p.m.; and MAEBASHI (up) at 6.55, and 11.50 a.m., and 2.50 and 5.55 p.m.

OYAMA-MITO RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE OYAMA (down) at 6.50 and 9.25 a.m., and 2.20 and 5.15 p.m.; and MITO (up) at 6.25 and 10.10 a.m., and 2.05 and 4.55 p.m.

FARES—First-class, *sen* 1.20; second-class, *sen* 84; third-class, *sen* 42.

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

STEAMERS LEAVE the Nippon Hattori daily at 7.55 and 10.30 a.m., and 1.45 and 4.00 p.m.; and LEAVE YOKOSUKA at 7.10 and 10.30 a.m., and 1.30, and 4.00 p.m.—Fare, *sen* 20.

A NERVE TONIC.

HORSFORD'S ACID PHOSPHATE.

Dr. JAMES BLACK, L.R.C.S., Pinrose Hill, Cockburnspath, Scotland, says: "As a nerve tonic I know nothing like it. It gives me great satisfaction."

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki & per N. Y. K. Friday, Aug. 15th
Kobe
From Canada &c. per C. P. M. Co. Saturday, Aug. 16th.
From America per P. M. Co. Thursday, Aug. 21st.
From Hongkong per P. & O. Co. Saturday, Aug. 16th.
From Europe via Hongkong per N. D. Lloyd Thursday, Aug. 14th.

* Balavia left Vancouver on July 18th. † China left San Francisco via Victoria, B.C., on July 31st. ‡ Bombay left Hongkong on August 7th. § General Bender left Hongkong on August 8th. Benvenut (with English mail) left Hongkong on August 3rd.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki per N. Y. K. Tuesday, Aug. 12th.
For Europe, via Hongkong per N. D. Lloyd Sunday, Aug. 17th.
For Europe, via Shanghai per M. M. Co. Sunday, Aug. 17th.
For America per P. M. Co. Thursday, Aug. 21st.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,359, Haswell, 1st August.—Shanghai and ports 26th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Tsinan, British steamer, 1,563, Allison, 2nd August.—Taiwan 27th July, Sugar.—Butterfield & Swire.
Ancona, British steamer, 1,878, W. D. Mudie, 4th August.—Hongkong 20th, Nagasaki 30th July, and Kobe 2nd August, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.
Hoihow, British steamer, 896, Sloss, 4th August.—Hongkong 26th July, Rice.—Butterfield & Swire.
Meiji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,010, Captain Allen, 4th August.—Kobe 3rd August, General.—Light House Department.
Glenartney, British steamer, 1,945, Brass, 4th August.—Rangoon 17th July, Rice.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Breconshire, British steamer, 1,640, Jackson, 5th August.—Kobe 3rd August, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.
Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, W. G. Pearne, 5th August.—San Francisco 19th July, General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.
Glenshiel, British steamer, 2,240, Donaldson, 5th August.—Rangoon 20th July, Rice.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Port Philip, British steamer, 1,732, R. Gray, R.N.R., 5th August.—Saigon 16th July, Rice.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Hounsflow, British steamer, 1,798, Norman, 5th August.—Rangoon 15th July, 4,100 tons rice.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Lagoda, American bark, 350, N. Lake, 5th August.—Vladivostok 8th July, Whale and Spermin Oil.
Parkfield, British steamer, 1,745, Ferguson, 5th August.—Bassett 15th July, Rice.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Parthia, British steamer, 2,035, F. H. Wallace, 5th August.—Hongkong 24th, Shanghai 29th July, and Kobe 4th August, General.—C. P. M. S. S. Co.
Oceanic, British steamer, 3,107, W. M. Smith, 7th August.—Hongkong 31st July, and Kobe 6th August, General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.
Alliance (6), U.S. gunboat, Captain H. C. Taylor, 8th August.—Kobe 6th August.
Congo, French steamer, 2,500, Trocmé, 9th August.—Hongkong 31st July, Shanghai 4th, and Kobe 7th August, General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

DEPARTURES.

Pigmy (6), gunboat, Commander Geo. H. Hewett, 2nd August.—Hakodate.
Djemnah, French steamer, 2,200, Bonnefoy, 3rd August.—Shanghai and Kobe, General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.
Euphrates, British steamer, 1,423, Edwards, 4th August.—Kobe, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Apenrade, German steamer, 1,476, Hohlmann, 4th August.—Yokosuka Dock.—Mourilyan, Heilmann & Co.
Loertes, British steamer, 1,351, R. F. Seales, 4th August.—Kobe, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Snow and Burgess, American ship, 1,655, Anderson, 6th August.—Tacoma, Tea.—Mourilyan, Heilmann & Co.
Tsinan, British steamer, 1,563, Allison, 6th August.—Nagasaki, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, W. G. Pearne, 7th August.—Hongkong, General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.

Parthia, British steamer, 2,035, J. Panton, R.N.R., 7th August.—Vancouver, B.C., via San Francisco, General.—C. P. M. S. S. Co.
Hounsflow, British steamer, 1,798, Norman, 7th August.—Kobe, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,735, Haswell, 7th August.—Shanghai and ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Eleanor Margaret, German ship, 2,327, Fischer, 8th August.—San Francisco, Sulphur.—H. Ahrens & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Southage, Miss Sherwood, Miss Webster, Mr. Inouye, Dr. Salter, Messrs. G. K. Mosle, H. K. Bather, J. Meger, and J. C. Williams in cabin; Messrs. J. C. Donenburgh, P. Lamachio, Aslanoff, Nessakoff, J. Koo, Cheng, and Kasatani in second class.
Per British steamer *Tsinan*, from Taiwan:—Mr. and Mrs. Meinich in cabin; Mrs. Jeffreys and daughter in second class.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, from Hongkong via ports:—Messrs. E. O. Kenyon, Kennard, Davis, and R. Howie in cabin; 5 passengers in steerage.
Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from San Francisco:—Dr. C. Begg, Mr. and Mrs. Ambrose de Ath, Mr. and Mrs. F. Reddaway, Mrs. M. Ford, Mr. Norman Donisthorpe, Rev. and Mrs. N. W. Utley, Mr. Sidney R. Heap, Mr. J. O. Heyworth, Mrs. Alexander Center, Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Hoover, and Mr. C. W. Collier in cabin. For Hongkong: Rev. C. E. Copeland, Captain R. G. Waterhouse, and Mrs. Waterhouse and child in cabin.

Per British steamer *Port Philip*, from Saigon:—Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Elancy and 2 children, and Mr. Bousey in cabin.
Per British steamer *Parthia*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. Le Prevost and 2 children, Messrs. McLean, Gilroy, Gittens, Mr. and Mrs. Stevens, Mr. and Mrs. G. Clark, Messrs. McGregor, Barnes, Hawes, Harvie, Campbell, Siyan, Mrs. Walker, Miss Stewart, Messrs. Hill, Sale, and A. F. Howe in cabin; Mr. Plagett, and 4 Chinese women and 2 children in second class, and 116 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, from Hongkong:—Surgeon Howard Smith, U.S.N., Mrs. Blockinger, Mrs. Marsh, Mr. Bryant, Mr. Richard Kirby, Lieutenant Berryman, Mr. J. Pestonjee and servant, Mr. S. P. Read and servant, Miss Rowe, and Ho Ming Sam in cabin. For San Francisco: Mr. James S. Feeney, Mr. C. Vivian Ladd, Mr. and Mrs. C. Tooley, Mrs. Emerson, Mrs. Field, Messrs. E. Fontanix, C. H. C. Moller, A. E. Dowler, Mrs. Read and child, Mr. Liebard, and Hee Choi Chune in cabin.
Per French steamer *Congo*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. K. Onné, Mr. Taki Yeyufi, Mr. and Mrs. Klobukowski, Mr. and Mrs. Tanks and two daughters, Mr. Lemercier, Mr. Lejeune Simons, Mr. and Mrs. Aranger, 2 children, and amah, Dr. de Malherbe and son, Messrs. B. Wagner, Ward Hall, Bredon, son, and amah, J. E. Tona-van, Mr. and Mrs. Ramer and 2 children, Mr. Luscombe, Mr. Rouze, Miss Sophie Canin, Mrs. and Miss Rosa Blank, Miss Augusta Avidia, Mr. J. Weber, Messrs. E. Tuck, Schlener, G. M. Vos Scinedias, and Alex. Seiman in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Djemnah*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Messrs. Max Niclussen, Delahaye, Masutaro, R. W. Mustard, Sister Angelique Joseph, Sister Marie Olier, Messrs. Hori Michinosuke, de Tinsseu, and Takashima Kekiiji in cabin.
Per British steamer *Parthia*, for Vancouver, B.C., via San Francisco:—Mr. A. W. Thomson, Mr. T. A. Singleton, Lieutenant Colomb, R.N., Mr. Coward, Rev. A. Lloyd and party, Mr. Kakuzen, Rev. W. J. White, Mr. and Mrs. Schinck and child, Messrs. T. and A. L. Hardy, Rev. H. Wigan, Messrs. J. Macpherson, T. K. Tunesaki, T. Tono, Ikeda, S. Iwashita, Kato, Rev. Mr. Sullivan, and Rev. M. N. McLaren, Jun., in cabin. From Hongkong: Messrs. Gilroy and E. W. MacLaine in cabin; Miss Suey San, Mrs. Looh Dese, Mrs. Di Sing, Miss Look Hoi San, Mrs. Man Kee and 1 girl, and Mr. B. W. Plagett in second class. From Foochow: Mr. John Gittins in cabin. From Shanghai: Miss C. Cushman, Dr. A. F. Howe, Messrs. J. A. Hawes, E. R. G. Barnes, James Harvie, Alexander Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Clark, Mr. H. N. Macgregor, Mr. F. W. Siyan, Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Stevens, Miss Stewart, Mrs. M. Waller, and Mr. M. B. Hill in cabin. From Nagasaki: Dr. Salter in cabin.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for Hongkong:—Messrs. E. H. Melbye, H. Norman and native servant, Gilbert, J. A. Church and native servant, M. M. Noorden and native servant, C. Vogel, E. Blodgett, and Hara Asa and native servant in cabin.
Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. Ashton, Mrs. McGrath, and Mr. Walkinshaw in cabin; Messrs. N. Nakajima and K. Nakajima in second class, and 32 passengers in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Djemnah*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Silk for France 91 bales. Waste Silk for France 1 bale. Treasure for Singapore \$100,000. For Shanghai \$2,000.

Per British steamer *Parthia*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—

	TEA.				TOTAL.
	CANADA, AND WEST.	NEW YORK.	PACIFIC.	COAST.	
Shanghai	1,168	982	1,418	—	3,568
Hyogo	2,697	—	371	113	3,181
Yokohama	1,859	847	2,042	863	5,611
Hongkong	—	—	—	187	187
Amoy	—	589	16,117	103	16,809
Foochow	652	364	—	—	1,016
Total	6,376	2,782	19,943	1,266	30,373

	SILK.		TOTAL.
	NEW YORK.	—	
Shanghai	15	—	15
Yokohama	55	—	55
Total	70	—	70

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Hoihow*, Captain Sloss, reports:—Left Hongkong the 26th July; had light winds and very fine weather with smooth sea; the 28th at 5 p.m. weather looked squally from N.E. and for a short time appeared very unsettled and threatening; at 3.30 p.m. cleared up again; the 30th at 5 p.m. passed between the Islands of Akusu-shima and Suwa-shima in very fine weather and smooth sea; at 10 p.m. very heavy swell from the east which gradually got higher, and at daylight on the 31st had increased so much as to cause the ship to roll heavily, wind gradually increasing, and barometer at 29.82. August 1st barometer gradually falling and blowing a heavy gale, wind from N.E. with heavy cross and sea, weather looking very threatening speed was reduced to slow; the 2nd at 6 a.m. north-easterly wind and barometer steadily going down, tremendous cross sea and blowing a very heavy gale with terrific squalls accompanied with rain; at 7.30 p.m. observed Omai skai light; the 3rd at 4 a.m. still blowing a heavy gale, squalls also heavy wind N.N.E., barometer gradually falling, easterly swell decreasing; at 9.30 a.m. passed Vries Island. Arrived at Yokohama at 4.30 a.m. Barometer at noon 29.46, blowing still a heavy gale.

The British steamer *Gaelic*, Captain Pearne, reports:—Left San Francisco the 19th July at 3.50 p.m.; to the 21st had strong N.W. winds and head sea; thence to August 2nd light westerly winds with smooth sea, and foggy weather; August 3rd, moderate gale from south with heavy S.W. swell, wind veering to E.N.E. and blowing a gale, with very heavy squalls, and thence veering to N.W.; the 4th, strong N.W. gale, with heavy squalls and high sea. Arrived at Yokohama the 5th August at 10.05 a.m. Time, 16 days, 4 hours, 47 minutes.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The Yarn market has continued very quiet during the week. Only a few transactions in English spinnings have taken place and those show a marked decline on former quotations. Bombays have also remained quiet; all prices are more or less nominal. Shirts are very dull, and quotations are nominally 2½ to 5 cents. lower. Fancy Piece Goods have been very quiet. Sales for the week amount to 150 bales English, 85 bales Bombay spinnings, and 3,750 pieces Shirts.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	per piece.	per yard.
Grey Shirtings—84 in, 38 1/2 yds, 39 inches	\$1 25	to 1 90
Grey Shirtings—90 in, 38 1/2 yds, 45 inches	1 65	to 2 54
P. Cloth—78 in, 24 yards, 32 inches	1 30	to 1 10
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 41 inches	1 25	to 1 60
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1 70	to 2 00
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	0 07	to 0 14
Turkey Reds—18 to 24 in, 24 yards, 30 inches	1 19 1/2	to 1 22 1/2
Turkey Reds—24 to 30 in, 24 yards, 30 inches	1 25	to 1 55
Turkey Reds—36 to 40 in, 24 yards, 30 inches	1 75	to 2 05
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	4 50	to 6 00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 1/2 inches	0 50	to 0 65
Taffetas, 12 yards, 43 inches	1 35	to 2 25

WOOLLENS.

Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches...	\$4.00 to 3.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.26 1/2 to 30
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.21 to 26
Common	0.17 to 21 1/2
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards,	
31 inches	0.13 to 0.17
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.45
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.60
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.35 to 0.60
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3 1/2 lb,	
per lb	0.30 to 0.38

COTTON YARNS.

Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	26.50 to 28.00
Nos. 16/24, Medium	28.00 to 29.00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	29.00 to 29.75
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	31.00 to 32.00
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	30.25 to 30.50
Nos. 28/32, Medium	30.50 to 32.25
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	32.50 to 33.25
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	35.50 to 38.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	38.00 to 37.50
No. 42s, Two-fold	36.00 to 39.50
PER BALL.	
No. 20s, Bombay	74.00 to 80.00
No. 16s, Bombay	74.50 to 79.50
No. 10/14, Bombay	—

METALS.

Some business on a small scale has been done at lower prices, especially for Iron bars. Importers begin to feel uneasy, and godown room is scarce, so they are tempted to let a few parcels go at these low rates. Wire Nails seem to be especially depressed, and prices tending down. Tin plates, though only in small supply, hang fire badly.

Flat Bars, 1 inch	12.70 to 2.80
Flat Bars, 1 inch	2.80 to 2.90
Round and square up to 1/2 inch	2.70 to 2.90
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.
Nailrod, small size	Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	3.00 to 3.15
Sheet Iron	3.30 to 3.50
Galvanized Iron sheets	6.00 to 6.50
Wire Nails, assorted	4.00 to 4.50
Tin Plates, per box	4.80 to 5.10
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.30 to 1.35

KIROSENK.

Quotations are unchanged, but the market is very quiet. Dealers appear quite satisfied to look on, and await developments at present. A few thousand cases Devoo are reported sold, but the actual price has not transpired. There have been no fresh arrivals during the week, and considerable deliveries leave the stock about 610,000 cases of sold and unsold Oil.

QUOTATIONS.

Chester	Nom. \$1.75 to 1.77 1/2
Comet	Nom. 1.70 to 1.72 1/2
Devoo	Nom. 1.67 1/2 to 1.70
Russian	Nom. 1.65 to 1.67 1/2

SUGAR.

Holders of the remaining stock of Takao have succeeded in getting high figures for fully 12,000 piculs, parcels having been sold as follows:—4,200 piculs, at \$4.10 per picul; 3,200 piculs, at \$4.20; 2,500 piculs at \$4.55; and 3,000 piculs at \$4.70. Only 1,550 piculs of Refined have been disposed of at \$9.20 per picul for 300 piculs, \$7.74 for 750 piculs, and \$6.20 for 500 piculs. On the whole the market is very fine for Brown Takao, as remaining stocks are small with little to come forward. Advances from Takao report inclement weather throughout Formosa, but no serious damage has been done to the young cane.

White Refined	\$5.80 to 8.40
Manila	3.80 to 4.60
Taiwanfoo	— to —
Pentama	3.00 to 3.40
Namiida	2.90 to 3.20
Cake	3.70 to 4.10
Brown Takao	4.55 to 4.60

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 1st inst., since which date our market has been fairly active, and settlements are entered as 250 piculs, divided thus:—*Filatures* 100, *Re-reels* 114, *Kakeda* 54, *Oshu* 2. Besides these Japanese have taken about 60 piculs for direct shipment, making the total business of the week equal to 330 piculs.

The chief demand has been for the United States Markets, and during the last two or three days considerable business has been done; prices paid show a slight reduction on those of last week, but holders are very firm about reducing quotations any further. At the same time buyers generally are not eager to enter the market at the present time; rates of Exchange now turning downwards, holders are somewhat encouraged to stand out for their own prices.

Supplies come in freely and regularly; *Filatures* and *Re-reels* being especially well represented in the stock list. It remains to be seen how long the present state of things will last; buyers for Europe are very conservative, consumers there stating

that they can buy Italian Silk to much better advantage than they can Japans. There is some danger of the American manufacturers taking the same view of things and operating in Europe instead of in Japan if holders here are too unflinching in their attitude.

There have been two shipping opportunities during the interval, French and Canadian Mail steamers each taking something. The *Djemnah* (3rd inst.) had 91 bales for France, and the *Parthia*, which sailed yesterday, took about 55 bales for New York. These departures bring the present export figures to 1,639 piculs, against 2,582 last year, and 3,648 at same date in 1888. The *Oceanic*, leaving to-morrow morning, will probably have 200 or 300 bales also for the United States Market.

Hanks.—There has been no business for export during the week; natives report that a few parcels have been taken for home consumption, but beyond this nothing has been done.

Filatures.—Here there has been some little business in good *Shinshu* kinds destined for the United States; holders have at last made some slight concession, and several parcels have been purchased at a reduction of \$15 on last week's rates. The last prices paid include *Hakusuru* and *Meishinsha* at \$675, with *Kairusha*, *Toeisha*, and *Seven Stars* at \$670. For Europe very little has been done; the only business being in No. 2 *Filatures*, part old Silk, which brought \$630 to \$640 per picul.

Re-reels.—Considerable business has been done in these during the last two days, and holders have succeeded in getting very good prices. They are now inclined to ask something more in the anticipation that Exchange will go still lower. Among recent purchases we find *Kite Chop* \$640, *Shorusha* \$630, *Shomeisha* \$630, *Kodama* \$627 1/2; all these purchases are apparently for the United States. For Europe about 40 boxes medium *Yechigo* and *Miyagi* have been done at about \$600 per picul.

Kakeda.—The principal transaction has been the purchase up country at high prices, which have been kept secret, of about 35 piculs. The silks went forward to Lyons by last French Mail.

Oshu kinds.—Nothing has been done beyond a sample bale of *Hamatsuki*, price unknown.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No. 1	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Oshu)	—
Hanks—No. 24 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 24 (Oshu)	—
Hanks—No. 24 to 3	\$540 to 550
Hanks—No. 3	—
Hanks—No. 34	510 to 515
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	—
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	680 to 690
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	665 to 675
Filatures—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	660 to 665
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	630 to 640
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Shinshu and Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	640 to 650
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	630 to 635
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	620 to 625
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	600 to 610
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	570 to 580
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No. 1	—
Kakedas—No. 14	Nom.
Kakedas—No. 2	Nom.
Kakedas—No. 24	Nom.
Kakedas—No. 3	Nom.
Kakedas—No. 34	Nom.
Kakedas—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 24	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1	545 to 550
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodal—No. 24	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 8th August, 1890:—

	SHARON 1800 Gt.	1890 Gt.	1888 Gt.
	BALLES.	BALLES.	BALLES.
Europe	438	1,437	2,306
America	1,161	1,134	1,346
Total	{ Bales 1,599	2,571	3,652
	{ Piculs 1,639	2,582	3,648
Settlements and Direct	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Export from 1st July	1,600	3,550	3,050
Stock, 8th August	6,200	2,850	5,000
Available supplies to date	7,800	6,400	8,050

WASTE SILK.

There has been some little business in new fibre (mixed with old) resulting in the purchase of about 50 piculs.

There is no real change to note in the position of affairs; buyers and sellers still keep asunder, and at present it seems as though there would not be any serious business for some time to come.

The *Djemnah* took 33 bales, and the export for present season to date is now 727 piculs, against 314 last year and 1,148 on the 8th August, 1888.

Pierced Cocoons.—Stock of these has increased considerably, but at present no transactions have

taken place. Owners still ask high prices, which buyers refuse; we must therefore wait a little longer before anything can be done.

Noshi.—The only business of the week has been in this department a buyer for France taking about 50 piculs *Bushu Filature* at prices ranging from \$135 to \$147. The market for the great staple *Josku* has not yet opened, and sellers must moderate their ideas very considerably if they want to do any business in the near future.

In other departments nothing whatever has been done.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	\$140 to \$150
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshi, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshi, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Joshi, Ordinary	—
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	—
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshi, Good to Fair	—
Kibiso—Joshi, Middling to Common	—
Kibiso—Hachioji, Good	—
Kibiso—Hachioji, Medium to Low	—
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	—
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 8th Aug., 1890:—

	SHARON 1800 Gt.	1890 Gt.	1888 Gt.
	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Waste Silk	727	295	1,148
Pierced Cocoons	—	19	—
Total	727	314	1,148
Settlements and Direct	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Export from 1st July	350	700	180
Stock, 8th August	7,500	4,650	4,320

Available supplies to date 7,850 5,350 4,500

Exchange has fluctuated with news from the London Silver market, and rates close thus:—London, 4m/s. Credits 3/8; Documents 3/8 1/2; 6m/s. Credits, 3/8 1/2; Documents 3/8 1/2; New York, 30 d/s. U.S.G., \$89 1/2; 4m/s. U.S.G., \$89 1/2; Paris, 4 m/s., fcs. 4.63; 6m/s. fcs. 4.65.

Estimated Silk Stock, 8th Aug., 1890:—

	RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	160	160	Cocoons	640
Filatures	3,400	3,400	Noshi-ito	2,020
Re-reels	2,275	2,275	Kibiso	4,300
Kakeda	205	205	Mawata	350
Oshu	155	155	Sundries	180
Tayssam Kinds	5	5		
Total piculs	6,300	6,300	Total piculs	7,500

TEA.

There is no new feature in the Tea market, the aggregate purchases for the week being 5,595 piculs, distributed as follows:—Common 1,800 piculs, Good Common 1,110 piculs, Medium 930 piculs, Good Medium 235 piculs, Fine 1,130 piculs, Finest 240 piculs, Choice 50 piculs, Choicest 20 piculs, and Extra Choicest 20 piculs. Total settlements to date amount to 178,305 piculs, and at Kobe 119,500 piculs, total 297,805 piculs, as compared with 252,735 piculs last year for the same period. Total shipments of Tea to date are 8,217,441 lbs. for New York, 11,829,749 lbs. for Chicago, 6,273,305 lbs. for Canada, and 1,869,799 lbs. for California and Pacific Coast, total 28,190,294 lbs., against 22,568,817 lbs. for the same period in 1889. The excess so far is 5,621,477 lbs. The estimated receipts this season are about 30% over those of last year. Quotations unchanged.

	PER PICUL.
Common	\$10 & under
Good Common	10 1/2 to 12 1/2
Medium	13 to 14
Good Medium	15 to 16
Fine	17 to 19
Finest	20 to 22
Choice	23 to 25
Choicest	28 to 30
Extra Choicest	—

EXCHANGE.

Exchange fluctuated slightly, but the latest movement is upward with a firm feeling at the close.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3 1/2
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3 1/2
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3 1/2
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3 1/2
On Paris—Bank sight	4.55
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4.65
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1/2 % dis.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	1 1/2 % dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	72 1/2
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	87 1/2
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	88 1/2
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	87 1/2
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	88 1/2

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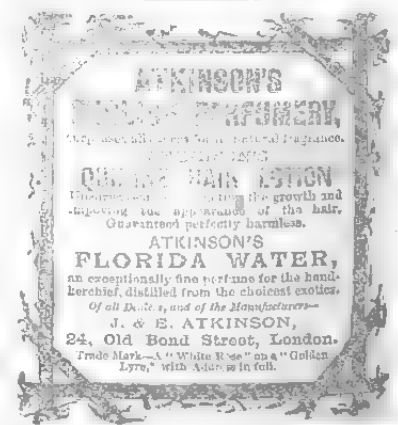
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

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No. 7.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, AUGUST 16TH, 1890.

通信者認可

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, AUGUST 16, 1890.

BIRTHS.

On the 10th inst., at 008, Bluff, the wife of PAUL EMIL FREDERIC STONE of a Daughter.

At 121, Bluff, on the 10th instant, the wife of G. K. DINDALE of a Daughter.

MARRIAGE.

At Christ Church, Yokohama, on the 11th inst., by the Rev. E. Champneys Irwin, M.A., ROBERT HAY, *Japan Mail*, to JESSIE, second daughter of A. T. Watson, Yokohama.

DEATH.

On the 14th August, at 141, Bluff, Yokohama, DAVID FITZ-HENRY, aged 40.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

Mr. Tsuji, Vice-Minister for Education will, it is said, be appointed Japanese Minister to China shortly.

VISCOUNT TORIO was to leave Nagoya on the 9th inst. for the province of Mino, to meet his political friends.

COMMANDER PRINCE ARISUGAWA TAKEHITO was promoted to Captain on the 11th instant, being raised to second class of *sonin* rank.

DURING the month of July last the coins struck in the Osaka Mint were yen 792,386 in silver and yen 111,000 in nickel pieces.

THE line of the Osaka Railway Company between Kashiwabara and Nishiguchi, will be opened on the 1st September for traffic.

MR. ASADA, Prefect of Kanagawa, proceeded to Odawara on the 8th inst. and had an interview with Count Ito lasting several hours.

H.L.H. PRINCESS KITASHIRAKAWA returned to Tokyo on the 8th instant from Nikko, where the Princess had been staying for some time.

HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR was present at a meeting of the Privy Council held on the 8th instant, returning to the Palace at 1.40 p.m.

THE revised Regulations relating to the Bank of Japan were promulgated on the 8th inst. over the signatures of Counts Yamagata and Mats-

kata, by Law No. 61. The regulations will come into force on the same day as the Commercial Code.

DURING May last, the number of visitors to the Industrial Show, Shiba, was 42,137, by whom 42,217 articles, valued at yen 9,347,249 were purchased.

IT is stated that Count Oyama, having resigned his position of Minister of State for War, Lieutenant-General Viscount Takashima will succeed him.

DURING the month of July last the number of visitors to the Botanical Garden of the Imperial University was 856, of whom 6 were foreigners and 170 special visitors.

MR. ARAI IKUNOSUKE was appointed Superintendent of the Meteorological Central Observatory on the 7th instant, being raised to second class of *sonin* rank.

A STORM of great violence swept over Kadokamura, Higashiusuki, Miyasaki Prefecture, on the 27th ultimo, and destroyed seven houses, four persons also being injured.

THE number of persons attacked by cholera throughout the Empire from the commencement of the epidemic to the 11th instant was 3,916, of whom 2,094 died.

THE total number of persons attacked by cholera throughout the Empire from the commencement of the epidemic to the 13th instant was 4,331, of whom 2,306 died.

AT the half-yearly meeting of the Tokyo Electric Light Company held on the 11th inst. at the Bankers' Club, Sakamoto-cho, a dividend was declared at the rate of 7 per cent. per annum.

HER MAJESTY THE EMPRESS, accompanied by Viscount Kagawa and several Ladies-in-Waiting, paid a visit to the Empress-Dowager at the Aoyama Detached Palace on the afternoon of the 8th inst.

AN application by Mr. Takasaki, Senator, for permission to commence coal mining operations at Shirami, Fukushima Prefecture, has been rejected by the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

DYSENTERY is now prevailing extensively in the city of Fukuoka, and the number of persons attacked from the commencement of the epidemic to the 9th instant was 7,623, of whom 1,039 died.

IT is stated that Mr. Yano Fumio, leading member of the *Katchin-to* party, and Mr. Hato-yama Kadzuo, late chief of the Law Bureau in the Foreign Department, will be nominated by the Emperor as members of the House of Peers.

DURING the week ended the 31st ultimo, exhibits valued at yen 2,649.02 were sold in the Exhibition, showing an increase of yen 82.655 as compared with the previous week, and making a total of yen 107,354.019 since the opening of the Exhibition.

ACCORDING to investigation made by the Department of Communications during July last, the telegraphic offices in the Empire dealt with 391,698 telegrams, showing an increase of 103,616 telegrams as compared with the same month of last year.

IN consequence of the recent heavy rainfalls, the Mamigasaki river, in Yamagata Prefecture, overflowed on the 6th instant, twenty-one houses and thirty bridges were carried away, about one

thousand two hundred houses being partially destroyed by the flooding, and three persons were drowned.

AT a meeting of members of the *Seinen Jiyu* Club, Tokyo, organized by *soshi*, held on the 10th instant, it was decided that the Club should be dissolved.

A NOTIFICATION has been issued by Count Matsukata, Minister of State for Finance, to the effect that Seven per Cent. Capitalised Pension Bonds, amounting to yen 1,500,000, will be drawn in the present month.

VISCOUNT INOUYE, President of the Railway Bureau, who went to Nikko on the 1st instant, to be present at the opening of the line between Nikko and Imaichi, returned to Tokyo on the 11th instant.

ACCORDING to a report by the Japanese Consul at Jinsen during the month of June last, the imports at Jinsen amounted to yen 191,114.20, and the exports to yen 173,860.28, making a total of yen 364,974.48.

OWING to the recent continuous and heavy-rainfall, several rivers in the Adzumi district of Iwashiro province, overflowed on the 16th instant, and sixteen houses, twenty-four bridges, and twenty telegraph posts were carried away, eight persons being drowned.

A PHYSICIAN named Kaneda Seichichi, residing at Minamitemma-cho, Kyobashi, was sentenced to pay a fine of one yen in the Kyobashi Police Office on the 10th instant, for having failed to report to the Authorities that a person whom he examined was attacked by cholera.

THE Import trade is very dull, and transactions are so insignificant as to leave prices almost nominal. This is especially the case with regard to Manchester goods, Metals, and Kerosene, and stocks are generally heavy. A few small parcels of Sugar have been sold, and the high price obtained for Takao is due to the strength of holders and the depletion of the stock on hand, there being but little more to arrive. The Silk market continues to be controlled by the condition of exchange, holders asking about the same dollar prices as last year when exchange was 3s. 2d. as against the present rate of 3s. 9d. Less than 500 piculs have been put through during the week, including 82 piculs direct shipment, and the stock in now nearly double that of last season at same date. Telegrams from consuming quarters show that Italian Silk is being purchased freely on account of the high figures demanded here, and there does not appear to be any immediate prospect of the heavy transactions in this market which usually take place at this period. The quality of the summer reelings is described as "superb." This fact, taken with the good assortment and large stock now on the market, shows that the only thing necessary to induce a brisk business is a modicum of reason on the part of holders in regard to the exchange question. Dealers are apparently waiting for a fall in silver, but there is no indication of a downward course for the white metal at present. The Waste Silk business is small, but some new staple has at length passed the scales; buyers, however, cannot go on at present prices. The Tea trade is steady, and values are unaltered. The receipts of leaf here are already 5,000 piculs more than the total last season, and there is doubtless a good deal more to come in if present rates are maintained. Exchange has fluctuated slightly, but after declining a point or two has risen again to-day, and closes firm with a further upward tendency.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE 28TH ARTICLE OF THE NEW LAW OF PUBLIC MEETINGS AND POLITICAL ASSOCIATIONS.

We have explained that the provisions of the 28th article of the new Law of Public Meetings and Political Associations exist in British statutes enacted in the reign of George III. and still in force. As the fact is interesting we quote the parallel provisions of the British statutes:—

Every Society which shall be composed of different divisions or branches, or of different parts acting in any manner separately or distinct from each other, or of which any part shall have any separate or distinct president, secretary, treasurer, delegate or other officer, elected or appointed by or for such part, or to act as an officer for such part, shall be deemed and taken to be unlawful combinations and confederacies; and every person who from and after the passing of this Act shall become a member of any such Society, or who being a member of any such Society at the passing of this Act shall afterwards act as a member thereof, and every person who after the passing of this Act shall directly or indirectly maintain correspondence or intercourse with any such Society, or with any division, branch, committee or other select body, president, treasurer, secretary, delegate or other officer or member thereof as such, or who shall, by contribution of money or otherwise, aid, abet, or support such Society, or any members or officers thereof, such shall be deemed guilty of an unlawful combination and confederacy. * * * Every Society or club that shall elect, appoint, nominate or employ a committee, delegate or delegates, representative or representatives, missionary or missionaries, to meet, confer or communicate with any other Society or Club, or with any committee, delegate or delegates, representative or representatives, missionary or missionaries of such other Society or Club, or to induce or persuade any person or persons to become members thereof; shall be deemed and taken to be unlawful combinations and confederacies.

The corresponding provision in the new Japanese Law is:—"Political associations may not influence the public by issuing documents or sending deputies, or establish branch offices, or combine and correspond with other political associations."

* * *

The identity of British law and Japanese law in this particular instance serves to point a moral only too often illustrated by the carping ignorance of certain foreign critics in our settlement. One of our English local contemporaries denounces the new Japanese law as a "grossly coercive measure," and calls upon "the Foreign Ministers in Japan to take the opportunity of pointing out to the Governments that accredit them what are the species of laws under which it is hoped that foreigners will be placed." How sapient Her Majesty's Representative would seem if he addressed a despatch to Lord Salisbury protesting against the danger of placing British subjects in Japan under laws to which they are already submitted in Great Britain? It is scarcely possible for the victims of blind prejudice to render themselves more ridiculous than they have done by thus crying out against an English law merely because it is presented to them in a Japanese dress.

* * *

Yet the feat is not impossible, for the same silly critic presents a still more laughable spectacle when he attempts to comment on the practical application of the new law. He prattles sarcastically about "the beauties of constitutional government as understood in Japan," and about the iniquity of giving the law "a retrospective effect" by enforcing it against the *Koin* Club, which was formed previously to its enactment. Nay, so completely does his desire to abuse Japan transport this exultant traducer that he finds "the whole affair a capital warning to European statesmen as to what constitutes constitutional government in Japan." A capital warning indeed, not of Japanese arbitrariness, but of the prodigious nonsense that an ignorant journalist can pen when his only guide is a consuming desire to revile everything Japanese. The most childish person ought to understand that if a law interdicting gambling houses, for example, were enacted, it would be enforced against gambling houses already in existence just as uncompromisingly as against gambling houses subsequently opened. The *Koin* Club is an illegal association under the new Law, and to pretend that, despite its illegality, it must be suffered to exist simply because it existed before the Law was framed, is quite one of the funniest contentions we have ever heard. If this common-sense view is beyond the com-

prehension of our very abusive contemporary, we recommend him to peruse carefully the above-quoted extracts from the British statutes, where he will find it laid down that "every person who being a member of any such society at the passing of this Act shall afterwards act as a member thereof * * * shall be deemed guilty of an unlawful combination and confederacy." Truly "the beauties of constitutional government, as understood in Great Britain, are charmingly exemplified" by this statute of Geo. III., and "the whole affair is a capital warning to Japanese statesmen as to what constitutes constitutional government in England."

VISCOUNT TANAKA AND POLITICAL ASSOCIATIONS.

A reporter of the *Kokumin Shimbun* has had an interview with Viscount Tanaka, Chief of the Metropolitan Police Board, in regard to the law prohibiting political associations from entering into combination. The following is a translation of the interview:—On hearing of the steps taken by the police for the enforcement of the Law of Meetings and Political Associations, I repaired at once to the official residence of the Chief of Metropolitan Police in order to interview him. I found Viscount Tanaka in his carriage ready to go out, but on seeing me, he alighted very kindly, invited me into the house and gave me time for conversation. I stated that the object of my visit was to obtain detailed information about the intimations given by the police to various political parties. "As you know," said the Viscount, "we have at present many kinds of associations, some of which pretend to be merely social clubs, when in reality they are political, while others form combinations with one another in direct contravention of Art. 28 of the Law of Meetings and Political Associations. Take the case of the *Koin* Club, for instance. Ostensibly it is organized by persons who have separated themselves from the *Daido Danketsu*, the *Aikokuho-to* and the *Yiyo-to*, but in reality they retain their original connection with their respective parties, so that their action in forming the club is in direct conflict with Art. 28 of the above named Law. The Government is determined to enforce the law to the letter, but as this matter has been dealt with in the past with great leniency, any sudden enforcement of the new law might bring many persons within the scope of criminal procedure, and for this reason the Authorities have allowed a week's interval in order to avoid such deplorable consequences." On being asked the reason for this change of the Government's policy, the Viscount replied:—"Simply because the Government has learned by experience that leniency in regard to such matters must involve evil consequences. It was owing to such leniency that the disastrous incident occurred in Count Okuma's case," (referring doubtless to the combination of five political parties opposed to Count Okuma's programme of Treaty Revision. "Is this change of front on the Government's part on account of the contemplated alliance of all progressive parties?" I ventured to ask. "According to what is reported in the newspapers," said Viscount Tanaka, "the so-called triple alliance as well as the alliance of all progressive parties, initiated by Kiushiu people, are all attempts to combine the different parties, not because they entertain the same political principles, but simply because they are opposed to the present Government. And viewed in this light, such attempts cannot but be regarded as prejudicial to the maintenance of public peace and order. But bear in mind that the Government is actuated in this matter by no prejudice against the people. The only solicitude of the Authorities is to avoid the necessity of inflicting punishment on agitators." "So then the Government is determined to enforce the law in question according to its strict letter, and to the full extent of its scope?" was my next query. The Viscount replied:—"I am not fully prepared to give a definite reply to your question. You see the case is quite different from an ordinary exercise of the judicial authority. The sole object of the Government in enforcing the law,

is the preservation of public peace and order. Consequently, unless there is a danger of this object being defeated, there will be no need of resorting to rigorous measures; but on the other hand, should any such danger present itself, the law will be enforced to the utmost. In short, much depends upon actual circumstances." "But can we understand that the general policy of the Government is to enforce the law strictly?" I asked. "Yes, of course" was the reply. "In my opinion the organization of a new association by persons whose names have already been stricken out of the rolls of their original political parties, can in no way conflict with the law in question," I observed. "Yes," said the Chief of the Police Board, "if they really have severed their connection, but if they merely seek to evade the legal technicality, the case will be fully investigated and dealt with accordingly."

OFFICIAL REPORTS OF THE DIET'S PROCEEDINGS.

THE arrangements for publishing an official report of the proceedings of the Diet (*Gijiroku*) appear to have involved a good deal of thought. The Chief Secretaries of each House are said, by the *Hochi Shimbun*, to have held various consultations, and to have finally decided that the report of the proceedings of each day shall appear in the *Official Gazette* of the following morning. For this purpose eighteen stenographers (*sokki ka*) are to be employed in each House, the time for one stenographer's work being fifteen minutes. Doubtless the organisers have been guided in this matter by English practice, the custom of stenographers in the House of Commons being the same with regard to time as that now to be adopted in Japan. In England, however, there is no hard-and-fast rule. The stenographic staff of a great journal, *The Times* for example, consisting of ten or twelve writers, is under the control of a chief who schedules the time when each stenographer is to go on, and in fact regulates the movements of his subordinates as though they were a squadron of soldiers. The theory is that to transform short-hand into long-hand requires about eight times as long as to write the former; but of course when a stenographer is making copy for a journal which he habitually supplies, and where his abbreviations in long-hand are well-known, he can appreciably shorten this time. We do not know whether accurate investigations have been made to ascertain the comparative labour of transforming Japanese short-hand into ideographic script, but the operation would probably be more expeditious than that of transcribing into alphabetical long-hand. In the English Parliament it is often found necessary at the close of a debate to phonograph "copy" to the printing room of a newspaper. We shall be interested to learn whether anything of this kind is contemplated in the Japanese Diet. The operation would be a good test of the phonetic capabilities of a language which, according to some sinologues, can only be ideographically rendered in writing.

RECENT FLOODS IN IBARAKI.

A CORRESPONDENT, writing from Mito on the 9th inst. says:—"The past week has been rather a calamitous week in Ibaraki *ken*. Last Sunday night the ocean waves rose "like a mountain" (to quote the local journal), and caused great damage on the coast. In the town of Minatu, at the mouth of the Naka River, 40 houses were partially or entirely destroyed, but no lives were lost. At Hirabata, farther to the north, a few houses were destroyed, and two persons perished. I presume that there was more or less damage "all along shore," but I have no specific information. Next came the floods, which were much worse than my hasty note of the 7th inst. indicated. I have just returned from a day's trip to the north, and found that the damage occasioned by this flood was much greater than that occasioned by the floods of last year. The waters had to a great extent subsided by yesterday (Friday); but they are still higher and much swifter than ordinary. From the natural bed of the Naka River to the hill on which Mito

(upper town) is located is a distance of about half a mile. The fields of this district were entirely submerged, many houses were washed above the floor, and, just at the foot of the hill, even almost to the roof. On the morning of the 7th inst. houses came floating on the rapid current, and, striking against the bridge at Aoyagi, broke down almost half of it, and also demolished the bridge a little farther down stream. Mito (lower town), being situated in the lowland nearer the river, was badly flooded. There were no lives lost along the Naka River, so far as known up to date. The damage of 3,000 *yen*, estimated for Tokiwamura alone, may give some idea of the destructive effects of the floods. But when we reach the Kuji River, farther to the north, we find yet more terrible effects. For a good half mile on both sides, that river, with an incredibly rapid current, spread its devastation. The flood came so suddenly, that there was, in some cases, no opportunity to remove the mats, furniture, &c., which were either completely drenched or swept away. Along the Kuji River many houses were overthrown or carried away, and some lives were lost; but I am not yet able to verify the report on good authority. In some places even the drains rose so high as to enter many houses; so that along the sides of the road to-day mats and other articles of furniture were to be seen set out to dry. The houses on the bank of the river at one ferry were submerged to the second storey. The crossing at that place was made under great difficulties, only by paddling quite a way up stream, rowing across side-ways with the current, and perhaps, paddling up again to the landing-place. Ferry charges were, of course, higher than usual. In some localities, as the rice had not yet blossomed, it was not greatly damaged, but along the Kuji River all the crops, being either washed out or crushed down, will probably be a failure. So strong was the current of the overflow that even trees, some distance from the river, were uprooted. The local newspaper says that there has been no such flood in this locality for 50 years.

MR. YANO FUMIO.

THE *Kokumin-no-Tomo* of the 3rd instant has an interesting article on Mr. Yano Fumio, one of the leading political figures in Japan. He is a comparatively young man, being scarcely over forty years of age, but he has been for the last few years considered as the most important member of the *Kaishin-to*, next to its leader, Count Okuma. His retirement from the political field at a time like the present has, therefore, been received by the public with much astonishment and suspicion. The Tokyo magazine thinks that Mr. Yano has probably decided to take this step in order to survey his situation in the political world, and reflect on the course which he ought to steer in the future. After noticing a few of the current rumours as to the object for which he chose to retire from public life, our contemporary proceeds to remark that nothing is more regrettable for a statesman than that he should be forgotten by the people. In this respect Mr. Yano is to be envied, as he can scarcely move a step without calling forth public criticism, whether favourable or not, which shows how highly he is considered by his countrymen. A statesman being public property, the people ought to know his true value, and accordingly the *Kokumin-no-Tomo*, though it does not pretend to understand Mr. Yano thoroughly, proceeds to explain his situation in politics. The present juncture, we are told, is of special importance to him. He has to decide once for all whether he will continue to be a partisan or whether he will henceforth stand aloof from parties. "In other words he has to decide whether he will aspire to become the nation's leader, or whether he will be contented with the leadership of a party. To put it in a concrete form, is he to be a second Count Okuma or a second Mr. Fukuzawa? We suppose that Mr. Yano is now considering this question and that he is as yet unable to decide it." Which way he will decide, our contemporary does not pretend to foretell, but his mind being at present engrossed with the question, the Tokyo

periodical is sure that he has no leisure to think of the various projects and intrigues with which his name has lately been associated. Then passing on to the analysis of his character, the *Kokumin* quotes the well-known saying that Burke was too much of a philosopher as a statesman, and too much of a statesman as a philosopher, and avers that the same may be said of Mr. Yano. It is the combination of these two qualities that has hitherto prevented Mr. Yano from achieving decided success as a practical statesman. Our contemporary considers him too fair-minded to be an effective partisan. Another circumstance disqualifying him for taking an active part in party warfare is a lack of that physical verve which has sustained Count Iwakura under extremely trying circumstances, and which has enabled Mr. Mutsu to become a leading member of the Government against which he once rebelled. Mr. Yano is therefore, in the opinion of our contemporary, better qualified to be a tactician than a general. The Tokyo journal regrets, for his sake, that circumstances have compelled him to be at once a tactician and general in the camp of the *Kaishin-to*, a Honda Sadonokami and an Ii Naomasa. But it does not by any means follow that Mr. Yano is indifferent and cold. On the contrary, his nature is warm, and when he is once excited he is capable of rising to a majestic height of eloquence. Very seldom, however, does he become roused in this manner. His retirement is, in our contemporary's opinion, analogous in one respect to that of Count Ito. What the latter has been to the Government, the former has been to the *Kaishin-to*, and they have both chosen to quit the political field when they are most wanted in their respective spheres of activity. In conclusion, the *Kokumin* observes that, if Mr. Yano intends to continue a party politician, he will have to change his nature more or less, but that, if he chooses, he may without doing any violence to his inclinations, aspire to be a second Mr. Fukuzawa. He is advised, therefore, to think thrice rather than twice before taking a step.

OFFICIAL CHANGES.

No predictions of the vernacular papers prove false, as a rule, than those they are so fond of uttering about changes in the official personnel. We dare not attempt to estimate how many Cabinets have been made and unmade by our Tokyo contemporaries, but we venture to assert that general scepticism is the outcome of their past utterances. In order, however, that our readers may know the undercurrent of public thought, we give the following from the *Fumiuri Shimbun*:—"A report, to the effect that the Minister of Justice has the intention of resigning his office, is obtaining greater currency every day. We are unable to say whether the cause of Count Yamada's contemplated resignation is because serious opposition has been raised against the enforcement of the Commercial Code, and because of the unfavourable criticisms heaped upon it, or because, having successfully carried out his great work, he desires to retire at the zenith of his fame, in order to make a triumphant tour round the world as another Napoleon of the land of the Rising Sun. To the query who will be his successor, the ready answer is that Mr. Inouye Ki would be the right man in the right place."

THE PRESIDENCY OF THE UPPER HOUSE.

REFERRING to the question, who shall be president of the House of Peers, the *Kokumin Shimbun* reports that this point is at present a very prolific topic of discussion among the peers. Count Yanagiwara appears to be the most popular. He is a man of firm resolution and great zeal, and, though somewhat disliked by the older portion of the peers as being too independent, he is in great favour with the younger nobles. In his present post as President of the Senate, he has acquitted himself so creditably that his ability to fill the chair of the House of Peers, is admitted on all hands. But Count Ito, continues our contemporary, is very popular with all ranks of the peers, and if he consents to become a candidate for the post,

there is no room for doubt that he will obtain more votes than Count Yanagiwara. Marquis Saionji is another popular man, but the *Kokumin Shimbun* thinks that, owing to his absence at this juncture, he will have no chance of election. As to the vice-presidency, the Tokyo journal reports that Marquis Asano and Viscount Ogita stand most prominent. But the fact that the Marquis belongs to the so-called "Great Daimyo" class detracts something from his popularity with the general body of peers. There are, the *Kokumin Shimbun* informs us, two parties in the Peers' Club known as "the Great Daimyo Party" and "the Small Daimyo Party." The former being inferior both in number and ability, are always defeated in debate, and consequently they try to abolish the club, to which course the peers belonging to the Small Daimyo Party are strongly opposed. As Viscount Ogita is the champion of this dominant party, it is very probable that he will be the successful candidate.

AN EXCITING CONFLAGRATION.

A CORRESPONDENT writes:—"I arrived in Edinburgh from Liverpool at noon on Monday, 16th June, and, leaving my baggage at the Caledonian depot in West Princes Street, went off in search of rooms. About 3 p.m. having found these, I hired a cab, and giving the man the left luggage receipt, told him to bring the things to my new address. He heard me to the end, and then, with true Doric cannyism, responded quietly: "Ay, but I'll maybe no get them. The station's been in a low (blaze) this hour and a quarter." I stared at the man for a moment, then entered the vehicle, banged the door to, and told him to drive off thither as quickly as he could. When we arrived, the sky was lurid with the flames from the station, a mean wooden erection quite unworthy of the locality. The plans, indeed, for a more suitable structure have for some time been drawn out. Fire-engines were playing upon the main shed, seemingly with but little effect. The wind was from the south-west, driving the flames through the long main shed, which lies N.E. and S.W., and it was therefore found impossible to work from that side. Passengers' luggage was strewn in heaps over the grass plot in front—valises, trunks, cloaks—and even an old-fashioned eight-day clock lay face downward among the rest. It was an exciting scene. I managed with difficulty to obtain an entry, and finally was delighted to secure all my belongings, and to make off in triumph through the gates. The flames were extinguished before the whole building was consumed; and such was the energy of the officials that traffic was resumed in the depot that evening. The loss is estimated at from £5,000 to £6,000. Some of the rolling stock was burned."

SUPERNATURAL DESIGNS OF BIGAMY.

HERE is a story from the *Shih Pao*:—"The strange phenomenon of a dual bride often occurs in certain parts of the Canton province. A family consisting of a mother, a father, and a son living in the district of Liang-shan of the Liang-cho in the province of Canton, had a marriage celebration in the first part of the 2nd moon. When the sedan chair containing the precious load, the bride, arrived at the door, and at the time for the performing of the usual nuptial ceremonies; lo! there appeared two brides exactly the same in person and dress, confusing the bridegroom as to the rightful one for him to take for wife. The dual personages followed exactly each other's movements. The parents, after much mooted discussion, decided to send for the bride's mother to identify her own daughter, but upon her arrival, on questioning her daughter, she was also thrown into great mental confusion by their giving out exactly the same replies. She thought she was afflicted with mental aberration, so she said that she must examine her daughter *in nudo*, for on her daughter's right leg there was an old scar and a peculiar birth mark upon her abdomen, by which signs only could she distinguish the true daughter; but she was greatly surprised by finding these marks

on both! The bridegroom, after impatiently waiting for two days after the auspicious day, made a bold stroke by having the marriage ceremonies performed with both, when the false one disappeared as strangely and suddenly as she appeared in the chair. The family was put into great fear that some calamity would happen to them, as it was believed this beautiful appearance must have been one of the Devils personified, and whenever such an occurrence happens in a family, some of its members either die or other evils befall them. The public may incline to discredit such a mysterious phenomenon, but there must be some truth in it, or else it would not have been repeated so frequently in that district. It had occurred to one person, there is every possibility of his mental derangement, but the whole company witnessed it."

COUNT GOTO, THE LAW OF PUBLIC MEETINGS, AND POLITICAL ASSOCIATIONS.

FOR some days past, public attention has been keenly directed to the new Law of Public Meetings and Political Associations. Some of the vernacular papers have been pretty free in pronouncing adverse criticisms and have endeavoured to hold up its initiators to public odium. Some have even gone so far as to insinuate that the unenviable reputation of being father to this unpopular measure, belongs to Count Goto, whom they represent as having resorted to it in the hope of frustrating the well-known alliance scheme and of keeping his own party intact. But judging by a statement of the *Fiji Shimpō's* interviewer, the Count appears in this instance, to have fallen a victim to the proverbial misrepresentations of partisan journalism. On being interviewed, he is represented as having told the reporter that he could not divulge the confidential affairs of the Government by naming the authors of the laws that pass through the hands of the Cabinet; in fact he did not even know them all. "You see," said the Count, "all the drafts of laws submitted to the Cabinet are initiated in their proper department. Thus the drafts of laws relating to financial affairs are prepared by the Department for Finance, those connected with posts and telegraphs by the Communications Department, &c., &c. These distinctions are very strictly observed, and a little reflection will show at once the absurdity of the report that the law in question, bearing no relation whatever to the official functions of the *Teishin Daijin*, was initiated by me." When asked his personal opinion concerning the law, the Count replied to the effect that he would not make any comment on a law which had already been promulgated after passing the proper channels of legislation, but that he did not think the law so objectionable as is generally represented.

Since the promulgation of the law, nearly all our Tokyo contemporaries have persisted in representing Viscount Aoki, and Messrs. Yoshikawa and Mutsu, especially the last named Minister, as in strong opposition to this measure. The idea that three of the Cabinet Ministers should be opposed to a measure which they must be assumed to have endorsed before it became a law, is quite beyond our comprehension. The *Fiji Shimpō* tries now to solve this puzzle. "The difference between the old and the new Law of Public Meetings and Political Associations," says our contemporary in effect, "consist not in its form, but only in the manner of enforcing it. So far as the form is concerned, the new is much more liberal than the old, but when the manner of enforcement is considered, the reverse is the case. Thus the prohibition placed on the union of different political associations was expressly provided in the old, just as much as in the new law. But while the former was in force, the Authorities acted with great leniency, scarcely enforcing the provision except in unavoidable cases, so that political parties had practically no cause to complain of the law. Such being the case, when the draft was submitted to the deliberations of the Cabinet, it readily obtained the endorsement of the Ministers, as it was evidently much more liberal in other respects than the original provi-

sions. When, however, the amended law came to be carried into practice, it assumed an entirely different aspect, and some of the Ministers, including Viscount Aoki and Mr. Mutsu, are reported to be much surprised at this unexpected result." How true the *Fiji's* statement may be we do not pretend to say, but we do think that a great deal of needless fuss has been made about this law. In point of fact it places no obstacle whatsoever in the path of party combination. If political associations really desire to combine, they have only to dissolve their existing organizations, a sacrifice which ought not to deter them if their union is honestly based on community of principles. There may be some subtle purpose in their apparent wish to join hands for the attainment of a special object and afterwards to break up into separate camps. But we do not appreciate that purpose, neither can we easily conceive it to be based on sound considerations of public utility.

THE NORTHERN RAILWAY.

ACCORDING to the expectation of the Japan Railway Company, says the *Fiji Shimpō*, the line will be extended to Morioka in September and on to Nonai during the present year. This leaves a very short distance to Aomori, the northern terminus, but in consequence of the exorbitant price asked for land by some unprincipled real-estate brokers, the Railway Bureau temporarily stopped the purchase of land for the track between Nonai and Aomori. Recently, however, Viscount Inouye and Mr. Ono, the Vice-President of the Japan Railway Company, made an tour of inspection to those places and declared their readiness to commence the work at once in this section, if the land could be purchased at a reasonable price. This induced the Aomori folks to come to the conclusion that they would consent to dispose of the land required for the track at the rate of a hundred yen per *tan* (300 *tsubo*), a further sum to be paid to the owners out of a fund raised by voluntary contributions.

THE TOKYO WATER-WORKS.

ACCORDING to the *Mainichi Shimbun*, it has been decided that the Government shall contribute two and a quarter million yen, in fifteen annual instalments of a hundred and fifty thousand yen each, to the Tokyo water-works. The appropriation is to commence from the current fiscal year, and will consequently be independent of the Diet's interference. It is now stated that the water-works are to cost eight million yen, and we observe that the vernacular newspapers, in describing the scheme of the works, altogether ignore the fact that the original plan was made by Major-General Palmer. That plan, we believe, with very insignificant modifications, is to be carried out, and it is singular that no notice should be taken of its existence by journals which profess to be acquainted with the story of the works. Indeed, there are several features of this affair which seem to demand explanation. The original scheme only involved an expenditure of six million yen, and would not have entailed any subsidy or onerous guarantee whatsoever from the Treasury. Its projectors were willing to carry it out at their own risk. They merely asked for an official guarantee of six per cent., which would not have required any payment from the public funds, unless the estimates of revenue and expenditure had proved very erroneous, a contingency beyond the pale of reasonable expectation. The management of the works, the rates, and all other important matters, would have been subjected to official control, and after thirty years the whole would have become the absolute property of the city of Tokyo. In lieu of this most favourable and economical project, the works are to cost eight millions and the Treasury is to pay a contribution of a hundred and fifty thousand yen for fifteen years. If to these yearly payments we add interest at the rate of 5 per cent., the total cost to the country becomes 3,012,500 yen. Of course after the promulgation of the law interdicting the construction of water-works by private companies, it was out of the question that the economical and

liberal project of Messrs. Shibusawa, Masuda, and others should be sanctioned. With the principle of the law we are entirely in accord, but we cannot forget that an unnecessary delay of nearly two years has occurred; that the works, as now planned, are to cost 33 per cent. more than the original estimate, and that the contribution from the public funds is to be over 3 million yen. What are the modifications and improvements for which such a heavy outlay is to be incurred? The plans of Major-Palmer and Mr. Burton are said to have been carried to Berlin where they underwent examination and amendment. Practical folks will be disposed to smile at the notion of submitting to German inspection in Berlin water-works designs prepared by English engineers in *loco*. Putting this aside, however, we shall be interested to learn how the additional two million yen is to be spent, and what the city is to gain for it. Stated in gold, an estimate of 8 million yen in 1890 is about 50 per cent. higher than an estimate of 6 million yen in 1888. This is a big difference. Doubtless when the details of the new scheme are published, the criticism prompted by our present fragmentary knowledge will be disarmed.

EMIGRATION FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM.

THE emigration and immigration returns of the United Kingdom for last year have lately been circulated by the British Board of Trade. A memorandum on the emigration and immigration of foreigners is appended. The most noticeable point in this year's report is the falling off in the net immigration of population from the United Kingdom. The country lost only 195,243 persons of all nationalities last year. The net loss for 1887 was 277,481, and for 1888, 269,615. Thus while the gross emigration from the United Kingdom has diminished during the last three years, immigration is on the increase, the latter having grown from 119,013 in 1887 to 147,398 last year. Mr. Giffen, the well-known statistician, who signs the report, points out that these particular figures are a fairly correct indication and measure of the state of trade and the general prosperity of the country. When wages are high and employment abundant at home, not only do fewer people go abroad, but an increasing number of people return. The conditions of travel vary also with the time—77,000 cabin or saloon passengers emigrated in 1889, against 66,000 the year before and 61,000 in 1887. Some curious figures are given on this subject. Three saloon passengers leave Southampton for every steerage passenger. From London the numbers are about equal. Glasgow and Greenock returned 4,211 cabin and 23,812 steerages last year. From Queenstown the proportion is 316 cabin to 37,506 steerage, while no cabin passenger left Galway in 1889. When business is good a large proportion of persons sons "of British and Irish origin" return from abroad. The numbers under this head have increased from 15,475 in 1887 to 103,070 in 1889. Of the latter, 71,392 came from the United States, 8642 from Canada, and 10,433 from Australia. Conversely the prospect of employment and high wages, in various countries at various periods determine the field of emigration for British subjects. The attractions of Australian alluvial gold discoveries in the early "fifties" is shown by the high figure of 77,526 emigrants to that part of the world in 1854. The number dwindled to 28,294 last year. The American War of Secession reduced the emigrants from the United Kingdom to the United States in 1860 to 38,160. There was a rise to 169,730 in 1873 and a fall to 45,481 during the year of American panic and depression in 1877. In 1887 the members rose to 201,526 and last year fell to 168,777. The United States still absorb most of the British emigrants, although the proportion fell from 70 to 67 per cent. last year. Emigration to Australia "continues stationary." In 1889 28,461 persons emigrated from the United Kingdom to "all other places." This is the largest total yet reached under that head, and Mr. Giffen accounts for it by the rush to South Africa, which alone absorbed 14,000 last year.

and will, he thinks, absorb many more in the future. He regards the proportion of British emigration to population, 0.67 per cent. as still high. The gross total for last year was 342,641 of all nationalities, and 253,795 "of British and Irish origin"—against 398,494 and 279,928 for 1888. It appears that during the last 37 years 2,297,399 persons of English and Scottish origin have emigrated to the United Kingdom, as against 2,289,735 of Irish origin. To Canada 537,743 of the former emigrated, against 173,347 of the latter; while as regards Australia the Irish represent about one-fourth of the emigrants from the United Kingdom. The number of Irish emigrants to Canada has been steadily falling off—from 8,085 thirty years ago to 2,203 last year; the English have risen from 3,791 to 22,417, while the Scottish emigrants remain at about the same figure, 3,500, during that period. Emigration from Scotland fell from 35,873 in 1888, to 25,354 in 1889. Fewer Irish go to Australasian colonies, it seems, year by year. During the early years of the Land League agitation the gross emigration from Ireland to all places reached the high average of 79,731. In 1883 it was 105,743. As soon as the present Government came into power it oddly enough fell to 61,276. Last year the gross number for Ireland was close on 65,000. It seems that some 9,000 aliens arrive in London annually, most of them coming from Hamburg. Although about 50,000 aliens land at Hull, all but a couple of hundred of them are en route for the United States. The numbers at both ports show a marked decrease for 1889.

THE KIUSHU DOSHIKAI.

In addition to the particulars already given in these columns as to the organization of the "Fellow-thinkers of Kiushu," we note that their practical programme (*undo-an*) is headed by an article declaring that union with all other parties of similar convictions shall be a prime object of the association. To this end there are to be appointed, among other officials, united representatives (*rengo jimu-tin*), three at most from each prefecture. The *Doshikai* is also to have a club in Tokyo—the word "club," by the way, has now passed finally into the Japanese, as it did long ago into the French language—and three representatives are to be sent to the capital from each prefecture in Kiushu, by the 5th of August. Messrs. Kawashima, Gamo, and Utsunomiya have been appointed delegates from Kagoshima, Mr. Yamada from Kumamoto, Mr. Okada from Fukuoka, and Messrs. Matsuda and Taketomi from Saga.

The *Doshikai* has also been sufficiently practical to publish a statement of the subjects concerning which it intends to interrogate the Government in the Diet. At the head of this list stands foreign policy, and the points of enquiry are extra-territoriality, the most-favoured nation clause, and the tariff. Other subjects of debate are army and navy organization, military expenditure, the law of conscription, finance, departmental economy, paper currency, the Bank of Japan and the National Banks, and the system of protection to trade and industry.

HOUSE FURNISHING.

CARPETS, curtains, wall-papers—these are the principal difficulties to furnishers of houses in the East. Good furniture can be procured, but when one comes to look for carpets which shall match it, for curtains which shall match the carpets, and for paper which shall match all three, the task grows serious. Hongkong, we observe, is saved much of this trouble by the employment, recently introduced, of a new system of interior decoration which takes the place of paper, and can be applied quickly and inexpensively to walls and ceilings plastered even in very mediocre fashion. The point of the system is that the colours and style of the decoration can be made to suit the furnishing of the room, so that one is sure of harmony in one's surroundings. Advertisements say that the decoration is cheaper than paper, and that

folks in Japan may obtain designs and estimates free of cost, by reference to Mr. W. S. Marten in Hongkong. If the system really accomplishes what the advertisers promise, we do many of our readers a favour by asking their attention to it.

POPULATION OF THE HOKKAIDO EMIGRANTS AND THE ABORIGINAL AINU.

It is commonly believed that the aboriginal Ainu race is rapidly dwindling away before the advance of civilization, and the fact is cited as another example of the "survival of the fittest." But according to the information of the *Jiji Shimpō*, this popular belief does not appear to be altogether corroborated by facts. Under the Tokugawa régime, says our contemporary, the population of Yezo emigrants was estimated at 40,000, but in consequence of protection and encouragement given by the Government, this number increased to 350,000 in the 21st year of Meiji. As a natural consequence, the Ainu's means of sustenance were encroached upon, and they have been popularly believed to be going down before the advance of the dominant race. But the following statistics, prepared by the Hokkaido Administration Board, show that the truth is far from the common hypothesis:—

AINU POPULATION IN YEZO.

Year.	Male.	Female.	Total.
1872	7,954	7,314	15,275
1873	8,167	8,032	16,199
1874	8,171	8,160	16,331
1875	8,547	8,583	17,130
1876	8,579	8,598	17,177
1877	8,483	8,483	16,966
1878	8,537	8,521	17,058
1879	8,513	8,515	17,028
1880	8,566	8,575	17,141
1881	8,470	8,457	16,923
1882	8,546	8,554	17,100
1883	8,617	8,615	17,232
1884	8,702	8,770	17,472
1885	8,735	8,687	17,422
1886	8,464	8,571	17,035
1887	8,437	8,525	16,962
1888	8,475	8,587	17,062

KOREA.

Our Sōul correspondent writes:—Three weeks ago Dr. J. W. Heron, Director of the Royal Korean Hospital, and Court Physician, moved his family from the heat and filth of Sōul to the Mountain City or the Southern Fortress (Nam Han) about 17 miles from the city. Her Majesty, the Queen, offered this delightful retreat to Mrs. Heron, who accepted the gracious offer. After spending a few days with his family and the friends who accompanied them, Dr. Heron returned to his post of duty. This was on the 8th of July. In Sōul he was attacked by a sharp bout of dysentery the following day, and after a week or more of great suffering, blood-poisoning set in, and it was known that the end could not be distant. He died on Saturday morning, July 26th, and on the 28th was buried in the foreign cemetery on the banks of the Hau River, about three miles from Sōul. Dr. Heron was an able physician, and during the five years of his life in Sōul faithfully attended to the duties of his profession. He was popular at Court. The King on several occasions counselled with him on matters outside his profession. All the foreigners in Sōul, including the Chinese and Japanese Representatives, attended the funeral. The services were conducted by the Rev. H. G. Underwood of the same Mission. A native preacher of the Mission made a very earnest and appropriate address in Korean. The Rev. H. G. Appenzeller, of the Methodist Mission, also spoke feelingly of his departed friend and brother. Dr. H. A. Allen, formerly Foreign Secretary of the Korean Legation at Washington, has been appointed Secretary of the U.S. Legation at Sōul. The appointment gives great satisfaction to his friends, as the doctor is wide awake and very popular with the Koreans.

THE COALITION OF PARTIES.

The *Daido Shimbun* of Sunday last has an extremely sensible article entitled "Why is there no commencing of preparation for practical work?" The *Daido* argues that the coalition of political parties is not in itself to be regarded as beneficial to the country. As long as the members of the giant party that has been

formed retain their old notions, they will prove as powerless to effect any real reform in Japanese politics as they have hitherto showed themselves. Where a definite practical object forms the basis of union, definite results of an unmistakably satisfactory character usually follow. But where coalition is regarded as an end in itself, where politicians are led to fancy that some special merit is associated with the submerging of small differences, the assumption of a name of wide import, and the apparent augmentation of fellow-thinkers that attends such a movement as has lately been witnessed in Japan, they are doomed to disappointment. Coalition is beneficial if some practical good springs from it. Not otherwise. If the new giant party still spends its time in irresponsible theory-spinning, if it knows of no other object of existence than readiness to oppose the measures brought forward by the present government, it cannot but prove a fiasco. The question, says the *Daido*, which we put to ourselves is, "what practical good is the party going to effect? Why is there such delay in commencing operations that have some definite end in view?"

SEA INUNDATION IN MIYAGI AND IBARAKI PREFECTURES.

About 2 o'clock in the morning of the 4th inst., a sudden rise of the sea occurred along the coast line of Nagatohama, Yoshidahama, Ushibashihama, &c., in Miyagi Prefecture. By seven o'clock, the water was more than ten feet above the ordinary level and, in spite of all efforts to keep it in check, it swept away embankments and inundated the country, doing more or less damage to over sixty-six *cho* (165 acres) of farms and rice-fields, and destroying five bridges. There was, however, no loss of life. The flood subsided slowly at ten o'clock. This inundation is said to be the largest that has occurred during the past ninety years. At Ishinomaki, in the same prefecture, a similar phenomenon was witnessed one day previously, but the extent of the damage is not yet ascertained. In Ibaraki Prefecture, a place named Minado was the scene of an inundation of even greater force than the above. "On the 2nd inst.," says the report, a violent gale prevailed from the morning. Eight dwelling houses and thirteen sheds were swept away by the waves along the sea front in Minado, and the people in the vicinity all removed to other places. The sea rose more than twenty feet, and maintained its height for several hours. On the following day, the waves were more furious than ever, threatening to flood the whole town of Minado. Happily, however, they subsided gradually without causing any loss of life.

REVISED PRESS REGULATIONS.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* states that revised press regulations will be promulgated in a very short time, having already been submitted to the Senate for deliberation. Our contemporary mentions as one of the most salient points of revision, that, according to the existing regulations, the Authorities can suspend papers without indicating what particular article has been the cause of punishment, but in future it will be incumbent to point out the offending matter in all cases of suspension. The same journal says that the opinion that the Peace Preservation Regulation should either be revoked or revised prior to the opening of the Imperial Diet, is gaining strength among the Senators, and that some definite steps will be taken before the end of August in regard to this important matter.

TERRIBLE FLOODS IN FUKUSHIMA.

The vernacular papers contain a report to the effect that floods of unprecedented magnitude occurred in Fukushima, a town well known as the centre of the silk producing country in the north. In consequence of rainy weather, says the report, the rivers Sugawa and Okumagawa rose enormously, the volume of water increasing rapidly day by day up to the 7th inst., when it flooded the town of Fukushima. Without a moment's warning, about thirty houses along Ichome were inundated by two feet of water,

which rose above the floors before the people could remove their effects. Nishiura Ichome was also invaded by the rushing flood and the houses along Higashi Ichome were submerged to the extent that the highest part of the roof only was out of water. A butcher's shop yielded to the pressure of the flood, and floated away, demolishing a few houses on its way. In the surrounding country many houses were either submerged or swept away. In some places the flood covered so large an area that the country looked like a big lake, in which the roofs of the submerged houses presented the appearance of so many islets. Altogether this inundation is believed to be the most disastrous that has ever occurred in the locality. There were many deaths, but the exact number has not yet been ascertained.

ERUPTION IN FUKUSHIMA.

THE *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* of the 12th inst. states that the eruption of a sulphur mountain situate at Doyomura, Shinobu-gun, Fukushima Prefecture, has recently taken place, the result being the destruction of scores of houses and great loss of life. No further particulars are given by the Tokyo paper, but it says that the eruption was followed by floods, and that the latter were caused by the former. It is more likely, however, owing to the heavy rains that have fallen in the neighbourhood, that the Sugawa and Abukumagawa, two rivers in Fukushima Prefecture that receive the rainfall of an extended area, became suddenly swollen after an unusually heavy downpour and worked the havoc described. The *Nichi Nichi* says that on the 7th inst. Fukushima-machi was suddenly flooded, the town and neighbourhood presenting the appearance of a great lake, the houses in low lying localities being completely submerged. Furniture and property of all descriptions were swept away, and a great many lives were lost, though the number at present cannot even be guessed approximately, such a sudden and disastrous deluge never before having been seen in Fukushima. The Nagasegawa also rose, and death and destruction followed the course of the flood. At Yokotsuka, about 10 *cho* from Gunzan-machi, the Abukumagawa overflowed, but the people saw it coming and climbed to the roofs of their houses. Thousands of acres were soon under water, and no attempt could be made by the people to secure their property which they saw floating away while they were helplessly perched on the roofs of their dwellings. The district officers and police were energetic in rendering all the assistance in their power and saved many lives. The loss will be enormous.

The following loss and damage to house property have already been ascertained, though these returns must necessarily, from the nature of the disaster, be incomplete:—At Fukushima-machi 8 houses floated away and 75 were inundated; at Sugisuma 59 houses were inundated and one destroyed, and at Yoshida-mura 20 houses were washed out; at Watari-mura 28 houses were demolished or floated away and 11 others were inundated; at Iiamabe-mura 4 houses were destroyed and 26 inundated; at Honmiya-machi 118 houses were flooded and 33 destroyed; at Doyo hot-spring 16 houses suffered destruction. Deaths occurred to an extent not yet ascertained, and in addition to places from which no returns have been received, the damage to property and loss of life at the above-named villages are said to be much greater than the figures indicate. No such occurrence, it is said, has ever before afflicted this district.

A CURIOUS TALE.

THE *Kobe Herald* publishes, on authority which it calls "unimpeachable," a story that the police authorities in Hyogo—at least we presume that Hyogo is referred to, though our contemporary leaves the point in doubt—recently employed torture to exact confession from some coolies charged with having stolen certain cases of kerosene oil. The method of torture was to fasten bits of wood between the fingers of the

accused, and then suspend the unhappy men so that the weight of their bodies depended from these bits of wood. Now if the *Kobe Herald* has information justifying the publication of such a tale, it must know exactly where and by what police office this outrage was perpetrated. We altogether disbelieve the story ourselves, because we hold it incredible that the police would resort to a performance which could not fail to be discovered, and the discovery of which must necessarily lead to their severe punishment. Be that as it may, however, the plain duty of the *Kobe Herald* is to publish precise information by means of which the supposed torturers may be discovered. The charge preferred in its present vague form can only be interpreted as a desire to fix the infamy of a brutal and illegal act upon the Japanese police without furnishing such particulars as may enable the accusation to be refuted or the persons charged to be punished. We are very familiar with these stories. They have been recklessly ventilated from time to time, but as yet not one of them rests on anything but the vague statement of witnesses evidently prejudiced or reporters who wished to be persuaded.

THE JUDGES AT THE EXHIBITION.

REFERRING to the discontent felt by some of the exhibitors at the late industrial show at Ueno, the *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* says:—Despite the admitted inferiority in magnitude of the recent exhibition at Ueno when compared with the international show last year at Paris, there is room for congratulation both in regard to the improvements noticeable at our last exhibition as compared with previous attempts of a similar kind, as well as the industrial progress of the country as shown in the exhibits. But there appears to be a feeling of discontent amongst certain of the exhibitors in regard to the awards of the judges in some cases, a feeling that, so far as we know, never showed itself in connection with the decisions of the judges at previous exhibitions held in Japan. But that this feeling exists there can be no question, inasmuch as some exhibitors who are dissatisfied with the verdict of the judges have gone the length of entering actions for damages against them. It is only fair and reasonable that judges should be expected to show that their verdicts were in accordance with the general view and entirely unbiassed, otherwise it is to be feared that many exhibitors may be deterred from taking an active part in future exhibitions. We do not by any means infer, though, that the recent judgments were not right and proper verdicts, nor do we think it desirable that the judges should be called upon to review their decisions, as, having given them, they may be expected to stand by them. Further, we do not see how the dissatisfied exhibitors can expect to succeed in their actions at law against the judges, and the only method that occurs to us as calculated to soothe the feelings of those exhibitors who consider that they have been ill-treated by the judges, is for the Government to take the matter in hand and cancel the objectionable awards.

MEETING OF THE INDEPENDENTS AT KYOTO.

WHILE the politicians in the progressive camp are working with might and main for the formation of a grand coalition of all their sections, the independent members of the Diet are fast growing in political importance by the process of consolidation. As we reported at the time, about thirty of the Independents in Tokyo and vicinity recently held their first meeting at the Chargo Restaurant. Now we are informed by the *Choya Shinbun* that the Independents of the southern prefectures held their meeting in Kyoto on the 5th inst. The meeting was attended by about thirty men, all members of the Diet, and was addressed by Messrs. Okata Ryoichi, and Tanaka Gentaro, members from Shizuoka Prefecture and Kyoto respectively. The former gentleman, unless we are mistaken, has the credit of being the first to urge the advisability of all the members who have no party attachment forming themselves into an independent body in the Diet. According to the *Choya's* report, the meeting adopted resolu-

tions to preserve a neutral attitude *vis-à-vis* all existing political parties, and to attend the assembly of Independents to be held in Tokyo on the 20th inst. As to a political platform, it was decided to leave that question for deliberation on the occasion of the Tokyo Meeting. The Authorities are said to have taken great precautions that no disturbance should occur in connection with this Kyoto meeting. But everything passed off very peacefully, except that two members of the "Young Men's Liberal Club" came to the entrance of the meeting house and demanded an interview with either Mr. Tanaka or Mr. Iiamaka, in order, as they said, to make enquiry as to the object of the meeting. On being refused an interview, however, the young Liberals went off quietly.

THE CONSERVATIVES.

OWING to the want of party organization, writes the *Fonjuri Shinbun*, it is impossible to exactly ascertain the parliamentary strength of the new conservatives led by Generals Tani and Miura. But nearly fifty members of the party are said to have been returned in the prefectures of Kumamoto, Hiroshima, Miyagi, Aichi, &c. These conservative members are supposed to entertain the idea of holding a meeting in Tokyo in the near future in order to secure unity in their parliamentary action. The election returns, as published by the various newspapers, do not show anything like 50 conservative members of the Diet. We are therefore quite at a loss to conceive how the estimate referred to by the *Fonjuri* has been arrived at. If there be any truth in the statement, it becomes plain that the manner in which the various parties have hitherto been supposed to be represented among the 300 members, is untrustworthy. The fact is that we shall probably know nothing definite about the composition of the Diet, until the preliminary conferences of the different parties, to be held probably in September and October, afford some solid basis for an estimate.

SUREFOOT.

THOUGH Surefoot's roguish running in the Derby will be remembered by his backers for many a year, the colt has redeemed his somewhat tarnished reputation by the easy manner in which he afterwards won the Thirty-second Biennial, and, as we now learn from American papers, the Prince of Wales' Stakes at Leicester, worth £8,500. In this race Memoir ran second, and Surefoot probably met Le Nord, Semolina, Rightaway, and other "cracks" who would have shown him their heels had he ran so ungenerously as he did at Epsom. It is plain from these performances that Mr. Merry's colt has not "gone off," and that, though he may not care to go much over a mile, he is just as good at that distance as ever he was. How much the Derby was at his mercy, however, had he been disposed to try, is shown by the time of that race and the Oaks. In the latter it was 2.40½, and in the former 2.49½, a difference of 9 seconds. Of course it may be argued that the fillies this year are better than the colts, but, even admitting this, it can hardly be so to the extent indicated by the time in the two races.

NEWSPAPER RATES.

THE ruinous tendency which, beginning five years ago, gradually led Japanese journalists to reduce their prices to impossibly low rates, is apparently beginning to be replaced by a more wholesome mood. It was the *Hochi Shinbun* that set the example of cutting down the price of subscription, and it is the *Mainichi Shinbun* which has now the courage to revert to more reasonable figures. The latter journal announces that, in view of the progress of society and, above all, of the near opening of the Diet, it can no longer furnish adequate intelligence and comment at the rates hitherto charged. In future, therefore, the price of one number will be 2 *sen* instead of 1½ *sen*; the monthly subscription will be 30 *sen* instead of 25, and the semi-annual subscription will be 1.80 *sen*. These prices are already small enough in all

conscience. Nowhere else in the world could a daily paper exist on a subscription of some 12 shillings annually, or less than a halfpenny per number.

SALE OF THE UNSOLD ARTICLES IN THE UYENO EXHIBITION.

As reported in these columns from time to time, various plans have been proposed for the disposal of the unsold articles in the Exhibition at UYENO. At first the lottery plan was considered very desirable, but it was abandoned in consequence of legal objections raised in some quarters. The latest scheme is that the Government should grant a certain amount of subsidy on the articles, so as to enable them to be disposed of cheaply without entailing loss on the exhibitors. The official estimate for this subsidy, we are informed by the *Fiji Shimpō*, is some ninety thousand yen. It is further reported that those who are desirous of availing themselves of this plan of selling their articles, will be permitted to do so in the exhibition buildings, the sale commencing on the 16th or 17th inst. and lasting for about a week. We can understand and sympathise with the perplexity of the authorities in this matter, but we doubt whether much success will attend the proposed course. Most of the unsold articles are probably of such a nature that, even though their selling price be reduced by thirty or forty per cent., are not very likely to find purchasers. At all events a week is not a sufficient interval, unless the unsold articles are much less numerous than we have been led to suppose.

THE NEW COMMERCIAL CODE.

We have already reported that the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce (*Shoko Kai*) has resolved to make representations to the proper authorities for the postponement of the date of putting the new Commercial Code into force, and has also decided to communicate its resolutions to the various chambers of commerce throughout the country, with the object of inviting their opinion on the subject. The *Kokumin Shimbun* thinks that the other chambers will not fail to endorse the resolutions of the Tokyo body. It is reported that this movement is not prompted by any spirit antagonistic to the Government's measures, its explanation being that the merchants are determined to oppose the enforcement of laws which, they are convinced, would entail inconvenience in commercial transactions. It will be disappointing to find them take such a course, but if they accompany their protest with a full statement of reasons, the results cannot fail to be valuable.

FIXED EXPENDITURES.

THE proper interpretation of Art. 67 of the Constitution relating to fixed expenditures has long been a theme of public discussion. According to report, the original intention of the Authorities was to promulgate a law in regard to this matter. But the Privy Council raised very serious objections to this course, and its views were supported by some of the newly appointed Ministers of State. Thus the thing became a moot point in the Yamagata Cabinet, and the opposition seemed so strong for a time that the original intention of the Government was supposed to have been dropped, but the latest *on dit* is that the opposition was at last defeated and that, in the course of a few days, the law will be promulgated in the original form proposed by the Minister President. It is further said that the law will consist of thirteen articles. These statements are from the *Fiji Shimpō*.

CRICKET IN ENGLAND.

THE cricket column in the mail edition of *The Times* of June 23rd is good reading. It records three innings in which the total number of runs obtained was 1,704. We do not remember to have seen such a record in any single week before. The first of these great innings was in the match Players of England v. Australians. The players scored 526 in their one innings, against a total of 263 in the two innings of the Australians. The highest figure stood to Gann's

credit: he scored no less than 228 runs off his own bat. Every man of the Players, however, excepts Briggs (first bowler) and Sherwin (wicket-keeper) got into double figures. The second remarkable innings was played by Lancashire against Oxford University. The county team scored 475—of which Sugg made 171—in one innings, against a total of 406 for the University's two innings. But the heaviest scoring of all was witnessed when Cambridge University made 703 in its second innings against Sussex. To this huge total three men contributed over a century each; namely Mr. F. G. F. Ford 191, Mr. C. P. Foley 117, and Mr. McGregor 131.

SAILING RACE.

A SAILING race for 17-raters took place on Saturday afternoon over an eight-mile course, being four times round a triangle composed of *Princess Maud* (off the Boat-house), *Ronin* moored some distance outside the Spit Buoy, and *Lady Louise* stationed off the Niche. The boats were sent off by Mr. A. Owston, who acted as officer of the day, at 1.40, the wind being from S.E. to S., and light. *Sayonara* was first across the line followed by *Scamp*, *La Belle*, *Violet*, *Dot*, and *Jessie*. *Jessie* took first and *Sayonara* second place before the finish of the first round, and retained this advantage to the last. The wind was very shifty and all kinds of sailing were called for, from close-hauled to running under spinnakers. *Jessie* took first prize (the *Violet* Cup) easily, and *Sayonara* the second, the former scoring two record points and the latter one. The following are the times:—

	Rating.	1st Round.	2nd Round.	3rd Round.	Finish.
<i>Jessie</i>	16	2.35.48	3.21.03	4.11.20	4.53.05
<i>Dot</i>	16	2.47.04	3.35.10	4.30.05	5.21.05
<i>Violet</i>	16	2.46.35	3.43.33	4.37.40	5.22.25
<i>La Belle</i>	16	2.47.15	3.43.20	4.41.04	5.32.10
<i>Sayonara</i>	13	2.41.54	3.33.23	4.25.21	5.17.50
<i>Queenie</i>	13	did not start.	—	—	—
<i>Scamp</i>	10	2.16.01	2.26.45	3.25.50	did not finish.

	Allowance.	Corrected Time.
<i>Jessie</i>	—	4.53.05
<i>Dot</i>	—	5.21.05
<i>Violet</i>	—	5.22.25
<i>La Belle</i>	—	5.32.10
<i>Sayonara</i>	5.52	5.10.58
<i>Queenie</i>	5.52	—
<i>Scamp</i>	16.51	—

The Committee of the Sailing Club issue the following notices:—

On Saturday, the 16th August, 1890, there will be a race for 17 raters only as already notified, start at 2 p.m.; also, the "Ronin" Cup Race for Boats above 17 Rating, as notified for the 2nd August, will be sailed, start at 4 p.m.; officer of the day, Mr. A. Brent.

On Saturday, the 10th August, 1890, there will be a race for all boats over 17 rating, start at 2 p.m.; club course, twice round. Time limit, 4½ hours. Prizes, under measurement handicap. One in each class; there will also be a race for 17 raters only, start at 2.30 p.m.; course, the 17 rater course, once round. Time limit, 4½ hours. Prizes, under measurement handicap, first and second; officer of the day, Mr. Alan Owston.

Saturday, the 6th September, 1890, there will be a race for 17 raters only, start at 2 p.m.; course, from an imaginary line between the Bathing Barge (leaving same on starboard hand) and the French Hatoba around a flagboat at Kanagawa and the Green Lightship (leaving both these marks on starboard hand) and finish across the starting line (leaving Bathing Barge on starboard hand). Once round; time limit, 4½ hours; prizes, under measurement handicap, one; officer of the day, Mr. H. J. Gorman.

Saturday, the 13th September, 1890, there will be a race for all boats over 17 rating, start at 2 p.m.; club course, twice round. Time limit, 4½ hours; prizes, under measurement handicap, one in each class; officer of the day, Mr. J. O. Arell.

Saturday, the 20th September, 1890, there will be a race for 17 raters only, start at 2 p.m.; course, the 17 rater course once round. Time limit, 4½ hours; prizes, under measurement handicap, (presented) and second; officer of the day, Mr. C. D. West.

On Tuesday, the 23rd September, 1890, there will be a race for all boats over 17 rating, start at 2 a.m.; course, from an imaginary line between the Bathing Barge (leaving same on port hand) and the French Hatoba around a flagboat off Min-en-san (leaving same on starboard hand) and back to the starting line. Bathing Barge to be left on starboard hand in finishing. Distance about 21 knots. Time limit, none; prizes, under arbitrary handicap first, the "Lesbelle" Cup (presented), second, and third; officer of the day, Mr. W. W. Campbell; entrance fee for all above races \$1, each.

MEETING OF THE DAIDO PARTY.

As the appointed time approaches for the final settlement of the question of amalgamating the *Daido Danketsu*, the *Aikokukoto* and the resuscitated *Fiyu-to*, the movements of these parties are watched with growing interest by the public. According to present prospects,

both the *Aikoku* and the *Fiyu* seem willing to coalesce, but grave doubts are entertained as to the readiness of the *Daido* factor to form such a coalition. The *Kokumin Shimbun* has published the report of the *Daido* meeting held in Kobikicho on the 26th ultimo. The report informs us that the meeting had a very small attendance, and that no definite resolution was passed. But, judging from the general tenor of the conversation which took place, the *Kokumin* thinks that much hostility is entertained by the *Daido* members towards the two other parties. Our contemporary is nevertheless sanguine that this hostile spirit will finally be overcome, and that the party will disband their organization in order to meet their political fellow-workers half-way in the scheme of amalgamation.

GOLD AND SILVER RATIOS.

The *Official Gazette* gives the following table of comparative values of gold and silver coins and of the pound sterling for the week ended the 9th inst., as derived from the returns of the Bank of Japan and the Yokohama Specie Bank:—

Days	Gold Coin. (Per yen 100) Silver Yen.	Pound Sterling. (Per £1) Silver Yen.
4th	111.500	A.M. 5.4857 P.M. 5.4857
5th	111.500	A.M. 5.4857 P.M. 5.4857
6th	111.500	A.M. 5.5172 P.M. 5.5172
7th	111.700	A.M. 5.5491 P.M. 5.5491
8th	112.300	A.M. 5.5491 P.M. 5.5491
9th	112.300	A.M. 5.5491 P.M. 5.5491
Averages	111.800	5.5227

The above averages show for gold coin a decrease in value of yen 1.450, and for the pound sterling a decrease in value of yen 0.0550 as compared with the previous week.

PRINCE BISMARCK.

ALL the deplorable and despicable of Germany, says *Truth*, have been engaged during the last few weeks in the congenial task of kicking the dead lion; but I do not suppose that Prince Bismarck troubles himself about the malevolent inventions of such contemptible vermin. The idea of Prince Bismarck having impaired his faculties by morphia-drinking is really too extravagantly preposterous a fiction for even lunatics to credit, and the even more offensive allegation of "alcoholism" is not less nonsensical. Prince Bismarck formerly took his fair share of wine or beer, but he is man of iron head, and certainly never was affected in any way by his potations. The days, however, when he drank champagne, beer, and Rhine wines have passed away. A few years ago Prince Bismarck found his neuralgia benefited by a daily bottle of strong dry port, the wine being of a special quality which he obtained direct from Oporto; but this was discontinued when he consulted Dr. Schweneberger; and for a long time past his customary beverage has been weak whisky and Apollinaris, and even of this only a comparatively small quantity has been allowed.

CHANGES IN THE IMPERIAL UNIVERSITY.

THE *Fiji Shimpō* asserts that a radical change in the method of working the Imperial University is about to take place, and that the present heads of departments will be replaced by others. We ourselves have no information on the point; but we think it pretty certain that a man of such decided opinions on educational methods as Mr. Kato will sooner or later introduce changes in the system hitherto adhered to by the different faculties. What, exactly, the modification he has in contemplation will amount to we are not in a position to say. But we have full confidence in Mr. Kato. No one is better acquainted with the defects and the merits of the present mode of managing the University than he. We shall be interested to see what will be the direction of the reforms which he inaugurates.

GOOD WATER FOR THE POOR.

We are pleased to see that the leading Japanese merchants of Yokohama recognise the import-

ance of supplying the poorer classes with pure water in times of epidemic like the present. A fund has been formed for the purpose of enabling those who are too poor to pay for water from the waterworks to receive a regular supply. Messrs. Hara Zenzaburo, Mogi Sobei, Hirayama Senzo, Takashima Kaemon, and a number of others have subscribed liberally to this object. We trust it will not be many years before every great city in Japan is provided with the means of preventing the spread of cholera which Yokohama now enjoys, and the value of which is so keenly appreciated by Japanese as well as foreigners.

THE ROKUMEIKAN.

Rumours about the building in Tokyo called the Rokumeikan have been in circulation since last year. Constructed originally with funds appropriated for the purpose by various Departments of the Government, the edifice was intended to serve chiefly for social purposes and for the entertainment of foreign guests of distinction. The latter office had been previously discharged by the Yenriyokan, but this, being one of the detached Palaces, could only be used on very special occasions. It often happened, therefore, that the Authorities were perplexed to find accommodation for visitors who, though necessarily entertained at the public expense, could not with propriety be lodged in an Imperial Palace. Further, even though this difficulty did not exist, the Yenriyokan was by no means invariably available, and thus many reasons conspired to suggest the construction of another and more generally serviceable building in a convenient situation. Count Inouye was the chief promoter of the scheme, and the results justified his foresight, for the Rokumeikan has been almost uninterruptedly useful since the date of its opening. Balls, dinners, concerts, charity bazaars, theatrical entertainments, official meetings, and all sorts of entertainments have been held in its fine salons, while its suits of bedrooms have been repeatedly placed at the disposal of guests of distinction. For some reason, however, of which we have no precise knowledge, the arrangements for the maintenance of building and grounds did not work smoothly, and a proposition to rent it to the Imperial Household Department seemed, at one time, likely to be carried through. But the Household Department having already at its disposal two detached Palaces, the Yenriyokan and the Shiba Rikui, finally decided to abstain from taking over the Rokumeikan, and it has now been let to the Nobles at a yearly rental of two thousand yen, the lessees making themselves responsible for the repair of the building and the preservation of the grounds. These proceedings have been watched with the keenest interest by the members of the Tokyo Club, which, by the kindness of the Government, enjoys the privilege of occupying a portion of the ground floor of the building rent free. Count Inouye, ever foremost in devising and maturing schemes to promote intercourse between Japanese and foreigners, started the Tokyo Club, and placed at its disposal the handsome rooms it has ever since occupied in the Rokumeikan; an act of consideration to which the Club owes not only its origin, but also its continued existence. It cannot be said, indeed, that Count Inouye's purpose of bringing foreigners and Japanese into close social relations has succeeded in a degree at all proportionate to his desire. Yet the Club has certainly accomplished something in this respect, and has at any rate proved an incalculable boon to the foreign residents of the capital. Its loss would be a public calamity, and the possibility that a transfer of the building might involve that contingency was viewed with great uneasiness. Happily, however, nothing of the kind appears to be contemplated. On the contrary, we learn that the Nobles have made a proposition which will probably result in their own admission to the Tokyo Club under special conditions, and in a considerable enlargement of the premises occupied by the latter. We sincerely trust that this arrangement will be consummated, for it would not only improve the

Club and place it on a more secure footing, but also help materially to promote the original purpose of the institution.

FLOODS IN FUKUSHIMA, MIYAGI, AND YAMAGATA PREFECTURES.

We have already reported the floods of Fukushima. Further north of that town, at a place named Senokami, a considerable number of houses have been swept away and much damage done to rice-fields and farms. But as yet we have heard of no loss of life. In a town named Motomiya, more than a thousand houses were submerged in the muddy waters, and had it not been for the little hill upon which rests the shrine of Adachi Taro, a terrible loss of life would have been the result. With the exception of two men who were drowned, the people all fled to the hill. The waters subsided completely during the morning of the 8th inst. A great deal of damage was done to the track of the railway between Kori and Matsukawa, and communication has been entirely cut off since the 7th last. Many telegraph posts were damaged near Nihommatsu, Shirakawa, Wakamatsu, Fukushima, and other places, interrupting the telegraphic communication between Tokyo and Sendai.

In Yamagata Prefecture, the town of Yamagata was inundated by the overflow of the river Umamigasaki on the 6th inst. Most of the houses in the town, including the Prefectural Office, the Legislature Hall, the Court House, the Police Office, and other public buildings, were carried away by the flood, and there was some loss of life. In the surrounding country damage is supposed to have been done, but as yet no details have reached us.

In Miyagi Prefecture the rivers Narusegawa, Tadagawa, Kitakamigawa, and Abukumagawa all rose to an alarming extent above their ordinary level. The embankments were destroyed in many places involving much loss and suffering.

Owing to the enormous rise in various rivers, the railway was damaged between Fukushima and Kori, so that the first up train from Ueno on the 6th inst. could not proceed beyond Fukushima. On the same day, the down train from Sendai was stopped at Iwamura on account of the overflow of the Abukumagawa. Near Sukagawa, an iron bridge over the Shakadogawa was swept away. At present the Tokyo train can go no further than Kuroiso. Repairs are being executed with all possible despatch, but it is said that about two weeks will elapse before the reopening of the whole line up to Sendai.

FLOODS IN CHINA.

In the days of mediæval superstition, China would surely have been thought to have incurred the wrath of heaven, for if ever an unfortunate country was persecuted by the plague of waters it is she. Last year her sufferings moved the pity of the civilized world and large sums were contributed by foreigners, especially Englishmen, for the relief of her destitute millions. Even to this day barrowing accounts reach us from the districts invaded last year by the Yellow River, and now comes a story of an outbreak of water on a still larger scale. What may be the exact dimensions of the new calamity we cannot yet tell, but that it is on an immense scale and that it must cause wide-spread and dire misery, there can be no doubt. The records from Tientsin almost take away the breath of any one sufficiently acquainted with the topography of the place to trace the path of the floods. A specially shocking feature of inundations in China is that the waters very soon become freighted with coffins. The Chinese do not bury their dead in the ground, but on it. They lay the coffin on the surface of the field of sepulture, and then pile a mound of clay over the big wooden box, the dimensions of the mound varying directly with the importance and opulence of the defunct. Moreover, special sites for cemeteries are not chosen. The coffins are deposited here, there, and everywhere to suit the convenience of the relatives of the dead.

Thus, when the rivers burst their banks, the waters, as they spread themselves abroad, encounter funeral mounds in innumerable places, and whenever the heap of superincumbent clay is insignificant, the coffins are sapped out and floated hither and thither, sometimes to be sucked into the main current and swept seaward—as was the case recently at Tientsin, where fourteen of these ghastly waifs travelled past the wharfs in one day, moving towards the bar at the rate of six knots an hour—and sometimes to be deposited incontinently at any spot whence the falling flood finds itself unable to carry them. But shocking as this feature may be, it is a small matter compared with the terrible sufferings of the living who are deprived of food and lodging by the cruel inundations. Once again, doubtless, and for the twentieth time, foreign charity will be invoked on behalf of the flooded-out millions, but however wide may be this charity, it will rebel, we imagine, against the wretched helplessness which exposes the Chinese to repeated visitations of such calamities. The miserable tinkering that does duty for intelligent and vigorous engineering, serve no purpose except to afford an opportunity for official peculation. An Occidental nation situated as the Chinese are, would soon grapple with its rebellious rivers and save the thousands of lives and the millions of property sacrificed by their ravages every year. But the people of the Middle Kingdom go on year after year exposing their lives and their belongings to calamities which resolution and ability would certainly avert. How futile, in view of such facts as these, do the predictions sound which tell us that the Mongols are the coming race! Does the history of the world furnish a single example of a resuscitated civilization; a civilization which, having fallen into a state of decadence, has risen on its own ashes to renewed life? China's day is past. Destiny holds in store for her no new achievements as a nation.

THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

THE following is the fiftieth report of the court of directors to be presented to the shareholders at the ordinary half-yearly general meeting to be held on the 23rd instant:—"The directors have now to submit to you a general statement of the affairs of the bank, and balance-sheet for the half-year ending 30th June, 1890. The net profits for that period, including \$141,310.47 balance brought forward from last account, after paying all charges, deducting interest paid and due, and making provision for bad and doubtful accounts, amount to \$1,249,943.81, of which, after taking out remuneration to directors, there remains for appropriation \$1,239,943.81. From this sum, the directors recommend the payment of a dividend of one pound and ten shillings per share, which at 4/6 will absorb \$400,000, and a bonus of one pound per share which will absorb \$266,666.67. The difference in exchange between 4/6, the rate at which the dividend and bonus are declared, and 3/4, the rate of the day, amounts to \$224,974.20. They recommend transferring \$200,000 to the credit of reserve fund, which with instalments of premium on new shares, \$682,127.20, will then stand at \$5,482,127.20. The balance \$148,302.94 to be carried to new profit and loss account. Mr. B. Layton and Mr. W. G. Brodie (directors) have resigned. The directors invited Mr. A. McConachie to join the board, which appointment requires confirmation at this meeting. The accounts have been audited by the Hon. Phineas Ryrie and Mr. Fullarton Henderson."

CHOLERA RAVAGES IN JAPAN.

THE other day one of our Kobe contemporaries worked itself into something very like a white heat over the commonly received notion that cholera came to Japan from abroad. The southern journal seemed to think that some covert insult to foreigners was conveyed in the assertion of a simple historical fact. Such sensitiveness is surely a little hysterical. If foreigners brought cholera to Japan, no person with a grain of sense can blame them for being

the unwilling media of communicating such a plague, and to take offence because the origin of the disease is traced to their intercourse is as silly as it would be on the part of the Japanese to abuse Westerners for giving them locomotives which sometimes crush people to death and steamers which occasionally blow their passengers into eternity. There is no occasion for this attitude of prancing anxiety to vindicate foreign reputation against charges however chimerical or shadowy. Foreign reputation does not require to be protected by such means. If cholera came from abroad, China is probably responsible for the gift, and if China is responsible we imagine that our Kobe contemporary and other champions of its type will find the ardour of their defence materially cooled. The matter is brought to our recollection by a note in the *Daido Shimbun*, where we read that cholera first made its appearance in Japan in the *Ansei* era (1852-8), when it received the name of *Korori*. Not until the present era of *Meiji* did it come to be known as "cholera" (*Korera*). According to the investigations of the Sanitary Bureau, the great epidemic of 1886, when 154,736 persons were attacked and 109,484 died, was the worst that has occurred in the present era of *Meiji*.

THE BURIAL OF MRS. RODGERS AND HER DAUGHTER.

MRS. SCHROEDER and her mother Mrs. Rodgers fell victims to cholera at Kobe last week. Mrs. Schroeder, who was the first to be attacked, had, prior to her coming to Japan, been suffering from an acute form of dysentery. Her arrival in this country at a time when cholera was daily on the increase with a strong predisposition to attack was most unfortunate and might have been prevented by the exercise of a little more discretion on the part of her advisers in Shanghai. It appears that the two unfortunate ladies, who came in search of health and fell victims to the direst of diseases, had to be buried in a hurry and without the usual funeral ceremonies. This is made the subject of one of those outcries against the clergy to which we are every now and again treated by certain of our contemporaries. The *Hyogo News* suggests all sorts of uncharitable and improbable reasons why the clergy were not forthcoming on the occasion. This class of aspersion cannot be too strongly condemned. In the first place, if we are rightly informed, there is no clergyman in Kobe who is wholly supported by foreigners, and hence whose exclusive duty it is to perform such ceremonies as may be in request by foreign residents or visitors; therefore the case in point cannot be regarded as neglect of duty on the part of the missionaries residing in Kobe. Then the question which it is pertinent to ask is, were any of the clergy asked to perform the funeral ceremony by those who had charge of the burial of the deceased? We think that the most probable explanation is that most of the clergy were out of town and that some unavoidable impediment prevented the remaining ones from conducting the service, even supposing that they were actually applied to. To any one who knows the tender and refined feelings with which the clergy as a body regard their obligation to perform the last sad obsequies over the dead, such insinuations as those made by our Kobe contemporary appear most unjust and malicious.

CHOLERA IN THE KYOBASHI DISTRICT.

The cholera which has broken out in Minami Koyacho, Kyobashi District, proves to be of a virulent type, and the Authorities are doing all in their power to suppress it. Careful investigations are being conducted as to the cause of the outbreak. Mr. Nagayo, the Director of the Sanitary Bureau, repaired to the infected locality in order to make personal inspection. Finding that the water in this neighbourhood was entirely unfit for drinking, he gave orders at once that no one should be allowed to drink water from the wells in the vicinity, and that boiled water should be supplied. Subsequent report says, however, that water is to be conveyed from the wells near Hitotsubashi and distributed to the people

living in the infected district. In view of the fact that the wells in Kyobashi District are all supplied by the Kanda Josui, it may seem somewhat inexplicable that this particular locality only should suffer. But experts account for the bad water by percolation and defective pipes.

CHOLERA RETURNS.

The latest cholera returns derived from official sources are as follow:—

Prefecture.	Date.	New cases.	Deaths.
Nagasaki	9th	62	33
	10th	58	43
	11th	84	40
	12th	25	25
	13th	48	27
Yamaguchi	8th	27	17
	9th	37	18
	10th	31	9
	11th	31	22
	12th	13	7
Fukuoka	8th	24	24
	9th	47	22
	10th	23	28
	11th	80	34
	12th	53	27
Kumamoto	8th	18	10
	9th	11	5
	10th	6	6
	11th	24	6
	12th	19	15
Kagoshima	8th	4	5
	9th	6	4
	10th	8	4
	11th	3	4
	12th	3	1
Saga	8th	6	8
	9th	7	6
	10th	11	9
	11th	5	1
	12th	24	—
Oita	13th	13	5
	13th	1	3

The numbers of cases and deaths since the commencement of the epidemic, inclusive of the above figures, appear in the following table:—

Prefecture.	Cases.	Deaths.
Nagasaki	1,034	1,130
Yamaguchi	400	426
Fukuoka	1,630	498
Oita	38	18
Saga	104	90
Kumamoto	346	100
Kagoshima	233	100

The total number of cases and deaths in the following Cities and Prefectures since the commencement of the epidemic to the 12th instant, not included in the above, are:—

	Cases.	Deaths.
Tokyo	130	65
Osaka	35	20
Kanagawa	127	79
Hyogo	40	24
Hiroshima	37	21
Ehime	14	3

A seaman on board the bark *Lagoda* was seized with cholera on Tuesday and died at 4.30 p.m., and the captain of the steamer *Ping-Suey*, which arrived here on the 9th, was attacked on Tuesday and removed at once to hospital, the steamer being taken to Nagaura and placed in quarantine.

Captain Jacques, of the steamer *Ping-Suey*, who was removed from his ship to the hospital, is progressing favourably, and will recover. His case is not Asiatic cholera, though the symptoms at the outset were very similar.

It was reported to the Settlement Police Station on Saturday morning that a sendo had died in his boat at the English Hatoba of cholera. The body was removed to the Hospital.

A CHOLERA-PREVENTION FUND.

We learn from the leading columns of the *Fiji Shimpoo* of Sunday last that the Sanitary Association has inaugurated a Fund for the purpose of defraying the heavy expenses incurred by the preventive measures, rendered necessary by the rapid spread of the cholera. Our contemporary alludes to the ready response which every benevolent object meets with at the hands of the well-to-do residents of the capital and of provincial towns. It points out that even the selfish have a motive for subscribing to a fund of this kind; that it is a mode of self-protection which they cannot afford to ignore. The *Fiji* maintains that it is undesirable to increase the municipal taxes with the object of suppressing the cholera; that the occasion being a special one, the creation of a special fund is the most appropriate and most effective way of dealing with

it. The administration of this fund being in the hands of specialists, there is no fear of its being misapplied. The writer of the article makes an earnest appeal to his fellow-countrymen to respond to the call of the Sanitary Association.

THE BANK OF JAPAN.

The amounts of convertible notes and reserves in the Bank of Japan for the week ended the 9th inst. were as follows:—

CONVERTIBLE NOTES.		RESERVES AND SECURITIES.	
Yen.		Yen.	
Notes issued	71,810,015	Gold coin and bullion	24,205,412
		Silver coin and bullion	24,161,415
		Public Loan Bonds	13,470,450
		Treasury Bills	—
		Government Bonds	4,723,152
		Other securities	4,950,723
	71,810,015		71,610,152

Of the above total issue of notes the sum of yen 3,837,015 is in the treasury of the Bank, and yen 67,779,000 in actual circulation, the latter showing an increase of yen 640,801 as compared with yen 67,138,199 at the end of the previous week.

THE LATE MR. D. FITZ-HENRY.

It is with much regret that we place on record the death of an old resident, Mr. D. Fitz-Henry. The deceased was for many years the Agent here of the Comptoir d'Escompte de Paris, and went subsequently to China in a similar capacity, where his affable manner and gentle disposition won for him the friendship of the entire community, as these characteristics had already done for him in Japan. Mr. Fitz-Henry was a good sportsman, a clever actor, and a genial companion. The condition of his health since his return to Japan from a visit to Europe had not been good, and apoplexy carried him off yesterday at mid-day. The funeral will take place this afternoon at four o'clock from the Catholic Church, Main Street.

SHIPS FROM SHANGHAI.

We have clear evidence that cholera prevails in Shanghai, and hence we are somewhat surprised that it has not as yet been treated as an infected port. Vessels reaching Yokohama from Japanese infected ports are put into quarantine. But, as far as we are aware, vessels arriving direct from Shanghai are not thus treated. Is it that the attention of the Japanese Authorities has not been called to the existence of the epidemic in Shanghai? The case on the *Saikio Maru* ought to suffice to put them on the alert in the case of ships hailing from foreign infected ports.

THE SENATE.

In regard to the question of the abolition of the Senate (*Genro-in*), various reports have been in circulation. For a time an opinion prevailed that the abolition would not be effected until the opening of the Diet, as the Government machinery would otherwise be thrown out of gear. According to the latest report, however, the Authorities are said to have decided to carry out the scheme of dissolution before the end of August.

CONSUMPTION OF COAL IN TOKYO.

The *Official Gazette* says that the total consumption of coal in Tokyo during 1889 was 428,857,143 catties. Of this quantity, the amount used for manufacturing purposes was 72,656,930 catties; that used by ships 339,391,182 catties; and that used by railways 18,809,031 catties.

"THE INDUSTRIAL ARTS OF JAPAN."

We learn that the Council of the Royal Society of Arts has awarded the Society's silver medal to Mr. A. Lasenby Liberty for his paper on "The Industrial Arts of Japan," which was published in these columns in the early part of last month.

SAVING LIFE AT SEA.

The German steamer *Lydia*, Captain Forch, which recently arrived here from Hongkong, sighted a Japanese coaster in a sinking condition when about 27 miles S.W. by W. from Omai-saki from which she saved 12 men. The wreck lies in 34° 21' N. and 137° 47' E.

KOBÉ.

THE relations between foreigners and the lower orders of Japanese in Kobe seem to be decidedly strained. We hear of constant collisions, in all of which the foreigners come off second best. It is difficult to comprehend how such an unhappy state of affairs has been brought about in the "sunny settlement." Never before, during the thirty years' existence of the foreign settlements, have Japanese coolies and sendoes been known to behave with violent rudeness towards foreigners, and if they have so far broken this wholesome record in Kobe as to justify the very hard things said about them by the local English press, there must be causes in operation which do not appear on the surface. The *Hyogo News*, generally a moderate and accurate journal, refers to recent occurrences in language of the bitterest and most unmeasured kind; language expressive of so much indignation that one is disposed, at first sight, to form a very severe opinion about the conduct of the Japanese. But there are one or two points in our contemporary's comments which lead us to doubt whether they may be accepted as a dispassionate account. When we are told, for example, that "the immunity from punishment which Japanese coolies have hitherto enjoyed has made them bolder than their natural cowardice would lead one to suppose they could be," we become conscious at once that we are listening to words of passion not of reason. For Japanese coolies are not naturally cowardly: they are, on the contrary, remarkably plucky. No one unblinded by anger or prejudice could deliberately call them cravens. Seeing, then, that our contemporary has obviously suffered its calmer and more characteristic mood to be invaded by some access of strong sentiment, it becomes worth while to examine the charges of assault and battery upon which it arraigns the Japanese coolies. The first is that of a Manila seaman. Being very drunk, advantage was taken of his condition to demand an exorbitant *jinrikisha* fare. He refused to pay; had his coat pulled; lost his temper; took out a clasp knife; was set upon by a number of coolies; received a bad beating and was arrested by the police. At the station he was charged with stabbing two Japanese, but the *Hyogo News* avers that the charge was utterly false, and that the man never attempted to use the knife: "it dropped out of his pocket while he was being arrested, and was then picked up by either the police or some of the crowd." The *Kobe Herald* says that he "pulled it out": the *Hyogo News* says it dropped out of his pocket in the most innocent way conceivable. Now is it not taxing our credulity just a little too much to ask us to believe that a drunken Manila seaman was set upon and severely beaten by a Japanese crowd

merely because he declined to pay an exorbitant fare to a *jinrikisha* coolie, and that, even after he had been arrested by the police, this wantonly ferocious mob followed him and struck at him again and again? We cannot credit all that. Crowds do not behave in such a manner anywhere in the world. In the second incident alluded to by the *Hyogo News* four Chinamen were the victims. Concerning them we are told that "objecting to pay forty cents *sampan* fare, they were set upon and shamefully beaten by *jinrikisha* coolies and others who, seeing the row, joined in." A striking tale, is it not? A mob of *jinrikisha* coolies interfering to enforce the extortionate demands of a boat-man! Are the Kobe boat-men and *jinrikisha* coolies in league to assist one another's exactions? Then we have the case of an officer from the *Kashgar* who, seeing a sailor disputing about a *jinrikisha* fare, and wishing to avoid a disturbance, himself offered to pay the fare demanded, whereupon "the coolies standing round set upon him, belaboured him with bamboos, tore his clothes and robbed him." Coolies in Kobe have many moods, it would seem. They beat a man for refusing to be robbed, and they beat him also for allowing himself to be robbed, and there is no satisfying them. Yet another case is reported—that of the Captain of the *Parthia* who hired a *jinrikisha* by the day and paid seventy-five *sen*, though fifty *sen* appears to be the proper fare in Kobe. On coming ashore the next day the Captain had a volley of choice Anglo-Saxon epithets fired at his head by the aggrieved coolie. This is called a "disgraceful incident." So it was no doubt, but it loses something of its shocking character when we recall the heights of eloquence to which a London cabby sometimes climbs in his intercourse with a close-fisted fare. On the whole, we cannot persuade ourselves to imagine that those incidents for which Kobe is becoming notorious are quite such one-sided affairs as their foreign historian asks us to believe. At all events it seems plain that the writing of the *Hyogo News* can only have the effect of obtruding international sentiment into every miserable fracas between drunken foreign sailors and Japanese coolies or boat-men, as well as of greatly increasing the difficulties in the path of the Japanese police. It is already a very hard task for a Japanese constable to arrest a foreigner. Englishmen or Americans who would submit quietly at a mere touch from a policeman of their own nationality, will violently resent the notion of being arrested by a Japanese, and if this disposition is encouraged by the fable that Japanese constables behave with abandoned brutality towards foreign prisoners, and that the latter will be publicly applauded if they resist and commiserated if they get hurt in resisting, the preservation of good order cannot fail to be greatly

impeded. There cannot be much doubt that mismanagement exists somewhere in Kobe, and that the police are by no means as efficient as they ought to be. But the spirit displayed just now by the foreign local press will inevitably aggravate matters greatly, for it must have the effect of exasperating the Japanese, on the one hand, and of encouraging foreigners to defy the police, on the other.

A LEARNED PARSEE'S OPINIONS ABOUT JAPAN.

IT ought to be very interesting to the Japanese to hear a candid expression of the impressions produced by their country and their customs on an unprejudiced and friendly observer like Mr. K. M. SHROFF, whose account of what he has seen in Japan, and what he thinks about it, will be found elsewhere in our columns. Of course many of Mr. SHROFF's observations sound familiar to old residents. The wonderful thews and endurance of the *jinrikisha* coolie; the sunny and suave manners of the people; the charming grace and helpfulness of the women—all these are things which have often been descanted upon, and which have elicited admiration that threatens to grow a little stale. It is when Mr. SHROFF becomes critical that his comments have most value. He is not, we think, altogether just in one or two respects. Thus, when he speaks of a number of elections vitiated owing to corruption, we fail to follow him, for although there have been several attempts to unseat members on the ground of bribery and corruption, it has not been reported that any of them were successful. He has been misled, too, about expenditure on account of Parliament buildings. It was never contemplated, we believe, to spend over eight million *yen* for such a purpose, and of course the idea of contracting with a German firm for the buildings never entered the head of any Japanese Minister. The architectural designing and direction of the work were entrusted to a very eminent German expert, and it is possible that a sum approximating to that mentioned by Mr. SHROFF may have been contemplated as the total expenditure on Houses of Parliament, Courts of Justice, new Departments of Finance, Justice, and Home Affairs, as well as other public buildings the erection of which will have to be undertaken sooner or later. But under any circumstances the money would have been spread over a long series of years, and its employment in the manner contemplated cannot, we think, be called "heavy and unwarrantable expenditure," and certainly would not have embarrassed the country. The sums spent by Japan on public buildings are, on the whole, moderate. It surely cannot be alleged that her temporary Houses of Parliament are costly, though they are expected to serve for

fifteen years. Mr. SHROFF'S misapprehension extends also to the question of the national debt. He speaks of it as "considerable," doubtless failing to distinguish that it consists chiefly of a class of obligations—pension bonds given in commutation of the feudal nobles' and *samurai's* revenues—which cannot properly be classed as ordinary national debt. In point of fact one of the most remarkable pages of Japan's modern history is that containing the story of her finance; for when we consider what she has accomplished during the past twenty years, and when we observe that her total national debt—apart from the indebtedness directly arising out of the abolition of feudalism—does not amount to a year's ordinary revenue, we are constrained to confess that her financial management has been of the most creditable kind. No charge against Japanese Ministers could be less just than that of launching the State into "heavy and unwarrantable expenditure." These, however, are errors which may easily be made by a new comer whose opportunities for study are still incomplete. Mr. SHROFF'S observations on what he himself has actually seen are more to the point. Like every humane observer he is shocked at the treatment of horses in the capital. We cannot, indeed, endorse his comments about the condition of the tram-car and omnibus ponies, which seem to us to be generally well fed and well cared for. But that their strength is greatly overtaxed there can be no manner of doubt, and as for the animals driven in the tumble-down traps called *hako-basha*, their state is deplorable in the extreme. The suffering they are compelled to endure shocks every foreign observer, and is remembered to Japan's discredit by many a traveller. It is wholesome to find men like Mr. SHROFF speaking plainly on this subject. Judging by what one sees in country places, animals in Japan are not subjected to ill treatment. The leader of a pack-horse and the driver of a cart never carry whips or sticks: the sound of their voices seems to suffice. But in Tokyo and on the main roads leading to it, poor beasts of burden are too often forced to work under circumstances so agonizing that merciful observers cannot choose but draw damaging inferences as to the disposition of the Japanese. In this matter, as in his comments on the insanitary condition of Tokyo, and the want of a pure water supply, we are entirely with Mr. SHROFF. He will also find many to sympathise with his remarks about Japan's imitation of Western ways and her adoption of Western costume, but he will pardon us, we trust, for saying that we find him here a little superficial. In certain matters a nation cannot afford to be singular, and one of these matters is dress. Diversity may be exercised within certain limits, but since, speaking roughly, all Christendom dresses alike, and since

folks are silly enough to set great store by externals, we fear that to remain outside this circle of orthodox costume is to be consigned to the pale of heathendom. Certainly the rule applies to male attire, though happily it need not yet be extended radically to female. No rational objection, as we think, can be urged against the adoption of Western dress by the men of Japan. Even sentimental and artistic arguments yield to the plea of utility. And what is true of dress is true also of much that seems to have offended Mr. SHROFF'S conservative instincts. Japan's modern progress may be very differently represented according to the terms used to describe it. What one man praises as liberal adoption, another condemns as self-effacing imitation. We do not at all agree with Mr. SHROFF'S theory that a nation should preserve, "in their primitive entirety, its ancient customs, costumes, social habits and manners." Nose-rings and cannibalism would be perennial under such a system. Civilization cannot be sacrificed to the picturesque, and Japan cannot afford to perpetuate her isolation by preserving her singularity. Argue this matter how we may, the same conclusion is invariably reached. It is a large example of the natural principle, protection by mimicry, and though mimicry may be difficult to reconcile with independence, it is certain that the latter can be maintained by a due exercise of the former.

POLITICAL PARTIES IN THE DIET.

WRITING under this heading, the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* of the 3rd instant reviews the position of the various political parties represented in the Diet. After reproducing statistical classifications of the members from four of the Tokyo daily papers, the *Hochi Shimbun*, the *Daido Shimbun*, the *Fiji Shimpō*, and the *Kokumin Shimbun*, our contemporary proceeds to observe that, much as these papers differ in respect of the numerical strength of the several parties in the Diet, men capable of judgment seem to agree in assigning the largest number to the so-called "Independents," who are followed in order by the *Daido-ha*, the *Kaishin-to*, and the *Aikoku-ko-to*. Thus of all the parties, the *Daido-ha* has obtained the largest number of members. That it has been able to secure so many is attributed by our contemporary to the extremely favourable circumstances under which it was brought into existence. It was organized on a very broad basis, and at a moment when the old *Jiyu-to* had for some time been dissolved, and the *Kaishin-to* was in a state of temporary torpor. When, further, it is remembered that the avowed object of the party was to attack the clan system of Government, there is no wonder that it obtained the adhesion of all the politicians

out of power and not belonging to the *Kaishin-to*. Thus the *Daido Danketsu*, as it was called before the breaking up of its ranks into three parties,—the *Aikoku-ko-to*, the resuscitated *Jiyu-to*, and the *Daido-ha*—extended its influence over a wide area. Owing chiefly to these circumstances the party succeeded in emerging from the late elections with much *éclat*, notwithstanding that its influence was weakened by the organization of the *Aikoku-ko-to* and the resuscitated *Jiyu-to*. Though numerically strong, the *Daido-ha*, as might be inferred from the manner in which it sprang into being, is not distinguished by any strong cohesion among the different elements composing it. Our contemporary divides these elements into three classes; first, the centre, which is composed of men more distinguished for audacity in changing with the changes of the times than for devotion to any particular cause or principle; secondly, the right wing, which contains men professing liberal principles; and thirdly, the left wing, which leans to conservatism. The *Kokumin-no-Tomo* admires the consummate skill of the centre in maintaining apparent harmony among these incongruous elements. The Tokyo journal, however, shares the common belief that the *Daido-ha* is not destined to retain long its present influence. The right wing may readily be detached by Count ITAGAKI if only he sees his way to assume an attitude of greater liberality, while it would be easy for Viscount TANI to obtain the adhesion of the left wing. Thus the only portion of the party likely to remain true to its leader will be the wary centre. Moreover, those members of the *Daido-ha* who are of the provinces of the North-east—and they form the majority of the party—are not, according to the view of the *Kokumin-no-Tomo*, by any means ardent in their attachment to Count GOTO; neither are they as ambitious of political distinction as the members of the centre. Our contemporary is persuaded to believe that, for the present at least the members of the *Daido-ha* in the North-East will maintain an independent political organization of a liberal tendency after the fashion of the *Shimpō-to* of Kyushu. As yet, however, the *Daido-ha* may justly be proud of the number of gifted members in its ranks. Especially in political manœuvres its members are far ahead of even those among the *Kaishin-to* noted for their sagacity. In literary talent Mr. SUEHIRO JUKYO is most distinguished; in business capacity Mr. OYE TAKU; in political experience Mr. KONO HIRONAKA; in legal ability Mr. SUEMATSU (hitherto KO MYOJI) SABURO, and in boldness Mr. SUZUKI SHOJI. The Tokyo journal is sure that the members of the *Daido-ha* will distinguish themselves in the Diet more for skill in taking advantage of every turn of affairs than for constancy to any fixed policy. As to the resuscitated *Jiyu-to*

our contemporary observes that its influence in the Diet will be comparatively weak. But its members will not be disconcerted by this, as they have not been very solicitous of obtaining seats in the Legislature. The *Kokumin-no-Tomo*, however, thinks it a very lamentable fact that the leader of the party, Mr. OI KENTARO, was declared disqualified for sitting in the Diet. Among the members, the more celebrated are Messrs. NAKAE TOKUSUKE, formerly editor of the *Osaka Shinonome Shimbun*, SHIMAZU TADASADA, President of the Nagano Prefectural Assembly, and ARAI SHOGO of the "Osaka Affair" fame. The party will be unable to wield any formidable influence in the Diet, but as an adjunct to some of the larger parties it is certainly not to be slighted. Its closest affinities will probably be with the *Aikoku-ko-to*, concerning the future prospects of which our contemporary seems to entertain a highly favourable opinion. Its numerical strength in the Diet is not as great as that of the *Daido-ha*, but it is far stronger than the latter in respect of cohesion and combination. Its distinctive characteristic is sincere devotion to its political creed. From this point of view, the actions of its representatives in the Diet may be too scrupulous and unbending, but they will never, the *Kokumin* predicts, be open to a charge of inconstancy or tergiversation. The courageous Mr. HAYASHI YUZO, the solid Mr. KATAOKA KENKICHI, the business-like Mr. TAKENOUCHI TSUNA, the logical Mr. UYEKI EMORI, and the experienced Mr. SUGITA are the more distinguished members. There is one circumstance, however, which our contemporary regrets for the sake of the party: namely, that the majority of its members are of Tosa origin. It has thus a somewhat exclusive appearance, and may on that account fail to find favour with the inhabitants of other localities. The Tokyo magazine recommends Count ITAGAKI and his followers to take suitable measures to obviate this unfavourable impression. With regard to the *Fichi-to*, the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* observes that it is not by any means strongly represented in the Diet. Some people believe that it will be led in the Lower House by Mr. MUTSU, and in the upper by Viscount AOKI. Our contemporary is of opinion that this party labours under three serious disadvantages; first its aristocratic associations; secondly its Choshu clan tendency; and thirdly, its "odour of silver" (love of money). It is not destined, we are told, to grow powerful, and our contemporary doubts very much whether a man of Mr. MUTSU's penetration really contemplates identifying himself with such a party. The *Hoshu-to* and the *Kyushu Shimpoto* are nearly equally represented in the Diet, and must not be overlooked in any forecast of the political situation, because they are both rich in talented members. Mr. KAWASHIMA

JUN of Kagoshima, Mr. MATSUDA MASA-HISA of Saga, and Mr. YAMADA BUHO of Kumamoto, are the most conspicuous members of the *Kyushu Shimpoto*. The *Hoshu-to* can, on the other hand, boast of such distinguished names as those of Messrs. SUGIURA JUKO, OYAGI BICHIRO, MOTODA HAJIME, and SASA TOMOFUSA. Our contemporary persists in calling these persons Conservatives, though some of them strongly object to the title. With reference to the *Kaishin-to*, the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* observes that its failure to obtain a majority, or at least the largest relative number of members in the Diet, is the more significant, as it has endeavoured ever since its first appearance to enlist the sympathies of men certain to possess the franchise. The cause of the failure is ascribed to its unfortunate record with regard to the question of Treaty Revision last year. It is to be regretted that men like Messrs. KOIZUKA RYU, TSUNODA SHIMPEI, KATO MASANOSUKE, SUNAGAWA YUSHUN, YAMADA ICHIRO, ICHISHIMA KENKICHI, and HADANO DENZABURO were defeated at the late elections. Further, whatever may have been the cause of his decision, it is to be sincerely regretted for the sake of the *Kaishin-to*, that Mr. YANO FUMIO has retired from political life. It is also unfortunate that Mr. HATOHAMA, who is reported—though incorrectly we (*Japan Mail*) believe—to have intimate connections with the *Kaishin-to*, was unable to obtain a seat in the Diet. Equally regrettable is the absence from the list of the elected of the name of Mr. KATO TAKAAKI, a confidential lieutenant of Count OKUMA, though it should be observed that he made no attempt to canvass. Still the *Kaishin-to*, with Messrs. SHIMADA SABURO, OZAKI YUKIO, FUJITA MOKICHI, and INUKAI KI at its head, is by no means an unimportant factor in the Diet. Its organization may appear to outsiders firm and strong, but those well acquainted with its affairs seem to doubt this, and even question whether it will be able to hold its different sections in the bonds of discipline in the Diet. Last year, when the question of Treaty Revision was agitating the public mind, the two great organs of the party, the *Hochi Shimbun* and the *Mainichi Shimbun*, were observed to adopt different and conflicting lines of argument on some important points. For instance, when Count OKUMA endeavoured to conciliate Count ITO and his followers by promising that the judges of foreign origin mentioned in the Diplomatic Note should be naturalized in Japan, the *Hochi* supported its leader, while the *Mainichi* argued as if little or no importance attached to the naturalization proviso. However, the *Kokumin* hopes that the leaders of the party, taught by the experience of last year, may take precautions against a repetition of such fatal errors. As to the so-called "Independents," our contemporary ridicules the notion attributed to some of

them, of forming themselves into a distinct party on an independent platform; for the "Independents," though spoken of as one class, are an extremely heterogeneous body, being composed of men of all kinds of political creeds, from extreme conservatism to extreme radicalism. Lastly, as to the proposed alliance of the progressive parties, the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* considers that the settlement of this question will decide the political situation for the present, at least since a union of all the parties would mean 173 votes in a House of 300. Many persons doubt whether the *Daido-ha* will join the alliance, but, even excluding that party, and supposing that one-fourth of the "Independents" are won over, there still remain 135 votes, a formidable number when we consider that the rest of the House is divided into several separate parties. Our contemporary does not believe that the alliance, even if successfully formed, will last long; neither does it believe that the existing parties will long remain in their present condition. A time will come when entirely new parties with intelligible platforms will be formed out of the present associations, the latter being only provisional in their nature. At present, the best course for the progressive parties to adopt, in the opinion of the *Kokumin*, is union, for thus and thus alone will they be able to effect what they desire to accomplish in the coming Diet. Union, however, does not look at all as probable now as it did a fortnight ago.

THE 28TH ARTICLE OF THE LAW OF POLITICAL ASSOCIATIONS.

THE 28th Article of the new Law of Public Meetings and Political Associations has provoked wide comment. It forbids political associations to issue manifestoes or employ deputies for the purpose of influencing the public, and it also forbids them to establish branch offices or combine and correspond with other political associations. A year ago the enactment of such a law would not have caused any special excitement, but the sting of it at present lies in the fact that it has been promulgated just as the various parties constituting the opposition had begun to talk seriously of combining into one great association for parliamentary purposes. The law does not, indeed, render such combination impossible, but it applies a tolerably severe test of sincerity, and apparently the advocates of combination are not fully prepared to satisfy such a test. If the *Fiyu-to*, the *Aikoku-ko-to*, the *Daido Danketsu* and others are really in earnest as to their desire for union, the new law places no solid obstacle in their path. They need only dissolve their present organizations and re-group themselves into a united association with a new name and an intelli-

gible platform. The *Fiyu-to* and the *Aikokuko-to* have actually taken, or resolved upon taking, this step, but the *Daido Danketsu*, the *Kaishin-to*, and the *Kinshu Shimpō-to* refuse to break up their organizations or to surrender their independence. It results that a fusion of the three latter with the two former is no longer feasible, and that, for the present at all events, the formidable union which, a fortnight ago, seemed imminent has been postponed. Nothing succeeds like success. If the Government's purpose has been to defer a powerful combination of its opponents, it has certainly been successful, and that alone will go far to justify the enactment of the new law in the eyes of many folks. But beyond this superficial consideration come the questions—is the law a wise measure, and may not its severity have the ultimate effect of driving into opposition politicians who would otherwise have remained neutral? In attempting to form a conclusion on these points we are confronted by the old difficulty—ignorance of the precise nature of the case. It is not given to outsiders to know with any degree of accuracy the information upon the strength of which the Authorities have acted. Certain facts, however, are evident enough, and may be worth re-stating, since they appear to have escaped the attention of persons criticising the measure. In the first place, what is the object of the union contemplated by the various sections of the progressionists? It must be at once conceded that when men desire to combine for the defence or assertion of a principle not in itself immoral or illegal, their union ought to be beyond the reach of official interdict. In England there exists a law precisely analogous to that now enacted in Japan; in fact so identical are the two, that the latter may almost have been copied from the former. Yet in England at the present moment the administration is in the hands of a party composed of the Conservatives and a section of the Liberals, a general union between the two having been effected for the specific purpose of opposing home rule in Ireland. Such a union, unless we read the new law incorrectly, would not be illegal in Japan. Any number of the *Kaishin-to* members, for example, might with perfect propriety detach themselves from that party and enlist under the banners of the *Daido Danketsu*. Only, the detachment must be actual not nominal. Their names could not remain on the roll of the *Kaishin-to*—observe that in Japan lawfully formed political associations have publicly recognised lists of members—and appear at the same time on that of the *Daido Danketsu*. In short, there is nothing in the new law to prevent politicians, whatever their professed creed, from combining to support a special cause, provided only that, while so combined, they do not continue to preserve their origi-

nally separate organizations. Thus viewed, the new law appears to possess little real efficacy as against the opposition. It forbids a combination of separately organised parties, but it does not forbid a genuine solidarity, the members of which merge their individuality in the general union. It is in this distinction, as we think, that the true intention of the new law is to be sought. The so-called political parties existing at present in Japan are not in any sense worthy of the name. In almost every case they were for years content to take their stand upon platforms which could never have brought or held them together and which were obviously mere conventional formulæ. The real centre of attraction, the real rallying point, of these associations was some statesman who had seceded from the Government and whose prime motive was opposition. Over and above the individuality of their leaders no conceivable reason held them apart, but since they rallied about persons, not principles, the idea of fusion seemed above all things repugnant. Then came a time when, in view of the elections, these various parties found themselves compelled to formulate intelligible programmes. The result is fresh in everybody's memory. It was little short of a ludicrous fiasco. For with every desire in the world to attract support by enunciating concrete and tangible views, and with every inducement to establish clear mutual distinctions, they failed completely in both directions. To this moment it is impossible to differentiate, with any pretence of accuracy, the political tenets of members of the *Fiyu-to*, the *Aikokuko-to*, the *Daido Danketsu*, the *Kaishin-to*, the *Kinshu Shimpō*, and so forth. No thoughtful person will adduce these facts to the discredit of Japanese politicians. The plain truth is that the time has not yet come for the formation of genuine political parties in the Western sense of the term. Until men are brought face to face with living issues on the floor of the Diet, no rational and lasting bonds of union can be devised to hold a party together. One common purpose and one only can constitute a temporary link, and that is, opposition to the Government. Here then the question arises—would the Government be justified in tamely suffering such a link to be forged, knowing well that the result could only be public embarrassment if not administrative confusion? Working together merely so long as might be necessary to accomplish their object of driving the Cabinet out of office, could these parties be expected to continue their union for the conduct of the administration? Such a result could only be anticipated on the hypothesis that the several factions of the opposition are joined by the ties of common political principles, which is precisely what they are not. No secret has been made of the fact that their coalition would only be for temporary

and specific ends, and that they do not purpose working together permanently. The present is a most important crisis in Japanese political history. It will be an evil thing for the country if the first Diet is to be merely a congeries of political factions, willing to coalesce for the purpose of overthrowing the Government, but ready to fly at each other's throats immediately afterwards. We do not anticipate anything so unfortunate, but we do think that if, after years of mutual rivalry and recrimination, the existing political coteries should form a superficial union prompted solely by animosity to the Government, while preserving their individual organizations for subsequent uses, the best interests of the State cannot but suffer materially. It is, therefore, easy to appreciate the Government's motive when it enacts a law saying, in effect:—"Combine, if you please, but furnish a proof of the sincerity of your intentions by breaking up your present organizations, which, being based on persons not on principles, have hitherto served chiefly to prevent anything like sound political union, and by re-marrying yourselves on a platform of genuine and permanent agreement." Interpreted in this manner, the 28th Article of the new Law loses much of its arbitrary and restrictive character. It cannot, indeed, commend itself entirely to Englishmen of the present day. Yet English statesmen in the reign of GEORGE the Third thought it wise to frame a precisely similar enactment, and English statesmen of our own time have discovered no reason to repeal it. On the whole we think that, from the point of view of constitutional government, Japan is not more advanced than Great Britain was in the days of that illustrious monarch.

THE DIET AND FINANCE.

THE supplementary law of finance issued on the 2nd inst. has provoked much discussion. From the day of the promulgation of the Constitution, journalists and politicians fixed their attention on the 67th article, seeing plainly that on its interpretation depended the vital question, how far the power of the purse should be vested in the Government, how far in the Diet. According to the Constitution the control of the Diet in respect of finance is tolerably extensive. No new taxes can be levied, nor can national loans or other liabilities to the charge of the Treasury be incurred without the Diet's consent. Further, the annual expenditure and revenue of the State must be submitted for the consideration of the Diet in a Budget, and parliamentary sanction must be obtained for any outlay in excess of the sums thus estimated. But the powers conferred by these provisions are otherwise limited. In the first place, "administrative fees, or other revenue having the nature of com-

pensation," do not fall within the category of taxes concerning which the Diet must be consulted. Count ITO in his Commentary defines this to mean fees "collected from private individuals for undertakings engaged in, or for transactions conducted by, the Government, for them at their request or for their benefit." Railway fares, warehouse charges, school fees, and so forth come under this category. Naturally, too, taxes actually imposed at the time of the promulgation of the Constitution are to be continued without parliamentary sanction, unless remodelled by a new law. The expenditures of the Imperial House are also exempted from the purview of the Diet, except in case of an increase. And finally, when the Diet has not voted the Budget—that is to say, when the Diet has closed or been prorogued, or the House of Representatives has been dissolved, before the Budget has been definitively voted,—or again, when the Budget has not been brought into actual existence—that is to say, when the Budget has been rejected in one of the Houses—the Government is empowered to carry out the Budget of the preceding year. Briefly speaking, this means that the Government can manage the public finance over the head of the Diet, in the event of the latter proving recalcitrant. All these provisions are clear enough, and, being distinctly laid down in the Constitution, have not provoked hostile comment, though in some respects they fall considerably short of the strict theory of constitutional government. But then comes the celebrated Sixty-seventh Article, which forbids the Diet to reduce or reject, without the concurrence of the Government, "already fixed expenditures based by the Constitution on the powers appertaining to the EMPEROR, and such expenditures as may have arisen by the effect of law, or that appertain to the legal obligations of the Government." What are these "already fixed expenditures" and what the expenditures arising by the effect of law or appertaining to the legal obligations of the Government? Over and over again the newspapers examined the question and politicians discussed it, all contending for a liberal interpretation of the article, and complaining that if it were construed according to the terms of Count ITO'S Commentary on the Constitution, the scope of the Diet's authority in respect of finance would be unduly narrowed. Count ITO, however, had directed the framing of the Constitution. If any man in the empire knew exactly what its provisions meant, he was that man. It must have been felt from the first therefore that when the Budget came to be laid before the House of Representatives, it would prove to have been framed in the sense mapped out by the Commentary. But before that practical testimony could be furnished, rumour began to say that the Cabinet contemplated the promulgation of a law defining pre-

cisely in what manner the Sixty-seventh Article should be interpreted for the purposes of the Budget. It did not by any means appear absolutely necessary that such a law should be framed, since, according to the organization of the Cabinet, the Finance Department might have received instructions from the Government as to the framing of the Budget, and the official interpretation of the Constitution might thus have been conveyed to Parliament in a manner sufficiently conclusive. But, after long and anxious deliberation, the Authorities decided that the wiser course was to frame a supplementary law explaining the practical application of the Sixty-seventh Article, and this decision has now been acted upon. Speaking broadly, the new law divides the national expenditure into two parts, of which one—about sixth-sevenths of the whole—is removed from Parliamentary control, and the other—about one-seventh of the whole—falls directly within the sphere of that control. The *Nippon*, taking the last Budget, draws up a detailed schedule of the items which come under the various headings defined by the new law. The schedule is as follows:—

EXPENDITURES WHICH MAY NOT BE REDUCED OR ABOLISHED BY THE DIET WITHOUT THE CONCURRENCE OF THE GOVERNMENT.

CLASS I.	
EXPENDITURES BASED ON THE CONSTITUTIONAL PRIVILEGES OF THE EMPEROR.	
(1) Salaries of Civil and Military officers and retiring allowance to civil officials	Yen. 7,441,738
(2) Expenses for maintenance of Army, Navy, Gendarmerie, and Colonial Militia	17,906,221
(3) Expenses for decorations, pensions and rewards	157,250
(4) Expenditure arising from operation of treaties, and agreements with foreign countries	159,176
(5) Current expenses, and ordinary expenses for repairs, of Government offices	1,644,166
Total	27,308,551
CLASS II.	
EXPENDITURES ARISING FROM THE EFFECT OF LAW.	
(1) Expenses of the Imperial Diet	Yen. 791,231
(2) Ordinary Expenses for Courts of Law and the Board of Audit	3,697,397
(3) Allowances for good service and superannuation	538,884
(4) Conscription Expenses	188,039
(5) Expense of collecting taxes and other revenue	2,038,241
(6) Prison expenses	481,432
(7) Expenses connected with communications and aids to navigation	2,847,416
(8) Expenses for shipwrecked vessels, Japanese and foreign	1,961
(9) Local expenses of Okinawa Prefecture and Ogasawara-jima	162,176
(10) Famine Relief Fund	163,100
(11) Expenses for purchase of land in Hokkaido	3,000
(12) Reward and reliefs	93,014
Total	11,005,891
CLASS III.	
EXPENDITURES ARISING FROM THE LEGAL OBLIGATIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT.	
(1) Expenses for Shrines and Temples	Yen. 241,181
(2) Expenses for redeeming public loans	19,000,000
(3) Subsidies to public works and police expenses in various localities, in accordance with ordinances which have already gone into operation	1,266,279
(4) Pension Bonds of Okinawa Prefecture	154,500
(5) Subsidies and guarantees to various enterprises of navigation, railways, manufactures, industries, schools, and hospitals	2,002,822
(6) Salaries, rewards, and grants to foreigners	301,611
(7) Legal damages and costs	2,527

(8) Monies to be paid back	181,322
(9) Expenses for management of money in Treasury	575,617
(10) Interest on monies in the keeping of Government	1,103,262
(11) Rent of lands and buildings already hired	42,115
Total	24,876,258
CLASS IV.	
Yen.	
Continuing Expenditure	9,079,217

Grand Total 72,220,217

Now since the whole expenditure in the Budget from which these figures are taken is 84,551,310 yen, it follows that in such a budget the sum controllable by the Diet would only be 12,281,093 yen, or about one-seventh of the whole. Naturally this result is not favourably viewed by the opposition, but, at the same time, it is recognised that the wisest course to be pursued in respect of the first Diet is to confine its power within the strictest limits prescribed by the Constitution. Parliamentary institutions are an experiment in Japan. It will always be easy to increase the scope of the Diet's authority, whereas to revoke or curtail power once vested in it would be extremely difficult. Doubtless the official interpretation of the Sixty-seventh Article will be challenged, directly or indirectly, in the Diet, but on the whole we believe that the good sense of the nation will endorse the prudence shown by the Government in this matter.

ORGANIZATION OF THE POSTAL AND TELEGRAPH BUREAU.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 129.

We hereby give our sanction to the present amendment of and additions to the Organization of the Postal and Telegraph Bureau, and order the same to be promulgated.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.)
(Great Seal.)

Dated July 16th, 1890.

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.
COUNT GOTO SHOJIRO,
Minister of State for Communications.

The following amendments and additions shall be made to the Organization of the Postal and Telegraph Bureau:—

The words "Assistant Postal and Telegraph Clerk" shall be inserted after "Clerk of Posts and Telegraphs" in Article 2.

The words "Assistant Postal Clerk" shall be inserted after "Postal Clerk" in Article 3.

The words "Assistant Telegraph Clerk" shall be inserted after "Telegraph Clerk" in Article 4.

Article 11 shall be amended to read as follows:—Assistant Postal Clerks, Assistant Postal Clerks, and Assistant Telegraph Clerks shall be of sixth *kanjin* rank, and assist clerks in their duties.

The following two articles shall be inserted after Article 11, and Article 12 shall be amended to Article 14.

Article 12.—The settled number of Assistant Postal and Telegraph Clerks, Assistant Postal Clerks, and Assistant Telegraph Clerks shall be 2,735.

Article 13.—Telegraph Engineers (*gishu*) shall be attached to the Postal and Telegraph Bureau, the settled number of whom shall be 947.

HORSFORD'S ACID PHOSPHATE.
Beware of Imitations.

SANITARY EXAMINATION OFFICES.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 155.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Amendment of the Organization of Sanitary Examination Offices (*Yei-shi-shiken-jo*), and order the same to be promulgated.

[His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.]
[Great Seal.]

Dated August 2nd, 1890.

(Countersigned)

Count YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.

Count SAITO TSUKUMICHI,
Minister of State for Home Affairs.

Article 1.—Sanitary Examination Offices shall be established in Tokyo, Osaka, and Yokohama.

Article 2.—Sanitary Examination Offices shall be under the control of the Minister of State for Home Affairs, and shall deal with affairs relating to sanitary examination.

Article 3.—The following officials shall be attached to each sanitary examination office:—

A Chief,
Probationers for the office of engineer,
Gishu,
Clerks.

Article 4.—The Chief of the observatory shall be an engineer, and shall superintend the affairs of his office and control his subordinate officials under the guidance of the Minister of State for Home Affairs.

Article 5.—Engineers shall be of *sonin* rank and their settled number 7. They shall discharge the duties of examination according to the commands of their Chief, being attached to each examination office.

Probationers for the office of engineer shall be attached to each office, their settled number being 4.

Article 6.—*Gishu* shall be of *hannin* rank, and their settled number 21. They shall deal with miscellaneous affairs in accordance with the commands of their superiors.

Article 7.—Clerks shall be of *hannin* rank and their settled number 10. They shall manage miscellaneous affairs under the guidance of their superiors.

Article 8.—The division of the affairs of each examination office shall be decided by the Minister of State for Home Affairs.

JUDICIAL RANKS AND SALARIES.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 158.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Regulations relating to the Ranks and Salaries of Judges and Public Procurators.

[His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.]
[Great Seal.]

Dated August 2nd, 1890.

(Countersigned)

Count YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.

Count YAMADA AKIYOSHI,
Minister of State for Justice.

Article 1.—The Ranks and Salaries of Judges and Public Procurators shall be in accordance with the following table.

Article 2.—The numbers, ranks, and yearly salaries of judges and public procurators shall be as follow:—

COURT OF CASSATION.

President (1), first *chokunin* rank; yearly salary, yen 5,000. (Yen 5,500 may, however, be given in special cases.)

Judges of Sections (3), first or second *chokunin* rank; yearly salary, yen 4,000-4,500.

Judges (27), second *chokunin* rank or second *sonin* rank; yearly salary, yen 1,800-3,500.

PUBLIC PROCURATORS' OFFICE OF THE COURT OF CASSATION.

Public Procurator-General (1), first *chokunin* rank; yearly salary, yen 4,500-5,000.

Public Procurators (5) second *chokunin* rank, or second *sonin* rank; yearly salary, yen 1,800-3,500.

APPEAL COURTS.

Presidents (7) Tokyo and Osaka, first *chokunin* rank; yearly salary yen 4,500; other places, second *chokunin* rank; yearly salary yen 3,500-4,000.

Chiefs of Sections (15) first or second *sonin* rank; yearly salary, yen 1,800-2,600.

Judges (85) third or fourth *sonin* rank; yearly salary, yen 1,000-1,500.

PUBLIC PROCURATORS' OFFICES OF APPEAL COURTS.

Chief Public Procurators (7) second *chokunin* rank; yearly salary yen 4,000 for Tokyo and Osaka; yen 3,000-3,500 for other places.

Public Procurators (20) first *sonin* rank to fourth *sonin* rank; yearly salary, yen 1,000-2,400.

DISTRICT COURTS.

Presidents (48) Tokyo and Osaka, first *sonin* rank; yearly salary yen 2,600; other places first *sonin* rank to third *sonin* rank, yearly salary, yen 1,600-2,400.

Chiefs of Sections (90) third or fourth *sonin* rank; yearly salary, yen 1,000-1,400.

Judges (415), fourth *sonin* rank or sixth *sonin* rank; yearly salary, yen 500-900.

PUBLIC PROCURATORS' OFFICES OF DISTRICT COURTS.

Chief Public Procurators (48) Tokyo and Osaka, first *sonin* rank; yearly salary, yen 2,400; other places, second *sonin* rank to fourth *sonin* rank, yearly salary, yen 1,100-2,200.

Public Procurators (125) fourth *sonin* rank to sixth *sonin* rank; yearly salary, yen 500-1,000.

LOCAL COURTS.

Judges (840), fourth *sonin* rank to sixth *sonin* rank; yearly salary yen 500-900.

PUBLIC PROCURATORS' OFFICES OF LOCAL COURTS.

Public Procurators (275), fourth *sonin* rank to sixth *sonin* rank; yearly salary yen 500-900.

Article 3.—The number of supernumerary judges shall be 35, and, of supernumerary public procurators 15.

Supernumerary judges and supernumerary public procurators shall be of sixth *sonin* rank and shall receive yen 400 as yearly salary.

The number of probationers for judicial offices shall be 110.

Probationers for judicial offices shall be treated as of *sonin* rank, and receive yen 300 or under as yearly salary.

Article 4.—In cases where the yearly salaries attached to an office mentioned in Article 2, are different, the number of officials shall be regulated with a view to the total amount payable. Should, however, there be too many officials, those lowest shall be gradually raised to higher office.

Article 5.—Judges or public procurators newly appointed in accordance with Article 62 of the Law for the Constitution of Courts of Justice, shall take sixth *sonin* rank and be granted yen 500 as a yearly salary. Supernumerary judges or supernumerary public procurators shall be similarly treated.

Judges or public procurators who are newly appointed in accordance with paragraph 1, Article 65 of the Law for the Constitution of Courts of Justice, shall take the lowest rank of the office for which they are destined, and receive the lowest yearly salary.

Should Judges or public procurators who have been transferred to other office or who have resigned, be re-appointed judges or public procurators they shall take rank equal to or below that of their former office, and receive a yearly salary equal to or below their former salary.

Article 6.—The promotion of judges or public procurators shall only take place when vacancies arise.

Promotion means a rise in rank or an increase of salary.

Article 7.—The promotion of judges or public procurators shall take place in accordance with the order of appointment to the respective offices, mentioned in Article 2. In deciding the order of appointment with a view to promotion, judges of local courts shall be reckoned the same as judges of district courts, and public procurators of local courts the same as public procurators of district courts.

Appointments to the posts of judges of sections, and judges of the Court of Cassation, public procurator-general, public procurators of the Court of Cassation, presidents, judges of sections, and judges of the Court of Appeal, chief public procurators and public procurators of the Court of Appeal, presidents and judges of sections in District Courts and chief public procurators of District Courts, may be regulated according to ability and talent without respect to seniority of service. Rank, however, shall not be ignored, and only the lowest yearly salary attached to the new office may be given.

Appointment to the post of president of the Court of Appeal of Tokyo or Osaka, chief public

procurators of the Court of Appeal of Tokyo or Osaka, president of District Courts in Tokyo or Osaka, and chief public procurators in the District Courts in Tokyo or Osaka may be regulated according to ability and talent without respect to seniority of service. Rank, however, shall not be ignored.

Article 8.—The order of appointment of judges and public procurators shall be decided in accordance with the amounts received as yearly salary; should these be the same then the order of the dates on which appointment took place; should these dates be the same, then the order of the dates on which the former yearly salary was begun, and should these be the same, then the ages of the respective candidates shall be taken.

The precedence of judges and public procurators in Courts shall be in accordance with the last paragraph.

Article 9.—Should judges or public procurators be transferred to other offices, only yearly salaries equal to or below the salary of their former office may be granted. The order of appointment in the latter case shall be decided in accordance with the date on which appointment to the former office took place.

These regulations shall be applied equally to cases where judges or public procurators who have been waiting for appointment are appointed, or where judicial or executive officials who are qualified to become judges or public procurators are to be appointed judges or public procurators.

Should judges or public procurators who have retired (*taishoku*) be re-appointed, only yearly salaries equal to or below the amounts formerly received by them may be given. The order of appointment shall be decided in this case in accordance with the dates of reappointment.

Article 10.—Articles 2, 3, 4, 6, 21, 22, 23, 24, 26, and 27 of the Regulations relating to the Salaries and Ranks of Higher Officials shall be applied to judges and public procurators.

SUPPLEMENTARY RULES.

Article 11.—Persons who are appointed before the Law for the Constitution of the Courts of Justice comes into force may be promoted without respect to the provisions of paragraph 1, Article 7.

Article 12.—Judges or public procurators who are in office when the Law for the Constitution of the Courts of Justice is carried out, may be continued in office with the same rank and salary, though their rank or salary may be higher or greater than those mentioned in Article 2.

Article 13.—This ordinance shall come into force on and after the first day of the 11th month of the 23rd year of Meiji.

CHOKUNIN RANKS.					
Special.	1st rank.	2nd rank.		3rd rank.	
Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.
1st	5,000	4,500	4,000	3,500	3,000
2nd	4,500	4,000	3,500	3,000	2,500
3rd	4,000	3,500	3,000	2,500	2,000
4th	3,500	3,000	2,500	2,000	1,500
5th	3,000	2,500	2,000	1,500	1,000
6th	2,500	2,000	1,500	1,000	800
7th	2,000	1,500	1,000	800	600
8th	1,500	1,000	800	600	400
9th	1,000	800	600	400	300
10th	800	600	400	300	200
11th	600	400	300	200	100
12th	400	300	200	100	50
13th	300	200	100	50	20
14th	200	100	50	20	10
15th	100	50	20	10	5

AN INDIAN JOURNALIST ON JAPAN.

Mr. K. M. Shroff, a Parsee gentleman, editor and joint-proprietor of the *Fam-e-Famshid*, of Bombay, and Secretary to the Bombay Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and a Municipal Councillor of Bombay, who delivered an address the other day before the Merchants' and Manufacturers' Association in Tokyo, has at our request kindly furnished the following, embodying the results of his observation during a three weeks' stay in the capital:—

After spending a day in Kobe I landed in Yokohama on the 10th July, and, having stayed two days in the latter port, I came on to Tokyo and have been here three weeks.

I have seen a great deal of Tokyo. I have wandered extensively in the first city of the empire, and have been greatly struck with its vastness, its enormous population—I am told, of about 1,300,000 souls—its immense traffic, some of its magnificent public buildings, with the politeness of the people, the characteristic cleanliness of their houses, with the beautiful and fascinating features of the female inmates, with the marvellous physical and muscular strength of the *jirikisha* coolies, who can drag one at a stretch for miles together, and have noted with surprise the progress, activity, and intelligence I see in every direction.

It was fortunate that I happened to be in Tokyo a few days before the Third Industrial National Exhibition was closed, because by taking a few rounds in the Exhibition I have obtained a very good idea of the art, industry, and imitative power

of the country, which I should never have got by even one year's travel in various parts of Japan. I think the Exhibition reflects very great credit on the government and the promoters of the movement, who must have gone through a stupendous amount of heavy work, months before the formation of the Exhibition, to have brought together such a vast collection of various articles from different parts of the country and put them in the order in which they stood—so effective and so systematic. The Exhibition, which contained exclusively things of Japanese make, greatly surprised me. Every imaginable article of necessity, luxury, and art was there; and I was told everything was made by Japanese without any European guidance or instruction. It bespeaks voluminous progress all round. There I saw even pianofortes, almost similar to those we get from Europe, and these were made by Japanese, not to speak of the innumerable other fancy and useful articles. It is no wonder that the Exhibition has been visited by a million of people, as your paper says. There was much in it to learn, to admire, and to be delighted with. I certainly was not prepared to see such things in Japan. To tell you the truth, we in India know very little of Japan. When I was at school twenty-five years ago, I was taught that Japan was near China, that its capital was Yedo, and that it was an island. Beyond that we knew nothing. I believe boys at school in Bombay at present learn that much and no more. Even some of our highly educated natives do not know much about Japan. Of late some Bombay merchants have become aware that Japan imports cotton and yarn. This ignorance is perhaps owing to the non-existence of any great commercial dealings between Bombay and Japan, and the paucity of visitors from your country to ours. We know more about China, because our countrymen have had dealings with that empire for more than half a century. Japan is as yet only peeping out into the world; but her progress during the last twenty-five years has been something astounding I must confess. She has an army and a navy kept up efficiently on European principles, and two or three lines of steamers commanded by Japanese. The dock-yards, the arsenals, the mining operations, and the Mint are also superintended by natives of the country. All the railways are managed by children of the soil. This is all very gratifying to me.

I regret that, owing to the summer vacation, most of the educational institutions are closed, which I should very much like to visit carefully. But I have inspected such as are open. I saw the Arsenal, the Military Academy, the Government Printing Bureau, the Headquarters of the Imperial Body-Guards, also those of the Artillery and Infantry, the school for military engineers, the Military Museum at Kuden, and I have also visited some of the mills and factories in the suburbs, the Shinto and Buddhist temples in the city, even the rings for Japanese wrestling matches and the Imperial palaces at Shiba and Hama, also the Zoological Collection in Ueno Park and the Museum there. Through the kindness of Colonel Teraoutsi, *Directeur de l'Ecole Militaire*, I was invited the other day to a brilliant military assemblage of officers to witness the distribution of diplomas and prizes, where the Emperor was present for full three hours. And what an active interest he took in the display of really excellent horsemanship and military sports by the students. We went with the Emperor from place to place in the extensive compound of the *Ecole Militaire*, and saw every manoeuvre through which the students went after their three years' course. The work done at the Arsenal and Printing Bureau is remarkable—the more so because it is done exclusively by Japanese. The Printing Bureau makes all the postage stamps and currency notes, with a lot of other litho work and steel plate engraving. I saw hundreds of Japanese girls employed there, which reminded me of a similar institution I had seen in Washington, U.S., sixteen years ago when I travelled there. It would be too long to narrate all I saw in the military headquarters which Captain Tenouchi with Mr. Sayayoshi, the interpreter, took me through. Everything was in excellent European order, ready for active service at any moment. But the zoological collection in Ueno Park is very poor, unworthy of the capital city, though the Museum is rich in its natural history department.

At that rate you will say, I have already seen much. But I have seen much more. I have visited nooks and corners of this great city—some of its best parts, and some of its worst parts; because I am interested in the municipal administration of Bombay, where we have several difficult problems to solve, affecting the welfare of a population of 800,000. I am, therefore, very anxious to study some of Tokyo's municipal questions, to find how they are dealt with

in a city with a population of 1,300,000. I have repeatedly driven through and closely watched some of the districts of the city, and I come to the conclusion that were it not for the numerous creeks and canals by which Tokyo is intersected, it would be next to impossible to live safely in this city. Although the authorities have hastened to light the streets by electric and gas light, the sanitary arrangements are so positively defective that only the canals and creeks conceal them; and the passage of the river through the length of the city mitigates the nuisance to a great extent. The creeks themselves are so full of filth and stagnant matter that I wonder how thousands of people live on either side of them. But for the flow and ebb of the sea passing through the entire length of these creeks, Tokyo would be a hot bed of cholera, because I perceive that all the sewage and filth of nearly half the city find their way into the creeks, and no ostensible means are employed for their periodical removal. I also notice that the art of roadmaking is understood in Japan. Some of the principal roads in Tokyo are well made, and properly kept; but lots of lanes and streets are full of pits and sadly require metalling. A drive through some of them by jinrikisha is full of jolting, and not very comfortable to one with a bad liver.

Talking of this mode of locomotion the jolliest drive I have ever enjoyed is by "ricksha." I envy the muscle of the "ricksha" coolies. How fast they run! How long they run—for miles together! I am told a coolie can take me by a "ricksha" forty miles at a stretch. This is almost superhuman; yet it is a fact. The number of "ricksha" plying for hire in the city is forty thousand, as I am informed by a Government officer, my valued friend, Mr. Tsuneki Sano, on the authority of the official registers. Notwithstanding, I see the traffic of the city is so large that there are in addition omnibuses or tram-cars running all day long. These tram companies pay handsomely, something like 16 per cent. But, alas! for the horses in the busses and tram-cars. They are such emaciated, lean, half-starved, and miserably kept animals that in my opinion it is a disgrace to Tokyo, and to the Japanese directors of the joint stock companies for these public conveyances. Even the traces of the horses are of the most slovenly character. It moves my heart to see these unfortunate animals worked in the streets so mercilessly by their cruel drivers. When the horses fail to draw the heavily-loaded cars they are beaten most inhumanly and dragged about atrociously by the month. I see these cars have no fixed number of passengers to carry. They let in as many as can find room barely to stand. When the Japanese are trying to imitate Europeans in all respects, why do not some kind-hearted citizens endeavour to establish a Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, to remedy these barbarous practices? Most of the people are Buddhists here, and Buddhism, of all the ancient religions, enjoins kindness to animals. Is it not revolting to Buddhist feelings to see such cruelties inflicted on animals in broad daylight in the principal thoroughfare of the Ginza? On the other hand, I observe that bullocks as beasts of burden in the city are admirably treated. They are in nice condition, and are well fed, healthy looking animals of large size. Very few of them are yoked to carts, but I am highly satisfied to see the condition of those few. I admire the contrivance made to protect them from the heat of the sun by the cart-men, who never take their seats in the cart to drive them, but walk with them all the way, and simply lead them. They easily drag heavy loads.

But I should prefer not to be drawn into a discussion on municipal matters in this city. Just at present I cannot speak authoritatively on them, inasmuch as I have not had time to study municipal questions. I have applied for papers and reports bearing on them; and until I go through them carefully I must reserve my remarks. However, I see from local papers that "the powers that be" are now earnestly taking up the question of a copious water supply to Tokyo from a distance of 20 miles, at a cost of \$7,000,000, by a distribution of iron pipes the aggregate length of which will be about 400 miles. Several schemes have been submitted by local and foreign engineers, and one of them is well nigh approved of. The sooner they do it the better, because the present supply is full of such impurities that I am told by my hotel men that they boil the water and then cool it before offering it to us for drink at the table.

I now come to the question of education, which is a broad and delicate one. It requires careful handling. To educate a nation is one thing; to denationalize it under the pretext of education is another. I am a great admirer of education, an ardent lover of the learning of the West. But at the same time I am a great abhorer of denationalization. I always long to see a nation kept up in its primitive entirety in regard to its ancient re-

ligion, customs, and costumes, social habits and manners, regardless of its intellectual advancement by contact with foreign nations. Japanese gentlemen will pardon me if I speak out my mind with reference to their progress. As I have already observed, their material progress has been rapid and marvellous; but there is much below the polished surface which is by no means desirable. With a little of superficial learning there is a considerable amount of disagreeable imitation of European costumes and customs. I wonder why the educated and even many uneducated Japanese should have set aside altogether their graceful national costume and gone in for European dress entirely. It is highly ridiculous to come across a man clad in full European dress, and still not able to speak a word of English, French, German, Italian, or any of the European languages which a man in such a dress ought to be able to speak. Why there should have been such a greedy craving for European dress throughout the principal city of the Empire passes all my comprehension. Hitherto I have not come across any Japanese of great learning, any citizens well read in European literature, from whose conversation I can form a correct idea of their mental culture. As scores of Japanese students have studied in European and American colleges and hold high posts in the civil administration of the country, they must carry an amount of learning undoubtedly. But some of them assume airs which remind one of the famous couplet of Pope:—

"A little learning is a dangerous thing," &c., &c.

Others smatter a little of incorrect English, or make up for their deficiency by smoking copiously in your presence. From their talk I gather that they know very little of what is going on in the world, beyond what occurs in Japan, and that they are very proud of their country. My remarks may undergo some modification when I come in contact with more highly educated persons after the summer vacation, when I hope to see some of their academical institutions. At present, I believe most of the educated men have gone to hill stations and summer resorts. There are few in Tokyo, and I have seen fewer. So I should refrain from forming hasty opinions. However, I am delighted to notice one thing in Tokyo—and that is that most of the men are able to read and write Japanese. As a proof of this I find that the Japanese newspapers are most widely circulated. No one has yet furnished me with the exact number of Japanese dailies issued in Tokyo alone. Some say the number is 20, some say 30. But I find from the directory that there are five principal Japanese papers in the capital, and the first of them has a daily circulation of thirty thousand. It makes my mouth water; in India we are so backward in that respect, despite all our honest efforts. It is no wonder that the Japanese papers should have such a wide circulation; for I find that every shopkeeper reads his paper; nay, all my hotel boys spend their leisure hours in reading local papers, even late at night. This, in one respect, is a healthy sign of national advancement.

As to the political aspect of the country, my opinions must necessarily be very crude and ill-digested, were I to form them from hearsay and what I read in the local papers, without a patient study of some of the politico-economic questions of Japan, now that the country is in a transition stage, for the new organizations since the revolution 25 years ago have not had sufficient time and trial, and are not yet finally settled. In the meantime, I see from the papers that the country has just gone through the excitement of a general election, and that you are going to have what the Japanese proudly call a "Parliament." From the number of cases of vitiated elections owing to corruption, as reported by the papers, the candidates must have been very keen for their return. Well, I wish the country every success on its new experimental measure of self-government. But I see the Ministers are going headlong, launching the State into heavy and unwarrantable expenditure. Why, I see from your own paper of the 1st inst., that although the Parliament has not yet met, one of the Ministers had almost arranged with a German firm of contractors to build the House of Parliament at a cost of yen 8,160,000. When he vacated the office, his successor upset his arrangements and cancelled the contract as being too costly. But the contractors decline to abrogate the contract, and I am told the authorities are a good deal embarrassed to get rid of the difficulty. This is another instance of hasty imitation of foreign countries. Because the Houses of Parliament in England are rich architectural possessions, the Japanese Parliament, yet in embryo, should have similar houses? The Japanese Ministers apparently forget that the present condition of England has been the result of the hard struggles of a sturdy and energetic nation for several cen-

turies. They forget that England has abundant wealth, boundless resources, innumerable foreign possessions; while Japan is a small, rising country, with not a yard of ground as its foreign possession, devoid of much mineral wealth which makes a country rich, has only one-tenth of the population of China, and has yet to amass wealth by developing its trade with foreign countries. And before all that is done, to have Houses of Parliament, at an enormous outlay, is surely calculated to make the country the laughing stock of foreign nations. Those who are at the helm of the State must cut their coat according to their cloth, and look before they leap. Otherwise, the result of all this headlong rush will be disastrous to the nation. I see the National Debt already reaches a respectable figure. If the Ministers increase it by unjustifiably heavy expenditure, the poor people will, ere long, be crushed under unbearable taxation, and discontent and disaffection will reign in a now peaceful and contented land. But I think I have said enough for the present. I may some other day trouble you with some further expressions of opinion as to what I see and hear. I remain in Tokyo till about the 20th, when I shall visit several other parts of the country, and I intend to leave Japan in October.

THE STRANGE RIDE OF MORROW-BIE JUKES.

BY RUDYARD KIPLING.

There is, as the conjurers say, no deception about this tale. Jukes by accident stumbled upon a village that is well known to exist, though he is the only Englishman who has been there. A somewhat similar institution used to flourish on the outskirts of Calcutta, and there is a story that if you go into the heart of Bikanir, which is in the heart of the Great Indian Desert, you shall come across not a village, but a town, where the dead have established their head-quarters.

And, since it is perfectly true that in the same desert is a wonderful city where all the rich money-lenders retreat after they have made their fortunes (fortunes so vast that the owners cannot trust even the strong hand of the Government to protect them, but take refuge in the waterless sands), and drive sumptuous C-spring barouches, and buy beautiful girls and decorate their palaces with gold and ivory and Minton tiles and mother-of-pearl, I do not see why Jukes' tale should not be true.

He is a civil engineer, with a head for plans and distances and things of that kind, and he certainly would not take the trouble to invent imaginary traps. He could earn more by doing his legitimate work. He never varies the tale in telling, and grows very hot and indignant when he thinks of the disrespectful treatment he received. He wrote this quite straightforwardly at first, but he has since touched up the places and introduced Moral Reflections, thus:

In the beginning it all arose from a slight attack of fever. My work necessitated my being in camp for some months between Palkpatan and Mubarakpur—a desolate, sandy stretch of country, as every one who has had the misfortune to go there may know. My coolies were neither more nor less exasperating than other gangs, and my work demanded sufficient attention to keep me from moping had I been inclined to so unmanly a weakness.

On the 23rd December, 1884, I felt a little feverish. There was a full moon at the time, and, in consequence, every dog near my tent was baying at it. The brutes assembled in twos and threes and drove me frantic. A few days previously I had shot one loud-mouthed singer and suspended his carcass in *terrorem* about fifty yards from my tent door. But his friends fell upon, fought for, and ultimately devoured the body, and, as it seemed to me, sang their hymns of thanksgiving afterward with renewed energy.

The light-headedness which accompanies fever acts differently upon different men. My irritation gave way after a short time to a fixed determination to slaughter one huge black and white beast who had been foremost in song and first in flight throughout the evening. Thanks to a shaking hand and a giddy head I had already missed him twice with both barrels of my shot-gun, when it struck me that the best plan would be to ride him down in the open and finish him off with a hog spear. This, of course, was merely the semi-delirious notion of a fever patient, but I remember that it struck me at the time as being eminently practical and feasible.

I therefore ordered my groom to saddle Pornic and bring him round quietly to the rear of my tent. When the pony was ready, I stood at his head pre-

pared to mount and dash out as soon as the dog should again lift up his voice. Pornic, by the way, had not been out of his pickets for a couple of days; the night air was crisp and chilly, and I was armed with a specially long and sharp pair of persuaders with which I had been rousing a sluggish cob that afternoon. You will easily believe, then, that when he was let go he went quickly.

In one moment, for the brute bolted as straight as a die, the tent was left far behind, and we were flying over the smooth, sandy soil at a racing speed. In another we had passed the wretched dog, and I had almost forgotten why it was that I had taken horse and hog spear.

The delirium of fever and the excitement of rapid motion through the air must have taken away the remnant of my senses. I have a faint recollection of standing upright in my stirrups and of brandishing my hog spear at the great white moon that looked down so calmly on my mad gallop, and of shouting challenges to the camel thorn bushes as they whizzed past. Once or twice, I believe, I swayed forward on Pornic's neck, and literally hung on by my spurs, as the marks next morning showed.

The wretched beast went forward like a thing possessed over what seemed to be a limitless expanse of moonlit sand. Next, I remember, the ground rose suddenly in front of us, and as we topped the ascent I saw the waters of the Sutlej shining like a silver bar below. Then Pornic blundered heavily on his nose and we rolled together down some unseen slope.

I must have lost consciousness, for when I recovered I was lying on my stomach in a heap of soft white sand, and the dawn was beginning to break dimly over the edge of the slope down which I had fallen. As the light grew stronger, I saw that I was at the bottom of a horseshoe-shaped crater of sand, opening on one side directly on to the shoals of the Sutlej. My fever had altogether left me, and with the exception of a slight dizziness in the head, I felt no bad effects from the fall over night.

Pornic, who was standing a few yards away, was naturally a good deal exhausted, but had not hurt himself in the least. His saddle, a favourite polo one, was much knocked about, and had been twisted under his belly. I took me some time to put him to rights, and in the meantime I had ample opportunities of observing the spot into which I had so foolishly dropped.

At the risk of being considered tedious I must describe it at length, inasmuch as an accurate mental picture of its peculiarities will be of material assistance in enabling the reader to understand what follows.

Imagine, then, as I have said before, a horseshoe-shaped crater of sand with steeply graded sides and walls about thirty-five feet high. (The slope, I fancy, must have been about 65°.) This crater enclosed a level piece of ground about fifty yards long by thirty as its broadest part, with a rude well in the centre.

Round the bottom of the crater about three feet from the level of the ground proper, ran a series of eighty-three semi-circular, ovoid, square and multilateral holes, all about three feet at the mouth. Each on inspection showed that it was carefully shored internally with driftwood and bamboos, and over the mouth a wooden trip-board projected, like the peak of a jockey's cap, for two feet.

No sign of life was visible in these tunnels, but a most sickening stench pervaded the entire amphitheatre—a stench fouler than any which my wanderings in Indian villages have introduced me to.

Having remounted Pornic, who was as anxious as I to get back to camp, I rode round the base of the horseshoe to find some place whence an exit would be practicable. The inhabitants, whoever they might be, had not thought fit to put in an appearance, so I was left to my own devices.

My first attempt to "rush" Pornic up the steep sandbanks showed me that I had fallen into a trap exactly on the same model as that which the ant lion sets for its prey. At each step the shifting sand poured down from above in tons, and rattled on the drip boards of the holes like small shot. A couple of ineffectual charges sent us both rolling down to the bottom half choked with the torrents of sand, and I was constrained to turn my attention to the river bank.

Here everything seemed easy enough. The sand hills ran down to the river edge, it is true, but there were plenty of shallows across which I could gallop Pornic and find my way back to terra firma by turning sharply to the right or left. As I led Pornic over the sands I was startled by the faint pop of a rifle across the river, and at the same moment a bullet dropped with a sharp "whit" close to Pornic's head.

There was no mistaking the nature of the missile—a regulation Martini-Henry "picket." About 500 yards away a country boat was anchored in

midstream, and a jet of smoke drifting away from its bows in the still morning air showed me whence the delicate attention had come. Was ever a respectable gentleman in such an *impasse*? The treacherous sand slope allowed no escape from a spot which I visited most involuntarily, and a promenade on the river frontage was the signal for a bombardment from some insane native in a boat. I'm afraid that I lost my temper very much indeed.

Another bullet reminded me that I had better save my breath to cool my porridge, and I retreated hastily up the sands and back to the horseshoe, where I saw that the noise of the rifle had drawn sixty-five human beings from the badger holes, which I had up till that point supposed to be untenanted. I found myself in the midst of a crowd of spectators—about forty men, twenty women, and one child who could not have been more than five years old.

They were all scantily clothed in that salmon coloured cloth which one associates with Hindu mendicants, and at first sight gave me the impression of a band of loathsome fakirs. The filth and repulsiveness of the assembly were beyond all description, and I shuddered to think what their life in the badger holes must be.

Even in these days, when local self-government has destroyed the greater part of a native's respect for a Sahib, I have been accustomed to a certain amount of civility from my inferiors, and on approaching the crowd naturally expected that there would be some recognition of my presence. As a matter of fact there was, but it was by no means what I had looked for.

The ragged crew actually laughed at me. Such laughter I hope I may never hear again. They cackled, yelled, whistled, and howled as I walked into their midst, some of them literally throwing themselves down on the ground in convulsions of unholy mirth. In a moment I had let go Pornic's head, and irritated beyond expression at the morning's adventure, commenced cuffing those nearest to me with all the force I could.

The wretches dropped under my blows like ninepins, and the laughter gave place to wails for mercy, while those yet untouched clasped me around the knees, imploring me in all sorts of uncouth tongues to spare them.

In the tumult, and just when I was feeling very much ashamed of myself for having thus easily given way to my temper, a thin, high voice murmured in English from behind my shoulder: "Sahib! Sahib! Do you not know me? Sahib, it is Gunga Dass, the telegraph master."

I spun round quickly and faced the speaker. Gunga Dass (I have, of course, no hesitation in mentioning the man's real name). I had known four years before as a Deccanese Brahmin sent by the Punjab Government to one of the Khalsia States. He was in charge of a branch telegraph office there, and when I had last met him was a jovial, full-stomached, portly Government servant, with a marvelous capacity for making bad puns in English—a peculiarity which made me remember him long after I had forgotten his services to me in his official capacity. It is seldom that a Hindu makes English puns.

Now, however, the man was changed beyond all recognition. Caste mark, stomach, slate-coloured continuations and unctuous speech were all gone. I looked at a withered skeleton, turbanless and almost naked, with long, matted hair and deep-set codfish eyes. But for a crescent-shaped scar on the left cheek—the result of an accident for which I was responsible—I should never have known him. But it was indubitably Gunga Dass, and—for this I was thankful—an English-speaking native, who might at least tell me the meaning of all that I had gone through that day.

The crowd retreated to some distance as I turned toward the miserable figure and ordered him to show me some method of escaping from the crater. He held a freshly plucked crow in his hand, and in reply to my question climbed slowly on a platform of sand which ran in front of the holes, and commenced lighting a fire there in silence. Dried hents, sand poppies and driftwood burn quickly, and I derived much consolation from the fact that he lit them with an ordinary sulphur match. When they were in a bright glow and the crow was neatly spitted in front thereof, Gunga Dass began, without a word of preamble:

"There are only two kind of men, sar. The alive and the dead. When you are dead you are dead, but when you are alive you live." (Here the crowd demanded his attention for an instant as it twirled before the fire in danger of being burned to a cinder.) "If you die at home and do not die when you come to the ghat to be burned, you come here."

The nature of the reeking village was made plain now, and all that I had known or read of the grotesque and the horrible paled before the fact just communicated by the ex-Brahmin. Sixteen years

Original from

ago, when I first landed in Bombay, I had been told by a wandering Armenian of the existence, somewhere in India, of a place to which such Hindus as had the misfortune to recover from trance or catalepsy were conveyed and kept, and I recollect laughing heartily at what I was then pleased to consider a traveller's tale.

Sitting at the bottom of the sand trap the memory of Watson's Hotel, with its swinging pookahs, white robed attendants, and the saw-toothed Armenian rose up in my mind as vividly as a photograph, and I burst into a loud fit of laughter. The contrast was too absurd!

Gunga Dass, as he bent over the unclean bird, watched me curiously. Hindus seldom laugh, and his surroundings were not such as to move Gunga Dass to any undue excess of hilarity. He removed the crow solemnly from the wooden spit, and as solemnly devoured it. Then he continued his story, which I give in his own words:—

"In epidemics of the cholera you are carried to be burnt almost before you are dead. When you come to the riverside, the cold air, perhaps, makes you alive, mud is put on your nose and mouth, and you die conclusively. If you are rather more alive, more mud is put; but if you are too lively, they let you go, and take you away.

"I was too lively, and made protestations with anger against the indignities that they endeavoured to press upon me. In those days I was Brahmin and proud man. Now I am a dead man and eat"—here he eyed the well-gnawed breast bone with the first sign of emotion that I had seen in him since we met—"crows and other things. They took me from my sheets when they found that I was too lively and gave me medicines for one week, and I survived successfully. Then they sent me by rail from my place to Okara Station, with a man to take care of me, and at Okara Station we met two other men, and they conducted we three on camels, in the night, from Okara Station to this place, and they propelled me from the top to the bottom, and the other two succumbed, and I have been here ever since—two and a half years. I was Brahmin and proud man, and now I eat crows."

"There is no way of getting out?"

"None of what kind at all. When I first came I made experiments frequently, and all the others also, but we have always succumbed to the sand which is precipitated upon our heads.

"But surely," I broke in at this point, "the river front is open, and it is worth while dodging the bullets, while at night—"

I had already matured a rough plan of escape which a natural instinct of selfishness forbade me sharing with Gunga Dass. He, however, divined my unspoken thought, almost as soon as it was formed, and to my intense astonishment gave vent to a long, low chuckle of derision—the laughter, be it understood, of a superior or at least of an equal.

"You will not!"—he had dropped the air completely after his opening sentence—"make any escape that way. But you can try. I have tried. Once only."

The sensation of nameless terror and abject fear which I had in vain attempted to strive against overmastered me completely. My long fast—it was now close upon 10 o'clock, and I had eaten nothing since tiffin on the previous day—combined with the violent and unnatural agitation of the ride, had exhausted me, and I verily believe that for a few moments I acted as one mad. I hurled myself against the pitiless sand slope. I ran round the base of the crater, blaspheming and praying by turns. I crawled out among the sedges of the river front only to be driven back each time in an agony of nervous dread by the rifle bullets which cut up the sand round me—for I dared not face the death of a mad dog among that hideous crowd—and finally fell, spent and raving, at the curb of the well.

No one had taken the slightest notice of an exhibition which makes me blush hotly even when I think of it now.

Two or three men tried on my panting body as they drew water, but they were evidently used to this sort of thing, and had no time to waste upon me. The situation was humiliating. Gunga Dass, indeed, when he had banked the embers of his fire with sand, was at some pains to throw half a cupful of fetid water over my head, an attention for which I could have fallen on my knees and thanked him, but he was laughing all the while in the same mirthless, wheezy key that greeted me on my first attempt to force the shoals. And so, in a semi-comatose condition, I lay till noon.

Then, being only a man after all, I felt hungry, and intimated as much to Gunga Dass, whom I had begun to regard as my natural protector. Following the impulse of the outer world when dealing with natives, I put my hand into my pocket and drew out four annas. The absurdity

of the gift struck me at once, and I was about to replace the money.

Gunga Dass, however, was of a different opinion. "Give me the money," said he, "you have, or I will get help and we will kill you!" All this as if it were the most natural thing in the world.

A Briton's first impulse, I believe, is to guard the contents of his pockets; but a moment's reflection convinced me of the futility of differing with the one man who had it in his power to make me comfortable, and with whose help it was possible that I might eventually escape from the crater. I gave him all the money in my possession. Rs. 9-8-5—nine rupees, eight annas, and five pie—for I always keep small change as *bakushish* when I am in camp.

Gunga Dass clutched the coins and hid them at once in his ragged loin cloth, his expression changing to something diabolical as he looked round to assure himself that no one had observed us.

"Now I will give you something to eat," said he. What pleasure the possession of my money could have afforded him I am unable to say; but inasmuch as it did give him evident delight I was not sorry that I parted with it so readily, for I had no doubt that he would have had me killed if I had refused. One does not protest against the vagaries of a den of wild beasts; and my companions were lower than any beasts.

While I devoured what Gunga Dass had provided, a coarse *chopatti* and a cupful of the foul well water, the people showed not the faintest sign of curiosity—that curiosity which is so rampant, as a rule, in an Indian village. I could even fancy that they despised me. At all events, they treated me with the most chilling indifference, and Gunga Dass was nearly as bad. I plied him with questions about the terrible village, and received extremely unsatisfactory answers. So far as I could gather, it had been in existence from time immemorial, whence I concluded that it was at least a century old, and during that time no one had ever been known to escape from it. (I had to control myself here with both hands, lest the blind terror should lay hold of me a second time and drive me raving round the crater.) Gunga Dass took a malicious pleasure in emphasizing this point and in watching me wince. Nothing that I could do would induce him to tell me who the mysterious "They" were.

"It is so ordered," he would reply, "and I do not yet know any one who has disobeyed the order."

"Only wait until my servants find that I am missing," I retorted, "and I promise you that this place shall be cleared off the face of the earth, and I'll give you a lesson in civility, too, my friend."

"Your servants would be torn in pieces before they came near this place; and, besides, you are dead, my dear friend. It is not your fault, of course, but none the less you are dead and buried."

At irregular intervals supplies of food, I was told, were dropped down from the band side into the amphitheatre, and the inhabitants fought for them like wild beasts. When a man felt his death coming on he retreated to his lair and died there. The body was sometimes dragged out of the hole and thrown on the sand or allowed to rot where it lay.

The phrase "thrown on the sand" caught my attention, and I asked Gunga Dass whether this sort of thing was not likely to breed a pestilence.

"That," said he, with another of his wheezy chuckles, "you may see for yourself subsequently. You will have much time to make observations."

Whereat, to his great delight, I winced once more and hastily continued the conversation: "And how do you live here from day to day? What do you do?" The question elicited exactly the same answer as before—coupled with the information that "this place is like your European heaven; there is neither marrying nor giving in marriage."

Gunga Dass had been educated at a mission school, and, as he himself admitted, had he only changed his religion, "like a wise man," might have avoided the living grave which was now his portion. But as long as I was with him I fancy he was happy.

Here was a Sahib, a representative of the dominant race, helpless as a child and completely at the mercy of his native neighbours. In a deliberate, lazy way he set himself to torture me as a schoolboy would devote a rapturous half hour to watching the agonies of an impaled beetle, or as a ferret in a blind burrow might glue himself comfortably to the neck of a rabbit.

The burden of his conversation was that there was no escape, "of no kind whatever," and that I should stay here till I died and was "thrown on the sand." If it were possible to forejudge the conversation of the Damned on the advent of a new soul in their abode, I should say that they

would speak as Gunga Dass did to me throughout that long afternoon. I was powerless to protest or answer; all my energies being devoted to a struggle against the inexplicable terror that threatened to overwhelm me again and again. I can compare the feeling to nothing except the struggles of a man against the overwhelming nausea of the Channel passage—only my agony was of the spirit and infinitely more terrible.

As the day wore on the inhabitants began to appear in full strength to catch the rays of the afternoon sun, which were now sloping in at the mouth of the crater. They assembled in little knots and talked among themselves without even throwing a glance in my direction. About 4 o'clock, as far as I could judge, Gunga Dass rose and dived into his lair for a moment, emerging with a live crow in his hands. The wretched bird was in a most dragged and deplorable condition, but seemed to be in no way afraid of his master.

Advancing cautiously to the river front, Gunga Dass stepped from tussock to tussock until he had reached a smooth patch of sand directly in the line of the boat's fire. The occupants of the boat took no notice. Here he stopped, and with a couple of dexterous turns of the wrist pegged the bird on its back with outstretched wings.

As was only natural, the crow began to shriek at once and beat the air with its claws. In a few seconds the clamor had attracted the attention of a bevy of wild crows on a shoal a few hundred yards away, where they were discussing something that looked like a corpse. Half a dozen crows flew over at once to see what was going on, and also, as it proved, to attack the pinioned bird.

Gunga Dass, who had lain down on a tussock, motioned me to be quiet, though I fancy this was a needless precaution. In a moment, and before I could see how it happened, a wild crow, who had grappled with the shrieking and helpless bird, was entangled in the latter's claws, swiftly disengaged by Gunga Dass, and pegged down beside its companion in adversity. Curiosity, it seemed, overpowered the rest of the flock, and almost before Gunga Dass had time to withdraw to the tussock, two more captives were struggling in the upturned claws of the decoys. So the chase—if I can give it so dignified a name—continued until Gunga Dass had captured seven crows. Five of them he throttled at once, reserving two for further operations another day: I was a good deal impressed by this, to me, novel method of securing food, and complimented Gunga Dass on his skill. "It is nothing to do," said he. "To-morrow you must do it for me. You are stronger than I am."

This calm assumption of superiority upset me not a little, and I answered peremptorily: "Indeed, you old ruffian! What do you think I have given you money for?"

"Very well," was the unmoved reply. "Perhaps not to-morrow, nor the day after, nor subsequently, but in the end, and for many years, you will catch crows and eat crows, and you will thank your European God that you have crows to catch and eat."

I could have cheerfully strangled him for this, but judged it best under the circumstances to smother my resentment. An hour later I was eating one of the crows, and, as Gunga Dass had said, thanking my God that I had a crow to eat.

Never as long as I live shall I forget that evening meal. The whole population were squatting on the hard sand platform opposite their dens, huddled over tiny fires of refuse and dried rushes. Death, having once laid his hand upon these men and forbore to strike, seemed to stand aloof from them now, for most of our company were old men, bent and worn and twisted with years, and women aged to all appearance as the Fates themselves. They sat together in knots and talked—God only knows what they found to discuss—in low, equable tones, curiously in contrast to the strident babble with which natives are accustomed to make day hideous.

Now and then an access of that sudden fury which had possessed me in the morning would lay hold on a man or woman, and with yells and imprecations the sufferer would attack the steep slope, until, baffled and bleeding, he fell back on the platform incapable of moving a limb. The others would never even raise their eyes when this happened, as men too well aware of the futility of their fellows' attempts and wearied with their useless repetition. I saw four such outbursts in the course of that evening.

Gunga Dass took an eminently business-like view of my situation, and while we were dining—I can afford to laugh at the recollection now, but it was painful enough at the time—pre-occupied the terms on which he would consent to "do" for me. My nine rupees, eight annas, he agreed, at the rate of three annas = day, would provide me with food for fifty-one days, or about seven weeks

—that is to say, he would be willing to care for me for that length of time. At the end of it I was to look after myself.

For a further consideration—*videlicet*, my boots—he would be willing to allow me to occupy the den next to his own, and would supply me with as much dried grass for bedding as he could spare.

"Very well, Gunga Dass," I replied; "to the first terms I cheerfully agree, but as there is nothing on earth to prevent my killing you as you sit here—(I thought of the two invaluable crows at the time)—I flatly refuse to give you my boots, and shall take whichever den I please."

The stroke was a bold one, and I was glad when I saw that it had succeeded. Gunga Dass changed his tone immediately and disavowed all intention of asking for my boots.

At the time it did not appear to strike me at all strange that I, a civil engineer, a man of thirteen years' standing in the service, and I trust an average Englishman, should thus calmly threaten murder and violence against the man who had, for a consideration, it is true, taken me under his wing. I had left the world, it seemed, for centuries. I was as certain then as I am now of my own existence that in the accursed settlement there was no law save that of the strongest; that the living dead men had thrown behind them every canon of the world which had cast them out, and that I had to depend for my own life on my strength and vigilance alone. The crew of the ill-fated *Mignonette* are the only men who would understand my frame of mind.

"At present," I argued to myself, "I am strong and a match for six of these wretches. It is imperatively necessary that I should, for my own sake, keep both health and strength until the hour of my release comes—if it ever does."

Fortified with these resolutions, I ate and drank as much as I could, and made Gunga Dass understand that I intended to be his master, and that the least sign of insubordination on his part would be visited with the only punishment I had it in my power to inflict—sudden and violent death. Shortly after this I went to bed.

That is to say, Gunga Dass gave me a double handful of dried beets, which I thrust down the mouth of the lair to the right of his and followed myself, feet foremost, the hole running about nine feet into the sand with a slight downward inclination, and being neatly shored with timbers. From my den, which faced the river front, I was able to watch the waters of the Sutlej flowing past under the light of a young moon and compose myself to sleep as best I might.

The horrors of that night I shall never forget. My den was nearly as narrow as a coffin, and the sides had been worn smooth and greasy by the contact of innumerable naked bodies, added to which it smelled abominably. Sleep was altogether out of the question to one in my excited frame of mind. As the night wore on it seemed the entire amphitheatre was filled with legions of unclean devils that, trooping up from the shoals below, mocked the unfortunates in their lairs.

Personally, I am not of an imaginative temperament—very few engineers are—but on that occasion I was as completely prostrated with nervous terror as any woman. After half an hour or so, however, I was able once more to calmly review my chances of escape. Any exit by the steep sand walls was, of course, impracticable. I had been thoroughly convinced of this some time before.

It was possible, just possible, that I might, in the uncertain moonlight, safely run the gamut of the rifle shots. The place was so full of terror for me that I was prepared to undergo any risk in leaving it. Imagine my delight, then, when after creeping stealthily to the river front, I found that the infernal boat was not there. My freedom lay before me in the next few steps!

By walking out to the first shallow pool that lay at the foot of the projecting left horn of the horse-shoe, I could wade across, turn the flank of the crater and make my way inland. Without a moment's hesitation I marched briskly past the tussocks where Gunga Dass had snared the crows and out in the direction of the smooth white sand beyond. My first step from the tufts of dried grass showed me how utterly futile was any hope of escape, for as I put my foot down, I felt an indescribable drawing, sucking motion of the sand below. Another moment and my leg was swallowed up nearly to the knee. In the moonlight the whole surface of the sand seemed to be shaken with devilish delight at my disappointment. I struggled dear, sweating with terror and exertion, back to the tussocks behind me and fell on my face.

My only means of escape from the semi-circle was protected with a quicksand!

How long I lay I have not the faintest idea; but I was aroused at last by the malevolent chuckle of Gunga Dass at my ear. "I would advise you, Protector of the Poor" (the ruffian was speaking

English), "to return to your house. It is unhealthy to lie here. Moreover, when the boat returns, you will most certainly be rifled at." He stood over me in the dim light of the dawn, chuckling and laughing to himself.

Suppressing my first impulse to catch the man by the neck and throw him on to the quicksand, I rose sullenly and followed him to the platform below the burrows.

Suddenly, and futilely, as I thought while I spoke, I asked: "Gunga Dass, what is the good of the boat if I can't get out, anyhow?" I recollect that even in my deepest trouble I had been speculating vaguely on the waste of ammunition in guarding an already well-protected foreshore.

Gunga Dass laughed again and made answer: "They have the boat only in daytime. It is for the reason that there is a way. I hope we shall have the pleasure of your company for much longer time. It is a pleasant spot when you have been here some years and eaten roast crow long enough."

I staggered, mumbled and helpless, toward the fetid burrow allotted to me, and fell asleep. An hour or so later I was awakened by a piercing scream—the shrill, high-pitched scream of a horse in pain. Those who have once heard that will never forget the sound. I found some little difficulty in scrambling out of the burrow. When I was in the open I saw Pornic, my poor old Pornic, lying dead on the sandy soil.

How they had killed him I cannot guess. Gunga Dass explained that horse was better than crow, and "greatest good of greatest number is political maxim. We are now republic, Mister Jukes, and you are entitled to a fair share of the beast. If you like we will pass a vote of thanks. Shall I propose?"

Yes, we were a republic, indeed! A republic of wild beasts penned at the bottom of a pit, to fight and sleep till we died. I attempted no protest of any kind, but sat down and stared at the hideous sight in front of me. In less time almost than it takes me to write this, Pornic's body was divided, in some unclean way or other; the men and women had dragged the fragments on to the platform and were preparing their morning meal. Gunga Dass cooked mine.

The almost irresistible impulse to fly at the sand walls until I was wearied laid hold of me afresh, and I had to struggle against it with all my might. Gunga Dass was offensively jocular until I told him that if he addressed another remark of any kind whatever to me, I should strangle him where he sat. This silenced him until silence became insupportable, and I bade him say something.

"You will have to stay here till you die, like the other Feringhi," he said, coolly, watching me over the fragment of gristle that he was gnawing.

"What other Sahib, you swine? Speak at once, and don't stop to tell me a lie."

"He is over there," answered Gunga Dass, pointing to a burrow mouth about four doors to the left of my own. "You can see for yourself. He died in the burrow as you will die and I will die, and as all these men and women and the one child will also die."

"For pity's sake, tell me all you know about him. Who was he? When did he come, and when did he die?"

This appeal was a weak step on my part. Gunga Dass only leered and replied:

"I will not—unless you give me something first."

Then I recollected where I was, and struck the man between the eyes, partially stunning him. He stepped down from the platform at once, and, cowering and fawning and weeping, and attempting to embrace my feet, led me round to the burrow which he had indicated.

"I know nothing whatever about the gentleman. Your God be my witness that I do not. He was as anxious to escape as you were, and he was shot from the boat, though we all did all things to prevent him. He was shot here." Gunga Dass laid his hand on his lean stomach and howled to the earth.

"Well, and what then? Go on."

"And then—and then, your Honour, we carried him into his house and gave him water and put wet cloths on the wound, and he laid down in his house and gave up the ghost."

"In how long? In how long?"

"About half an hour after he received his wound. I call Vishu to witness," yelled the wretched man, "that I did everything for him. Everything which was possible, that I did."

He threw himself down on the ground and clasped my ankles. But I had my doubts about Gunga Dass's benevolence, and kicked him off as he lay protesting.

"I believe you robbed him of everything he had. But I can find out in a minute or two. How long was the Sahib here?"

"Nearly a year and a half. I think he must

have gone mad. But hear me swear, Protector of the Poor! Won't your Honour her me swear that I never touched an article that belonged to him? What is your Worship going to do?"

I had taken Gunga Dass by the waist and had hauled him upon the platform opposite the deserted burrow. As I did so I thought of my wretched fellow prisoner's unspeakable misery among all these horrors for eighteen months and the final agony of dying like a rat in a hole, with a bullet wound in the stomach. Gunga Dass fancied I was going to kill him, and he howled pitifully. The rest of the population, in the plethora that follows a full flesh meal, watched us without stirring.

"Go inside, Gunga Dass," said I, "and fetch it out."

I was feeling sick and faint with horror now. Gunga Dass nearly rolled off the platform and howled aloud:

"But I am Brahmin, Sahib—a high-caste Brahmin. By your soul, by your father's soul, do not make me do this thing!"

"Brahmin or no Brahmin, by my soul and my father's soul, in you go!" I said, and seizing him by his shoulders, I crammed his head into the mouth of the burrow, kicked the rest of him in, and sitting, covered my face with my hands.

And at the end of a few minutes I heard a rustle and a creak, and then Gunga Dass, in a sobbing, choking whisper, speaking to himself; then a soft thud—and I uncovered my eyes.

The dry sand had turned the corpse intrusted to its keeping into a yellow-brown mummy. I told Gunga Dass to stand off while I examined it. The body—clad in an olive-green hunting suit, much stained and worn, with leather pads on the shoulders—was that of a man between thirty and forty, above middle height, with light, sandy hair, long mustache and a rough, unkempt beard. The left canine of the upper jaw was missing, and a portion of the lobe of the right ear was gone.

On the second finger of the left hand was a ring—a shield-shaped bloodstone set in gold, with a monogram that might have been either "B. K." or "B. L." On the third finger of the right hand was a silver ring in the shape of a coiled cobra, much worn and tarnished. Gunga Dass deposited a handful of trifles he had picked out of the burrow at my feet, and covering the face of the body with my handkerchief, I turned to examine these. I give the full list in the hope that it may lead to the identification of the unfortunate man:

1. Bowl of a briarwood pipe, serrated at the edge, much worn and blackened, bound with string at the screw.
2. Two patent lever keys, wards of both broken.
3. Tortoise shell handled penknife, silver or nickel name plate, marked with monogram "B. K."
4. Envelope, postmark undecipherable, bearing a Victorian stamp, addressed to "Miss Mon—" (rest illegible)—"I am"—"nt."
5. Imitation crocodile skin note book, with pencil. First forty-five pages blank; four and a half illegible; fifteen others filled with private memoranda, relating chiefly to three persons—a Mrs. L. Singleton, abbreviated several times to "Lot Single," "Mrs. S. May," and "Garrison," referred to in places as "Jerry" or "Jack."
6. Handle of small-sized hunting knife. Blade snapped short. Buck's horn, diamond cut, with swivel and ring on the butt; fragment of cotton cord attached.

It must not be supposed that I inventoried all these things on the spot as fully as I have here written them down. The notebook first attracted my attention, and I put it in my pocket with a view to studying it later on. The rest of the articles I conveyed to my burrow for safety's sake, and there, being a methodical man, I inventoried them. I then returned to the corpse and ordered Gunga Dass to help me carry it out to the river front.

While we were engaged in this the exploded shell of an old brown cartridge dropped out of one of the pockets and rolled at my feet. Gunga Dass had not seen it; and I fell to thinking that a man does not carry exploded cartridge cases, especially "browns," which will not bear loading twice, about with him when shooting. In other words, that cartridge case had been fired inside, the crater, consequently there must be a gun somewhere. I was on the verge of asking Gunga Dass, but checked myself, knowing that he would lie.

We laid the body down on the edge of the quicksand by the tussocks. It was my intention to push it out and let it be swallowed up—the only mode of burial that I could think of. I ordered Gunga Dass to go away.

Then I gingerly put the corpse out on the quicksand. In doing so—it was lying face downward—I tore the frail and rotten khaki shooting coat open,

disclosing a hideous cavity in the back. I have already told you that the dry sand had, as it were, mummified the body. A moment's glance showed the gaping hole had been caused by a gun-shot wound; the gun must have been fired with the muzzle almost touching the back. The shooting coat, being intact, had been drawn over the body after death, which must have been instantaneous.

The secret of the poor wretch's death was plain to me in a flash. Some one in the crater, presumably Gunga Dass, must have shot him with his own gun—the gun that fitted the brown cartridge. He had never attempted escape in the face of the rifle fire from the boat.

I pushed the corpse out hastily and saw it sink from sight liberally in a few seconds. I shuddered as I watched. In a dazed, half-conscious way I turned to peruse the note-book. A stained and discoloured slip of paper had been inserted between the binding and the back, and dropped out as I opened the pages. This is what it contained:

"Four out from crow clump; three left; nine out; two right; three back; two left; fourteen out; two left; seven out; one left; nine back; two right; six back; four right; seven back."

The paper had been burned and charred at the edges. What it meant I could not understand. I sat down on the dried bents, turning it over and over between my fingers until I was aware of Gunga Dass standing immediately behind me with glowing eyes and outstretched hands.

"Have you got it?" he panted. "Will you not let me look at it also? I swear that I will return it."

"Got what? Return what?" I asked.

"That which you have in your hands. It will help us both." He stretched out his long, bird-like talons, trembling with eagerness.

"I could never find it," he continued. "He had secreted it about his person. Therefore I shot him, but nevertheless I was unable to obtain it."

Gunga Dass had quite forgotten his little fiction about the rifle bullet. I received the information perfectly calmly. Morality is blunted by consorting with the dead who are alive.

"What on earth are you raving about? What is it you want me to give you?"

"The piece of paper in the note-book. It will help us both. Oh, you fool! you fool! Can you not see what it will do for us? We shall escape!"

His voice rose almost to a scream, and he danced with excitement before me. I own I was moved at the chance of getting away.

"Don't skip! Explain yourself. Do you mean to say that this slip of paper will help us? What does it mean?"

"Read it aloud! Read it aloud! I beg and pray to you to read it aloud!"

I did so. Gunga Dass listened delightedly, and drew an irregular line in the sand with his fingers.

"See now! It was the length of the gun-barrels without the stock. I have those barrels, four gun-barrels out from the place where I caught crows. Straight out: do you follow me? Then left—Ah! how well I remember when that man worked it out night after night. Then nine out, and so on. Out is always straight before you across the quick-sand. He told me so before I killed him."

"But if you knew all this why didn't you get out before?"

"I did not know it. He told me that he was working it out a year and a half ago, and how he was working it out night after night when the boat had gone away and he could get out near the quicksand safely. Then he said that we would get away together. But I was afraid that he would leave me behind one night when he had worked it all out, and so I shot him. Besides, it is not advisable that the men who once get in here should escape. Only I, and I am a Brahmin."

The prospect of escape had brought Gunga Dass' caste back to him. He stood up, walked about and gesticulated violently.

Eventually I managed to make him talk soberly, and he told me how this Englishman had spent six months night after night in exploring, inch by inch, the passage across the quicksand; how he had declared it to be simply itself up to within about twenty yards of the river bank after turning the flank of the left horn of the horseshoe. This much he had evidently not completed when Gunga Dass shot him with his own gun.

In my frenzy of delight at the possibilities of escape, I recollect shaking hands effusively with Gunga Dass after we had decided that we were to make an attempt to get away that very night. It was weary work waiting throughout the afternoon.

About a o'clock, as far as I could judge, when the moon had just risen above the lip of the crater, Gunga Dass made a move for his burrow to bring out the gun barrels whereby to measure our path. All the other wretched inhabitants had retired to their lairs long ago. The guardian boat drifted down stream some hours before, and we were

utterly alone by the crow-clump. Gunga Dass, while carrying the gun-barrels, let slip the piece of paper which was to be our guide.

I stooped down hastily to recover it, and as I did so I was aware that the diabolical Brahmin was aiming a violent blow at the back of my head with the gun barrels. It was too late to turn round. I must have received the blow somewhere on the nape of my neck. A hundred thousand fiery stars danced before my eyes, and I fell forward senseless at the edge of the quicksand.

When I recovered consciousness the moon was dying down, and I was sensible of intolerable pain in the back of my head. Gunga Dass had disappeared, and my mouth was full of blood. I lay down again and prayed that I might die without more ado. Then the unreasoning fury which I have before mentioned laid hold upon me, and I staggered inland toward the walls of the crater.

It seemed that some one was calling to me in a whisper, "Sahib! Sahib! Sahib!" exactly as my bearer used to call me in the mornings. I fancied that I was delicious until a handful of sand fell at my feet. Then I looked up and saw a head peering down into the amphitheatre—the head of Dunnoo, my dog boy, who attended to my collies. As soon as he had attracted my attention he held up his hand and showed a rope. I motioned, staggered to and fro the while that he should throw it down.

It was a couple of leather punkah ropes, knotted together, with a loop at one end. I slipped the loop over my head and under my arms, heaved Dunnoo up something forward, was conscious that I was being dragged, face downward, up the steep sand slope, and the next instant found myself choked and half fainting on the sandhills overlooking the crater. Dunnoo, with his face ashy gray in the moonlight, implored me not to stay, but to get back to my tent at once.

It seems that he had tracked Purnic's footprints fourteen miles across the sands to the crater; had returned and told my servants, who flatly refused to meddle with any one, white or black, once fallen into the hideous Village of the Dead; whereupon Dunnoo had taken one of my ponies and a couple of punkah ropes, returned to the crater and hauled me out, as I have described.

To cut a long story short, Dunnoo is now my personal servant on a gold mohur a month—a sum which I still think far too little for the services he has rendered. Nothing on earth will induce me to go near that devilish spot again or reveal its whereabouts more clearly than I have done. Of Gunga Dass I have never found a trace, nor do I wish to. My sole motive in giving this to the public is the hope that some one may positively identify, from the details and the inventory which I have given above, the corpse of the man in the olive-green hunting suit.—*Alta*.

THE INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERS OF JAPAN.

Recent advices from Japan give us an account of proceedings in that country which will be of interest to engineers and others who study the developments of technical education and its applications to engineering. It is now seventeen years since the Imperial College of Engineering, Tokyo, was instituted, and a little over ten since the first graduates completed their course. At the first graduation ceremony, Mr. Henry Dyer, who was the first Principal and the organizer of the College, in his address to the students, suggested the foundation of an Institution of Engineers somewhat on the lines of those in this country, and he subsequently drew out and printed a set of regulations to guide those who were likely to be the first members of the Institution. The matter was taken up with great energy and spirit, and the new Institution was organized and managed without further foreign assistance. For some years the members were entirely graduates of the Imperial College of Engineering, but when the Public Works Department was abolished, and the College was incorporated with the University, the Institution was placed on a wider basis, and members were admitted who had studied in other colleges at home and abroad, or who were otherwise qualified, and the Institution of Engineers is now one of the largest and most prosperous in Japan, having one thousand members in the departments of civil, mechanical, electrical, mining, and chemical engineering, and in those of architecture, metallurgy, and naval architecture. At the beginning of May there were held a series of meetings of various kinds to celebrate the tenth year of the existence of the Institution, and the further fact that it had now 1,000 members. The extraordinary session of the Society lasted six days, and was evidently planned

in imitation of the meetings of the British Association and similar Institutions, and was carried on with as much *elaboration*. The programme included banquets, lectures, reading of papers, excursions to works, and garden parties and picnics. A very artistic medal had been struck for the occasion, and was worn by all the members, while pocket maps and programmes, together with historical and descriptive accounts of the works to be visited, were distributed, and served to make the business of the gathering clear.

The President of the Society is Viscount Yamato, formerly Minister of Public Works, and whose sagacity was due the founding of the College; its Vice-President, Mr. Watanabe Hachimoto, President of the Imperial University; its Chairmen, Mr. Shida and Mr. Nakamura, both graduates of the Imperial College of Engineering; its secretaries, Mr. Shimadzu and Mr. Matsui. Among the guests on the first day were several Ministers of State, past and present, the Directors and Professors of the various colleges, the President of the Chemical Society, and the editors of most of the leading newspapers. The proceedings were opened in the afternoon of the 3rd of May in the fine hall of the buildings which were erected for the Imperial College of Engineering, at Toranomon, and which were appropriately decorated for the occasion. On the right of the President sat some distinguished guests and honorary members; on the left the officers of the Institution. President Yamato having in a few words opened the proceedings, the history of engineering education and enterprise in Japan, and the nature of the occasion of the extraordinary meeting of the Institution, was given by two of the leading members, Messrs. Tatsuno and Furukichi. In the course of his remarks, the latter announced that His Majesty the Emperor, having heard of the doings of the Institution, had generously expressed his approbation and presented \$1,000 to its permanent funds. Thereafter various congratulatory addresses were delivered, and thus terminated the first part of the proceedings. The evening was taken up with a banquet in a large hall in Shiba Park, which was attended by a large number of guests and of the members who were then in Tokyo. The menu card was a beautiful work of art, being bordered with allegorical figures of architecture, civil engineering, mining, chemistry, naval architecture, mechanical and electrical engineering, in which the old Japanese household deities had been made to do service. It had been designed and prepared by some members of the Society, and showed that engineering had not stamped out art. The toast of the evening was given by H.E. Count Yamagata, in which he commended the work of the Institution. Of special interest was the speech of the Vice-President of the Institution in honour of Mr. Henry Dyer, the organizer and first Principal of the Engineering College, and of H.E. Otori Katsuke, now Minister at Peking, who was for a long time the Director of the same Institution. Dr. Dyer, Mr. Dyer's successor as Principal of the College, was asked to write to Mr. Dyer and convey to him the sentiments of regard and esteem in which he was held.

The 4th and 5th of May were partly occupied with popular lectures on engineering subjects, and with original papers in different departments. As is usual, however, on such occasions, the out-of-door attractions proved the stronger. Excursions to engineering works in and about Tokyo filled the 6th and the 7th of the month, and occupied the time of the members and associates most pleasantly and usefully. The works are now so numerous, and so many invitations had been received, that several had to be declined from the impossibility of finding time to make so many visits. A full description of these excursions would occupy too much of our space, but the following series may be mentioned:—(1) The Shimabashi railway works, Tokyo Bay dredging operations, Ishikawajima docks. (2) Furukawa copper refinery at Fukugawa, where the Ashiwa copper is prepared for the market; fertilizer works, also at Fukugawa, where all sorts of artificial manures are manufactured, which are said to be proving very valuable to Japanese farmers; the Furukawa coke ovens; and the Kanegafuchi cotton spinning mills, which are newly erected, and are of enormous dimensions. (3) Paper mills at Oji, where newspapers, post-cards, and many other kinds of paper are made; the sulphuric acid, bleaching powder, and soda works; the Koishikawa Arsenal; and the Electric Light Company's works at Kojimachi. (4) The Dai Nippon medicine factory near Shimabashi; the steel works of the Naval Department; the Portland cement works at Fushigawa; the Senjū woollen mills. In the evening of the 7th there was a *conversazione* in the works of the Electric Light Company, to which were invited the ladies of the families of members. Many in-

interesting experiments were shown, and the phonograph and other instruments exhibited.

The whole proceedings were carried out with remarkable order, and reflect great credit on the special committees and the secretaries. They are interesting as a striking example of what can be done in a short time by a well-devised system of education, in practically revolutionising the industry of a country. The Institution of Engineers in Japan has already done good work in the ten years of its existence, and it is destined to have most important effects on the future of the country. We wish it all success.—*Industries.*

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, August 8th.

Speaking at the Mansion House, the Marquis of Salisbury said that the political situation was everywhere pacific so far as England was concerned, and that the African Agreement had removed the only cause of quarrel that had recently existed. Referring to Egypt, his Lordship said that the withdrawal of the British forces from that country would greatly depend upon the action of other nations, who might be able to advance or retard the departure of the English troops.

London, August 11th.

General the Hon. Sir Leicester Smyth, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., has been appointed Governor of Gibraltar. The Duke of Connaught takes command at Portsmouth vice Smyth.

Governor Barkly, of Heligoland, has delivered the island over to the Germans. There was but a very slight ceremony.

A great strike has commenced in South Wales.

London, August 13th.

The Czarevitch will visit Stamboul and Palestine during September next, thence travelling through Egypt and India, will call at some of the Treaty Ports of China, and then come on to Japan, returning to Russia in the spring by way of Siberia.

London, August 14th.

Cardinal Newman is dead.

The House of Commons, after protracted sittings, has finished Supply, and Parliament will be prorogued next Tuesday.

[NEWMAN, His Eminence John Henry, Cardinal Deacon of the Holy Roman Church, elder brother of Francis William Newman, was born in London in 1801, educated at Ealing School, whence he proceeded to Trinity College, Oxford, where he graduated B.A. in 1820, taking classical honours, and was elected Fellow of Oriel College. In 1825 he became Vice-Principal of St Alban's Hall, then under the late Dr. (afterwards Archbishop) Whately, and in 1826 Tutor of his College, which post he held until about 1831. In 1828 he accepted the incumbency of St. Mary's, Oxford, with the outlying chaplaincy of Littlemore; and in 1832 he quitted Oxford, and established at Littlemore an ascetic community on a medieval model, over which he presided for three years. He held St. Mary's from 1838 till 1843, where, by his preaching, he gained such influence over the younger members of the university, that he became, in conjunction with Dr. Pusey, the recognised leader of the High Church Party. He took a leading part in the publication of the "Tracts for the Times," to which he contributed the small tract, No. 90, which was severely censured by the university authorities as practically annulling the broad lines of demarcation between the English and Roman Catholic Churches. In Oct. 1842, he succeeded from the Established Church, was received into the Roman communion, and after being ordained priest, became founder of the English Oratory and head of its Birmingham House. In 1844 he was appointed Rector of the newly-founded Catholic University in Dublin, but resigned that post in 1848, and established a school for the sons of Roman Catholic gentry at Edgbaston, near Birmingham. Dr. Newman was elected an honorary Fellow of Trinity College, Oxford, Dec. 28, 1857. It has been frequently asserted that Dr. Newman did not believe in the doctrine of the infallibility of the Roman Pontiff when speaking *ex cathedra* to the University Church on questions of faith or morals. In reply to a criticism to the effect made by a Mr. Capes, Dr. Newman wrote as follows (Sept. 13, 1872): "He assumes that I did not hold or profess the doctrine of the Pope's infallibility till the time of the Vatican Council, where, as I have committed myself to in print again and again from 1845 to 1867. And, on the other hand, as it so happens—though I hold it, as I ever have done—I have had no occasion to profess it, whether in print or otherwise, since that date. Any one who knows my writings will recollect that in so saying I state a simple fact." Dr. Newman was created and proclaimed a Cardinal Deacon by Pope Leo XIII. in 1879. His Eminence has written "Lectures on Romanism and Popular Protestantism" 1837; "Letter to J. Bailett on certain Points of Faith," 1838; "Parochial Sermons," 8 vols., 1838-41; "Lectures on Justification," 1839; "Church of the Fathers," 1840; "Essay on the Miracles of the Middle Ages," 1843; "Annotated Translation of St. Athanasius," 1844-44; "Sermons on the Subject of the Day," 1844; "Sermons on Theory of Religious Relief," 1844; "Development of Christian Doctrine," 1849; "Discourses addressed to Mixed Congregations," 1849; "Life of Apollonius Tyaneus," 1849; "Loss and Gain, or the Story of a Convert," 1849; "Lectures on the History of the Turks as to Christianity," 1854; "Arians of the Fourth Century," 1853; "Callista, a Sketch of the Third Century," "Discourse on the Nature of Universities," and essays on the "Office and Work of Universities," in 1854-55; "Sermons preached on Various

Occasions," 1857; "Lectures and Essays on University Subjects," 1859; and "Letter to Dr. Pusey on his recent 'Evening Lectures,'" 1863. He published an autobiographical record of his life, entitled "Autobiographical Sketch," in 1864; a "Collection of Poems," in 1868; an "Essay on Assent," in 1870; and "A Letter addressed to His Grace the Duke of Norfolk, on occasion of Mr. Gladstone's recent Exposition," 1875.—*Men of the Times.*

TIME TABLES AND STEAMERS.

TOKYO-YOKOHAMA RAILWAY.

DOWN TRAINS LEAVE SHIMBASHI Station at 6.05* 6.40, 8.35, 9.30*, 10.25, and 11.45 a.m., and 1.25, 2.30, 3.55, 4.45†, 5.50, 6.50, 8.30, 9.55, and 11.15† p.m.
UP TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 6.30, 7.20, 8.10, 9.15†, 10.22, and 11.30 a.m., and 12.45, 2, 3, 4.25†, 5.30, 6.35, 7.50, 9.10, 10.05, and 11.05† p.m.
FARES—First-class, *sen* 60; second-class, *sen* 40 and third-class, *sen* 20.

Trains marked * run through without stopping at Omori, Kawasaki, Utsunomiya, and Kawaguchi Stations. Those marked † run through without stopping at Omori, Kawasaki, and Tsurumi Stations.

TOKAIDO RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA (down) at 6.50, 9, 10.20, 11.25 a.m., and 12.40, 2.25, 4.55, 5.35, and 7.45 p.m.; and Kozu (up) at 6.35, 8.40, 9.40, and 11.07 a.m., and 1.17, 2.45, 4.53, 7.25, and 9.40 p.m.

FARES—To Hologaya, first-class *sen* 6, second-class *sen* 4, third-class *sen* 2; to Totsuka, *sen* 18, *sen* 12, *sen* 6; to Ofuna *sen* 30, *sen* 24, *sen* 12; to Fujisawa, *sen* 42, *sen* 28, *sen* 14; to Hiratsuka, *sen* 60, *sen* 44, *sen* 22; to Oiso, *sen* 75, *sen* 50, *sen* 25; and to Kozu, *sen* 93, *sen* 68, *sen* 31.

Down trains at 6.50 a.m. run no further than Kyoto arriving there at 11.30 p.m.; at 10.20 a.m. no further than Nagoya, arriving at 10.10 p.m.; at 12.40 p.m. no further than Shizuoka, arriving there at 6.50 p.m.; at 2.25 p.m. no further than Shizuoka, arriving at 8.48 p.m.; and the train at 5.35 p.m. runs to Kobe, arriving at 12.45 p.m. next day.

A tramway runs between Kozu and Yokoto (distance 4 1/2 miles). It may be hired between Yokoto and Miyakojima (distance 1 1/2 miles).

OFUNA-YOKOSUKA RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE OFUNA (down) at 7.30 and 9.40 a.m., and 12.05, 1.30, 4.03, 6.14, and 8.30 p.m.; KAMAKURA (down) at 7.41 and 9.51 a.m., and 12.10, 1.41, 4.14, 6.25, and 8.41 p.m.; and ZUSHIMURA (down) at 7.50 and 10 a.m., and 12.25, 1.50, 4.23, 6.34, and 8.50 p.m.; YOKOSUKA (up) at 6.45, 8.55, and 11.20 a.m., and 12.50, 3, 5.10, and 7.45 p.m.; ZUSHIMURA (up) at 7.01, 9.12, and 11.36 a.m., and 1.06, 3.16, 5.26, and 8.01 p.m.; and KAMAKURA (up) at 7.11, 9.22, and 11.46 a.m., and 1.15, 3.26, 5.36 and 8.10 p.m.

FARES—To Kamakura, first-class *sen* 9, second-class *sen* 6, third-class *sen* 3; to Zushimura *sen* 15, *sen* 10, *sen* 5; and to Yokosuka *sen* 30, *sen* 20, *sen* 10.

TOKYO-SHIOGAMA RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE URNO (down) at 6, 6.40, 8.50, and 11.40 a.m., and 2.40 and 5.40 p.m.; UTSUNOMIYA (down) at 10 a.m., and 3.00 and 5.50 p.m.; SHIRAKAWA (down) at 8 a.m., and 12.30 and 5.41 p.m.; KORIYAMA (down) at 9.25 a.m., and 1.54 and 6.58 p.m.; FUKUSHIMA (down) at 7.35 and 11.33 a.m., and 3.45 p.m.; SENDAI (down) at 6.15, 10.25, and 10.40 a.m., and 2.30, 6.35, and 6.50 p.m.

TRAINS LEAVE ICHINOSAKI (up) at 6.40 a.m., and 2.50 p.m.; SHIOGAMA (up) at 7 and 11.05 a.m., and 3.10 and 7.15 p.m.; SENDAI (up) at 7.35 and 11.40 a.m., and 3.45 p.m.; FUKUSHIMA (up) at 6.40 and 10.26 a.m., and 2.36 p.m.; KORIYAMA (up) at 8.29 a.m., and 12.22 and 4.28 p.m.; SHIRAKAWA (up) at 6.35 and 9.47 a.m., and 1.40 p.m.; UTSUNOMIYA (up) at 6.20 and 9.05 a.m., and 12.18, 4.14, and 6.33 p.m.

FARES—Ueno to Utsunomiya, first-class *sen* 2, second-class *sen* 1.32, third-class *sen* 66; to Koriyama *sen* 4.10, *sen* 2.74, *sen* 1.37; to Fukushima *sen* 5, *sen* 3.32, *sen* 1.66; to Sendai *sen* 6.45, *sen* 4.30, *sen* 2.15; to Shiohama *sen* 7.65, *sen* 4.50, *sen* 2.25.

TOKYO-MAEBASHI RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE TOKYO (Ueno) (down) at 6, 6.40, 8.50, and 11.40 a.m., and 2.40 and 5.40 p.m.; and MAEBASHI (up) at 6, 8.55, and 11.50 a.m., and 2.50 and 5.50 p.m.

SHINJIKU-HACHIOJI RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE SHINJIKU, TOKYO, (down) at 6.55 and 9.55 a.m., and 12.32, 4, and 7 p.m.; and HACHIOJI (up) at 5.25, 8.25, and 11.25 a.m., and 2.20 and 5.30 p.m.
FARES—First-class *sen* 90; second-class *sen* 60 third-class *sen* 30.

TAKASAKI-YOKOKAWA RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE TAKASAKI (down) at 6.30 and 9.25 a.m., and 12.20 and 3.15 p.m.; and YOKOKAWA (up) at 8 and 11 a.m., and 1.50 and 4.55 p.m.

FARES—First-class, *sen* 75; second-class, *sen* 45 third-class, *sen* 25.

TAKEOTOYOFU RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE TAKEOTOYU (up) at 5.40 and 10.40 a.m., and OFU (down) at 5.55 and 8.55 p.m.

FARES—Second-class, 26 *sen*, third-class, 13 *sen*.

KOZU-KOBE RAILWAY.

DOWN TRAINS LEAVE Kozu at 8.30 a.m., and 12.50 2.13, 4.57, and 7.10 p.m.; GOTOHAMA at 9.52 a.m., and 1.32, 3.35, 6.18, and 8.32 p.m.; NUMAZU at 5.20 and 10.40 a.m., and 2.30, 4.27, 7.09, and 9.24 p.m.; SHIZUOKA at 7.20 a.m., and 12.19, 4.12, 6.50, and 10.59 p.m.; HAMAMATSU at 6 and 10 a.m., and 2.40 and 6.45 p.m., and 1.16 a.m.; TOYOHASHI at 7.10 and 11.10 a.m., and 3.39 and 7.45 p.m., and 2.14 a.m.; OFU at 8.59 a.m., and 1.06, 5.22, and 9.28 p.m., and 4.02 a.m.; NAGOYA at 9.45, and 11.50 a.m., and 2 and 6.08 p.m., and 5 a.m.; Gifu at 10.53 a.m., and 1, 3.06, and 7.09 p.m., and 6 a.m.; OGAKI at 11.24 a.m., and 1.28, 3.33, and 7.38 p.m., and 6.28 a.m.; MAIBARA at 9.45 a.m., and 1, 2.49, 5.07, and 8.55 p.m., and 7.45 a.m.; HIKONE at 10.05 a.m., and 1.18, 3.02, 5.25, and 9.00 p.m., and 7.58 a.m.; BABA (Oisu) at 12, 3.15, 4.40, 7.10, and 10.43 p.m., and 9.34 a.m.; Kiyoto at 12.45, 4.05, 5.35, and 8 p.m., and 10.14 a.m.; and OSAKA at 2.25, 5.35, 7.20, and 9.50 p.m., and 11.42 a.m.

UP TRAINS LEAVE Kozu at 5.55 and 9.55 a.m., and 1.55, 3.45, and 5.30 p.m.; OSAKA at 7.06 and 11.06 a.m., and 3.06, 5, and 6.36 p.m.; Kiyoto at 5.35 and 8.40 a.m., and 12.40, 4.36, 6.40, and 8.05 p.m.; BABA (Oisu) at 6.18, and 9.31 a.m., and 1.30, 5.25, 7.31, and 8.50 p.m.; HIKONE at 7.56, and 11.05 a.m., and 3.03, 7.02, 9.08, and 10.25 p.m.; MAIBARA at 8.13, and 11.20 a.m., and 3.19, 7.20, and 10.42 p.m.; OGAKI at 9.30 a.m., and 12.36, 4.37, 8.46, and 11.54 p.m.; Gifu at 9.57 a.m., and 1.02, 5.04, and 9.15 p.m., and 12.17 a.m.; NAGOYA at 6, and 11 a.m., and 2.10 and 6.20 p.m., and 1.09 a.m.; OFU at 6.43 and 11.44 a.m., and 2.56 and 7.04 p.m., and 1.41 a.m.; TOYOHASHI at 8.30 a.m., and 1.30, 4.42, and 8.52 p.m., and 3.17 a.m.; HAMAMATSU at 6.30 and 9.45 a.m., and 2.45 and 6 p.m., and 4.25 a.m.; SHIZUOKA at 5.15 and 9.07 a.m., and 12.45, 5.20, and 9.45 p.m., and 7.08 a.m.; NUMAZU at 7.03 and 10.46 a.m., and 2.24 and 7.14 p.m., and 8.43 a.m.; GOTOHAMA at 8.15 and 11.58 a.m., and 3.38 and 8.28 p.m., and 9.53 a.m.; and Kozu at 9.40 a.m., and 1.17, 4.53, and 9.47 p.m., and 11.07 a.m.

FARES—Kozu to Gotohama: first-class, *sen* 60, second-class *sen* 44, third-class *sen* 22; to Numazu *sen* 1.11, *sen* 74, *sen* 37; to Shizuoka *sen* 2.13, *sen* 1.42, *sen* 71; to Hamamatsu *sen* 3.57, *sen* 2.38, *sen* 1.19; to Toyohashi *sen* 4.23, *sen* 2.82, *sen* 1.41; to Ofu *sen* 5.22, *sen* 3.48, *sen* 1.74; to Nagoya *sen* 5.58, *sen* 3.72, *sen* 1.80; to Gifu *sen* 6.15, *sen* 4.10, *sen* 2.05; to Ogaki *sen* 6.42, *sen* 4.28, *sen* 2.14; to Maibara *sen* 7.05, *sen* 4.70, *sen* 2.35; to Hikone *sen* 7.17, *sen* 4.78, *sen* 2.39; to Baba *sen* 8.10, *sen* 5.40, *sen* 2.70; to Kiyoto *sen* 8.40, *sen* 5.60, *sen* 2.80; to Osaka *sen* 9.21, *sen* 6.14, *sen* 3.07; and to Kobe *sen* 9.81, *sen* 6.54, *sen* 3.27.

The down train at 8.32 a.m. runs no further than Kyoto, arriving there at 11.20 p.m.; at 12.52 p.m. no further than Nagoya, arriving at 10.10 p.m.; at 5.05 p.m. no further than Shizuoka, arriving at 9 p.m.; and the train at 7.00 p.m. runs to Kobe, arriving at 12.50 p.m. next day. The up train at 5.55 a.m. runs no further than Shizuoka, arriving there at 8.40 p.m.; at 6.55 a.m. and 1.45 p.m. no further than Nagoya, arriving respectively at 6.07 and 10.15 p.m.; and the train at 5.30 p.m. runs to Shimbashi arriving at 1.40 p.m. next day.

OYAMA-MAEBASHI RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE OYAMA (down) at 7.15 and 9.45 a.m., and 2.15 and 5.20 p.m.; KIRIU (down) at 5, 9.11, and 11.40 a.m., and 4.10 p.m.; MAEBASHI (up) at 6.12 and 10.35 a.m., and 1.55 and 6.35 p.m.; and KIRIU (up) at 5.10, 7.13, and 11.37 a.m., and 2.57 p.m.

FARES—Oyama to Kiriu, first-class *sen* 97, second-class *sen* 66, third-class *sen* 33; to Maebashi, first-class *sen* 1.51, second-class *sen* 1.2, third-class *sen* 51.

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

STEAMERS LEAVE the Nippon Hatoba daily at 7.55 and 10.30 a.m., and 1.45 and 4.00 p.m.; and LEAVE YOKOSUKA at 7.10 and 10.30 a.m., and 1.30, and 4.00 p.m.—*Fare, sen* 20.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki, Kobe	per N. Y. K.	Friday, Aug. 15th.
From America	per P. & M. Co.	Thursday, Aug. 21st.*
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Tuesday, Aug. 19th.†
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday Aug. 17th.‡
From Europe, via Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, Aug. 22nd.§
From America	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 31st.¶
From Canada, &c.	per C. P. M. Co.	Thursday, Aug. 28th.¶

* China left San Francisco via Victoria, B.C., on July 31st. † Bombay left Hongkong on August 21st. ‡ Fernia left Kobe on August 16th. § Sydney left Hongkong on August 13th. ¶ Helig left San Francisco on August 12th. ¶ Straits of Belle Isle left Vancouver on August 12th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd.	Sunday, Aug. 17th.
For Europe, via Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 17th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, Aug. 19th.
For America	per P. & M. Co.	Wednesday, Aug. 20th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Aug. 23rd.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. M. Co.	Thursday, Aug. 28th.
For America	per U. & O. Co.	Tuesday, Sept. 2nd.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Gleneagle, British steamer, 1,837, Park, 8th August.—Shanghai 4th August, Ballast.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 8th August.—Shanghai and ports 2nd August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,182, Kenderdine, 9th August.—Otaru 5th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ping-Suey, British steamer, 1,882, Jaques, 9th August.—Kobe 7th August, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Virginia, British steamer, 1,515, W. Knott, 9th August.—Rangoon 20th July, Rice.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Alberia, British steamer, 2,214, Welson, 10th August.—Kobe 9th August, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Highfield, British steamer, 1,665, W. P. Casson, 10th August.—Hongkong 1st August, Rice.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Plaver (6), gunboat, Captain Earnest G. Rason, 10th August.—Kobe 8th August.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Brown, 10th August.—Kobe 9th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Apenrade, German steamer, 1,476, Hohlmann, 11th August.—Yokosuka 11th August, Ballast.—Mauritlan, Heimann & Co.

Lydia, German steamer, 1,117, F. Forch, 12th August.—Hongkong 5th August, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Glendower, British steamer, 650, Hodge, 12th August.—Batoum 26th June, Oil.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

Oni Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Christensen, 12th August.—Kobe 11th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,312, P. Hussey, 12th August.—Hakodate 10th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 13th August.—Hakodate 11th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 704, Okuma, 13th August.—Hakodate 13th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 596, Kasuga, 13th August.—Hakodate 11th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

General Werder, German steamer, 1,820, Eichel, 13th August.—Hongkong 8th August, General.—H. Alvens & Co., Nachf.

Batavia, British steamer, 1,661, J. C. Williamson, 14th August.—Vancouver, B.C., 28th July, General.—C. P. M. S.S. Co.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,357, Drummond, 14th August.—Kobe 13th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benvenuto, British steamer, 1,493, Thompson, 15th August.—Kobe 13th August, General.—Cornes & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,878, W. D. Mudie, 9th August.—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Oceanic, British steamer, 3,107, W. M. Smith, 9th August.—San Francisco, General.—O. & G. S.S. Co.

Fuyo, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 9th August.—Nagasaki, General.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.

Mike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,082, Sommer, 9th August.—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 9th August.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hothow, British steamer, 896, Sloss, 10th August.—Kobe, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Drummond, 10th August.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,197, Gosch, 11th August.—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,182, Kenderdine, 12th August.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 12th August.—Shanghai and ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Meiji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,010, Captain Allen, 13th August.—A cruise.—Lighthouse Department.

Breconshire, British steamer, 1,630, Jackson, 13th August.—Kobe, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,312, P. Hussey, 13th August.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Austriana, British ship, 1,519, Campbell, 13th August.—Puget Sound, Ballast.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Alberia, British steamer, 2,214, Nelson, 14th August.—Kobe, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Gleneagles, British steamer, 1,837, Park, 14th August.—Kobe, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Oni Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Christensen, 14th August.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, McCullum, 14th August.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Plaver (6), gunboat, Captain Earnest G. Rason, 14th August.—Hakodate.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Miss Gavel, Miss Ito, Messrs. C. Braess, F. Scheidt, K. Ito, T. Nishida, L. L. Forbes, D. S. Fuller, and W. Salmund in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. Yamada, Messrs. Yoshino, Kawasaki, and Sonoda in second class, and 57 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Satsuma Maru*, from Kobe:—Mrs. Nohara and infant, and Mr. Faichney in cabin; 2 Europeans and 2 Japanese in second class, and 50 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Oni Maru*, from Kobe:—Miss Bourne, Miss Anderson, Messrs. J. Grieve, A. G. Stephens, A. Ito, R. Itsumura, Miss Inaba, Miss Waka, and Mr. Furoshi in cabin; 4 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, from Hakodate:—Mr. Roberts in cabin.

Per German steamer *General Werder*, from Hongkong:—Mr. F. M. Kibero (Spanish Consul), Mr. M. Cordero (Chancellor Consul), Mrs. T. Diebes, Messrs. O. Mueller, F. Hesp, F. E. T. Haimah, Eschabloy, Lo Kin Yuen, Wong See, and Calimoodin in cabin; 37 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Batavia*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Bishop Wilson, Messrs. M. Woolf, G. E. Gauntlett, G. H. Scindmore, Captain Harvey, R. N. M. G. Walker, Mr. E. A. Brocklehurst, and Dr. Anderson in cabin; 4 Japanese in steerage.

For Kobe: Miss McGregor in cabin. For Shanghai: Mr. A. M. Bisset in cabin. For Hongkong: Mrs. A. Holt, Mrs. Dong Choi, Miss F. Meade, Mr. and Mrs. S. L. Gracey, Miss M. Gracey, Messrs. S. F. Gracey, H. M. Gracey, D. F. Gracey, Rev. Dr. Dike, Mr. D. C. Worcester, and Mr. F. S. Bourns in cabin; 66 Chinese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Lieutenant Renny, Lieutenant Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. Kutzochmar, 4 children and servant, Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Taylor, Messrs. C. Wagner, J. Rickett, H. K. Bather, T. W. Hammond, and W. S. Martin in cabin; 2 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, for San Francisco:—Mr. C. Vivian Ladds, Mr. E. Fontaine, Mr. and Mrs. C. Tooley, Mr. J. W. Blockblinn, Mrs. Emerson, Mrs. Field, Messrs. C. H. C. Muller, Hee Choi Chune, A. E. Dowler, Mrs. Read and child, Messrs. Liebard, J. S. Fearon, E. Halton, A. Kleinwort, P. Brunat, D. S. Fuller, A. Hoge, F. H. Mowatt, A. B. Walker, M. Bethum, F. Lutscher, R. Duval, M. Raspe, E. Wismer, S. P. Simond, Commander Fautroix, Commander Boissier, Messrs. A. S. Pagden, L. Davidson, R. W. Deas, O. C. Flemmick, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Davis, Misses Davis (3), Mr. Davis, Jun., Mr. A. Kimpen, Rev. K. Ibuka, Mr. H. C. Sutton, Sir W. Levinge, Dr. A. E. Broomall, Messrs. J. R. Foster, R. L. Foster, Yoshida, Hoo Sui Ting, W. H. Caldwell, C. G. Moon, Wong Wing Yet, Mrs. H. S. Jefferys and child, Mr. Woanyou, Miss Fuji Tsukamoto, Messrs. Jules Blom, E. Kildayle, and M. Sato in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Urim, Mrs. Nakamura, Lieutenant W. M. Constans, Messrs. C. Braess, Ludlow, F. Aglen, H. J. Marshall, Faichney, Nagano, Weldron, and Rev. G. H. Jones in cabin; Mrs. Nozaki and child, Miss Nozaki, and Mr. Tamase in second class, and 72 passengers in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, for San Francisco:—

	TRA.	NEW.	OTHER.	TOTAL.
	AMERICAN.	EUROPEAN.	ASIAN.	
Shanghai	1,560	457	1,359	3,376
Hyogo	270	1,925	1,843	3,978
Yokohama	5,089	1,070	2,706	9,865
Hongkong	1,734	—	268	2,002
Total	9,543	3,491	6,214	19,248

	SILK.	OTHER.	TOTAL.
	FRANCE.	OTHER.	
Shanghai	—	56	56
Hongkong	—	199	199
Yokohama	—	354	354
Total	—	609	609

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Silk for France 72 bales.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, Captain Swain, reports:—Left Shanghai the 2nd August at 11.45 a.m.; had fresh to strong N.E. winds. Arrived at Nagasaki the 4th at 7 a.m. and left at 6.15 p.m. Arrived at Shimomoseki the 5th at 7.45 a.m. and left at 8.20 a.m.; had fine weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Kobe the 6th at 6.15 a.m. and left the 7th at noon; had light S.W. winds with pleasant weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 8th August at 7.15 p.m.

The German steamer *Lydia*, Captain Forch, reports:—Left Hongkong the 5th August at 7 p.m. During the passage fine weather to Ooshima; thence heavy sea from east and squalls with rain from N.W. to N.E. About 27 miles S.W. by W. from Omai-saki took of 11 men from a Japanese coaster which was in sinking condition; the wreck lies in 34° 21' N. and 137° 47' E.; 3 to 4 miles from the wreck quantities of wood in the water. Arrived at Yokohama the 12th August at 9 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Captain Hussey, reports:—Left Hakodate the 10th August at 8 a.m.; had light southerly winds and fine weather; passed Shiriya-saki at 00.30 p.m. with light south wind and fog continuing throughout the night. Arrived at Oginohama the 11th at 9.40 a.m. and left at 3.30 p.m.; had moderate south-east wind and cloudy weather increasing through the night to a strong S.E. gale and high sea; passed Imbuoye the 12th at 8.10 a.m. with a strong easterly gale and high sea; passed Noshima at 2.30 p.m. Arrived at Yokohama at 7 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, Captain Young, reports:—Left Hakodate the 11th August at 8 a.m.; had easterly breeze and dull misty weather to 4 p.m.; thence dense fog to midnight with southerly breeze; the 12th at 7 a.m. off Kinkasan gentle southerly breeze and fine clear weather; after rounding Kinkasan came into a heavy southerly sea which we kept to Noshima; from Noshima the 12th had easterly to E.N.E. moderate to fresh breeze and fine clear weather with occasional squalls of rain; passed Imbuoye light at 11.40 p.m. same weather and heavy sea; wind hauled N.N.E., moderate wind sea to port. Arrived at Yokohama at 10 a.m.

The German steamer *General Werder*, Captain Eichel, reports:—Left Hongkong the 8th August at 4.15 p.m.; had through the Formosa Channel calm and light southerly winds with fine weather; thence to port fresh breezes from S.S.W. to W.S.W. with rough sea. Arrived at Yokohama the 14th August at 0.50 a.m.

The British steamer *Batavia*, Captain Williams, reports:—Left Vancouver, B.C., the 28th July at noon; experienced moderate westerly winds and fine weather throughout the voyage; sighted Imbuoye light the 14th August at 2 a.m. Arrived at Yokohama at 2 p.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Practically nothing doing in Yarns, and prices are unchanged but quite nominal. A few bales only have been sold during the week, and values droop continually. Shittings slumber peacefully, and no business is done. Dealers look for some trade by the end of the month, but talk of low prices, especially for those kinds of which the present stock consists. In Velvets and Italian Cloth there are nothing beyond retail transactions.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

Grey Shittings—8 1/2 yds. 39 inches	\$1.35	to 1.90
Grey Shittings—9 1/2 yds. 45 inches	1.65	to 2.54
T. Cloth—7 1/2 yds. 32 inches	1.30	to 1.50
Indigo Shittings—12 yds. 41 inches	1.25	to 1.60
Prints—Assorted, 24 yds. 30 inches	1.70	to 2.00
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	0.07	to 0.11
Turkey Reds—1 1/2 to 2 1/2 yds. 24 inches	1.02	to 1.25
Turkey Reds—2 1/2 to 3 1/2 yds. 24 inches	1.25	to 1.55
Turkey Reds—3 1/2 to 4 1/2 yds. 24 inches	1.75	to 2.05
Velvets—Black, 35 yds. 22 inches	4.50	to 6.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yds. 42 1/2 inches	0.50	to 0.65
Taffetas—12 yds. 45 inches	0.35	to 2.25

WOOLLENES.

Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches	\$4.00 to 5.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.26 1/2 to 30
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.21 to 26
Medium	0.17 to 21 1/2
Common	0.13 to 17
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 32 inches	0.30 to 0.45
Cloths—Pilets, 51 1/2 to 56 inches	0.50 to 0.60
Cloths—Presidents, 51 1/2 to 56 inches	0.35 to 0.60
Cloths—Union, 51 1/2 to 56 inches	0.30 to 0.38
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3 1/2 lb, per lb	—

COTTON VARIETIES.

Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	28.00 to 28.00
Nos. 16/24, Medium	28.00 to 29.00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	29.00 to 29.75
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	11.00 to 12.00
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	30.25 to 30.50
Nos. 28/32, Medium	30.50 to 32.25
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	32.50 to 33.25
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	36.50 to 38.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	36.00 to 37.50
No. 42s, Two-fold	36.00 to 39.50
Nos. 20s, Bombay	74.00 to 80.00
No. 16s, Bombay	74.50 to 79.50
Nos. 10/14, Bombay	—

METALS.

Stagnation seems to be the order of the day here as well as in other departments of the import market. We leave quotations unchanged, although doubtless holders would have to take less if they want to move at all. Buyers, however, are very shy, and seem disposed to stay out of the market altogether.

Flat Bars, 1 inch	\$2.70 to 2.80
Flat Bars, 1 1/2 inch	2.80 to 2.90
Round and square up to 1 1/2 inch	2.70 to 2.90
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.
Nailrod, small size	Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	3.00 to 3.15
Sheet Iron	3.30 to 3.50
Galvanized Iron sheets	6.00 to 6.50
Wire Nails, assorted	4.00 to 4.50
Pin Plates, per box	4.80 to 5.10
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.30 to 1.35

KEROSENE.

Market is very quiet, and all quotations more or less nominal. Dealers are smart enough to ask a fresh reduction in price with every advance in Sterling exchange. No fresh arrivals, but in spite of fair deliveries the stock is more than ample for prospective requirements.

Chester	Nom. \$1.75 to 1.77 1/2
Comet	Nom. 1.70 to 1.72 1/2
Devoe	Nom. 1.67 1/2 to 1.70
Russian	Nom. 1.65 to 1.67 1/2

SUGAR.

With high prices ruling for Takao, only 3,400 piculs, at \$3.65 per picul, have been sold. White Refined sorts have moved off to a small extent, namely, 1,500 piculs at \$7.46 1/2 per picul, 150 piculs at \$7.20, and 332 piculs at \$6.20.

White Refined	\$5.80 to 8.40
Mailla	3.80 to 4.60
Taiwanfoo	— to —
Pentaina	3.00 to 3.40
Namiida	2.90 to 3.20
Cake	3.70 to 4.10
Brown Takan	4.55 to 4.60

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last report was dated the 8th instant; since then settlements are entered as 361 piculs divided thus:—*Filatures* 149, *Re-reels* 146, and *Kakeda* 66. In addition to these figures Japanese have shipped 82 bales, making a total business for export equal to 445 piculs for the week.

The buying has been somewhat spasmodic; for two or three days nothing would be done, and then there would be quite a brisk trade for the next two or three days, resulting in purchases as named above. As before, the demand seems to be almost entirely for the United States. The sharp rise in Exchange does not apparently deter some very determined buyers, although the majority of shippers are content to wait a little longer.

We can make but little change in our quotations, the only thing that will help us is a quiet market and absence of transactions for some days which would bring holders down to their bearings. Or, on the other hand, some sensible reduction in the rates of sterling exchange would undoubtedly assist matters, but of this at the moment there appears to be no sign.

Supplies come in freely, the stock list now being close upon 7,000 piculs; the quality of present Summer reeling is superb, and with some disposition on holders part to meet buyers there would undoubtedly be considerable business; but while holders are so exceedingly stubborn there is but a very poor chance for any large transactions.

News from consuming Markets is dull and depressing. Cables are in town reporting tight

money in New York, which seems to interfere with the progress of the silk market there. In Europe manufacturers appear content to work along with Italians, and leave Japanese alone at any like present lay down cost. This being so, there seems nothing for shippers but to wait with what patience they can for some turn in the tide.

There have been two shipping opportunities since we last wrote, both on the 9th instant. The *Oceanic* took 345 bales for New York, while the *Ancona* had 72 bales for Lyons. These departures bring the present export figures to 2,030 piculs, against 3,684 last year and 3,814 on the 15th August, 1888.

Hanks.—Not a single bale has been sold to foreigners during the week and quotations are quite nominal; dealers report the home trade willing to pay these prices and that if the market does not improve they will bring down very few hanks to Yokohama this season.

Filatures.—Considerable business has been done in these, mostly in full sizes. *Kaimisha* and equal quality thereto have brought \$670; while *Tokosha* and similar quality have been done at \$660; buyers now pause, striving for some further reduction which at the moment holders will not grant. In fine sizes for Europe very little has been done; a few small lots number 2 quality Mino and Bishu bringing from \$600 to \$620 per picul according to *Re-reels*.

Re-reels.—A few parcels of well known clips have been taken for the States principally by one buyer who has paid \$630 for Ichimurasha and Kihana brands. Inferior qualities are noted at \$605 and with the present rate of Exchange these silks look dear enough.

Kakeda.—Some amount of trade has been put through on the following bases:—Kinko, \$635; Taiyo, \$627 1/2; Hana-musume, \$607 1/2; Red Lion, \$607 1/2; Tiger, \$590; Black Lion, \$587 1/2.

Oshu.—In Oshu sorts nothing whatever has been done.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No. 14	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshiu)	—
Hanks—No. 24 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 24 (Joshiu)	—
Hanks—No. 24 to 3	Nom. \$540 to 550
Hanks—No. 3	—
Hanks—No. 14	Nom. 510 to 515
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	—
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	675 to 680
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	653 to 670
Filatures—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	655 to 660
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	630 to 640
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Shinshu and Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	640 to 650
Re-reels—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	630 to 635
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	620 to 625
Re-reels—No. 24, 14/19 deniers	600 to 610
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	570 to 580
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No. 1	630 to 640
Kakedas—No. 14	620 to 625
Kakedas—No. 2	610 to 615
Kakedas—No. 24	600 to 605
Kakedas—No. 3	590 to 595
Kakedas—No. 34	580 to 585
Kakedas—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 24	—
Hamatuki—No. 1, 2	Nom. 545 to 550
Hamatuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 24	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 15th August, 1890:—

	Season 1890-91.	1889-90.	1888-89.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
Europe	462	1,937	2,462
America	1,515	1,705	1,340
Total	1,977	3,642	3,802
	Piculs	3,634	3,814
Settlements and Direct	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Export from 1st July	2,050	4,600	3,500
Stock, 15th August	6,950	3,900	6,300
Available supplies to date	9,000	8,500	9,800

WASTE SILK.

Settlements in this branch reach 260 piculs for the week, all *Noshi*.

It will be seen from the above that our market has at last opened; still the amount of business is not large, buyers are by no means eager, and sellers hesitate to accept the prices which shippers are able to offer them; meanwhile, the stock increases and is now fully 8,300 piculs. Exchange is high, causing present purchases to lay down at an almost prohibitive cost; and it looks as though there could not possibly be a large or healthy trade unless quotations recede.

There has been no export during the week; and the figures therefore remain at 727 piculs to date, against 383 last year, and 1,148 on the 15th August, 1888.

Pierced Cocoons.—These come in daily, but so far no business has been done; cables forwarded

to consuming markets fail to bring in orders at present quotations.

Noshi.—In this department all the business of the week has been done; it consists principally of *Yoshu* (grading good medium and under) which has been settled at from \$72 to \$78 per picul first cost; beyond this there have been small purchases of *Filature* at \$147 1/2; *Oshu* at \$135; and *Kuwagoya* at \$110.

Kibiso.—No move in this as yet; holders require from \$110 to \$115 for good to best *Shinshu Filature*, but with present high rate of Exchange buyers hold off. The quotations in Dollars are about the same as this time last year; but news from consumers does not warrant buyers in paying these figures while Exchange stands at 3/9 against 3/2 a year ago.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	\$140 to \$150
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	130 to 135
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	135 to 140
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshiu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshiu, Good	80
Noshi-ito—Joshiu, Ordinary	70 to 75
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	115 to 120
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	100 to 110
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good to Fair	—
Kibiso—Joshiu, Middling to Common	—
Kibiso—Hachioji, Good	—
Kibiso—Hachioji, Medium to Low	—
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	15 to 10
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 15th Aug., 1890:—

	Season 1890-91.	1889-90.	1888-89.
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Waste Silk	727	364	1,148
Pierced Cocoons	—	19	—
	727	383	1,148
Settlements and Direct	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Export from 1st July	600	1,000	260
Stock, 15th August	8,300	5,900	5,440
Available supplies to date	8,900	6,900	5,700

Exchange has fluctuated with news from the London Silver market, and rates close strong:—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits 3/8 1/2; Documents 3/8 1/2; 6m/s. Credits 3/9; Documents 3/9 1/2; NEW YORK, 30 d/s. U.S.G., \$90; 4m/s. U.S.G., \$91; PARIS, 4m/s., fcs. 4 69; 6m/s. fcs. 4 71.

Estimated Silk Stock, 15th Aug., 1890:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	180	Cocoons	770
Filatures	3,800	Noshi-ito	2,330
Re-reels	2,600	Kibiso	4,670
Kakeda	200	Mawata	350
Oshu	105	Sundries	180
Taysnam Kinds	5		
Total piculs	6,950	Total piculs	8,300

TEA.

Tea has been taken to the extent of 5,095 piculs for the week, and Common to Medium continue to be in most request, the market being firm with no alteration in prices. Total receipts to date are already 5,000 piculs more than the whole season 1889-90. Fourth pickings, consisting entirely of low grade leaf, are now daily arriving, and probably we shall have a fifth picking before the season is over. The Suez Canal steamers are taking Teas for New York at the remarkably low rate of 25/- per ton of 40 cubic feet. The American ship *Eclipse* is shortly due from Kobe to fill here for Tacoma.

	PER PICUL.
Common	\$10 & under
Good Common	10 to 12
Medium	13 to 14
Good Medium	15 to 16
Fine	17 to 19
Finest	20 to 22
Choice	23 to 25
Choicest	—
Extra Choicest	—

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has again fluctuated, but the latest movement is another rise.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/8 1/2
Sterling—Bank 6 months' sight	3/9
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/9 1/2
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/9 1/2
On Paris—Bank sight	4/67 to 4/68
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4/77
On Hongkong—Bank sight	14 1/2 dis.
On Hongkong—Private to days' sight	14 1/2 dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72
On Shanghai—Private to days' sight	72 1/2
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	90
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	91
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	91
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	91

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 8.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, AUGUST 23RD, 1890.

通信省認可

[VOL. XIV.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, AUGUST 23, 1890.

DEATHS

At Zurich, his native place, in the 66th year of his age, H. C. MOORE, Esq., formerly of Japan.
On the 22nd August, at his residence, No. 13, Bluff, Yokohama, GEORGE WAUCHOPE, in his 50th year.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE father of Count Sô expired on the 13th instant.

H.I.H. PRINCESS KITASHIRAKAWA left the capital on the 18th instant for Nikko.

MR. WATANABE, Japanese Minister to Austria, will leave Japan on the 14th September next for his post.

VISCOUNT INOUE, President of the Railway Bureau, and his family, left Tokyo on the 19th instant for Koza.

COMMANDER MOCHIHARA, naval attaché of the Japanese Legation at London, returned to Japan on the 17th instant.

MR. KAWAKITA, Consul at San Francisco, was ordered by the Foreign Department on the 18th instant to return to Japan.

DURING the period from the 5th May to the 24th July last the number of persons attacked by influenza in Osaka was 4,025.

RAILWAY communication between Okawara and Iwanuma, which had been suspended in consequence of the damage to the line, was re-opened on the 19th instant.

THE Regulations relating to Costs in Civil Cases were promulgated on the 15th instant over the signatures of Counts Yamagata and Yama-

da, by Law No. 64, which will come into force on and after the 1st January, 1891. The Regulations consist of sixteen articles.

It is stated that the Senate will be abolished next month, when about forty Senators and secretaries will be appointed officials of the Bureau for Affairs of the Imperial Diet.

RAILWAY communication between Kuwaori and Shiraiishi, which had been suspended in consequence of the damage to the line, was re-opened on the 17th instant.

RAILWAY communication between Kuroiso and Shirakawa, which had been stopped for some time in consequence of the damage to the line by flooding, was re-opened on the 15th instant.

AN ordinary meeting of the Cabinet was held on the 19th instant, and was attended by Counts Yamagata, Matsukata, and Oki, Viscount Yoshikawa, and Mr. Mutsu, the proceedings closing at 3 p.m.

FIRE broke out on the night of the 17th inst., in the office of the *Tokyo Asahi Shimbun* at Takiyamacho, Kyobashi, the place being partially destroyed before the flames were extinguished.

THE usual meeting of the Cabinet was held on the 15th instant, at which Counts Yamagata, Yamada, Saigo, Matsukata, and Goto, Viscount Aoki, and Messrs. Mutsu and Yoshikawa were present, the proceedings lasting till a late hour.

AT a meeting of members of the Kodo Club, Yokohama, held on the 18th instant, it was decided that the club should be dissolved. On the same day a motion of dissolution was passed at a meeting of members of the Kanagawa Club, Yokohama.

IN the Exhibition, articles valued at yen 5,875.102 were sold during the week ended the 28th ult., showing an increase of yen 3,226.082 as compared with the previous week and making a total of yen 113,229.121 since the opening of the Exhibition.

TWO women were killed by lightning on the 11th instant, at Kinekimura, Kamikado-gun, Shimane Prefecture. On the same day three houses were entirely destroyed and two men were killed by lightning at Minomura, Ana-gun, Hiroshima Prefecture.

AT a meeting of members of the Central Sanitary Association, held on the 19th instant at the Home Department, it was decided that physicians who neglect to report to the Authorities persons attacked by cholera should be suspended from practice.

THE town office at Akechimachi, Ena-gun, Gifu Prefecture, was destroyed by lightning on the afternoon of the 11th instant, one man being killed. On the same day one man was killed and two women injured by lightning at Imaichicho, Kamikado-gun, Shimane Prefecture.

A MAN named Sakamoto Senjiro, a clerk of the Finance Section in the Imperial Body Guards, was convicted in the Military Court on the 19th instant of having committed a breach of trust and stolen the sum of yen 5,000. He was sentenced to eleven years' penal servitude.

ACCORDING to a report of the Fukushima Prefectural Government, four hundred and thirty-three houses floated away, two hundred and seventy were destroyed *in situ*, and five thou-

sand nine hundred and fifty-one were inundated. Thirty-six persons were drowned by the floods which occurred in Fukushima Prefecture on the 7th instant.

THE Kyoto Chamber of Commerce presented a memorial to the Agricultural and Commercial Department on the 14th instant, asking that the Regulations as to Chambers of Commerce which have been rejected by the Senate should be promulgated, as they are of pressing importance.

AN outbreak of fire took place on the night of the 9th instant in a house at Higawa-mura, Nishitama-gun, Tokyo, and before the flames could be subdued twelve houses were destroyed. Early on the morning of the 9th inst., nine dwellings were also entirely destroyed by fire at Amasecho, Mishima-gun, Niigata Prefecture.

THE exports from Japan during the month of July last amounted to yen 5,258,875.370 in value, and the imports to yen 8,857,832.720, imports exceeding exports by yen 3,598,957.350. Bullion amounting to yen 1,329,522.190 was exported, and yen 29,494.040 imported during the same period. The receipts of various Custom Houses during the month were yen 429,573.261.

THE ordinary half-yearly meeting of shareholders of the Bank of Japan was held a few days ago. The net profits for the past half of the present year were yen 1,633,339.451; of which yen 480,000, were set apart for the reserve fund, yen 80,000 awarded to officers, yen 50,000 to expenses of the new buildings, and yen 750,000 were appropriated to dividend, at the rate of 15 per cent. per annum, the remaining yen 273,339.451 being carried forward to the next account.

FIRE broke out on the afternoon of the 7th instant in a house at Owanimura, Minamitsuguru-gun, Aomori Prefecture, destroying fifteen houses before the flames could be extinguished. Early on the morning of the 10th instant, the Nakanogo Elementary School, at Nakanogo, Kimisawa-gun, Shizuoka Prefecture, was destroyed by fire. The village office at Hikawa-mura, Nishitama-gun, Kanagawa Prefecture, was burned to the ground on the 9th instant.

THE Import and Export trade appears to be considerably affected by the constant and rapid rise in sterling exchange, which has upset all calculations made a month ago. Buyers of Manchester goods and Metals are in no mood for business, and operations are almost suspended, though of course imports are nominally lower in view of the price of silver. A few hundred bales of Yarn have been taken, mostly English spinnings, and about 3,500 pieces of Shirtings have sold, and this includes nearly all the business in this line. Scarcely anything is done in Metals, and the small sales of Wire Nails reported have been at very low rates. Kerosene is dull, and prices are easier, though without quotable change. Next to nothing done in Sugar. Exchange is responsible for the stagnation in the Silk market, the small wants of manufacturers and the price of silver making a large business at the figures demanded here an impossibility, the settlements being less than half and the stock on hand about double that at same date last year. There has been a dribbling daily trade in Waste Silk, but the total is insignificant. Tea has been steadily purchased, but in less quantity, though at late rates. Exchange is still on the ascending scale, and closes firm with every indication of a further rise.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

COUNT ITAGAKI, VISCOUNT TANI, AND MR. KŌNO. THE *Koku-Hon* of the 5th instant publishes three open letters addressed to Count Itagaki, Viscount Tani, and Mr. Kōno, respectively. In the letter to Count Itagaki, our contemporary ventures to observe that, despite the service which he rendered to the State at the time of the Restoration and the services which he has since given in the cause of freedom, the public is inclined to doubt his fitness for the leadership of a great political party. For his sincerity and disinterested zeal everybody admires the Count, but men are not so ready to credit him with the higher intellectual qualifications of statesmen. The *Koku-Hon* thinks, however, that the very deficiency of Count Itagaki in intellectual capacity has been a means of adding to his fame. His name has long been associated in the public mind with that of Count Goto. The latter's success was marvellous when he organized the *Daido Danketsu*; but what is his position now? People only laugh at him, says our contemporary, for his inconsistency. On the other hand, Count Itagaki seems to be on the eve of harvesting the produce of the seeds so assiduously sown by him through so many years. From this circumstance, it will be seen that Count Itagaki, though he is no match for Count Goto in intellectual endowments, has attained his present enviable position in virtue of his sincerity and zeal. The *Koku-Hon* then goes on to remark that, though Count Itagaki may desire to obtain a seat in the Cabinet, the time has not yet come for him to do so. At present a field of activity offers itself, apart from the Government, in which he may render incalculable service to the State. There are, on the one hand, some extreme radicals rash enough in their zeal for imaginary principles to sacrifice the practical interests of the country; while, on the other, there are public functionaries equally ready to abuse the power vested in them. Count Itagaki being highly respected by the statesmen, in power as well as by those out of office, our contemporary thinks that he is in a unique position to act as a sort of interpreter between the two parties above mentioned and to check the extravagance of both. The *Koku-Hon* considers this to be the mission which the Count, among all the statesmen of the present day, is best qualified to fulfill. He would do himself an injustice, should he accept a Ministerial responsibility which, at this juncture, betrayed him into irretrievable errors.

The letter to Viscount Tani may be summarized in a few words. Our contemporary observes that he is well read in Chinese philosophy, but that the public regards him in no other light than that of a brave, upright, and disinterested soldier. Alluding to the fact that he enjoys the good opinion of noblemen, the *Koku-Hon* advises him to become a leader among the members of the House of Peers, and to make it his business to set in the right direction the political opinions of nobles; a useful rôle, but one not very likely to satisfy Viscount Tani, we imagine.

To Mr. Kōno Toguma, a Privy Councillor, the *Koku-Hon* addresses itself in an unusually out-spoken manner. After alluding in high terms to some celebrated episodes in his judicial career, when he distinguished himself by the inflexible impartiality of his judgments, our contemporary proceeds to observe that when he afterwards became Minister of Education and subsequently Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, the public found out for the first time that, with all his eloquence and his varied judicial experience, he was not fitted to assume direction in administrative affairs. Especially severe is the criticism on his conduct while he was one of the three *Kanji* of the Senate, his colleagues in that office being Mr. Mutsu, the present Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, and Mr. Kato, President of the Imperial University. In those times the

late Marquis Kido and Count Ito were inclined to conservative opinion. Strange as it may appear, Mr. Kato was more liberal at that period than either of these two statesmen, and he was consequently obliged to resign his position. But Messrs. Kōno and Mutsu, though men of decidedly radical opinions, endeavoured to retain office by sacrificing their political ideas. The *Koku-Hon* goes so far as to say that, in those days, Mr. Kōno was popularly regarded as a hard-hearted sharper, while Mr. Mutsu was called a flippant sharper. These two gentlemen our contemporary regards as a well assorted couple, differing only in the manner here pointed out. They have also been closely matched rivals in official life. But lately, Mr. Kōno has apparently become inactive and is growing more and more insignificant, while his rival's influence is daily increasing. Rumour has it, says the *Koku-Hon*, that the elevation of Viscounts Yoshida and Aoki to the peerage and the exclusion of Mr. Kōno from that honour excited his jealousy, because Viscounts Yoshida and Aoki performed no distinguished services either at the time of, or since, the Restoration whereas he himself was one of the most meritorious officials of the State under the new régime. He is reported to be very anxious to court the favours of the present Government so as to obtain a patent of nobility, but our contemporary hopes that this rumour of his wish may prove groundless, since it would ill become him "to wag his tail for the favour of the clan Government." Comparing him with Mr. Mutsu, the Tokyo journal frankly remarks that his intellect is good but narrow, while that of Mr. Mutsu is volatile but wide. In conclusion the *Koku-Hon* advises Mr. Kōno to part company with the Government and to enter the Diet, which seems to be a proper place for the exercise of his talent. The inference apparently suggested is that the *Koku-Hon* assigns to him the rôle of a parliamentary agitator.

JOURNALISTIC PIQUANCY.

For ingenuity of device to render its columns piquant and entertaining, perhaps the *Kokumin Shimbun* ranks second to none of the metropolitan newspapers, the *Yūji Shimpō* not excluded. By way of illustration we invite our readers' attention to the following translation from that journal, not because we endorse its observations, but merely to show its methods. Let our contemporary speak for itself:—"The following articles are reported to have been ordered lately from China and other foreign countries by distinguished personages:—a copy of John Bright's Life, by Count Goto, who is said to entertain the intention of studying it carefully in order to introduce himself to a history of political fidelity; a wild boar,* by Count Ito, who having opened his eyes to the insufficiency of mere cleverness as a means for successfully steering one's course in life, intends to ride on the stout animal's back; the boar, it should be added, has no tail worth speaking of; a book on elocution, by Count Saigō, evidently for purposes of preparation against the time when he will be called upon to exercise his elocutionary powers in support of the Government's policy; a book on the art of grafting, by Count Yamada, who desires to learn from its pages the art of grafting a bamboo scion on a crotomaria, or the flesh of a youth on the dried bones of an octogenarian—in short any new thing on any old one: a treatise on evolution, by a certain conservative gentleman of great fame, who wishes to study the principles of evolution in order to learn the mysterious process of effecting wonderful metamorphoses in a night, such as from a monkey into a human being, from an Imperialist into a Jacobin, or from stiff-necked conservatism to hare-brained radicalism."

A PRESENT FOR THE IMPERIAL UNIVERSITY.

THE Imperial University is on the eve of a most fortunate event. It is about to receive a gift which will make it the most celebrated and remarkable institution of its kind in the world.

* This animal is regarded in Japan as the symbol of a blind and headstrong soldier.

On a certain hill in the province of Bingo, there is a temple which was erected some six centuries ago. Within the enclosure of this edifice digging was undertaken recently with the object of planting some edible. At a depth of about two feet a stone coffin was unearthed. Opened in the presence of the priests and a large concourse of curious folks, it was found to contain vermillion, the conventional environment of aristocratic corpses, and in the cosy mineral reposed a skull with a face more than two feet long, and one arm. The hair of the skull, still in a good state of preservation, was of extraordinary thickness, and the point of each hair was split so as to resemble a bundle of bristles. From the forehead grew two horns. More unmistakable fragments of a devil could not be imagined, but how did they come to be buried in a temple ground and honoured with a stone coffin and vermillion packing? These questions remain unanswered. The hideous relics have, however, passed into the possession of the abbot of Heto-in, in Tsunmachi, Owari Prefecture, who intends to send them first to the Hospital in Nagoya and thence to the Imperial University.

SERVANTS' CHARACTERS.

MR. JUSTICE HAWKINS, summing up in a case of libel recently brought by a butler against a master who had given him a character that he objected to, used words which are of interest and value to all householders. "The learned Judge," says *The Times*' report, "said that this case might not be without advantage to the public, since it might serve as a useful warning. No master or mistress was bound by law to give a character to a servant, although of late a practice had sprung up of servants asking for and almost demanding them. If, however, a master did give a character, the person asking for it had a right to have a true one given, and if a true one was not given the person knowingly giving a false one was liable, by Act of Parliament, to be fined £20. No action would lie against any one honestly giving a character to a servant, although a bad one, because it was a privileged occasion, and an action would only lie when any one gave a false character, knowing it to be false, or not believing it to be true. If, however, the defendant honestly believed that what he was writing of the plaintiff was true, even although it might not be so in fact, the letter was privileged, and no action would lie against him. In this case it was for the plaintiff to affirmatively satisfy the jury that the defendant had written the letter maliciously—that is, either knowing that it was untrue or not believing that it was true, in order to deprive the defendant of the privilege under which the letter had undoubtedly been written!"

JAPANESE COMMENTS ON YOKOHAMA JOURNALISM.

AN idea exists among a section of this community that the anti-Japanese writing of certain local English newspapers attracts little attention outside the foreign Settlement and does not beg any feeling of indignation or dislike among the Japanese. The curiously ample share of patience, or indifference, or long-suffering—call it what we may—with which this convenient doctrine credits the Japanese, has often provoked astonishment, especially when people observe that its propounders attribute a wide-spread and pernicious influence upon the Japanese nation to every word written by a local English newspaper in defence of Japan's rights or in condemnation of the arbitrary treatment she sometimes receives at foreign hands. As an interesting illustration of this subject we translate a few words from a recent editorial note in the *Yokyo Shimpō*—a note written, be it observed, before the publication by our local English contemporaries, of two articles abusing and sneering at Sir Edwin Arnold because he has adopted views different from theirs in the matter of Treaty Revision:—"Recently when the Tokyo correspondent of the London *Times* wrote favourably of Treaty Revision and *The Times* published a leading article in the same sense, the *Japan Gazette* and *Japan Herald*

vehemently attacked these opinions and abused Major-General Palmer, Captain Brinkley, and the conductors of *The Times*. Subsequently Sir Edwin Arnold addressed a letter to the *Daily Telegraph* on the same subject, and we were fully prepared to find that he too would become the object of the *Gazette* and *Herald's* abuse. We were not mistaken, for the *Herald* has published a letter the writer of which asserts that it is natural for foreign men of letters to praise Japan when they come here, inasmuch as they receive kind and hospitable treatment at the hands of the Japanese, and are so carried away by the affability of the people and the beauty of the scenery, that they have no time to consider the true state of affairs, but devote themselves simply to collecting materials for attractive writing and to discussing the things that please themselves. He goes on to hint that Sir Edwin Arnold has been the object of special attention at the hands of the Japanese Government, and that as he knows nothing about Japan, his arguments on the subject of Treaty Revision are unworthy of notice. At this rate, no foreign tourist visiting Japan will hereafter be able to say a word in its favour. The *Japan Herald* has certainly furnished an exhaustive statement of Englishmen's selfishness."

* * *

This note, as we have said, shows how such writing as that of our local contemporaries reacts upon English reputation. They never reflect that the character they give to their own countrymen is petty and mean in the extreme. When an English visitor of note comes to this country and writes pleasantly or kindly about it, he is at once declared to have been either cajoled, deceived, or bribed. There is absolutely no exception. Every man who ventures to urge that Japan is entitled to more liberal international treatment, finds a shower of mud cast at him and hears the public called upon to pronounce him weak-minded, selfish, or depraved. Can we be surprised if such a miserable estimate of Englishmen by Englishmen is accepted by a Japanese journal? And yet, what a consummately insolent farce the whole thing really is! Compare the revilers with the reviled. Just think for a moment what manner of men they are who have this mud thrown at them, and what manner of men are these who throw it. This is for the Japanese to consider. They are thoroughly capable of appreciating the distinction, and when they make it they will see clearly how grossly British sentiment towards Japan is travestied by its professed representatives in such journals as those quoted by the *Tokyo Shimpō*. We cannot at the present moment recall so much as one solitary English newspaper of respectability which has ever written of Japan in an unsympathetic or ill-natured strain. There do occasionally appear stupid items betraying ignorance or thoughtlessness, but no serious article is disfigured by an unappreciative or unfriendly tone. By what class of writers, then, is British sentiment towards Japan to be gauged? By men whose abilities, erudition, and wide knowledge of public affairs have established their title to mould their country's views; or by men whose ignorance, illiteracy, ignoble conceptions, and bitter prejudice would disgrace any type of civilization. We well understand that however strong may be the foundations of Japan's friendship for England, they run great risk of being sapped by this perpetual stream of wretched reviling and misrepresentation, but our belief is that the Japanese are competent to judge between the true and the false, between the writers who parody and the writers who reflect British sentiment.

THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.

It has been decided, according to the *Mainichi Shimbun*, that the new Parliament House shall be regarded as a part of the Home Office's buildings. The question of its attachment is said to have caused some controversy, one party being in favour of placing it in the hands of the Imperial Household Department, after the English precedent, and another advocating its transfer to the Treasury, as is the case

in America. The Authorities have, however, finally decided that the business of repair and so forth can be managed most conveniently by the Home Office. Some unfavourable comments have been made by foreign critics about the style of these new buildings, but it has to be remembered that the structure is of an essentially temporary character, and that the first duty imposed on the architect, who is a German gentleman of established competence, was to reduce the expenditure on account of the shell of the building to a minimum. An ordinary wooden structure gives little scope for architectural display under any circumstances, but when the designer is limited by considerations of the strictest economy, he wisely abandons all half-hearted attempts at ornamentation and contents himself with absolute plainness and simplicity. These temporary structures tell their own story, namely, that no effort has been made to render them externally attractive, since that would have been mere waste of money, and that every available cent has been saved to lay out on interior arrangements. Such a plan of procedure, though eminently practical, makes some demand on the courage of the architect adopting it, for he must know that it exposes him to the harsh comments of superficial observers who think only of the appearance of an edifice and forget its purpose or the conditions under which it was erected. Every competent critic who has inspected the interior of the new buildings pronounces the arrangements most excellent and highly creditable to the architect. We may therefore take it for granted that the German architect entrusted with the planning and superintendence of the buildings has loyally and ably carried out the intention of the Government, by avoiding all futile expenditure in the matter of externals and devoting the utmost possible care to internal fittings and arrangement.

COUNT ITAGAKI'S POLITICAL INFLUENCE.

Among prominent statesmen now out of power, says the *Nippon*, there are very few who have had much experience in the organization of political parties. Count Itagaki is a conspicuous exception to this rule. With indefatigable energy he has worked constantly in the cause of liberalism. His patience has been such that ten years seemed to him like one day, and he has left no stone unturned to promote the interests of his party. By a large section of the public it has long been regarded as a matter of regret that the Count has met with so little success in all his endeavours. But now, at length, the time for harvesting the fruits of his past toils appears to be approaching. His influence is evidently needed for bringing about an alliance between the various progressive parties. The *Kokumin Shimbun* suggested recently that he should be made the keystone of the contemplated alliance, and the *Hochi Shimbun* seems to concur entirely with this view, for, in its issue of the 25th instant, it enlogized the Count as one of those rare statesmen who are just and magnanimous, willing to sacrifice self-interest to the public good, and to forgive past wrongs and enmity in order to promote the cause of popular rights and good government. Thus it will be seen, says the *Nippon*, that in matters relating to this alliance, both Count Okuma and Count Goto are willing to yield to the Tosa statesman's claims, and when the alliance is effected, Count Itagaki is likely to be made generalissimo of the whole solidarity of progressive parties.

POLITICAL KNAVERY.

A few days ago, some of our Tokyo contemporaries published a sensational report to the effect that a murderous attempt was in contemplation on the life of Mr. Muro Kojiro, the member of the Diet elected for the eighth district of Niigata Prefecture. The report said that one Ono Jinsuke, and one Aizawa Keisaku, his brother Kenji, and one Kiga Kobunji, all belonging to the *Daido* party, having been deeply mortified by the defeat of their candidate at the last election, had determined to wreak their vengeance on the successful candidate of the *Kaishin-to*, that their plan was to dog their victim to Tokyo and murder him by means of

explosives; that Kiga, one of the accomplices, turned informer, divulged the whole affair to one of the *Kaishin-to* politicians in the district, and asked him to furnish the informant with money to enable him to run away; that the information having been conveyed to the police authorities, all the would-be assassins were arrested; and that three bombs were found in their possession. The fact that the eighth district of Niigata was one of the most hotly contested places at the late election, as well as the circumstance that this district is said to be the focus of the *Daido-ha Soshi*, contributed to give to this report an air of probability. But on account of certain features in the story, we were inclined to entertain doubts as to its accuracy, and consequently forbore to make any comments on it. Our conjectures have proved right. The latest news says that the whole affair is nothing more than a farce. In short, it appears now that the so-called murderous attempt was a pure fabrication of Kiga, who played the rôle of informant in order to impose upon the *Kaishin-to* men and thus obtain money by false pretences. Thus the supposed political murder turns out to be nothing more than a sneaking attempt on the part of a swindler!

NO MORE BALD HEADS.

According to the *New York Medical Journal*, an almost infallible remedy for, if not an absolute preventive of, baldness has at length been discovered. The American paper says:—"The treatment recommended by Lassar, of Berlin, for *alopecia pityrodes* and *alopecia areata* has been attended with some brilliant results. According to Dr. Graetzer's article in the *Therapeutische Monatschrift*, but few cases resist the treatment, and after a few applications the downy sprouts may be seen. The following procedure is to be repeated daily:—

1. The scalp should be lathered well with a strong tar soap for ten minutes.
2. This lather is to be removed with lukewarm water, followed by colder water in abundance; then the scalp is to be dried.
3. A solution of bichloride of mercury, 1 to 500, the menstruum being equal parts of water, glycerine, and Eau d'Cologne or alcohol, is to be rubbed on.
4. The scalp is then rubbed dry with a solution containing beta-naphthol, 1 part, and absolute alcohol, 200 parts.
5. The final step in the process is an anointing of the scalp with an unguent containing 4 parts of salicylic acid, 3 parts of tincture of benzoin, and 100 parts of neatfoot oil.

This treatment should be persisted in for a period of six weeks or longer. Lassar, who, by the way, is the secretary-general to the International Congress of this year, has done much to awaken the profession from the lethargic state into which it had fallen in regard to the treatment of alopecia. He is reported to have treated a thousand cases in the manner described."

REORGANIZATION OF POLITICAL PARTIES.

In regard to the question of reorganizing political parties, nearly all the leading members in the camp of the *Kaishin-to* appear to entertain the opinion that the best interests of the country as well as of their party will be secured by dissolving their present organization and meeting other progressionist coteries half way in the efforts to form a new consolidation. To this course, Mr. Ozaki Yukio, the chief editor of the *Choya Shimbun*, has been, and still is, raising a solitary, but by no means weak voice of dissent. What power of persuasion Mr. Ozaki has with the rank and file of the *Kaishin-to* will be seen at the general meeting of that party to be opened September 1st, when some final step is to be taken in regard to this question. In the meantime, it is interesting to follow Mr. Ozaki's arguments in the columns of the *Choya Shimbun*. In the issue before us, he contends that the first duty of all the progressionist parties lies in coöperation for the revision of the Law of Public Meetings and Political Associations. After explaining that Article 28 of the law in question is a measure which cannot fail to cause great inconvenience to the people without bringing corresponding benefit to the Government, the editor proceeds to argue that it would be almost dangerous in the present excited temper of public opinion to insist on the rigorous enforcement of the law. At least, it would be highly injudicious for the Govern-

ment to stir up hostile feeling, especially at a time when the opening of the Diet is so near at hand. He then exhorts all parties in favour of progress to direct their united efforts towards the repeal of this obnoxious article, as an essential step precedent to amalgamation. For, he argues, so long as this article remains in force, successful amalgamation will be next to an impossibility. It may seem, Mr. Ozaki admits, that should the existing parties dissolve their organizations first, and then proceed to amalgamation, their action would in no wise violate the regulation of the law in question. But such is, in his opinion a superficial, rather than a practical, view. The names and other accidental circumstances of political parties may be changed *ad libitum*, but their reality will stand firm as long as the principles that called them into existence remain unchanged. Consequently, in order to properly consummate a scheme of amalgamation, it will be a matter of prime necessity, even after the preliminary dissolution of existing party organizations, that a certain number of committees representing the various political creeds held by their original parties should meet together and make due arrangements for the formation of a new association. Now nothing is more clear than that such a movement in reality comes into direct conflict with the provision of the obnoxious article. Men may talk of amalgamation, but what they really mean is nothing more or less than alliance, for, says Mr. Ozaki, party spirit and sentiments do not depend for their existence upon mere names. What simpleton can imagine, he contemptuously asks, that the nominal dissolution of the parties could have the effect of eradicating, in a few months, all party spirit? The expectation would be utterly chimerical, and it will therefore be clearly seen that the 28th Article of the new Law places an almost insurmountable obstacle in the path of the progressionist parties successfully carrying out their pet scheme. Why, then, are those advocating this course so tardy in coming forward and uniting their efforts with the *Kaishin-to* for the repeal of this objectionable provision? Mr. Ozaki declares himself quite unable to comprehend their hesitation. "If their apathy," he says, "is caused by chagrin at being led by the *Kaishin-to* in this matter, it must be construed as unmistakable evidence that their old animosity to that party still survives, and in that case, who will believe in the genuineness of their desire for amalgamation?" In conclusion, the editor of the *Choya* expresses a very pessimistic view as to the final success of the scheme of consolidation. "We do not hesitate to say," he writes, "that it is simply an impossibility to form a truly harmonious association out of elements which cannot even be persuaded to coöperate efficiently for the removal of a common and patent evil."

Whatever may be said about the Government's liberality in its manner of enforcing this 28th article, we cannot but think that the results will be wholesome. We speak of the enforcement of the article, because, as our readers are already aware, its actual provisions are not in any sense new. They were embodied in the old law in precisely the same terms, and though the Authorities may be blamed for not repealing them, the charge that such an article has been specially enacted at this juncture, is based on pure ignorance. Practically speaking, however, the difference between the former state of affairs and the present seems to be radical, for whereas nothing was officially done, under the provisions of the old Law, to oppose the steps taken by the *Kaishin* progressionists for the amalgamation of the various liberal parties, the enactment of a new Law embodying the vetoes was immediately followed by resolute police interference. And what has been the result thus far? Has it not been that strong grounds are furnished to doubt the sincerity of the scheme of amalgamation? We quite agree with Mr. Ozaki Yukio that a meeting of representative committees to arrange a general platform would be expedient as a step precedent to the effective fusion of parties, and that the Law forbids such a meeting. But it

seems to us that the Government's action has brought out the spirit of mutual independence really existing between the various political factions of the present day, and has afforded warrant to believe that the proposed amalgamation had for its unique purpose the overthrow of the Cabinet and would not have survived the achievement of that result. Every incident of the political campaign confirms our often expressed belief that there can be no really genuine and permanent basis of party organization until the nation's representatives are brought face to face with living issues within the walls of the Diet. Unions formed before that time cannot be inspired by pure solicitude for the public weal, or stand on a foundation of honest principles. The Government has ardently acted on this belief, and there is reason to hope that the end will justify the means.

THE IMPORT OF RICE.

The *Daido Shimbun* thinks it will be of interest to give figures of the total import of foreign rice since the harvesting of the Japanese crops in October last. The table is as follows:—

	YOKOHAMA.	Kobe.	OSAKA.
	oku.	oku.	oku.
Oct., 1889	7,751,600	1,477,000	1,817,600
Nov., 1889	91,000	738,000	—
Dec., 1889	200,400	506,400	—
Jan., 1890	590,400	7,373,600	240,000
Feb., 1890	2,277,600	9,810,400	890,200
Mar., 1890	13,573,000	30,710,000	11,741,600
April, 1890	33,190,800	47,559,600	24,310,800
May, 1890	45,311,200	47,248,000	12,817,000
June, 1890	131,712,000	100,473,600	65,464,400
Total	234,561,600	246,929,600	117,991,200

	NAGASAKI.	OTHER PORTS.	TOTAL.
	oku.	oku.	oku.
Oct., 1889	525,600	610,400	12,252,800
Nov., 1889	28,400	1,597,200	2,667,600
Dec., 1889	86,000	3,756,000	4,608,800
Jan., 1890	321,000	7,614,800	15,992,800
Feb., 1890	1,039,200	8,951,600	22,694,000
Mar., 1890	1,574,100	7,458,800	20,058,400
April, 1890	4,216,800	10,108,000	119,867,000
May, 1890	2,882,800	12,588,800	121,888,800
June, 1890	29,321,200	18,594,400	345,567,600
Total	40,018,400	71,580,000	710,580,800

As will be seen from the above table, the largest import in one month is that for June last, the smallest figure being in November last year, and the grand total representing 710,580,800 koku or 1,776,452 piculs.

DINNER IN TOKYO.

AMONG the foreign guests responding to the special invitations sent abroad to attend the Ueno Exhibition was Mr. Gustavus Goward, who some years ago was First Secretary of the American Legation at Tokyo. The United States Government, out of compliment to Japan, made Mr. Goward an Honorary Commissioner to the National Exhibition for the purpose of studying and reporting upon its exhibits. Special stress was laid in the making of this appointment upon Mr. Goward's connection with the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893, which corporation had commissioned him its Representative in Japan under the title of Commissioner. Mr. Goward arrived in this country in time to appear at the ceremonies of the presentation of prizes by the Emperor at the Exhibition. He has meanwhile been promoting the work of his mission, so it seems, with very successful results. On the 7th instant, at a meeting of the exhibitors, called for the purpose and presided over by Commissioner-General Hanabusa, Mr. Goward delivered a lengthy address upon the International Exposition of 1893, full reports of which have been published in the Japanese Press.

As a partial return for the many courtesies received, Mr. Goward gave, on the 15th instant, at the Noble's Club, Shiba, an informal Japanese dinner complimentary to the officials of the Exhibition, to which other officials were invited. Absence from the city prevented the attendance of some, though in the general acceptance, we noticed as present Count Matsukata, Viscount Sano, their Excellencies Hanabusa, Kuki, and Watanabe, Vice-Minister Okabe, and others of the Foreign Office, and

many heads of Bureaux of several Departments connected with exhibition affairs, such as Messrs. Saito, Sakata, Yamataka, Hatano, and Okakura. Chief Secretary Kaneko, of the House of Peers, and Mr. Shingio, as Honorary Commissioners of the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893, by their presence cemented the ties between America and Japan. Thoroughly Japanese in character, the entertainment was enlivened by special features appropriate to the occasion. In the dances "the ball was set in motion" by the rolling of a large sphere representing the globe, on which was painted the map of the world, midst the fluttering of foreign flags carried by the dancers who were costumed in Yukata, decorated in an artistic manner by Japanese writing and designs descriptive of the World's Fair. In the march of nations around the sphere and in the many evolutions, the Japanese character of the *odori* was strictly preserved and the song adapted to the dance was in harmony with the general idea. The applause that greeted the new dance marked its success. In the subsequent dances it was apparent that in the selection the World's Fair had not been forgotten, though not made obtrusive.

Not unmiadful of the dignity and importance of "the Press," which every American reveres, Mr. Goward gave on the 16th a dinner to the newspaper editors of Tokyo and Yokohama. Nearly all the Press were represented at the gathering. Having been called together for social converse, but few speeches were made, and those partook largely of welcome or were of a congratulatory order. The special dances of the former occasion were repeated with varying features and additions. The guests manifested their enjoyment and appreciation by an unusual attention to the exercises, and prolonged their stay for some hours afterwards. On both evenings each guest carried away with him the souvenirs of the feast in shape of fans, &c., among which were hemispherical sake cups, illustrating in colours the various countries of the world which would be represented at the Chicago Exposition of 1893.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

COUNT ITAGAKI, according to the *Tokyo Shimpō*, is of opinion that the President of the House of Representatives should be chosen from among the political parties of the time. The Count's reasons for this view are very vaguely stated by the *Shimpō*, but the principal of them is that the plan he recommends is the custom in Western lands. So it is undoubtedly, but chiefly, we imagine, because to find a man who to competence for such a post adds the quality of belonging to no political party, would be practically impossible. In the Japanese House of Representatives as recently elected, there are, it is true, about a hundred members of so-called "independent" principles, but recent events have shown that a large proportion of these will probably enlist under the banners of the *Kokusei Hozon-to*, so that even if the House desired to choose three neutral persons from whom the Emperor might nominate a President, the task would be beyond its power.

THE NEW MINING RELATIONS.

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, noticing the issue of the amended Mining Regulations, by Law No. 55, remarks that the old law, having been promulgated in 1873, has in several respects come into conflict, or at any rate variance, with later statutes, and for some time the necessity of alteration has been fully recognised. Since last year, it is stated, the Cabinet has had under consideration a measure dealing comprehensively with the subject of mining, but in view of anticipated delay in promulgating it, the Authorities deemed it advisable to issue a temporary set of regulations. These latter are in several respects welcome additions to the legislative enactments of the empire, particularly the provision limiting the area that may be held for mining purposes to 600,000 *tsubo*, which of course will tend to prevent the accumulation of mining property in a

few hands. The old article providing that, in case of disagreement between an owner of land and an intending purchaser, the land should be bought by the Government, does not find a place in the new measure, as it has been shown to be inconsistent with the present financial system.

TEMPERATURE DURING THE DOG-DAYS.

The temperature during the period called *Dog Days*—from the 20th of July to the 10th of August—is supposed, doubtless correctly, to have a great influence on the rice harvest. The fiercer the heat during that interval the better, provided only that there has been rain enough previously. The Japanese farmer desires nothing better than a sun hot enough to boil the water in which the young rice plants are growing. This year the temperature is generally supposed to have been below the average, and there has been so much rain that all kinds of vaticinations have been uttered about crop prospects by interested persons. In order to furnish trustworthy data for forming an opinion, the Meteorological Bureau of the Home Department has published a table showing the temperature during the *Dog Days* period for the past five years. The figures are as follow:—

TEMPERATURE (IN FAHRENHEIT DEGREES) FROM THE 18TH OF JULY TO THE 10TH OF AUGUST.

Years.	Average temperature.	Maximum.	Minimum.
1886	81.21	96.34	74.3
1887	79.75	86.36	81.20
1888	84.91	89.06	79.34
1889	91.94	93.94	84.17
1890	83.12	97.88	77.74

It appears from this table that while the variations of temperature have been far greater this year than in any year since 1886, the average temperature has been nothing remarkable, being in fact less than the corresponding figure for 1888 or 1889, though greater than that for any of the preceding three years. On the whole, most people will be disposed to agree that this has been a cool summer, though the heat was occasionally severe enough to create a very different impression for the time being. Some days at the end of June and in the beginning of July were at least as hot as anything we remember to have felt at the corresponding season in any year since 1868.

CONCERT BY FOREIGN MUSICIANS AT THE PALACE.

THEIR MAJESTIES THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS have for the third time honoured foreign musicians by allowing them to perform at the Palace in the Imperial presence. The artists thus graciously distinguished on the present occasion were the celebrated flautist Professor Terschak, the great pianist Madame Schüller, and the violinist whose presence at the Japanese Academy of Music so often enables us to hear first-rate music on the king of instruments, Professor Dittich. The intimation that their Majesties would be pleased to hear these eminent experts was conveyed in writing through H.E. Marquis Nabeshima, President of the Japanese Musical Society, and Mr. Izawa, Director of the Imperial Academy of Music. The Concert was held in the new Palace, in the beautiful salon known as the "Hall of the Thousand Grasses." The large windows, extending to half the height of the hall, made of plate glass, and the exquisitely carved doors, with their red and gold lacquer and inlaid mother-of-pearl, and many other striking features were subsequently spoken of by the artists with much admiration. They were happy too in finding an excellent piano. It was one of Steinway's, and in tone and condition were everything that could be desired. The artists were introduced by Marquis Nabeshima. The arrangement of the audience resembled in every respect that of a European Court Concert. Their Imperial Majesties sat in the centre, and the Princes and Princesses of the Imperial family occupied seats ranged along two sides of the hall. The heat was unfortunately great, but the performers showed no symptom of fatigue, playing throughout with the greatest verve. The Japanese fantasia by Professor Terschak gave great pleasure, and elicited marked applause from several of those

present. It not infrequently happens that impressive parts of performances of this kind are made still more telling by something quite casual. Such was the case when Professor Terschak was rendering the "Chant du Démon" in his most effective manner. The heavens clouded over and the large hall grew dark, and just as the Professor had reached the most weird part of the Chant, the darkness grew deeper and the wind came whistling into the building and blew the artist's hair to and fro, thus adding intensity to the impressive aspect which, under the excitement of his performance, his giant form assumed. And when he came to those strangely loud notes the sound of which has alarmed so many people in the course of the Professor's travels, the low moaning of the wind was heard throughout the building, as though nature were in sympathy with art. Their Imperial Majesties were graciously pleased to express much satisfaction at the performance. The artists were first thanked on behalf of their Majesties by Marquis Nabeshima immediately after the concert, and the next day Viscount Hijikata was sent by the Emperor and Empress to assure them that their "wonderful playing" had greatly pleased their Imperial Majesties. The following is the programme:—

1. Terschak—Allegro de Concert für Flöte u. Piano Op. 147—der Compositeur u. Mme. Schüller.
2. Vieuxtemps—Ballade und Polonaise für Violin u. Piano—Prof. Dittich u. Mme. Schüller.
3. Liszt—Rhapsodie Hongroise No. 9 für Piano—Mme. Schüller.
4. Terschak—Fantasie über zwei japanische Lieder (Hana Kurasu und Satori) für Flöte und Piano—der Compositeur u. Mme. Schüller.
5. a. Rag—"Cavatina" b. Haver—Elegische Melodie für Violin u. Piano—Prof. Dittich u. Mme. Schüller.
6. Wallace—"Grand Polka de Concert" für Piano—Mme. Schüller.
7. Terschak—Sensational Fantasia mit der grossen Cadence "Chant du Démon" für Flöte und Piano Op. 43—der Compositeur u. Mme. Schüller.

PRESIDENT OF THE HOUSE OF PEERS.

Thus far, Count Yatsugawara has been popularly believed to be the most probable President of the House of Peers. But if we may credit a report published by the *Yomiuri Shinbun*, this notion appears to be groundless. That paper states in unhesitating terms that Count Ito will be called on to fill the important office. According to positive information obtained by our contemporary, Count Ito's recent visit to the Palace, instead of being connected with the Count's entering the Cabinet as conjectured by the public generally, was the occasion of communicating the Imperial intention of appointing him President of the Upper House, which office the Count is represented to have accepted gratefully. In this context, the Tokyo journal ventures upon another prediction in regard to the Speakership of the House of Representatives. On the supposition that the proposed alliance of progressive parties will be accomplished, the *Yomiuri* is fully convinced that the prize will certainly fall to either Mr. Nakajima Nobuyuki or Mr. Kataoka Kenkiichi. As one of the avowed organs of the *Kaishin-to*, our contemporary remarks, with laudable impartiality, that, though neither of these gentlemen has had any affinity with the *Kaishin-to*, the party will be most willing to accept either as a man of catholic views far above party spirit and caprice. In this case, the opposite side of the House will name as their standard-bearer either Mr. Kusumoto Masataka or Mr. Yoshino Seikei. We (*Japan Mail*) attach no credit to this prediction about the Speakership.

THE TOKYO MUNICIPAL LOAN FOR WATER WORKS.

According to the *Chugai Shōgō Shimpō*, a municipal loan of 8,000,000 yen is to be raised for defraying the cost of supplying the capital with good drinking water. The total amount of estimated expense is 7,950,000; and originally it was proposed that this outlay should be met, first, by a Government subsidy of 2,250,000 yen in annual instalments of 150,000 yen for 15 years; secondly, by the proceeds of the sale of public lands on the banks of rivers and canals (popularly called *Kashi-chi*); and thirdly, by raising a municipal loan. It has lately been decided, however, not to make use

of the second of these sources, but to raise the whole sum in the form of a municipal loan of 8,000,000 yen. According to the present plan, water pipes will be at first laid only through densely populated districts of the city, because in the districts where houses are widely separated, profits would be relatively small. The works to be undertaken in the more thickly peopled parts of the city will cost about 6,500,000 yen. There will, therefore, be a surplus of 1,500,000 yen which sum is to be employed for the purchase of land and for other purposes, it being anticipated that the laying of pipes will involve some changes in the streets of the capital. Consequently this latter sum will be placed to the joint account of the Water-works and City Improvements. For the first year or two, there will not be much profit from the works, and the Government subsidy will be used for the payment of interest (7 per cent.) on the municipal debt. It is expected that an Imperial Ordinance will be shortly issued deciding the control of the Water-works affairs. The municipal loan will be raised on the promulgation of the said ordinance. Our contemporary does not state how the expenses for supplying the less densely populated parts of the city are to be defrayed, but it appears that the Government subsidy and the profits arising from the finished part of the water system are to be employed for the purpose.

MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF PEERS BY IMPERIAL NOMINATIONS.

On the authority of the *Nippon*, whose information in regard to Court affairs proves very frequently accurate, we publish some news relating to the Imperial nomination of Members of the House of Peers. In the first place, our contemporary informs us that the number of members who are to have this distinguished honour, has already been decided to be thirty in all, of whom twenty will be chosen out of the present Senators and the rest from among the people. The selection of only thirty members out of nearly seventy Senators naturally involved great difficulty and led to a difference of opinion among "the powers that be." Some advocated that, in considerations of their past services, the older Senators should be chosen in preference to the younger, while others preferred the latter on the score of ability. This point remained undecided for some time, but the second opinion finally prevailed. About half of the Senators thus elected will be appointed Court Councillors in addition to membership of the Upper House. As to the date for the official announcement of these appointments, the Tokyo journal names the 14th and the 15th of September.

THE LAW OF POLITICAL ASSOCIATIONS AND PROGRESSIVE PARTIES.

We have already reproduced the comments of the Tokyo daily papers on the 28th article of the new Law of Public Meetings and Political Associations. It may, however, be worth while to quote also the opinions of some of the influential magazines of the capital. The *Keisai Zasshi*, which is generally noted for the sobriety of its views, is unusually excited in discussing this question. After noting that the enforcement of the 28th Article has been like a peal of thunder in a blue sky, our contemporary proceeds to observe that, as the result of the decisive step taken by the Authorities, the proposed alliance of progressive parties will probably be converted into their amalgamation. In another editorial note, the Tokyo periodical reports that Mr. Mutsu and Viscount Aoki are in favour of repealing the obnoxious article. However that may be, there is no doubt that the *Kaishin-to* has decided to present a memorial for its repeal, and, in case the memorial should fail to obtain the favourable attention of the Authorities, the party will make its first motion in the Diet in that sense. "We also," the *Keisai Zasshi* continues, "are of opinion that the article ought to be revoked. If it be meant to prohibit the formation of political parties, well and good. But so long as such is not the object of the Government, political parties ought to have a full measure of

freedom in their actions. The Government may forbid the alliance of parties, but how can it prevent them from uniting themselves against it, in the event of its adopting measures condemned by public opinion. To anticipate others is the first step towards defeating them, while to be anticipated is the prelude of discomfiture. The Government ought to repeal the obnoxious article before the parties out of power bring the matter before the Diet. Otherwise the Authorities will incur the disgrace of being forced to do what they might have done voluntarily with a certain amount of grace."

The *Kokumin-no-Tomo*, writing on the same subject, observes that the way in which the Government has given effect to its own interpretation of the 28th Article has excited surprise and indignation—an exactly similar provision couched in exactly the same words was contained in the old law, but it remained a dead letter, for no official step was ever taken to prevent alliances between political parties. Our contemporary illustrates this by referring to the formation of the *Daido Danketsu*—an organization formed originally by the union of several small political bodies—and the association of five parties last year in opposition to the treaty programme of Count Okuma. The grand scheme of alliance, our contemporary goes on to observe, has now indeed been thwarted, but the rigorous step taken by the Government has paved the way for the formation of a great political party by amalgamation. The Tokyo journal then ironically remarks that this may possibly be the ardent desire of the Government, and that those who imagine the suppression of political parties to be the aim of the Cabinet, do not perhaps know the true intentions of Ministers.

As to the formation of a great progressive party, the above two influential periodicals entertain high hopes. The *Aikoku-to*, the *Jiyu-to*, and the *Kiushu Shimpō* have already dissolved their organizations. The *Daido Danketsu* and the *Kaishin-to* have not yet come to any definite decision. It is, however, announced that they will adopt some conclusive resolution at their general meetings to be shortly convened, the former party about the 17th or the 18th instant and the latter about the beginning of September. [Since this was in type a paragraph in the *Nippon* says:—"At a general meeting of members of the *Daido Danketsu* party, held on the 17th instant at the Yayoisha, Shiba, it was decided, after a long discussion, that the party should be dissolved."] As to the *Daido Danketsu*, the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* observes that the members from the North-East are very enthusiastic about amalgamation, while a small section of the party in Tokyo is inclined to oppose the idea. With regard to the *Kaishin-to*, the *Keizai Zasshi* tells us that the party is divided into three groups: the first group favouring amalgamation, but desiring to decide the question at a general meeting; the second opposing amalgamation, but advocating the dissolution of the present organization, with the object of starting a social club by way of prelude to the formation of a new party; and the third maintaining that the *Kaishin-to* ought to preserve its present organization, there being no necessity for amalgamation, which, even, if accomplished, will not last long. The Tokyo periodical states that the first group is the most numerous, and that its opinion will prevail in the coming general meeting of the party.

SECRET MEETING IN HIRAKAWACHO.

ON the afternoon of the 12th inst., in a room of the residence of Mr. Kawashima Jun, in Hirakawacho, Tokyo, a small knot of gentlemen were observed to be engaged in a conversation of apparently absorbing interest. The size and the general surroundings of the meeting were not of a nature to attract the attention of casual observers, but to persons at all conversant with the present state of Japanese politics the great political importance of this seemingly insignificant gathering will be manifest at once, when

we say that the names of the gentlemen assembled were Messrs. Naido Roichi, Oi Kentaro, Nakaye Tokusuke, Shimada Saburo, Kato Masanosuke, Takata Sanai, Hayashi Yuzo, Kataoka Kenkichi, Sugita Tei-ichi, Kono Hironaka, Suzuki Shoji, Oye Taku, Yamada Buho, Matsuda Masahisa, and Kawashima Jun. The meeting was ostensibly of a social nature, but the fact that each of the five political parties now contemplating amalgamation was represented in exactly equal numbers, was too significant to escape the notice of the vernacular press, which has commented eagerly on the incident. Indeed, it has now become an open secret that the meeting was really intended as a sort of preliminary conference to negotiate terms of amalgamation. The *Nippon* gives what purports to be a report of the proceedings of the conference. It runs thus:—

After some embarrassing silence, Mr. Nakaye was the first to break the ice. Well, gentlemen, he said, it gives us no pleasure to be thus blankly regarding one another's faces. Let us do something.

Mr. Shimada—Let me take upon myself the work of recording the proceedings of the meeting.

Here a proposition was made for appointing a committee to prepare a draft scheme of amalgamation.

Mr. Naido—Had we not better ask the *Kiushu Doshikai* to undertake this work?

Mr. Yamada—I doubt the advisability of our party's undertaking the work. I would rather decline.

Mr. Naido—I hope my proposition may be adopted by the meeting.

This course was finally adopted.

Mr. Oye—I am in full concurrence with the views just expressed. The *Kiushu Doshikai*, being a new party, is free from all kinds of disagreeable relations in the past and consequently is placed in a singularly happy position for undertaking work of this kind. A draft prepared by it runs no risk of being received unfavourably either by the *Daido Danketsu*, or the *Kaishin-to*, as would naturally be the case did the draft emanate from a party hitherto in opposition to those whose union is now sought. Moreover, considering the desirability of forming the new great party as far as possible on the model of the political parties in western countries, I think it very advisable to trust this important work to such men as Mr. Kawashima, who has spent so many years in investigating affairs of the kind in Europe and America. Should it, however, be made public that the draft for organizing the new party was entrusted to the hands of the *Kiushu Doshikai*, the natural consequence would be—well the result would not be entirely satisfactory, to say the least. I should like, therefore, to recommend that the draft be represented as having been prepared with the concurrence of all the parties concerned.

Mr. Naido—Inasmuch as it will be by our own resolution that the preparation of the draft is entrusted to the *Kiushu* party, the formal responsibility of the work will of course rest upon us all. I see no occasion for the uneasiness expressed by Mr. Oye.

Just here Mr. Kawashima produced a sheet of paper bearing what purported to be a draft prepared by the *Kogoshima Daishikai*.

Mr. Shimada—Now the draft committee having been fixed, what shall we consider next?

Mr. Naido—In the first place, we had better fix the principles of the new party and then our platform. While matters of mere detail need not be settled at the present meeting, I think we can express on this occasion our views respecting the party's principles and platform.

Mr. Suzuki—The vindication of the national honour shall be placed in the fore front of the party's platform!

So saying, he was proceeding to refer to the treaty revision affairs of last year, when—

Mr. Sugita interposed—That affair should not be discussed here, because—

Mr. Oi—I cannot understand why Mr. Sugita seeks to prevent others from giving full expression to their views. Mr. Sugita always—

Here a few sharp words were exchanged.

Mr. Suzuki—In my opinion, it is of paramount importance that treaties of full equality should be negotiated.

He then propounded at great length his views on the subject.

Mr. Shimada—Such propositions are embarrassing to us.

Mr. Kawashima—Questions bearing on the foreign relations of the country had better be excluded from our discussion at the present meeting.

Mr. Oye—The vindication of the national honour is one of the five leading principles of our party,

and I hope earnestly that it will be preserved in the programme of the new party.

Mr. Kawashima—I suppose there will be no objection to our adopting liberalism as our principle.

Mr. Shimada—And our motto should be "Magnifying the Glory of the Crown and the Extension of Popular Rights."

These remarks elicited neither approval nor condemnation.

Such was the substance of the proceedings of the meeting. The most striking features about it were an exchange of sharp words between Messrs. Oi and Sugita, and a spirited argument between Messrs. Suzuki and Takata.

Considering the attitude the *Nippon* adopts towards the proposed amalgamation, we are not at all prepared to vouch for the accuracy of the above report, especially when we remember how frequently the light of truth in such matters is apt to be deflected in passing through journalistic lens. The editor of the *Choya Shim-bun* avers that there must be some inaccuracies in the report, especially in the part referring to Mr. Shimada. Moreover, one thing will certainly strike our readers, as it has struck us, how did the *Nippon* and other papers obtain access to the above information. The conference was avowedly confidential, and inferentially all discussions were conducted under the seal of strict secrecy. That outsiders should have been allowed to overhear the proceedings of such a conference cannot be credited. If we accept the report, we must at the same time accept the disagreeable hypothesis that the events which transpired at the conference were divulged by some of the representatives present. Such untrustworthy action is by no means to be hailed as an auspicious omen of the success of the proposed amalgamation, and we may make the same comment about the publication of the so-called report in the columns of newspapers professing to be friendly to the cause of union.

THE CONSERVATIVES.

ACCORDING to the *Choya Shim-bun*, the conservatives, alarmed at the prospect of all the progressive parties forming an amalgamation, are trying to prevent the consummation of the scheme. They are represented as endeavouring to cause discord among the progressionists by pointing out the absurdity of parties which stood in diametrically opposite positions last year on the question of Treaty Revision, passing, this year, into one political camp. Our contemporary rebuts this attack with considerable warmth and ridicules the idea as too silly to impose upon public intelligence. "The ultimate object," the *Choya* avers, "of the *Daido Danketsu* and the *Jiyu-to* in opposing Count Okuma's treaty revision proposals, was one and the same with that of the *Kaishin-to* in approving them, namely, the conclusion of treaties on a basis of perfect equality." The only difference between the two was that the one proposed to attain this end at a bound and was not satisfied with anything short of a programme of absolute equality, while the other, acting upon the principle of *festina lente*, held that the shortest path to the realization of the ultimate object of both was to accept the most favourable terms obtainable under the actual circumstances. The difference lay in the route to be taken, not in the goal to be attained. With weak-minded Conservatives, who at this eleventh hour are still dreaming of the seclusion of the country from the outside world, and to whom mixed residence is a fearful nightmare, any coalition would certainly be absurd and impossible. But what wonder can there be in a combination of the different sections of a progressionist party having a common object and destiny?"

POLITICAL RUMOURS.

SOME time ago it was rumoured in a certain quarter that important changes in the personnel of the Cabinet were contemplated. The rumour died a natural death at the moment, but is resuscitated in a new form by the *Kokumin-no-Tomo*. The article is in our contemporary's usually mysterious style, but nobody can mistake its purport. In plain language, it means to say that Count Ito is about to succeed Count

Yamagata as Minister President, that Viscount Tani is to take the place of Mr. Yoshikawa in the Department of Education, that Mr. Mutsu, and Viscount Aoki do not stand on firm ground, and that Counts Matsukata and Saigo will remain in the Cabinet. The *Kokumin* also states that there is an institution in the Government which is always opposed the policy of the Cabinet, and that the members of that institution are about to propose a successor to the present Minister President. Does the Tokyo journal mean the Privy Council? It further publishes imaginary correspondence between Counts Ito and Inouye, whom it calls respectively the Chief of Odawara Castle and the Lord of Isobe. In Count Ito's letter, that statesman recommends Count Inouye to give the chair of Education to the honest General (Viscount Tani); because, as he has many friends among the grey-headed Privy Councilors, his entrance into the Cabinet would constitute a safe link between it and the Privy Council. Count Ito is also made to state that the progressive parties being about to unite, he and his friends ought to effect a combination between their followers and the Conservatives and Independents. In reply, the Lord of Isobe finds a difficulty in accepting advice as to the honest General. He acknowledges the General's importance as a means of securing the support of the Privy Council. He further observes that the Satsuma men are favourably inclined towards the General. Still he finds it extremely inconvenient to give a Ministerial seat to the General, because the latter is not on good terms with his Lordship's own followers. From these letters and from another note in which our contemporary states that recently a bright star appeared on the horizon and moved towards Odawara, where another bright star appeared to receive the first star, and that these two stars went to the east hand in hand—from these circumstances it appears that the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* includes Count Inouye among the new Ministers of State. Our contemporary's ambiguous writing admits of another reading. It may possibly mean that the governmental power is really vested not in Count Yamagata but in Counts Ito and Inouye.

A NEW POLITICAL BODY.

As already noticed in these columns, a new political body of considerable importance is being formed under the guidance of Messrs. Sugiyama, Oyagi, Motoda, Yoshino, and some other Members of the House of Representatives. What their political creed is, no paper or magazine pretends to know definitely, but judging from the avowed opinions of some of the above named gentlemen, especially Mr. Sugiyama, we may safely state that the fundamental principle of the new body will be progressive conservatism. Many of the men whose names are associated with the new combination would indignantly object to be called conservative, but making every allowance for the apparent liberality of their political views in certain respects, the fact still remains that the essential tendency of their opinions is towards conservatism. In the coming Diet, they may co-operate with the progressive parties against the Government on certain questions, but their ultimate position in Japanese politics will be in the van of the conservative party. Meanwhile, as they have not yet declared their platform, they are the subject of much ill-natured criticism at the hands of some of the papers representing liberal principles. The *Kokumin-no-Tomo* and the *Kokumin Shimbu* are specially conspicuous in abusing the new party. But the virulence of these criticisms attests the growing importance of the new combination.

THE TOKYO WATER-WORKS.

The *Shogyo Shimo* says that the President of the Tokyo Improvements Committee has forwarded a sum of two thousand yen to Mr. Shibusawa Eiichi, in acknowledgment of the value of the plans and estimates presented by that gentleman to the Committee when it undertook the management of the Tokyo Water-works

Scheme. It will be remembered that the Water-works enterprise was originally started by a private company of which Messrs. Shibusawa, Masuda, and Okura were the projectors, and that plans and estimates were prepared by Major-General Palmer at the request of the Company. When it was decided that the question of Water-works ought to fall within the province of the City Improvements Committee's investigations, these plans and estimates were submitted to the Committee and became the basis of the scheme which is now to be carried out. Two thousand yen was, we believe, the nominal honorarium paid for the preparation of the documents, and this sum Mr. Yoshika, on behalf of the Improvements Committee, has doubtless refunded to Mr. Shibusawa. It cannot in any sense be considered "an acknowledgment" to Mr. Shibusawa of the value of the plans and estimates, as the *Shogyo Shimo* puts it.

THE EXERCISE OF THE FRANCHISE.

We had hoped that the publication of accurate returns would have enabled us to ascertain ere this the exact number of voters who actually cast ballots at the recent elections as compared with the number who possessed the franchise. Unfortunately, however, we see little prospect of arriving at precise results. Collecting all the returns hitherto published, we find that in only 192 districts out of 300 are complete figures given. In these 192 districts the total number of persons possessing the franchise was 355,536, and the total number who actually voted was 266,713, or 75 per cent. When we remember that the country was not stirred by any great party question and that many of the electors must have felt very little direct interest in the result, this average seems decidedly high. It indicates, at all events, that no such political apathy exists as some writers have been accustomed to predict. We remark, further, that in almost every part of the empire a tolerably equal degree of interest was shown by the voters; even remote country districts have as good an average as the centres of political agitation. Curiously enough, there appears to have existed more apathy in Kyoto than anywhere else. In the four districts of which the returns are to hand, only 5,800 voters balloted out of a possible 13,560. Hyogo also falls below the average, only 15,600 votes having been cast in ten districts out of a possible 24,106; while Osaka, where the *soshi* have their head-quarters, barely comes up to the average, with 10,248 voters in six districts among 14,313 who possessed the franchise. In seven districts of Niigata, on the other hand, no less than 13,503 voters came to the polls out of a total of 16,944. The returns are still too incomplete to enable us to compile comparative figures for the various Prefectures and Cities, or for the different parties.

THE OPPORTUNITY FOR THE FORMATION OF A GREAT PROGRESSIVE PARTY.

The *Kokumin-no-Tomo* of the 13th instant has an article on the formation of a great progressive party. The question is discussed under twelve headings, and will prove interesting to students of Japanese politics. In the first place we are told that public opinion, having already recognised the importance of an alliance between the various progressive parties, must also admit the importance of their amalgamation. Amalgamation is, if anything, better than alliance. The original object aimed at by the proposed alliance can be better attained by amalgamation. In the second place, under existing circumstances there are only two possible courses of action, either to unite all the parties of progressive principles into one body, or to suffer them to maintain their independent existence. No other course is now open within the limits of law. If to remain inactive were the chief object, the parties could do better than pursue the latter course. But now is the time for them to take a bold and decisive step in order to present a united front to their common enemy. In the third place, as to the proposal for the organization of a club, some persons believe that by

this means it would be possible to preserve union among the progressionists in the Diet. The members of this club would have their names struck off the rolls of their respective parties, thus evading the veto imposed by the Law of Political Associations. But the *Kokumin* thinks that such a combination would be very limited in its scope and correspondingly inefficient. Political parties ought to have their heads in the Diet and their bodies and limbs in the country at large. A partial combination of the representatives of a number of parties might lead to estrangement between the heads and bodies of those parties. What difficulty, in the fourth place, can there be in amalgamating the progressive parties? The terms *Kaishin*, *Jiyu*, and *Shimo* are but different translations of the same English word "liberal." All the different progressive parties have virtually identical platforms; they all agree in desiring Government by party, in demanding a reduction of the land tax; in insisting on the curtailment of public expenses; in demanding some extension of the franchise; in wishing for the amendment or abrogation of the Public Meeting Regulations, the Newspaper Regulations, and so forth; in condemning official interference with private enterprise, and in asking for integrity of local self-government. It is, moreover, an indisputable fact that the platforms of these parties represent the wish of the majority of the nation. What should prevent them from uniting into one great party? The *Kokumin* answers that nothing stands in the way of such a consummation. In the fifth place, the present parties are only provisional. Their separate existence is not due to any unavoidable reason, but is purely accidental. The period of their usefulness has passed away. In the sixth place, the preservation of such names as *Kaishin-to* and *Jiyu-to* is calculated to preserve all the old feelings of mutual antipathy and the present is a rare opportunity to erase all these hostile feelings from the memories of the various progressive parties. In the seventh place, there are, besides the larger parties, many political bodies and many members of the Diet maintaining an independent attitude, partly because they are dissatisfied with existing parties and partly because they think it humiliating to seek admission to the ranks of any of them. Such associations and individuals might take part in the formation of a new party without lowering their dignity. To secure their allegiance and co-operation would be no small gain to the cause of progress. In the eighth place, as to the objection that amalgamation of the progressive parties would entail the same danger of dismemberment as that which befel the *Daido Danketsu*, the *Kokumin* observes that those who think thus simply confess their inability to read the signs of the time. The organizers of the *Daido Danketsu* obtained adherents at first by making opposition to clan Government their war cry, but they were not able to point out a method of attaining that object. Their aim did not go beyond intimidating the Government by agitation. But there is now a definite line of action in sight. The progressionists can now give effect to their advanced views in the Chambers of the Diet. The dismemberment of the *Daido Danketsu* was owing to its inaction, but a field of battle now offers in which the opposition can fight for supremacy; there is now a Diet in which they can attain their object by constitutional methods. In the ninth place, towards the close of 1887 there was a project for the formation of a great party by uniting the *Jiyu-to* and a section of the *Kaishin-to*. It failed because such a partial and exclusive union could not but engender jealousy in the minds of the members of other progressive parties. But the present scheme being the amalgamation of all the progressive parties, there need not be any fear of producing such a feeling. The situation is made still more hopeful by the presence of a party like the *Kyushu Shimo-to*, which is ever ready to mediate between the various progressive bodies. In the tenth place, the contention that a large party would inevitably split into several sections is no reason why such a party should not be formed. Every party, however small and insignificant,

is necessarily made up of some small sections. When the proposed amalgamation has been in existence for about a year or so, some of the former members of the *Kaishin-to* may be found to have become intimately connected with the former members of the *Aikoku-to*, while some of the former members of the *Jiyu-to* may be discovered to have cemented a close friendship with those of the *Kyushu Shimpoto*. The existence of such minor groups within the main party need not be regarded with any apprehension. In the eleventh place, with the formation of a great progressive party, there would rise up a great conservative and pro-official party. The existing parties of the latter kind are at present wearing a mask. They are like parasites; they change their colour with the colour of the sap on which they feed. But the appearance of a great progressive party will compel them to show their true countenance. Nothing will be more welcome than the formation of two large parties in the State. Finally, the tendency of the time is irresistibly favourable for the formation of a great progressive party. It is a remarkable fact that the *Kyushu Shimpoto*, which has hitherto been distinguished for its deliberate and cool attitude, has to-day become the most zealous supporter of the amalgamation of the progressive parties. Its delegates, now staying in Tokyo, have taken the decisive step of dissolving their party, and they seek to prevail on the other parties to do the same. The *Aikoku-to* and the *Jiyu-to* have also decided to take a similar step, while the majority of the members of the *Daido Danketsu* and the *Kaishin-to* are of the same opinion. To speak individually, men like Count Itagaki, the leader of the *Aikoku-to*; Mr. Oi Kentaro, of the *Jiyu-to*; Messrs. Kataoka Kenkichi and Sugita Teichi, of the *Aikoku-to*; Count Okuma, the leader of the *Kaishin-to*; Messrs. Shimada Saburo, Fujita Mokichi, and Kato Masanosuke of the same party; and Mr. Yano Fumio, who declares himself no longer a member of the same party; Messrs. Kawashima Jun, Yamada Buho, Matsuda Masahisa, Takeda Jibin, and Okada Koroku, of the *Kyushu Shimpoto*; men like these are especially enthusiastic in advocating the organization of a new party. It is also significant that the *Hochi Shimbun*, which has hitherto been remarkably moderate, now shows unusual warmth in discussing this question and advises the *Kaishin-to* to dissolve. As to the *Daido Danketsu*, the *Kokumin* regrets greatly that some of its members are opposed to the project of amalgamation. The very name *Daido Danketsu* (similarity-in-essentials party) ought to induce them to take a different course. But the *Kokumin* has no doubt that the majority of the party will be found favourable to amalgamation, and that the men of the North-East are sufficiently sagacious and single-hearted not to be duped by a few wary politicians in the capital. The tendency of the time is now fixed. They who swim with the tide will be victorious, while those going against it will be defeated.

ELECTRIC LIGHTING IN YOKOHAMA.

In view of the disastrous consequences experienced in American cities, due to the overhead wires of electric lighting companies being placed in public thoroughfares, the local Authorities appear to have adopted a short-sighted policy in permitting a similar system to obtain in Yokohama. Unhappily as are the poles now being erected to carry the electric wires, it can scarcely be urged that they disfigure streets where no architectural beauty exists, but permission having been granted for the commencement of the system, the overhead erections will become an intolerable nuisance when they invade the narrow thoroughfares in which many of the business houses of the Settlement are located; and if electric lighting is ever adopted in Yokohama to any great extent, serious difficulties will arise in connection with the distribution of the illuminant. In the United States many dire calamities have been reported from time to time, resulting primarily from breakage in the supports of the overhead system, in which people were roasted alive in the streets after becoming entangled in

a network of fallen wires. There is no reason to suppose that Yokohama will be exempt from accidents of the kind, and there can be no question, so far as we can see, about the underground system being vastly superior as a provision against accident, to say nothing about space and the appearance of the streets. In many American cities the electric light is very extensively used, and the cost of laying the wires underground, after the overhead arrangement had been found to be a constant source of danger to life, involved an enormous outlay on the part of the companies. These naturally objected, though they had to succumb, the pressure brought to bear upon the Authorities by the press and the public making it imperative that the change should be effected. A combination of companies or corporate bodies as formed in the United States is no mean antagonist, and in some cases the Authorities had to proceed to extreme measures to enforce the order for the conveyance of electric wires underground. The companies in New York, for instance, flatly refused to make the desired change, and openly defied the Mayor and Municipal Council. Mr. Grace, the Mayor, however, was equal to the occasion. He gave a final order that the wires were to be placed underground by a certain date, warning the companies that they would have to suffer the consequences of non-compliance. The date passed, and nothing was done. The companies thought the Mayor was beaten, but they found out their mistake to their cost. Mr. Grace waited a few days, when, having made his preparations, he marched out five hundred men armed with the necessary implements at twelve o'clock at night, and in a short space of time had every overhead wire in the city cut down.

"THE HYOGO NEWS" AND THE LOCAL CLERGY.

A CORRESPONDENT signing himself "Justice," whose letter we publish to-day, complains of statements that have appeared in the Editorial and Correspondence columns of this journal bearing on the comments made by the *Hyogo News* apropos of the non-appearance of the clergy and the absence of Christian rites at the burial of Mrs. Rodgers and Mrs. Schroeder. Prior to the reception of the letter from "Justice," we observed that the *Hyogo News* accused us of making "silly blunders" and of failing in the performance of the duties of a gentleman because we neglected to apologize for our shortcomings. We have purposely taken no notice of our contemporary's criticism. The weather is probably more oppressive in Kobe than it is here. Irritability is to a certain extent excusable. But since "Justice," as the mouthpiece of the *Hyogo News*, has seen fit to defend the action of that journal in these columns, we think it advisable to lay before our readers in a few words the plain facts of the case. The remarks of the *Hyogo News* on which our editorial note was based were as follows:—"Dread of cholera is surely not so bad in Kobe that a clergymen cannot be found to perform the last offices to the dead even when the dead are victims of cholera in a serious form. . . . We trust, however, that should it come to pass that any more strangers breathe their last among us the reproach which the community has incurred in this matter will be atoned for." Now, if language means anything, in writing thus the editor of the *Hyogo News* makes two implications. He implies that the absence of the clergy was designed—otherwise the community of Kobe cannot be said to have incurred a reproach—and he implies that dread of cholera was the cause of their absence. We maintain that we were perfectly justified in describing the reasons given by our contemporary for the absence of the clergy as "improbable and uncharitable." If the editor of the *Hyogo News* maintains that while writing the above, he did not mean to blame the clergy, then all we can say is that instead of indulging in pointless satire, he would do well to pay a little more attention to the import of the words which he uses. "Justice" does not inform us that various residents of Kobe, clergymen and others, regarded the

editorial comments of the *Hyogo News* in a no less unfavourable light than we ourselves. He does not inform us that an old and respected resident of Kobe, Mr. Lucas, sent a letter to the *Hyogo News* which commenced thus:—"As your leading editorial of this date concerning the absence of any minister at the burial of Mrs. Rodgers and her daughter is, if unexplained, likely to create a false impression with reference to the clergy residing in this town." (The italics are ours.) He does not inform us that two resident clergy, Mr. Lambuth and Mr. Dunn, found it necessary to address letters of explanation to the *Hyogo News*. It is somewhat odd that so many readers should prove too dense to see the way in which the criticism in question was intended by its author to be understood. We recommend our contemporary to justify his claim to be an expert journalist by showing his readers that he knows how to express what he means in language that no one can misunderstand.

THE END OF THE UPPER YANGTZE NAVIGATION COMPANY.

THE abandonment of Mr. Archibald Little's scheme for navigating the Yangtze rapids to Chungking, and the purchase of his steamer the *Kuling*, are already known to all our readers. We give here, as the formal record of the termination of this interesting episode in the commercial relations of the West with China, the deed of purchase by the Chinese Government of the *Kuling*. The document has not, we believe, been published before. The formal copies of the register of the steamer, in accordance with the British Merchant Shipping Acts, and the seals, signatures, and witnesses at the end are omitted, as merely formal:—

This agreement made the twenty-first day of December, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine, between the Upper Yangtze Steam Navigation Company Limited (hereinafter called "the Company"), whose registered office is situate at No. 63, Gracechurch Street, in the City of London, and who are the lawful owners of the steamship called *Kuling*, hereinafter described as of the first part, Edward Ford Duncanson of Whittington House, Whittington Avenue, Leadenhall Street, London, Merchant, of the second part, and James Duncan Campbell, of No. 8, Storey's Gate, St. James's Park, in the County of Middlesex, Esquire, C.M.G., Commissioner of Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs, as Agent for and on behalf of Sir Robert Hart, G.C.M.G., Inspector General of Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs, acting as Agent for and on behalf of the Imperial Chinese Government, of the third part, whereby it is agreed as follows:—

1.—The Company shall sell and the said Inspector-General, acting as such Agent as aforesaid, shall purchase at or for the price or sum of Eighteen thousand Pounds British Sterling (which includes an allowance for the expenses of the intended winding up of the Company), free from a Mortgage, for three thousand seven hundred and fifty pounds to the said Edward Ford Duncanson now subsisting on the said ship and free from all other charges and encumbrances, claims, and demands whatsoever, all that the said ship called *Kuling*, whereof Frederick Johnson is or was lately Master, and in such state and condition as she may be in when she shall be delivered in the Port of Shanghai, in China, a full description of which said ship is contained in the certificate of Her Majesty dated second February, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight, a copy whereof is hereunder annexed together with all the steam engines, shafts, cranks, paddles, masts, sails, yards, spars, anchors, cables, compasses, chains, ropes, cords, stanchions, guns, ammunition, tackle, apparel, boats, oars, furniture, utensils, and appurtenances whatsoever to the said ship, now belonging or in anywise appertaining, in such state as the same respectively shall be in when delivered, and together also with the benefit of the existing policy or policies upon such ship until transfer thereof, which said ship had been duly registered at Shanghai aforesaid as appears by the said certificate.

2.—Forthwith after the execution of this agreement the said Edward Ford Duncanson shall telegraph to his attorney at Shanghai directions to duly transfer the said mortgage to the said Sir Robert Hart and to deliver the original mortgage and the transfer thereof to the Commissioner of Customs at Shanghai for entry on the said register there, and shall also execute a duplicate transfer upon a copy of the said mortgage in London and deliver the same to the said James Duncan Campbell, and the Company shall duly transfer or cause to be transferred the said ship in London to the said Sir Robert Hart free from all other charges and encumbrances, claims, and demands whatsoever, and shall deliver such transfer and the certificate of the said ship to the said James Duncan Campbell, and shall telegraph to their Agents at Shanghai directions to deliver or cause to be delivered possession of the said ship free from all claims and demands whatsoever to the Commissioner of Chinese

Customs at Shanghai and the ship shall be at the risk of the said Sir Robert Hart from the time of such delivery of possession.

3.—The said Edward Ford Duncanson and the Company shall cause their Agents, Messieurs Gibb, Livingston & Co., at Shanghai aforesaid, to transmit to the said Edward Ford Duncanson for communication to the Company immediately on such transfer of the said mortgage being completed by entry thereof on the said Register at Shanghai and on such delivery of possession of the said ship taking place, telegraphic information of the completion thereof and the said James Duncan Campbell shall also arrange for the like telegraphic information being immediately sent by the Commissioner of Customs at Shanghai to the said Sir Robert Hart and by him to the said James Duncan Campbell.

4.—Simultaneously with the execution and delivery of such transfers of the said mortgage and ship in London the said James Duncan Campbell shall pay or deposit the sum of three thousand nine hundred and eighty-one pounds ten shillings, being the amount of principal and interest now due and to become due on the said Mortgage up to the first day of July next to a joint account in the names of the said Edward Ford Duncanson and James Duncan Campbell at the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, and on receipt by the said Edward Ford Duncanson and James Duncan Campbell respectively of such telegraphic information as aforesaid the said sum and any interest made thereon shall be paid over to the said Edward Ford Duncanson.

5.—Simultaneously with the execution of such transfers as aforesaid in London the said James Duncan Campbell shall pay or deposit the sum of fourteen thousand and eighteen pounds ten shillings, being the balance of the said purchase money of eighteen thousand pounds to a joint account in the names of Frederick Leigh Hutchins, of 11, Birchin Lane, London, Solicitor, and William Harwood, of 31, Lombard Street, London, Solicitor, at the said Bank to be held by them until the transfer of the said ship free from all incumbrances, claims, and demands except the said mortgage shall have been duly entered on the said register at Shanghai and then to be paid over by them to the Company with any interest made thereon.

6.—Telegraphic information of the completion of the transfer of the said ship on the Shanghai register shall be sent in manner aforesaid to the Company through the said Edward Ford Duncanson as aforesaid, and to the said James Duncan Campbell respectively, who shall respectively communicate the same to the said Frederick Leigh Hutchins and William Harwood; such telegraphic information shall be deemed to be sufficient evidence of the completion of such transfer and sufficient authority to them to withdraw the said deposit and interest and pay the same to the Company as aforesaid.

The Company and all necessary parties, if any, shall at the Company's expense make, do, and execute all further acts, deeds, matters, and things which may be reasonably required for completing the transfer of the said ship on the said Shanghai register free from all charges and incumbrances, claims, and demands whatsoever except the said mortgage or for clearing off any such charges and incumbrances, claims, and demands.

The said James Duncan Campbell shall incur no personal liability whatever under or in respect of this agreement.

As witness the hands and seals of the said parties of the second and third parts and the common seal of the party of the first part.

THE PEIHO FLOODS.

The Chinese Times, writing of the Peiho floods, says:—

If it could be approximately ascertained what has been the aggregate loss caused by the recent floods to the population, and if it could be demonstrated that an outlay of no more than 5 or 10 per cent. of that amount would ensure immunity from such disasters in the future, surely some effort would be made by the government to discharge so rudimentary a duty. When hard pressed the Chinese are by no means wanting in energy; the erection of the Great Wall, the excavation of the Grand Canal, and the embankments of the Yellow River prove that they are capable of carrying out works of the greatest magnitude; but they seem to be wanting in energy and forethought when it comes to maintaining these in proper condition; and in fact to be able only to act under the immediate pressure of disaster. Hientsin has this summer been excluded from direct steam communication with the outer world because of the silting up of a small part of the Peiho; anybody giving himself the trouble to sail a few miles down the river will find that just below Hientsin the river suddenly widens to a considerable extent, and here is naturally found one of the shallow places which, without much trouble, could be made deeper, either by weirs projecting from the banks, or by two parallel embankments. Judging from the reports from the Yellow River published in the Peking Gazette, it is certain that the Chinese officials are fully aware of the effect of sudden contractions and widenings of a river-bed, notwithstanding which, not the slightest attempt has been made to do anything by way of averting the mischief. One excuse for the present state of river affairs is no doubt that very few materials are available for the construction of embankments and for works tending to protect the banks. Stone must be brought from a great distance, and willows and other trees of which fascines might be made are not grown to any extent, so there are only millet stalks to be had. Therefore, on the re-appearance of dry land, the first undertaking ought to be the planting of such useful

trees. The system of rivers draining the province of Chihli is constitutionally affected, and no amount of merely local improvements will be of permanent efficacy. Close a breach and make it stronger than the rest of the embankments and you have merely changed the place where the danger will show itself; but it will surely appear again in the next nearest point. This was predicted of the Yellow River, when the great breach at Ching Chou was closed; the Chinese themselves were quite alive to the certain consequences of that closure, and the people of Shantung did all they could to throw obstacles in the way of repairing the breach in Honan, having but too accurate a prescience that Shantung would eventually pay for the immunity of Honan and Anhui. Until some comprehensive system of river conservancy is established in China the periodical floods with continue in the future as they have done in the past; the water hemmed in at one place must escape at another. The substance of the country is wasted from year to year, and from generation to generation, by this neglect or incompetence of Government, whereas a moderate expenditure laid out on a well regulated plan would yield a hundred-fold in the material wealth of the people, and in the strengthening of the Government, internally and externally.

GOLD AND SILVER RATIOS.

The Official Gazette gives the following table of comparative values of gold and silver coins and of the pound sterling for the week ended the 16th inst., as derived from the returns of the Bank of Japan and the Yokohama Specie Bank:—

Days	Gold Coin. (Per yen 100. Silver Yen.	Pound Sterling. (Per £1. Silver Yen.
11th	112.300	A.M. 5.5491 P.M. 5.5752
12th	112.000	A.M. 5.5172 P.M. 5.4545
13th	110.800	A.M. 5.4545 P.M. 5.4545
14th	110.800	A.M. 5.4545 P.M. 5.4545
15th	110.800	A.M. 5.4545 P.M. 5.4545
16th	110.800	A.M. 5.4545 P.M. 5.3932
Averages	111.250	5.4713

The above averages show for gold coin a decrease in value of yen 0.550, and for the pound sterling a decrease in value of yen 0.0509 as compared with the previous week.

THE REPORTED ERUPTION AT IWO-ZAN.

Some days ago it was reported that a volcanic eruption has occurred at Iwo-zan, and that the watering place at Doyu-mura, in Fukushima Prefecture, had been completely buried. It turns out, however, on enquiry, that nothing worse occurred than an overflow of the river Ara-kawa which runs past the hamlet supposed to have been overwhelmed. The rains on the 5th and 6th raised the water to such a height that it washed away the greater part of its banks, and carried away fourteen houses, destroying at the same time five bathing-places. No lives were lost. The Yiji Shimo explains that the mountain of Iwo is about seven miles from Doyu-mura, and that nothing in the nature of a volcanic disturbance occurred there. Another mountain, Uyeno-zan, in the immediate vicinity of Doyu-mura, was the scene of a landslide about eighty yards long and three or four feet wide. The alarm caused by this is supposed to have been responsible for the rumour about Iwo-zan.

CURIOSITIES IN CURIOS.

What is the "famous blue lacquer" of which the Hongkong Telegraph speaks? It seems that a firm of dealers in objects of art has opened a store in Hongkong and that one of the most attractive articles is a screen having a ground of "the famous blue lacquer, the birds upon it being in ivory, tortoise-shell, and pearl, while the life-like and natural pose of each figure is not one of the least merits." Blue lacquer is a novelty, and so is the life-like and natural pose of a bird's figure. Another curiosity among curios, to be seen at the same store, is "cloisonné inlaid with gold." By what kind of process this strange manufacture is produced, or what it looks like when produced, we have not the smallest idea. Hongkong is very fortunate.

ATTEMPTED BURGLARY.

An extraordinary attempt at burglary was made on Wednesday night on the Bluff, when, at about half-past eleven, a man knocked at No. 46, a house occupied by Mr. Wallace, who was away from home serving on board a steamer, and on Mrs. Wallace asking who was there the man replied

yubin—"post." Mrs. Wallace said she could not open the door at that time of night, when the man gave her to understand that he had letters of importance. On the strength of this assertion she opened the door, when the ruffian seized the lady and attempted to get a rope around her neck. Being pretty active she was quite a match for her assailant, and not only resisted the robbing, but got hold of his hand with her teeth. Her screaming when the robber first seized her had by this time attracted the neighbours, and the robber then took flight. He had left his gata, however, hanging on or near the gate, and one of these Mrs. Wallace took to the police station close by, which it is hoped may lead to the capture of this miscreant, as was the case in a Bluff robbery not long ago.

PUGILISTIC PRAISES.

"ANOTHER step is to be noted in the progress of woman," says the St. James's Gazette:—"Henceforth the noble art self-defence is to be included in the list of her many accomplishments. The American girl appears to be responsible for this latest innovation, and the pugilists of the United States are said to be experiencing an era of unusual prosperity in imparting their science to Columbia's daughters. For a long time there has been a great desire on the part of many of these daughters to acquire knowledge of what has hitherto been known as the "manly art" as there has been on the part of certain English ladies to display their prowess and ankles in the cricket-field. This desire has been intensified by the publication of a little *rencontre* that recently took place on Fifth-avenue. One of New York's fairest and wealthiest was walking unattended down that fashionable thoroughfare, when a man whom she did not know walked beside her, raised his hat, and spoke to her. Without a second's hesitation the young lady dealt the shiny and carefully brushed *chapeau* a right-hander that sent it rolling into the mud and planted a left-hander between her insulter's eyes that tumbled him after and on top of his hat. Then, "with scorn depicted on her features and conscious of her own superiority," this fair one marched placidly on amidst the applause of a few on-lookers, while the unfortunate individual who had received such unexpected chastisement picked up himself and his battered head-gear and slunk away. And now there is a legion of girls anxious to attain the ability, and to find an opportunity, of going and doing likewise. It is just possible that this thrilling story is only the invention of a pugilist who takes lady pupils, and who foresaw what a stimulus the publication of such a tale would give to his business; but, whether true or not, it has, in the words of a feminine aspirant for pugilistic honours, "opened the eyes of woman to the possibility of her being able to meet man on even terms anywhere and everywhere." "If," says this lady to her associates, "you are insulted in the street, knock your insulter down." No doubt that is a very right and proper course to take; but should women become as proficient and handy with their fists as some of them appear to believe is probable, it is greatly to be feared that they will use these fists on very much less urgent occasions. The man who accidentally jostles against a lady in the street may find himself flying backwards through the plate glass window of a shop; that wickedly selfish individual who hurries into a train or omnibus in front of several women may very likely get his head "in chancery;" and that most discourteous specimen of masculinity who sits on top of an omnibus and lets the smoke from his pipe blow into the face of "lady passengers" near by will probably experience the felicity of seeing his pipe pitched into the street and, if he demurs, himself following after it. To acquire true prowess in the art of boxing much labour and time must be expended, and the domestic hearth and the boiling of potatoes must be entirely forgotten. In the first instance, according to an ex-prize-fighter who now devotes his time to initiating young ladies into his science, the pupil has got to be taught to walk properly

—a thing which very few of them know how to do. Further than that, he says that he first teaches his pupils to walk in a room and then, when they have learnt that thoroughly, to walk in the open air. Next, when their legs and feet are thoroughly drilled, he begins an elementary instruction as to how they must use their hands and arms. This is long and tedious, and commences with Indian clubs and dumb-bells. Some time elapses before the pupils reach that happy stage when they can enjoy the serene felicity of punching each other; for even after they have learned to walk and to wield the clubs and dumb bells, they have to spend many weary hours punching an inflated rubber bag secured to the ceiling and floor by rubber bands. Finally, when with unerring eye they can deliver rights and lefts *ad libitum* on this bag, they are allowed to don the gloves and to become students of all the intricacies of feinting, countering, ducking, etc. In regard to the "ducking," the teacher says that women are more expert at it than men: No doubt! Indeed, if all this gentleman says is true, women's ability to become superior to men as pugilists is beyond dispute; for, according to him, in keenness of eye, deftness of hand, and celerity of foot they are capable of much greater prowess than any members of the masculine sex; and his lady pupils, no matter how small or fragile, when they have completed their courses of instruction with him are at once able to "knock out" the biggest men "like sticks." But what a transformation women must undergo in his establishment! When they first attend his lessons they do not know how to walk; when they have passed through the entire training provided by him they are expert walkers, runners, duckers, dodgers, and boxers. If this study is adopted in earnest by woman, the "unprotected female" must become a thing of the past. Every woman will be armed with a pair of fists which, when occasion requires—or perhaps sometimes does not require—will dart out from the shoulder like a flash of lightning and inflict summary vengeance on any luckless offender. To acquire absolute proficiency, however, careful attention and constant practice is not only necessary, but also a change of dress and diet. The former will at once receive the approbation of the Dress Reform Association, for the costume most fancied by 'lady boxers' is very similar to the picturesque but scanty bathing attire worn by young ladies at Newport and Long Branch. The latter may not receive so many adherents, for all sweets and pastries are tabooed as tending to create flabbiness instead of muscle; although an atom of comfort will be derived from the fact that the offending potato is also on the forbidden list, and therefore will not need to be boiled. Perhaps the more attractive features held out by the advocates of boxing for ladies are that it is warranted to develop and create a "perfect figure" and to "beautify" the complexion. The first is attained, so it is said, by the exercise and by freedom from the ordinary restraint and pinching incurred by wearing the regulation feminine apparel; the second comes of itself when a regular diet of underdone meat and stale bread is adhered to, and a good daily pounding in the face received. These, at least, are the Professor's recipes and form part of his training; but then he does not teach the female arm to hit straight from the shoulder for nothing; and whether his pupils take their lessons from a desire to be in the latest fashion, or to be armed against attack, or to develop a robust figure or to attain a clear and 'peachy' complexion, the good effect on their instructor's bank account must be the same."

CRICKET IN ENGLAND.

SOME tall scoring has been witnessed at home this year, and so extraordinary is the total in the innings of Cambridge University playing against Sussex at Brighton, that we reproduce the score in full. During the match no fewer than 1,342 runs were scored, which beats the previous best English aggregate on record of 1,295 made in the Middlesex and Yorkshire contest at Lord's, in June, 1889, by 47 runs.

The greatest aggregate ever obtained in a first-class match is 1,411 in the Victoria v. New South Wales contest at Sydney in February, 1882, when the game extended into the fifth day. The highest innings on record also stood to an Australian team, New South Wales having obtained 773 in the match alluded to; but this has now been eclipsed by the "Cantabs" at Brighton piling up the phenomenal total of 885.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY.			
First Innings.		Second Innings.	
F. G. J. Ford, b Bean	191	b Bean	191
R. N. Douglas, c Butt, b Parrish	84	b Gibb	61
C. P. Foley, b Smith	6	c Gibb, b Smith	117
G. McGeeor, b Smith	35	b Cotterill	131
A. J. L. Hill, b w, b Bean	19	b Humphreys	6
P. S. Jackson, c Butt, b Bean	7	b Humphreys, b Cotterill	20
S. M. J. Woods, b w, b Smith	4	not out	33
R. C. Gosling, c Butt, b Smith	15	c Tebay, b Bean	15
D. L. Jepson, c Tebay, b Smith	5	b w, b Gibb	7
H. Hale, c and b Bean	17	b w, b Humphreys	54
R. C. Stentfield, not out	49	not out	49
Extras	6	Extras	9
Total	719	(Innings closed)	706

CHOLERA RETURNS.
THE latest cholera returns derived from official sources are as follow:—

Prefecture.	Date.	New cases.	Deaths.
Nagasaki	15th	54	37
	16th	39	30
	17th	23	40
	18th	23	36
	19th	66	37
Yamaguchi	20th	41	31
	21st	39	36
	14th	39	34
	15th	46	19
	16th	34	23
Fukuoka	17th	37	21
	18th	28	26
	19th	50	24
	20th	25	14
	14th	40	33
Kumamoto	15th	43	25
	16th	28	25
	17th	33	18
	18th	35	23
	19th	40	33
Kagoshima	20th	44	31
	14th	14	7
	15th	27	14
	16th	19	12
	17th	15	8
Saga	18th	27	13
	19th	14	14
	20th	19	9
	14th	11	5
	15th	3	2
Oita	16th	3	4
	17th	7	3
	18th	18	9
	19th	15	5
	20th	17	8

The numbers of cases and deaths since the commencement of the epidemic, inclusive of the above figures, appear in the following table:—

Prefecture.	Cases.	Deaths.
Nagasaki	2,374	1,379
Yamaguchi	653	361
Fukuoka	1,354	917
Oita	181	49
Saga	258	148
Kumamoto	479	248
Kagoshima	163	113

The total number of cases and deaths in the following Cities and Prefectures since the commencement of the epidemic to the 20th instant, not included in the above, are:—

City or Prefecture.	Cases.	Deaths.
Tokyo	226	110
Osaka	355	194
Kanagawa	372	248
Chiba	81	55
Kagawa	95	56

The Japanese who was taken with cholera on the 18th inst., at Messrs. Levy & Co.'s, No. 76, died on Thursday morning at about nine o'clock. According to a Japanese doctor, who attended him, he recovered from the attack of cholera, but died of a long standing brain disorder.

The U.S. steamer *Omaha* went outside on

Thursday to bury a man in deep water who had died on board of cholera or of some complaint closely allied in appearance to that disease. The vessel returned to the anchorage in the evening, and no cases have been reported since.

THE BANK OF JAPAN.

THE amounts of convertible notes and reserves in the Bank of Japan for the week ended the 16th inst. were as follows:—

CONVERTIBLE NOTES.		RESERVES AND SECURITIES.	
YEN.		YEN.	
Notes issued	71,314,241	Gold coin and bullion	24,305,247
		Silver coin and bullion	21,869,641
		Public Loan Bonds	13,479,450
		Treasury Bills	—
		Government Bills	4,712,182
		Other securities	—
		Commercial Bills	4,050,234
	71,314,241		71,314,241

Of the above total issue of notes, the sum of yen 3,128,006 is in the treasury of the Bank, and yen 68,196,235 in actual circulation, the latter showing an increase of yen 417,235 as compared with yen 67,779,000 at the end of the previous week.

A ROLAND FOR AN OLIVER.

A WRITER in the *British Sportsman* says:—"I heard a good story the other day concerning Mr. W. G. Grace and the late late George Fordham, the jockey, which I do not think has been in print before. Fordham was a great lover of cricket, and went frequently to see Mr. Grace play, but, unfortunately, could never find the great batsman at his best. He said to him once, 'Well, I have come to see you play cricket now six times, and you have never made double figures.' To which the veteran champion's prompt reply was, 'Well, George, I have been to see you win fifteen Derbys, but I have never seen you win one yet.'"

FRACAS IN KOREA.

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* gives the following account of the alleged case of manslaughter on the sea shore at Sai-shu in Korea:—"Though no details of this affair have yet reached us, we are credibly informed that a Japanese whaler when near Tsushima, landed to seamen at Sai-shu to obtain fresh water, but the Koreans objected to their landing and refused to give them any water, and, subsequently, attacking the Japanese, a Korean got killed. It is stated that the man killed was a high local official."

DROWNED.

ON Thursday morning about half-past one Mr. C. J. Baines, second officer of the *Mitke Maru*, when going off to his ship in a sampan fell overboard. It was at once reported to the Hatoba Police, who, with the police boat and two sampans hired for the purpose, went out but searched without avail. Mr. Baines fell overboard when between the ship and the Hatoba, but nearer the former than the latter. The body has not yet been found. The wind was blowing rather fresh at the time, but there was not a very big sea on.

THE FUKUSHIMA ERUPTION DENIED.

THE *Official Gazette* of the 13th inst. says:—"We have inquired into the truth of the recent reported eruption of a sulphur mountain near Doyo-mura, Shinobu-gun, Fukushima Prefecture, and obtained the following answer by a telegram despatched on the 12th inst.:—"The rumour that a sulphur mountain has erupted is without foundation. Fourteen houses in Doyo-mura were destroyed by an inundation of water, but there was no loss of life or injury suffered by men or animals."

DEATH BY DROWNING.

ON Saturday evening at half-past six o'clock Mr. Heinrich Grauert, of No. 92, was drowned while bathing at Honmoku. His body was not recovered till half-past nine, when it was found at a distance of 50 yards from the shore by a foreigner who had been bathing with him. The funeral took place on Sunday.

THE American ship *Occidental*, Captain Taylor, from New York for Yokohama, passed Anjer on the 27th ultimo.

AMENDMENT OF THE ORGANIZATION OF THE DEPARTMENTS OF STATE.

A REMARKABLE series of Imperial Ordinances introducing amendments in the Organizations (*Kuan-sei*) of the different Departments of State, which appeared in the *Official Gazette* from time to time since March last, has now been brought to conclusion. We have thought it best to defer our comments on these Ordinances until the whole should have been made public; and we now propose to say a few words about the circumstances that led to this legislation and about the general nature of the changes themselves.

The series commenced with General Rules for the Organizations of the Different Departments of State (*Kakushō Kansei Tsū-soku*). These were published towards the end of March, and were followed at varying intervals by the Organizations of the nine Departments of State for Foreign Affairs, for Home Affairs, for Finance, for War, for the Navy, for Justice, for Education, for Agriculture and Commerce, and for Communications. It will be observed that the Household Department is left out of the category and, so far as we can see, its organization is not to undergo any immediate alteration. At any rate, we may exclude it from our comments, since it is kept entirely apart from the ordinary Departments of State, its Minister taking no part in Cabinet deliberations, though in other respects he is accorded the same status as an ordinary *Daijin*.

The object kept in view by the Government in introducing the recent changes seems to have been two-fold. In the first place, the old Organizations, promulgated in 1886 under the Premiership of Count ITO, were found to be over-minute, thus leaving too little room for each Minister of State to exercise necessary discretion in the mode of conducting the business of his own Department. To remedy this defect was plainly the first and principal object of the amendment. In the second place, although official ranks were largely purged of superfluous functionaries in 1886, the number of office-holders soon began to increase again, with the result of adding largely to the expenditure of the Government. This increase of officials was, in some instances, an unavoidable consequence of a growing volume of Departmental work. But it was none-the-less unquestionable that, speaking generally, the functions of administration might have been discharged by a smaller staff. Thus the second object of the present amendments was to reduce the official establishment to a minimum, and at the same time to make effective provisions against any unnecessary swelling of official ranks in the future.

A careful comparison of the new and

old Ordinances shows that the two-fold object just described has been attained so far as the nature of the case permitted. The General Rules for the Organizations of the different Departments of State of 1886 consisted of no less than eighty-five articles; the present rules contain only forty articles. The Organizations of the various Departments of State have likewise been made very much simpler. In justice to the framers of the old Ordinances, it must be observed that, at the time of the memorable reconstruction of the Government at the end of 1885 and in the beginning of 1886, it was above all things necessary to introduce more uniformity and regularity in the constitution of the various Department of State, as well as in the mode of conducting business. In order to accomplish this object it was thought necessary to formulate provisions which, under ordinary circumstances, would have been best left to the guidance of usage and the expediency of the moment. The minute and detailed provisions then enacted did useful work in their day: they helped to inaugurate many good methods in the management of business and in inter-departmental communications; methods which must otherwise have taken much longer to develop. But so soon as these methods became established, the written provisions enforcing their observance began to seem superfluous. Often, indeed, they seriously interfered with the attainment of the very object for which they were framed—business expedition—for no provision, above all a minute provision, however skilfully conceived and framed, can be comprehensive enough to cover all the cases that daily occur in the conduct of affairs. The framers of the new Ordinances have evidently paid due attention to this point, for they have entirely left out most of the minuter provisions of the old organizations, and have compressed the others into a few articles couched in general and comprehensive language.

As to the economical side of the question, the results achieved are not such as will give satisfaction to sanguine reformers outside the Government. Nevertheless we are disposed to think that the framers of the amended Organizations have done their utmost in this direction, within the limits of effective administration. In the nine Departments of State, nearly ten Bureaus have been either abolished or amalgamated with others; the number of officials above *Sonin* rank has been reduced by more than a hundred, while for officials of *Hannin* rank, a maximum limit has been prescribed in each Department. Some of the leading journals in the capital remark that the maximum limit for the number of *Hannin* officials is too high, that in fact it is actually higher than the present number. It is true that, in some cases, the present staff of these officials falls short of the new limit, but it does not follow that an increase of

public expenditure is thus entailed. The fact is that whereas under the old Ordinances each Minister of State was authorized to engage temporary *employés* in addition to the permanent staff, within the limits of the appropriation for general salaries, the new Organization directs him to pay such *employés* out of the fund assigned for the salary of officials of *Hannin* rank. Thus, if a Minister wishes to engage *employés*, he must diminish the permanent staff to a corresponding extent, while if he thinks it better to appoint the full prescribed number of permanent *Hannin* officials, he will have to dispense with the services of *employés* altogether. The consequence of this alteration should be a greater or less reduction of the appropriation for the salaries of clerks and *employés*, though of course it is difficult to estimate the exact economy likely to be thus effected. Probably the net reduction of expense will not amount to more than a few hundred thousand *yen*. But if the actual saving is comparatively small, we must remember, in considering the merits of the new Organizations, that they provide an effectual guarantee against any further increase of officials, since they fix a hard and fast limit for the number of officials of *Hannin* rank. As to officials of and above *Sonin* rank, a limit has always existed and been observed since 1886.

These are the principal features of the changes effected by the amended Organizations. Other points, however, deserve notice. The principal of these is the omission from the new General Rules of an article which, under the former system, empowered Ministers of State to attach to Ordinances issued in virtue of their official functions a punitive clause prescribing a fine of not more than 25 *yen*, or minor confinement of not more than 25 days, in the event of any infringement of the provisions of such Ordinances. The omission of this clause is justly hailed with approbation by the Metropolitan press; for, as they say, the power to mete out fines or imprisonment ought properly to belong entirely to the courts of law.

Another wholesome change is the raising of the official status of the Directorship in some of the more important Bureaus. Hitherto the Director of a Bureau was invariably of *Sonin* rank. Hence it followed that men of talent and experience did not long remain contented with a post in which they could not hope to rise above first class *Sonin*. In the new Organization, it is provided that the Directors of certain important Bureaus may be promoted to the second class of *Chokunin* rank. Thus these Bureaus will henceforth be able to retain the valuable services of able officials who would otherwise seek different appointments. Apart from this consideration, another circumstance seems to have necessitated the change in question. The Directors of certain Bureaus are required, in the discharge of their

duties, to exercise indirect control over officials of *Chokunin* rank. The most notable instance of the kind is that of the Director of the Local Government Bureau in the Home Office. He has to convey instructions to the Governors of Cities and Prefectures, many of whom are of *Chokunin* rank. It seems expedient, nay necessary, that officials discharging such functions should be of rank at least equal to that of those whose acts they direct.

Apropos this subject, our readers will probably be interested by a general sketch of the official equipment of a Japanese Department of State. Each Department is presided over by a Minister (*Dai-jin*), who is individually responsible to the Emperor. Next to him is a Vice-Minister (*Yi-kwan*), who, under the Minister's direction, exercises general supervision over the business of the whole Department, and who may represent the Minister in the exercise of the latter's functions, with the exception of countersigning laws and Imperial Ordinances, taking part in Cabinet deliberations, making reports to the Emperor on the condition of offices in the Department, and issuing Departmental Ordinances. A Department is divided into a number of Bureaus, each presided over by a Director (*Kyoku-cho*), who is subject, in the discharge of his functions, to the Minister and the Vice-Minister. In Bureaus of great importance, there is a Vice-Director (*Kyoku-Yicho*). The number of Bureaus varies in different Departments, the largest number being nine, in the Department of Finance, and the smallest four, in the Department of Justice. Most of the Bureaus are subdivided into several sections (*Ka*), presided over in most cases by clerks (*soku*) of higher standing. Clerks come lowest on the official list. They perform all the drudgery of the office work, though some of higher standing are, as stated above, put in positions of trust. The number of clerks varies in each Department, the smallest number (65) being employed in the Naval Department, and the largest (553) in the Department of Finance. Besides these officials, there are in each Department two confidential Secretaries (*Hisho-kuan*), attached to the Minister, and there are also Secretaries (*Shoki-kuan*) and Councillors (*Sanji-kuan*), whose combined number cannot exceed eight; the proportion of the two varies in different Departments. Secretaries manage business either in the Minister's office or in some of the Bureaus, whose sections they may preside over. Councillors give advice to the Minister and Vice-Minister on any matter concerning which their opinion is asked. They also make investigations and draw up Ordinances and rules. A number of Probationers (*Shiho*), varying from four or five to about ten, complete the official list in most Departments, though in some there are also a certain number of technical or scientific experts, termed in official language *gishi*. Probationers

are appointed either from among graduates of the various Colleges of the Imperial University or from successful candidates at the higher civil examinations. The period of their trial is five years, after which they may be appointed to some post of trust. The ranks of the clerks are also recruited by a system of competitive examination. Besides the various classes of functionaries thus far enumerated, there is another set of public servants working in the lowest stratum of official life. They are temporary *employés* (*yatoi*), who have no official status and whose names never appear in the list of officials. There is no limit to the number of these *employés*, but an effectual guarantee against any needless increase of their number has been provided by the new Organizations, which oblige each Minister to pay *yatoi* out of the appropriation for clerks.

FOREIGN EMPLOYÉS OF CHINA AND JAPAN.

THE prophet in his own country is proverbially unfortunate for the same reason that deprives the greatest man of greatness in the eyes of his valet. To hear pleasant things said of the Chinese one must not go to the foreign residents in China, and to get a good character of the Japanese one should not refer to the inhabitants of the treaty ports in Japan. All this is natural, nor need we be much surprised to find *per contra*, that while the Japanese are praised by foreigners in China, the Chinese are credited with sundry fine qualities by foreigners in Japan. A case in point is the treatment extended by each country to its foreign employés. This is a subject which we have frequently discussed, always commiserating the lot of the foreign employé in Japan, for we know well how hopeless is his outlook, how fruitless his zeal, and how bitter the sense that his most loyal service cannot win for him that full measure of confidence without which a self-respecting man must always be unhappy. No doubt a great part of this failure is inseparable from the position of an alien in the service of any government. But in Japan the trouble is greatly aggravated by the peculiar circumstance that so long as the foreigner remains exempt from Japanese jurisdiction he can never be more than a mere *yatoi*; can never fill an executive post, never possess substantial rank nor ever look forward to promotion or permanency of employment. Those unhappy features of his lot we recognise and sympathise with most fully, but when we are told, as we were lately told, that China treats her foreign servants much better, and that her example ought to shame Japan into greater liberality, we altogether deny the justice of the comparison. There is indeed one service in China

which, under the control of an exceptionally able and astute Englishman, might be quoted in any part of the world as a model of organization and efficiency; a service which, amid circumstances of no little difficulty, has been raised to such a rank that it attracts the best talent of Europe and America, and offers to its officials the two great desiderata lacking in every other branch of Chinese and Japanese employ, permanency and adequate reward of merit. The Chinese Customs Service is something of which Englishmen may justly be proud, and in so far as the astuteness and practicality of Chinese statesmen persuade them to leave its control in hands which have moulded it into so perfect an instrument, large praise is due to China also. But apart from this somewhat vicarious merit, what verdict is to be pronounced about China's treatment of her foreign employés? The *North China Daily News* answers the question thus in a recent issue:—"It must not be forgotten that the employé has his rights too, and even a foreigner is entitled to a little consideration at the hands of his employers. This has never been admitted in China, or if admitted, has never been acted upon. Officers of various nationalities, but almost without exception men of proved ability, have accepted engagements in good faith, and after services rendered at which it was impossible to cavil, they have been ruthlessly and often rudely dismissed." Such is the character given to the Chinese service by the leading English journal published in China. We do not pretend to endorse or traverse it: our contemporary is in a much better position to judge than we are. But the proportions of an evil are not diminished by close inspection and it is possible that foreign critics in China and Japan alike take a more or less partial view of the circumstances that come under their notice. Admiral LANG'S case, which constitutes the immediate text of our Shanghai contemporary's comments seems, in some respects, to justify the strong stricture evoked, but in others it invites a different view. Here is the story, as told by the *North China Daily News*:—"In February last the Northern Squadron had returned to Hongkong, whence Admiral TING with four of the cruisers set out for Hainan. His departure had scarcely taken place when, without a word of warning, the admiral's flag was hauled down and that of the commodore run up in its place. On demanding an explanation of so outrageous a proceeding, Admiral LANG was shown a telegram from LI HUNG-CHANG, authorising the commodore to take command in the absence of the Chinese admiral, and ignoring altogether the claims of the English colleague. There was obviously nothing to be gained by consultation with the two commodores, even if naval discipline had permitted an admiral to negotiate with his subordinate officers,

and Admiral LANG immediately telegraphed to the Viceroy for instructions. If he was not to fly the admiral's flag, it was for the Viceroy to indicate what distinguishing flag he might be permitted to use. Once more the English admiral found himself utterly ignored. Personally he received no reply to his telegram, but he was shown a message addressed to the two commodores bidding them inform him that no provision was made in the regulations as to what flag he should fly, but that some nondescript article might be improvised for him, of the same shape as an Admiral's flag but with only four colours instead of five. Further communication was of course out of the question, but not until the whole matter had been carefully considered and the full meaning of these discourteous proceedings completely established was the resignation resolved upon."

It is plain that Admiral LANG was placed in a most invidious position. The mere fact that two Chinese officers of inferior rank were made a channel of communication between himself and Admiral TING, could not have been tolerated for an instant from a service point of view. But any one considering the details of the case will perceive at once that the whole affair turned upon this question—was Admiral LANG an executive or a non-executive officer? Did he hold actual command in the Chinese Navy or did he merely occupy the position of an instructor or adviser? The Chinese authorities evidently acted upon the latter hypothesis, whereas Admiral LANG, whose record forbids all doubt as to his competency, judgment, and tact, held to the former view. Now with regard to the same point in Japan, there never has been an instant's doubt. No foreigner in Japanese employ has ever been entrusted with the shadow of executive authority, or allowed to imagine that he could be so entrusted unless he were subject to Japanese jurisdiction. That this has not been the invariable rule in China, we know from the cases of General GORDON and his predecessor, the not less able, though now almost forgotten, American who created the nucleus of the "ever victorious army." In times of national peril China has not hesitated to avail herself of the services of foreigners in the fullest sense. But it is very conceivable that, in the ordinary organization of her Navy, she may be determined to exclude aliens from executive posts. Until, therefore, we know the terms of Admiral LANG's engagement, it is impossible to say whether or no the Chinese authorities acted within their strict rights in refusing to allow him to fly the flag of an executive officer. The language of his contract ought to have placed this question beyond the reach of doubt, and if it did not, the Chinese, in all probability, were justified in the view they took. Unless we are much mistaken, however, Admiral LANG had been allowed, on more than one occasion, to

exercise at least a measure of executive authority. Possibly this was only for purposes of instruction in manoeuvres. At all events the question between him and the Chinese was not a mere point of courtesy or etiquette. Its settlement involved the radical problem of the status of foreigners in the Chinese service, and we cannot pretend to be surprised that the Chinese Authorities adopted the view against which Admiral LANG felt compelled to protest by resignation. As to their manner of giving expression to their decision, however, there seems to have been a great want of tact and courtesy, and while sincerely regretting that such an officer as Admiral LANG has been removed from a sphere where he contributed so materially to British prestige, we cannot but think that the dignity of his cloth precluded any course other than resignation.

POLITICAL PARTIES IN JAPAN AND THE LAW GOVERNING THEM.

IN reply to some very violent strictures penned by local writers against the 28th Article of the Revised Law of Political Associations, we pointed out that precisely the same provisions exist in British statutes enacted during the reign of GEORGE III. and remain still in force. This analogy, the fact of which cannot for a moment be denied, is vehemently repudiated by our critics, who charge us with wilful misrepresentation, with sully-ing our own country, and with all sorts of sins, because we have ventured to compare Great Britain and Japan in such matters. So far as we can discover, one argument, and one only, is advanced to contravene our position. It is this—that whereas the Acts of GEORGE III. were designed "for the more effectual suppression of societies established for seditious or treasonable purposes," the provisions of the Japanese Law are directed against "associations whose only object is to carry on their political aims in a lawful and peaceful manner," in a country where "everything is open and above board." It will be observed that there is here a very large assumption. It is quietly taken for granted that the purpose of the combination interdicted by law is proper and peaceful. But that, we think, is precisely what the Government's enactment and the manner of enforcing it must be interpreted as denying. The 28th Article can only be read to mean that, in the opinion of the Authorities, whose business and right it is to judge, a combination of Japanese political parties at the present time, would be for "seditious and treasonable purposes." Its motive, in fact, would be simply hostility to the Government, not the promotion of any particular set of legitimate political principles. It is quite true that the necessity for such a law reflects little credit on Japan. Looking

at it with the eyes of certain writers who contend that it is merely a device to cripple the strength of constitutional institutions, and, by an exercise of arbitrary power, to defend the Government against weapons nominally placed by itself in the hands of the people, we agree in condemning the measure utterly and incontinently. But unfortunately we cannot look at it in that light. We are compelled to conclude that when the law interdicts combinations of political parties while sanctioning the separate existence of such parties, it is because the purposes of combination are judged improper and seditious. Thus considered, the analogy between the Japanese enactment and Acts of GEORGE III. is perfectly accurate. Both are intended to restrain treason and sedition, and both employ the same penalties to that end. As to whether the contemplated combination of Japanese parties is really prompted by treasonable or seditious purposes, foreign critics are certainly not in a position to judge. We are bound to assume that the Authorities possess evidence and information warranting their action, difficult as it is to conceive that the men who projected the combination were influenced by improper motives. At any rate, the general conclusion will be that by enforcing the 28th Article as it is now enforced, the Government publicly declares want of confidence in the propriety of the union which it has interfered to prevent. Not for a moment can the supposition be admitted that, while believing the purposes of the combination to be strictly constitutional and legitimate, the Government has adopted arbitrary and unconstitutional means to suppress it, lest its results should be an inconveniently powerful opposition in the Diet. That is the charge which our local English contemporaries prefer against the Cabinet, with all the impudent assurance that usually accompanies ignorance. They accuse us very readily of failing to distinguish between England and Japan, but the failure appears to be on their own side, when they talk of correspondence and combination being permitted to political parties in the former country but denied to them in the latter. There are no political parties in England in the Japanese sense of the term. Here parties are registered as such; the names of their associates and other particulars of their organization are duly reported, and notice has to be given of their meetings and speeches. Moreover, they are all nominally arrayed against the Government; their only two elements of cohesion are opposition and personal influence; and every one confesses that they cannot be organized on a genuine basis of principles until they are brought face to face with living issues on the floor of the Diet. To compare such parties with their representatives in England, or to extend to the former, from the outset, the liberty justly enjoyed by the

latter after long years of struggle and proof, must surely be counted extravagant. We confess that, while we fully appreciate the inferences injurious to Japan's political credit which cannot but be drawn from the Government's manner of enforcing this 28th Article, and while classing its provisions with the most illiberal portions of the Press Laws and the Peace Preservation Regulations, we are nevertheless disposed to welcome it as an additional obstacle to the premature formation of political parties, for we entertain not the smallest faith in the genuineness and utility of factions constructed out of the froth of vague opposition and the scum of ambitions agitation. The sum of the matter is that the Authorities obviously regard any combination of parties under existing circumstances as seditious, if not treasonable, and that they have determined to prevent it. It is at least a courageous determination, unpopular as it must inevitably prove in Japan, and little as it will contribute to the reputation of Japanese political progress abroad.

CHARGES AT NIKKO.

FOREIGNERS visiting Nikko during the hot weather complain bitterly of the extortions to which they are subjected. There is doubtless much justice in these protests, but in some respects the apparent overcharges are based on a genuine difference between prices in Tokyo and Nikko. Beef and chickens, for example, are about as cheap at the latter place as at the former, but milk, vegetables, and such things are very much dearer. Milk costs eighteen *sen* a bottle in Nikko against ten *sen* in Tokyo, and vegetables, with few exceptions, have to be brought from the capital, which means not only that their price is increased by the cost of carriage, but also that the business of procuring them is monopolised by a guild which adds an immense percentage on its own behalf. The vegetable difficulty could, of course, be overcome by a combination among a number of foreign residents, but the monopolists doubtless understand that nothing of that kind is likely to be seriously undertaken. We imagine that the example set by the Nikko Hotel is decidedly pernicious. The table there is said to be abominably bad this year, and every opportunity appears to be taken to fleece the luckless tourist. A case has been reported to us of a gentleman who, desiring to be supplied with milk sufficient for dietary purposes, was informed that the lowest charge would be thirty *sen* a bottle. We have also heard of a tourist who was given a guide to take him fishing, the guide charging twenty *sen* an hour and promising to show places where an abundance of fish could be taken. Five hours angling produced nothing but a dollar for the guide, who then had the audacity to

say that if his honorarium were increased by fifty per cent. he could undertake to secure sport. It is very much to be regretted that some respectable person of real business capacity does not start a hotel in Nikko to protect the tourist against such extortions as these, and to save him from having his trip spoiled by miserable food and general discomfort. No one objects to pay such prices as will leave a good solid profit to the people of the place, for it is well understood that Nikko, in common with hill resorts generally, can only count on its summer earnings, and may therefore be pardoned for making hay while the sun shines. But there is undeniable ground for complaint when the only "foreign" hotel in the place compels a tourist to pay fifty *sen* per diem for the keep of his Japanese servant, whereas the same servant can fare better at a Japanese inn for thirty-five *sen*. Apart from this exorbitant squeeze, the keep of servants in general is one of the questions that cause foreigners much perplexity at Nikko. If a man-servant is separated from his family and obliged to maintain himself independently at a place like Nikko, every reasonable master or mistress would admit the obligation of making a corresponding increase in his wages. But what masters and mistresses do not easily comprehend is that when they take an unmarried butler or groom to Nikko, he should expect a very material addition to his monthly stipend on the plea of the greater cost of living. To admit the validity of such a plea seems to involve the supposition that Japanese residing permanently in a remote and comparatively squalid village like Nikko spend more upon their daily food than Japanese residing in Tokyo. That, of course, is not the case. In point of fact the cost of maintenance is less per head in the former place than in the latter. Yet it is at the same time quite true that a Japanese who spends from three to three and a half *yen* monthly on his food in Tokyo must double that sum to live equally well in Nikko. The difference is in the quality of the diet. The Nikko resident makes ends meet by cutting off every superfluity that can keep them apart. He brews his sauce out of one ingredient instead of four, and is content to eat his rice with condiments which a Tokyo man would regard as mendicant's fare. Thus to furnish his customary food for a Tokyo man Nikko has to draw upon external resources, and the Tokyo man is compelled to pay correspondingly. Foreigners sojourning in Nikko must not allow their peace of mind to be disturbed or their confidence in humanity shaken if their servants ask for an increase of wages to meet the extra cost of living. The demand is in itself just enough. Its dimensions, however, are another question. Somebody set the example, two years ago, of assessing this additional cost at twenty-five *sen* per diem, and some-

body else was good-natured enough to accede to the assessment, thus establishing a precedent which Japanese servants have naturally been careful to preserve. But twenty-five *sen* a day is just about the double of what should properly be paid. Twelve or fifteen *sen* is ample. The necessity of an additional allowance is, however, indisputable, and it may relieve the minds of some of our readers to know that such is the case.

ORGANIZATION OF THE CENTRAL SANITARY ASSOCIATION.

We hereby give Our sanction to the present Amendment of the Organization of the Central Sanitary Association and order the same to be promulgated.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.)
(Great Seal.)

Dated the 2nd day of the 8th month
of the 23rd year of Meiji.

(Countersigned.)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.

COUNT SAIGO TSUKUMICHI,
Minister of State for Home Affairs.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 154.

Article 1.—The Central Sanitary Association shall be under the Superintendence of the Minister of State for Home Affairs, and shall give advice to each Minister of State, express its opinion relating to the sanitation of the public as well as private places, and investigate the mode of its carrying it into practice.

Article 2.—The Central Sanitary Association may file memorials to the Minister of State who has the chief responsibility as to matters relating to sanitary affairs, which are under the chief management of each Department.

Article 3.—The Central Sanitary Association may inquire into the various affairs relating to sanitation by the Chief of the Metropolitan Police Board, Superintendent of the Hokkaido Administration Police Board, and Governors of Cities and Prefectures, or may inspect and examine them by despatching members of the Association temporarily to various localities.

Article 4.—The Regulations of debate in the Central Sanitary Association shall be decided by the Association, and be sanctioned by the Minister of State for Home Affairs.

Article 5.—The Central Sanitary Association shall consist of the following officials:—

- (1.) President.
- (1.) Director.
- (3.) Committees.
- (4.) Temporary Committees.

The President shall be of *chokunin* rank, and the Director shall be of *sonin* rank, and be named by the Minister of State for Home Affairs in accordance with the wish of the Emperor.

Article 6.—Committees shall be composed of the following officials:—

- The Director of the Medical Bureau of the War Department.
- The President of the Central Sanitary Council of the Navy.
- The Director of the Bureau of Imperial Physicians of the Household Department.
- The Head of the Medical College of the Imperial University.
- The Chief of the Metropolitan Police Board.
- The Governor of the City of Tokyo.
- The Director of the Sanitary Bureau of the Home Department.
- The Director of the Bureau of Police of the Home Department.
- The Higher officials of the Home Department.

In addition to the above, 12 physicians and 3 chemists shall be appointed as a committee. Of committees, physicians, chemists, officials of higher rank of the Department of Home Affairs, and temporary committees shall be appointed by the Cabinet in accordance with the memorial of the Minister of State for Home Affairs.

Article 7.—The President of the Association shall preside over deliberations in accordance with the rules of debate of the Association, and report to the Minister of State for Home Affairs as well

as to the Minister of State who has the chief responsibility.

Article 8.—Should the President be unable to attend, the person occupying the first seat on that occasion shall preside.

Article 9.—The Director shall adjust and manage the miscellaneous affairs of the Association in accordance with the orders of the President.

Article 10.—The President or Director shall not be allowed to draw a salary should either hold office in addition to the post in his Association.

Article 11.—Clerks shall be attached to the Central Sanitary Association, and shall write the debates and perform various other miscellaneous duties under the direction of the higher official.

The clerks shall be 3 on the regular staff of the Association and be supplemented with *zoku* of the Home Department.

RANK AND SALARIES OF HANNIN OFFICIALS.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 165.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Amendment of the Regulations relating to the Rank and Salaries of *hannin* officials.

[His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.]

[Great Seal.]

Dated August 12th, 1890.

(Countersigned)

Count YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.
Count MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of State for Finance.

The Regulations relating to Rank and Salaries of *hannin* Rank Officials shall be amended as follows:—

Article 2.—The monthly salary of civil officials of *hannin* rank shall be paid on the last day of each month in accordance with the table already published.

THE BANK OF JAPAN.

LAW No. 61.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Amendment of the Regulations of the Bank of Japan, and order the same to be duly promulgated. We also order that this law shall come in force on and after the date on which the Commercial Code shall come into operation.

[His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.]

[Great Seal.]

Dated August 8th, 1890.

(Countersigned)

Count YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.
Count MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of State for Finance.

The Regulations of the Bank of Japan shall be amended to the following effect:—

Article 19.—The Directors shall be chosen by the shareholders at the general meeting and shall be appointed by the Minister of State for Finance. The Superintendent of the Bank shall also be elected at a general meeting of the shareholders. The term of office for Directors shall be four years, and for the Superintendent three years.

No Director or Superintendent shall be permitted to become an official of any other bank, company, or other similar institution during their respective terms.

Article 20.—The Governor shall convoke the ordinary general meetings of the shareholders at each half-year. The Governor shall also convoke extraordinary general meetings of shareholders, when he shall deem such meetings necessary for the discussion of important matters. The Governor shall convoke an extraordinary general meeting of the shareholders, should the Superintendent, or not less than fifty shareholders, at a general meeting demand the same after having made a statement of the objects for which such meeting is to be called; and such fifty shareholders at the general meeting shall be those only who have continuously held more than 10 shares for at least 60 days prior to the opening of the said general meeting. Only properly authorised proxies will be allowed to act at a general meeting of shareholders.

Shareholders at a general meeting shall have one vote for 10 shares, and one vote shall be added for each fifty shares above 11 shares. Proxies can only hold ten votes.

RANKS AND SALARIES OF THE CHIEF CLERKS AND CLERKS OF COURTS OF LAW.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 159.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Regulations relating to the Ranks and Salaries of the Chief Clerks and Clerks of Law.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign Manual.)

(Great Seal.)

Dated August 2nd, 1890.

(Countersigned)

Count YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.
Count YAMADA AKIYOSHI,
Minister of State for Justice.

Article 1.—The Ranks of Chief Clerk shall be 3rd and 4th *senin* rank.

Clerks of Courts of Law shall be below 1st *hannin* rank and above 6th *hannin* rank, and *yen* 8, 9, or 10 may be given to clerks of 6th *hannin* rank as monthly salary.

Article 2.—The number of officials for each office shall be limited as follows:—

COURT OF CASSATION.	
Chief Clerk	1
Court Clerks	20
PUBLIC PROSECUTORS' OFFICE OF COURT OF CLERKS.	
Court Clerks	5
COURTS OF APPEAL.	
Chief Clerks	7
Court Clerks	145
PUBLIC PROSECUTORS' OFFICE OF APPEAL COURTS.	
Court Clerks	25
DISTRICT COURTS.	
Court Clerks	775
PUBLIC PROSECUTORS' OFFICE OF DISTRICTS COURTS.	
Court Clerks	150
LOCAL COURTS.	
Court Clerks	4,600
PUBLIC PROSECUTORS' OFFICE IN LOCAL COURTS.	
Court Clerks	485

Article 3.—The regulations shall come into force on and after the 1st day of the 11th month of the 23rd year of Meiji.

TOKYO CITY IMPROVEMENT REGULATIONS.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 169.

We hereby give our sanction to the present erasure of an Article of the Tokyo City Improvement Regulations and order the same to be promulgated.

[His Imperial Majesty's Sign Manual.]

[Great Seal.]

Dated August 14th, 1890.

(Countersigned)

Count YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.
Count SAIGO TSUKUMICHI,
Minister of State for Home Affairs.
Count MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of State for Finance.

Article 8 of the Tokyo City Improvement Regulations shall be deleted.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 170.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Regulations relating to the Tokyo City Improvement Regulations, Rules for the Treatment of Lands and Buildings in regard to City Improvement, and Rules as to Importation of pure *sake* to Tokyo, and order the same to be duly promulgated.

[His Imperial Majesty's Sign Manual.]

[Great Seal.]

Dated August 14th, 1890.

(Countersigned)

Count YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.
Count SAIGO TSUKUMICHI,
Minister of State for Home Affairs.
Count MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of State for Finance.

Article 1.—Affairs appertaining to the Governor of the City of Tokyo in accordance with the Regulations in regard to the Tokyo City Improvement, the

Rules for the Treatment of Lands and Buildings in regard to the Tokyo City Improvement, and the Rules as to the Importation of pure *sake* to Tokyo, shall be controlled by the Board of Councillors of the Tokyo Municipality, and those belonging to the Municipal Section of the Tokyo City Assembly by the Assembly of the Tokyo Municipality.

Article 2.—The riparian estates which have been granted to the Municipal Section of the Tokyo City for the purpose of raising funds to meet the expenses of the Improvement of City of Tokyo, shall be handed over to the Tokyo Municipality.

Article 3.—The financial estimates of the 23rd financial year of Meiji for the Improvement of the Tokyo Municipality, which have been debated and decided by the Assembly of the Municipal Section of the City of Tokyo, shall be continued by the Tokyo Municipality.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE "HYOGO NEWS" AND THE LOCAL CLERGY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I have read with the greatest satisfaction your Editorial Note upon "the burial of Mrs. Rodgers and her daughter." For some time past it has been the custom of our leading newspaper here the *Hyogo News*—in season and out of season—to cast aspersions against the Clergy, and I agree with your concluding remarks that the insinuations on the present occasion were most unjust and malicious.

Since December last the Foreign Community have supported a resident Chaplain, the Rev. W. Weston. He had gone to Yokohama to see his medical adviser a day or two before the deaths of those poor ladies. With regard to the other clergymen for the time being staying in Kobe, it appears from one and all that not one of them was even informed of the deaths, and no request was made to any one to attend the funerals.

According to the *Hyogo News*, it would seem that the clergy ought to have become aware—I suppose by some species of instinct—that these deaths had occurred, and that their services at the funerals would be required. It is a sad business. No one suggests that any clergyman had been informed, and I do not know what the undertaker could have been about. But whilst feeling the most sincere regret at this sad occurrence, and sympathy with the relatives of the deceased, common courtesy and fair dealing alike condemn a repetition of unjust and slighting accusations against the Clergy, which are absolutely without foundation, and which have caused great pain.

I am, Sir, yours obediently,

A KOBE RESIDENT.

August 12th, 1890.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me to say a word with reference to a paragraph appearing in your issue of Monday last respecting the burial of the two ladies who recently died of cholera in Kobe? I have not seen the copy of the *Hyogo News* in which you say "All sorts of uncharitable and improbable reasons" were suggested as to "why the clergy were not forthcoming on the occasion," but as it would, under ordinary circumstances, have been my duty, as chaplain of Kobe, to conduct the funeral, had I been there at the time, I should like to say a word of explanation as to my absence.

Since being appointed to the Kobe Church chaplaincy in December last, I have several times been compelled to visit Yokohama for special advice owing to an affection of the eyes, and for this reason was away from Kobe when the sad occurrence in question took place. Before leaving, however, I had made arrangements for my duty to be taken during my absence, and am quite sure, as you charitably suppose, that "some unavoidable impediment" must have prevented the usual burial service from taking place.

I am, &c.,

WALTER WESTON,
Chaplain of the Kobe Union Church.

Karuisawa, August 13th, 1890.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In common with many of my fellow residents at this port I cannot understand why "A Kobe Resident" should, with disregard to the truth, in his letter, which appears in your issue of the 16th inst., reproach the editor of the *Hyogo News* for casting aspersions against the clergy. He says, "according to the *Hyogo News*, it would seem that the clergy ought to have become aware—I

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suppose by some species of instinct—that these deaths had occurred and that their services would be required."

Now, can "A Kobe Resident" point out any sentence or paragraph that has appeared in the columns of the *Hyogo News* that will justify him for having written this? On the 8th August, when announcing the death of Mrs. Schroeder, the *Hyogo News* drew attention to the absence of clergy at both the funerals, but, in order to prevent any aspersion being cast against the clergy, was most careful to add in the same paragraph: "It is only due to the resident clergy here to say that no request was made of them to officiate;" and this statement the *Hyogo News* has since reiterated. In fact the *Hyogo News* attributed the absence of clergy to some blundering on the part of those in charge of the funeral arrangements, which blundering was probably caused by doubts as to the nationality of the unfortunate ladies (vide *Hyogo News*, 8th August).

Why should "A Kobe Resident" in what appears as a willful disregard of the truth attribute to the editor of the *Hyogo News* sentiments against the clergy which have never been expressed or suggested? He cannot point out any sentence that has appeared in the *Hyogo News* since the deaths of these two ladies, that insinuates in any way that the clergy of this port have been remiss in their duties. These gentlemen may well cry, "Save us from our friends," when they find people such as "A Kobe Resident" defending them from charges which have never been made or even insinuated.

I see that our Chaplain, Mr. Weston, in a letter which also appears in your issue of the 16th inst. says that he has not seen "the copy of the *Hyogo News*, in which you (the Editor of the *Japan Mail*), say all sorts of uncharitable and improbable reasons were suggested as to why the clergy were not forthcoming on the occasion." Mr. Weston, will, I am sure, never see that copy of the *Hyogo News*, for the simple reason that in none of its issues has it in any way suggested "uncharitable and improbable reasons."

I am, &c.,

Kobe, August 18th, 1890.

JUSTICE.

"TRUTH" ECONOMISED.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL"

SIR,—In a very abusive letter about the Japanese people published in the *Gazette* of the 11th instant, over the signature "Truth," the remark is made that the Editor of the *Mail* "cannot (unless he knowingly utters a falsehood) declare that the average type of head among the Japanese is comparable, *phenologically*, to the average type of head among Europeans." This is the main, and indeed, the only attempt at argument in that frantic column of abuse of the Japanese.

It betrays, however, the fact that the writer is totally unqualified to argue upon the topic of comparative anthropology. The very word *Phrenology* is obsolete. It was the name given to a pseudo-science now only mentioned by charlatans; and the charlatanism of the whole statement about "types of head" must make its author a laughing stock to any educated Japanese.

Whether the nervous system of the Japanese race be less complex, or its cranial capacity less great, than those of other races,—are questions which only great physiologists and craniologists can decide; and nothing could evidence greater ignorance of modern scientific methods in deciding such questions than the astonishing assurance with which this wiseacre tells us to go into a Japanese crowd, and settle the matter with a glance! Possibly Mr. "Truth" also ignores the fact that among educated Englishmen the term "Mongolian race" is not used in the sense in which he uses it; and furthermore, that the origin of the Japanese people is still, scientifically, a matter of much doubt. We do not talk to-day, about the "Caucasian" race in any event, nor about "phenology," nor about several other matters whereof the mention in Mr. "Truth's" letter bears witness that ignorance and prejudice go always hand-in-hand; and that the standard of education among Japanese women which he pronounces "low" is evidently a good deal higher than his own.

I have been, more than once, the only European in a very large Japanese concourse; and I have travelled in many parts of the world. Nowhere did I ever see a crowd so well-behaved, so kindly, so courteous, thoroughly sympathetic and good-natured. As for faces, I have never seen anywhere more pleasant ones than in such Japanese crowds, nor more intelligent ones. What I did not see were unpleasant faces of the conceited, aggressive, or brutal stamp, so common in European and American crowds of the lower class. Perhaps "Truth" may have mistaken this absence of brutal cha-

acteristics for absence of intelligent characteristics. Certainly his general complaint about servants and others seems to warrant the supposition. According to him, they are all cheats and liars, and otherwise contemptible. My own experience has been exactly the reverse. But I have observed that Europeans in the habit of treating the Japanese with contempt, or with positive brutality, are not apt to find or able to keep good servants,—for Japanese are human beings with human feeling; and it is just possible that the disagreeable experiences of "Truth" were of his own making.

I am, Yours, &c.,

A GLOBE TROTTER.

Yokohama, 12th August, 1890.

LETTER FROM SAN FRANCISCO.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

San Francisco, July 31st.

I doubt if Central and South America properly belong to the region which I am expected to cover for the readers of the *Mail*; but a few lines touching events in that section of the continent may not be out of place. You will remember that on the occasion of a ball given to celebrate the usurpation of the Presidency of Salvador by General Melendez, the usurper lost his life. It is not certain whether he was poisoned, or was shot, or died of disease of the heart. The only thing that is certain is that his life came to an end, then and there. In the neighbouring state of Guatemala, the impression was and is general that he was killed by persons who opposed Central American Union. The President of Guatemala—Barillas—no sooner heard of his death than he moved a few battalions to the frontier, and issued a proclamation denouncing the murder. On this, one General Ezeta who usurped the Presidency of Salvador—or was elected to fill that office by the dunces at the ball—moved his troops to the same frontier. What then ensued I am unable to inform you. One account says that a battle took place, and that the Salvadorians were victorious. Another, later, states that six battles have been fought with varying results. And yet a third assures us that eleven engagements have occurred, with frightful slaughter, and that both armies hold their ground. The truth probably is that the two bodies of volunteers are looking at each other, and have no serious idea of fighting, unless they can be entrapped into an engagement by their officers.

Salvador, which is a small state, though spunky, objects to Central American Union because it fears that the Presidency would always go to its big neighbour, Guatemala. For the same reason Barillas is in favour of it. When Barrios first attempted to establish the Union by force, it was Zaldivar of Salvador who took the field against him and fought the battle in which the President of Guatemala lost his life. The Salvadorians did not approve of Zaldivar's treachery (he had agreed to cooperate with Barrios in effecting the union of the five states); they rose against him, forced him to fly, and put one of his generals—Melendez—in his place. It is more than suspected that Zaldivar—who is in Paris—is at the bottom of the present intrigue.

Happily, perhaps, for the cause of union, the United States seem likely to be drawn into the conflict. Some cases of arms, designed for Salvador, and shipped on board of a Pacific Mail steamer from this port, were seized in Guatemalan waters, and confiscated as contraband of war. The steamship company has appealed to Mr. Blaine; and here is the opportunity for interference for which he must be longing. The feeling in this country is that we shall never have pleasant relations with Central America so long as the five small states continue to spend their time and their resources in warring with each other; it is so strong that the country would overlook a departure from our immemorial policy of strict non-intervention in our neighbours' affairs. It would not meet anything more than an ominous threat to bring these quarrelsome half-breeds to their senses.

The situation in Congress is unchanged since I last wrote. The administration party continues to drive the McKinley tariff bill through the Senate by whip and spur. But outside of the two chambers, people say—in the homely language of the boys—that the tariff is "a dead cock in the pit." No one yet knows whether Mr. Blaine spoke for himself alone, or for the whole Cabinet, when he denounced the measure. But the statesman from Maine constitutes so large a part of the Government that without him it is difficult to see how it would continue to exist. In public estimation his utterances are the voice of the party; it is those who differ with him who are the bolters.

Quiet members of the party received another shock last week from a speech delivered by Struble of Iowa, denouncing the dogmatic and truculent behaviour of Speaker Reed. Struble is one of the oldest and ablest Republicans in the House. When he compared Reed with the Democratic speakers who went before him, greatly to the disparagement of the former, he startled Republicans, and added to the number of malcontents in the party. When men or parties begin to fall, they fall quickly, and it is astonishing how many people seem imbued with a desire to give them a parting kick.

Society at Washington is convulsed by the elopement of a leading belle with a hotel waiter. The lady in question is Miss Lilian Porter, a grandniece of Admiral Porter, a beautiful blonde, with a splendid figure, and soft lustrous eyes. She had been highly educated, and was a favourite in society. Her chosen swain is a son of the Green Isle, known as Jimmy O'Brien. It is said by a society reporter that she was fascinated by the skill with which Jimmy balanced a tray full of dinner dishes on the ends of his outspread fingers, and threaded his way through a crowd without losing a dish. Whatever his charms were, they were potent enough to induce the lady to leave a comfortable and fashionable home for Jimmy's society, and to fly with him to Chicago where she may help to earn their joint meal by washing the dishes which Jimmy balances.

The frequency of these *mésalliances* in fashionable society may afford the philosopher a theme for serious thought. Hardly a day passes than one does not hear of one or more of them. One of the richest and most respected citizens of a western city lately married his youngest daughter to a suitable *parti*, and endowed her richly. While the wedding breakfast was going on, her elder sister took the opportunity of eloping with a stable boy. It appears that the young men who are the normal worse halves of the girls of the period will not marry, because they cannot afford it. The average clerk or young professional man earns from \$1,000 to \$1,200 a year. The girl of the period cannot dress on much less than \$1,000 a year. Thus unless the girl had money, a clerk who married her would have nothing to live on. He is far too wise to place himself in such a predicament. He remains single, and consoles himself with flirtations among milliners and shop girls; for whom a few extra dollars a week convert starvation into plenty. The girl of fashion meanwhile sees the years creep on, her nose growed, and her elbows angular, and she mourns like Jephthah's daughter. What wonder if, in her desperation at enforced spinsterhood, she takes the footman or the stable boy to her snowy bosom?

The effect of the Silver Bill is beginning to be felt in earnest. Silver bullion has advanced to \$1.15 an ounce—which is about the price it commanded in 1880. In a fortnight Government will begin its purchases of \$4,500,000 a month, and meanwhile Europe, instead of dumping its silver upon us, as was predicted, is a large buyer of coin and bullion in our market for shipment to Asia. London proposes to anticipate any further advance in the price by laying in a stock sufficient for the present wants of India and China. Every New York steamer now takes out a considerable consignment of silver to the London bankers. The law is imperative upon the Secretary of the Treasury until such time as silver sells on the old parity with gold. That is to say, until the silver ounce is worth \$1.29 in gold. It looks as though that limit would be soon reached. The silver miners and melters of Nevada have thus accomplished their purpose of securing a fictitious rise in their commodity by legislation. But they have done so at the expense of silver consumers throughout the world. Silver ware has already risen 15 per cent., and even watches have advanced in cost. The movement will cause the reopening of mines whose ores ran too low in silver to work when the price was below a dollar an ounce, and it is probable that the silver output of the world, and of this country in particular, will be increased.

People are once more laughing at President Harrison. One day last week he sent a namby-pamby message to Congress asking for legislation to enable the Post Office Department to put its foot down on two prominent lottery concerns. He reiterated all the stock arguments about the demoralizing effect of lotteries, and described the unsuccessful attempts which he and his friend Wanamaker have made to deprive the lottery agents from using the mails. Simultaneously comes the announcement that for the sum of \$1,300, the President's son, Russell Harrison, has agreed to publish illustrated advertisements of the two concerns mentioned by his father, and that one of the advertisements has already appeared.

LETTER FROM AMERICA.

(FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT)

Denver, Colo., July 24th.

Since writing my last letter, I have noted many matters of interest, but hitherto could not attempt their portrayal for your readers' delectation. Prominent among these was the carpenters' strike. The celebration of Labour Day intoxicated many weak minds, with the final result of convincing them—to quote their own words, "that it is right and fair for a working man to demand nine hours' pay for eight hours' work." Denver is spreading so fast, so many buildings were then actually in progress, so many people were and are interested in the rapid completion of these undertakings, that this "right and fair" demand was at once acceded to, as far as out-door hands were concerned. The newspapers one and all supported the labourers, and to an onlooker it seemed that, though the Unions had passed a resolution much more trenchant, they still might have counted on the vigorous help of the press. But owners of lumber mills refused to be robbed of six hours a week, and their employes went out to hang about the street corners and to live on the wretched pittance sent them by the Unions. This continued, much to the detriment of trade, inflicting great suffering on the strikers and their families and inconvenience on all for a fortnight or three weeks. Here and there a mill was running with non-union hands; here and there a striker deserted his ranks, and at last the whole miserable inflation caved in and things returned to their normal state. Now we have a move on the part of retail clerks (salesmen and saleswomen in retail stores) to secure an eight hours' day with no Sunday trade. They will succeed just as far as their employers care to let them. The waiters' strike in St. Louis is only followed by the employment of waitresses. The barbers here protest against shaving on Sunday, and the Inter-trades Association will do good by pledging the whole body of labourers to get clean shins on Saturday nights. It is curious to hear the Plumbers' union sympathising with the Retail Clerks and resolving to abstain from trading at houses that keep open after six o'clock. And it is still more curious when this and other unions have expressed their kindly feeling for the clerks, to see, late on Saturday evening, crowds of working people and their families thronging the windows and the counters of the May Clothing Company, an establishment which refuses to be dictated to by all the unions in the city. Private interest will thus continue to govern private conduct in spite of public pledges. The cheapest and best goods will attract the consumer, though they are handled by some pale faced "clerk" who had better far be in the fresh air. Nationalism has a long battle to fight on the arena of the individual conscience before its visionary paradise can be revealed to popular gaze. The self-regarding motives are and must long continue to be overwhelmingly strong in the average mind.

Almost every institution of society tends to accentuate and nurture these. Scarcely any of the conditions of life, in Western communities at least, tend to the production of a race of men whose care for each other shall in any way dominate over their care for self. And those who look to the Churches, as at present constituted, for the production of such a new order of men, have surely not considered what are the actual conditions under which the Churches exist. Unquestionably the Christianity of the Master is radical enough. But the Christianity of the Churches is a wholly different article. The former was brave to face and quick to probe all social problems; the latter makes haste to leave social problems alone, is content to use the world as not abusing it, and to interpret the traditional saying of the Master in a way broad enough to leave its inherent selfishness unrebuked. So that one sadly fears that the Church will fail us in this need as it failed our fathers. Yet it is not too much to hope that "the remnant" will prove faithful and that a new reformation is not far off, to be led by those men of pure life and reverent thought whose presence in and outside the churches we are reminded of once in a while, to our great joy and solacement. And may we not definitely affirm that in spite of the trend of society towards a guilty self-seeking, and in spite of the miserable ecclesiasticism which occupies Christ's place in the Churches, there is yet a spirit moving among men, like the wind whose source and goal we know not, an emanation from the life of Jesus, a breath from the Eternal good, making us cry for light, travail in anguish for the good of our fellows, reckon no life wasted that is spent in the service of the depraved or the sorrowful? If this is, beyond question, the true current of our modern life, whereof all other

forces are but the eddies and deceptive side currents, it will carry us on to some broader, clearer, stream, with fairer banks, less mist, more fruit, and more flowers.

If there is any excuse necessary for penning the foregoing sad lamentations, let my readers consider that in this Far West all these social conditions lie very near the surface or crop out in a very rugged, and imposing way.

The Silver Bill, or as it should be called here in the west an act for the Relief of Miners, has become law, much to the jubilation of this part of the world's inhabitants. The Senior Senator for Colorado, Mr. Teller, is the subject of universal encomium. Democratic organs vie with their political enemies in praising this gentleman for the zeal with which he has conducted this campaign and the success which has crowned his labours. The only thing for sceptics now to do is to wait six months, and if silver is then back at its old price or if, as English economists predict, it is already again on the decline, to say like the omniscient farmer, "I told you so." The fact is such an experiment as is now being made by this country in the wholesale coinage of silver is enough to make the world agast with open-mouthed wonderment. As an oracular German friend would say, "we will see what we will see." Meantime, we may go on to dig our ore, smelt it and pocket the proceeds, happy in the conviction that we at least are getting rich.

Great excitement arose a week ago on the discovery of a rich vein of gold at Tin Cup in this State. Tin Cup is consequently booming. Our city is graceful now, robed in green. Cotton-wood trees, acacias, and maples line many of the streets, making avenues of delightful shade. Householders assiduously water their lawns morning and evening. Without this constant supply of sprinkled water no grass but buffalo grass could endure the dry heat, and lawns would be impossible. Happily, however, rubber hose and hydrants meet the difficulty and Denver can boast many delightful grass-plots. Just now every one who is any one has gone to the mountains to rusticate in the practise of self-denial, to shoot harmless beasts and birds and to catch trout. In spite of this fact building goes merrily forward, the city continues to grow, and bricks are in great demand. A bricklayer earns six dollars a day for third rate work, and if he pays one and a half of this to the Union which protects his monopoly, he is still the master of the situation. Last week building permits representing an outlay of nearly a million and a half of dollars were issued by the City Inspector. And this was not so very exceptional a week's work. The Census has taken a little of the conceit out of us. We supposed that Denver with its suburbs contained 150,000 people. Some added another 25,000. The facts show about 125,000 as the actual number. But we keep on growing, that is one comfort.

I am surprised to find so very few Japanese in this city. Chinese are plentiful of course, but one would have thought that the exceptional advantages of the Colorado climate would have ensured the presence of a fair number of Japanese students. Educational advantages are fairly good here, and I have no doubt that the authorities of the University of Denver would gladly welcome lads from Japan.

I had hoped to sketch the present State of Agriculture in Colorado, with special reference to irrigation works, but already this letter approaches its prescribed limits, and this very interesting subject must wait a little longer.

KORIN.

Korin! I like the name, the turn of it, and the rhythm. It undulates, trails along, and has an air of antiquity about it which practically amounts to a picture. It awakens in the true Japanese amateur, the amateur who is at all bitten, heady sensations, and, as it were, a particular vibration which is the very emanation of this strange and surprising individuality. I am one of those who believe in affinities of names and ideas, and I must confess it, who attribute a mysterious sense to the music of such or such an arrangement of syllables. The name of Korin marvellously suits the art which he represents.

Korin is in the first rank of those who have carried to the highest pitch the intuition and the genius of decoration. His style is integral, always like itself. There is no artist more originally or more profoundly Japanese. His works are known in Europe, and appreciated only by a small number of the initiated. I have therefore thought it would be interesting here to speak of an artist who is held by his countrymen to be one of the greatest, to bring into relief a decorative master whose influence has been considerable for two centuries,

and who has pushed to their extreme conclusions the two fundamental principles of Japanese aestheticism, synthesis of forms, and simplification of subjects.

Unfortunately, with Korin as with all Japanese artists, biographic materials exist only in distressing meagreness. We should like to know the daily habits, the character, the physiognomy, the tastes, the state of mind of those who have exhibited such masterly brilliancy, such a rare invention in the creations which charm us; we should be glad to reconstruct the physical and moral portrait of the artists we prefer. We have scarcely five or six details of the private life of one of the most celebrated of all, Hokusai, so little removed from us that some of his contemporaries are still alive. With the Japanese the artist is impersonal, one who exists and survives only in his works. The historical curiosity of Europeans is lacking here.

Ogata Korin belongs to that incomparable period in the history of Japanese art known as the Genrokou period, 1688-1704. He is, together with Motonobu and Itsho, the most striking illustration, the highest expression of it. We must retain and associate these three names, while adding that of Kensei, the original ceramist, and of Ritsuo, the surprising lacquerer; illustrious names which stand out from this great era as from ground which has been fertilised by ten centuries of tillage. With people of taste, the Genrokou *nengo* marks the highest point of perfection which has been reached. In Japan the Genrokou period, is spoken of in the same way as we say the Age of Louis XIV. It was then that the ancient city Kioto attained its highest celebrity as the moment when Yeddo, the city of the Shoguns, the new capital, saw its star in the ascendant and asserted its preponderance.

Korin was born at Kioto in 1661, of a good civic family named Ogata. He was early destined for the study of painting, but writers do not agree as to the origin of his artistic education. The imperial school of Tosa claims him as a pupil of Sumiyoshi Hirodzumi; the Wakan Sogwa Shuian ascribes it to the two Kanos Yassunobu and Tsunenobu, whilst other authorities say it was due to a master who was at once, like Korin himself, a painter and lacquerer, Iman Honnami Koetsu. For my part, I should say that the sources of the talent of Korin are complex, and that the different statements may be reconciled. In submitting his works to an attentive examination, I find in effect, traces of various influences under an apparent unity of style. His manner is a subtle composite, a clever combination. To the school of Tosa is due his aristocratic refinement, his taste for water colour and transparent tints. Some of his paintings, certain of his paintings, where bright colours, strong greens, intense blues, polished whites, &c. prevail, as in the admirable kakemono in the British Museum, "The poet Narilira on the banks of the river Tanagawa" seem direct descendants of the sumptuous and heroic miniature of Tosa. From the Kanos he derives the rapidity, decision, and force in the stroke of the brush. He rivals the cleverest handlers of Indian ink, and paints, upon occasions, in the classic style, a masterpiece like the Shoki in a Parisian collection—such as these crowns *en silhouette*, borrowed from the Gwashi Kwaiyo, or this sketch of the "Little Chicken," of which we here give reproductions. My opinion is that Korin commenced his apprenticeship in the Kano school. He assuredly had in mind the great gallery of chrysanthemums of Tsunenobu at Kioto, when he painted his beautiful screens, decorated with monumental flowers. Then he entered one of the studios of Tosa, very probably that of Honnami Koetsu, where he learned the principles of lacquering. But his own peculiar manner must be traced to a study of the old-fashioned and strange sketches of Shikwado, and, above all, of the paintings of Sotatsu, one of the great artists of the seventeenth century. As a painter, Korin is, to my mind, the immediate offspring of Sotatsu; he has from him, among other qualities, the light touch laid out on a large scale, and, which is a characteristic detail, almost always thrown up by touches of gold. I regard Sotatsu as the most remarkable pupil of Kano Yassunobu. He is no doubt the link which unites Korin to the studio of the latter.

Like his brother Kensei, like Motonobu, like Itsho, like all the great artists of that time, Korin came to Yeddo, attracted by the fame of the Tokugawa. Certainly he produced at Yeddo his most remarkable works, whether in painting or lacquer. The presence of Fuji, and the style of the landscapes in his grand manner, suffice to show a long stay in the city. He returned, however, to Kioto, where he died in 1716, at the age of fifty-six.

Korin had several professional names, among which the best known is Hotshiku, which he used during the later period of his life, and chiefly on his works in lacquer. With this name he has signed admirable works of art, of genial invention

and freest touch. We reproduce here the two signatures in their most usual form.

Korin left numerous pupils, chiefly in lacquer. His studio, strongly equipped, lasted till the middle of this century. The pupil who best assimilated his style is without doubt Hoitsu; but the most eminent of all was his brother Kenzan. There was such a relationship of genius between these twin brothers of art that one is often liable to confound their works. They seem almost double manifestations of a single entity. The style of Kenzan is an emanation from that of Korin. The paintings of these two masters have the same characteristic qualities. The style of Kenzan is more massive and more generous as becomes a painter habituated to the brush of the ceramist: Kenzan is one of the greatest artists of Japan. In some respects we like him better than Korin, he is more elegant, more feminine, and when he does make a dash he is irresistible. An authenticated piece of pottery by Kenzan is always regarded by the *virtuosi* as equal to a piece of lacquer by Korin.

Hoitsu's paintings are wanting in solidity beside the virile robustness of Korin, but they possess a grace and a charm which betray the son of a daimio. The studio of Korin was about to be closed, when Hoitsu, taking it on his own account, restored some of its ancient lustre under the name "New School of Korin."

Authenticated works of Korin are no longer discoverable. Equally sought in Japan, Europe, and America, they fetch very high prices. All amateurs, even such as have not fully sounded this strange personality—and it is not to be sounded without long acquaintance—bow before its high and aristocratic distinction.

Korin, when once in full possession of his manner, drew in a way that no other could; a manner supple, rich, rounded, boldly concise with unexpected turns, and with a curious left-handed simplicity which was the disguise of profound knowledge. The stroke of the brush is sinuous and placid; the dashes are of infinite gentleness; it keeps clear of jostling, angles, of all which can shock the eye. It is indeed the hand of a lacquerer which calmly traverses the silk or the paper. The colour is blended, smooth, harmonious, and as original in its combinations as in the design. I have said elsewhere, and repeat it, there is in this simplicity pursued to its farthest limits, a penetrating charm, an intellectual emanation, insidious, inexpressible, a perfection of rhythm which winds about one like voluptuous music. Beneath an almost infantine appearance is revealed a marvellous knowledge of form, a sureness of composition which no one has possessed to the same degree in Japanese art, and which is especially favourable to the combinations of ornamental art.

Korin has painted hand screens, fans, kakémonos; but he excelled above all in the painting of screens. No artist has, like him, worked out imposing subjects, and made blades of iris, of the peony, of chrysanthemums or poppy to sing, as it were, to warm and vibrating harmonies. All is combined with consummate art; a fine taste presides over the smallest details. Korin is a true Chajin, an accomplished dilettante in an era of supreme refinement. His talent is universal; associated with that of his brother, it embraces the cycle of the decorative arts.

For those who comprehend their intense originality, his kakémonos are an unequalled treat. I know of a group of willows in a collection at Paris—where Korin is held in high honour—which is little short of miraculous.

But Korin's paintings pale before his lacquers. This great master has carried into the decoration and the execution of lacquers, all his spirit of initiative, all his independence of fancy. His action upon this branch of art has been all-powerful; his novel methods or at least his novelty of application—for everything had been indicated by his predecessors—revolutionised the art of lacquering. Koetsu appears to have taught him the technicalities of his art. In this school he acquired his large style, juicy stroke of the brush, and strong relief. But it was in studying the earlier masters of the school of Kanakura, whose works he eagerly collected, that he found the models for the incrustations of mother-of-pearl and of tin which he so strikingly turned to account. I have at the moment in my possession two pieces from Korin's collection. They are of rare interest and of extraordinary beauty. One is a little box of cylindrical shape, with lid, in plain dull gold lacquer deep in tone, decorated with grains and flowers, obtained by slight relief in gold lacquer and incrustations of tin of the most exquisite delicacy. This box is of the fourteenth century. It offers a finished example of the decorative style of the Tosa school at its meridian, and shows us the state of design at that epoch, just as well as a kakémono. Korin has restored it with the greatest

care, adding, at the bottom, a signature in silver lacquer.

The other piece is an oblong inlaid in black lacquer, set in tin and decorated by dragon-flies, whose wings project a thousand reflections which play about it. Korin has taken the pains to make a restoration off-hand. This design, the size of the original, is to be found in the vast collection of lacquer designs formed by his pupils, then enriched by Hoitsu, and after all possessed by Yoyusai. A part of this collection is now the property of Mr. Charles Haviland.

Korin brings to the execution of lacquer methods so peculiar to himself, so original, such an independence of style, such geniality of design, that his works defy comparison, and, I had almost said, all description. Words are totally incapable of rendering sensations of this refined order. One must have held in one's hands a lacquer of Korin, tenderly handled it, and made it pass under the light in order to comprehend the fascination of it.

His fine lacquers seem worked out of a block of gold, the tone even, low, powerful, with spaces full of vibration and warmth. It is a quite peculiar tone. They still say "Korin's gold," in order to denote his tone, which is like no other. Varnish flows from his brush as from a rich and abundant reservoir. His decoration, like his painting, is executed in great masses, with deliberate combinations of exceeding boldness. He gets surprising effects out of incrustations of mother-of-pearl, or of silver, or of tin. With tin employed as a grey note on small surfaces or in higher relief, he assists himself to expedients of design and depth, which give his lacquers the effect of a painting.

Several perfect specimens have reached Paris. The collection of Mr. Gillot shows us two or three large typical pieces, especially a writing-box decorated with a carrier of wood, Mr. de Goncourt is proud of a beautiful box with chrysanthemums. Mr. Ph. Butry of his *inrô*s, Mr. S. Bing is the fortunate owner of another writing-box, decorated with bamboos in incrustations of tin, and a superb panel decorated with iris in relief. I have a few of my own, which I account the most precious treasures of my collection.

In order to appreciate to its full extent the decorative genius of Korin, we have better still than his lacquers or his paintings which are guarded by jealous hands; we have engraved representations of his most characteristic works. They form the contents of twelve volumes, and constitute what is called the "Works of Korin."

First there are the five volumes of the *Makiye Daizen*, published in 1759 by a lacquerer of the house Harokawa Hosi of Kyoto. Among several hundred pieces of lacquer, inkstands, tea-trays, bottle cases, combs, medicine chests, perfume, we find the designs of works by Korin, which lead to the supposition that the master worked for this important house on his return from Yeddo.

Then there are two admirable volumes of the *Korin Gwasifou*, whose extreme rarity is notorious to Japanese bibliographers, Mr. W. Anderson, generally so well informed, does not cite. They comprehend twenty-six large plates and flowers, animals and human figures copied by an artist named Yosinaka, and engraved in colours (Yeddo, 1801). There are in it compositions of such a character that you cannot forget them, and of an extravagance in style, which are, if I might so say, Korin in a state of exasperation—comic inventions, magic in their "go," which leave far behind them the riotous fancy of a Toba or of a Mitsonobu, airy flights of design, which have their parallel in no Japanese work.

The *Korin Gwasifou*, in one volume (Osaka, 1818), is not less remarkable, nor less rare in kind. It offers thirty sketches, which assuredly are among the finest of the artist's work. Ikawa, the engraver, has rendered them with incomparable fidelity. If it were not for the marks of the wood block which show here and there slightly in the paper, we might persuade ourselves that we were looking on the originals themselves, with all the delicate touches of the pencil, and the scarce perceptible gradations of colours, which fade into the grey. The *Korin Gwasifou* is one of the masterpieces of Japanese publication.

The little *Korin Man-gwa*, engraved at Yeddo, and published at Nagaya, by Yeiakui, Hokusai's publisher, is also charming and most rare. It consists of sketches of plants in black and white, ease and the richness which Korin put into his lacquer decorations. The reverse is signed with the two united names, Ogata Korin and Hoishiku. The work, prepared by Korin, appears to have been engraved only for this edition.

The *Korin Shinsen Yakudzu*, in two volumes, published at Yedo (1815), and engraved by Shi-Korin, in painting and lacquer. There we find his most magnificent screens, his most famous

kakémonos, his most precious boxes in lacquer, his most exquisite fans. The engraving, very careful and supple, is in black; it gives a good idea of the originals.

The four volumes of the *Korin Yakudzu*, were published by the Academy of Korin, under the direction of Hoitsu, in two series.* Its engraving is more dry, the impressions less perfect.

These six volumes, containing no less than four hundred designs, is a veritable repertory. It gives an idea of the inexhaustible versatility of the great artist, and yet certainly all of his works are not there, Hoitsu having only reproduced those which he had at hand.

Finally, we find a certain number of Korin's compositions in contemporary collections, particularly in the *Gwasifou Kwaifo*, and in the *Pelon Te Kagami*, published by Shunboku in 1707, and 1720. From this collection we obtained the crows standing out black on the moon's disc, that genial and striking conception which combines the power of the Kanos with the expressive power of the style of Korin.—LOUIS GONSE in *Artistic Japan* for May.

THE FLOODS IN CHINA.

When describing, two weeks ago, the process by which the waters of the Yellow River are often let out upon the country, we had little thought of seeing a rehearsal of the performance at our own door. Nor, when recording the three days' rain at the close of last week, was it possible to imagine that we were on the verge of a flood exceeding in suddenness if not in height all previous visitations of the kind. Owing to the length of time which, through our slow methods of translating and printing, elapses between the issuing of an Imperial Decree and its publication in English, the Emperor's earnest prayers for rain figured in our paper almost side by side with the report of a deluge; and from the threatened failure of the staple cereal crops through drought there is but one step to their total destruction by inundation. The suddenness of this calamity is of course partly due to the absence of any system of communicating information between one part of the country and another. We knew that the rainfall had been very unequal, for in the Peking district 12 inches were registered before there had been any rain to speak of in Tientsin. Over the great watersheds the rain was apparently earlier even than in Peking; and we now know that the banks of the Yellow River had given way early in July. In the beginning of last week it was reported that Tungchow was five feet under water, and later that Chan-kia-wan was flooded. The Customs Courier service was entirely interrupted from the 16th, which we do not remember to have happened before, and that circumstance alone might have suggested alarming things to Tientsin. On Saturday last, however, reports did begin to crowd in of extensive destruction caused by the overflow of the river system which is united in the Peiho, and the river had risen so high at Tientsin as to cause considerable anxiety. The cessation of the rain during the greater part of Sunday fed the delusive hope that we might escape the threatening deluge, but when it was resumed with redoubled force early on Monday morning, the 21st, the situation soon became desperate. The whole of the French Settlement was then found under water, Consulate and Naval Secretariat included. The buildings of the French Syndicate were scarcely accessible, and rafts were navigated about the streets. As for the jerry buildings which ornament the French band their occupants were shut in between two floods, the one that threatened them from below and the one that made cascades through their roofs and ceilings. So rapidly did the waters rise that no general precautions had been taken, and the excitement was excessive during Monday and Tuesday, every one seeming to do what was best to protect his own property, regardless of consequences to the contrary. Whether in making extempore embankments or in cutting through existing ones, *sautez qui peut* was the only principle which could be followed. The first specific disaster was the breach, or overflow, or cutting of the right bank of the Peiho at the Korean Consulate, which occurred on Monday, and sent an immense volume of water into the lowlands which skirt the eastern side of the river were threatened, the lower portion of their contents being actually reached by the water before anything effective could be done to protect them. Some years ago the country was

* First series published at Kyoto, in the *Bunkyo* period, from 1804 to 1817; second series published during the *Banwa* period, from 1818 to 1829, and beautifully engraved, by the same Shimidzu Riuzo, with a preface by Bounshio. These were reprinted in 1864.

deliberately put under water in order to save these same salt heaps, and the like policy would have been followed in the present case if the impetuous stream had not got ahead of the slow cerebration of the Salt Commissioner. The whole area on the left bank enclosed by the mud wall of Sankolinsin was flooded on Monday, and the large population which has grown up there within the last few years were washed out of their houses. The area is bisected by the railway embankment. Imagining, quite truly, that this embankment and mud wall dammed the body of water to their detriment, the people, with the tacit sanction of the authorities, cut through both, and allowed the rapidly rising water to burst into the open country, where it wastes everything it encounters and where it will remain probably for years. A second breach had been formed on the right bank, whether by nature or man's hand, near to Messrs. MacLay & Co.'s premises, whence the water found a tempting outlet into the plain through the hollow space which adjoins the Viceroy's and the London Mission Hospitals. These easements, with the numerous breaches made in the higher reaches, in the Huenho, Yuenho, and Peiho seemed to take so much pressure off the Tientsin Reach as to reduce the level of the river between Monday and Saturday by seven inches, and portions of the French Settlement has appeared above the water. But the fate of the low grounds at the back of the British Settlement and City was sealed by their low level, for at the two breaches at Ma-chia-kow (which have since been closed) there was a drop of several feet from the river bank to the adjoining land. The receiving area was so extensive, however, that no visible impression was made in the level of the water in the plain during Tuesday, and from all that was known then it appeared that if these outlets had been stopped, as they might easily have been, the plain might have been saved, at any rate that portion of it which is within the Western arc of the mud wall of Sankolinsin. It is true that from an overflow at the Everlasting Bend, two miles by road and about three by river below Tientsin, the water was pouring into the country between the canal which skirts the race course and Sankolinsin's wall, and on Tuesday it was beginning to break over the Municipal road leading to the race course. Whether from these various sources sufficient water would come in to cover the inner plain in rear of the settlement was a subject of anxious speculation on Tuesday. It was all a question of the levels, about which people generally had no very clear ideas. Conjecture was set at rest, however, by the advent of a new factor which was signalled on Wednesday morning. The water had been visibly rising in the ditches of the inner plain, when the report came in of a break in the bank of the Grand Canal, to the westward of Tientsin about 17 li, at a place called Ta Sao Chih K'ou.

The break was variously reported as 400 and 1,400 feet in length, and the level was said to be 3 feet above the plain into which the water was flowing. This immense body of water made itself rapidly felt, and it was a wonderful sight to see the steady but stealthy rise of the vast glittering mass. Not a breath of wind rippled the surface, and to see the mud villages, grave mounds, with here and there a group of pines on the higher spots surprised at grass and stolidly swishing the flies from their flanks with their long tails, unconscious of the rising danger,—to see these all placidly mirrored in the silent water it required an effort to realize the irresistible force of this remorseless element. By mid-day the water had covered all the roads in the inner plain, except the Cemetery Road, but the Taku Road remained dry until Thursday morning, when its sanctity was also invaded. During the whole of Thursday the water rose steadily, over the lower portions of the Taku Road, Messrs. Mackenzie & Co.'s premises were completely surrounded, and from the Meadows Road to the Kwanglung Road it washed the back walls of Messrs. Cordes & Co., Dr. Irwin, and Messrs. Piatkoff & Co.'s premises.

As the water threatened the Taku Road the only practical measure of defence which was organised was a dam hurriedly run up from the corner of the compound wall of the Japanese Consulate across the Taku Road, and carried outside Mr. Tenney's house, the Flour Mill, and Mrs. Moore's dairy, to the arch-way of the mud wall over the Race-course Road. This clever piece of extemporaneous engineering was probably due to the sharp-eyed instincts of the Jesuit missionaries, who own an immense amount of house property within the protected area, and whose recently erected houses on the French Concession had been mercilessly flooded the day before. In thus defending their own property the good Fathers also protected a vast number of Chinese tenants, and also much foreign owned land, godowns, and houses which are included in the section, the Taku Road gateway being high enough to keep out the water

on that side. The inner plain was rapidly filled from the outer plain entirely through the openings at the Hai-kwan-su, which could easily have been blocked, but no thought was given to this until the flood was pouring in like a millrace, when chairs and peacock's feathers and red tasselled cavaliers began to career along the wall in a state of aimless disarray.

Another excellent piece of work, was the prompt protection of the Gas Works, when the Cemetery Road was threatened. Improvised embankments were thrown up just in time, for before they were completed the site of the Gas Works was only approachable by wading through two feet of water. Now it is believed the measures taken will insure our regular supply of gas, the deprivation of which would have been severely felt, and the Directors of the Company deserve credit for their promptitude.

The cemetery itself is unfortunately covered, as it was in 1871.

Like an island in the sea stands the Powen-shu-yuen, the new College on the river bank, its immunity being due partly to the height of its foundation, and partly to the substantial embankment thrown up round it. It is wonderful indeed how effective these simple contrivances are, for on the opposite side of the river the Military School, which was so easily inundated by the last floods, has been kept perfectly dry by the good earth-work which was thrown up round after that valuable experience.

The progress of the flood on the north, or east, or left bank of the river has been even more disastrous than on the right bank. The extensive plain between the French Marsh and the river was flooded from several sources, and others from a huge gap cut in the outer wall close to the railway bridge; through this for two days the waters rushed with all the features of a rapid—the roar being heard at a considerable distance. Cutting the creek stream at right angles the combined floods seethed under the railway bridge and rapidly rose to the level of the military road which runs from the city to the Arsenal and Camps. This, although 6 ft. above the level of the plain, is into a wash, and should the slightest breeze arise will inevitably be totally destroyed, as the waves attain considerable size and force, having so long a "fetch," in a northerly or north-westerly blow.

The quadrangular plain which contains the Camps and brick kilns had complete exemption from water till Thursday; and would have had it still but for the supineness of the Chinese authorities and the incompetence of the gangers; on Thursday a wet mud wall (no dry material being then obtainable), three feet high and three feet broad, was thrown up to keep back the waters threatening the plain from the moat—this proved ridiculously inadequate, and on Thursday, at three a.m., the pent up floods broke through.

So far they have been kept from invading the Arsenal itself, but how long this great centre of labour will have exemption is uncertain. The Camps, the Arsenal, and the Railway are now the only land visible on the left bank.

The water has been practically stationary since Thursday night, neither rising nor falling. The river level varies a few inches, but on the average is 2 feet 6 inches above the water on the plain. The Grand Canal level is of course the same as that of the Peiho into which it falls, and as it still pours its waters on the plain the fact that the rise of the latter has been arrested seems to show that the water is finding an equivalent outlet somewhere. Reports came yesterday from Pai-tang-kou, where steamers now discharge, that the water had begun to pour from the plain into the river.

The water is up to the City walls but it cannot get through; the gates on the south and west sides are closed and dammed up. The Viceroy's Yamén, situated on the farther side of the Grand Canal, is however under water.

According to the recollection of "the oldest inhabitant," and from certain marks on stones and walls, the height of the present flood is about a foot less than the great flood of 1871, and as the Taku road as well as the roads within the British Settlement have been considerably raised since then by repeated layers of macadam, the inconvenience to foreign residents is not nearly so great now as on the former occasion.

The country being now an open sea, with trees to mark the line of roads and canals, and the villages standing out of the water like islands, with the higher of the grave mounds showing their heads above water, those who could muster boats or canoes had a fine time in sailing over the road over which only three days before carriages were driving. Curious sights presented themselves. The animal creation, surprised by the inundation, were non-plussed like the mammoths in Siberia. Nearly every tree formed the refuge of a snake, and the

exponents of "Tree and Serpent worship" might have derived from the spectacle some light on the mythical origin of that cult. The graves were literally covered inches deep, some with beetles, some with mole-crickets (carpenters) and other many kinds, while the water in places was alive with the creatures swimming for their lives. What became of the small mammals we have not heard, but probably the villagers on their mounds could tell a tale of the unwelcome invasion of their asylums.

Of the causes of the flood it is perhaps premature to speak. The rivers to the west undoubtedly overflowed, and the Hunho is said to have effected a junction with the Peiho at Yang-tsun instead of at Hsi-ku, its normal confluence. This would perhaps account for the congestion of the river below Yang-sun. But the controlling influence which the Grand Canal has obviously exercised over the situation points strongly to the overflow of the Yellow River as the main cause of our present inundation. Should that be the case it would be futile to make any attempt to stop the overflow of the Grand Canal, and all that can be practically aimed at is to facilitate the drainage of the plain towards the sea.

What all this means to the poor people it is superfluous to dwell upon. Their distress is beyond expression, only equalled by their marvellous patience in bearing it. Most of the houses of the poor in this province being built of mere mud, no resistance could be offered to the water, and when the flood passed over a village it melted away like a lump of sugar in a cup of coffee. The first reports of loss of life appear to have been exaggerated, though no doubt a good many found watery graves. So sudden was the rise in the river above Tientsin that some boats which were anchored with short cables were lifted up before the crews took the alarm and could pay out chain, and were swamped at their moorings, the crews being drowned. The complete destruction of a season's crops is alone a calamity of the first importance, and the exposure and discomfort of old and young is painful to contemplate. Of the area of the devastation no exact estimate can be formed, but probably 3,000 square miles, which is only one-tenth of the area drained by the Peiho system, is not an excessive figure. The entire obliteration of the roads has so isolated the towns and villages, that of their condition nothing at all is known. We can only speak of the sufferers on the immediate outskirts of Tientsin, who, like the animal tribes, are seeking the dry places whereon to spread their mats. The city wall has been portioned out among the refugees from the different sections, and the roads and streets are beginning to be thronged. Nothing is more remarkable than the exemplary quietness with which these poor people meet their woes. The British Settlement with its wide, dry, and not too busy streets offers what might have been through an irresistible temptation to the drowned-out multitudes, but no thought of invading it seems as yet to have entered their minds. No doubt when the authorities have had time to collect themselves some general scheme of relief will be set on foot, and it is certain that private benevolence will not be backward in mitigating, to some slight extent, the misery around. Relief works of a useful character would undoubtedly have been found had the flood been somewhat less exacting, but as all work of that nature requires some dry ground, of which there is not a rod in the whole distressed area, the very material is denied to the hands of the labourers.—*Chinese Times*.

FALSE DAWN.

BY RUDYARD KIPLING.

To-night God knows what things shall tide,
The Earth is racked and faint—
Expectant, sleepless, open-eyed;
And we, who from the Earth were made,
Thrill with our Mother's pain.

—In *Durance*.

No man will ever know the exact truth of this story; though women may sometimes whisper it to one another after a dance, when they are putting up their hair for the night and comparing lists of victims. A man, of course, cannot assist at these functions. So the tale must be told from the outside—in the dark—all wrong.

Never praise a sister to a sister, in the hope of your compliments reaching the proper ears, and so preparing the way for you later on. Sisters are women first, and sisters afterward; and you will find that you do yourself harm.

Saumarez knew this when he made up his mind to propose to the elder Miss Coleleigh. Saumarez was a strange man, with few merits, so far as men could see, though he was popular with women, and carried enough conceit to stock a Viceroy's Council

and leave a little over for the Commander-in-chief's staff. He was a civilian. Very many women took an interest in Saumarez, perhaps, because his manner to them was offensive. If you hit a pony over the nose at the outset of your acquaintance, he may not love you, but he will take a deep interest in your movements ever afterward. The elder Miss Copleigh was very nice, plump, winning, and pretty. The younger was not so pretty, and from men disregarding the hint set forth above, her style was repellent and unattractive. Both girls had practically the same figure, and there was a strong likeness between them in look and voice; though no one could doubt for an instant which was the nicer of the two.

Saumarez made up his mind as soon as they came into the station from Behar to marry the elder one. At least, we all made sure that he would, which comes to the same thing. She was two-and-twenty, and he was thirty-three, with pay and allowances of nearly 1,400 rupees a month. So the match, as we arranged it, was in every way a good one. Saumarez was his name and summary was his nature, as a man once said. Having drafted his resolution he formed a select committee of one to sit upon it, and resolved to take his time. In our unpleasant slang, the Copleigh girls "hunted in couples." That is to say, you could do nothing with one without the other. They were very loving sisters; but their mutual affection was sometimes inconvenient. Saumarez held the balance fair true between them, and none but himself could have said to which side his heart inclined; though every one guessed. He rode with them a good deal and danced with them, but he never succeeded in detaching them from each other for any length of time.

Women said that the two girls kept together through deep mistrust, each fearing that the other would steal a march on her. But that has nothing to do with a man. Saumarez was silent for good or bad, and as business-like attentive as he could be, having due regard to his work and his polo. Beyond doubt, both girls were fond of him.

As the hot weather drew nearer and Saumarez made no sign, women said that you could see their trouble in the eyes of the girls—that they were looking strained, anxious, and irritable. Men are quite blind in these matters unless they have more of the woman than the man in their composition, in which case it does not matter what they say or think. I maintain it was the hot April days that took the colour out of the Copleigh girls' cheeks. They should have been sent to the Hills early. No one—man or woman—feels an angel when the hot weather is approaching. The younger sister grew more cynical—not to say acid—in her ways; and the winningness of the elder wore thin. There was more effort in it.

Now the station wherein all these things happened was, though not a little one, off the line of rail, and suffered through want of attention. There were no gardens, or bands, or amusement worth speaking of, and it was nearly a day's journey to come into Lahore for a dance. People were grateful for small things to interest them.

About the beginning of May, and just before the final exodus of hill-goers, when the weather was very hot and there were not more than twenty people in the station, Saumarez gave a moonlight riding picnic at an old tomb six miles away, near the bed of the river. It was a "Noah's Ark" picnic; and there was to be the usual arrangement of quarter-mile intervals between each couple, on account of the dust. Six couples came altogether, including chaperones. Moonlight picnics are useful just at the very end of the season, before all the girls go away to the Hills. They lead to understandings, and should be encouraged by chaperones; especially those whose girls look sweetest in riding habits. I knew a case once. But that is another story. That picnic was called the "Great Pop Picnic," because every one knew Saumarez would propose then to the eldest Miss Copleigh; and, beside his affair, there was another which might possibly come to happiness. The social atmosphere was heavily charged and wanted clearing.

We met at the parade ground at ten; the night was fearfully hot. The horses sweated even at walking pace, but anything was better than sitting still in our own dark houses. When we moved off under the full moon we were four couples, one triplet, and Mr. Saumarez rode with the Copleigh girls, and I loitered at the tail of the procession, wondering with whom Saumarez would ride home. Every one was happy and contented; but we all felt that things were going to happen. We rode slowly; and it was nearly midnight before we reached the old tomb, facing the ruined tank, in the decayed gardens where we were going to eat and drink. I was late in coming up; and, before I went into the garden, I saw that the horizon to the north carried a faint, dun-coloured

feather. But no one would have thanked me for spoiling so well-managed an entertainment as this picnic—and a dust storm, more or less, does no great harm.

We gathered by the tank. Some one had brought out a hanjo—which is a most sentimental instrument—and three or four of us sang. You must not laugh at this. Our amusements in out-of-the-way stations are very few indeed. Then we talked in groups or together, lying under the trees, with the sun-baked roses dropping their petals on our feet, until supper was ready. It was a beautiful supper, as cold and iced as you could wish; and we staid long over it.

I had felt that the air was growing hotter and hotter; but nobody seemed to notice it until the moon went out and a burning hot wind began lashing the orange trees with a sound like the noise of the sea. Before we knew where we were, the dust storm was on us, and everything was roaring whirling darkness. The supper table was blown bodily into the tank. We were afraid of staying anywhere near the old tomb for fear it might be blown down. So we felt our way to the orange trees where the horses were picketed and waited for the storm to blow over. Then the little light that was left vanished, and you could not see your hand before your face. The air was heavy with dust and sand from the bed of the river, that filled boots and pockets and drifted down necks, and coated eyebrows and mustaches. It was one of the worst dust storms of the year. We were all huddled together close to the trembling horses, with the thunder clattering overhead and the lightning spurting like water from a sluice, all ways at once. There was no danger, of course, unless the horses broke loose. I was standing with my head down and my hands over my mouth, hearing the trees thrashing each other. I could not see who was next to me till the flashes came. Then I found that I was packed near Saumarez and the eldest Miss Copleigh, with my own horse just in from of me. I recognized the eldest Miss Copleigh, because she had a pagri round her waist, and the younger had not. All the electricity in the air had gone into my body, and it was quivering and tingling from head to foot exactly as a corn shoots and tingles in the rain. It was a grand storm. The wind seemed to be picking up the earth and pitching it to leeward in great heaps; and the heat beat up from the ground like the heat of the Day of Judgment.

The storm lulled slightly after the first half hour, and I heard a despairing little voice close to my ear, saying to itself, quietly and softly, as if some lost soul were flying about with the wind:—"O my God!" Then the younger Miss Copleigh stumbled into my arms, saying:—"Where is my horse? Get my horse, I want to go home. I want to go home. Take me home."

I thought that the lightning and the black darkness had frightened her; so I said there was no danger, but she must wait till storm blew over. She answered: "It is not that! It is not that! I want to go home. Oh, take me away from here!"

I said she could not go till the light came; but I felt her brush past me and go away. It was too dark to see where. Then the whole sky was split open with one tremendous flash, as if the end of the world were coming, and all the women shrieked.

Almost directly after this, I felt a man's hand on my shoulder and heard Saumarez bellowing in my ear. Through the rattling of the trees and howling of the wind, I did not catch his words at once, but at last I heard him say:—"I've proposed to the wrong one! What shall I do?" Saumarez had no occasion to make this confidence to me: I was never a friend of his, nor am I now; but I fancy neither of us was himself just then. He was shaking as he stood with excitement, and I was feeling queer all over with the electricity. I could not think of anything to say except:—"More fool you for proposing in a dust storm." But I did not see how that would improve the mistake.

Then he shouted: "Where's Edith—Edith Copleigh?" Edith was the younger sister. I answered out of my astonishment: "What do you want with her?" Would you believe it, for the next two minutes, he and I were shouting at each other like maniacs—he vowing that it was the younger sister he had meant to propose to all along, and I telling him till my throat was hoarse that he must have made a mistake! I can't account for this except, again, by the fact that we were neither of us ourselves. Everything seemed to me like a bad dream—from the stamping of the horses in the darkness to Saumarez telling me the story of his loving Edith Copleigh since the first. He was still claving my shoulder and begging me to tell him where Edith Copleigh was, when another lull came and brought light with it, and we saw the dust cloud forming on the plain in front of us. So we knew the worst was over. The moon was low down, and there was just the glimmer of the false

dawn that comes about an hour before the real one. But the light was very faint, and the dun cloud roared like a bull. I wondered where Edith Copleigh had gone; and as I was wondering I saw three things together: First Maud Copleigh's face come smiling out of the darkness and move toward Saumarez, who was standing near me. I heard the girl whisper: "George," and slid her arm through the arm that was not claving my shoulder, and I saw that look on her face which only comes once or twice in a life-time—when a woman is perfectly happy and the air is full of trumpets and gorgeous coloured fire and the earth turns into cloud because she loves and is loved. At the same time I saw Saumarez's face as he heard Maud Copleigh's voice, and fifty yards away from the clump of orange trees I saw a brown holland habit getting upon a horse.

It must have been my state of over-excitement that made me so quick to meddle with what did not concern me. Saumarez was moving off to the habit; but I pushed him back and said:—"Stop here and explain. I'll fetch her back!" And I ran out to get at my own horse. I had a perfectly unnecessary notion that everything must be done decently and in order, and that Saumarez' first care was to wipe the happy look out of Maud Copleigh's face. All the time I was linking up the curb-chain I wondered how he would do it.

I cantered after Edith Copleigh, thinking to bring her back slowly on some pretence or another. But she galloped away as soon as she saw me, and I was forced to ride after her in earnest. She called back over her shoulder:—"Go away! I'm going home. Oh, go away!" two or three times; but my business was to catch her first and argue later. The ride just fitted in with the rest of the evil dream. The ground was very bad, and now and again we rushed through the whirling, choking "dust-devils" in the skirts of the flying storm. There was a burning hot wind blowing that brought up a stench of stale brick kilns with it; and through the half-light and through the dust-devils across that desolate plain flickered the brown holland habit on the gray horse. She headed for the station at first. Then she wheeled round and set off for the river through beds of burnt-down junglegrass, bad even to ride a pig over. In cold blood I should never have dreamed of going over such a country at night, but it seemed quite right and natural, with the lightning crackling over head, and a reek like the smell of the pit in my nostrils. I rode and shouted, and she bent forward and lashed her horse, and the aftermath of the dust storm came up and caught us both and drove us down-wind like pieces of paper.

I don't know how far we rode; but the drumming of the horse-hoofs and the roar of the wind and the face of the faint blood-red moon through the yellow mist seemed to have gone on for years and years, and I was literally drenched with sweat from my helmet to my gaiters when the gray stumbled, recovered himself, and pulled up dead lame. My brute was used up altogether. Edith Copleigh was in a sad state, plastered with dust, her helmet off, and crying bitterly. "Why can't you let me alone?" she said. "I only wanted to get away and go home. Oh, please let me go!"

"You have got to come back with me, Miss Copleigh. Saumarez has something to say to you. It was a foolish way of putting it; but I hardly knew Miss Copleigh, and though I was playing Providence at the cost of my horse, I could not tell her in as many words what Saumarez had told me. I thought he could do that better himself. All her pretence about being tired and wanting to go home broke down, and she rocked herself to and fro in the saddle as she sobbed, and the hot wind blew her black hair to leeward. I am not going to repeat what she said, because she was utterly uninteresting.

This if you please, was the cynical Miss Copleigh. Here was I, almost an utter stranger to her, trying to tell her that Saumarez loved her, and she was to come back to hear him say so. I believe I made myself understood, for she gathered the gray together and made him hobble somehow, and we set off for the tomb, while the storm went thundering down to Umballa and a few big drops of warm rain fell. I found out that she had been standing close to Saumarez when he proposed to her sister, and had wanted to go home to cry in peace, as an English girl should. She dabbed her eyes with her pocket handkerchief as we went along, and babbled to me out of sheer lightness of heart and hysteria. That was perfectly unnatural; and yet, it seemed all right at the time and in the place. All the world was only the two Copleigh girls, Saumarez and I, ringed in with the lightning and the dark; and the guidance of this misguided world seemed to lie in my hands.

When we returned to the tomb in the dead stillness that followed the storm, the dawn was just breaking and nobody had gone away. They

were waiting for our return. Saumarez most of all. His face was white and drawn. As Miss Copleigh and I limped up he came forward to meet us, and when he helped her down from her saddle, he kissed her before all the picnic. It was like a scene in a theatre, and the likeness was heightened by all the dust, white, ghostly looking men and women under the orange trees, clapping their hands—as if they were watching a play—at Saumarez' choice. I never knew anything so un-English in my life.

Lastly, Saumarez said we must all go home, or the station would come out to look for us, and would I be good enough to ride home with Maud Copleigh? Nothing would give me greater pleasure, I said.

So, we formed up, six couples in all, and went back two by two: Saumarez walking at the side of Edith Copleigh, who was riding his horse.

The air was cleared; and little by little, as the sun rose, I felt we were all dropping back again into ordinary men and women, and that the "Great Pop Picnic" was a thing altogether apart and out of the world—never to happen again. It had gone with the dust storm and the tingle in the hot air.

I felt tired and limp, and a good deal ashamed of myself, as I went in for a bath and some sleep.

There is a woman's version of this story, but it will never be written * * * unless Maud Copleigh care to try.—*Alta*.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, August 16th.

The strike in South Wales has terminated.

The Washington Treasury purchased on the 13th inst. 310,000 ounces of silver, it is believed, at slightly above the London rate. The offers are said to have amounted to a million ounces.

London, August 18th.

The Marquis of Salisbury has refuted the statement that in a despatch he had disallowed the American claim to the sole jurisdiction of the Behring Sea and proposed arbitration.

London, August 19th.

Silver certificates have reached 117½ on the New York Stock Exchange.

London, August 20th.

Parliament has been prorogued. The Speech from the Throne intimated friendly relations with all the foreign Powers, and that the Newfoundland difficulty was the only serious question occupying the attention of the Government.

London, August 21st.

Serious strikes have occurred among the marine officers at Melbourne, Sydney, and Brisbane, and many steamers have been stopped through hands leaving.

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

Nagasaki, August 22nd, 4.15 p.m.

The German steamship *General Werder*, outward bound from this port, has gone ashore off the Dock.

TIME TABLES AND STEAMERS.

TOKYO-YOKOHAMA RAILWAY.

DOWN TRAINS LEAVE SHIMBASHI Station at 6.05*, 6.40, 8.35, 9.30*, 10.25, and 11.45 a.m., and 1.25, 2.30, 3.55, 4.45, 5.50, 6.50, 8.30, 9.55, and 11.15 p.m.

UP TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 6.30, 7.20, 8.10, 9.15, 10.22, and 11.30 a.m., and 12.45, 2, 3.45, 5.30, 6.35, 7.50, 9.10, 10.05, and 11.05 p.m.

FARES—First-class, *sen* 60; second-class, *sen* 40 and third-class, *sen* 20.

Trains marked (*) run through without stopping at Omori, Kawasaki, Tsurumi, and Kanagawa Stations. Those marked (†) run through without stopping at Omori, Kawasaki, and Tsurumi Stations.

OYAMA-MAEBASHI RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE OYAMA (down) at 7.15 and 9.45 a.m., and 2.15 and 5.20 p.m.; KIRIU (down) at 5.9.11, and 11.40 a.m., and 4.10 p.m.; MAEBASHI (up) at 6.12 and 10.35 a.m., and 1.55 and 6.35 p.m.; and KIRIU (up) at 5.10, 7.13, and 11.37 a.m., and 2.57 p.m.

FARES—Oyama to Kiriu, first-class *sen* 97, second-class *sen* 66, third-class *sen* 33; to Maebashi, first-class *yen* 1.51, second-class *yen* 1.2, third-class *sen* 51.

TOKAIDO RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA (down) at 6.50, 9, 10.20, 11.25 a.m., and 12.40, 3.25, 4.55, 5.35 and 7.15 p.m.; and KOZU (up) at 6.35, 8.40, 9.40, and 11.07 a.m., and 1.17, 2.45, 4.55, 7.25, and 9.46 p.m.

FARES—To Hachioji, first-class *sen* 6, second-class *sen* 4, third-class *sen* 2; to Totsuka, *sen* 18, *sen* 12, *sen* 6; to Ofuna *sen* 36, *sen* 24, *sen* 12; 16 Fuji, *sen* 42, *sen* 28, *sen* 14; to Hiatsuka, *sen* 69, *sen* 44, *sen* 22; to Oiso, *sen* 75, *sen* 50, *sen* 25; and to Kizu, *sen* 93, *sen* 62, *sen* 31.

Down trains at 6.50 a.m. run no further than Kyoto arriving there at 11.20 p.m.; at 10.25 a.m. no further than Nagoya, arriving at 10.10 p.m.; at 12.40 p.m. no further than Shizuoka, arriving there at 6.50 p.m.; at 3.25 p.m. no further than Shizuoka, arriving at 8.40 p.m.; and the train at 5.35 p.m. runs to Kobe, arriving at 11.45 p.m. next day.

A tramway runs between Kozu and Yomoro (distance 4 ri. Jintikisha may be hired between Yomoro and Atsuta distance 14 ri.)

OFUNA-YOKOSUKA RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE OFUNA (down) at 7.30 and 9.40 a.m., and 12.05, 1.30, 4.05, 6.14, and 8.30 p.m.; KAMAKURA (down) at 7.41 and 9.51 a.m., and 12.16, 1.41, 4.14, 6.25, and 8.41 p.m.; and ZUSHIMURA (down) at 7.50 and 10 a.m., and 12.25, 1.50, 4.23, 6.34, and 8.50 p.m.; YOKOSUKA (up) at 6.45, 8.55, and 11.20 a.m., and 12.50, 3, 5.10, and 7.45 p.m.; ZUSHIMURA (up) at 7.01, 9.12, and 11.36 a.m., and 1.06, 3.16, 5.26, and 8.01 p.m.; and KAMAKURA (up) at 7.11, 9.22, and 11.46 a.m., and 1.15, 3.26, 5.36 and 8.10 p.m.

FARES—To Kamakura, first-class *sen* 9, second-class *sen* 6, third-class *sen* 3; to Zushimura *sen* 15, *sen* 10, *sen* 5; and to Yokosuka *sen* 30, *sen* 20, *sen* 10.

KOZU-KOBE RAILWAY.

DOWN TRAINS LEAVE KOZU at 8.30 a.m., and 12.50, 2.13, 4.57, and 7.10 p.m.; GOTEMBA at 9.52 a.m., and 1.32, 3.35, 6.18, and 8.32 p.m.; NUMAZU at 5.20 and 10.40 a.m., and 2.30, 4.27, 7.09, and 9.24 p.m.; SHIZUOKA at 7.20 a.m., and 12.19, 4.12, 6.50, and 10.59 p.m.; HAMAMATSU at 6 and 10 a.m., and 2.40 and 6.45 p.m., and 1.16 a.m.; TOYOHASHI at 7.10 and 11.10 a.m., and 3.39 and 7.45 p.m., and 2.14 a.m.; OFU at 8.30 a.m., and 1.06, 5.52, and 9.25 p.m., and 4.02 p.m.; NAGOYA at 9.45 and 11.50 a.m., and 2 and 6.08 p.m., and 5 a.m.; Gifu at 10.53 a.m., and 1.30, 6, and 7.09 p.m., and 6 a.m.; OKAZAKI at 11.24 a.m., and 1.28, 3.33, and 7.38 p.m., and 6.28 a.m.; MAIBARA at 9.45 a.m., and 1.24, 5.07, and 8.55 p.m., and 7.45 a.m.; HIKONE at 10.05 a.m., and 1.18, 3.02, 5.25, and 9.06 p.m., and 7.58 a.m.; BABA (Oiso) at 12, 3.15, 4.40, 7.10, and 10.43 p.m., and 9.34 a.m.; KYOTO at 12.45, 4.05, 5.35, and 8 p.m., and 10.14 a.m.; and OSAKA at 2.25, 5.35, 7.20, and 9.50 p.m., and 11.42 a.m.

UP TRAINS LEAVE KOBE at 5.55 and 9.55 a.m., and 1.55, 3.45, and 5.30 p.m.; OSAKA at 7.00 and 11.00 a.m., and 3.06, 5, and 6.36 p.m.; KYOTO at 5.55 and 8.40 a.m., and 12.40, 4.36, 6.40, and 8.05 p.m.; BABA (Oiso) at 6.18, and 9.31 a.m., and 1.30, 5.25, 7.31, and 8.50 p.m.; HIKONE at 7.56, and 11.05 a.m., and 3.03, 7.02, 9.08, and 10.25 p.m.; MAIBARA at 8.13, and 11.30 a.m., and 3.19, 7.20, and 10.42 p.m.; OKAZAKI at 9.30 a.m., and 12.36, 4.37, 8.46, and 1.54 p.m.; Gifu at 9.57 a.m., and 1.02, 5.03, and 9.15 p.m., and 12.17 a.m.; NAGOYA at 6, and 11 a.m., and 2.10 and 6.20 p.m., and 1.09 a.m.; OFU at 6.43 and 11.44 a.m., and 2.56 and 7.04 p.m., and 1.41 a.m.; TOYOHASHI at 8.30 a.m., and 1.30, 4.42, and 8.52 p.m., and 3.17 a.m.; HAMAMATSU at 6.30 and 9.45 a.m., and 2.45 and 6 p.m., and 4.25 a.m.; SHIZUOKA at 5.15 and 9.07 a.m., and 12.45, 5.20, and 9.45 p.m., and 7.08 a.m.; NUMAZU at 7.03 and 10.40 a.m., and 2.24 and 7.14 p.m., and 8.43 a.m.; GOTEMBA at 8.15 and 11.58 a.m., and 3.38 and 8.28 p.m., and 9.53 a.m.; and Kozu at 9.40 a.m., and 1.17, 4.53, and 9.46 p.m., and 11.07 a.m.

FARES—Kozu to Gotemba, first-class, *sen* 66, second-class *sen* 44, third-class *sen* 22; to Numazu *yen* 1.11, *sen* 74, *sen* 37; to Shizuoka *yen* 2.13, *sen* 1.42, *sen* 71; to Hamamatsu *yen* 3.57, *sen* 2.38, *sen* 1.19; to Toyohashi *yen* 4.23, *sen* 2.82, *sen* 1.41; to Ofu *yen* 5.22, *sen* 3.48, *sen* 1.74; to Nagoya *yen* 5.58, *sen* 3.72, *sen* 1.86; to Gifu *yen* 6.15, *sen* 4.10, *sen* 2.05; to Okazaki *yen* 6.42, *sen* 4.28, *sen* 2.14; to Maibara *yen* 7.05, *sen* 4.70, *sen* 2.35; to Hikone *yen* 7.17, *sen* 4.78, *sen* 2.39; to Baba *yen* 8.10, *sen* 5.40, *sen* 2.70; to Kyoto *yen* 8.40, *sen* 5.60, *sen* 2.80; to Osaka *yen* 9.21, *sen* 6.14, *sen* 3.07; and to Kobe *yen* 9.81, *sen* 6.54, *sen* 3.27.

The down train at 8.31 a.m. runs no further than Kyoto, arriving there at 11.20 p.m.; at 12.12 p.m. no further than Nagoya, arriving at 10.10 p.m.; at 5.05 p.m. no further than Shizuoka, arriving at 9 p.m.; and the train at 7.10 p.m. runs to Kobe, arriving at 12.50 p.m. next day. The up train at 5.55 a.m. runs no further than Shizuoka, arriving there at 8.40 p.m.; at 9.55 a.m. and 1.55 p.m. no further than Nagoya, arriving respectively at 6.07 and 10.15 p.m.; and the train at 3.30 p.m. runs to Shimabashi arriving at 1.40 p.m. next day.

UTSUNOMIYA-NIKKO RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE UTSUNOMIYA (down) at 5.25 and 10.05 a.m., and 12.25* and 3.05 p.m.; and NIKKO (up) at 7.20 and 11.55 a.m., and 2.25 and 4.55* p.m.

* Through Trains to and from Ueno.

NAGOYA-TAKETOYO RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE NAGOYA at 9.05 a.m., and 5.05 p.m., and TAKEYOYO at 7.50 a.m., and 3.50 p.m.

FARES—Second-class, *sen* 74; Third-class, *sen* 37.

TOKYO-SHIOGAMA RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE UENO (down) at 6.40, 8.50, and 11.10 a.m., and 2.40 and 5.40 p.m.; UTSUNOMIYA (down) at 10 a.m., and 3.03 and 5.59 p.m.; SHIRAKAWA (down) at 8 a.m., and 12.30 and 5.41 p.m.; KORIYAMA (down) at 9.25 a.m., and 1.54 and 6.58 p.m.; FUKUSHIMA (down) at 7.35 and 11.33 a.m., and 3.45 p.m.; SENDAI (down) at 6.15, 10.25, and 10.40 a.m., and 2.30, 6.35, and 6.50 p.m.

TRAINS LEAVE ICHINOSUKI (up) at 6.40 a.m., and 2.50 p.m.; SHIOGAMA (up) at 7 and 11.05 a.m., and 3.10 and 7.15 p.m.; SENDAI (up) at 7.35 and 11.40 a.m., and 3.45 p.m.; FUKUSHIMA (up) at 6.40 and 10.26 a.m., and 2.36 p.m.; KORIYAMA (up) at 8.29 a.m., and 12.22 and 4.28 p.m.; SHIRAKAWA (up) at 6.35 and 9.17 a.m., and 1.40 p.m.; UTSUNOMIYA (up) at 6.20 and 9.05 a.m., and 12.18, 4.14, and 6.33 p.m.

FARES—Ueno to Utsunomiya, first-class *yen* 2, second-class *yen* 1.32, third-class *sen* 66; to Koriyama *yen* 4.10, *sen* 2.74, *sen* 1.37; to Fukushima *yen* 5, *sen* 3.34, *sen* 1.66; to Sendai *yen* 6.45, *sen* 4.30, *sen* 2.15; to Shiohama *yen* 6.75, *sen* 4.50, *sen* 2.25.

TOKYO-MAEBASHI RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE TOKYO (Ueno) (down) at 6.40, 8.50, and 11.10 a.m., and 2.40 and 5.40 p.m., and MAEBASHI (up) at 6, 8.55, and 11.50 a.m., and 2.50 and 5.50 p.m.

SHINJIKU-HACHIOJI RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE SHINJIKU, TOKYO, (down) at 6.55 and 9.55 a.m., and 12.52, 4, and 7 p.m.; and HACHIOJI (up) at 5.25, 8.25, and 11.25 a.m., and 2.20 and 5.30 p.m.

FARES—First-class *sen* 90; second-class *sen* 60; third-class *sen* 30.

TAKASAKI-YOKOKAWA RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE TAKASAKI (down) at 6.30 and 9.25 a.m., and 12.20 and 3.15 p.m.; and YOKOKAWA (up) at 8 and 11 a.m., and 1.50 and 4.55 p.m.

FARES—First-class, *sen* 75; second-class, *sen* 45 third-class, *sen* 25.

OYAMA-MITO RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE OYAMA (down) at 6.50 and 9.25 a.m., and 2.20 and 5.15 p.m.; and MITO (up) at 6.25 and 10.10 a.m., and 2.05 and 4.55 p.m.

FARES—First-class, *yen* 1.26; second-class, *sen* 84; third-class, *sen* 42.

TAKETOYO-OFU RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE TAKETOYO (up) at 5.40 and 10.40 a.m., and OFU (down) at 3.55 and 8.55 p.m.

FARES—Second-class, 26 *sen*; third-class, 13 *sen*.

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

STEAMERS LEAVE the Nippon Hachioi daily at 7.55 and 10.30 a.m., and 1.45 and 4.00 p.m.; and LEAVE YOKOSUKA at 7.10 and 10.30 a.m., and 1.30, and 4.00 p.m.—*Fare, sen* 4.

IMPERIAL POST OFFICE NOTICES.

MAILS CLOSURE AT YOKOHAMA.

For Shanghai and Coast Ports.—Per *Kobe Maru*, on Tuesday, the 26th inst., at 11 A.M. At 10 A.M. Registry ceases.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki, & per N. Y. K. Friday, Aug. 29th.
Kobe, and
From America, per O. & O. Co. Sunday, Aug. 31st.
From Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co. Thursday, Aug. 29th.
From Hongkong, per C. P. M. Co. Thursday, Aug. 28th.
From Hongkong, per C. P. M. Co. Sunday, Aug. 25th.
From Hongkong, per P. M. Co. Wednesday, Aug. 27th.

* Belgic left San Francisco on August 12th. † Strait of Belle Isle left Vancouver on August 17th. ‡ Sirox left Hongkong on August 16th. § Hongkong left Hongkong on August 16th. ¶ City of Rio de Janeiro left Hongkong on August 22nd. The English mail is on board the steamer *Niobe*.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hongkong, per P. & O. Co. Saturday, Aug. 23rd.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki, per N. Y. K. Tuesday, Aug. 26th.
For America, &c. per C. P. M. Co. Wednesday, Aug. 27th.
For Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co. Thursday, Aug. 28th.
For America, &c. per P. M. Co. Saturday, Aug. 30th.
For America, &c. per O. & O. Co. Wednesday, Sept. 3rd.
For Europe, via Hongkong, per N. D. Lloyd. Sunday, Sept. 14th.

IN NERVOUS DEBILITY USE HORSFORD'S ACID PHOSPHATE.

Dr. W. S. GRANGER, M.R.C.S., and L.S.A., Wool, Wexham, Dorset, says:—"I have used it in cases of great nervous debility, and the result was most satisfactory."

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Meiji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,010, Captain Allen, 14th August.—From a Cruise.—Lighthouse Department.

Ping Suey, British steamer, 1,882, Jaques, 15th August.—Nagaura 14th August, from Quantonine.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 15th August.—Hakodate 13th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Priam, British steamer, 1,802, Wilding, 15th August.—Kobe 14th August, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Endeavour, British steamer, 1,640, Thompson, 16th August.—Batam 1st July, Oil.—O. der.

Carmarthenshire, British steamer, 1,820, Clark, 16th August.—Kobe 14th August, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Fuyo, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 16th August.—Nagasaki 12th August, General.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 16th August.—Shanghai and ports, 9th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Musashi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,693, Frahm, 16th August.—Otau 12th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

China, British steamer, 2,644, W. B. Seabury, 17th August.—San Francisco 31st July and Victoria 3rd August, General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Higo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, Saiki, 17th August.—Kobe 15th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, Sprigallthal, 17th August.—Otau 13th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakunoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, P. Hussey, 18th August.—Kobe 17th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Milke Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,082, Sommer, 19th August.—Otau 17th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,182, Kenderdine, 19th August.—Hakodate 17th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Christensen, 20th August.—Hakodate 18th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 20th August.—Kobe 19th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sarpodon, British steamer, 1,570, Barwise, 21st August.—Hongkong 13th August, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Charlton Tower, British steamer, 1,905, Arthur, 21st August.—Rangoon 2nd August, Rice.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Glenfallloch, British steamer, 1,434, McGregor, 21st August.—Saigon 11th August, Rice.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Kamamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,240, Pender, 21st August.—Otau 19th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omaha (12), U.S. flag-ship, Captain Cromwell, 21st August.—Nagaura 21st August.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 21st August.—Kobe 20th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bombay, British steamer, 2,047, D. Roache, 22nd August.—Kobe 20th August, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Meiji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,010, Captain Allen, 15th August.—Hakodate, General.—Lighthouse Department.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, Young, 15th August.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Renee Rickmers, German ship, 2,064, Westermeyer, 16th August.—Yokosuka.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Tobio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Drummond, 16th August.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Batavia, British steamer, 1,661, J. C. Williams, 17th August.—Hongkong, General.—C. P. M. S.S. Co.

Congo, French steamer, 2,500, Trocme, 17th August.—Shanghai via Kobe, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Fuyo, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 17th August.—Nagasaki, General.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

General Werder, German steamer, 1,820, Eichel, 17th August.—Hongkong via Kobe, General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachl.

Lydia, German steamer, 1,160, F. Forsch, 17th August.—Kobe, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Musashi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,693, Frahm, 17th August.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 17th August.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ping-Suey, British steamer, 1,882, Jaques, 18th August.—Kobe, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

China, British steamer, 2,644, W. B. Seabury, 19th August.—Hongkong via Kobe, General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,219, Basto, 19th August.—Himeji, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glenstiel, British steamer, 2,240, Donaldson, 19th August.—Kobe, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 19th August.—Shanghai and ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Brown, 19th August.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Parkfield, British steamer, 1,745, Ferguson, 20th August.—Kobe, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Priam, British steamer, 1,802, Wilding, 20th August.—Kobe, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,182, Kenderdine, 20th August.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakunoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, P. Hussey, 20th August.—Yokosuka.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Milke Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,082, Sommer, 21st August.—Shimonoseki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, Sprigallthal, 21st August.—Otau, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 21st August.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Tobio Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. Fukushima Takigi, Miss E. Elton, Miss M. Fitzgerald, Miss Daisy Fitzgerald, Dr. Wagener, and Mr. J. F. Dabbs in cabin; 45 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Hakodate:—Mr. F. C. Mizony, Misses Ekstrand (2), Miss Stormer, and Master Drummond and ayah in cabin; 64 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Priam*, from Kobe:—Mr. Percy Morris in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Jackson, Miss Deacon, Miss L. Deacon, Dr. R. H. Kimball, Dr. Wood, Messrs. A. Hoare, O. Kelly, Feldman, Jasper, and Ishikawa in cabin; Messrs. Nagato, Sakai, Usumi, and Master Goldman in second class, and 50 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *China*, from San Francisco:—Mrs. J. B. Houston and maid, Miss Houston, Mr. J. B. Houston, Jun., and valet, Dr. Wm. H. Abernethy, Mr. and Mrs. N. P. Austin, Mr. A. J. Watts, Mr. J. Spier, Rev. Thos. Hearne, Mr. D. H. Blake, Jun., Mr. F. M. English, Mr. and Mrs. Greenlee, Miss Greenlee, Messrs. T. Ogawa, T. Ono, H. Delacamp, Mrs. Clarke, Miss Maud Clark, Miss Nannie Clark, Miss Pearl Clark, Mr. F. Nabholz, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Parsley, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. R. Loehr and two children, Miss Peabody, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Doughty, Mr. Hayes, Miss L. Winick, Mrs. Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. L. Tobias, and Mr. H. Tashimura in cabin. For Hongkong: Mr. and Mrs. W. N. Briggs, Mr. T. N. Gubbay, Rev. R. Irwin, Dr. C. Sylvester, and Dr. H. H. Rucker in cabin.

Per British steamer *Verona*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Mochihara, Colonel Pemberton, Mr. Paul Jalozot, Mr. J. Rickett, Mr. and Mrs. Upton, 2 children, and nurse, and Miss Whymark in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Wakunoura Maru*, from Kobe:—Mrs. Dabs and child in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, from Hakodate:—Messrs. T. Sawa (Governor of Aomori), Y. Yoshikawa, R. Hotta, and Y. Marabe in cabin; 26 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from Kobe:—Mrs. Jeffreys, Mr. L. Schuelder, Mr. G. W. Baker, and Lieutenant W. M. Constant, from U.S.S. *Palos*, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Kobe:—The Misses Palmer (2), Messrs. Payne, Theda and family, Nemov, Mrs. Laguni, and Mr. Sukeno in cabin; 30 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Congo*, for Shanghai via ports:—Mr. Schlessler, Mr. A. Seisson, Mr. Frank Reddaway, Mrs. Reddaway, Mrs. Brandio, family and 2 amahs, Mr. E. Lusecombe, Mr. Edward Machele, Mr. F. M. da Luz, Mr. Pitteri, Mr. Ijiri Hikosho, Mr. Taketa Hideo, Mr. Imai Kune-masa, Mr. Kaburaki Makoto, and Mr. Hong Jeong Wu in cabin.

Per German steamer *General Werder*, for Hongkong via Kobe:—Consul General Greathouse, Dr. and Mrs. Heering, 2 children, and amah, Dr. Briegleb, Mr. Groeper, Mr. Stacken, Captain Hohimaru, Mr. Aslamoff, Mr. Basom, Mr. Schroeder, Mr. O. Keil, Mr. Scheidt, Mr. Stewardt, Mrs. Harlow, Mr. Napalkoff, Mr. Kunii and servant, and Mr. Paulsen in cabin; 11 Europeans and 38 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Rev. and Mrs. O. A. Dukes and 2 children, Rev. and Mrs. G. R. Loehr and 2 children, Bishop Wilson, Mrs. Bradley, Mrs. Milton, Mrs. B. Gardiner, Mrs. A. Thomson, Mrs. Fitzgerald, Miss D. Fitzgerald, Rev. W. A. Madley, Dr. Abercrombie, Messrs. D. H. Blake, T. A. Hearne, Ichinose, Hirano, T. W. Hellyer, Delacamp, J. Bio, L. L. Forbes, J. A. Peebles, J. Beattie, A. M. Bisbee, and Hosoya in cabin; Mr. Saka and Mrs. J. Hanna in second class, and 66 passengers in steerage.

CARGO.

Per French steamer *Congo*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Silk for France 74 bales. For Italy 1 bale. Treasure for Singapore, \$140,000. For Shanghai \$1,400.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, Captain Ekstrand, reports:—Left Hakodate the 13th August at 8 a.m.; had light variable winds and overcast; passing fog banks at times p.m. weather fine and clear southerly swell. Arrived at Oginohama the 14th at 7.20 a.m. and left at noon; had moderately S.E. swell at 11 p.m. set in variable with rain; which finished at 2 a.m. on 15th weather clear. Arrived at Yokohama at 1.45 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, Captain Conner, reports:—Left Shanghai the 9th August at 4.30 a.m.; had pleasant weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Nagasaki the 10th at 4.50 p.m. and left the 12th at 5 p.m.; had strong S. winds and heavy squalls. Arrived at Shimonoseki the 13th at 5.25 a.m. and left at 5.30 a.m.; coming through the Island Sea had strong E. winds and misty, rainy weather. Arrived at Kobe the 14th at 4 a.m. and left the 15th at 2 a.m.; had first part strong E.N.E. winds and blinding rain to Rock Island; thence to port fresh breeze and rain. Arrived at Yokohama the 16th August at 10.50 p.m.

The British steamer *China*, Captain Seabury, reports:—Left San Francisco the 31st July at 3.45 p.m., and left Victoria the 3rd August at 2.35 a.m. Time from San Francisco 16 days, 3 hours, and 47 minutes. Time from Victoria 13 days, 3 hours, and 53 minutes.

The Japanese steamer *Wakunoura Maru*, Captain Hussey, reports:—Left Kobe the 16th August at noon; had light winds from the S.E. and fine weather; passed Oosima at 10.15 p.m., with a strong wind from E.N.E., increasing to a strong gale with high sea continuing to 4 p.m. on the 7th; passed Rock Island at 9 p.m., with strong winds from E.N.E. Arrived at Yokohama the 18th August at 5 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, Captain Christensen, reports:—Left Hakodate the 18th August at 11 a.m.; had light S.E. winds with thick fog from Cape Blunt to Shiroiyasaki; thence moderate southerly wind and fine clear weather to port. Arrived at Yokohama the 20th August at 9.30 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, Captain Young, reports:—Left Kobe the 19th August at noon and anchored in the roads till 1 a.m. next morning; had strong E.N.E. gale and high sea which continued all day unabated, moderating somewhat on approaching Omai-saki this morning (20th); thence to Rock Island at 4 a.m., moderate breeze from east and clear bright weather; Rock Island to port N.E. moderate to fresh breeze and clear weather. Arrived at Yokohama at 10.45 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, Captain Ekstrand, reports:—Left Kobe the 20th August at noon; had light easterly winds and fine weather throughout on the 21st at 6 a.m. wind increasing and heavy easterly sea getting up, 8 a.m. set in with thick rain; at noon wind and sea decreasing but raining hard at times which continued till arrival at Yokohama at 9 p.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Business is almost at a standstill, owing to the rise in exchange, which has frightened buyers, who are now becoming seriously disturbed in mind about their previous purchases. Values of all imports are nominally lower, in sympathy with the rise in exchange. Sales reported during the week amount to 400 bales English Yarns, 275 bales Bombays, and 3,500 pieces Shittings.

COTTON PICK GOODS.

Grey Shittings—8 1/2 yds. 39 inches	\$1.35	to 1.90
Grey Shittings—9 1/2 yds. 45 inches	1.65	to 2.54
T. Cloth—7 1/2 yds. 32 inches	1.30	to 1.50
Indigo Shittings—12 yards, 41 inches	1.25	to 1.60
Prints—Assorted, 21 yards, 41 inches	1.70	to 2.00
Cotton—Italians and Sateen Black, 32 inches	0.07	to 0.14
Turkey Reels—1 1/2 to 2 1/2 yds. 30 inches	1.19 1/2	to 1.24 1/2
Turkey Reels—2 1/2 to 3 1/2 yds. 30 inches	1.25	to 1.55
Turkey Reels—3 1/2 to 4 1/2 yds. 30 inches	1.75	to 2.05
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 24 inches	4.50	to 6.00
Victoria Lawns, 32 yards, 42 1/2 inches	0.50	to 0.65
Taffetas—12 yards, 43 inches	1.35	to 2.25

WOOLLENS.

Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches	\$1.00	to 5.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.26 1/2	to 30
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.21	to 26
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.17	to 21 1/2
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.13	to 0.17
Cloths—Pillots, 51 1/2 yds. 56 inches	0.30	to 0.45
Cloths—Presidents, 51 1/2 yds. 56 inches	0.50	to 0.60
Cloths—Union, 51 1/2 yds. 56 inches	0.35	to 0.60
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3 1/2 lb. per lb.	0.30	to 0.38

COTTON YARNS.

Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	\$26.50	to 28.00
Nos. 16/24, Medium	28.00	to 29.00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	29.00	to 29.75
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	31.00	to 32.00
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	30.25	to 30.50
Nos. 28/32, Medium	30.50	to 32.25
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	32.50	to 33.25
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	36.50	to 38.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	36.00	to 37.50
No. 42s, Two-fold	36.00	to 39.50
No. 20s, Bombay	74.00	to 80.00
No. 16s, Bombay	74.50	to 79.50
Nos. 10/12, Bombay	—	—

METALS.

Nothing fresh report in this market. Exchange continues to rise and all imported goods are equally depressed. Quotations nominally unchanged, but weak. Some business said to be done in Wire Nails, but at very low prices.

Flat Bars, 1/2 inch	\$2.70	to 2.80
Flat Bars, 1 inch	2.80	to 2.90
Round and square up to 1/2 inch	2.70	to 2.90
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.	
Nailrod, small size	Nom.	
Iron Plates, assorted	3.00	to 3.15
Sheet Iron	3.30	to 3.50
Galvanized iron sheets	6.00	to 6.50
Wire Nails, assorted	4.00	to 4.50
Tin Plates, per box	4.80	to 5.10
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.30	to 1.35

KEROSENE.

Market without any noteworthy feature. The trade in Tokyo is not active and prices there are reported easier. Russian is said to be especially weak. We do not alter quotations until some important business justifies the change.

QUOTATIONS.

Chester	Nom.	1.75	to 1.77 1/2
Comet	Nom.	1.70	to 1.72 1/2
Devoe	Nom.	1.67 1/2	to 1.70
Russian	Nom.	1.65	to 1.67 1/2

SUGAR.

Buyers have kept aloof, and during the past seven days not a single picul of Takao brown has been sold. Only two small lots of White Refined have been disposed of, and at slightly lower prices than last week—500 piculs at \$7.20 per picul, and 1,000 piculs at \$6.20 per picul. The market has declined fifteen cents per picul for Formosa Browns, but the stock is firmly held for this rate.

White Refined	\$5.80	to 8.40
Manila	3.80	to 4.60
Taiwanfou	—	—
Pentania	3.00	to 3.40
Namidia	2.90	to 3.20
Cake	3.70	to 4.10
Brown Takao	4.40	to 4.50

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last was of the 15th inst., since which date settlements are only 56 Piculs. The entries give

sales of *Filatures* 73 piculs, while in *Re-reels* rejections have exceeded settlements by 17 piculs. There has been no business for direct export; consequently the whole week's trade is comprised in the above mentioned 56 piculs.

The great cause of this stagnation has been the rapid advance in Silver which has compelled buyers to abstain entirely from the Market while holders maintain that they cannot face the losses which the situation involves. By common consent, therefore, both sides have taken up a post of observation and it seems probable that no business of any consequence can be done during the present month.

Telegraphic intelligence both from Europe and America is far from cheering; consumers complain of bad trade, and while they cannot sell their goods they naturally feel disinclined to purchase Raw Material.

Supplies come in from day to day, and we have now 8,000 piculs Stock in Yokohama. It would seem certain that quotations here must presently decline unless holders are successful in getting extraneous aid for carrying purposes.

There has only been one shipping opportunity—the French mail of the 17th—that vessel, the *Congo* took 75 bales for Lyons and Milan, thus bringing the present export figures up to 2,106 piculs against 4,919 last year and 4,390 on the 22nd August, 1888.

Hanks.—No business whatever in this department. No arrivals of any importance and not a single sale.

Filatures.—Business in these has been very small consisting of a few fine sizes for Europe at \$650 and \$630. No trade at all in full sizes until yesterday when a buyer for the United States took about 45 piculs of Tokusha at \$630. Quotations are irregular, many holders refusing to sell at the last-named price.

Re-reels.—Small business in these consisting of Usui at \$615 and \$620. This has been off-set by heavy rejections of previous purchases.

Kakeda.—No transactions in this branch at all; the stock on hand is not large and it is understood that about 1,000 boxes are blocked in the interior by reason of the Railway having been carried away during the recent floods. When communication is restored no doubt supplies from that neighbourhood will be more liberal.

In other sorts nothing whatever has been done.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No. 14	—	
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	—	
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshi)	—	
Hanks—No. 24 (Shinshu)	—	
Hanks—No. 24 (Joshi)	—	
Hanks—No. 24 to 3	Nom.	\$530 to 540
Hanks—No. 3	—	
Hanks—No. 34	Nom.	500 to 510
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	—	
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	660	to 670
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	—	
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	640	to 650
Filatures—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	625	to 635
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	620	to 630
Filatures—No. 2, 13/18 deniers	—	
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—	
Re-reels—Extra	—	
Re-reels—(Shinshu and Oshu) Best No. 1.	—	
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	630	to 640
Re-reels—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	620	to 645
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	610	to 615
Re-reels—No. 24, 14/18 deniers	590	to 595
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	570	to 580
Kakedas—Extra	Nom.	630 to 640
Kakedas—No. 1	Nom.	620 to 635
Kakedas—No. 14	Nom.	610 to 615
Kakedas—No. 2	Nom.	610 to 605
Kakedas—No. 24	Nom.	590 to 595
Kakedas—No. 3	Nom.	580 to 585
Kakedas—No. 34	—	
Kakedas—No. 4	—	
Oshu Sendai—No. 24	—	
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	Nom.	
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—	
Sotai—No. 24	—	

Export Raw Silk Tables to 22nd Aug., 1890:—

	HALBS.	BALES.	HALBS.
Europe	537	2,507	2,535
America	1,515	2,357	1,834

Total	{ Bales 2,052	4,864	4,369
	{ Piculs 2,106	4,919	4,390

Settlements and Direct	2,100	5,750	4,035
Export from 1st July	—	—	—
Stock, 22nd August	8,000	4,500	7,200

Available supplies to date	10,100	10,250	11,235
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WASTE SILK.

There has been some daily business in this branch resulting in settlements of 205 piculs distributed thus—*Noshi* 171, *Kibiso* 27, *Neri* 7.

As will be seen from the above paragraph we have not a very active market. Buying is in one or two hands and they do not take very large quantities. News from consuming markets are not good and

with the smart rise in Exchange holders will sooner or later have to take a lower price for their wares.

Shipments during the week have been very small, consisting only of 8 bales common Waste sent to Shanghai per steamer "Congo." Present export to date is 750 piculs, against 521 last year and 1160 at the same date 1888.

Pierced Cocoons.—Stock now amounts to 800 piculs, but so far no sale has been made; holders have borrowed money on their stocks and seem to be in no hurry to sell.

Noshi.—Some transactions in *Oshu* are reported at \$135. About 100 bales of *Shinshu Filature* are also entered, price said to be \$150, which seems high. Nothing more done in *Joshi* which appears to "hang fire" for the moment.

Kibiso.—One sale of good *Joshi* at \$45. Nothing done in *Filatures* or in the better kinds of ordinary *Kibiso*.

Sundries.—Nothing done beyond a small transaction in *Neri* at \$8 (uncleaned).

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

Pierced Cocoon—Good to Best	—	
Noshi-to—Filature, Best	\$140	to \$150
Noshi-to—Filature, Good	130	to 135
Noshi-to—Filature, Medium	—	
Noshi-to—Oshu, Good to Best	135	to 140
Noshi-to—Shinshu, Best	—	
Noshi-to—Shinshu, Good	—	
Noshi-to—Shinshu, Medium	—	
Noshi-to—Shinshu, Good to Best	—	
Noshi-to—Joshi, Best	—	
Noshi-to—Joshi, Good	80	
Noshi-to—Joshi, Ordinary	70	to 75
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	115	to 120
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	100	to 110
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—	
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—	
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—	
Kibiso—Joshi, Good to Fair	50	to 40
Kibiso—Joshi, Middling to Common	—	
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good	—	
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	—	
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	15	to 8
Mawata—Good to Best	—	

Export Table Waste Silk to 22nd Aug., 1890:—

	SEASON 1890-91.	1889-90.	1888-89.
Waste Silk	750	502	1,160
Pierced Cocoons	—	19	—

	750	521	1,160
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Settlements and Direct	800	1,150	290
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Export from 1st July	—	—	—
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Stock, 22nd August	8,850	7,250	6,900
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Available supplies to date	9,650	8,400	7,190
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Exchange has risen smartly all through the week, and rates close as under.—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits 3/11; Documents 3/11 1/2; 6m/s. Credits, 3/11 1/2; Documents 3/11 1/2; New York, 30d/s. U.S., \$94 1/2; 4m/s. U.S., \$95 1/2; PARIS, 4m/s. fcs. 4 9/4; 6m/s. fcs. 4 9/6.

Estimated Silk Stock, 22nd Aug., 1890:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	190	Cocoons	800
Filatures	4,500	Noshi-to	2,500
Re-reels	2,930	Kibiso	5,000
Kakeda	200	Mawata	350
Oshu	175	Sundries	200
Taysam Kinds	5		

Total piculs	8,000	Total piculs	8,850
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TEA.

There has been a steady demand, though on a somewhat smaller scale than last week. Average sales have been 477 piculs per diem. Some holders sell their Teas cheaper than others, but on the whole the market remains about the same. Total settlements for the week are 3,340 piculs, making a total of 186,740 piculs for the season, against 154,790 piculs in 1889 at same date.

PER PICUL & under

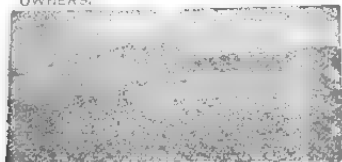
Common	11	to 12
Good Common	13	to 14
Medium	15	to 16
Good Medium	17	to 19
Fine	20	to 22
Finest	23	to 25
Choice	—	—
Choicest	—	—
Extra Choicest	—	—

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has not fluctuated so much this week, but has further risen, and is firm at quotations.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/10 1/2
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/10 1/2
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/11
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/11 1/2
On Paris—Bank sight	4 8/5
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4 9/5
On Hongkong—Bank sight	2 1/2 dis.
On Hongkong—Private to days' sight	1 1/2 dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	73
On Shanghai—Private to days' sight	73 1/2
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	93 1/2
On New York—Private to days' sight	94
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	93 1/2
On San Francisco—Private to days' sight	94 1/2

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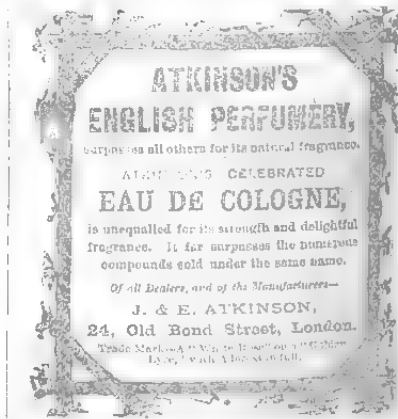
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 9.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, AUGUST 30TH, 1890.

通信省認可

[VOL. XIV.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, AUGUST 30, 1890.

BIRTH.

On the 30th inst., at 7.30 a.m., at 72A, Bloff, the wife of HOLYOAKE BOX of a Son.

DEATH.

On the 23rd inst., at No. 35, Bloff, Captain R. J. C. FRANK.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

MR. J. M. BIRCH, U.S. Consul at Nagasaki, will leave Japan at no distant date for home.

H.I.H. PRINCE KITASHIRAKAWA returned to the capital on the 26th instant from the Tokaido.

H.I.H. PRINCE KUNI arrived at Kuwana on the 26th instant from Kyoto, and paid a visit to the Great Shrine.

DR. ITO, an Imperial physician, proceeded to Nikko on the 24th instant to attend H.I.H. Princess Kane.

PRINCE KONOVE, who has been staying in Europe pursuing his studies, will return to Japan in a few days.

THE 31st instant is the birthday of H.I.H. Prince Hara, and the celebration will take place at the Hama Detached Palace.

THE *Chiyoda Kan*, ordered by the Naval Department from England, will leave for Japan about the beginning of next month.

H.I.H. PRINCE FUSHIMI proceeded to Chiba Prefecture on the 26th instant, where His Highness will stay for a week.

THE line of the Japan Railway Company between Ichinoseki and Morioka will be opened for traffic about the middle of September next.

DURING the three days ended the 31st ultimo goods estimated at yen 13,954,514 were sold

in the Exhibition, making a total of yen 127,183,635 since the opening of the Exhibition.

THE heavy rain of the 22nd instant damaged the railway line between Usunomiya and Omiya and communication was suspended.

A NEW steamer, named the *Hokkaido Maru*, ordered by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha from England, will be shortly brought out to Japan.

DR. HEINRICH WEIPERT, lately a professor in the College of Law in the Imperial University, has been appointed to a post in the German Legation.

MR. TERAU TORU, a Judge of the Yokohama Court of First Instance, was appointed Professor of the College of Law in the Imperial University on the 25th instant.

RAILWAY communication between Isobe and Maunida, which had been stopped in consequence of the line having been damaged by flooding, was re-opened on the 26th instant.

THEIR Imperial Highnesses Princes Arisugawa, Komatsu, Fushimi, Kitashirakawa, Kacho, and Nashimoto have collectively subscribed a sum of yen 1,000 towards the Relief Fund for distress in the capital.

THE ordinary meeting of the Cabinet was held on the 26th instant and was attended by Counts Yamagata, Yamada, Matsukata, and Goto, and Messrs. Yoshikawa and Mutsu, the proceedings closing at 2 p.m.

THE receipts of the Sanyo Railway Company during the month of July last were yen 12,539,335, the daily average being yen 411,634. The number of passengers carried during the same period totalled 69,410, showing an average of 2,239 daily.

A REPORT by the Sanitary Bureau in the Home Department shows that the number of persons attacked by cholera throughout the Empire from the commencement of the epidemic to the 25th instant was 8,210, of whom 5,862 died.

A TELEGRAM from the Ibaraki Prefectural Government dated the 24th instant announces that various rivers in Ibaraki Prefecture overflowed on the 23rd instant, several bridges were washed away, and an embankment was seriously damaged.

MR. NAKAHARA TARU, residing at Motoshirokanecho, Nihonbashi, was permitted on the 25th inst. by the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, to commence silver mining operations at Sefu-mura, Ashigarakami-gun, Sagami, Kanagawa Prefecture.

ON the evening of the 13th instant three houses were destroyed, and two persons were injured by lightning at Okisugi-mura, Nomi-gun, Ishikawa Prefecture. On the following day a woman was killed by lightning at Oi-mura, Mii-gun, Fukuoka Prefecture.

INVESTIGATIONS prepared by the Sanitary Bureau in the Home Department show that the total number of persons attacked by cholera throughout the Empire from the commencement of the epidemic to the 24th instant was 7,717, of whom 4,566 died.

AN outbreak of fire took place on the 21st instant in a house at Shinomachi Sanjo, Echigo,

Niigata Prefecture, and one hundred and seventy-six dwellings and four telegraph posts were entirely destroyed, before the flames could be got under control. Seven persons were burned to death.

AT a meeting of members of the Kakumelkai Club organized by members of the *Kiushu Kaishin-to* in Nagasaki Prefecture, held on the 27th instant, a motion of dissolution was passed in accordance with the Regulations for Meetings and Public Associations.

A REPORT of the Shizuoka Prefectural Government states that in consequence of the heavy rain of the 22nd instant, the Kano River in Shunto-gun overflowed, and the Iritane, Kurose, and Minato bridges were carried away, about three hundred houses at Numazu being also under water.

AN outbreak of fire took place on the 3rd instant in a house at Tsutsukawamura, Yosagun, Kyoto, and sixteen dwellings were entirely destroyed before the flames could be extinguished. On the 11th instant ten houses were burned to the ground at Kamokami-mura, Kasagun, Kyoto.

A PROJECT has been started by Messrs. Morinaga Katsusuke, Kakinaga Shinsaku, and Morinaga Kyukichi, of Kokura, Fukuoka Prefecture, to establish a bank at Kokura, to be named the Oyo Bank, with a capital of yen 300,000, of which yen 200,000 will be raised from the public in shares of yen 50 each, the remainder being provided by the promoters.

A PHYSICIAN named Nakamura Naoshi, residing at Suzukicho, Kyobashi, who was sentenced in the Tokyo Correctional Court a few days ago to pay a fine of yen 40 for having failed to report to the Authorities that a person whom he had examined had been attacked by cholera, was suspended from medical practice for three months by the Minister of State for Home Affairs on the 26th instant.

NO revival worth mention has taken place in the Import trade. A small quantity of Yarn has been sold, and some Italians and Velvets, but all at lower rates. Metals and Kerosene remain as last reported, and a few small parcels of Sugar, common Manila, comprise the business of the week in that commodity. The principal feature in the Silk trade is the strength of holders. There is plenty of Silk here of high quality and of all descriptions, yet the settlements to date are only one-third of those at the same time last year, and the stock is double, notwithstanding that large quantities are kept back through the rail and other roads having been flooded. A little business was done at the beginning of the week—the total is less than 300 piculs—when exchange dropped 1d., and this was the signal for many holders to raise quotations or take their Silk off the market. Buyers' limits do not admit of business on an extended scale at ruling prices, and if the present condition of affairs in Europe and America continues, holders here will either have to make concessions or keep their Silk. Not a single transaction in Waste Silk has taken place, the attitude of holders being largely responsible for this state of things. Stocks are heavy, and settlements last year at same date were 1,100 piculs more than now. The Tea trade is steady, leaf being unchanged in value. Shipments continue to raise the quantity far above those of last season. Exchange fluctuated—went down for a couple of days, but rose again, and closes firm.

Original from

EDITORIAL NOTES.

MR. HARA'S "KWANON" AT THE EXHIBITION.

We read with much interest a note in the *Tokyo Shimpō* epitomizing a discussion said to have taken place between Professor Suyematsu and Mr. Kuki, President of the Committee of Jurors at the Exhibition. All visitors to the Exhibition will remember an oil painting by Mr. Harada Naosaburo, representing the Goddess Kwanon riding on a dragon. Probably no picture in the Exhibition attracted more attention. It was by no means without faults. The dragon, for example was somewhat hard, its colour looked garish, and certain points in the drawing were inconsistent with the idea of rapid motion which the painter evidently intended to convey. But on the whole it was a production of very high merit, nobly conceived and well executed. Moreover, it was an attempt, and a very successful attempt, to adapt oil-painting to a Japanese subject. One would imagine that this feature above all others should have won the hearts of the jurors, especially when accompanied by such qualities as the picture otherwise showed. Yet the Kwanon remained without a prize and even without honourable mention. Against this neglect Professor Suyematsu is represented as having protested. His protest elicited from Mr. Kuki a reply the gist of which is reported as follows by the *Tokyo Shimpō*:—The Professor's remarks had much truth. Mr. Kuki himself had found a great deal to admire in the picture, and the foreigners, above all, who were hired (*yakōtaru*) in the capacity of advisers, had praised it as work of great promise. But the prizes had been limited to one for any individual exhibitor in one section. Mr. Harada had not exhibited the "Kwanon" alone: he had also sent a portrait of Prince Mori of Choshū, and the latter having been judged faultless, whereas the former showed many defects, the prize had been awarded to the portrait, after some discussion.

It is satisfactory to learn that the picture's failure to obtain a prize was due to reasons chiefly independent of its merits. But of the reasons themselves we can only say that they astonish us. The picture of Kwanon and the portrait of Prince Mori were paintings of an entirely different class, and to deny a prize to the former because the latter was more admirable in its own genre amounted to declaring that the same painter could not obtain recognition for excellence in more than one line. If the rules of the Exhibition were framed in that sense, we can only say that they were very unfortunately framed. When we remember what a number of prizes and certificates of merit were awarded to Japanese pictures almost ludicrously wanting in every element of artistic merit, and how very few similar distinctions were conferred on oil paintings, the operation of the rules appears doubly defective.

One error, doubtless of pure inadvertence, we desire to correct in the *Tokyo Shimpō's* writing. The foreigners who acted as advisers to the Committee of Jurors are said to have been "hired" (*yakōtaru*). They were nothing of the kind. Their services were purely gratuitous, and we take it upon ourselves to say that Mr. Kuki never employed the term attributed to him by our Tokyo contemporary.

THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVES UNPLEASANT VISITORS.

We read in the vernacular press that seven or eight days ago the denizens of the servants' quarters in the Department of Communications began to find their rest troubled by insects of a most pernicious character, thousands of which are said to have made their appearance at night and attacked everyone they could find. The result of their bite was a very painful swelling, some four or five inches in circumference, a few of which produced so much constitutional disturbance that the victims were temporarily incapacitated for duty. Application for assistance was made to the Sanitary Bureau of

the Home Department, whence an expert, Mr. Nakahama, was sent to investigate the matter. His examination revealed the objectionable insects to be "bed-worms," according to the translation of the *Mainichi Shimbun*, but the general public will know them by the humbler title of "bed-bugs." It is thought probable that the only way to get rid of the pests will be to burn the houses where they have made their appearance. They are spoken of by our vernacular contemporaries as an importation from the West, and will therefore doubtless rank with cholera, scarlet fever, and other pleasant gifts which the Occident is supposed to present to countries accepting its intercourse. But were bed-bugs unknown in Japan before the signing of the treaties? Perhaps so. Certainly their favourite lodgings by day, the crevices in a wooden bedstead, used not to be available in Japan, but we presume that the interstices of mats, that inexhaustible nursery of fleas, would serve a bed-bug at a pinch. We must admit that we have never before heard of their presence in Japan, but of course our experience is not conclusive. At all events, if they have found their way from the West, the Department of Communications, is a very fitting place for them to make their début.

ELECTRIC LIGHTING IN TOKYO.

Our readers remember no doubt that the present Tokyo Electric Light Company is the result of the amalgamation of two rival companies. As is perhaps not unnatural in the case of a company thus circumstanced, a good deal of animosity is said to be entertained by a portion of the shareholders toward the officers of the company. This strained feeling made itself manifest at a stormy meeting recently held. According to the reports of the vernacular papers, the company's general meeting was held in the Baker's Hall, Sakamotocho, on the afternoon of the 11th last. There were about 80 shareholders present, and Mr. Yajima Sakuro, the president, occupied the chair. After a report on the company's financial affairs had been read, the sense of the meeting was asked in regard to the declaration of a dividend at the rate of 7 per cent., whereupon the shareholders, apparently in a very suspicious mood, began to propound question after question of a searching character. The statement that the profit accruing from the electric railway established by way of trial in Ueno Park, had been a thousand yen, was especially criticised and drew forth many pressing queries. A motion was made by one of the discontented shareholders to the effect that the proposed dividend should be refused and that proper steps should be speedily taken for the reorganization of the company. This motion was enthusiastically seconded, and for a time disruption seemed inevitable. But fortunately, through the great efforts of Mr. Shibusawa Yei-ichi, the shareholders were finally induced to pursue a more peaceful course, with the understanding, however, that a special meeting should be convened about the middle of next month for the settlement of the whole affair.

THE COMMERCIAL CODE.

THE opposition against a speedy carrying out of the Commercial Code seems to be gaining ground day by day. The majority of the vernacular Press unite in demanding a postponement of the date of its operation until at least the 1st of January, 1893, when the Civil Code comes into force. It is also understood that an influential section among officials is strongly in favour of postponement. An idea may be formed of the general character of the arguments employed by the advocates of postponement, from two articles on this question in the *Nippon-jin* and the *Koku-Hon* of a recent date. The *Koku-Hon* acknowledges the importance of a well arranged code of law, now that commercial enterprises and transactions are daily growing more extensive and complicated. But our contemporary cannot approve the Commercial Code promulgated some time ago, for being in its spirit essentially alien, cannot be expected to harmonize with the existing Japanese customs. From this point

of view, the Tokyo journal thinks it especially important that ample time be given before putting the code into operation. A few passages from Count Yamada's memorandum on this subject are then quoted. The Minister of Justice alleges that affairs in the business world are in a complicated condition, and that taking advantage of the general mania for the formation of companies, there are unscrupulous men who rob unsuspecting capitalists of their money by recourse to various fraudulent practices. He ascribes this to the absence of laws regulating commercial matters, and, by way of refuting the arguments for the postponement of the date of the operation of the Commercial Code, he observes that such a course would tend to the destruction of order in the commercial world. The *Koku-Hon* avers that Count Yamada exaggerates the facts of the case. If it be true that the state of things in the commercial world is such that proper order could not be introduced into it were the operation of the Commercial Law postponed until the time when the Civil Law comes into force—two years' interval from now—then, says our contemporary, it was surely the duty of the Minister of Justice to take an earlier opportunity of promulgating the Commercial Law. The *Koku-Hon* observes that, so far from being in a state of disastrous confusion, the business of the country, as acknowledged by every candid observer, is developing upon the whole healthily, and that existing methods have proved by no means defective. The first article of the Codes provides that, so far as they do not come in conflict with its provisions, existing customs shall have force. But, our contemporary goes on to observe, the whole law having been drawn up on a foreign model, its operation cannot but cause a vast convulsion in the business world. The *Koku-Hon* alludes also to another circumstance making for the postponement of the operation of the Commercial Code, namely, that its articles, numbering more than a thousand, are couched in language difficult of interpretation even by legal experts. The fact is that the framers of the Code have very unwisely coined new technical words even where there are better ones in common use among lawyers and others.

Such, in effect, are the reasons which the *Koku-Hon* advances for the postponement of the date of carrying out the Commercial Code. A writer in the *Nippon-jin*, Mr. Kon Soto-saburo, takes a similar line of argument. He observes that to enforce the Commercial Code at so short a notice, smacks of a military despotism, and he urges the necessity of giving people time to study its provisions and to take all necessary steps before its coming into force, in order to avert the misfortune of having their business declared illegal under the new law. Mr. Kon thinks that when the law comes into force, there will be many companies which will have to be dissolved. In the case of such companies it is cruel to require them so to arrange their affairs in the short interval of a few months as to comply with the conditions of the new Code. Should the Government persist in carrying out its original purpose, Mr. Kon thinks that it will be the cause of universal animosity. As to the period of postponement, the writer leaves it to the judgment of the Authorities.

Since writing the above we have come across an article on the same subject in the *Kisat Zasshi* from the pen of Mr. Masujima. After observing that this question is engaging the attention of men of business, he goes on to express great satisfaction that practical men have begun to recover the influence and power hitherto usurped by professional politicians. He thinks that in order to justify the demand for the postponement of the date of carrying out the Commercial Code, it is not necessary to employ any intricate and profound argument, but that it is sufficient to mention the bare fact that the law in question is difficult to understand. The same, he says, is true of the Civil Code. Though an ordinary person cannot be expected to comprehend the principles underlying legal pro-

visions, he ought to understand their direct meaning. Now Mr. Masujima tells us that, as they stand, the provisions of the Commercial Code—Civil Code likewise—are extremely difficult of interpretation. He goes so far as to assert that the original framer having had before his mind's eye the state of things in the European commercial world only, the provisions of the Code have the appearance of having been brought together at random without any consideration for customs prevailing in Japan. The eminent barrister also discusses a few more points about the Commercial Code, but as they have little reference to the question at issue, we do not think it necessary to allude to them in the present connection.

We have frequently found ourselves in a position of unwilling opposition to Mr. Masujima and his fellow-thinkers with reference to the subject of the new laws, but the point advanced by him now is plainly reasonable. If he, a thoroughly well informed barrister, gives it as his deliberate opinion that by putting the Commercial Code into operation from the commencement of next year, business men will be gravely inconvenienced, the interval not being sufficient for them to master the contents of the Code or to adapt their business to its conditions, we certainly shall not attempt to gainsay him. It has always seemed to us also that to put the Commercial Code and the Civil Codes into operation on the same date would be more convenient and natural than to make the operation of the former precede that of the latter by two years. But with regard to the articles in the *Koku-Hon* and the *Nippon-jin*, as well as to the previous utterances of Mr. Masujima himself, we are surprised that the objectors, while announcing in sweeping terms a vast difference between Japanese and Western business methods, never take the trouble to tell us wherein the difference consists. Is the Japanese trade system so very unlike the American or European? Many people would be pleased to have instruction upon this point.

THE FREQUENCY OF CHOLERA CASES IN CERTAIN DISTRICTS.

THE *Hochi Shimbun*, referring to the frequency and virulence of the cases of cholera in Minami Konya-cho, Kyobashi, says that it may with confidence be attributed to the nature of the soil, which is known to be bad, and that another cause is doubtless the condition of the water conduits. These are said to be more than 20 years old, and as the Kyobashi district is at the end of the line of pipes, the water there probably contains more impure matter, the result of percolation, than in any other place along the water route. Yet this does not appear to satisfactorily account for the fact that Minami Konya-cho suffers more than other streets in the neighbourhood where the condition of the conduit is precisely similar, nor for the fact that, during the last cholera epidemic Minami Konya-cho was afflicted more than any other street in Kyobashi. Sanitary officials are busy endeavouring to discover the immediate cause.

CHOLERA PREVENTION.

WHETHER or no cholera be a gift from foreign countries to Japan, there is no doubt that to foreign countries Japan owes her knowledge of how to prevent and cope with the terrible disease. Professor Osawa of the Imperial University has brought out this point very strongly in a recent lecture. He explained that whereas, in the epidemic of the 5th year of Ansei (1857), no less than eighty thousand deaths from cholera occurred in the city of Tokyo alone during the month of August, the total number of seizures in the capital during the ten years from 1877 to 1887 was only twenty thousand. It cannot be said that the type of cholera is less virulent this year than in previous epidemics, considering that some cases have ended fatally in less than two hours from the time of seizure. Yet there is no gainsaying the fact that the disease has thus far made less head than it ever did before; a happy result which can only be attributed to improved measures of prevention. Such is Professor Osawa's opinion, and we cannot

question its correctness. We can ourselves look back to a time when the treatment of cholera cases and the steps taken to check the spread of the disease were almost barbarous as compared with present fashions. A great deal of very amusing criticism has been penned on this subject by writers who evidently know much more than the best experts about the causes of cholera and its prevention. One of them has just told us that "the hopelessly insanitary methods of the Japanese themselves and their utter disregard of the laws of hygiene are themselves an ample reason for the presence of cholera in their midst." "Hopelessly insanitary methods," and "utter disregard of the laws of hygiene" are pretty strong terms to apply to people remarkable for cleanliness and moderation in diet. Cholera ought to be perennial in every Chinese town if its occasional presence in Japan be due to such causes.

THE "ST. JAMES'S BUDGET" ON CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT IN JAPAN.

THE *St. James's Budget* has the following article on what it calls "The dawn of democracy in Japan."—"Japan has been undergoing the novel experience of a general parliamentary election. The new Constitution, which was promulgated in the early part of last year, provided, among other things, for a House of Commons composed of three hundred members; the parliamentary franchise being conferred upon every man who has attained his twenty-fifth year and who pays land or income tax to the amount of at least £3 a year. The first general election of members of Parliament took place on Tuesday. Now that the Jap has got his House of Commons the question is, What will he do with it? Will his new Constitution fit him like his European clothes? Time will show. Meanwhile, it has to be acknowledged that the Japanese have displayed phenomenal aptitude for Western civilization in the fullest sense of that term. In them the seclusion of centuries seems to have operated in exactly the opposite way to that which Chinese seclusiveness has done. The latter, as a nation, remain nerveless, and still cling to a "played out" civilization. In Japan, on the contrary, long isolation from the rest of the world would appear to have resulted in a conservation of energy; for no sooner were the more intelligent classes really in touch with European influences than vigorous resolution began. The Emperor ceased to be an *Empereur Pâissant*. An army and a navy were devised on modern lines. Trade was placed upon a sound economic basis; as witness the redemption of the depressed currency. The applied sciences were cultivated with assiduity, and with no small amount of success. The civil and the criminal law have been placed on a footing which would do no discredit to some European nations; while education is receiving due attention. The change which began with the Restoration of 1867 may be said to have culminated in the establishment of Constitutional Government, and the present elections give the finishing touch to a steady and—on the whole—peaceful revolution. Assuming that the Japanese are ripe for representative Government, the parliamentary institutions with which they are now endowed can hardly be cavilled at. For electoral purposes, the administrative divisions of the empire into cities and prefectures are taken as the basis; each city and prefecture being subdivided into election districts, on the principle of equal representation for equal numbers of the population. The ballot has been eschewed; but each election district is managed locally, Government officials having no cognizance of the matter until the headman and witnesses communicate the result. The House of Peers, established under the new Constitution, is partly hereditary and partly elective, with a further section nominated by the Emperor. To these Houses of Parliament are entrusted all legislative functions, and also—within certain limits—the control of the public purse. While Parliament is out of session, the Emperor may promulgate ordinances which will have the full effect of law; but only until Parliament re-

assembles, when they must be submitted for acceptance, amendment, or rejection at the earliest possible moment. One might suppose, if it were only for the novelty of the thing, that the Japanese electors would be little better than dumb driven cattle. It appears to be otherwise, however. Party (or, rather, partisan) politics have been raging fiercely for the past year or two. It was "public opinion," formed and directed by writers in the press and by political agitators on the platform that forced Count Okuma to resign in December last. The present composition of the Japanese Cabinet, however, can only be regarded as provisional. There are ten Ministers of Cabinet rank in the Government, besides the Minister-President of State. The latter occupies a position analogous to that of the German Imperial Chancellor, and not to that of the English Prime Minister; for in Japan, as in Germany, the First Minister may resign on a question of policy while the rest of the Cabinet retain their portfolios. Thus it happens that, at the present moment, not one of the four leading statesmen of Japan—namely, Counts Ito, Inouye, Kuroda, and Okuma—is a member of the Government. The principal of Ministerial responsibility for a single department only is no doubt best for Japan; for administration by party is only possible under highly advanced conditions of responsible Government. Japanese Ministers have yet to learn what dual responsibility means—responsibility to the Emperor on the one hand and responsibility to Parliament on the other; and possibly it will take some time for the Legislature to understand its own proper functions—and power. Whether representative government will prove a success in Japan time alone can show; but the Japanese are patriotic, courageous, and intelligent; they possess great confidence in themselves, and mean to succeed in what they have undertaken. These qualities make for success."

MR. NAKAI TOKUSUKE AS PROMOTER OF THE CONTEMPLATED PROGRESSIVE PARTY.

THE earnest endeavours of prominent politicians to organize a grand coalition party based on progressive principles is at present one of the most conspicuous features in the political world. Count Itagaki, who is very enthusiastic for this project, is represented by the *Kokumin Shimbun* as having said that, "This is no occasion for brooding over the past, and that, casting aside all selfish considerations, men should act with lofty disinterestedness." The old leader of the Radicals disclaims any preference as to the man who shall become the promoter of the contemplated alliance, and says that a leader like Mr. Nakai Tokusuke would be very acceptable and that, so far as he (Count Itagaki) is concerned, he should be perfectly willing to act under Mr. Nakai. This spirit of unselfishness is consistent with Count Itagaki's past career. Were others equally inspired by it, the much desired union would soon be an accomplished fact.

RECENT STEAMSHIP CASUALTIES.

OF the fine sister vessels, the *City of Paris*, the *City of Rome*, and the *City of New York*, two are now lying disabled, and are under repair. All these are among the latest and highest products of modern shipbuilding, and are favourite vessels with trans-Atlantic voyagers. Originally built for the Inman and International Steamship Company, the *City of Rome* became the property of the Anchor Line; the *City of Paris*, which proved to be the finest of the three, was until recently the Commodore's vessel of the Inman Line, and the *City of New York* ranked only second to the *City of Paris* as a magnificent modern steamship. This last named vessel, the *City of Paris*, though built for speed, was also built for strength, and her breakdown on the 25th of March was a surprise to every one. Her speed was twenty nautical miles with both screws going, and 16 miles with one. It will be remembered that her shaft suddenly broke, and that the vessel with some difficulty reached Queens-town, the passengers having worn life-belts for 120 hours. It appears that the shaft, getting out of

its true position through the wearing of the bush, broke under the enormous strain, and worked all the damage in the engine-room that caused so much consternation at the time of the accident. The *City of Paris* will be laid up all the summer, a very heavy loss indeed to the Inman Company. The *City of Rome* had equally bad fortune. Leaving New York harbour on the last day in May, she met with bad weather when half way across the Atlantic, and approached the Irish coast in a fog. One of the interesting sights to ocean voyagers nearing Europe is the Fastnet Lighthouse, situated off the Irish coast about 60 miles to the west of Queenstown. They know their voyage is nearly over when this lighthouse is passed. The captain of the *City of Rome*, deceived by currents or otherwise, imagined he was four or five miles to the south of the islands on which the lighthouse stands, when in reality he was heading for them. Warned in time, by hearing the signal of the nearness of land, he slowed down and took soundings, but before he knew the danger his fine vessel had crashed on the rocks, which drove a huge hole in her hull, tearing away the bottom for a considerable distance at the prow. Happily the damage was insufficient to cause her to sink, and she is now under repair in Birkenhead. The finding of the court of inquiry in the matter of the accident to the *City of Paris* must be very satisfactory to the officers and the owners of that vessel. The accident, due, as before stated, to the wearing of the *lignum vite* in one of the bushes of the starboard bracket, was a fatality that was difficult to provide against. Various suggestions of a technical nature were made; but the whole summing up gave full credit to the excellent material and workmanship of the engines, and was highly flattering to the captain and officers, who had conducted themselves admirably in the trying situation in which they were placed.

A NEW DISCOVERY.

"NOTICES have repeatedly been published," says the *Spectator*, "of a coming discovery which would enable a telephone operator to see as well as hear his interlocutor at the other end, and at last the discovery has been completed. The *Telegraph* reports that during the Post Office Jubilee celebration on Wednesday, an instrument was shown, invented by Professor Hughes, F.R.S., and Mr. Preece, which enables any one speaking into a telephone to see his correspondent at the other end, the "image appearing like an animated coloured photograph." The distance covered in the experiments shown was only 30 ft., and it still remains to be seen to what distance light will travel over the wires; but there seems no reason why "visuality" should not be established as far as audibility has been. If it is, the electricians will have realised one of the dreams of the Middle-Age physicists, and have struck one more blow to diminish the separating influence of time and space. It will follow, we presume, that it will be possible not only to recognise but to photograph a face miles distant, a triumph of science which, though probably useless, strikes the imagination almost as much as the revelation of unseen stars on sensitised paper. Strange that the photographer should still fail to fix natural colours, though they appear in every mirror."

A QUESTION OF PRECEDENCE.

THE first official visit ever made out of England by a Lord Mayor of London was made by Sir Henry Isaacs to Edinburgh on the 19th of last June. That dignitary, as representing the great metropolis, came in state to visit the International Exhibition in Edinburgh, and was graciously received by the Lord Provost on behalf of the northern capital. Everything passed off pleasantly. On the 20th his Lordship and suite passed in procession through the streets of Edinburgh, an official coach of great magnificence having been sent on for the occasion, and were received by Lord Provost Boyd at the buildings of the International Exhibition. Here the freedom of the city was conferred on the Lord Mayor, unanimously this time, and not, as in the recent case of Mr. Parnell, under protest of a minority in the Council, including

the chief magistrate, and in face of an overwhelming dissentient vote of the citizens. Why did not the Lord Provost and Council join in the procession, as would have seemed gracious and natural? Because, it is said, a question of etiquette came in the way. The Lord Provost, within the bounds of the burgh, is next to the sovereign, and it is a serious thing to waive one's precedence. To go first, ahead of the Lord Mayor, might be questionable taste; to come in the rear was a surrender of dignity. And so Lord Provost Boyd, it appears, chose to stay away altogether. Mr. Blackburn, one of the guests at the banquet given to the Lord Mayor, seems to have disgraced himself. He is an ex-president of the Trades' Council of Edinburgh, and is therefore looked upon as a representative of Trades Unionism in the city. When Her Majesty was toasted, he refused to rise, and the words, "To h— with the Queen," were distinctly heard by his neighbours. The Trades' Council have had a sitting over the matter, and censure their former ex-president in warm terms. The following motion was passed:—"That this Council deeply regrets that any ex-president of the Council should have so far forgotten himself as to have acted in the ungentlemanly way attributed to Mr. D. A. Blackburn, and that the Council further repudiates entirely the idea that he was in any way representing this Council."

A "CRÉDIT MOBILIER" IN JAPAN.

A PROJECT is reported to be on foot in proper quarters for the establishment of *Crédit Mobilier* (*Dosan Ginko* 動産銀行). In connection with the report, the editor of the *Yiji Shimpō* observes that the need of such an institution is growing more urgent in business circles. Owing to the steady progress of the work of redemption, numbers of the public loan bonds have been withdrawn from the hands of the public, and, as a natural consequence, the insufficiency of sureties for effecting loans is keenly felt by business men in general. The recent amendment in the Regulations of the Bank of Japan enabling it to advance money on the security of various railroad and other stocks when they are presented through a National Bank has certainly had the effect of alleviating this inconvenience to some extent. But after all, the Bank of Japan, from the nature of its organization, has necessarily to be very scrupulous about extending assistance of this nature. Under these circumstances, the *Yiji* considers that a *Crédit Mobilier* would undoubtedly be a great boon to the business world.

ANNIVERSARY MEETING OF THE PARTIES WHICH OPPOSED TREATY REVISION LAST YEAR.

Our readers no doubt well remember that, just a year ago this month, when the nation's attention was wholly absorbed by the question of treaty revision, a strong coalition was formed between the five parties opposed to Count Okuma's programme, the object being to present a united front to the Government's policy in respect of this important question. In order to commemorate this event, a project was set on foot a few weeks ago for holding a "monster meeting of fellow-thinkers." This scheme was naturally regarded by the *Kaishin-to* papers as a shrewd device on the part of the conservatives to frustrate the proposed amalgamation of all the progressive parties, by sowing seeds of discord between the *Kaishin-to* and the other parties contemplating amalgamation. The conservative papers replied to this accusation in a very nonchalant fashion, virtually telling their accusers that people harbouring suspicions were welcome to think as they pleased, and declaring that a question of such national importance ought not to be judged by any narrow partisan view. But whether or no there were grounds for suspicion, it was beyond question that the carrying out of the scheme must have the effect of reviving the feeling of antagonism between the parties who took opposite sides on that great issue. The meeting was opened on the 15th instant in the commodious rooms of the Nakamura Restaurant. The number present is reported to have been one

hundred and thirty-four in all—a figure doubtless a little too large for the peace of mind of the *Kaishin-to* and a little too small for the comfort of the conservatives. It is noteworthy that the names of Messrs. Oi Kentaro, Naido Roichi, Oye Taku, and Kuno Hironaka, the leading members of the *Jiyu-to* and the *Daido Danketsu*, were found in the list of those present, and, on the other hand, it is significant that the leading members of the *Aikoku-to* were conspicuous by their absence. Another feature of the roll of those present was that it included two names which public report has always associated with the dastardly attempt of the notorious Kurushima Tsuneki on Count Okuma's life. This was bad enough, but incomparably worse was the fact that Mr. Yagihara Hanshi, a leading member of the *Daido Danketsu* and one of the promoters of the meeting, is reported to have referred, in his opening speech, to the would-be assassin himself. Kurushima was accorded the honourable distinction of being included among the dead members who had worked for "the cause of national renown" during the eventful period of the negotiations. This circumstance subsequently elicited a sarcastic remark from the *Fomuri Shimbun* and a spirited editorial from the *Choya*. For our own part, we should not have credited the story had not the *Nippon* endeavoured to construe it as lightly as possible without denying its truth. Following Mr. Yagihara, Messrs. Tatsu Shinichiro and Ayai Takewo delivered earnest speeches which were heartily received by the meeting. Both addresses were chiefly retrospective, dealing with the circumstances under which the coalition sprang into existence. The speakers indulged in some bitter allusions to the *Kaishin-to*, and expressed their strong aversion to shaking hands with that party as one wing of the contemplated grand amalgamation.

What lesson is to be learned from such an event as Mr. Yagihara's eulogistic allusion to Kurushima Tsuneki? Surely the lesson which we have often insisted on before, that however changed Japan may be in some respects, the spirit of feudal days still lingers and may at any time find expression. A nation does not change its skin by donning the externals of a foreign civilization. Hostility to foreign intercourse was never indigenous in Japan. A plant sown by events for which foreigners themselves were largely responsible, two centuries of growth did not suffice to root it so deeply that it could survive the influence of nineteenth-century progress. But the case is different with the spirit educated by a thousand years of feudalism. That old notion that a man may attempt anything in the doing of which he is willing to risk his own life, undoubtedly still holds sway in some Japanese breasts, and accounts for the acts of men like Nishino and Kurushima, as well as for the tolerance, to say the least, with which such acts are regarded. But think for a moment what is signified when words of praise are openly bestowed upon a would-be political assassin, a bomb-thrower and a suicide, by a leader of the Radical Party at a meeting attended by the most respected and influential members of the party. How can we venture, after this, to criticise the measures adopted by the Authorities for the control of political associations? Would it be safe in any sense that men who could sit quietly and listen with apparent approval to such language as that of Mr. Yagihara, should be entrusted with the conduct of State affairs? Out of evil good sometimes comes. We sincerely hope that this meeting may have the effect of preventing a coalition which, under the influence of agitators like Mr. Yagihara and his fellow-thinkers, could not be trusted to stop short of any measure or method. Count Iwakura has never shown a scintilla of sympathy with such doings. One of his reasons for dissolving the *Jiyu-to* in past years was inability to control effectually the lawless agitators in its ranks. The *Kaishin-to*, too, has always been conspicuous for moderation and sobriety. It is to be earnestly desired for Japan's sake that the leadership of the great liberal party now certainly on the eve of its

birth may fall effectually into the hands of Count Okuma, Count Itagaki, and their genuine fellow-thinkers, who not only understand what is meant by the responsibilities of Government and the obligations of a constitution, but who know also how to preserve the reputation of their country while working for the cause of their party.

DISSOLUTION OF THE "DAIDO DANKETSU" PARTY.
For some time the public has been anxiously awaiting the final meeting of the *Daido Danketsu* Party. The meeting was opened at last on the afternoon of the 17th instant in the Yayoi-kwan, Shiba Park. Eighty delegates were present, beside many persons who attended the meeting simply in private capacities. The principal, in fact the only, business of the meeting was to decide whether or no the *Daido Danketsu* Party should be dissolved in order to amalgamate with other sections of the *Shimpo-to*. The question was decided affirmatively by a large majority, there being only fourteen "nays." After attending to some minor business, the meeting dissolved.

In arriving at the above resolution, the members of the party acted with apparent unanimity, but in point of fact there exist at least three different opinions in the party. The first—to maintain the independence of the party—is supported by Messrs. Suyehiro, Vagihara, Inagaki, and others. The second is advocated by the members from Yechigo and Shinshu, who, while willing to amalgamate with the *Aikoku-to* and the *Jiyu-to*, have a rooted aversion to union with the *Kishin-to*. The last, but numerically not the least, section, consists chiefly of the provincial members from the north, who are no respecters of parties, and are willing to amalgamate with any politicians professing a progressive creed, whether they belong to the *Kishin-to*, or to the *Jiyu-to*, or to the *Aikoku-to*, or to any other *to*. It is evident, therefore, that although the resolution of the 17th may mean the dissolution of the *Daido*'s organisation, it does not mean the translation of the whole party into the ranks of the new union.

TRADAL DEPRESSION AND THE OSAKA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

SOME time ago the vernacular papers mentioned that the Osaka Chamber of Commerce was engaged in investigating the causes of the present tradal depression, and the means of remedying it, with a view to presenting a memorial to the proper quarter on this important subject. The *Jiji Shimpō* now says that Messrs. Teramura and Yoshida, respectively Vice-President and Manager of the above Chamber, arrived at the capital and presented, on the 12th instant, memorials to the Finance Department and to the Bank of Japan. The following are said to be some of the items recommended by the memorialists as proper measures for remedying the evil: first, abundant import of foreign rice, after making a careful estimate of the probable amount of this year's crop; secondly, the inauguration of better means for converting fixed capital into circulating capital by extending the list of securities against which the Bank of Japan is authorized to issue loans; thirdly, the introduction, into commercial and industrial circles, of the habit of conducting business transactions on credit; fourthly, the establishment of uniformity in the rate of interest on money lent by the Bank of Japan both in Tokyo and Osaka; the opening of a *Crédit Mobilier* and a *Crédit Foncier* for agricultural purposes (*Nogyō Ginkō*), to promote the commercial and agricultural interests of the country. The memorials appear to be prepared with great care and to embody the results of much thought and investigation.

TOKYO WATER WORKS.

ALL the vernacular papers announce that it has been finally decided to raise a municipal loan of ten million *yen*, of which six millions and a half are to be employed in the construction of the Tokyo Water Works, and the remaining three

millions and a half will be devoted to the City Improvements scheme. The money is to be raised in five annual instalments, namely, one-tenth on the 1st of January 1891; two-tenths in 1892; three-tenths in 1893; three-tenths in 1894; and one-tenth in 1895. The rate of interest is to be six per cent., and the capital will be paid off in twenty-six years. The scrip will, apparently, be guaranteed by the Government, for we are told that it will circulate in the same manner as the Pension Bonds. It will be of two denominations; a hundred *yen* and a thousand *yen*. No doubt the amount will be subscribed readily enough. It might be obtained in London at five per cent., but if the Japanese shrink from contracting a gold loan when the price of silver was so low that no one could foretell how much further it might fall, they will naturally shrink even more from any such operation at the present time when America is trying an experiment which may possibly end in a financial catastrophe, and which has at all events, dislocated the market so suddenly and sharply that no one can tell what a day may bring forth. For the past seven years Japan has been fixing her floating capital at a rate which ought to have produced most inconvenient results, but unfortunately for her material progress she is debarred from having recourse to the large supplies of cheap money which lie waiting employment in London; and although she no doubt understands, as everybody does, the inevitably crippling results of these perpetual drains upon her own scanty resources, she has to choose the lesser of two evils. Tokyo must have water-works.

SHARKS.

THE fishermen of Wakamatsu in Miye Prefecture seem to have had a somewhat disastrous struggle with sharks. A man called Ito Tokuro employed a number of men, on the 8th instant, to draw a seine. Six big fish were enclosed, and the fishermen hauled in the net with great delight. But when it came into shallow water, four of the fish struggled so violently that they burst their way through the net. Anxious to secure the remaining two, Ito mounted on the back of one of them and attempted to seize its right fin, but the shark fastened its teeth in his arm and dragged him under water. He was rescued, but with the loss of a part of his arm and probably of his life. The last shark was attacked by a number of men, but it bit off a finger of one of its assailants and effected its escape. Not one of the six brutes was captured, the net result of the struggle being a broken net and two fishermen badly hurt.

PRINCE ARISUGAWA'S VISIT TO ENGLAND.

THE letter in *The Times* from its Tokyo correspondent relative to the degree of official attention shown to the Duke of Connaught in Japan, seems to have attracted some interest, on account of its reference to the treatment of Prince Arisugawa when he was in London a few years ago, especially to his being called upon by an official of the Great Western Railway Company to pay his return fare to Windsor, when he went to visit the Queen. This incident was recorded in a French periodical some time in 1885, which purported to give a translation of a portion of the Prince's diary said to be published in Japan after his return. It was quickly taken up in England by *Truth*; but many people thought the story apocryphal, and the Prince's diary a myth. A myth it was not, however, we regret to say.

FINANCIAL RETRENCHMENT.

EVERY political party formed now-a-days in Japan sets retrenchment of administrative expenses in the forefront of its platform, but no political party has yet undertaken to explain how it would go about the task which it so strongly advocates. Count Itagaki puts the amount of possible saving at eight million *yen*; Count Goto, in his political campaign of 1888, put it at fifteen or sixteen millions. The former would cut down the country's expenditure by a tenth; the latter by a fifth. Such divergent es-

timates do not invite confidence. The *Mainichi Shimbun*, finding itself perplexed by them, applied for guidance to a certain Count, who is represented as having replied in the following terms:—"I do not know in what manner Count Itagaki arrived at his estimate of eight million *yen*, or Count Goto at his of fifteen or sixteen millions, but in my opinion, though there is no doubt that administrative expenses should be reduced as much as possible, fifteen million *yen* or even eight millions are quite out of the question. Putting military expenditure in a separate category, to accomplish a saving of two or three millions would be the very utmost achievable. If, indeed, no concern be felt though the business of the State is interrupted and though things that ought to be done are left undone, and if the sole and only object be retrenchment, it would doubtless be possible to effect a saving of ten, or even twenty, millions, but so long as there is a Government, such appropriations must be annually made as will enable it to discharge the essential functions of a Government effectively and expeditiously. Within these limits it is idle to talk of eight or fifteen millions. I do not know what may be the ideas of Counts Itagaki and Goto with respect to the Army and Navy, but I do know that when you come to touch these services you are met by great difficulties. What are you to take as a standard? A country reduces or increases its military establishment when it knows exactly what enemies it has to cope with, but Japan has no such knowledge. Considered in regard to China, to Russia, or to England, her condition is the very opposite of reassuring. But even granting that you reduce the numbers of your soldiers and sailors, are you also to abandon the general survey of the country and the duty of providing good ships of war and efficient arms? If not, you will find that little margin for retrenchment offers in the military line."

FLOODING AT KAWASAKI.

ONE result of the heavy rain which accompanied the gale of Friday evening was extensive flooding in the region bordering the mouth of the Tamagawa at Kawasaki. During the night the river rose steadily, but it was not till well on in the forenoon of Saturday that the overflow assumed serious proportions, though the water had spread inland from the banks at a comparatively early hour in the morning. By mid-day, however, the railway line had been encroached upon to the south of Kawasaki Station and it was found impossible to run the afternoon trains, the water pouring over above the rails. On each side of the river for some hundred yards or so of the bridge, the rails are on an embankment and thus escaped the floods but near the station the track was quite submerged while at the station itself the water stood five inches above the platforms. From the station southward the lines are practically level so that, as will be seen, the passage of trains was out of the question. Fortunately the immense sheet formed by the submergence of the tract of low lying land on both sides of the line moved slowly seaward, otherwise serious damage must have been caused to the line; as things were, however, gangs of workmen quickly prepared the way for traffic as soon as the flooding subsided sufficiently. The first train that ran through from Yokohama yesterday was the 2 p.m. and for a couple of hundred yards south of Kawasaki Station the carriages passed through three or four inches of water. By evening, however, the floods had drained off considerably. The train timed to leave Yokohama at 6.30 p.m. was an hour late, the connecting train from the South having been detained, and though drawn by a couple of engines to make up time, had to slow down over a considerable length of line in the neighbourhood of Kawasaki though the water had all but left the track. Much damage has been caused to the crops by the flooding, the growing grain having been completely submerged over a large district. The town of Kawasaki was invaded by the overflow waters of the Tamagawa and many houses flooded, but the damage thus caused cannot be described as

serious. The roads in the vicinity were covered and locomotion was much retarded; sampans were to be seen on Friday afternoon and Saturday morning cruising in the lanes of Kawasaki, and jinrikisha at the Station got their own prices for conveying travellers to the town, after the floods had partially subsided, having to wade through pools up to the waist. The pear gardens to the north of the river were also flooded, but here the damage was less heavy than in the case of the grain crops.

FLOODS IN YAMAGATA.

THE official report of the recent inundations in Yamagata Prefecture is given in the *Official Gazette* as follows:—"From the 3rd inst. the weather was very changeable and at 6 o'clock p.m. on the 5th very heavy rain came down, which was followed by a strong gale about 11 o'clock the same night. The wind abated a little the following day, but the rain continued to fall heavily. By 1 o'clock that afternoon, a rapid rise was seen in the River Umagasaki, which, rising from Sasaya mountains on the borders of Miyagi and Yamagata Prefectures, flows along the north-east of the city of Yamagata and finally falls into the River Mogami, and the flood carried away the two bridges between that city and Sudzokawa and Chitose. At 6 o'clock in the afternoon, the first and the second embankments were swept away in succession for about thirty *ken*, causing three deaths and a good deal of damage to farms and houses. On the following day at 8 a.m. the flood destroyed the embankment of Tenjinkawara and inundated Hatagomachi, Muyukacho, Hyakushomachi, Kohashimachi, and Sakanamachi, Shimojomachi, and Kazumimachi in the city of Yamagata, washing out the dwelling houses and the bridges on the way. The farms and rice-fields in the neighbourhood of Yemata were damaged to a fearful extent. At 2 o'clock the same afternoon, another breach was made in the embankment a little higher up than the Kunjuku Bridge, causing one death. This was followed by another flood in other portions of the city. The ascertained damage is as follows:—1,490 of *ken* of embankment destroyed, forty bridges swept away, one *ri* and seven *cho* of roadway damaged, 154 houses either carried away or partially broken, 1,031 houses submerged, three persons killed and two injured. The height of the flood varied from six to ten feet. Altogether it was the worst flood that has ever been experienced at this place."

FRIDAY'S STORM IN THE HAKONE DISTRICT.

A JOURNEY to Hakone on Saturday, writes a correspondent, showed the country to be badly flooded in many places, and that several houses had been damaged. At Totsuka there was a wait of about 40 minutes for the up train. The river at Hiratsuka had overflowed its banks, and a vast tract of country was submerged; the water was still very high and rushing down with great force. On arriving at Kodzu, it was seen that the tram-cars had been stopped. The Odawara bridge was found to be in a very shaky condition, the southern end having given way, and nearly half of it was bent down in what appeared to be a very dangerous manner, and it was thought advisable to get out of the jinrikisha and walk across. The roads all the way from Kodzu to Yumoto were badly washed up. The tramway, where it turns off to the left and runs along by the river, has been completely washed away as far as the eye can see up the valley, and at the Yumoto end the new bridges and the line itself are all washed away. Between Odawara and Yumoto several of the large trees have been blown down, and are lying across the road. From Yumoto to Miyazoshita the new road has in many places badly slipped away and is dangerous at several points. At Miyazoshita the water was still pouring down the hill sides and the roads. The new hotel at Kiza suffered badly, all the foundations at the side having been completely washed away and the end of the two-storied building appeared to be in a very dangerous state. What are normally little streams along the hillsides had become rushing torrents, and to proceed

any further up the hill in the direction of Hakone was a matter of great difficulty and considerable danger, as the rushing streams had to be forded, the force of the water and the difficulty of obtaining a foothold made progress slow and difficult. However, in due course Kowakidani was reached, but it found impossible to get any further up the hill. It had been reported that the new hotel at this place had been entirely washed away, but the high and strong stone foundations upon which it is built had stood all the rush of water, and with the exception of a small detached cottage the hotel was found to be intact and in good condition. Here the torrents from the hillsides rushed down in enormous volume and with tremendous force, and the people in the neighbourhood thought Kowakidani was doomed, and this probably gave rise to the report that the place had been destroyed. The small amount of damage sustained speaks well for the builders of the hotel, which is practically uninjured, and the damage to the cottage, which was caused by a land slip, can easily be repaired. The inhabitants never remember such weather as was experienced during the day and night of Friday last. On returning on Sunday the water continued to rush down the hill-sides with great force all the way to Yumoto. A gang of carpenters had been set to work on the Odawara Bridge, and it was expected that the tram-cars would run next day. The bridge appears to be rotten and past repair, though it may be patched up temporarily, and as to the tram-road in the Yumoto valley, that will probably take several weeks to rebuild.

A FESTIVAL OF NEW TEETH.

THE Japanese are proverbially skilled in devising pretexts for celebrations and festivals. It suits their sunny disposition to discover as many occasions as possible for rejoicing. A family festival in honour of the growth of an old gentleman's teeth is, however, about as remarkable as the fact which it is intended to commemorate. The *Hochi Shimbun* says that such an event is on the *tapis* and gives place and name in support of the assertion. A certain Mr. Ito Yeizo, living at No. 64, Ichibemachi, Nichome, Tokyo, having been very fond of sweet things in his youth, lost all his teeth before he was forty and supplied the deficiency with a false set. For a long time he remained happy in the possession of this artificial furniture, but quite recently, being in his sixty-sixth year, he was surprised to find his front teeth growing again. The thing appeared incredible at first, but by and by there were unmistakable evidences that the veteran was about to be provided by nature with an entirely new set of masticators. Preparations are accordingly in progress for a grand family festival, at which all the old gentleman's friends and relatives are to assist in celebrating his second teething.

MEETING OF THE INDEPENDENTS.

THE third meeting of the elected members of the Diet professing independence, came off as expected in the afternoon of the 20th last in the Yayoisha, Shiba Park. The meeting was called to order at three o'clock and on the motion of Mr. Sugiura, Mr. Yoshino took the chair. Mr. Oyagi then addressed the meeting, saying:—"Gentlemen, we meet here to-day for the third time, but as we have no regulations whatever to conduct the affairs of an organized body, our meetings have thus far been only of a social nature. In regard to the formation of an organized body, I presume that you have various views, which it will be impossible to discuss on the present occasion without any kind of rules whatever. Under these circumstances, I beg to move that a committee be appointed for preparing draft of the rules of the association." Messrs. Mori Taichiro, Hashiyama Chuzaimon, and others, members of the Diet from Aichi Prefecture, opposed this motion on the ground that, in view of the fact that the persons assembled had not yet had any opportunity to ascertain their mutual political views, it would be a very rash step to take measures pointing to organization into an association.

These members urged, therefore, that full expression should first be given to political views before appointing a committee to draft rules. Mr. Okata Ryoichiro, a member from Shizuoka, remarked that as strict neutrality *vis-à-vis* existing political parties is the principle of all present, he deemed that principle a sufficient basis for forming the new association, and therefore he saw no need of discussing the various opinions that might be entertained by different members. Mr. Kitagawa Morikatsu, from Miye Prefecture, declared that while they profess at present no attachment to any of the existing parties, they are not pledged to adhere to this neutral position for ever. After these discussions had continued for about two hours, the original motion was put and carried by a large majority. The following resolutions were then adopted:—

Resolved: That a committee of twenty-one be appointed for preparing a draft of the rules of association and choosing its name. This committee shall be elected, one by each prefecture represented, the three prefectures of Aichi, Fukuoka, and Gifu, which have more than five independent representatives, being entitled to elect two.

2. That the committee appointed in the above manner shall hold a meeting at the residence of Mr. Oyagi on the morning of the 21st instant.

3. That another general meeting shall be held on the 22nd inst. in order to discuss the draft prepared by the committee.

The meeting was then adjourned.

The attendance at the meeting was sixty-five, all elected members of the coming Diet. We take this account from the *Choya Shimbun*.

THE HOUSE OF PEERS.

THE members of the House of Peers have now been finally decided, the places of those who were obliged to retire in consequence of a notification of the Household Department having being filled up. The *personnel* of the House now stands as follows:—

COUNTS (15).

Matsura Akira, Ito Hirobumi, Yanagisawa Sakomizu, Uyesugi Shigenori, Ogasawara Tadonobu, Hirohashi Kenko, Ohara Shigetomo, Ogasawa Hisanari, Reizei Tamenori, Matsukata Masayoshi, Tachibana Hirobarn, Ii Naonori, Kiyasu Iyenori, Yamada Akiyoshi, Oginouchi Sanemasa.

VISCOUNTS (70).

Kageyukoji Sukemori, Tachibana Taneyasu, Nabeshima Naoyoshi, Ogino Yuzuru, Kano Hisanobu, Tani Tachiki, Okochi Masatada, Hotta Masayasu, Matsudaira Noritsugu, Kyogoku Takamasa, Mibu Motoasa, Yonetsu Masatoshi, Fukuda Bisei, Okabe Nagamoto, Kaiyeda Nobuyoshi, Sengoku Masakata, Yui Kimmasa, Mura Goro, Hayashi Tomoyuki, Terui Tadatumi, Iwakura Katsusato, Yamanouchi Toyosigae, Nijja Naonobu, Shimadzu Tadaakira, Kawada Kagetomo, Matudaira Nobumasa, Kuze Michiaki, Fumabashi Norikata, Takeda Koretada, Oeko Sadaakiyo, Tono Koyasu, Shishido Ki, Ishino Kanehiro, Aoki Shuzo, Kyodai Kocho, Yonoguchi Munokuni, Sakai Tadaaki, Tanaka Munaki, Koki Takayoshi, Gojo Tametake, Naito Masatomo, Koroda Kiyosuna, Sagara Yonetsugu, Inoue Katsu, Matsudaira Naohiko, Aoyama Yukimasa, Aoyama Yukiyoshi, Satake Yoshitada, Yamaguchi Hiroaki, Sato Hiroyasu, Kawasaka Arimasa, Kawahara Sanetomi, Hitozayami Sugenori, Onuma Kunao, Nabeshima Naotomi, Hiramatsu Takitsugu, Hironaka Masuyoshi, Hosokawa Okisuna, Ito Sukemasa, Akita Akisuye, Hijikata Katsuyuki, Nagatani Nobumasa, Matsumoto Yasutami, Kyogoku Takamori, Tsugami Tsugumasa, Honsho Hisanao, Kurashima Michihiko, Oshio Tadatoshi, Iwahata Huber, Honda Masamichi, Hiramatsu Sadahiko.

BARONS (20).

Watanabe Kiyoshi, Nagaoaka Moriyoshi, Maeda Masanori, Kamiyama Ginoro, Katori Mototaka, Sange Tatsueki, Kikuchi Takeomi, Takasaka Goro, Aoyama Tai, Kaneko Aritomi, Nakagawa Okunaga, Honda Chikao, Nishitsutsuji Fumikuni, Date Munetsugu, Tsuruono Tadayoshi, Sugitani Tokinaga, Kumatsu Yukimasa, Honda Suyemoto, Fujiyeda Masayuki, Niyakubo Fokuyasu.

The nominees of His Majesty the Emperor will have to be added to this list when their names are declared.

THE RAIN.

It is to be feared that by the time the reports from the various prefectures reach us, the heavy rains of last week will be found to have done

much damage. Meanwhile, we note with pleasure that in the regions north of Tokyo, where sheets of water descended on Thursday and Friday, the crops have suffered very little. In the case of great rivers like the Tone-gawa, where farmers are sufficiently sanguine to plant cereals within the space between the margins of the stream in its normal condition and the banks that mark the limits reached by its volume in times of flood, it goes without saying that many acres of rice, sweet potatoes, egg plant, and so forth, have been submerged. But elsewhere the rice and other crops show little sign of the inclement weather. The promise of luxuriant growth which they showed during the burning era of July has doubtless been to some extent marred by the harsh, chilly downpour of recent days, but a spell of sunshine during the next few weeks would probably remedy any harm hitherto suffered, and avert what would this year be a serious calamity, a bad rice harvest.

THE STORM OF THE TWENTY-SECOND.

The railways in the track of last Thursday's storm were rendered impassable in several places. On the Tokaido line the usual service of trains was interrupted on the 23rd instant, but by making strenuous exertions the management were able to announce its resumption the following day. On the roads to the north of the capital, also, much damage was done. Of the line between Takasaki and Yokogawa, only the Takasaki-Isobe section could be kept open for traffic. Between Hongo and Takasaki, also, the trains could not pass on the 23rd, and the service was continued only over the Utsunomiya-Hongo and Takasaki-Matubashi sections. Further, on the Utsunomiya-Nagakubo and Yaita-Nasu sections of the Sendai road, the bridges over the Kisu-kawa and Hohoki-gawa were under water, and trains could not pass. On the Ryomo Railway, a special service was organised for the Koyama-Sano section, but all traffic had to be stopped on the Kiriu-Omama section. Finally, on the 25th instant it was found that, owing to the overflowing of the Tonegawa, parts of the rails between Hasuda and Kurihashi had become unsafe, and traffic had to be confined to the Utsunomiya-Furukawa section.

THE INDEPENDENT MEMBERS OF THE DIET.

We have already explained that the Independent members of the Diet held a meeting some days ago and appointed a committee to prepare a draft scheme of future procedure. It was evident that the meeting already understood pretty clearly what its programme should be, for the committee was only allowed about forty-eight hours to complete its labours, and the 23rd instant was fixed for another general assembly to discuss the draft. On that day, therefore, the members met in the Atagokwan, Atago-yama, Tokyo, to consider the Committee's report.

Mr. Masuda Shigeyuki of Sendai occupied the chair and Messrs. Motoda Hajimu and Nakamura Paroku were elected a special committee to give explanations about the draft resolutions submitted. Contrary to the general expectation that a party containing so many heterogeneous elements would inevitably split into sections, the meeting concluded its business with remarkable concord. There was some contention among the members as to whether or no the document embodying objects of the new association should be made public. But this question was finally decided in the affirmative. Not without eliciting various opinions, however: three different views were advanced: first, that the document should be published, a course necessary implying that the association should be a political one; secondly, that the declaration should be postponed, on the ground that it would be a very ill-advised measure under present circumstances; thirdly, that the organization of the association should be non-political. After a discussion of some warmth, the first opinion prevailed and was adopted almost unanimously, whereupon Mr. Okayama Kenkichi, one of the ablest lawyers in the country and lately elected member of the Diet from Shizuoka Prefecture, formally declared his separation from the association. The Regulations of the Association are as follows:—1. The name of this Association shall be the *Taisei-kai*. 2. The Association shall be constituted of the Members of the Diet holding similar views. 3. The

Association will make full investigations of political questions and will take the results of such investigations as a basis of our action in the Diet. 4. The members of the association shall be divided into a certain number of sections in order to inquire into the practical questions of the day. Such inquiries may sometimes be entrusted to the hands of selected committees, in case the nature of the questions to be investigated should require that course. 5. An executive committee of three shall be elected from among the members in order to conduct the ordinary business of the association. The committee will hold their office for a term of one year. 6. Those who desire to become members of the association must be recommended by at least two members and must send in their application to the executive Committee who, after consulting the opinions of more than ten members, will reply as to whether such application is granted or refused. 7.—The general meeting of the Association shall be held annually before the session of the Imperial Diet for the purpose of deliberating on important matters connected with the Association. In case of urgent necessity, however, an extraordinary meeting may be convened. 8.—The expenditure of the Association shall be borne by the members. All accounts, both estimated and final, shall be submitted to the general meeting of the Association.

From all this we learn very little as to the probable complexion of the *Taisei-kai* policy. The name *Taisei-kai*, we may explain, conveys no political signification. It means merely "great operation party." Any of the existing associations might reform themselves into a *Taisei-kai* without the least alteration of colour. The application is therefore well chosen since it commits the members to nothing in particular. The *Taisei-kai* has, however, made a declaration which we proceed to translate literally, in order that our readers may form their own estimate of the direction in which the so-called "Independents" are destined to gravitate eventually:—

The prosperity of the State and the welfare of the people are our avowed objects in forming the *Taisei-kai*, and justice and integrity are the means we shall employ to attain these objects. Ever inclined to progress, yet never falling into rash radicalism; friendly to the cause of order, but averse to bigoted conservatism; we will steadily tread the path of impartiality, and follow the guidance of moderation and right.

While we fully recognize the imperative urgency of lightening the people's burdens, we shall not be too sparing of public expenditure in matters connected with the vindication of our country's honour. We hold that legislative and administrative perfection is very desirable, but that the actual condition of the people and their stage of progress should be first considered. We hold that of right, a responsible Cabinet ought to be inaugurated, but that political power should never be made subservient to personal ambition and self-interest. We hold that the revision of the treaties is a matter of great necessity, but that the true interests of the nation should never be sacrificed to a morbid desire for fame and achievement. Fully convinced that our true objects can be realized only by the great principle of the "golden mean," we hold aloof from all existing political parties. Being now accorded the great privilege of participating in the legislation of the country, we fellow thinkers, whose individual convictions have unexpectedly been found to be in perfect harmony, hereby organize ourselves into the *Taisei kai*, in order that we may properly discharge the duties devolving upon us as representatives of the people. It is not our purpose to compile out of our own imagination certain political doctrines, or to try to carry the principles of abstract theory into the field of practical politics. Our endeavour shall be to face all practical issues on their own merits and to work out their just and unbiased solution, hoping thereby to realize the great aim of Constitutional Government.

According to the provisions of Article 4 of the Regulations of the *Taisei-kai*, the members were distributed, at their respective option, into the following five sections:—1. Matters relating to diplomatic, military, and educational affairs; 2. Matters relating to international Government; 3. Financial affairs; 4. Judicial affairs; 5. Matters relating to agriculture, commerce, industry, and communications. Mr. Masuda Shigeyuki of Miyagi, Mr. Horiba Katsuhiko of Aichi, and

Mr. Matano Kagetaka of Osaka were elected the executive committee, in accordance with Article 5 of the same Regulations.

It seems to us that of all the political programmes yet put forward, the above is the most sensible and best suited to the time. There are as yet no real issues before the country. Agitators may talk of this question or that; may frame elaborate programmes and clamour for all the privileges elsewhere withheld from a nation, in its own interests, until it has furnished ample proofs of fitness to enjoy them. But until the Diet meets and until these problems really present themselves for solution in Parliament, it is idle to lay down hard and fast rules about them, and still idler to take them as bases for the formation of political parties. The Independents represent the true sense and prudence of the nation. It is into their camp, not into that of the rash Radicals, that we should expect to see a sober, moderate, and astute party like the *Kaishin-to* pass, and it is of such men, not of those who can publicly praise, or tacitly listen to the praises of, Kurushima and his evil imitators that we should expect to see statesmen like Count Okuma and Messrs. Yano and Ozaki act as leaders.

TERMS APPLIED BY JAPANESE TO FOREIGNERS.

REPORTING a correspondence between Mr. Kuki and Professor Suyematsu, the *Tokyo Shimpō* made the former apply the term *yatoi* to the four foreigners who acted in the capacity of advisers to the Jurors at the Exhibition. *Yatoi* means a hired person, and inasmuch as the four foreigners referred to were not hired, but rendered gratuitously the very trifling service required of them, we expressed our conviction that Mr. Kuki had not employed the expression placed in his mouth by the *Tokyo Shimpō*. With reference to this matter the following strange note appears in the columns of a local English journal:—

"The intention of our contemporary in endeavouring to explain away what is naturally calculated to give offence, is worthy of all praise; but unfortunately, we are too familiar with the manners and customs of our Japanese friends to unhesitatingly accept the explanation tendered. We are well aware that among themselves it is the common practice to speak of foreigners in vulgar, if not contemptuous language; and the only inadvertence Mr. Kuki was guilty of, was, that he forgot that his expressions might come under the observation of the foreigner, and unguardedly fell into the usual manner. Does our contemporary wish us to believe that among themselves, and in the absence of foreigners, the Japanese speak of them as *gwaiyoku-jin*? If so, we regret our want of faith. Being well aware that it is always *jin*, and their houses *jin-kan*. This is simply an illustration of what prevails throughout, in connection with foreigners and their concerns. Opportunity is rarely lost to exhibit contempt of, and to insult foreigners, when it can be done with safety, or unknown to the objects. There are exceptions we are sure, who do not wish to speak and act in the manner above indicated, but even they, when amongst their own people, are compelled to follow the fashion, and conform to what is, amongst the majority, practically a natural instinct.

We call this a strange note, not alone on account of the spirit that permeates it, but also because of the curious ignorance it displays. In the first place, the writer is evidently unaware that the only Japanese word which properly describes a foreigner in Japanese employ, under existing circumstances, is *yatoi*. It is quite true that the term implies inferiority on the side of the person employed, but none the less the expression is correct and inevitable. Everybody who, though serving in a Japanese Department of State, does not hold substantive rank as an official, is a *yatoi* and nothing but a *yatoi*. He is classed as a *yatoi* in the Civil List, and he is called a *yatoi*. If the Japanese do not find this term offensive when applied to themselves, why should foreigners rebel against its application to them? They do not hold substantive rank in the Japanese service and cannot hold it at present. Therefore they are classed as *yatoi*, in common with Japanese similarly circumstanced. *Yatoi* does not mean "hiring," as some silly and hyper-sensitive persons are pleased to pretend. It means "employed," and it carries with it just about the same suggestion of inferiority that "employed" does. If the four foreigners who acted in the nominal capacity of advisers to the Jury Committee at the Exhibition had been paid for their

services, we should not have dreamed of criticising Mr. Kuki's supposed use of the word *yatoi*. But as they served gratuitously, and as *yatoi* implies the receipt of remuneration, we thought it right to correct the misconception. So much for *yatoi*. With regard to the rest of our contemporary's strange note, the first question that suggests itself is—whence does the writer derive his knowledge of the language employed by Japanese “in the absence of foreigners?” What can he possibly know about such language? We, at any rate, do not pretend to know about it. Thus much, however, we do know, namely, that no educated Japanese employs the terms “*ijin*” or “*ijinkwan*.” Such expressions are current only among the most vulgar classes—the coolies, the hicks, and the house-servants at the open ports. An educated Japanese would as soon think of employing the words “*ijin*” or “*ijinkwan*” in polite society as he would of saying *shiranai-ya* for *shirimasenu-ya*, or *dambai* for *goshinwasha*. Thus the writer in our local contemporary's columns makes nothing plain but the fact that he himself has moved in and derived his notions from circles to which no person of ordinary information would think of applying. He tells us that “opportunity is rarely lost to exhibit contempt of, and to insult, foreigners, when it can be done with safety or unknown to the objects.” The blind and angry suspicion dictating this assertion is self-refuting. No foreigner is in a position to say anything of the kind. We do not know how Japanese speak of us behind our backs. We cannot know it, except on the evidence of tattle-mongers whose word, under such circumstances, deserves no confidence. What we do know, however, is the fashion of language employed by the writer of the above note and his *confrères* in speaking among themselves of the Japanese. They should be the last persons in the world to talk of “contempt and insult.” Their endeavour to circulate an impression that foreigners are hated and despised by the Japanese is well fitted to the mischief-making part they persistently play under the flimsy guise of honest frankness. Honesty forsooth!

POLITICAL TALK.

THE *Nippon-jin*, in its last issue, mentions the rumours that Viscount Aoki, and Messrs. Mutsu and Yoshikawa have tendered their resignation, that Count Yamagata contemplates a similar step, that Count Matsukata is in a dissatisfied mood, and that Count Saigo has addressed a circular to his colleagues. Our contemporary does not profess to give credit to these reports, but it nevertheless observes that, Count Yamagata being known to be desirous of transferring the Premiership to Count Ito before the opening of the Diet, this circumstance may be the cause of the joint resignation of the three Ministers above mentioned. The Ministers of Foreign Affairs, of Education, and of Agriculture and Commerce, are understood to be under the influence of Count Inouye, and the Tokyo journal is inclined to suppose that they either resign by their resignation to get their chief appointed to the Presidency of the Cabinet, or think it inconvenient to serve under Count Ito, to neither of which hypotheses do we (*Japan Mail*) attach the least credit. As to Count Yamagata, the *Nippon-jin* remarks that he may not be fitted to preside over the Cabinet under a constitutional system, and that it would be wise policy for him to resign at the present juncture. Who is to succeed him in that contingency? Our contemporary seems to regard either Count Ito or Count Inouye as the most probable candidate. Speaking of Count Ito, the Tokyo journal states that it is now time for him to decide between three courses of action; either to become President of the House of Peers, or to accept the office of Minister President, or to continue a literary recluse at Odawara. Some people, we are told, pretend to be in a position to state that he considers himself the only person who can successfully carry out the Constitution. With reference to Count Inouye, the *Nippon-jin* inquires why he continues in a dissatisfied humour. It is true that the *Yichi-to*, of which he is under-

stood to be the chief, is not in a prosperous condition, and that he cannot expect a good harvest in the coming political season. This circumstance may disturb the ease of his mind. Still, with such lieutenants as Viscount Aoki, Mr. Yoshikawa, and Mr. Mutsu, he ought not, says the *Nippon-jin*, to be discouraged about the present condition of his party. As to Count Goto, our contemporary alludes to the rumour published in the *Choya Shimbun*, that it was he who advised the Minister President to frustrate the plan of alliance among progressive parties by enforcing the 28th Article of the Law of Political Associations. The Tokyo magazine neither believes this report, nor agrees with the *Daido Shimbun*, which defends Count Goto by alleging that the Count, in his capacity of Minister of Communications, is not connected with the framing of laws. We reproduce these rumours merely for the purpose of keeping our readers posted as to the state of political feeling in certain quarters. It will of course be understood that we do not in any way endorse them.

RUSSIAN SHIPBUILDING.

CONSIDERABLE activity, says a recent issue of *Industries*, has been displayed for some time in connection with the Russian fleet, and it now begins to attain sufficient magnitude to make it a factor which cannot be neglected in calculating the chances in any war which may occur. The programme which was laid down some years ago is being steadily carried out, subject, of course, to the modifications which are required by the continual developments in naval science. From an industrial point of view, moreover, the movement has considerable importance, when we consider that two keels which were recently laid down for the Russian Navy are for ships of 10,000 and 11,000 tons, and of the style of the *Sanspareil* and *Trafalgar*. These were recently laid in the presence of the Emperor and Empress, and a large company of notables. The largest of these ships, the *Rurik*, will be 426 ft. long at the water-line, 67 ft. broad, and with a draught of 27 ft., and will have side armour 10 in. thick and deck armour 2½ in. thick. She is to be built for a speed of 18 knots an hour, and will have a coal capacity for taking her 20,000 miles at 10 knots. She will be supplied with very powerful guns, and when completed will form a very strong addition to the Russian Navy. After the conclusion of the ceremony connected with the *Rurik*, the Imperial party performed a similar one in a neighbouring shipbuilding yard for the armoured turret-ship *Natarino*. Its length will be 360 ft., its breadth 68 ft., and its draught 25 ft. There will be two engines of 4,500 h.p. each, with 12 boilers, and the speed is expected to be 17 knots. The armament will consist of four 12 in. guns in two turrets, and there will be the usual complement of quick-firing and other guns. The next part of the day's performance was launching the new yacht for the Emperor, which is named the *Polar Star*. She has been built by Captain Kazi, at the Baltic Works on the Neva, and is intended to be used as a yacht in time of peace, but also as a despatch boat in time of war. She will be the only sea-going yacht of modern type possessed by the Emperor, as the *Livadia* lies unused in the Black Sea, while the older ship, the *Derfiwa*, in the Baltic, is now out of date. The *Polar Star* is 315 ft. long by 46 ft. broad, with 18 ft. mean draught of water, and 3,600 tons displacement, and is intended to have a speed of 16 knots. The boilers were intended for a pressure of 130 lb. on the square inch—that is, for triple-expansion engines—but the Emperor has decided that the engines shall be of the ordinary compound type, with a steam pressure of 75 lb., showing that he is willing to sacrifice efficiency for what he supposes greater safety. On the same day was launched an armoured gunboat 229 ft. long and 41 ft. deep, and having a displacement of about 1,500 tons. It is of the same type as those which are being added rapidly to the British Navy, and is intended to sweep the seas of the enemy's mercantile vessels. Besides these are three large ships

being completed on the Baltic, and a similar number on the Black Sea, while several torpedo boats are being built in Germany, St. Petersburg, and Odessa. Altogether, either for offence or defence, the Russian Navy is being rapidly developed, while the proportion of the work which is being done in the country shows that great advances have recently taken place in the art of construction.

PHILATELY.

THE recent exhibition of postage stamps in London, in which the Duke of Edinburgh took a leading part, and with which many other leading persons were associated, marks the progress in the science, or art, of postage-stamp collecting, or philately, as it is pedantically called now. A quarter of a century ago the collection of postage stamps was chiefly a harmless school-boy amusement. Of late years, however, it has become a serious business for a number of grown-up enthusiasts. As a childish fad it was an aid to an easy knowledge of geography, to some acquaintance with recent or current political history, and to a general sharpening of the faculty of observation by the study of water-marks, of the various methods of perforation, of the distinctive lettering, and of the ingenious system of defacement. Geographical crumbs lay by the wayside, while as for political history, the stamps of Germany afford a remarkable instance of the manner in which the record of great national events is preserved in what may be termed aëlic shorthand. The earliest German postage stamp is that of Bavaria, which dates from 1847, and which is remarkable for its inartistic homeliness, for it contains nothing but the name of the country and the tariff. The first Prussian stamp—a laureated effigy of Frederick William IV.—was issued in November, 1850, a few months after the King of Wurtemberg denounced the insidious ambition of the King of Prussia. In 1861—the year in which the National Association voted the formation of a united federal Government under the leadership of Prussia—the effigy gave place to the Prussian eagle. In January, 1863, the postage stamps of Prussia, Hanover, Saxony, Oldenburg, the two Mecklenburgs, Brunswick, and Schleswig-Holstein—the first Schleswig-Holstein stamp was that of a Government in insurrection—were replaced by the new stamp of the North German Confederation; and in December, 1871, the latter was in turn superseded by the Imperial stamp of the new Germany. It was adopted by the Grand Duke of Baden; and Bavaria and Wurtemberg alone retained their special postage stamps with their separate administration. Only those who are versed in the atelic mysteries have any accurate notion of the immense amount of information required by a collector who professes to be a master in his craft. Few outsiders are aware that in the twenty-five years which followed the first issue of postage stamps in London on the 1st May, 1840, the well-known varieties issued in all parts of the world numbered 1,391, or that of these no fewer than 811 were already obsolete in 1865, and were accordingly becoming every day more difficult of acquisition. The first Austro-Hungarian stamp dates from 1850, and during the interval, 1850-83, there have been issued, taking all together, 39 types and 123 varieties. In 1848 stamps came into general use in Russia, and of all Russian stamps, general and local, the types up to 1875 exceeded 135. The survival of these local postages in all parts of that vast empire is to the philatelist a source of despair and an incentive to further exertion. The varieties are so great, and some are so rare, that it must be an exceptional collection in which they are exhaustively represented. The symbolic wheatsheaf, scythe, and rake of Kherson, the beehive of Tamboff, the open book, sheaves, scythe, and plume of interlaced feathers of Elizabethgrad are not often found together in one collection. How stamps ever become rare is not quite so easy to understand. In England alone, between 1840 and 1884, no fewer than 26,651,930.040 penny and 2,970,705,120 half-penny stamps were issued. Supposing anything like similar quanti-

ties have been issued abroad, one would imagine that specimens ought to be as plentiful as blackberries, and yet this is far from being the case. The spread of the use of stamps throughout the world is a curious point. Zurich was the first foreign State to adopt them—in 1843. Six years later they appeared in Belgium and New South Wales. They are believed to have been used a year earlier in the Hawaiian Islands than in the Netherlands (1852). In 1871 they were issued in Guatemala and Japan, and in the following year Persia and Fiji simultaneously assumed this badge of civilisation. In the early days of the schoolboy craze there were splendid myths credited as to the value of a numerically large collection, but even the most golden of juvenile dreams never reached the sums that have actually been paid for stamps. Sir Daniel Cooper's collection was sold in 1878 for £3,000, and the Galliera collection in Paris is reported on good authority to have cost up to 1883 no less than £57,600 in acquisition and arrangement. The catalogue of the new exhibition contains much information of a similar character, and many anecdotes about stamps and stamp collection.

RUPTURE IN THE AMALGAMATION SCHEME.

On the 23rd instant, the delegates of the parties contemplating amalgamation, held another conference for the purpose of taking final action with reference to this matter. The first proposition before the conference was whether the projected new party should be formally organized before September 1st, which is the date fixed by the *Kaishin-to* for deciding, at a general meeting, the question of dissolving or maintaining its organization. The original programme of the unionists evidently was to postpone the formal organization of the new party till all the parties concerned should have dissolved their separate organizations. But meanwhile certain sections of the *Daido Danketsu*, who from the outset conceived a strong aversion to admitting the *Kaishin-to* and the *Kinshu Doshikai* into the proposed amalgamation, gathered strength and began to raise vehement voices of dissent. They held meeting after meeting, and on each occasion denounced the *Kaishin-to* by all the means employable in partizan warfare. In consequence of these demonstrations, their ranks rapidly grew until they began to show threatening signs of forming an independent party. In fact a portion of them virtually absconded from the general meeting of the *Daido Danketsu* opened in the Koseikan, the other day, and held a separate meeting on their own account. In order to put a check on this disintegrating tendency, some formal declaration from the projectors of the new party became a matter of urgent necessity. Hence in the conference alluded to above, the delegates of the *Kaishin-to* were asked if it would be impossible for that party to take some step toward amalgamation previous to the general meeting of September 1st. In reply to this, Messrs. Shimada Saburo, Yoshida Kiroku, and Koto Masanosuke said that it was utterly impossible to take any step until the sense of the whole party had been ascertained by the general meeting of September 1st. They accordingly requested on behalf of their party that the organization of the Union should be deferred until after that date. But the delegates of other parties refused to comply with this request, no account of the circumstances recounted above. The meeting then proceeded to discuss matter connected with the organization of the new party. The draft resolutions submitted to the conference was as follows:—(1) Name; Representative Government Party (*Dagō Seito*). This appellation was, however, changed subsequently to *Rikken Jiyu-to* (Constitutional Liberal Party). (2) Party's principle; Liberalism. (3) Platform; (a) Maintenance of the Honour of the Crown and Promotion of Popular Rights. (b) Inauguration of a Responsible Cabinet. (c) Removal of all Interference with the Empire's Home Affairs, and Revision of Foreign Treaties on a basis of full Equality. In discussing the above draft, the *Kaishin-to* representatives raised strong objection to the

word *Jiyu* (Liberalism) being adopted as the party's principle. While they disavowed all intention to place any stumbling block in the path of the proposed amalgamation scheme by giving undue weight to matters of secondary importance, they positively refused to commit themselves to a course of action which would place the *Kaishin-to* in the humiliating position of apparently surrendering to the *Jiyu-to*. The history of the past ten years, they said, had given to the words *Kaishin* and *Jiyu* a profound signification apart from their literal meaning. Ever since the formation of the Progressive and the Liberal Parties, these two magical words had served as the Shibboleth employed by the two parties in their struggle for ascendancy. They declared as their ultimatum that, unless the objectionable term was removed, the only alternative left for them would be to sever their connection with the amalgamation. But the delegates of the opposite side were equally determined to have the word inserted at any cost. Then the *Kaishin-to* delegates withdrew from the conference in a body. Count Inagaki and other true advocates of amalgamation have since been exerting all their influence to bring about a reconciliation, but at present there is no prospect of their efforts proving successful.

VISCOUNT ENOMOTO AND COLONIZATION.

Our readers may remember that some time ago a man named Tokai Etsuro attracted attention by a scheme of emigration to Mexico. He proved to be a mere swindler and is, we think, under arrest pending trial. It is now announced that Viscount Enomoto contemplates a plan of emigration to the same country on a large scale. We cannot tell whether this report be true or false, but there is no doubt that the question of colonization and emigration is attracting the attention of the nation at present. The *Nippon Hyoron* writes on the subject as follows:—“Through an erroneous policy of the Tokugawa Government, the Japanese race lost its influence in India and the South Sea; and since the Restoration, the short sighted policy of the Cabinet has deprived the nation of the opportunity of extending its influence in Korea and the South Sea. The question of colonization and emigration has now become a national problem, and a large number of men, both in the Government and out of it, are devoting their attention to it. We recommend the Authorities not to disregard the memorandum of Viscount Enomoto on this subject. If Japan suffers the opportunity to slip from her hands for the third time, the day may come when her name will be erased from the map of the world.”

The “short-sighted policy of the Cabinet” in depriving the nation of an opportunity to extend its influence in Korea, may, also and with greater justice, be described as the prudent policy of keeping the Empire at peace with its neighbour China. As for the possibility of preserving Japan's place on the map of the world by sending Japanese emigrants to Mexico, we confess that the connection of cause and effect is quite beyond our comprehension. Emigration to Hawaii has been distinctly a success, as a means first, of bringing wealth to Japan, and, secondly, of inculcating habits of regular and unbroken work among her labouring classes. Emigration to Mexico might be similarly beneficial. But Japan may be quite sure that even though she sends half a million of her best workers to Mexico, she is not in the least degree likely to erect thereby any new pillars of empire. No foreign Power will ever be suffered by the United States to plant so much as the tip of its toes in Mexico. Japanese better informed than the writer in the *Nippon Hyoron* understand this perfectly well, and will have read with as much amusement as we have done, the magniloquent announcement that the Government's attitude toward the Mexican emigration scheme may affect the permanency of Japan's national existence. In the South Sea Islands or even in Korea there may be room for Japanese settlers to found colonies after the fashion that now

absorbs all Europe, but in Mexico nothing of the kind is within the range of possibility. We venture to assert confidently that if Viscount Enomoto has submitted any scheme to the Authorities, it is purely of a wealth-earning character.

AMALGAMATION OF THE PROGRESSIVE PARTIES.

No question occupies so large a share of public attention at present as the proposed amalgamation of progressive parties. It is difficult to tell how movements would end, but at present the chances seem to be rather in favour of the consummation of the project. In the existing state of affairs, the whole question seems to depend upon the attitude of a section of the *Daido Danketsu* toward the *Kaishin-to*. Certain papers report that an unpleasant feeling has been engendered between the two parties in connection with the question of foreign policy. But this report is contradicted by journals which are in favour of amalgamation. For our own part, we find it hard to imagine the *Kaishin-to* marching under the banner of men such as some of the radicals have recently proved themselves to be. But we admit the difficulty of arriving at any clear decision. The *Kokumin-no-Tomo* states that, although the proposed amalgamation is moving with irresistible force towards consummation, its path is not entirely free from impediments. These are four in number; namely, first, the antipathy of a section of the *Daido Club* towards the *Kaishin-to*; secondly, the relations between Counts Inagaki and Goto; thirdly, the relations between the *Daido Club* and the Conservative party; and fourthly, opposition to the clan influence of Tosa. The first impediment—we are still quoting from the Tokyo journal—may be removed, in some degree at least, by making it clear that the *Kaishin-to*'s object is to secure the revision of the treaties on an equal footing. As to Counts Inagaki and Goto, they ought to be on better terms now that the latter has declared himself in favour of amalgamation. With respect to the relations between the *Daido Club* and the Conservatives, our contemporary observes that the chance of an alliance between the two will be averted if the leaders of the *Daido Club* are honestly devoted to liberal principles, and if, further, all the rest of the progressive parties unite in their condemnation of conservatism. As to the last impediment, Count Inagaki's magnanimity will be sufficient to prevent any undue preponderance of the Tosa influence.

We may observe that the *Hochi Shimbun* and the *Choya Shimbun*, which have hitherto been on particularly cordial terms, are now quarrelling on this very subject. The *Hochi* is sober and conciliatory, but the *Choya* is uncompromising and even bitter in its tone. The editor of the latter journal, Mr. Ozaki, as already stated in these columns, is an enthusiastic opponent of amalgamation. He maintains that, if the *Kaishin-to* is doomed to perish, it had better disappear in a dignified manner than solicit unconditional admission to the ranks of the proposed grand party. The *Hochi Shimbun* takes a broader view of the situation, and advises the *Kaishin-to* to forget its own selfish interests and unite in a movement which it thinks is calculated to be beneficial to the cause of progress and liberalism.

THE FIRST BRITISH ORDER CONFERRED ON A JAPANESE.

The London Official *Gazette* of July 1st confirms the news already forwarded by Reuter, that the Queen has been pleased to confer the Grand Cross of the Bath on his Imperial Highness Prince Komatsu. The Prince is gazetted an “Honorary Member” of the Order, a form of expression applied in all cases where, no vacancy happening to exist in the fixed number of holders of the Grand Cross, the distinction is given independently of that number. This is the first instance of a British order being conferred on a Japanese, and we have no doubt that the news will be very welcome. England is very chary in her bestowal of such distinctions,

and their recipients are the more honoured in consequence. Prince Komatsu was the bearer of the Grand Star of the Chrysanthemum to the Prince of Wales in 1886, and many people expected that the occasion would have been taken to invest his Imperial Highness with one of the best English Orders. Japan has nothing higher to bestow than the Grand Star of the Chrysanthemum. A G.C.B. is not its equivalent. But a G.C.B. is a very good beginning, and we venture now to hope for the accomplishment of whatever train of circumstances may be requisite for the presentation of the Garter to the Emperor of Japan. It is unfortunate that the officials responsible for the compilation of the *London Gazette* did not take the trouble to inform themselves correctly of Prince Komatsu's title. They call him "Prince Akihito of Komatsu," a form of expression of which we can easily understand the construction from an English point of view, but which is none the less a solecism. Surely, it will be said, if the Foreign Office was not in a position to give the title properly, information might easily have been obtained from the Japanese Legation. But the evident fact is that the officials who prepared the *Gazette* felt quite confident as to the accuracy of the term, and perceived no necessity whatever for reference. Japanese titles are exceedingly puzzling to Western translators, and a defective rendering of the kind in question, especially when, as in this case, it gives a formula entirely consistent with European precedents may readily be excused. Since we say Albert Edward Prince of Wales, Arthur Duke of this and Louis Count of that, it seems natural and correct to say Akihito, Prince of Komatsu. It will be observed that the Order is conveyed through the War Office, doubtless because the Prince, when he represented Japan at the Queen's Jubilee, was on a military mission to Europe.

THE FORMAL ORGANIZATION OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL LIBERAL PARTY "RIKKEN JIYU TO."

THE amalgamation of progressive parties, at once the dream and the nightmare of politicians in the liberal and conservative camps, has at length become an accomplished fact, but in a manner probably falling far short of the sanguine expectations entertained by earnest workers in the cause of union. The *Kaishin-to* wing of the new grand party as originally contemplated, has been virtually excluded from participating in the movement. Nothing definite can be said about the future course of the *Kaishin-to* till after its general meeting on September 1, but, according to present forecasts, we can see no reason to warrant us in predicting its final fusion into the newly organized union. Be that as it may, the other four parties, the *Aikoku-to*, the *Jiyu-to*, the *Daido Danketsu*, and the *Kiushu Doshikai*, have formed themselves into "the Constitutional Liberal Party" (*Rikken Jiyu-to*). The formal organization of the new party took place in the Atagokwan on the Atago Hill in the forenoon of the 25th instant. The meeting was attended by all the prominent members of the several parties concerned. After some business of a preliminary nature, the meeting was formally called to order at twenty minutes after ten. It was agreed on all hands that a Chairman should be elected by the standard of seniority, and Mr. Yamada Bubo, of the *Kiushu Doshikai*, was unanimously nominated to that position. The following draft resolutions were then submitted to the meeting:—First, that the name of the Party be "Representative Government Party"; Secondly, that the principle of the Party be Liberalism; thirdly, that the platform of the Party be (1) Maintenance of the Honour of the Crown and Promotion of Popular Rights; (2) in domestic government, the policy of interference to be removed, and in foreign relations treaties of full equality to be concluded; (3) the reality of Representative Government and of Cabinet by Party to be inaugurated. Respecting the party's appellation, Mr. Uyeiki Yemori moved that "Popular Rights" should be substituted for "Representative Government," which motion was supported by Messrs. Tada, Shiba, Tanaka, and Matsuta. On the other hand, Mr. Yamakishi Shichishi offered an

amendment to use the word "Liberal." Upon these motions being put before the meeting, it was found that sixteen members were for Mr. Uyeiki's motion and fifteen favoured Mr. Yamakishi's amendment, while six supported the original draft. All the motions, failing to secure a majority, were lost. A motion was then put forward by Mr. Matsura and carried by a large majority, that a committee consisting of three from each of the parties represented should be appointed to choose a suitable appellation. Meanwhile, the other portions of the drafts were submitted for deliberation and were all adopted without any dissenting voice. Mr. Sugita then reported on behalf of the special committee that they had chosen the appellation "Constitutional Liberal Party" (*Rikken Jiyu-to*). The report was accepted and the name was adopted unanimously. The following provisional regulations were then passed:—First, that a board of five executive officers be appointed; secondly, that the expenditures of the party be borne by the members individually; thirdly, that new members may be admitted if the board of executive officers has no objections; fourthly, that the general meeting of the party be held on the 15th day of September next, when the permanent Rules and Regulations will be settled. The next business in order was the election of executive officers, which showed the following result: Mr. Oi Kentaro (23 votes), Mr. Kono Hironaka (22); Mr. Kawashima Jun (16), Mr. Tanaka Kendo (16), Mr. Hayashi Yuzo (11); but as Mr. Oi declined to accept the honour, Mr. Sugita, who was next in order, was appointed in his place.

THE JAPANESE DINNER IN LONDON.

THE Japan dinner in London came off on the 26th of June at the Grand Hotel, one of those colossal new caravanserais in Northumberland Avenue. Mr. William Keswick was in the chair, and the only toasts were "The Queen," "Japan," and "The Chairman." We learn from one of those present that it was a thoroughly enjoyable evening, although all commented on the circumstance that Sir Francis Adams, who was known to every one of the convives, presided last year, and that in concluding a happy speech he remarked that he would come year after year so long as they would have him and so long as he was above ground, even though he might have to be brought in a chair. Although there were, we learn, no members of the high official world present, the gathering abundantly served its purpose of bringing together old friends and persons bound by the tie of common memories. These annual dinners are becoming in recent years quite an institution. Burma has its annual dinner (it took place early in July at the Marlborough Rooms in Regent Street); so have Ceylon, Queensland, the Straits (this was eaten in the first week of July in the heart of the city in Leadenhall Street) and many other places. Ten years ago the practice of dining together in this fashion was usually confined to the military and naval services, regiments, corps, the survivors of certain actions, the Naval Club of 1765, and so on; but now every place has its dinner, and very appropriate and successful institutions these latter are. One gentleman who was at the Japan dinner writes that the speaking was not much, but that the dinner was excellent; and that every one enjoyed himself—which was better than any quantity of speaking, the last commodity being perhaps over plentiful in tongue-ridden England.

THIS YEAR'S HARVEST OF BARLEY.

According to an official report prepared in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, it appears that the general estimate as to the scarcity of this year's barley crop has not been exaggerated. The incessant rains of the spring inflicted more or less injury on the ripening crop in almost every locality. The damage was most extensive in the Prefectures of Shizuoka, Kagoshima, Saga, Kochi, and Gifu. These localities are followed on the list of comparative suffering by the City of Osaka, and the Prefectures of Kanagawa, Hyogo, Aichi, Nara, Kagawa, Shiga, Shimane, Wakayama, and Kuma-

moto. The report does not say by what percentage the crop was reduced in these localities; but that the harvest was extremely bad may be inferred from the fact that the crop suffered to the extent of 40-50 per cent. in the Cities of Tokyo and Kyoto and the Prefectures of Saitama, Chiba, Ibaraki, Mie, Yamanashi, Akita, Fukui, Toyama, Tottori, Hiroshima, Yamaguchi, Okayama, Tokushima, Ehime, Oka, Nagano, and Miyazaki. In the Prefectures of Fukushima and Awamori, the harvest was better than usual, while the damage was extremely small in the Prefectures of Iwate, Niigata, Miyagi, Yamagata, and Gumma. No statistics have as yet been received from Hokkaido and the Prefectures of Nagasaki, Tochigi, Ishikawa, and Okinawa.

"SOSHI."

THE *soshi* have been re-establishing the fact that they belong to the *Jiyu-to* and that they mean to work in its interests after their own fashion. On the night of the twenty-fifth, several of them attacked Mr. Sugeno Michichika as he was on his way back from the house of Mr. Koike in Nakarokubanchō, Tokyo. Mr. Sugeno's crime was that he strenuously opposed the admission of the *Kaishin-to* and the *Kiushu Doshikai* into the ranks of the new amalgamated party, and that he had censured the conduct of Count Itagaki and Mr. Oi. The *soshi* were seven or eight in number. They proceeded to beat Mr. Sugeno, but he turned on them, and by resolute and dexterous use of a small knife which he chanced to be carrying, managed to give them a wholesome lesson. He did not indeed escape scot free, as he received a cut on the head and is now in hospital. But of the *soshi* two, Suzuki and Hasegawa, fared very badly, the former having a gash in his stomach, and the latter several wounds about the face and neck. Mr. Sugeno reported the affair so promptly that all the *soshi* were arrested and are now lying in prison.

THE HON. P. LE POER TRENCH.

WE learn with regret, which will be heartily shared by his many friends in Japan, that the health of the Hon. P. Le Poer Trench is not by any means restored. It will be remembered that after Mr. Trench's transfer to Berlin he suffered from a very severe of rheumatic fever. The pain of this crippling malady had not entirely left him when he was prostrated by an attack of liver, due doubtless to the long confinement necessitated by the previous illness. A course of the Aix-les-bains waters was recommended by his physicians, and there, at the date of latest advices, he was gradually but slowly picking up strength, his naturally vigorous constitution enabling him to struggle successfully against such a succession of debilitating illness. We trust that news will soon arrive of his complete restoration to health.

THE LEADING TOKYO PAPERS.

THE *Kokumin-no-Tomo* of the 13th instant, has the following:—"The *Daido Shimbun* is like a newly married wife, distracted by solicitude towards her mother-in-law and her husband. The *Hochi Shimbun*, departing from its usual moderation, is bold and dashing. The *Mainichi Shimbun* is serious, with occasional flashes of vivacity. The *Choya Shimbun* has become so violent in its writing since its recent suspension, that it might almost be suspected of a desire to come again into collision with the laws. The *Tokyo Shimpō* and the *Tokyo Koron*, through conscious of defeat, are still beating war drums. The *Nippon* looks full of suspicion and anxiety, and maintains a wary attitude. As to the *Jiji Shimpō*, it is cold and indifferent, and tells you with a knowing look that the importance of Japan does not depend upon her politics.

BILLS TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE FIRST DIET.

WE read in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* that, according to present estimates, the number of bills submitted to the Diet by the various Departments of State is expected to be at least a hundred. Of this number, forty will be from the

Finance Department, twenty-five from the Department of Justice, nine from the Departments of War and Marine, five from the Department of Education, three from the Department of Communications, and six from the Department of Agriculture and Commerce. The numbers likely to be sent in from the Departments of Home and Foreign Affairs are not yet known. Considering that the Diet's regular session lasts only three months, it is plain that, assuming the above estimate to be correct, the Houses would have to debate and vote upon more than one bill *per diem* in order to get through the Government's work alone. And considering further that, according to the Constitution, Government bills take precedence of all other business, except when a different order of procedure has been specially sanctioned, it seems plain that the Diet will not have much time to initiate measures of its own.

GOLD AND SILVER RATIOS.

The *Official Gazette* gives the following table of comparative values of gold and silver coins and of the pound sterling for the week ended the 23rd inst., as derived from the returns of the Bank of Japan and the Yokohama Specie Bank:—

Days	Gold Coin. (Per 100 Yen.)	Pound Sterling. Silver Yen.
18th	109.500	A.M. 5.3932 P.M. 5.3333
19th	108.500	A.M. 5.3333 P.M. 5.2459
20th	106.200	A.M. 5.2459 P.M. 6.1172
21st	105.500	A.M. — P.M. 5.2173
22nd	105.500	A.M. — P.M. 5.2173
23rd	105.500	A.M. — P.M. 5.2173
Averages	106.783	5.2591

The above averages show for gold coin a decrease in value of *yen* 4.476, and for the pound sterling a decrease in value of *yen* 0.2157, as compared with the previous week.

VISCOUNT AOKI.

The *Yiji Shimpō* says that during his long residence in Europe, when he had ample opportunities of forming his judgment, Viscount Aoki came to very clear conclusions as to the proper methods of administering a State. He knows his own mind with respect to foreign policy, with respect to commercial and agricultural policy, with respect to finance, with respect to military matters and so forth. Unlike too many Japanese politicians who mould their opinions according to events, he has fixed theories and adheres to them. Thus, though he may seem to proceed deliberately in the matter of Treaty Revision, his resolution is none the less firm. He does not seek to accomplish the thing rapidly and make a brilliant coup, but he believes that by patient and persistent effort the favourable time will surely come sooner or later.

NIKKO.

Nikko has been exceptionally gay this year. A very large number of foreigners came there either to see the beauties of the place or to escape the heat of Tokyo and Yokohama. Picnics and dinner-parties have been the order of the day, and it is prophesied that next season "swallow-tails" and "bell-tops" will be *de rigueur*. Last Monday the Russian Minister and Madame Schévich entertained a large party at dinner in the tea-houses on the plateau overlooking the town from its north-westerly extremity. The buildings were entirely renovated and beautifully decorated for the occasion, and nothing could have been more picturesque than the whole affair. The only *contretemps* was that, owing to the service of trains being interrupted, the Guards Band, which was to have proceeded from Tokyo to Nikko on the 25th instant, could not make the journey.

A NEW BARON.

An addition has been made to the ranks of the nobility in the person of Mr. Sawata Koichiro, who is created a Baron. The new noble is a Shinto priest of the Yamada Shrine in Ise. We are not aware that any special reason existed

for the honour conferred on him. Holders of the office of *Shinkan* are supposed to be descended from the ancestor of the Japanese line of sovereigns, and at the time of the rehabilitation of the nobility the heads of several families in which this office is hereditary received patents. The Sawata family was omitted at that time owing to considerations with which we are not acquainted, and the omission has now been remedied.

CHOLERA RETURNS.

The latest cholera returns derived from official sources are as follow:—

Prefecture or City.	Date.	New Cases.	Deaths.
Osaka	21st	54	39
	22nd	59	40
	23rd	102	15
	24th	103	41
	25th	110	53
	26th	115	41
Nagasaki	21st	30	21
	22nd	31	13
	23rd	32	13
	24th	68	40
	25th	10	19
	26th	32	30
Yamaguchi	21st	23	15
	22nd	23	13
	23rd	23	13
	24th	45	37
	25th	41	35
	26th	27	30
Fukuoka	21st	40	27
	22nd	43	31
	23rd	51	29
	24th	40	27
	25th	37	25
	26th	47	27
Kumamoto	21st	20	11
	22nd	26	25
	23rd	9	7
	24th	19	23
	25th	14	10
	26th	12	9
Kagoshima	21st	1	—
	22nd	4	—
	23rd	3	—
	24th	7	7
	25th	5	8
	26th	15	6
Saga	21st	15	7
	22nd	19	7
	23rd	13	7
	24th	10	7
	25th	10	7
	26th	10	7
Oita	21st	4	4
	22nd	7	3
	23rd	17	4
	24th	9	11
	25th	3	11
	26th	3	11

The numbers of cases and deaths since the commencement of the epidemic, inclusive of the above figures, appear in the following table:—

Prefecture or City.	Cases.	Deaths.
Osaka	937	415
Nagasaki	2,595	1,620
Yamaguchi	930	547
Fukuoka	220	117
Kumamoto	1,618	1,003
	589	341

The total number of cases and deaths in the following Cities and Prefectures since the commencement of the epidemic to the 27th instant, not included in the above, are:—

City or Prefecture.	Cases.	Deaths.
Tokyo	495	228
Kanagawa	575	390
Hyogo	219	99
Chiba	178	105

THE BANK OF JAPAN.

The amounts of convertible notes and reserves in the Bank of Japan for the week ended the 23rd inst. were as follows:—

Convertible Notes.	Reserves and Securities.
YEN.	YEN.
Notes issued	Gold coin and bullion
71,476,322	24,215,247
	Silver coin and bullion
	21,438,289
	Public Loan Bonds
	13,476,450
	Treasury Bills
	—
	Government Bills
	—
	Other securities
	4,732,183
	Commercial Bills
	5,534,054
71,476,322	71,476,322

Of the above total issue of notes, the sum of *yen* 2,799,462 is in the treasury of the Bank, and *yen* 68,676,760 in actual circulation, the latter showing an increase of *yen* 480,525 as compared with *yen* 68,196,235 at the end of the previous week.

MARRIAGE IN TOKYO.

The marriage of M. Jean Noël Emil Federici and Mademoiselle Louise Henriette Boissonade de Fontarabie, daughter of the eminent French jurist by whose labours Japan has so largely profited in the compilation of her new codes of

law, was celebrated at the Roman Catholic Cathedral in Tsukiji on the 26th instant. The Cathedral was filled with high Japanese officials, members of the Foreign Corps Diplomatique, and foreign residents of Tokyo and Yokohama. After the nuptial benediction had been pronounced by the Rev. Pere Everard, who was supported by Monseigneur Bishop Osofi, a sumptuous *déjeuner* was served in the banquet hall of the Rokumei-Kan. The bride and bridegroom leave Japan for Europe on Sunday next.

THE RECENT DROWNING IN THE HARBOUR.

The body of Mr. J. C. Baynes, who was drowned on the night of the 20th inst., while going off to a steamer to which he had been appointed, was found on Saturday morning near the Kanagawa shore, and brought to the Hatoba. A Coroner's jury was summoned, and an inquest held at H.B.M. Consulate before the Consul as Coroner. After hearing the evidence of the *sendos* and some other witnesses, the enquiry was adjourned.

The adjourned inquest on the body of Mr. Baynes was resumed Monday. George Hodges gave evidence as to the condition of the body when found, and the jury returned a verdict of "Accidental death by drowning." The Coroner concurred.

FLOODS AT MITO.

IBARAKI *ken* seems to be the unfortunate locality this year, so far as floods are concerned. Last Saturday there was another heavy rainfall, so that the Naka-gawa rose again on Sunday. It subsided, however, during the day, without doing much serious damage. The Tone-gawa, which flows through the western part of this province, is reported to have risen very high, and in some localities to have broken down the dykes. On Sunday officials of the *ken* went to investigate; but no details have as yet come to hand. The amount of rainfall this summer in this province has been extraordinary.

KARUIZAWA.

The British Representative and Mrs. Fraser are still staying at Karuizawa, and their return is not expected for some weeks hence. The mountain air has happily proved most beneficial to Mrs. Fraser, and after her protracted and painful prostration in Tokyo she is now enjoying good health and is even able to take long walks. Karuizawa has been much favoured in respect of rain this season, the weather there having proved considerably drier than in Tokyo.

WRECK.

THE schooner *Halcyon*, Captain Metcalfe, was wrecked on the night of the 22nd inst. on the coast of Chiba *Ken*, during a gale described as of typhoon force. The vessel went up on a sandy beach and lies there with one man and the mate in charge, the captain and the remainder of the crew having arrived in Yokohama. There was no loss of life, and as the vessel lies now there is no immediate danger of her breaking up.

DEATH OF THE MR. GEORGE WAUCHOPE.

WE regret to record the death of another old resident, Mr. George Wauchope, a familiar figure in this Settlement for many years past. The deceased gentleman had been ailing slightly for some time, but we believe that it was only quite recently that his health had undergone a serious change.

THE SECRETARY OF THE FRENCH LEGATION.

M. GACHER, First Secretary of the French Legation, has been transferred to Peking, where he will proceed very shortly. M. Gacher will find himself in the position of *Chargé d'Affaires* in the Chinese Capital, as the present Minister there goes home on leave.

CHOLERA AT VLADIVOSTOCK.

The *Official Gazette* of the 23rd inst. contains a telegraphic report from the Diplomatic Agent at Vladivostock to the effect that cholera of a virulent type had broken out at that port.

THE STORM OF THE TWENTY-SECOND.

THE storm of the 22nd came from the Pacific, says the *Official Gazette* on the authority of the returns of the Meteorological Bureau, and passing by Yenshu Bay, struck Sunshu, Shinshu and Koshu, blew across Yechigo and Ugo, and thence entering the Sea of Japan, turned northward, touched the western shore of Hokkaido and then took its departure from Japan. The southern parts of the country thus lay beyond the track of the storm: there the weather was fine and no atmospheric disturbance of any kind was reported. On the 24th, however, when the regions lying in the path of the gale were basking in the strong sunshine that always succeeds these phenomena, the southern districts appear to have been visited by cloudy weather. Assuming, as is not unreasonable, that the storm of the 22nd represents the most severe atmospheric disturbance by which Japan will be afflicted this season, we have to note, while granting its violence, that it came at a comparatively favourable time. Last year the great storm which wrought such terrible havoc occurred just twenty days later—on the 11th of September instead of the 22nd of August. Twenty days at this season make a very marked difference in the condition of the rice, and of course the effects of a storm depend largely on the state of the crops when it strikes them. If the rice is almost ready for reaping, it does not suffer much by being deluged or beaten down, provided that some sunshine ensues to dry and save it. If, again, the ear is only just forming, scarcely anything short of an inundation works serious damage. But if the rice is struck by fierce wind and heavy rain when sufficiently heavy in the head to be easily beaten down, yet not sufficiently ripe to be gathered, decay and destruction are inevitable. There considerations have led Japanese agriculturists to fix upon a certain day at the close of summer as the most important in the whole year from the rice-grower's point of view. It is called *nihyaku-toka*, or the two hundred and tenth day—that is to say, the 210th day from the *setsun*, or first day of spring. The *setsun* falls on the 3rd of February, consequently the 1st of September is the *nihyaku-toka*. Of course the state of the weather for one day alone is not vital—unless that day should happen to bring a storm of exceptional violence. But in addition to the fact that the rice crops are just in their most critical condition on or about the *nihyaku-toka*, long experience has taught the Japanese farmer that if only the sky is kind to him on the 1st of September, he may safely count on its benignity for the rest of the season. Last year, the *nihyaku-toka* passed without a storm, indeed, but not without rain in many parts of the

country, and not without evidences of considerable atmospheric disturbance. It was felt that evil days were in store for the agriculturist, and that the terrible floods in Yamato, news of which reached the capital at the end of August, presaged more widespread disaster. Events confirmed this forecast. Last year was, in fact, one of the most calamitous in Japan's modern experience, and there is some reason to fear that its influence has added to the mischievous capabilities of the elements this season. The rice crop in Japan is divided into three classes according to the time of harvesting; namely, the early crop (*wase*), which is harvested during July and August; the middle crop (*nakate*), which is harvested during August and September; and the late crop (*okute*), which is harvested in September and October. It will be understood, of course, that these statements of period are approximate. The time of harvest varies in different localities; the bulk of the *wase* is gathered in before the end of August, yet some of it remains standing in certain districts until the middle of September, and though the greater part of the *okute* is harvested by the end of October, patches of it may be seen unreaped as late as the beginning of December. Under ordinary circumstances the *okute* constitutes the great bulk of the rice crop: the *wase* and *nakate* are cultivated in comparatively small quantities. But owing to the destruction wrought by the inclemency of last season's weather, the price of the cereal rose, from the commencement of this year, to such an extraordinary figure that farmers became anxious to bring new rice into the market as speedily as possible. Accordingly, wherever the nature of the soil permitted, people set themselves to grow *wase*. It is estimated that, whereas in normal times the quantity of *wase* cultivated is only twenty per cent. of the whole crop, this year it has been planted to the extent of thirty per cent. Now the *wase* undoubtedly suffered by the storm of the 22nd. The extent of the damage is not known, but damage there certainly has been. On the other hand, the *nakate* and *okute*, constituting fully seventy per cent. of the whole crop, are practically uninjured. In a word, the conditions of last year are reversed, for whereas the *wase* then escaped, the *nakate* and *okute* were terribly injured by the gales of mid-September. It may indeed happen that the typhoon of the 22nd instant is only the precursor of similar disasters at a more critical time. But such is not the opinion of weather-wise folks. The market has not been affected, and if we may reasonably share the general hope that the worst is past and that a spell of fine weather is now commencing, harvest prospects are still decidedly favourable.

TONKIN AND KIUSHIU.

JAPANESE attention is again being directed keenly to the possibility of strong competition on the part of the Tonkin coal mines. The mines are chiefly in the possession of the Hon. C. P. CHATER, of Hongkong, whose well known business energy leaves no doubt that every possible means will be taken to develop them. Considering the time that has elapsed since Tonkin began to be talked of as an immediate source of coal supply, the public probably feels some surprise that this confident promise remains so long unfulfilled. Still, there is very little reason to doubt that good coal exists in large quantities in the French colony, and that, sooner or later, it will be put upon the market in quantities sufficiently large and at rates sufficiently low to interfere sensibly with Japan. With this prospect in view the question for Japanese exporters to consider is whether they cannot strengthen their position for competitive purposes. The *Tokyo Shimpō* devotes an article to the subject. It says that the total annual output of the Japanese mines at present is two and a half million tons, of which one half is consumed at home and the rest is exported or sold for ships' use. Hongkong and Shanghai are the principal markets. Each takes about the same quantity, namely three hundred and fifty thousand tons, the remaining five or six hundred thousand tons being sold at other ports or supplied to steamers at Nagasaki. It is at Hongkong of course that competition from Tonkin must be chiefly dreaded, the former being much more accessible from the latter than from Japan. The export of the Japanese mineral to Hongkong has steadily but slowly increased during the past few years. In 1883, the total import of coal into Hongkong from all quarters was 260,000 tons; in 1884, 310,000 tons; in 1885, 360,000 tons; in 1886, 380,000 tons; in 1887, 370,000 tons; in 1888, 350,000 tons; and in 1889, 425,000 tons. Of this last figure, Japan's share was 325,000 tons, so that other places took part in the trade to the extent of only a hundred thousand tons. Satisfactory as this record seems, the *Tokyo Shimpō* mentions a feature which shows that, in the matter of coal as well as in that of other staples, Japanese merchants allow themselves to be carried away by the penny-wise-pound-foolish policy so often noted to their discredit. Chikuzen exporters, our contemporary says, mixed bad coal with good, and sent no less than 130,000 tons of the mixture to Hongkong and 80,000 to Shanghai. This coal has proved unsaleable and will have to be disposed of eventually at a price which will barely cover freight, storage, and other export charges. Of course the effect of such reckless methods of trade is not confined to the doubtful coal only. The general reputation of the Japanese staple is in-

jured and the prices fall all round. The *Tokyo Shimpō* says that coal coming to Hongkong is classed in the following order of merit:—first, English coal; second, Japanese coal from Takashima; third, Japanese coal from Goshu; fourth, Japanese coal from Miike and Chikuzen; and fifth, Japanese coal from Hayama. The tampering with Chikuzen coal is said to be done chiefly by unprincipled merchants at Kobe, and it is recommended that Kobe should no longer be used as a place of export, since the special ports opened last year in Kiusiu are quite sufficient to serve the purposes of the trade. But although the evil practices of the Kobe traders deserve punishment, we do not see any guarantee that commercial morality is higher at Bakan and Moji. Another point noted by the *Tokyo journal* is the manner of mining the mineral. English coal, says our contemporary, is cut out in blocks of from one foot to three feet square, but Japanese coal is nearly always small. It has been calculated at the Shanghai Gas Works that a ton of large-lump coal produces 10,100 cubic feet of gas, whereas a ton of small-lump Japanese coal gives only 9,500 feet. The *Tokyo Shimpō* seems to think that by improving the mining methods in Japan, a saving of twenty per cent. might be effected in the cost of production, and putting the latter at 5 *yen* per ton, it easily arrives at the conclusion that the profits on the trade might be increased by two and a half million *yen* annually. But we need scarcely observe that five *yen* per ton is an excessive estimate for cost of production. Moreover, considering the hands by which coal-mining enterprise is chiefly controlled at present in Japan, we cannot be sanguine enough to think that any very great improvement of method is likely to be possible. The mines of the Mitsu Bishi Company are managed by thoroughly competent engineers who, serving intelligent and liberal owners, may be confidently trusted to enlist all the resources of modern science and discovery in the cause of their business. The general character of the Mitsui Bussan Company justifies us in thinking that the Miike mine, which came into their possession two years ago, is also worked with thorough efficiency. If competition from Tonkin can be met and conquered, the directors of these great companies are just the men to undertake the task successfully. We do not ourselves regard the Tonkin nightmare with much apprehension. It may indeed cut into Japan's export trade, but her home consumption of coal is still capable of immense development. By and by when she begins to smelt iron on a large scale, feed her porcelain furnaces with coal, develop her manufacturing industries, and warm herself at wholesome fire-places instead of stifling braziers, one or two million tons of coal will be a mere flea-bite in her annual demand.

PRINCE BISMARCK OUT OF POWER.

ATTENTION has been drawn by some of the home papers to the unphilosophical character of the course adopted by Prince BISMARCK since he retired from the Chancellorship. It is perhaps difficult for an English statesman to understand how a man of BISMARCK's calibre can bring himself to adopt such undignified methods of showing resentment at the treatment to which he has been subjected as those to which the ex-chancellor has had recourse within the past few months. For a man whose consummate wisdom in State affairs has been universally acknowledged, whose career has elicited nothing but wonder and admiration from the impartial, to commence defending himself after the manner of a politician who has a reputation to make is an offence to one's sense of propriety. The explanations which Prince BISMARCK has given to the public have tended to lower him in public esteem. There are some great men who only show to advantage when allowed the free exercise of their wills, whose capability lies rather in action than in endurance, whose Herculean powers are as closely associated with supreme command as SAMSON'S prodigious strength was with his locks, and hence who no sooner lose office than they descend to the ranks of ordinary men.

Regard it from what point of view we will, however, the sight of BISMARCK vexing himself in comparative idleness is a sad one. His rule was despotic. He would abide no rival. But this we are told by those who know Germany well, is what that country needs in its present condition. Anything like popular representation in the supreme legislature would be fatal to the unity of the empire. The future will reveal what BISMARCK'S retirement will cost the nation, if indeed he has permanently retired. His present mood only shows the human fretfulness and chafing of a spirit unaccustomed to bow to another's will. It is doubtless unphilosophical; an element of smallness in a great man. But it is a phase of human nature nevertheless, and hence interesting as a study. One condition of the greatness of such men as BISMARCK is that it cannot be rounded, cannot be moderated to suit all states and conditions. It is associated with extraordinary talent for a particular kind of work—work that can only be done at a special time and under a peculiar set of circumstances. BISMARCK the great must always BISMARCK the Chancellor, guiding the helm of State, revolving in his capacious mind a thousand complicated causes and effects, weighing with the accuracy of scales the political probabilities of Europe. Of BISMARCK out of power we care not to think. The men whose equanimity remains unaffected by activity or inactivity are not BISMARCKS. Elements of greatness they may have, but they are of a different order. One star differeth from

another in glory. And so it comes to this, that to complain of the fretting incidental to inactivity which characterises the man whose pre-eminence has been established by an extraordinary free exercise of power, is to show a want of insight into one of the fundamental principles of human nature—is to fail to recognise that every sort of greatness is dependent on some kind of congenial element in which to move, and that when separated from that element even the greatest minds sink into mediocrity, if not into insignificance. That the man who has made his name by activity should cut a poor figure in retirement ought to be no cause for surprise.

In England the ousted statesman can live a busy life as a leader of the Opposition, and may gain even a greater reputation in this capacity than as the head of the Government. But in Germany the form of Government has hitherto rendered such a course impossible. It is reported, however, that BISMARCK contemplates offering himself as a candidate for election to the Reichstag, where he contemplates heading the Opposition. The art of opposing without obstructing a government party is not one that can be acquired in a day. BISMARCK is a prodigy, no doubt, but as we have endeavoured to point out, there are limits to the feats which even prodigies can accomplish, and hence it will not surprise us to hear that Prince BISMARCK'S wand refuses to work when waved in the cause of the Opposition. It will surprise us more, however, to learn that he has joined the Opposition, for BISMARCK in any capacity except that of the pillar of imperialism is inconceivable.

THE POPULATION OF JAPAN.

Occasionally we find in the vernacular press uneasy notices of the rapid increase of population in Japan, and suggestions that the food-supply resources of the country may soon prove inadequate to meet the growing demands upon them. Similar apprehensions used to disturb the minds of people in the West also, years ago, and at rare intervals lovers of sensation recur to them even in these later days. But after all, why should we distress ourselves about such problems? MALTHUS was a terrible manipulator of geometrical progressions. In his hands the arithmetical laws which seem to govern the growth of mouths to be fed became a gospel of very evil tidings, and, if figures could be trusted at all, he demonstrated, beyond the possibility of doubt, that the human race must either curb its procreative instincts or find itself, ere long, confronted by the necessity of choosing between cannibalism and starvation. Yet when MALTHUS indulged in these curious predictions he forgot that they found their complete refutation in the

history of the past. For, being based on the immutable laws of arithmetic, they must have been just as true five, or even fifty, thousand years ago as they are to-day. Yet they remain unfulfilled. In other words, an interval of time longer than the orthodox estimate of the human race's existence from the creation until this present year of grace, has failed to bring them any nearer to fulfilment, and a similar lapse of time in the future may be trusted not to work out their accomplishment. Here at our own doors we have an example of the danger of trusting to such estimates, for, if Western statisticians could be credited, China ought long ago to have been completely over-run by starving millions, whereas no calamity of the kind has yet come in sight for her. Human beings are but insects. The same causes that promote their increase, operate to supply them with means of sustenance. So long as the race grows more numerous, so long, we may be quite sure, will its ability to support itself develop in proportion. But indeed in Japan's case these general theories need scarcely be applied: a special consideration suggests itself in her case. The *Hochi Shimbun* may believe, as it writes, that whereas her population in 1834 only numbered 27,063,907, it had multiplied to 39,607,334 in 1888, but we cannot place implicit reliance in these figures. Examine the series of assertions advanced by our contemporary. First, it says that a thousand years ago Japan was peopled by only four million souls. Secondly, that in 1834, these had grown to twenty-seven millions. Thirdly, that in 1872 they numbered thirty-three millions. Fourthly, that in 1888 they had increased to thirty-nine and a half millions. And fifthly, that during the twenty-three years of the *Meiji* era—1867 to 1890—the total increment of population has been ten millions. There is no relation whatsoever between these figures. Is it credible that a population which only grew from four to thirty millions in a thousand years, should suddenly leap from thirty to forty millions in the next twenty-three; or that an increase of three millions during the period from 1834 to 1867—an interval of 33 years—should be followed by an increase of ten millions during the ensuing 23 years? We altogether distrust such figures. The art of statistics is an affair of modern origin in Japan. Statements of population for dates earlier than 1875 may be dismissed as in great part conjectural. If we grant that there has been a leap from 30 to 40 millions in the *Meiji* era, then it follows that the population will be 53 millions in 1913, 71 millions in 1936, and 94 millions in 1959. There are no visible evidences of such a rapid development. Occidental statistics show that, in order to keep the population stationary, every married couple must have four children; two to replace their parents and two to supply

casualties. Do Japanese families average four children? We should scarcely have thought so. Large families cannot be the rule in a country where the upper classes agree to regard it as more or less a reproach that a woman should bear many children. The law of increase indicated by a development from four millions to forty in ten centuries, seems much more consistent with what we see about us than the law indicated by a growth of ten millions in twenty-three years. There is therefore no pressing cause for anxiety about the possible dimensions of the population half a century hence. Mr. TSUDA's recommendations in the *Hochi Shimbun* as to the expediency of cultivating sweet potatoes and ordinary potatoes in greater quantities, doubtless deserve attention, though not on account of any Malthusian speculations. Every measure that helps to render the Japanese less thoroughly dependent on rice as their staple of diet, is to be advocated. Sometimes we reflect with a shudder on the not impossible contingency of a complete failure of the rice crop. It is true that no such calamity has hitherto occurred. The famine of 1836 was bad enough, however, and who shall say that it might not be repeated any year? *Satsuma-imo* (sweet potatoes) were cultivated sufficiently largely in 1836 Mr. TSUDA says, to afford material relief. He advises people to follow the example of that time, and also to grow Indian corn, which, whether eaten whole or ground into meal, is an excellent article of diet. Sound counsels these, but we could wish that they had been offered without the accompanying chimera of mouths growing more numerous than the means of filling them.

TRAM ROADS.

LAW No. 71.

We hereby give Our sanction to the present regulations relating to tram roads and order the same to be duly promulgated.

[His Imperial Majesty's Sign Manual.]

[Great Seal.]

(Countersigned)

Count YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.

Count SAIGO TSUKUMICHI,
Minister of State for Home Affairs.

Dated August 23rd, 1890.

Article 1.—The roads of tramways, or any other similar lines of rails laid down for public use, may be paved after obtaining the special permission of the Minister of State for Home Affairs.

Article 2.—Should the necessity arise for the extension, deviation, or other change in an already existing tram or similar road, or for the cutting or formation of a new road, the road may be paved on obtaining permission as in Article 1, and the land may be acquired through the permission of the Cabinet in accordance with the provisions of the law regulating the Appropriation and use of Land.

Article 3.—In parts of a road where change or extension has been made, both the land on which the rails are laid and the portion paved shall be included in the term "road."

HORSFORD'S ACID PHOSPHATE RECOMMENDED
BY PHYSICIANS

Of all schools, for the brain, nerves, and stomach.

DEBENTURES OF PUBLIC COMPANIES.

LAW No. 60.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Regulations relating to debentures, which shall be issued in accordance with Article 206 of the Commercial Code, and order the same to be duly promulgated.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign Manual.)

(Great Seal.)

Dated August 8th, 1890.

(Countersigned)

Count YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.

Count MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of State for Finance.

Article 1.—The issue of debentures by public companies, in accordance with the 206th Article of the Commercial Code, shall be permitted only when at least half of the capital of the company shall have been paid up.

Article 2.—The amount for which debentures are issued shall not exceed the sum total of the paid up shares.

Article 3.—Companies intending to issue debentures shall first obtain permission of that Department which shall have the chief responsibility, and such permission only be obtained through the local authorities.

Article 4.—Each debenture, in addition to a statement of its value, the ratio and period of the payment of interest, date of issue, number, company's name, seal of company, names and seals of directors, and names of creditors, shall contain the following information:—

- (1.) The address of the company's office.
- (2.) The number of shares and the amount paid thereon.
- (3.) The first and last terms of the indemnification of debentures.
- (4.) Date of the formation of the company.
- (5.) Period of the company's existence, should it be one the period of whose existence is a fixed term.
- (6.) That permission to issue debentures has been obtained.

Article 5.—An Original debenture book shall be prepared by a company when it issues debentures, and the following matters shall be set forth in it for the purpose of distinctly locating each debenture.

- (1.) The name and residence of each creditor.
- (2.) The amount and number of *Crédence*.
- (3.) The rate of interest.
- (4.) The date when the debenture is issued and date of its transfer.
- (5.) The first and last terms of the indemnification of debenture.

Article 6.—No transfer of debentures shall be valid as against the company unless the name of the assignee be described in the debenture in the original debenture book.

Article 7.—No company is permitted to raise objection, should any person demand an inspection of the original debenture book within proper office hours. A fee not exceeding *sen* 20 may be charged for such inspection in each case.

Article 8.—Directors shall be punished by a fine not less than *yen* 5 and not exceeding *yen* 50 in the following cases:

- (1.) When matters which are ordered to be mentioned on debentures are not so mentioned, or when some unlawful matter is set forth therein.
- (2.) When the original debenture book is not properly prepared or when some unlawful matter is set forth therein.

THE TEMPORARY BOARD FOR THE AFFAIRS OF IMPERIAL DIET.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE, No. 180.

We hereby give our sanction to the present regulation relating to abolition of the Temporary Board for the Affairs of Imperial Diet and order the same to be promulgated.

[His Imperial Majesty's Sign Manual.]

[Great Seal.]

Dated August 23rd, 1890.

(Countersigned)

Count YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.

We hereby abolish the Temporary Board for the affairs of the Imperial Diet.

LEGAL COSTS.

LAW No. 64.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Law relating to Legal Costs and order the same to be duly promulgated. We also order that this Law shall come into force on and after the 1st day of the 1st month of the 24th year of Meiji.

[His Imperial Majesty's Sign Manual.]

[Great Seal.]

Dated August 15th, 1890.

(Countersigned)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.

COUNT YAMADA AKIYOSHI,
Minister of State for Justice.

Article 1.—Legal costs which are regulated in the Code of Civil Procedure shall be assessed in accordance with the rules mentioned in the following articles:—

Article 2.—The cost for drawing up a statement of claim or other document shall be *sen* 25 per half-sheet the lines in which number 12, each line containing 20 words. An incomplete half-sheet shall however, be reckoned as a full half-sheet. Maps shall be reckoned at *sen* 10 per sheet. Should measurements be required specifically, the charge shall be assessed by the Court.

Article 3.—The cost of translations shall be *sen* 50 per half-sheet of 12 lines, each line containing 20 words. An incomplete half-sheet shall, however, be reckoned as a full half-sheet.

Article 4.—Stamps affixed to documents in accordance with the Stamp Law for Civil Suits shall be charged according to their actual cost.

Article 5.—Fees paid by process servers shall be in accordance with the regulations for the Fees of Process-servers.

Article 6.—The cost of advertising in the *Official Gazette* or public newspapers shall be estimated in accordance with the actual charges.

Article 8.—In cases where the services of advocates are requested by the Court, in accordance with the regulations of Article 127 of the Code of Civil Procedure, the fees shall be assessed by the Court.

Article 9.—The allowance to parties shall be *sen* 50 for each person in attendance before the Court. This allowance shall, however, be *sen* 25 each when incurred for sojourning at the place of trial.

Article 10.—The allowance to witnesses shall be *sen* 50 for each person in attendance before the Court. This allowance shall, however, not be made when witnesses are allowed expenses for remaining at the place of trial.

Article 11.—The allowances to experts, as well as interpreters, shall be assessed by the Court at not less than *sen* 50 and not more than *yen* 5 for each attendance. Extraordinary expenses incurred in order to obtain expert evidence shall correspond to the actual charges.

Article 12.—The costs for parties for sojourning at the place of trial shall be *sen* 25 per day, should they come from a place above 8 *ri* distant. The costs for sojourning at the place of trial for witnesses, experts, or interpreters shall be *sen* 50 per day.

Article 13.—The allowance for the travelling expenses of parties, witnesses, experts, and interpreters shall be *sen* 10 per *ri* either by land or sea. Should there be two or more roads, travelling expenses shall be allowed for the nearest route. The travelling expenses of parties in foreign countries shall be assessed by the Court.

Article 14.—The travelling expenses and costs for sojourning of Judges and Court clerks while engaged in conducting investigations and the like, shall be the same as those of witnesses.

Article 15.—Other necessary expenses unenumerated in this Ordinance shall be assessed at the actual charges.

Article 16.—Expenses incurred in executions and in friendly suits shall be assessed in accordance with the foregoing regulations except those which are affected by the Rules relating to the fees of Process-servers. Should receivers be appointed in cases of executions or in friendly suits, the costs shall be assessed by the Court.

LEGAL STAMPS.

LAW No. 65.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Law relating to Legal Stamps in Civil Procedure and order the same to be promulgated. We also order that this Law shall come into force on and after the 1st day of the 1st month of the 24th year of Meiji.

[His Imperial Majesty's Sign Manual.]

[Great Seal.]

Dated August 15th, 1890.

(Countersigned)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.

COUNT YAMADA AKIYOSHI,
Minister of State for Justice.

COUNT MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of State for Finance.

Article 1.—Stamps shall be attached to every original document relating to civil suits in accordance with the regulations laid down in the following Articles. Should oral statements be made by clerks of the Court, and the same reduced to writing, such documents shall have stamps attached.

Article 2.—Stamps shall be attached in accordance with the following distinctions; statement of claim in the first instance, claims of proprietary rights, and value of estates *pendente lite*:—

Value of estates <i>pendente lite</i> .		YEN.	SEN.
Not exceeding	5	.....	20
Not exceeding	10	.....	30
Not exceeding	20	.....	60
Not exceeding	50	.....	1.50
Not exceeding	75	.....	2.20
Not exceeding	100	.....	3.00
Not exceeding	250	.....	6.50
Not exceeding	500	.....	10.00
Not exceeding	750	.....	13.00
Not exceeding	1,000	.....	15.00
Not exceeding	2,500	.....	20.00
Not exceeding	5,000	.....	25.00

For sums above *yen* 5,000, stamps of the value of *yen* 2 shall be added for each sum of *yen* 1,000 or fraction thereof. The Regulations mentioned in Articles 3-6 of the Code of Civil Procedure shall be observed in estimating and settling the value of estates *pendente lite*.

Article 3.—In suits which do not relate to claims for proprietary rights, stamps shall be attached in accordance with the scale, and deeming the amount of the claim to be *yen* 100.

Should suits which do not originally relate to claims for proprietary rights involve a question and claim in regard to proprietary rights, and which are the outcome of the original suit, stamps shall be attached in accordance with the value of the claim which is greatest in amount.

Article 4.—Should a claim be followed by a counterclaim and both relate to the same thing *pendente lite*, stamps shall not be attached to the statement of the counterclaim.

Article 5.—Stamps, one-half additional in value, shall be attached to a motion for a new trial in accordance with Article 2; and stamps of the full additional value on a notice of appeal.

Article 6.—Stamps of the value of *sen* 50 shall be attached to the following documents:—

- (1.) Complaints.
- (2.) Motions.
- (3.) Petitions for the examination of evidence.
- (4.) Petitions for temporary seizure as well as for interlocutory depositions.
- (5.) Petitions for the execution of decrees.
- (6.) Petition for copies of original decrees.

Should, however, several copies of the original be asked for, the stamp to be attached shall be of the value of *sen* 50 and on one copy only.

Article 7.—Should a suit be concluded in a local Court, in accordance with the regulation contained in paragraph 3, Article 381, and Article 390 of the Code of Civil Procedure, by mutual agreement, compromise, or other settlement, and proceedings be thereby stayed, the stamp shall be attached in accordance with Articles 2 and 3.

Article 8.—Stamps shall be attached in cases where a claim goes to second trial in accordance with the rank of the Court in which the action is commenced.

Article 9.—Stamps shall be attached to petitions for the recovery of original documents in accordance with the rank of Court in which the documents are filed.

Article 10.—Stamps of the value of *sen* 20 shall be attached to every statement of claim, and to all petitions not mentioned in the preceding Articles.

Article 11.—Documents relating to civil suits which have no stamps attached in accordance with this Law shall have no effect, except in the case of No. 1, Article 97 of the Code of Civil Procedure.

The Courts may, however, amend documents unstamped or insufficiently stamped by ordering the necessary stamps to be attached.

Article 12.—The method of affixing stamps shall be in accordance with notification No. 4, the 17th year of Meiji.

Article 13.—Stamps shall be sold at places sanctioned by the Authorities, and it shall not be permitted to sell stamps at other places than those so sanctioned.

Article 14.—Persons found selling stamps at places other than those sanctioned by the Authorities shall be punished by a fine of not less than *yen* 20 and not exceeding *yen* 200, and the stamps found in the possession of such persons shall be forfeited. Persons found purchasing stamps at places other than those sanctioned by the Authorities shall be punished by a fine of not less than *yen* 10 and not exceeding *yen* 100, and forfeiture of the stamps so purchased shall follow.

Article 15.—The mitigation of punishment, or aggravation of punishment for a second offence or for concurrent offences provided for in the Penal Code, shall not have effect in the cases of those who infringe the regulations of the preceding Articles.

Article 16.—Article 6 and Articles 10-12 shall apply in friendly suits.

STAMPS IN FRIENDLY SUITS IN COMMERCIAL CASES.

LAW No. 66.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Regulations relating to Stamps in Friendly Suits in Commercial Cases and order the same to be duly promulgated. We also order that this Law shall come into force on and after the 1st day of the 1st month of the 24th year of Meiji.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign Manual.)

[Great Seal.]

Dated August 15th, 1890.

(Countersigned)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.

COUNT YAMADA AKIYOSHI,
Minister of State for Justice.

COUNT MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of State for Finance.

Article 1.—Persons who desire to obtain an order or decree of a Court of Law in regard to a friendly suit, except in suits relating to registry in the Commercial Code, shall attach stamps to the documents to be filed according to the following Articles. In cases, however, where application is made orally, stamps shall be attached to a note in writing. In the cases referred to in Articles 5, 6, and 7, stamps shall be attached to statements of accounts, which shall be produced.

Article 2.—Stamps of the value of *sen* 50 shall be attached to the following documents:—

- (1.) Petition for temporary seizure.
- (2.) Petition for execution of decree in bankruptcy, when produced by creditor.
- (3.) Petition for postponement of payment.

Article 3.—Stamps of the value of *sen* 20 shall be attached to the following documents:—

- (1.) Statement of opposition to motion.
- (2.) Petition for order or decree of a Court of Law in friendly suits not specially mentioned in this Law.

Article 4.—Stamps shall be attached, according to the following scale, with reference to sums of money on the credit side in a whole group of bankrupt estates; expenses for the superintendence of a whole group of estates, expenses pertaining to proceedings in bankruptcy, debts produced for the whole group, as well as sums used for exceptional payments, shall be taken from the sum of money on the credit side.

When the value of a whole group of estates is:—

Yen 5	.....	Sen 40
Yen 10	.....	Sen 60
Yen 20	.....	Yen 1.20
Yen 50	.....	Yen 3.00
Yen 75	.....	Yen 4.40
Yen 100	.....	Yen 6.00
Yen 250	.....	Yen 13.00
Yen 500	.....	Yen 20.00
Yen 750	.....	Yen 26.00
Yen 1,000	.....	Yen 30.00
Yen 2,500	.....	Yen 40.00
Yen 5,000	.....	Yen 50.00

In a group of estates valued above *yen* 5,000, *yen* 4 shall be added for each *yen* 1,000 or fraction thereof.

Article 5.—In bankruptcy proceedings the value of the stamps shall be reduced in accordance with the amount of assets to be distributed; whenever the proceeds from a whole group of bankrupt estates are distributed, the stamps used shall be in ac-

cordance with the amount of money which shall be distributed at the final account.

Article 6.—Should proceedings in bankruptcy be stayed by composition with creditors, stamps of half of the value of those mentioned in Article 4 shall be used.

Article 7.—In cases where proceedings in bankruptcy are revived, stamps equal in value to those in the first proceedings shall be used.

Article 8.—The Regulations mentioned in section 5, chapter 2, part 1, of the Code of Civil Procedure shall here apply as to the obligation of parties in regard to affixing stamps of the proper value.

The Law of Stamps in Civil Cases shall here apply so far as it does not conflict with this law.

CIVIL CASES AND MILITARY COURTS.

LAW No. 67.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Law relating to the Execution of Judgments in Civil cases delivered by Military or Naval Courts, and order the same to be duly promulgated. We also order that this law shall come into force on and after the 1st day of the 1st month of the 24th year of Meiji.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign-Manual.)
(Great Seal.)

Dated August 15th, 1890.
(Countersigned)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.
COUNT YAMADA AKIYOSHI,
Minister of State for Justice.
COUNT OYAMA IWAO,
Minister of State for War.
VISCOUNT KABAYAMA SUKENORI,
Minister of State for the Navy.

Article 1.—Ordinary Courts of law shall put in force the judgments in civil cases delivered by Military or Naval Courts, in accordance with the direction of the latter courts, except in cases where the enforcement of a judgment shall take place in a military camp, on board a man-of-war, or in barracks or the like.

Article 2.—Military and Naval Courts may issue orders additional to or subversive of their judgments, after the consideration of a petition by a plaintiff or a defendant.

Article 3.—The execution of judgments in civil cases by Military or Naval Courts shall be performed in accordance with the original judgment.

Military or Naval Courts shall deliver the original judgment mentioned in the last paragraph to a plaintiff at his request.

Article 4.—Military or Naval Courts shall issue orders for temporary execution, seizure, or disposition, in cases where the court deems it necessary to do so. Should temporary execution be ordered, the fact shall be stated in the original judgment.

In the cases referred to in this Article, a guarantee or a deposit must be forthcoming if demanded.

Article 5.—The Regulations of the Code of Civil Procedure shall be observed in cases where execution is put in force by ordinary courts, in accordance with Article 1.

REGULATIONS FOR SAVINGS BANKS.

LAW No. 73.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Regulations for Savings Banks, and order the same to be promulgated. We also order that this law shall come into force on and after the 1st day of the 1st month of the 24th year of Meiji.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign-Manual.)
(Great Seal.)

Dated August 23rd, 1890.
(Countersigned)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
President Minister of State.
COUNT MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of State for Finance.

Article 1.—Any person who engages in the business of receiving savings from the public and of paying compound interest thereon, shall be regarded as conducting a savings bank.

Banks shall be deemed to be conducting the operations of a savings bank and shall observe these regulations where they accept a deposit of a

sum of money under yen 5 in any one case either as a fixed deposit or as a deposit at call.

Article 2.—None other than persons or companies possessed of a capital of yen 30,000 shall be permitted to open the business of a savings bank.

Article 3.—The directors of savings banks shall have joint and unlimited liability in regard to the responsibilities of the banks.

The liability of directors, however, shall cease by lapse of time at the end of one full year after their resignation.

Article 4.—Savings banks shall provide a sum of money of not less than half the amount of their paid up capital, to be invested in national loan bonds as a guarantee for the money of depositors, and place the bonds to trust at a deposit office.

Article 5.—No saving bank shall be permitted to devote its funds to any other purpose than the following:—

- (1) Loans.
- (2) Discount of bonds.
- (3) Purchase of National Loan Bonds and local loan bonds.

Article 6.—The period of loans by savings banks, in accordance with the last Article, shall be limited to 6 months, and shall be limited to the amount of the national loan bonds or local loan bonds which have been hypothecated. The discount by saving banks shall be limited to bills of exchange and promissory notes bearing the endorsement of more than two men of undoubted solvency. No savings bank shall be permitted to sell or purchase for fixed periods either national or local loan bonds.

Article 7.—Should any saving bank propose a change in its Articles of Association, the permission of the Minister of State for Finance shall be first obtained through the local Governor.

Article 8.—Should any bank propose to enter into the business of a savings bank, permission of the Minister of State for Finance shall first be obtained through the local Governor.

Article 9.—Should any saving bank fail to observe these regulations, the directors shall be punished with fines of not less than yen 50 and not more than yen 500.

Should any bank not a savings bank conduct the operations of savings banks, its proprietors or directors shall be punished with fines of the amounts mentioned in the last paragraph.

Article 10.—All matters not specially provided for in these regulations shall be dealt with in accordance with the Regulations relating to Banks.

REGULATIONS FOR BANKING BUSINESS.

LAW No. 165.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Regulations relating to Banks, and order the same to be promulgated. We also order that the same shall come into force on and after January 1st, 1891.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign-Manual.)
(Great Seal.)

Dated August 23rd, 1890.
(Countersigned)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.
COUNT MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of State for Finance.

Article 1.—Every place publicly opened for the discounting of bills, for the business of exchange, or deposits and loans of any description, shall be held to be a bank whatever the name used by it may be.

Article 2.—Any person intending to do banking business shall determine and state the amount of his capital and obtain permission of the Minister of State for Finance, through the local Governor.

Article 3.—Banks shall make returns of their business for each half-year and transmit the same to the Minister of State for Finance through the local Governor.

Article 4.—Banks shall make a statement of their assets and liabilities, also comparative tables of the money borrowed and lent during each half-year, and shall announce the same to the public through the newspapers or by other means.

Article 5.—No bank shall be permitted to use more than one-tenth of its capital as a loan to one individual or individual firm or company. No bank whose capital is not fully paid up shall be permitted to use a sum of money amounting to more than one-tenth of the capital already paid up as a loan to an individual or individual firm or company.

Article 6.—The business hours of banks shall be from 10 o'clock a.m. till 4 o'clock p.m. These

hours may, however, be extended according to convenience.

Article 7.—The holidays of banks shall be the great holidays, festivals, Sundays, and the customary holidays prevailing in banks generally. Should some inevitable event occur, the bank may cease business after duly informing the local Governor and after announcing the same to the public by advertisement or by other means.

Article 8.—The Minister of State for Finance may examine the actual condition of the assets and liabilities of banks by issuing orders to do so to the local Governor and other officials, at any time whatever.

Article 9.—Should any person conduct banking operations without first obtaining the permission of the Minister of State for Finance in contravention of Article 2 of these regulations, he shall be punished in accordance with Article 256 of the Commercial Code.

Article 10.—Should any bank not make the returns provided for in Article 3 of these regulations, or shall not publish the statements and tables referred to in Article 4 of these regulations, or shall make a false statement or conceal any facts in the documents referred to, penalties will be incurred in accordance with Article 262 of the Commercial Code.

Should any bank object to the examination described in Article 8, punishment shall follow in accordance with Article 258 of the Commercial Code.

Article 11.—These regulations shall not be applied to the Bank of Japan, to the Yokohama Specie Bank, or to the national banks.

CORRESPONDENCE.

CHRISTIANITY AND PERSECUTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The "condescension" of Bishop Newman not being equal to the task of answering the grave charges I brought against the shaky logic, faulty history, and curious ignorance displayed by a recent lecture of his, two champions have come forward to wage battle, not exactly on his behalf—for one mildly condemns him and the other does not attempt a direct defence—but on behalf of that Christianity of which the Bishop is one of the shining lights; and it is some satisfaction to notice in both letters the exhibition of a far better spirit than that displayed by the Bishop. Probably that gentleman thought no one would take the trouble to expose his fictions and fallacies, and was less careful than he might have been had he known the possibility of criticism. But he should be careful. Statements which are all very well and sound extremely plausible when made to a non-critical Christian audience from the safe position of a pulpit, are somewhat dangerous when made from a platform where they run a chance of being reported.

Before, however, replying either to "Vox" or Mr. Brunson, it may be well, in order to clear the ground, to point out briefly what were the arguments of my first letter. Bishop Newman, in his platitudinous way, had claimed in the course of his lecture on "The March of Christian Civilization" that wherever Christ was received "the gyve fell from the slave, the mind was quickened, and woman was elevated." In reply, I pointed out, by reference not only to historical records of Christian practice, but to Christian precept, as laid down in the book which Christians claim to be inspired revelation, that this threefold claim for Christianity was historically false and doctrinally unsound; that so far from assisting in the struggle against slavery, or for knowledge, or for the elevation of woman, Christianity was opposed by its teachings, and the great mass of Christians by their practice, to progress of almost every kind until the battle had been won. I have no doubt that "Vox" finds these statements "astounding." Most Christians do, especially those who have never studied the subject; but what he has to prove in reply is that they are untrue, and this, beyond vague assertion, he makes no attempt at doing. He says that I confuse "the details of Mosaism with Christianity, whereas Christ repudiated expressly the very thing that 'Secularian' cites in condemnation of Christianity." But if "Vox" rejects Mosaism as part of Christianity, he also must be an infidel. Without the Fall there is no need for Redemption; "for as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive" (1 Cor. xv. 22). In the passage "Vox" cites from Mark x., Christ, who is inspired, certainly does teach a different doctrine to the atrocious law laid down by the equally inspired Moses; but then, on the other hand, in Matthew v. 17, 18, the inspired record attributes quite different teaching to Christ: "Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or

the prophets," he says, "I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill. For verily I say unto you, till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law till all be fulfilled." "Vox" will see that there is no reservation here, but that Christ puts his seal upon all the laws of Moses, or else the phrase "one jot or one tittle" is meaningless. These are the words, let him remember, of "revelation." He will, perhaps, reply that Mark x. 5 and Matt. v. 17, 18, cannot both be true, and will prefer to believe that which seems the more humane teaching. But I would warn him in such case to be careful to choose the right one, for the consequences of error are serious; "he that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned" (Mark xvi. 16).

"Vox's" remaining arguments are scarcely worth serious attention. They amount in effect to an assertion that everything good is due to Christianity and everything evil to the want of it; when Christians do ill they are not Christians, and when infidels do good they are not infidels; and this is urged notwithstanding that I showed, by chapter and verse from the inspired Christian text-book, that the evils resulting from Christianity were not imputations by unfaithful Christians, but could be traced home to the original teaching itself. It is a sort of "heads I win, tails you lose" argument, which, remarks a recent writer, has come to be very common among Christian controversialists, being simply an unblushing begging of the whole question; and, however convincing to believers in Christianity, "Vox" can surely see that it is a worthless argument in discussion with non-believers. The Bishop of Peterborough certainly does not agree with "Vox's" prophecy that we are moving in the direction of Christian legislation, if by that is meant the carrying out of Christ's teaching as a whole, for he said recently that "If there really be any person who maintains this, I cannot argue with him. His proper place is in a lunatic asylum."

Mr. Brunson begins his reply by charging my assertions with being "bald and inaccurate," but as he refrains from pointing out inaccuracy, and seems to have used the word "bald" simply to round off his sentence, there is no necessity to deal with this remark. Then he is kind enough to pray that my heart may be "touched by the power of God" and my eyes "opened to the truth;" and leaving out the first clause I heartily return the compliment, but yet fail to see why "breadth and liberality of spirit and fairness of mind" should lead me to palter with truth and hail as undoubted good what I sincerely believe to be almost unmitigated evil. However, even Mr. Brunson will scarcely call this part of his letter argumentative, and I will proceed to deal with those portions in which he really traverses my arguments.

In answer to my reference to the "fires of persecution lighted by Christians," Mr. Brunson endeavours to show that the charge cannot fairly be brought against Christians as a whole, and then goes on to allege that Romanists—the most numerous body of Christians—he observed—are the guilty parties, and that "religious intolerance and persecution are utterly at variance with the teachings and spirit of Christ." Such a statement simply shows how little Mr. Brunson knows of history, and how carelessly he has studied both his New and his Old Testaments. The excuse for the most bitter and intolerant persecution is to be found, not in the words of Christ's followers, but in the special injunctions of Christ himself when sending out the twelve apostles (Matt. x. 14, 15): "And whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear your words, when ye depart out of that house or city, shake off the dust of your feet"—about the most contemptuous proceeding possible according to Jewish custom, be it remembered—but this is not all, for the founder of the religion which is asserted to teach universal love continues: "Verily I say unto you, it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment, than for that city." That is to say, that the shocking and (outside the covers of the Bible) nameless crimes of the inhabitants of Sodom and Gomorrah are to be treated with more leniency by the Christian God at the day of judgment than non-belief in Christian dogma, no matter how just, honourable, and upright the non-believer might otherwise be. What wonder that logical Christian priests, honestly believing this to be divine revelation, appalled at the fate so vividly pictured for unbelievers, felt that their plain, undoubted duty was to coerce, imprison, rack, torture, and burn heretics, if haply souls might be saved from everlasting torment. Surely it was better to burn the bodies of a few heretics than that numberless souls should run the risk of eternal damnation. These priests, however we may detest the shocking cruelties into which their belief led them, are at any rate entitled to respect as more

logical, more honest, more straightforward than the present representatives of Christianity; they did not take the stern injunctions, clearly expressed, of their terrible creed in a non-natural sense; they did not say, "This doesn't mean what it says, but something quite different." No; the words and the spirit were clear; and the guilt of the blood which was shed like water rests upon the hateful precept rather than on its translators into practice.

I have no hesitation in saying that it is Mr. Brunson, with his more humane spirit, who is "farthest from the Bible," and not those who carried out its teachings in all their naked hideousness. "If thy brother, the son of thy mother, or thy son, or thy daughter, or the wife of thy bosom, or thy friend, which is as thine own soul, entice thee secretly, saying, let us go and serve other gods, which thou hast not known, thou, nor thy fathers; . . . thou shalt not consent unto him, nor hearken unto him; neither shall thine eye pity him, neither shalt thou spare, neither shalt thou conceal him; but thou shalt surely kill him; thine hand shall be first upon him to put him to death, and afterwards the hand of all the people" (Deut. xiii. 6, 9). Has Mr. Brunson forgotten that this atrocious "law" forms a part of Biblical teaching; and if he has, his attention now having been called to it, will he continue to assert that only those persecutors who are "farthest from the Bible," Christian ignorance of Christian revelation is simply extraordinary. What would Mr. Brunson and his confidants say of an advocate of the claims of any other religion who should calmly assert those who persecuted to be farthest from his creed when he knew that such a law was to be found in one of the sacred books of his religion?

It is certainly not surprising that, as a natural result, taking the Bible as a guide, Christianity has been essentially a persecuting religion. If to one or two minor sects we add the Quakers, who have always been honourably distinguished for their tolerance—and have been labelled "infidel" by their fellow Christians, perhaps more often than the members of any other denomination—and the Unitarians, who strictly can hardly be called Christians at all, there is scarcely a sect, from ultra Romanist to ultra Protestant, but has persecuted in its turn. Mr. Brunson complains that in charging Christianity with being a persecuting religion I do not discriminate between the various sects. But the difficulty is to find sects guiltless of intolerance. The followers of Christ, by whatever name they have called themselves, have almost always persecuted when they have had the power. One of the saddest facts of history is to observe how Christian sects have fled from most intolerant treatment themselves to be in turn more intolerant still. See how the Puritans, but lately delivered from persecution, behaved towards the Quakers when they got power to persecute. "In July, 1656, two women Quakers, Mary Fisher and Ann Austin, arrived at Boston. Under the general law against heresy their hooks were burnt by the hangman, they were searched for signs of witchcraft [these old Puritans were not ashamed of their Bible in those days], they were imprisoned for five weeks, and then sent away. During the same year eight others were sent back to England. In 1657 and 1658 laws were passed to prevent the introduction of Quakers into Massachusetts, and it was then enacted that on the first conviction one ear should be cut off, on the second the remaining ear, and that on the third conviction the tongue should be bored with a hot iron." Eventually "four Quakers, three men and one woman, were hanged for refusing to depart from the jurisdiction or obstinately returning within it." "The particulars of the proceedings of Governor Endicott and the magistrates of New England, as given in Besse, are startling to read. On the Restoration of Charles II. a memorial was presented to him by the Quakers in England stating the persecutions which their fellow-members had undergone in New England. Even the careless Charles was moved to issue an order to the colony which effectually stopped the hanging of Quakers for their religion, though it by no means put an end to the persecution of the body in New England" (*Encyc. Brit.*). Let it be remembered by Mr. Brunson that this shameful persecution was conducted by men who boasted—and with too much truth—of their fidelity to Bible teachings.

My opponent seems to think that there was no persecution before Christianity became allied with the State, which shows about as much knowledge of the subject as his belief that Christianity has today lost its persecuting character. Lecky, however, in his "History of European Morals," says "All that fierce hatred which during the Arian and Donatist controversy convulsed the empire, and which in later times has deluged the world with blood, may be traced in the Church long before the conversion of Constantine. Already in the second century it

was the rule that the orthodox Christian should hold no conversation, should exchange none of the ordinary courtesies of life with the excommunicated or the heretic. These people were believers in their creed. To-day Christians are milder-mannered than their spiritual forefathers, but at the expense of fidelity to Biblical teaching. And here it may be well to say a word upon my use of the term "infidelity" in my former letter. Mr. Brunson thinks he scores a point by triumphantly showing that infidelity or scepticism (using the words as a term for philosophical objection to Christianity) could have had no influence in quenching "the fires of persecution" because it did not come into existence until the middle of the last century, when these fires had almost ceased to burn. I will deal with the last assertion in a moment; but if Mr. Brunson will read my letter again, he will find that I did not restrict my use of the word "infidelity" to the opinions of those who avowedly ranged themselves against Christianity; but as being fairly descriptive of those who, on any particular point—slavery, or witchcraft, or persecution for example—laboured in direct antagonism to the teachings of their creed. I freely admit that many of the strongest opponents of slavery called themselves Christians, but my claim is that as they were clearly "unfaithful" to the teachings of Lev. xxv. 44-46, they were, consciously or unconsciously, so far "infidels." The same argument holds with reference to those who acted in opposition to the teaching of the Bible on other points. When men had no doubts about the truth of Christianity, they had no qualms about doing just what Christianity taught them to do; but when the spirit of inquiry once entered their minds, and people began to be doubtful if, after all, the Bible had said the last word on questions of practical morality, from that moment we may date the birth of tolerance. My contention is, I maintain, still unshaken that progress in Christian countries having been in the teeth of Judaic-Christian teaching and legislation as expressed in the Bible, it has been possible only by unfaithfulness to those particular teachings, or in other words to "infidelity." So long as Christianity claims to have a divine revelation, a "Christian" who rejects a part of his creed cannot be regarded as a Christian at all; divine inspiration being infallible cannot err, and Christians are therefore not at liberty to pick and choose what they shall accept and what they shall reject.

Now to deal with Mr. Brunson's assertion that by the middle of the eighteenth century the fires of persecution lighted by Christians had almost ceased to burn. If he restricts the words "fires of persecution" to literal burning at the stake, which would be an evasion of the argument, the statement is no doubt true enough; but if he means to say that since the middle of the last century there has been little or no persecution of opinion—bitter, intolerant persecution—such an assertion shows scanty knowledge. "Exonerated from religious bigotry," he says, "was gained by Tyndale, Luther, Calvin, Knox, and their noble coadjutors, many of whose bodies were burnt at the stake, and not by infidelity." The word "exonerated" would seem to imply that the charge of religious bigotry brought against those he mentions had failed; but probably he has used a wrong word, and means to claim what tolerance we now enjoy as due to the efforts of those he mentions. If this be his meaning, as the context shows, how he can so claim, knowing anything whatever of their lives and teaching, is simply wonderful. Excepting Tyndale, none of the other typical leaders he mentions suffered martyrdom, and, as Mr. Brunson must surely know, Luther, Calvin, and Knox showed against those who differed from them, or went further in their opposition to currently received teaching, the most bitter intolerance. Was it in defence of "religious freedom" that Calvin was instrumental in burning his erstwhile friend Servetus with green wood in order that his agonies might be prolonged? Really the statements of Christian apologists display such utter ignorance of facts known to every child that controversy seems almost hopeless. Before again making so ridiculous a claim, let Mr. Brunson study the lives and writings of those whom he eulogises, and he will then come to a different opinion.

Equal ignorance of past and even of contemporary history is shown by Mr. Brunson in his remark that "there is not that in infidelity which makes martyrs." Probably he thought in the innocence of his heart that Christian persecution having "almost" ceased since the middle of the eighteenth century, it would be impossible to bring forward any instances of infidels (using the word now as descriptive of those who objected to Christian dogma and teaching on moral grounds) prepared to give up liberty and even life in defence of what they held to be truth; so it may be well to enlighten him by citing a few examples—examples

which will also show how far Christian persecution ceased, and religious freedom became a fact, in the middle of the eighteenth century.

We will take, then, as our first example Jacob Olive, master printer, who in 1756 was sentenced to imprisonment for two years for publishing "Modest Remarks on the late Bishop Sherlock's Sermons."

In 1762, Peter Annet, for the publication of a journal in London called the *Free Enquirer*, in which he conducted a critical examination of the Pentateuch, was condemned to suffer one month's imprisonment in Newgate, to stand twice in the pillory with a paper over his head inscribed "For Blasphemy," then to be confined to hard labour in Bridewell for one year, after which he was to be remanded to Newgate until he found security for his good behaviour during the remainder of his life. At this time he was seventy years of age, and after lingering for six or seven years in prison, death gave him release from Christian persecution on January 18th, 1769.

For publishing Paine's "Age of Reason," Thomas Williams was sentenced in 1797 to three years' imprisonment, the prosecution being instituted by a society with four bishops among its promoters.

In March, 1812, Daniel Isaac Eaton, a Deist, was sentenced by Lord Ellenborough, also for publishing Paine's "Age of Reason," to two years' imprisonment and to stand in the pillory for two hours. It was this shocking sentence which called forth Shelley's stinging "Letter to Lord Ellenborough," in which the memorable passage occurs: "By what right do you punish Mr. Eaton? What but antiquated precedents gathered from times of priestly and tyrannical domination can be adduced in palliation of an outrage so insulting to humanity and justice. Whom has he injured? What crime has he committed? It is because he is a Deist and you a Christian. You copy the persecutors of Christianity in your actions, and arm an additional proof that your religion is as bloody, barbarous, and intolerant as theirs."

These examples are collated from an excellent article on "Past Prosecutions for Blasphemy and Heresy," in the March number of *Progress* for 1883, from whence I take the following account of one of these prosecutions:—"On the 16th of January, 1819, began a series of prosecutions, instituted by the Society for the suppression of Vice, against Richard Carlile, and his associates, shopmen, and shopwomen. The first trial, that of Carlile himself, began on October 12th of that year, and after a nine days' defence, ended by his being sentenced to pay a fine of £1,500; to be imprisoned for three years, and to find sureties for his good behaviour for the term of his life. In consequence of his non-compliance with the law, this intrepid man, to whom, more than to any other, we owe such freedom of expression as we to-day enjoy, endured no less than nine and a half years' imprisonment. The sale of Paine's "Age of Reason," for publishing which he was sentenced, was not suppressed for a single day, though various expedients were in time adopted to evade the law. For the same and similar offences, his wife, Jane Carlile, suffered two years' imprisonment. His sister, Mary Anne, also two years. William Holmes, John Barkley, Humphrey Boyle, Joseph Rhodes, Mrs. Susannah Wright, William Tumbidge, James Watson (who afterwards so ably fought in the battle for a free press, together with his friend Henry Hetherington), William Campion (editor of the *Newgate Magazine*), Richard Hassell, Thomas Jeffries, John Clarke (author of the *Critical Review*), William Cochrane, William Haley, and Thomas Reley Perry, all of whom carried on Carlile's business, had also sentences varying from three years to twelve months' imprisonment. Various other trials took place in Edinburgh and elsewhere, several who were arrested not being brought to trial." The last of the Carlile trials, that of Perry, took place in July, 1824, and in prefacing the report of the trials of these persons, Carlile, writing from Dorchester gaol in the sixth year of his imprisonment, was able to say, and Mr. Brunson is requested to take note, "All the publications that have been prosecuted have been and are continued in open sale."

Writing upon Carlile, lately in the *Newcastle Weekly Chronicle*, Mr. G. J. Holyoake makes some pregnant remarks. "In days when gentlemen were transported for having in their possession Paine's 'Age of Reason,' Carlile published editions of his works. He was imprisoned himself altogether nine years and three months—his wife was imprisoned—more than 150 of his shopmen were at various times imprisoned. He not only resisted the letters upon the press, but inspired others to resist. He wrote heretical books, delivered lectures, and by his pen and speech and in person maintained the conflict, until he established a free press. Like Paine, recogni-

tion and credit has never been given Carlile, because of his heretical sentiments. The enlargement of freedom has always been due to heretics who have been unrequited during their day and defamed when dead. No publisher in any country ever incurred so much peril to free the press as Richard Carlile. Every British book-seller has profited by his intrepidity and endurance. Speculations of philosophy and science, which are now part of the common intelligence, power, and profit, would have been stifled to this day but for him."

I will not proceed to quote more of these prosecutions, the list of which could be very considerably extended, but would like to ask whether it is possible that Mr. Brunson is ignorant that the laws under which these men were convicted are still unrepealed? As the law in England stands to-day, by the 9 and 10 Will. III. cap. 35, any person convicted of blasphemy (which has been defined by judges to mean simply denial of Christianity) for a first offence may be adjudged incapable of holding any public office or employment, while upon a second conviction he becomes disabled from being a plaintiff in the law courts, incapable of being the guardian of his own children, and liable to three years' imprisonment. This is but one out of many laws all directed to the same object; and Christians cannot argue that they are simply relics of a barbarous age, for, putting aside the fact that they have been enforced very recently, a Bill which sailed as April 1889 came before the British House of Commons with object of the repeal of these laws, only received 46 votes, and found its most zealous opponents among those members who most loudly boasted of their Christianity.

Of course Mr. Brunson has never heard of this debate, has never heard of infidels suffering for their opinions, know nothing, in fact, of the matters upon which he expresses so confident an opinion—perhaps, notwithstanding the evidence adduced, will still believe that Christians in general are opposed to the enforcement of laws against people for matters of opinion. But there happens to be a noteworthy test, so far as British Christianity is concerned of how far this is so. There is in existence in London a Society whose efforts are directed to obtaining the repeal of the blasphemy laws which still disgrace the statute-book—and which Lord Chief Justice Coleridge in a recent trial described as "shocking"—yet, out of the thousands of established and dissenting clergy in the country, in 1889 two only had become members of that society. One was a Unitarian who was too advanced even for that liberal body; I have myself heard him declare that he had received frequent hints from clergymen of his own denomination that his room in that ministry would be preferred to his presence. This gentleman has since died, and the sincerity of Christians in their opposition to persecution is now shown by the presence of but one solitary Church of England clergyman on the list of members—a gentleman whose orthodoxy is so doubtful that the Bishop of London has inhibited him from preaching in his diocese.

This matter of the relation of modern Christianity to persecution seems to me so important, and there exists such extraordinary ignorance on the subject, that I have treated it at such length as to be unable within the compass of an ordinary letter to deal with the remainder of Mr. Brunson's reply which I hope to have space allowed me to do on a future occasion. In bringing my remarks on this subject to a conclusion, I would strongly advise Mr. Brunson when next he writes on Christianity and persecution to limit his use of the words "the freedom from intolerance that we now enjoy" to the members of his own particular sect, for it is certainly not true so far as Freethinkers are concerned that intolerance—Christian intolerance—is dead. And he will find it well in future to examine facts before he makes such a "bald and inaccurate" assertion that "there is not that in infidelity which makes martyrs"—this when seven years have not passed since Mr. Foote was sentenced by an avowedly Christian judge to one year's imprisonment for the publication of the *Free-thinker*; when the latest blasphemy prosecution in America is scarcely two years old; and while Mr. Viktor Lennstrand is at this very moment serving a sentence of one year's imprisonment in Sweden, with other prosecutions hanging over his head, for writing and lecturing against Christianity. Grass ignorance of a subject upon which an opinion is expressed is no defence when statements such as those of Mr. Brunson are made. I do not for a moment believe that he wrote in bad faith. Christian prejudice blinded his eyes and barred his pen, and led him to make random assertions about a matter of which he knew nothing, and apparently took no trouble to make any inquiries. But I yet hope that he may be led to see the truth, and to give up the vain pursuit of this will-o'-the-wisp Christi-

anity, turning his eyes from the skies to the world around him, putting his new wine into new bottles, and blending what truth there is in the Palestinian ethics of nineteen centuries since with the newer and richer experience of "this our present day."

SECULARIAN.

Kobe, August 24th, 1890.

F.A.R.C. AQUATIC SPORTS.

The swimming races and diving competitions, postponed from Saturday, came off yesterday afternoon at the bathing barge, and commenced with standing headers from the top of the barge. Eight entered for this event and seven turned out. Mottu was the victor, beating Campbell by one point only.

Mottu 1 | Campbell 2 | Arthur 3
The next item on the programme was a swimming race, 100 yards (open). Mottu again winning, and coming in first by 20 yards. Eight entered for this, six competing. The tide was very strong against the swimmers, thus slow time was the result, 4 min. 20 sec. The first three were:—

Mottu 1 | Martin 2 | Shepherd 3
Then followed the long dive, for which eight entered and six came out, Campbell winning by about 30 yards.

Campbell 1 | Kenney 2 | Arthur 3
Running headers from the spring board was the next event, for which nine entered and seven tried. Mottu again won, diving in fine form and beating Campbell this time by two points, though the latter went off gracefully.

Mottu 1 | Campbell 2 | Arthur 3
The quarter mile swim, for which six were entered did not come off, the strong tide deterring those entered.

The running headers from the top of the barge was won by Mottu, with 26 points, Campbell, a good second, with 25 points. Arthur dived in capital form. Six entered, and all tied.

Mottu 1 | Campbell 2 | Balk 3
Then came the 100 yards swimming race, open to non-winners in China and Japan, for which eight entered and five started. Arthur won, after a very close race with Campbell. The prize was a pair of porcelain incense burners kindly presented by Mr. Mottu. The race was from the barge to the pontoon, the tide being too strong to swim against.

Arthur 1 | Campbell 2 | Balk 3
A scratch race was got up for 100 yards from the barge to the pontoon. Eleven went in for this, and Crawford was the victor after a close race with Gibbs.

Crawford 1 | Gibbs 2 | Campbell 3
The Committee conducting the sports were H. C. Litchfield, judge; J. Kickett, time-keeper; W. W. Till, starter. The judges of the diving were Messrs. G. H. Seidmore and F. H. Hooper.

BRITISH CONSULAR TRADE REPORT FOR NAGASAKI FOR 1889.

Consul QUIN to the Marquis of SALISBURY.

Nagasaki, April 14th, 1890.

MY LORD,—I have the honour to report on the Trade and Navigation of the Port of Nagasaki for the year ended December 31st, 1889, enclosing the following tables:—

I.—Return of the Principal Articles of Import to Nagasaki during the year 1889-88.

II.—Return of the Principal Articles of Export from Nagasaki during the years 1889-88.

III.—Table showing the Total Value of all Articles Exported from and Imported into Nagasaki to and from Foreign Countries during the years 1889-88.

IV.—Return of all Shipping at the Port of Nagasaki during the year 1889.

V.—Return of Foreign Residents and Firms.

The total imports and exports for 1889-88 are as follows:—

	1889.	1888.
Exports	449,540	369,516
Imports	943,765	841,016
Total	1,393,305	1,210,532

Showing an increase in imports of 80,024/4 and in exports of 90,840/4, and a total increase in the trade of the port during last year of 179,873/4 over that of the preceding year.

Four steamers, valued at 65,802/1, were sold during 1889, whereas two vessels, valued at 67,525/4, were sold in 1888.

The value of cotton manufactures imported during 1889 only amounted to 4,602*l.*, as against 5,581*l.* in 1888, showing a decrease of 979*l.*

There is also a decrease in the imports under the head of woollens and mixed cottons and woollen goods of 2,490*l.*, the figures being 2,083*l.* for 1889, and 4,573*l.* for 1888.

In metals there has been a considerable increase during the year under review, caused mainly by the necessary materials for the Kinsui Railway, 2,774 tons of rails were imported at a cost of 14,084*l.* Plate and sheet iron to the amount of 8,611*l.*, and the figure for miscellaneous metals totals to 30,132*l.*, forming a grand total under the above heading of 52,827*l.* for 1889, against 26,816*l.* for 1888, being an increase for 1889 of 26,011*l.*

The import of sugar has decreased during 1889, though slightly, being 9,042,846 lbs. in 1888, valued at 62,473*l.*, and 9,695,189 lbs., valued at 69,738*l.* in 1889, being a decrease of 247,657 lbs., with an increase in value of 7,265*l.*

There is a decrease in the quantity of white sugar imported of 359,751 lbs., but an increase in the value of 4,044*l.*

Brown sugar was imported to the extent of 4,004,033 lbs., valued at 21,604*l.* in 1889, against 3,891,939 lbs., valued at 18,525*l.* in 1888, being an increase, both in quantity and value, over the preceding year.

The consumption of kerosene oil during 1889 was nearly 100,000 cases more than the preceding year, due to the increased demand for it throughout the country, and the enhanced value of the native seed oil. The business in oil last year, generally, was not remunerative to importers, although prices, on the whole, show a rise on the previous year. Atlantic brand has continued the favourite, Chester selling at about 5*c.* per case less. Russian oil is in more favour than formerly, selling at about 10*c.* or 3*d.* per case below Atlantic, but the quality is said not to be always reliable.

The year opened with Atlantic, selling at 2*d.* 35*c.* (7*s.* 3*d.*). During February, March, and April, the average price was 2*d.* 30*c.* (7*s.* 1*d.*), to 2*d.* 35*c.* (7*s.* 3*d.*). May saw a decline to a *d.* 20*c.* (6*s.* 9*d.*), and in June, July, and August it was sold at 2*d.* 17*c.* to 1*d.* 18*c.* (6*s.* 8*d.* to 6*s.* 8*d.*), from which point it rose by degrees to 1*d.* 30*c.* (7*s.* 1*d.*), which was the closing price on December 31.

Chester was sold at 2*d.* to 2*d.* 12*c.* (6*s.* 2*d.* to 6*s.* 6*d.*) in August and September, rising to 2*d.* 16*c.* (6*s.* 8*d.*) in October.

Drugs show a slight decrease of 192*l.* in 1889, the figures being 6,827*l.* in 1888, and 6,635*l.* in 1889.

Under the head of machinery, which includes instruments, &c., there is an increase of 5,264*l.*; the imports in 1889 being 22,534*l.*, against 17,270*l.* in 1888.

The import of raw cotton has, as will be seen by the following table, more than trebled during the last three years:—

1889.	1888.	1887.
Quantity. Value.	Quantity. Value.	Quantity. Value.
Lbs. Lbs.	Lbs. Lbs.	Lbs. Lbs.
4,751,222 91,535	3,269,757 55,895	1,362,121 30,987

The increase in 1889 being 1,541,456 lbs., valued at 35,640*l.* A considerable quantity is consumed by the local spinning mill, and the remainder goes up country for hand spinning, &c. Some portion has been re-shipped in native bottoms to ports in the inland sea. This trade is almost entirely in the hands of the Chinese.

The import of beans, pulse, &c. has decreased about 490 tons in quantity, but the value is higher, being 12,817*l.* in 1889, against 10,579*l.* in 1888, an increase of 2,238*l.*

Beans and peas constitute two of the staple exports from Korea, but the export fell off somewhat last year, owing to the bad harvest in that country. By far the large portion of the crop found its way to Osaka.

Gunny bags, which appeared in last year's report valued at 8,091*l.*, have fallen this year to 3,510*l.*, owing to the great probability of a cessation of the export of rice consequent upon the harvest reports after the rainy season last year, the import of gunnies depending almost entirely on the export of rice.

The import of hides which was considerable a few years ago has continued to decrease, as they mostly go to Osaka to be worked up by the native tanneries as mentioned in last year's report.

In imports during the year 1889 the exchange between dollars and sterling has been calculated at 3*s.* 1*d.* to 4*d.*, and the totals for the exports for the year under review have been converted into sterling at 3*s.* 1*d.* to the dollar.

The total for the exports for 1889 compares favourably with 1888, being 943,865*l.* against 844,016*l.*, an increase of 99,849*l.* in favour of 1889.

The export of tea of all classes had declined to the insignificant amount of 5,385*l.* in 1889 against

12,639*l.* in 1888, and 13,089*l.* in 1887. This trade is not likely to recover in the future.

The export of rice during 1889 exceeded that of 1888 by 3,092 tons, the figures for the two years being 41,244 tons valued at 217,830*l.* in 1889, and 38,152 tons valued at 195,250*l.* in 1888.

The trade was fairly remunerative. This staple was principally shipped to the northern and southern continental ports of Europe. The shipments for the year were mostly sent forward by June, after which date an anticipated deficit of about 15 per cent. in the crop, on account of excessive rains, occasioned a considerable rise in the price of rice, and entirely stopped the export.

The market in January, 1889, stood at 2*d.* 9*c.* (6*s.* 4*d.*) for Higo rice, and 2*d.* 1*c.* (6*s.* 1*d.*) for Hizen, per picul of 133½ lbs. Prices with slight fluctuations remained fairly steady for the first few months, the lowest figure being reached in April. After that month, prices rose considerably. In August, Hizen stood at 2*d.* 75*c.* (8*s.* 4*d.*), and Hizen at 2*d.* 65*c.* (8*s.* 0*d.*) per picul.

In September, quotations rose 3*s.* higher, gradually declining again till in December the figures stood at 3*d.* 5*c.* (9*s.* 3*d.*) for Higo and about 1*c.* less for Hizen per picul.

It is not expected that there will be any rice exported during 1890, unless the market price falls considerably.

The export of wheat in 1889 exceeded considerably that of the preceding 12 months; the figures being 34,648*l.* in 1889 against 23,989*l.* in 1888, being an increase of 10,659*l.* in favour of 1889. The increase in tonnage exported to 2,895 tons. Owing to the floods in the Yangtze Valley in China, and the great destruction of crops, prices in Amoy advanced from 1*d.* 80*c.* (5*s.* 7*d.*) to 1*d.* 35*c.* (7*s.* 4*d.*) per picul.

The export of coal from Nagasaki shows a decrease compared with that of the previous year. The figures for the last three years are appended:—

1889.	1889.	1889.
Quantity. Value.	Quantity. Value.	Quantity. Value.
Tons. Tons.	Tons. Tons.	Tons. Tons.
641,150 403,543	770,710 353,994	586,567 288,146

There is, however, an increase of nearly 50,000*l.* in the value. Following the plan adopted in last year's report, I give below a memorandum of the stock, supplies, and sales of the Takashima coal during the past year together with a list showing the highest and lowest prices obtained for lump and dust coal, at that various ports where it was sold:—

Stock in hand January 1, 1889	Tons.
Takashima, a net output for 1889	368,434
Nakanoshima, a net output for 1889	85,831
Total	401,907
Shanghai	Tons.
Hongkong	58,023
Yokohama	82,914
Kobe	98,670
Singapore	7,668
Nagasaki	3,408
Total	385,889

Stock in hand December 31, 1889, 16,018 tons.

PRICES.

Port.	Lump Coal.	Dust Coal.
	Highest. Lowest.	Highest. Lowest.
Shanghai ... Taels	6 75 ... 4 35	4 50 ... 2 50
Hongkong ... Dollars	8 75 ... 5 40	7 15 ... 3 70
Yokohama ... Dollars	6 30 ... 5 60	5 50 ... 4 00
Kobe ... Dollars	7 00 ... 6 30	5 00 ... 4 35
Singapore ... Dollars	7 60 ... 7 60	— ... —
Nagasaki ... Dollars	9 00 ... 4 25	4 50 ... 2 60

The decreased output of this mine during 1889 is accounted for by an epidemic which broke out among the miners lasting from July to November, during which time the output of the mine was reduced to half the usual quantity, and even less during August and September, when the epidemic was most severe.

The produce of the numerous mines in Chikuzen is estimated to have fully come up to, if not exceeded, a total of 720,000 tons. The prices averaged during the year 3*d.* 20*c.* (9*s.* 11*d.*) per ton for common, and 5*d.* 50*c.* (17*s.*) for best.

The owner of the Takashima mine have endeavoured to exploit other seams of coal, which are known to exist in the neighbourhood of that mine. Their chief undertaking in this direction was the opening of a mine at Matsushima, a small island about 20 miles from Nagasaki. A shaft was sunk, but serious difficulties were encountered owing to the ingress of large quantities of sea water through flaws in the seam. Work was, however, steadily progressed with till the latter end of April of last year, when a more than usually large flaw caused such an enormous inflow of water as to stop all further operations. In spite of the most approved pumping-machinery with which this mine was supplied, the water gained so rapidly that all hopes of this undertaking becoming a financial success were abandoned, and the machinery has since removed to other mines.

The export of camphor during 1889 was some 500,000 lbs. less than in 1888, and the value was 5,499*l.* under the figures for the previous years. Prices opened in January at 22*d.* 30*c.* (3*l.* 9*s.* 5*d.*) per picul of 133½ lbs.; but owing to the demand for the Chinese and Indian markets they continued to rise during the year, till early in December the highest figure was reached, 34*d.* 50*c.* (5*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*) per picul. After this prices fell before the close of the year to 31*d.* (4*l.* 16*s.* 6*d.*). Adulteration, as mentioned in last year's report, was more systematically carried on than ever.

Under the heading grain, beverages, and provisions, there was a very considerable increase in the export during 1889, the figures having risen from 14,051*l.* in 1888 to 52,631*l.* during the year under review.

The total is made up of miscellaneous articles, such as flour, rapeseed, salt, potatoes, rice, beer, dried fish, sundry edible seaweeds, &c.

There has been a considerable increase in the export of copper, from 1,302*l.* 19*s.* 9*d.* in 1888 to 8,498*l.* 6*s.* in 1889. It was mostly in bars and slabs, with a small quantity of sheet copper; the balance of under 100*l.* being made up of a little lead and a few miscellaneous articles.

The remaining articles consist of the usual miscellaneous exports to the China markets, and do not need to be separately dealt with.

The general result of last year's trade, both in imports and exports, has been fairly satisfactory. The trade with Vladivostok was about the same as in 1888, with a tendency to increase, but there was no special development. The exports consisted of rice, wheat, flour, both Japanese and American, coals, and miscellaneous Japanese produce.

The trade in piece goods with Korea mentioned in the last two reports has greatly fallen off in 1889; roughly, not more than half the former amount was taken by that country. Nearly everything in Korea is bought with produce, and trade suffered in consequence of the bad harvest. The falling-off was partly due to the constant interference with trade by the Korean Government. It is said that most of the Japanese engaged in the trade have lost money during 1889.

During the year under review a flour milling company was formed amongst some foreign residents at this port. The mill is constructed on the latest roller principle, and, when working to its full extent, will be capable of producing over a ton of flour per hour. The mill was completed and commenced operations towards the close of the year. The grain used is exclusively Japanese, and it is hoped that the flour produced by this mill may gradually supersede American in the Vladivostok market, and for local requirements.

The dredging of the harbour of Nagasaki has proceeded more or less steadily during the whole of last year. The mud and deposit removed are all taken to a small bay which is being reclaimed a couple of miles distant outside the harbour. The cost of these operations amounted to 25,775 dol. (5*s.* 16*d.*).

The first section of this railway from Hakata to Kumme, a distance of 22½ miles, was commenced in September, 1888, and was completed and opened to traffic on December 11, 1889. Work on the other sections is not yet begun.

In 1887 several instructors in the mode of raising silk worms and reeling silk were engaged, and since then this industry shows signs of increased vitality. The wages of the instructors are paid partly by local taxes, and the cost of the schools defrayed by the villages of the neighbourhood and by those persons who are desirous of promoting the industry. New mulberry gardens are being planted, and increased attention is being given to the cultivation of those now existing. There was a marked advance in prices in 1889. In the latter part of October of that year 670 dol. (10*l.* 6*s.* 9*d.*) to 680 dol. (10*l.* 17*s.* 11*d.*), were paid per picul of 133½ lbs., and in November 730 dol. (11*l.* 15*s.* 7*d.*) to 740 dol. (11*l.* 45*s.* 9*d.*). The outlook is consequently improving for silk manufacturing companies. Hand-reeled silk for export to foreign countries did not exceed 2,000 lbs., but large quantities were manufactured for home consumption. It is hoped that this industry will be favourably looked upon when the old fashioned methods are abolished and a good article is placed on the market. The best cocoons are sent to Nagasaki to be reeled, but those of lesser quality are reeled in the villages. Experiments in reeling by machinery are shortly to be made with machinery which has just been finished. The Nagasaki silk factory has increased its capital and extended the area of its buildings in order to carry on large operations.

The brick manufactory at Inasa, on the opposite side of Nagasaki harbour, and a glass blowing firm are supplying local requirements. Other new

enterprises are a flour mill, ice making, and electric light companies.

After considerable opposition in the local assembly, it was decided to carry out of a system of waterworks for the town of Nagasaki. The works are calculated to supply a population of 60,000 inhabitants, with a maximum average rate of 20 gallons per head per day or a total of 1,200,000 gallons, for ordinary domestic, public, manufacturing, and shipping requirements. The actual census of the town and foreign settlement on December 31 last was 44,921 persons; consequently there will be an ample supply of water even if furnished to the suburbs of the town, or in case of future increase of the population.

The storage reservoir is constructed at the junction of two valleys, 232 feet above the level of high water in the harbor, and the water will flow into the town by gravitation alone, without the use of any pumping-engines. The reservoir dam will be 55 feet high at the deepest part of the valley, 20 feet wide at the top, and about 520 feet long. The reservoir is calculated to hold 90,000,000 gallons of water when full, equal to a reserve of 100 days' supply for the present population of the town. This is estimated to be ample enough, even at the time of the heaviest drought in Nagasaki, the calculation being made with the annual rainfall and the drainage area for the reservoir.

Close to the outer slope of the reservoir dam three filter beds will be constructed, rectangular in shape, and measuring 120 feet by 80 feet. The dimensions have been calculated, so that two of the beds working at a time will be sufficiently to filter in 24 hours the necessary quantity required for a day, with the moderate velocity of 6 inches per hour, the one in reserve being kept as a provision for sand, cleansing, or repairs.

The service reservoir, or pure water basin, measures 150 feet by 80 feet, and having a depth of 13 feet 6 inches, holds about 900,000 gallons of filtered water. It is built below the ground level, and is covered with brick arches to prevent dust from falling in and to check the growth of vegetable matter to some extent; it will also serve to keep the water cool in summer.

The distribution of the water will be by a principal main of 14 inches in diameter from the service reservoir to the entrance of the town, where it will branch into two secondary mains of 12 inches and 9 inches diameter. From these again, service mains of diameters varying from 8 inches to 4 inches will branch off to supply the whole of the town. The total length of the pipes is about 25 English miles.

The supply in the foreign settlement will be by means of service pipes branching from the street mains into the houses or premises of all who may wish to use the water, paying a moderate sum for such connection. However, in the Japanese town, and also in some parts of the settlement, it will be difficult to resort to a universal house to house supply, or to avoid having recourse to the far less satisfactory plan of public standposts, or street fountains. These will be fitted with self-closing valve at top, from which the public may draw their water.

Fire hydrants are to be placed at intervals of about 300 feet, both in the Japanese town and the foreign settlement, and as the supply of water will be constant, they are available at all times for extinguishing fire by simply screwing on the hose.

The total cost of the waterworks is estimated to be 300,000 dol. (46,252L.). The works were begun in April, 1889, and are expected to be completed in April, 1891.

The foreign shipping trade of this port amounted to 779,501 tons, including all those which called at Kuchinotsu for coals, and the total shipping including Japanese foreign going vessels, but excluding local coasting trade in small steamers, schooners, &c., amounted to 1,011 vessels of 1,079,437 tons, being an increase of 119 vessels and 100,616 tons over the shipping and tonnage of 1888.

English shipping has increased by 23 vessels and 46,982 tons, and German shipping has increased by 5 vessels, but has decreased in tonnage by 18,511 tons.

The foreign mail steamers which call here regularly are those of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, the Canadian Pacific Mail Steamship Company, and the Nord Deutscher Lloyd Steamship Company.

The foreign population of Nagasaki on December 31, 1889, excluding Chinese, numbered 366 persons, with 16 firms. The Chinese community numbered 692 persons, with 59 firms.

The Japanese population of Nagasaki at the close of the year was 54,502, but of these only 39,044, occupying 9,230 houses, were registered as belonging to the district.

In April, 1889, several outlying villages were incorporated in the urban jurisdiction, which accounts for the increase in the number of inhabitants.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN J. QUINN.

TABLE I.—RETURN OF THE IMPORT TRADE OF NAGASAKI IN THE YEARS 1889-1888.

Article.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	1889.	1888.	1889.	1888.
Cotton manufactures ..	—	4,002	—	5,581
Woolen and mixed cotton and woolen ..	—	2,053	—	4,573
Metals and manufactures of ..	—	—	—	—
Iron rails ..	2,774	14,084	—	—
Iron plate and sheet ..	1,162	8,611	—	—
Miscellaneous ..	—	30,132	—	—
Sugar, white ..	5,691,156	46,744	6,030,007	42,698
Sugar, brown ..	4,004,033	21,004	3,991,939	18,242
Sugar, rock, candy, &c. ..	—	1,392	—	4,250
Grand total ..	—	66,738	—	62,471
Steam vessels ..	Number 4	61,803	2	67,535
Kerosene oil ..	Gallons 2,513,470	47,745	1,564,020	27,705
Miscellaneous Western ..	—	6,635	—	6,827
Drugs ..	—	4,008	—	5,054
Dyes ..	—	22,584	—	17,270
Machinery ..	—	11,769	—	13,993
Provision ..	—	7,775	—	7,770
Silks and satins ..	—	5,560	—	6,832
Wines ..	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous Eastern ..	—	—	—	—
Raw cotton ..	Lbs. 4,751,222	91,535	3,209,757	55,895
Beans, pulse, &c. ..	Lbs. 5,925,475	12,017	9,045,530	10,179
Provision ..	Number 243,499	3,510	474,362	8,004
Hides ..	Lbs. 250,594	4,341	359,147	5,995
Sundries ..	—	30,139	—	30,434
Total ..	—	320,290	—	270,073
Grand total ..	—	446,540	—	500,516

* 1 dol. = 36.12 d.
† To the totals of the imports from gold-using countries for the first nine months an addition of 30 per cent. has been made, and the gross amount for the year calculated at 3s. 1d. to 1 dol.

RECAPITULATION.

Articles.	1889.	Value.	1888.	Value.
Cotton manufactures ..	4,602	—	5,581	—
Woolen and mixed cotton and wool ..	—	2,053	—	4,573
Metals and manufactures of ..	—	52,827	—	26,816
Kerosene oil ..	—	47,745	—	27,705
Sugar ..	—	69,738	—	62,471
Miscellaneous ..	—	273,545	—	242,308
Total ..	—	449,550	—	360,516

TABLE II.—RETURN OF THE EXPORT TRADE OF NAGASAKI FOR THE YEARS 1889-1888.

Articles.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	1889.	1888.	1889.	1888.
Tea ..	216,856	2,378	286,240	5,843
Green—basket-fired ..	Lbs. 216,856	2,378	286,240	5,843
Green—pan-fired ..	Lbs. 41,744	217,350	35,122	195,250
Rancha and sundries ..	Lbs. 569,433	3,607	1,636,044	5,491
Rice ..	Tons 480,551	290,677	331,065	152,918
Coal ..	Tons 151,599	106,900	431,075	200,070
Dried fish ..	Lbs. 3,579,743	68,075	4,799,943	82,024
Cuttlefish ..	Lbs. 151,648	6,005	140,491	4,290
Sharks' fins ..	Lbs. 136,504	6,053	134,714	5,720
Shrimps ..	Lbs. 270,637	3,044	314,647	6,196
All other ..	Lbs. 459,345	1,702	677,037	3,383
Miscellaneous ..	Lbs. 1,180,017	33,777	1,680,459	39,276
Charcoal ..	Tons 7,098	7,202	7,311	7,009
Drugs ..	—	5,577	—	3,321
Grain, beverages, and provisions ..	—	53,031	—	14,051
Copper and other metals ..	Lbs. 336,394	11,235	349,219	10,016
Rushes ..	Lbs. 8,160	8,160	—	9,041
Paper ..	Lbs. 355,034	14,401	243,319	8,276
Porcelain, &c. ..	Lbs. 140,021	7,001	1,314,024	8,593
Shellfish—Awabi ..	Lbs. 21,238	2,123	—	—
All other ..	Lbs. 2,123	2,123	—	—
Textile fabrics ..	—	—	—	—
Timber ..	—	—	—	—
Tobacco ..	—	—	—	—
Wax (vegetable) ..	Lbs. 904,788	2,099	382,036	5,909
Wheat ..	Lbs. 19,422,527	34,618	12,930,167	23,099
Other articles ..	—	10,280	—	25,101
Total ..	—	943,865	—	844,016

* 1 dol. = 36.12 d. † 1 dol. = 37.12 d.

RECAPITULATION.

Articles.	1889.	Value.	1888.	Value.
Tea ..	3,385	—	12,639	—
Rice ..	217,830	—	195,250	—
Coal ..	403,543	—	351,094	—
Dried fish ..	85,199	—	100,104	—
Provisions ..	58,068	—	14,051	—
Wheat ..	34,618	—	23,099	—
Miscellaneous ..	139,194	—	143,979	—
Total ..	943,865	—	844,016	—

TABLE III.—RETURN SHOWING THE TOTAL VALUE OF ALL ARTICLES EXPORTED FROM AND IMPORTED INTO NAGASAKI FROM AND TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES IN 1889-1888.

Country.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.
	1889.	1888.	1889.	1888.
Great Britain ..	£110,170	101,287	£143,927	124,434
England ..	1,633	1,423	32	—
Australia ..	4,100	5,023	—	12
Hongkong and Straits Settlements ..	263,016	250,485	53,896	67,749
United States ..	17,751	33,865	12,927	28,222
China ..	252,353	234,896	136,667	80,227
Korea ..	34,097	17,521	16,040	25,168
All other countries ..	201,641	107,514	50,092	33,700
Total ..	943,865	844,016	440,540	369,516
Exchange for 1889.—Exports, 3s. 12d. to 1 dol.; imports, 3s. 1d. to 1 dol.				
Exchange for 1888.—Exports, 3s. 1d. to 1 dol.				

To the totals of imports from gold-using countries for the first nine months an addition of 20 per cent. has been made, and the gross amount for the year calculated at 3s. 1d. to 1 dol.

TABLE IV.—RETURN OF ALL THE SHIPPING IN THE CONSULAR DISTRICT OF NAGASAKI IN THE YEAR 1889.

Nationality.	Sailing.	Steam.	Total.
	No. of Vessels.	No. of Vessels.	No. of Vessels.
Japanese ..	29	340	369
British ..	18	277	295
German ..	4	235	239
Norwegian ..	—	45	45
Russian ..	—	25	25
Other countries ..	12	1,905	1,917
Total ..	54	2,166	2,220
Total for 1888 ..	43	30,814	31,257

Of the above shipping:—

Nationality.	Sailing.	Steam.	Total.
	No. of Vessels.	No. of Vessels.	No. of Vessels.
Japanese ..	9	304	313
British ..	18	277	295
German ..	4	235	239
Norwegian ..	—	45	45
Russian ..	—	25	25
Other countries ..	12	1,905	1,917
Total ..	43	16,779	17,222
Total for 1888 ..	20	12,417	12,437

ENTERED KUCHINOTSU.

Nationality.	Sailing.	Steam.	Total.
	No. of Vessels.	No. of Vessels.	No. of Vessels.
Japanese ..	11	42	53
British ..	—	9	9
German ..	—	6	6
Norwegian ..	—	—	—
Russian ..	—	—	—
Other countries ..	—	1	1
Total ..	11	58	69
Total for 1888 ..	12	6,472	6,484

TABLE V.—RETURN OF FOREIGN RESIDENTS AND FIRMS IN NAGASAKI ON DECEMBER 31ST, 1889.

Nationality.	Residents.	Firms.
British ..	105	5
American ..	90	3
Austro-Hungarian ..	24	1
Belgian ..	2	—
Chinese ..	692	59
Danish ..	23	—
Dutch ..	7	—
French ..	38	3
German ..	22	3
Italian ..	5	—
Portuguese ..	9	—
Russian ..	39	1
Other nationalities ..	2	—
Total ..	1,058	75

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL"]

London, August 23rd.

The troops are again under arms in Buenos Ayres, and a fresh revolution is feared.

London, August 23rd.

New York is shipping silver largely to Brazil. The Queen has pardoned Dhuleep Singh.

London, August 24th.

The ironworks and factories in Victoria and New South Wales are being closed for want of coal, owing to the colliers ceasing to run through lack of hands and to the difficulties of other means of transport. A general paralysis of trade is the result, and provisions are only to be obtained at exorbitant prices.

London, August 26th.

Through the strike of the marine officers in Australia, there are now twenty steamers lying idle at Melbourne.

[FROM MADRID PAPERS.]

Madrid, August 5th.

Cholera has broken out in Badajoz and Toledo.

August 8th.

Cholera is increasing but slowly. In Madrid two cases were reported.

By consent of the President of the Council of Ministers, a fresh conference has been held with the Archbishop (Sr. Nozalea), and the Rev. Fathers representing the religious orders in the Philippines, during which subjects concerning the Archipelago were dealt with.

TIME TABLES AND STEAMERS.

TOKYO-YOKOHAMA RAILWAY.

DOWN TRAINS LEAVE SHIMBASHI Station at 6.05*, 6.40, 8.35, 9.30*, 10.25, and 11.45 a.m., and 1.25, 2.30, 3.55, 4.45, 5.40, 6.50, 8.30, 9.55, and 11.15 p.m.

UP TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 6.30, 7.20, 8.10, 9.15, 10.22, and 11.30 a.m., and 12.45, 2.3, 4.25, 5.30, 6.35, 7.50, 9.10, 10.05, and 11.05 p.m.

FARES—First-class, *sen* 60; second-class, *sen* 40 and third-class, *sen* 20.

Trains marked (*) run through without stopping at Omori, Kawasaki, Teurumi, and Kanagawa Stations. Those marked (†) run through without stopping at Omori, Kawasaki, and Teurumi Stations.

TOKAIDO RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA (down) at 6.50, 9.10, 11.25 a.m., and 12.40, 3.25, 4.55, 5.35, and 7.45 p.m.; and KOZU (up) at 6.35, 8.40, 9.40, and 11.07 a.m., and 1.17, 2.45, 4.53, 7.25, and 9.40 p.m.

FARES—To Hodegaya, first-class *sen* 6, second-class *sen* 4, third-class *sen* 2; to Totsuka, *sen* 18, *sen* 12, *sen* 6; to Ofuna *sen* 30, *sen* 24, *sen* 12; to Fujisawa, *sen* 42, *sen* 28, *sen* 14; to Iliatsuka, *sen* 60, *sen* 44, *sen* 22; to Uiso, *sen* 75, *sen* 50, *sen* 25; and to Kozu, *sen* 93, *sen* 62, *sen* 31.

Down trains at 6.50 a.m. run no further than Kyoto arriving there at 11.20 p.m.; at 10.20 a.m. no further than Nagoya, arriving at 10.10 p.m.; at 12.40 p.m. no further than Shizuoka, arriving there at 6.40 p.m.; at 3.25 p.m. no further than Shizuoka, arriving at 8.45 p.m.; and the train at 5.35 p.m. runs to Kobe, arriving at 12.45 p.m. next day.

A tramway runs between Kozu and Yumoto (distance 4 ri). Jintikka may be hired between Yumoto and Miyakoshi (distance 1 ri).

KOZU-KOBE RAILWAY.

DOWN TRAINS LEAVE KOZU at 8.30 a.m., and 12.50, 2.13, 4.57, and 7.10 p.m.; GUTEMBA at 9.52 a.m., and 1.32, 3.35, 6.18, and 8.32 p.m.; NUMAZU at 5.20 and 10.40 a.m., and 2.30, 4.27, 7.09, and 9.24 p.m.; SHIZUOKA at 7.20 a.m., and 12.10, 4.12, 6.50, and 10.59 p.m.; HAMAMATSU at 6 and 10 a.m., and 2.40 and 6.45 p.m., and 1.16 a.m.; TOYOHASHI at 7.10 and 11.10 a.m., and 3.39 and 7.45 p.m., and 2.14 a.m.; OFU at 8.59 a.m., and 1.05, 5.22, and 9.28 p.m., and 4.02 a.m.; NAGOYA at 9.45, and 11.50 a.m., and 2. and 6.08 p.m., and 5 a.m.; Gifu at 10.53 a.m., and 1, 3.06, and 7.09 p.m., and 6 a.m.; OKAZI at 11.24 a.m., and 1.28, 3.33, and 7.38 p.m., and 6.28 a.m.; MAIBARA at 9.45 a.m., and 1, 2.49, 5.07, and 8.55 p.m., and 7.45 a.m.; HIKONE at 10.05 a.m., and 1.18, 3.02, 5.25, and 9.06 p.m., and 7.58 a.m.; BABA (Okiu) at 12.31, 4.40, 7.10, and 10.43 p.m., and 9.31 a.m.; KYOTO at 12.45, 4.05, 5.35, and 8 p.m., and 10.14 a.m.; and OSAKA at 2.25, 5.35, 7.20, and 9.50 p.m., and 11.42 a.m.

UP TRAINS LEAVE KOBE at 5.55 and 9.55 a.m., and 1.55, 3.45, and 5.30 p.m.; OSAKA at 7.06 and 11.06 a.m., and 3.06, 5, and 6.36 p.m.; KYOTO at 5.35 and 8.40 a.m., and 12.40, 4.36, 6.40, and 8.05 p.m.; BABA (Otsu) at 6.18, and 9.31 a.m., and 1.30, 5.25, 7.31, and 8.50 p.m.; HIKONE at 7.56, and 11.05 a.m., and 3.03, 7.02, 9.08, and 10.25 p.m.; MAIBARA at 8.13, and 11.20 a.m., and 3.19, 7.20, and 10.42 p.m.; OKAZI at 9.30 a.m., and 12.30, 4.37, 8.46, and 11.54 p.m.; Gifu at 9.57 a.m., and 1.02, 5.04, and 9.15 p.m., and 12.17 a.m.; NAGOYA at 6 and 11 a.m., and 2.10 and 6.20 p.m., and 1.09 a.m.; OFU at 6.43 and 11.44 a.m., and 2.56 and 7.04 p.m., and 1.41 a.m.; TOYOHASHI at 8.30 a.m., and 1.30, 4.42, and 8.52 p.m., and 3.17 a.m.; HAMAMATSU at 6.30 and 9.45 a.m., and 2.45 and 6 p.m., and 4.25 a.m.; SHIZUOKA at 5.15 and 9.07 a.m., and 12.45, 5.20, and 9.45 p.m., and 7.08 a.m.; NUMAZU at 7.03 and 10.40 a.m., and 2.24 and 7.14 p.m., and 8.43 a.m.; GUTEMBA at 8.15 and 11.58 a.m., and 3.38 and 8.28 p.m., and 9.53 a.m.; and KOZU at 9.40 a.m., and 1.17, 4.53, and 9.45 p.m., and 11.07 a.m.

FARES—Kozu to Gotemba: first-class, *sen* 66, second-class *sen* 44, third-class *sen* 22; to Numazu *yen* 1.11, *sen* 74, *sen* 37; to Shizuoka *yen* 2.13, *yen* 1.42, *sen* 71; to Hamamatsu *yen* 3.57, *yen* 2.38, *yen* 1.19; to Toyohashi *yen* 4.23, *yen* 2.82, *yen* 1.41; to Ofu *yen* 5.22, *yen* 3.48, *yen* 1.74; to Nagoya *yen* 5.58, *yen* 3.72, *yen* 1.86; to Gifu *yen* 6.15, *yen* 4.10, *yen* 2.05; to Okazaki *yen* 6.42, *yen* 4.28, *yen* 2.14; to Maibara *yen* 7.05, *yen* 4.70, *yen* 2.35; to Hikone *yen* 7.17, *yen* 4.78, *yen* 2.39; to Baba *yen* 8.10, *yen* 5.40, *yen* 2.70; to Kyoto *yen* 8.40, *yen* 5.60, *yen* 2.80; to Osaka *yen* 9.21, *yen* 6.14, *yen* 3.07; and to Kobe *yen* 9.81, *yen* 6.54, *yen* 3.27.

The down train at 8.30 a.m. runs no further than Kyoto, arriving there at 11.20 p.m.; at 12.12 p.m. no further than Nagoya, arriving at 10.10 p.m.; at 5.25 p.m. no further than Shizuoka, arriving at 9 p.m.; and the train at 3.10 p.m. runs to Kobe, arriving at 12.30 p.m. next day. The up train at 5.55 a.m. runs no further than Shizuoka, arriving there at 8.40 p.m.; at 9.55 a.m. and 1.55 p.m. no further than Nagoya, arriving respectively at 6.07 and 10.15 p.m.; and the train at 5.30 p.m. runs to Shimabashi arriving at 1.40 p.m. next day.

OYAMA-MAEBASHI RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE OYAMA (down) at 7.15 and 9.45 a.m., and 2.15 and 5.20 p.m.; KIRIU (down) at 5, 9.11, and 11.40 a.m., and 4.10 p.m.; MAEBASHI (up) at 6.12 and 10.35 a.m., and 1.55 and 6.35 p.m.; and KIRIU (up) at 5.10, 7.13, and 11.37 a.m., and 2.57 p.m.

FARES—Oyama to Kiriu, first-class *sen* 97, second-class *sen* 66, third-class *sen* 33; to Maebashi, first-class *yen* 1.51, second-class *yen* 1.2, third-class *sen* 51.

OFUNA-YOKOSUKA RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE OFUNA (down) at 7.30 and 9.40 a.m., and 12.05, 1.30, 4.03, 6.14, and 8.30 p.m.; KAMAKURA (down) at 7.41 and 9.51 a.m., and 12.16, 1.41, 4.14, 6.25, and 8.41 p.m.; and ZUSHIMURA (down) at 7.50 and 10 a.m., and 12.25, 1.50, 4.23, 6.34, and 8.50 p.m.; YOKOSUKA (up) at 6.45, 8.55, and 11.20 a.m., and 12.50, 3, 5.10, and 7.45 p.m.; ZUSHIMURA (up) at 7.01, 9.12, and 11.36 a.m., and 1.06, 3.16, 5.26, and 8.01 p.m.; and KAMAKURA (up) at 7.11, 9.22, and 11.46 a.m., and 1.15, 3.26, 5.36 and 8.10 p.m.

FARES—To Kamakura, first-class *sen* 9, second-class *sen* 6, third-class *sen* 3; to Zushimura *sen* 15, *sen* 10, *sen* 5; and to Yokosuka *sen* 30, *sen* 20, *sen* 10.

TOKYO-SHIOGAMA RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE UENO (down) at 6.40, 8.50, and 11.40 a.m., and 2.40 and 5.40 p.m.; UTSUNOMIYA (down) at 10 a.m. and 3.05 and 5.59 p.m.; SHIRAKAWA (down) at 8 a.m. and 12.30 and 5.41 p.m.; KORIYAMA (down) at 9.25 a.m. and 1.54 and 6.58 p.m.; FUKUSHIMA (down) at 7.35 and 11.33 a.m. and 3.45 p.m.; SHINDAI (down) at 6.15, 10.25, and 10.40 a.m. and 2.30, 6.35, and 6.50 p.m.

TRAINS LEAVE ICHINOSEKI (up) at 6.40 a.m., and 2.50 p.m.; SHIOGAMA (up) at 7 and 11.05 a.m., and 3.10 and 7.15 p.m.; SHINDAI (up) at 7.35 and 11.40 a.m., and 3.45 p.m.; FUKUSHIMA (up) at 6.40 and 10.26 a.m., and 2.36 p.m.; KORIYAMA (up) at 8.29 a.m., and 12.22 and 4.28 p.m.; SHIRAKAWA (up) at 6.35 and 9.47 a.m., and 1.40 p.m.; UTSUNOMIYA (up) at 6.20 and 9.05 a.m., and 12.18, 4.14, and 6.33 p.m.

FARES—Ueno to Utsunomiya, first-class *yen* 2, second-class *yen* 1.32, third-class *sen* 66; to Koriyama *yen* 4.10, *yen* 2.74, *yen* 1.37; to Fukushima *yen* 5, *yen* 3.32, *yen* 1.66; to Sendai *yen* 6.45, *yen* 4.30, *yen* 2.15; to Shiohama *yen* 6.75, *yen* 4.50, *yen* 2.25.

SHINJIKU-HACHIOJI RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE SHINJIKU, TOKYO, (down) at 6.55 and 9.55 a.m. and 12.52, 4, and 7 p.m.; and HACHIOJI (up) at 5.25, 8.25, and 11.25 a.m. and 2.20 and 5.30 p.m.

FARES—First-class *sen* 90; second-class *sen* 60; third-class *sen* 30.

TOKYO-MAEBASHI RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE TOKYO (Ueno) (down) at 6.40, 8.50, and 11.40 a.m., and 2.40 and 5.40 p.m.; and MAEBASHI (up) at 6.55, and 11.50 a.m., and 2.50 and 5.50 p.m.

OYAMA-MITO RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE OYAMA (down) at 6.50 and 9.25 a.m., and 2.20 and 5.15 p.m.; and MITO (up) at 6.25 and 10.10 a.m., and 2.05 and 4.55 p.m.

FARES—First-class, *yen* 1.26; second-class, *sen* 84; third-class, *sen* 42.

TAKASAKI-YOKOKAWA RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE TAKASAKI (down) at 6.30 and 9.25 a.m., and 12.20 and 3.15 p.m.; and YOKOKAWA (up) at 8 and 11 a.m., and 1.50 and 4.55 p.m.

FARES—First-class, *sen* 75; second-class, *sen* 45 third-class, *sen* 25.

UTSUNOMIYA-NIKKO RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE UTSUNOMIYA (down) at 5.25 and 10.05 a.m., and 12.25* and 3.05 p.m.; and NIKKO (up) at 7.20 and 11.55 a.m., and 2.25 and 4.55* p.m.

* Through Trains to and from Ueno.

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

STEAMERS LEAVE the Nippon Hatoeba daily at 7.55 and 10.30 a.m., and 1.45 and 4.00 p.m.; and LEAVE YOKOSUKA at 7.10 and 10.30 a.m., and 1.30, and 4.00 p.m.—*Fare, sen* 20.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, per N. Y. K. Friday, Aug. 29th.
From Nagasaki & Kobe
From Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co. Sunday, Aug. 31st.*
From Hongkong, per P. & O. Co. Sunday, Aug. 31st.†
From Europe, via Hongkong, per M. M. Co. Friday, Sept. 5th.‡

* Straits of Belle Isle left Vancouver on August 11th. † Ancona left Nagasaki on August 26th. ‡ Saghalien (with French mail) left Hongkong on August 27th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co. To-day, Aug. 30th.
For America, per C. P. M. Co. Saturday, Aug. 30th.
For Europe, via Shanghai, per M. M. Co. Sunday, Aug. 31st.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki, per N. Y. K. Tuesday, Sept. 2nd.
For America, &c. per O. & O. Co. Wednesday, Sept. 3rd.
For Hongkong, per P. & O. Co. Saturday, Sept. 6th.
For Europe, via Hongkong, per N. D. Lloyd. Sunday, Sept. 14th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 386, Watanabe, 22nd August.—Handa 21st August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Suro, 22nd August.—Yokkaichi 21st August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Drummond, 22nd August.—Hakodate 20th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 436, Miyagi, 23rd August.—Bonin Islands 15th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Albany, British steamer, 1,742, Porter, 23rd August.—Kobe 22nd August, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Eclipse, American ship, 1,535, Shillabar, 23rd August.—Kobe 13th August, Tea and General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Fuyo, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 23rd August.—Nagasaki 19th August, General.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.

Glenorchy, British steamer, 1,840, Ferguson, 23rd August.—Shanghai 19th August, Ballast.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,359, Haswell, 23rd August.—Shanghai and ports 16th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glenavon, British steamer, 1,789, Jacobs, 24th August.—Shanghai 20th August, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Kii Maru, Japanese steamer, 860, Kori, 24th August.—Yokkaichi 23rd August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,182, Kenderdine, 24th August.—Kobe 23rd August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sydney, French steamer, 2,500, Vaquier, 24th August.—Hongkong 13th, Shanghai 18th, and Kobe 22nd August, General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Mercury (13), cruiser, Captain C. J. Balfour, 24th August.—Hongkong 16th August.

Wanderer (4), screw-sloop, Captain Geo. A. Giffard, 24th August.—Hongkong 13th August.

Ning Chow, British steamer, 1,735, Allen, 25th August.—Kobe 23rd August, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Hampshire, British steamer, 1,700, Kernish, 25th August.—Singapore 12th August, Rice.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Carrow, 25th August.—Yokkaichi 24th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Occidental, American ship, 1,534, Taylor, 25th August.—New York 12th April, Keosene and General.—China & Japan Trading Co.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Brown, 25th August.—Hakodate 23rd August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Niobe, German steamer, 1,666, Pfaff, 26th August.—Hongkong 19th August, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 386, Watanabe, 26th August.—Handa 25th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Suro, 26th August.—Yokkaichi 25th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Christensen, 26th August.—Kobe 25th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, P. Hussey, 26th August.—Yokosuka Dock 26th August.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 27th August.—Hakodate 25th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kii Maru, Japanese steamer, 860, Kori, 27th August.—Yokkaichi 26th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, D. S. Austin, 27th August.—Hongkong 22nd August, General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Arai, 28th August.—Yokkaichi 27th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mongkut, British steamer, 850, Anderson, 28th August.—Hongkong 19th, and Kobe 26th August, General.—C. P. M. S.S. Co.

Belgie, British steamer, 2,695, W. H. Walker, 28th August.—San Francisco 12th August, General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Higo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, Saiki, 28th August.—Kobe 27th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sussex, British steamer, 1,619, F. H. Holt, 28th August.—Hongkong 16th and Shanghai 24th August, General.—C. P. M. S. S. Co.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Suru, 28th August.—Yokkaichi 27th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,357, Drummond, 28th August.—Kobe 27th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kii Maru, Japanese steamer, 860, Kori, 29th August.—Yokkaichi 28th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 29th August.—Hakodate 27th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Arai, 22nd August.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Christensen, 22nd August.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 23rd August.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, Seymour, 23rd August.—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Glenarney, British steamer, 1,945, Brass, 24th August.—Kobe, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Suru, 24th August.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Drummond, 24th August.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Alliance (6), U.S. gunboat, Captain H. C. Taylor, 25th August.—Kobe.

Benvenue, British steamer, 1,517, Thompson, 25th August.—Kobe, General.—Cornes & Co.

Carmarthenshire, British steamer, 1,820, Clark, 25th August.—Kobe, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Virginia, British steamer, 1,515, W. Knott, 25th August.—Kobe, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Hampshire, British steamer, 1,700, Kernish, 26th August.—Kobe, Rice.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Piero, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 26th August.—Nagasaki, General.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 26th August.—Shanghai and ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,182, Kenderdine, 26th August.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Suru, 26th August.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bombay, British steamer, 2,047, D. Roache, 26th August.—Kobe, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Mercury (13), cruiser, Captain C. J. Balfour, 26th August.—Hakodate.

Wanderer (4), screw-sloop, Captain G. A. Giffard, 26th August.—Hakodate.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,240, Pender, 27th August.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Port Philip, British steamer, 1,732, R. Gray, R.N.R., 27th August.—Kobe, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Brown, 27th August.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kii Maru, Japanese steamer, 860, Kori, 28th August.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Arai, 28th August.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Christensen, 28th August.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Albany, British steamer, 1,742, Porter, 29th August.—Kobe, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Higo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, Saiki, 29th August.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, Young, 29th August.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Kobe:—Miss J. Carr, Miss Atkinson, Mrs. Bonicaw, Mr. W. F. Sharpes, Mr. T. Walkinslaw, Rev. W. B. Bonnell, and Dr. J. Fields, U.S.N. in cabin; Miss Hirose Hide, Mr. Yamamoto, Mr. Sikida, Mr. Y. Sikida, Mr. Takano, and Mr. Baglay in second class, 34 passengers in steerage. For San Francisco: Miss W. B. Bonnell and 4 children, and Miss E. Allen in cabin.

Per British steamer *Glenarney*, from Shanghai:—Messrs. Kinear, Bevis, McGregor Grant, Duncan Glass, and Mrs. Allen in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Sagami Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. H. Thompson in cabin; 1 Japanese in second class, and 78 Japanese in steerage.

Per French steamer *Sydney*, from Hongkong:—Mr. Shoulz, Mr. Hirota, Mrs. A. Ghirardini and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. M. Casenave, Mr. S. Joseph, Mr. Hart, Mr. and Mrs. C. Palmer, Mr. A. Gregory, Colonel and Mrs. Fische and child, Miss Maud Jackson, Mr. A. E. Wetherston, Mr. Tottenham, Miss Vellop, Mr. W. Ruy, Mr. Dunn, Miss A. Werner, Messrs. J. Urquhart, E. S. Pernott, Shaw, R. Simpson, Alex. Price, Thomas Gastrell, Mr. and Mrs. Allan, and Mr. Fouseca in cabin.

Per American ship *Occidental*, from New York:—Mr. Swift in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Satsuma Maru*, from Hakodate:—Rev. and Mrs. Joseph Cosaud and Mr. Tsuruoka in cabin; 3 Japanese in second class, and 52 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, from Kobe:—Mrs. A. Thomson, Mr. and Mrs. Nishikawa, Mrs. Tanimoto, Messrs. Holm, Nomura, Kawamata, and Yehara in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. Ranita, Miss Nishikawa, Messrs. Empson, Ramsay, Sekita, Tashiro, and Sato in second class, and 64 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Mongkut*, from Hongkong via Kobe:—Mr. F. Schürch in cabin.

Per British steamer *Belgie*, from San Francisco:—Hon. Lee Chon Quon, Mrs. J. S. McShane, Miss Maud McShane, Miss Edith Leimbach, Mrs. S. Cash, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. C. Hill, Mr. Newman Cash, Miss A. R. Whitley, Rev. J. R. Wolfe, Mr. W. K. Post, Mr. H. de F. Lockwood, Mr. Robert Seales, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Lemaire, Rev. and Mrs. J. Wallace Moore, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Read, Rev. Jas. D. Butler, Mr. and Mrs. Henry W. Farnam, Messrs. Chester Holcombe, C. P. Low, Geo. C. Wood, and J. Crawford Lyon in cabin. For Hongkong: Lient and Mrs. W. E. Donohue, R.A., in cabin. For Shanghai: Dr. and Mrs. Thos. L. Brander in cabin. For Nagasaki: Dr. Wiles in cabin. For Kobe: Rev. C. K. Marshall in cabin.

Per British steamer *Sussex*, from Hongkong via Shanghai:—129 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from Hakodate:—Miss Porter, Miss Wilson, Miss Alling, Miss Vance, Miss Phelps, Miss Danforth, Messrs. Nishimura, Akakabe, Kawamura, and Tunga in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from Hongkong:—For Europe: Mr. J. S. Laprak and Mr. W. Gowings, R.N. in cabin. For San Francisco: Messrs. W. A. Whaley, P. Welner, H. L. Miller and servant, and Geo. Murray in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Hakodate:—Messrs. Yamada, Nagae, Tono, and Ishii in cabin; 58 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Captain McCaslin, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Campion, Mrs. Travers, 2 children, and amali, Messrs. Thos. Clark, E. Weissmiller, H. M. O'Kelly, Jean Webre, and Mrs. Ohtsune in cabin; 2 Chinese and 1 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. Ringer and 4 children, Rev. and Mrs. Fulkerson and 2 children, Miss Garel, Captain Harvey, Messrs. Cheong Tap, H. D. Thorp, Ononye, Kasawara, J. Hodges, Yamamoto and child, Ichikawa, Obana and child, and Oia and child in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. Hirata, Mr. Manabe and child, Mr. Ah Sing and child, Mrs. Shimagi, Messrs. Manaba, Hirata, Ono, Yanigi, and Yotsunoto in second class, and 84 passengers in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Sak for France 29 bales.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure \$3,586.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, Captain Drummond, reports:—Left Hakodate the 20th August at 11 a.m.; had fine weather and moderate south-easterly winds to Oginohama and arrived there at 7.55 a.m. on the 21st; met steamer *Maji Maru* twenty miles north of Kurosaki; while in Oginohama the weather changed and had some very heavy squall of rain. Left Oginohama at noon same day weather cleared and had fine weather and moderate S.E. wind to Inuboye; wind to Katsuta, E.S.E., moderate; thence to port heavy squalls of wind and rain strong E. wind and high sea. Reached Yokohama the 22nd August at 3 p.m.

The American ship *Eclipse*, Captain Shillabar, reports:—Left Kobe the 15th August; encountered light baffling winds with fine weather until evening of 17th off Siwo-misaki; when a fresh breeze sprung up which rapidly increased to a violent gale with fearfully heavy S.E. sea and terrific squalls from N.E.E.; sail reduced to lower main topsail, foresail being blown to pieces; the 18th wind and weather continued, lowest reading barometer 29.27; the 19th commenced with same wind, but weather moderated a little towards evening; the 20th squally unsettled weather, wind still from the eastward; the 21st similar weather; the 22nd weather unsettled, barometer falling rapidly and sea from S.E. increasing made for Owari Bay, however wind came out from northward and blew violent gale with blinding rain and terrific squalls, and enormously high sea; sail reduced to fore and main lower and fore staysail; topsails blew away; unable to show any canvas at all, lowest reading barometer 29.03; the 23rd wind moderated made all sail and cleared away debris of split sails, &c.

The Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, Captain Haswell, reports:—Left Kobe the 21st August at midnight; had fair weather with light S.E. to N.E. winds to Oshima; thence N.E. winds with heavy S.E. swell to Cape Sima at 4.21 went into Matoya Bay, glass falling and every indication of a typhoon; left Matoya at 4.50 the following morning with light W.S.W. winds and heavy swell; passed American ship flying JTBR. Arrived at Yokohama at 8 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Sagami Maru*, Captain Kenderdine, reports:—Left Kobe the 23rd August at noon; had light southerly wind and fine weather to Oshima; thence light S.E. wind and fine weather with smooth sea to port. Arrived at Yokohama the 24th August at 9.40 p.m. Met the steamer *Omi Maru* at Tanabe Point (Kii Channel) towing a sailing ship.

The Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, Captain Christensen, reports:—Left Kobe Pier the 25th August at noon; had light easterly winds and fine weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 26th August at 5 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Satsuma Maru*, Captain Brown, reports:—Left Hakodate the 23rd August; had strong breeze which increased to moderate gale in afternoon fresh gale with high southerly sea; at 8 p.m. gale moderated to fresh breeze with hazy weather; the 24th moderate southerly breeze and fine weather. Arrived at Oginohama at 5 p.m. and left at 8 p.m.; had light southerly breeze and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 25th August at midnight during the passage; passed steamers *Nagato Maru* and *Toyoshima Maru*.

The Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, Captain Young, reports:—Left Hakodate the 25th August at 8 a.m.; had light east to south-east breeze and fine cloudy weather right down to Inuboye at 8.30 p.m. on 26th; thence moderate northerly breeze, clear cloudless sky, and smooth sea throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 27th August at 8.50 a.m.

The American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, Captain Austin, reports:—Left Hongkong the 22nd August at 3.32 p.m.; at noon on the 23rd met Co.'s steamer *China* for Hongkong; had fine weather the entire passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 27th August at 9 p.m. Passage 5 days, 3 hours, 46 minutes.

The British steamer *Belgie*, Captain Walker, reports:—Left San Francisco the 12th August at 5.35 p.m.; had fair weather and smooth sea with exception of the 27th when we had quite heavy sea. Arrived at Yokohama the 28th August.

The Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, Captain Ekstrand, reports:—Left Hakodate the 27th August at 8 a.m.; had light breeze and fine clear weather to Kurosaki; thence overcast and heavy east swell. Arrived at Oginohama the 29th at 7 a.m. and left at 0.30 p.m.; had fresh breeze from N.E. with drizzling rain and heavy easterly swell, at 6 p.m. weather clearing but sea increasing. Arrived at Yokohama the 29th August at 2.15 p.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The market during the week has remained very depressed under the effect of the high rate of exchange, but there seems more inclination at the close to do business in English Spinnings at the reduced rates. Bombays remain unchanged, with little animation. Shirtings and T. Cloths are without demand. Velvets and Italians have had some attention at lower rates owing to the rise in exchange. Sales for the week amount to 100 bales English and 150 bales Bombay Yarns, 2,500 pieces Italians, and 3,600 pieces Velvets.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 lb, 34 yds, 39 inches	\$1.35 to 1.90
Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 lb, 34 yds, 35 inches	1.05 to 1.57 1/2
T. Cloth—7 1/2 lb, 24 yds, 33 inches	1.30 to 1.50
Indigo Shirtings—12 yds, 41 inches	1.25 to 1.60
Prints—Assorted, 24 yds, 30 inches	1.70 to 2.00
Cotton—Italians and Saltens Black, 32 inches	0.07 to 0.14
Turkey Reds—1 to 2 1/2 lb, 24 yds, 30 inches	1.02 to 1.22 1/2
Turkey Reds—2 1/2 to 3 1/2 lb, 24 yds, 30 inches	1.25 to 1.51
Turkey Reds—3 1/2 to 4 1/2 lb, 24 yds, 30 inches	1.75 to 2.05
Velvets—Black, 35 yds, 22 inches	4.50 to 6.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yds, 42 3/4 inches	0.50 to 0.65
Taffeta, 12 yds, 43 inches	1.35 to 2.25

WOOLLENS.

Plain Orleans, 40 1/2 yds, 32 inches	\$1.00 to 5.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches best	0.26 to 30
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches Medium	0.21 to 26
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches Common	0.17 to 21 1/2
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yds, 31 inches	0.13 to 0.17
Cloth—Pique, 51 1/2 to 56 inches	0.10 to 0.15
Cloth—Presidents, 51 1/2 to 56 inches	0.50 to 0.60
Cloth—Union, 51 1/2 to 56 inches	0.35 to 0.60
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3 1/2 lb, per lb	0.30 to 0.38

COTTON YARNS.

Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	\$25.50 to 26.50
Nos. 16/24, Medium	26.50 to 27.50
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	27.50 to 28.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	29.00 to 30.00
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	28.75 to 29.25
Nos. 28/32, Medium	29.25 to 31.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	31.00 to 31.75
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	34.00 to 36.00
Nos. 38/42, Two-fold	31.50 to 35.00
Nos. 48/52, Two-fold	35.50 to 39.00
Nos. 20s, Bombay	74.00 to 80.00
Nos. 16s, Bombay	74.50 to 79.50
Nos. 10s, Bombay	—

METALS.

There is still little doing in Metals.

Flat Bars, 4 inch	\$2.70 to 2.80
Flat Bars, 1 inch	2.80 to 2.90
Round and square up to 4 inch	2.70 to 2.90
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.
Nailrod, small size	Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	3.00 to 3.15
Sheet Iron	3.30 to 3.50
Galvanized iron sheets	29.00 to 31.00
Wire Nails, assorted	4.00 to 4.50
Pin Plates, per box	4.80 to 5.10
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.30 to 1.35

KEROSENE.

No movement yet to any extent, though it is supposed that country dealers must be getting short.

QUOTATIONS.

Chester	Nom. \$1.75 to 1.77 1/2
Connet	Nom. 1.70 to 1.74 1/2
Devco	Nom. 1.67 1/2 to 1.70
Russian	Nom. 1.65 to 1.67 1/2

SUGAR.

Only small sales reported of Common Manila brand at the following prices:—608 piculs at \$3.85 per picul, 2,883 piculs at \$4.20, 565 piculs at \$4.35, and 288 piculs at \$4.50. In superior kinds nothing whatever has been done. Quotations unaltered.

White Refined	\$5.80 to 8.40
Manila	3.80 to 4.60
Taiwanfoo	— to —
Pentama	3.00 to 3.40
Namida	2.90 to 3.20
Cake	3.70 to 4.10
Brown Takao	4.40 to 4.50

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 22nd inst., since that date settlements amount to 263 piculs divided thus:—Hanks 17, Filatures 179, Re-reels 48, Kakeda 19. Again there has been no business for direct export this week.

As will be seen from the above figures, we have

had more trade in Silk; holders at last made up their mind to face the loss on some of their goods and shippers operated accordingly. Now holders are again encouraged by a fall in Exchange of 1 per cent, and are already anxious to raise quotations. Indeed, some of them to-day refuse to go on at late rates and are going to wait a little longer hopeful that exchange may further decline.

Most of the trade has been for America, although during the last two days European buyers have operated to some extent in Hanks and Filatures. Telegraphic intelligence from consuming markets does not improve, and the general out-look is not very cheerful.

Supplies have been somewhat retarded by wash-outs of railway, tramway, and other roads, but as repairs are made we may expect to see plenty of arrivals ere long. Stock in Yokohama is up to 8,600 piculs, but we learn there is considerable cargo expected when the roads are made good, especially from the Northern and North-western provinces.

There has only been one shipping opportunity, the English Mail of the 23rd, that vessel—the *Verona*—took 29 bales for Europe, thus bringing the present export figures up to 2,133 piculs against 5,206 last year and 4,882 at the same date in 1888.

Hanks.—There has been some buying during the last two days, fair to good *Hachof* bringing \$492 1/2. The stock in this department is light, and arrivals are scanty, it being understood that the Home trade is using this class of Silk pretty freely.

Filatures.—The bulk of the weeks' trade has been in this class, and the following sorts suitable for the United States have been fixed; No. 1 *Shinshu* \$630; No. 2 \$610, with one sale of *Hakutaru* \$635; *Kairos* \$625; *Hiranosha* \$620. In *Kosha* sorts various parcels have been settled at \$640, \$620, \$610, and \$600 according to quality and size. For European some No. 1 is said to have been done at \$640 with No. 2 at \$600. Quotations are somewhat irregular, some holders refusing to go on selling.

Re-reels.—Not much done in this department. Dealers persist in asking too high prices as compared with Filatures. Some fair No. 1 has been done at \$605, with No. 1 1/2 at \$595; also some No. 2 at \$580, with lower quality still at \$575.

Kakeda.—Some little business has taken place in common quality at \$535; beyond this nothing has been done. Stock is not large, and supplies are said to be blocked in the North by reason of the broken roads.

Oshu.—Nothing has actually been concluded, although a sale of *Hamatsuki* is being negotiated at or about \$545.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No. 14	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshi)	—
Hanks—No. 24 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 24 (Joshi)	—
Hanks—No. 24 to 3	Nom. \$520 to 530
Hanks—No. 3	—
Hanks—No. 3 1/2	490 to 495
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	—
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	640 to 650
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	640 to 650
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/17 deniers	620 to 630
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/17 deniers	610 to 615
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	610 to 620
Filatures—No. 2, 13/18 deniers	600 to 605
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Shinshu and Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	600 to 610
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	590 to 595
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	580 to 585
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	570 to 575
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	560 to 565
Kakeda—Extra	Nom.
Kakeda—No. 1	Nom.
Kakeda—No. 14	570 to 575
Kakeda—No. 2	560 to 565
Kakeda—No. 24	550 to 555
Kakeda—No. 3	540 to 545
Kakeda—No. 3 1/2	530 to 535
Kakeda—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 24	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	540 to 550
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 24	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 29th Aug., 1890:—

	SEASON 1890-91.	1889-90.	1888-89.
Europe	566	2,507	2,533
America	1,515	2,609	2,292
Total	{ Bales 2,081 Piculs 2,133 }	{ 5,136 5,206 }	{ 4,827 4,882 }
Settlements and Direct	2,350	7,000	4,600
Export from 1st July	—	—	—
Stock, 29th August	8,600	4,600	7,800
Available supplies to date	10,950	11,600	12,400

WASTE SILK.

There has not been a single transaction in this branch all the week.

Buying has been suspended owing to the rise in Sterling Exchange which prevents shippers operating at their customers' limits. It remains to be seen whether the present ease in Exchange will induce some fresh business.

The only shipment during the week was 5 bales of *Noshi* to Trieste by the P. & O. steamer *Verona*. Present export figures are therefore 765 piculs, against 521 last year and 1,160 on the 29th August 1888.

Pierced Cocoons.—Still no business; several offers have been cabled home, but consumers will apparently not give what holders here require.

Noshi.—Nothing whatever done. Sellers and buyers being too far apart. Same applies to all other departments.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
<i>Noshi</i> —Filature, Best	\$140 to \$150
<i>Noshi</i> —Filature, Good	130 to 135
<i>Noshi</i> —Filature, Medium	—
<i>Noshi</i> —Oshu, Good to Best	135 to 140
<i>Noshi</i> —Shinshu, Best	—
<i>Noshi</i> —Shinshu, Good	—
<i>Noshi</i> —Shinshu, Medium	—
<i>Noshi</i> —Shinshu, Good to Best	—
<i>Noshi</i> —Joshi, Best	—
<i>Noshi</i> —Joshi, Good	80
<i>Noshi</i> —Joshi, Ordinary	70 to 75
<i>Kibiso</i> —Filature, Best selected	105 to 110
<i>Kibiso</i> —Filature, Seconds	95 to 100
<i>Kibiso</i> —Oshu, Good to Best	—
<i>Kibiso</i> —Shinshu, Best	—
<i>Kibiso</i> —Shinshu, Seconds	—
<i>Kibiso</i> —Joshi, Good to Fair	50 to 40
<i>Kibiso</i> —Joshi, Middling to Common	—
<i>Kibiso</i> —Hachof, Good	—
<i>Kibiso</i> —Hachof, Medium to Low	—
<i>Kibiso</i> —Neri, Good to Common	15 to 8
<i>Mawata</i> —Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 29th Aug., 1890:—

	SEASON 1890-91.	1889-90.	1888-89.
Waste Silk	765	509	1,160
Pierced Cocoons	—	19	—
Total	765	528	1,160
Settlements and Direct	800	1,900	300
Export from 1st July	—	—	—
Stock, 29th August	9,500	7,900	7,800
Available supplies to date	10,300	9,800	8,100

Exchange declined considerably at one time, but closes higher as under:—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits 3/10 1/2; Documents 3/10 1/2; 6m/s. Credits, 3/10 1/2; Documents 3/10 1/2; New York, 30d/s. U.S., \$93 1/2; 4m/s. U.S., \$94 1/2; PARIS, 4m/s. fcs. 4.90; 6m/s. fcs. 4.92.

Estimated Silk Stock, 29th Aug., 1890:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	180	Cocoons	850
Filatures	4,830	<i>Noshi</i> -ito	2,925
Re-reels	3,050	<i>Kibiso</i>	5,175
Kakeda	325	<i>Mawata</i>	360
Oshu	210	Sundries	190
Taysam Kinds	5		
Total piculs	8,600	Total piculs	9,500

TEA.

A little more doing in Tea, and 4,690 piculs have been sold at unchanged prices. Settlements are now 6,040 piculs in excess of the whole season 1889-90. Shipments of Tea continue to be very heavy, with a large quantity to go forward later on. The *Eclipse* will sail in a few days, taking some 2,800,000 lbs. from Japan.

	PER PICUL.
Common	\$10 & under
Good Common	11 to 12
Medium	13 to 14
Good Medium	15 to 16
Fine	17 to 19
Finest	20 to 22
Choice	23 to 25
Choicest	26 to 28
Extra Choicest	29 to 30

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has again fluctuated slightly, but is on the week about the same:—

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/10
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/10 1/2
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/10 1/2
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/11
On Paris—Bank sight	4.81
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4.93
On Hongkong—Bank sight	4 1/2 dis.
On Hongkong—Private to days' sight	1 1/2 dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72 1/2
On Shanghai—Private to days' sight	73 1/2
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	93
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	94
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	93
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	94

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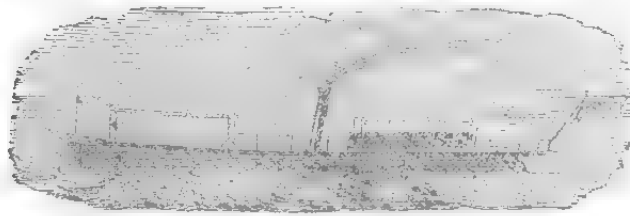
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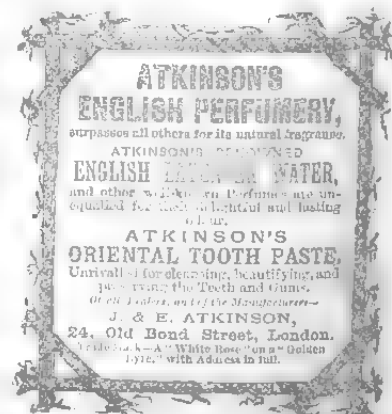
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No. 10.]

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AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, SEPTEMBER 6TH, 1890.

通信者認可

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Chroniques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPT. 6, 1890.

MARRIAGE.

At No. 6, Bluff, Yokohama, on September 4th, by the Rev. J. C. Brand, in presence of G. H. Seimore, Esq., U.S. Vice-Consul-General, Rev. WILLIAM ASHMORE, D.D. of Swatow, China, to CHARLOTTE A. BROWN, of Yokohama.

DEATH.

On Saturday morning, at No. 86, Bluff, REGINALD WILLIAM, infant son of B. J. S. and Pattie Brinkworth, aged 19 months.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

COUNT ITO arrived at Kobe on the 2nd instant from Odawara.

H.I.H. PRINCE KUNI arrived at Tokyo on the 29th ultimo from Kyoto.

COUNT KURONA will leave the capital shortly and proceed to Hokkaido.

COUNT INOUE, who had been staying at Hakone for some time, returned to the capital on the 31st ultimo.

H.I.H. PRINCE FUSHIMI, who had been staying in Chiba for some time, returned to Tokyo on the 31st ultimo.

COUNT ITAGAKI will proceed to Nagano Prefecture on or about the 10th instant to meet a number of his political friends.

THE line of the Japan Railway Company between Ichinoseki and Morioka will be opened for traffic on the 1st October.

MR. KATO MASANOSUKE, editor of the *Hochi Shimbun*, will leave Japan during the present month for America and Europe.

H.I.H. PRINCE ARISUGAWA TARUHIITO started from Tokyo on the 30th ultimo for Hamamatsu, leaving Shinjimbashi Station at 9.30 a.m.

A MEETING of the Tokyo City Assembly was held on the 30th ultimo for the purpose of discussing matters in connection with a municipal loan to be raised next year to cover the cost of the city water-works.

H.I.H. PRINCE ARISUGAWA TARUHIITO arrived at Kobe on the 2nd instant from Hamamatsu, and proceeded to Maiko on the same day.

H.I.H. PRINCE NASHIMOTO returned to the capital on the 28th ultimo from Nikko and Ikao, where His Highness had been staying for some time.

IN CONSEQUENCE of the heavy rains on the 30th ultimo, communication on the Tokaido Railway between Kambara and Okitsu was stopped.

THE Italian Minister, Cavalier R. de Martino, who has just left Japan for home, was received in farewell audience by the Emperor on the 30th ultimo.

A NOTIFICATION has been issued by Count Saigo, Minister of State for Home Affairs, closing the quarantine stations at Shimonoseki, Kobe, and Yokohama.

ACCORDING to a report by the Japanese Consulate at Fusan, from the 16th to the 22nd ultimo nine Japanese were attacked by cholera there, five of whom died.

MR. ASADA, Prefect of Kanagawa, accompanied by a few officials of the Kanagawa Prefectural Government, proceeded to the province of Sagami on the 2nd instant.

A SPECIAL meeting of the Cabinet was held on the 30th ultimo, and was attended by Counts Yamagata, and Goto, Viscount Aoki and Mr. Yoshikawa, the proceedings closing at 3 p.m.

RAILWAY communication between Shinmachi and Honjo, which had been stopped in consequence of damage done to the line by the recent heavy rains, was re-opened on the 1st instant.

RAILWAY communication between Shinmachi and Takasaki, which had been stopped in consequence of damage done to the line by the recent heavy rains, was re-opened on the 1st instant.

A SPECIAL meeting of the Cabinet was held on the 1st instant, and was attended by Counts Yamagata, Yamada, and Goto, Viscount Aoki, and Mr. Mutsu. The proceedings lasted till a late hour.

ACCORDING to information transmitted from the Japanese Consulate at Shanghai to the Foreign Department, from the 15th to the 21st ultimo four Japanese were attacked by cholera there, three of whom died.

AN ordinary meeting of the Cabinet was held on the 2nd instant, at which Counts Yamagata, Saigo, Yamada, and Matsukata, Viscount Aoki and Mr. Yoshikawa were present, the proceedings closing at 3 p.m.

A REPORT by the Sanitary Bureau of the Home Department shows that the number of persons attacked by cholera throughout the Empire from the commencement of the epidemic to the 30th ultimo was 10,758, of whom 6,244 died.

THE Regulations as to Colonial Troops, consisting of ten articles, were promulgated on the 29th ultimo over the signature of Count Oyama, Minister of State for War, by Imperial Ordinance No. 181. On the same day the

Regulations as to the Organization of the Administrative Court were promulgated over the signature of Count Yamagata, Minister President of State.

A REPORT by the Sanitary Bureau of the Home Department shows that the number of persons attacked by cholera throughout the Empire from the commencement of the epidemic to the 29th ultimo was 10,279, of whom 6,071 died.

ACCORDING to a report by the Sanitary Bureau of the Home Department the number of persons attacked by cholera throughout the Empire from the commencement of the epidemic to the 31st ultimo was 11,959, of whom 7,008 died.

AN outbreak of fire took place early in the morning of the 22nd ultimo in a house at Shinjimura, Aka gun, Okayama Prefecture, and ten dwelling-houses and three godowns were entirely destroyed before the flames could be got under control.

THE line of the Osaka Railway Company between Oji and Nara, now in course of construction, will be completed about the middle of September. The section of the Kyushu Railway, between Hakata and Moji, will be opened for traffic in February next year.

AN outbreak of fire took place early in the morning of the 22nd ultimo in a house at Shinomachi, Sanjo, Minamikambara, Niigata Prefecture, destroying one hundred and seventy-six houses, two godowns, a revenue office of the Niigata Prefectural Government, and four telegraph posts.

THE Peers who have been elected members of the House of Peers held a meeting on the 29th ultimo at the Nobles' Club, and the following members were elected a Committee for the investigation of political questions:—Counts Yanagisawa, Matsura, and Matsudaira, Viscounts Kageyukoji, Tani, Ogiu, and Kano, Barons Nagaoka, Senke, Iwakura, and Maki-mura.

ALTHOUGH perhaps there would not be a very brisk business in imports at the fall of the year under ordinary circumstances, the constant rise in silver has doubtless had the effect of accentuating the depressed condition of trade, and the present experience may be expected in a greater degree as the end of the year approaches. Buyers will not look at anything except at their own figures, and even then are not eager purchasers; consequently Yarns and Piece-goods meet with very slow sale and in quantities scarcely removed from retail. Metals have been taken in small lots at constantly diminishing values, and in some lines at very much lower rates. Kerosene has not been sold in sufficient quantity to make a trustworthy quotation, and the heavy stock of Oil on hand—750,000 cases—has a depressing effect on values. Sugar is unaltered, and only a little White has been taken. The Silk trade is much the same as last reported, and if a little more business has been done it has only been at advanced figures in proportion to the further rise in exchange, or thereabouts, many holders still declining to "part" at the prices offered. Small settlements of Waste have been effected, sellers appearing to be quite indifferent about business, though it is not easy to see how long this attitude can be maintained. Tea has been purchased rather sparingly, higher rates having been demanded for the leaf most in request, and the rise has kept off would-be buyers. Exchange has varied slightly, but is a shade lower than last week.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

ADVICE TO THE AUTHORITIES.

THE *Kokumin-no-Tomo*, which is one of the most enthusiastic advocates of the proposed coalition of the progressive parties, adopts a very outspoken tone towards the Ministry on the subject of the prohibition of the alliance of political parties. The vigorous step taken by the Authorities in this respect has, we are told, served simply to place an impassable gulf between the Government and the people. "Do not," the *Tokyo* magazine says, "do not try to pretend that this measure was not devised for the purpose of thwarting the alliance of political parties out of power. Say what you will to the contrary, the fact is known to the gods and to men who can see. . . . But has the Government been able to attain its object? Not in the least. . . . On the contrary, the result has been entirely the opposite of what was originally expected." Our contemporary then goes on to state that the prohibition of the law has driven the progressive parties to go a step farther; instead of a temporary alliance they are about to coalesce into an entirely new party—a result for which they ought "to thank the Yamagata Cabinet. Statesmen in office have failed to understand the tendency of the times. They probably thought that the various political parties having shown their willingness to form an alliance for the sole purpose of opposing the Government, the latter, on its side, was entitled, as a means of self-defence, to frustrate the scheme, and that, if such a state of things were suffered to continue, the results might be very mischievous. If such was their idea, they were grievously mistaken. The existing political parties must not be confounded with secret associations or treasonable combinations. Their object is clearly and openly declared in their political programmes. Even granting for a moment that the Authorities have been able to isolate the political parties, this circumstance cannot prevent those parties from uniting in the Diet. If they can combine in the Diet, what good purpose is served by impeding their alliance outside the doors of the Legislature? In point of fact, an unexpected result has been obtained; the combination of political parties has assumed a more hopeful aspect. Originally intending to form an alliance, they are now about to be united into one party." Under these circumstances, our contemporary advises the Government to think no more of suppressing political parties by unconstitutional means, but to resort to the only proper and legitimate policy, namely, that of controlling the situation by obtaining a majority in the House of Representatives. The *Kokumin-no-Tomo* says in conclusion:—"With no party supporting them, Ministers are driving the parties opposed to them to desperation. We do not blame them for contending with the parties out of power. . . . We only regret that they are following a course which is not exactly wise. If they desire to engage in a contest with political parties, why not pursue an open and manly course of action; why not strive to follow the constitutional method of obtaining a majority in the Diet? If they won the day in such a contest, nothing could be more glorious, while even defeat would still be manly."

Of course all this is very excellent advice in its way, but the defect of it is one common to much of the writing in the Japanese press—it does not go far enough. There can be no doubt that the step taken by the Government must force the hands of the opposition, and that it will have the effect of driving into actual combination whatever sections of the progressionists are capable of genuine fusion. But will that be a disadvantage? Will it even be regarded by the Government as a disadvantage? The law at present in force sanctions the foundation of political parties, but forbids their alliance or correspondence outside the Diet. It has evidently no power whatsoever to forbid such an alliance on the floor of the House. The distinction then is this—that the Government

regards as sedition any alliance formed at present, where no political issues are really before the nation, and where the sole object of such alliance must be to overthrow the Authorities. If the *Kokumin-no-Tomo*, or any other moderate representative paper, would tell us clearly and frankly what are the points of dispute between the present administration and the progressionists; what the aims which the latter really seek to compass by combined opposition, we should be in a position to distinguish between the honest and the purely fractious elements of the situation. But pretty platitudes and vague generalities leave us just where we were.

RESOLUTIONS OF "THE EQUAL TREATY ASSOCIATION."

ONE of the results of the meeting opened the other day in the Nakamura Restaurant to commemorate the "Anti-Treaty Revision Alliance," was the formation of a coterie under the high-sounding appellation of "The Equal Treaty Association." Organized by Messrs. Yagihara Hanshi, Inagaki Shimesu, Aya Takewo, Maida Kagaku and other politicians of their class, this coterie is generally regarded as a demonstration by which the inveterate foes of the *Kaishin-to* hope to prevent any amalgamation between the latter and the liberals, the *modus operandi* being to resurrect the buried issue of Treaty Revision. They held a meeting in the Koseikan on the 26th instant, and after some speechifying they adjourned to the Kaikutei, where about forty of them organized another meeting to deliberate upon regulations for their association. The following is the resolution adopted on that occasion:—The Association is formed for the purpose of investigating certain objects, meanwhile preserving an attitude of strict neutrality towards all political parties. The first object of investigation is the means by which this Empire's treaties of amity and commerce with foreign States may be revised on a basis of perfect equality, to the end that the sovereign rights of the nation may be completely asserted. The second object of the investigation will be the practical application of international laws, for which purpose bi-monthly meetings will be held and men of profound erudition well versed in diplomatic affairs will be invited to deliver lectures. The third object of investigation will be the relative positions of the rival countries in the world, in order to study the means by which the balance of power may be preserved between the Orient and the Occident. Persons desiring to become members of the Association are required to be recommended by more than two members. The expenses of the Association are to be met by contributions from the members, and the following officers are to be appointed for the conduct of the ordinary business of the Association; namely, five managers, five accountants, and one corresponding Secretary.

THE GALE.

THE gale on the 29th ult. and the heavy rain together wrought considerable damage in various parts of the Settlement in the form of flooding in the low lying parts, and by small landslips and injury to trees and fences on the Bluff. As might be expected from the direction of the wind, the Bund suffered considerably, the posts along which have been washed up into the middle of the road and much damage done to the sea wall. The Boat-house stood the gale well, but the top of the bathing barge was demolished, and lies in fragments behind the Harbour Works Office. The Creek at Yato-bashi has suffered, a portion of the retaining wall having been washed down. In the harbour of course minor damage was sustained among the shipping, one case unfortunately being attended with loss of life. The French mail steamer *Sydney* broke away from her moorings and drifted on to the U.S. corvette *Omaha*. Both vessels doubtless sustained some injury from the collision, but what is apparent from the shore is that the mail boat has lost her mizen-topmast. At the time of contact, the crew of the mail boat having been turned up as soon as she got adrift, four men were

knocked overboard, two of whom were drowned, one body having been washed on shore at the French Hatoba.

MEETING OF THE TOKYO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY.

THE Tokyo Chamber of Commerce and Industry held a meeting in the afternoon of the 26th ult. The meeting was opened at 6 o'clock, twenty-three members being present. A report was read showing the business transactions of the Chamber for the first half of the current year, commencing in January and ending in June. After this formal business was over, the meeting was asked to discuss the proposed memorial for the issue of Chamber of Commerce Regulations. Without any debate beyond a few questions relating to the import of the draft, it was unanimously decided that the memorial should be presented. The meeting then passed on to consider the contemplated project of holding a joint meeting of the delegates of all the Chambers of Commerce in the country. In making this motion, Mr. K. Masuda stated that the original object which the projectors of the scheme had in view, was to invite the opinion of commercial and industrial circles throughout the country as to the expediency of postponing the enforcement of the new commercial code. But owing to shortness of time, it was found impossible to communicate with all those representing the commercial and industrial interests of the country, so that the Tokyo Chamber had been obliged to present a memorial on its own account. Thus the memorial was deprived of much of the weight which it would have carried had it been made under the joint representation of all their *confrères*. In view of this fact, Mr. Masuda suggested that a second memorial embodying the views of the commercial and industrial classes in respect of the amendment of the new code should be presented to the proper authority; and that the Tokyo Chamber should take upon itself the work of preparing the draft amendments before November next, when the general conference of the delegates of all the local chambers is to be held in the capital. Mr. Abe Taizo opposed this motion on the ground that it would be absolutely impossible to amend the code in any satisfactory manner within two months, and moved that the proposed meeting should be deferred until next year. After some debate, it was finally decided that the meeting should be opened in November and that a memorial should be presented, not for amendment of the new law, as contemplated in the original motion, but simply for the purpose of pointing out the more important defects in the code from a practical point of view. The third draft resolution was that an investigation committee be appointed in the Chamber. A standing committee consisting of fifteen members was appointed, and this committee was afterwards distributed into the five sections of foreign trade, home trade, finance, communications, and companies. We take this report from the *Jiji Shimpō*.

YATOI.

THE theories advanced by some of the writers who undertake to instruct the public about Japanese affairs are often very novel. Here is an example, which we quote from the columns of a local English contemporary:—

The poverty of the English language has necessitated the adoption of a word from the French, viz., *employé*; but to translate *yatoi* by *employé* is to beg the question, and to deceive ourselves, and others. *Yatoi* means a hired person, or hireling; and to avoid the discourtesy of the term, the Japanese instead of borrowing a word, as we have been obliged to, prefix the honorific *o*, and speak of *o-yatoi*. To drop the honorific, and allude to an *employé* as *yatoi*, *tout court*, is to be guilty of an intentional rudeness.

Now the truth is that when a Japanese speaks of *on yatoi* or *o-yatoi*, he uses the honorific prefix not for the purpose of softening the term *yatoi*, but simply out of respect to the Government in whose service the subject of reference is employed. If he addresses the *employé* direct, the prefix *o* or *on* has a divided significance; it refers primarily to the Government and se-

condarily to the person employed. But even in this case the use of the prefix is not dictated by any peculiarity in the import of the word *yatoi*. The speaker simply follows the general rule of the Japanese spoken language, namely, that honorifics are not prefixed to names of offices—as *hanji* (a judge); *kyoku-cho* (head of a bureau)—but that they are prefixed to substantive terms having a general significance—as *sewa-yaki* (assistant), *nakodo* (go-between), and so forth. We do not say, *anata wa o-hanji de irasshaimasu ka*, but we do say, *anata wa o-nakodo de irasshaimasu ka*, though it need scarcely be observed that *nakodo* is not a word which in itself conveys any depreciatory significance. In the extract quoted above, however, there is no question of direct address; the writer speaks of “alluding to an *employé* as *yatoi*,” and in that sense he seems to us to put the saddle on the wrong horse. If we speak of an *employé* in a Government Department to an official of the Government, we should, of course, say *on-yatoi* or *o-yatoi*; but officials of the Department where the *employé* serves, would not be guilty of any rudeness whatever if they dropped the honorific in speaking of him to one another. As to the *ex cathedra* assertion that “to translate *yatoi* by *employé* is to beg the question and to deceive ourselves and others,” we must be permitted to deny it altogether. “*Employé*,” or “person employed,” is the correct translation of the word *yatoi*. The writer in our local contemporary’s columns appears to labour under the curious hallucination that some refined or courteous significance attaches to the word *employé* because it is French. The unfamiliarity of the foreign language preserves it in his eyes against the contempt attaching to its domestic equivalent. Yet we venture to assert that, in respect of politeness towards the person alluded to, there is nothing to choose between the three phrases:—“He is employed by;” “he is in the employment of;” or “he is an *employé* of.” We use *employé* because we have no equally short English expression, and for that very reason “*employé*” is the proper translation of the Japanese word *yatoi*. Take up any Japanese official roll showing the *personnel* of a Department of State and you will find several names placed under the section “*Yatoi*”—not “*o-yatoi*” or “*on-yatoi*,” but simply “*yatoi*,” *tout court*. Would you, in translating that list into English, render “*yatoi*” by “hiring,” or would you render it “*employé*”? The truth, we think, is that precisely the same shade of derogation attaches to the anglicised word “*employé*” and the Japanese word “*yatoi*.” We do not, in polite English, ask a man whether he is an *employé* of such and such a Government, or such and such a Department; we distinctly prefer to ask him whether he is “in the service of” that Government or Department. Complaints have often been made about the application of the term “*yatoi*” to foreigners in the service of Japan. Will anybody acquainted with the Japanese language tell us what he would substitute for the term?

CHINESE DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION ABROAD.

An interesting correspondence has taken place in *The Times* respecting Chinese Diplomatic representation abroad. A correspondent having criticised the manner in which Chinese Ministers abroad are selected, and having referred especially to the new Minister in London, replies have now been published from General Tchong Ki-tong and Sir Halliday Macartney. The General, by the way, when we first knew of him ten or twelve years ago, was a Captain; since then he has ascended, in popular appellation at least, through the ranks of Major and Colonel to that of General. We are informed as to the history of this correspondence, that the new Minister in London felt hurt at the original criticism, and in discussing the matter with his military attaché in Paris, was advised by the latter—who, as he says himself, has some connection with the press—to answer it. He accordingly instructed the General to write a reply, but being dissatisfied with the military man’s essay, he directed his English Secretary to undertake the task, and so the two

answers appeared together in *The Times* and are quite obviously inspired from the same source. The General’s communication is so funny that we reproduce it:—

Paris, June 26th.

While travelling recently, I read in *The Times* of May 29, an article entitled “Chinese Diplomatic Representation Abroad.” Although I am not pointed to in that article, I think it a duty, as a member of the diplomatic representation of China in foreign countries, to point out some inaccuracies of the correspondent who writes it. Having some connexion with the Press, I know that the most widely circulated of newspapers will readily insert a few true statements in reply to errors that have been made. The criticisms of the correspondent refer chiefly to the following points:—The Chinese Ministers are selected from any functionaries who will consent to go abroad. The new Minister in Paris and London, M. Sieh Fu-cheng, had no other relations with Europeans than a rather short residence at Ningpo. M. Sieh Fu-cheng was the author of a paper, in which he dwelt on good relations, especially with Russia, attaching small importance to the friendship or enmity of the other powers. The office of a representative Minister is not a stepping-stone to an important position. Chinese Ministers leave their Governments in ignorance of what takes place abroad. They select secretaries and attachés from their relations and friends. Chinese diplomatists would find it difficult to adopt the customary forms of Western diplomacy.

Such are the statements of the correspondent. Let us see what foundation there is for them. When the new Minister of China to Paris and London, his Excellency Sieh Fu-cheng, arrived here, several members of the Press came to me to ask for his biography. Acting in conformity with the precept of Confucius which teaches that modesty is a corollary of virtue, I would not grant their request. Their very imperfect judgment, now, I think, justifies me in abandoning this reserve. It is true that his Excellency Sieh was for five years Tattai of Ningpo; but he had been for ten years secretary of the Viceroy of Hankin, the superintendent of the maritime commerce of the south of China, Tseng-Kouo-zeng, the father of the late Marquis Tseng. After the death of this great man he filled the same place under the Viceroy Li Hung-chang for an equal number of years. It was thanks to the knowledge of foreign affairs acquired by him in the discharge of these duties, which brought him at every moment into communication with the European world, that he received the appointment of Tattai at Ningpo, a post opened to international commerce. He was there at the time of the Franco-Chinese difficulties, and, as a patriot, organized the defence there. At the same time, he was able to protect so well the persons and property of foreigners that the Europeans, when peace was concluded, expressed their gratitude to him in an address published at the time in a London newspaper.

He was then promoted to the office of Chief Judge of the province of Hunnan. This important office is equivalent to that of High Treasurer, filled by his Excellency Lew Shui-fun, at the time of his appointment as Chinese Minister to London and Paris. When the appointment of his Excellency Lew to the Government of Canton caused a vacancy in the diplomatic post considered by the Chinese Government to be the most important in Europe, Sieh Fu-cheng, in consequence of the services he had rendered, his long experience in international affairs, and his diplomatic capacity, was naturally appointed to succeed his Excellency Lew. I may add that it is not uncommon for a great Judge to pass to the rank of Governor or Under-Secretary of State. I may refer, as an instance, to his Excellency Kwoh, the first Minister of China and London and Paris. The accusation brought against our Ministers of leaving their Government in ignorance of what is passing abroad has as little foundation. Such silence would be less intelligible than elsewhere in a country where young *liberals* who have just left school frequently address long papers to the Emperor. Of this there is no occasion to say more. The complaint carries its own refutation.

Another point. I have before me the paper by M. Sieh. I have looked through it in vain for the extraordinary position which M. Sieh is said to have given to Russia. I only find in Chapter II, relating to the defence of the Chinese frontier, a passage advising the Government to select carefully the governor of the countries bounded by Russia, so as to maintain good relations with our neighbour, and avoid in future the misunderstandings which might arise between the subjects of the two nations daily in contact with each other. In Chapter V, M. Sieh recommends in the same way a good understanding with the other Powers. I must add a word on the subject of the secretaries and the attachés, who have also been somewhat maltreated by the correspondent. It would be somewhat difficult for me to remember that I have been Secretary of Legation for 13 years, and that I have acted in that capacity under five different Ministers without being either the relation or even the friend of any one of them. I will add, in conclusion, that the adoption of the usual forms of Western diplomacy does not inspire us with any aversion, and I prove it by not sending this letter to the government of *The Times*, but by transmitting it through the good offices of its Paris representative.—TCHONG KI-TONG, Chinese Chargé d’Affaires.

The gallant writer quotes Confucius in a curious connection. “When the new Minister first arrived, I was asked for some details of his biography, but I refused, acting in conformity with the precept of Confucius which teaches that modesty is a corollary of virtue.” The General acts modestly in refusing details of Hsieh’s biography! If he had refused details of his own (which by the way he has never done) one could understand his practice. It seems, however, that in the General’s ethical code a modest because he refuses to blow B’s trumpet. Bless thee, Confucius, how thou art translated! However, the correspondence established this much;—Hsieh has had experi-

ence of foreign affairs in the Yaméus of Tséng Kwo-fan and Le Hung-chang, and his pamphlet on the Kuldja question has been misunderstood. At any rate, it is a sign of grace that he takes so much notice of western criticism.

* * *

The mention of Sir Halliday Macartney’s name reminds us to note that the Vestry of Marylebone have abandoned their appeal in the action which he brought against them for trespass, and which he gained. But the consequences of the action do not stop there. It appears that the discussion of the matter by the members of the diplomatic corps in London amongst themselves revealed some causes of dissatisfaction, and advantage has been taken of the clear decision of the judge in the case to endeavour to get these removed. It will be known to our readers that Ambassadors or Ministers and their secretaries, servants, &c., are free from all liability to rates and taxes in the country in which they perform their functions. Now, in London the local rates on the occupants of houses are very large in amount, and usually come to a third of the gross rent. They include rates for police, school-board, poor, sewers, lighting, and half a dozen other things, and are collected—though not wholly expended—directly by the vestries. Now if an occupant of a house is exempt from the rates, the Vestry would lose them altogether, for the law distinctly says the occupant not the owner—in other words, the tenant, not the landlord—is liable for them. To prevent this, and looking at the matter wholly from the point of view of Bumble, the Vestry of Marylebone, in which parish most of the Legations in London were situated a century ago, and in which many of them are now, did a very cunning thing. A most voluminous private Act was passed through Parliament in, we think, 1798, for the purpose of consolidating all the various powers and duties of the vestry. It was of course drafted by the vestry and passed through Parliament as an ordinary private bill. It contains some hundreds of clauses, and is a small volume in itself. Somewhere in the middle of this mass of stuff was slyly inserted a clause which altered the law of the land. It provided that where houses in the parish were let to ambassadors or others who were not liable to the payment of rates by reason of their diplomatic privileges, then the vestry could come upon the superior landlord for them. The consequence is that the ambassador who is exempt by the law of Vestries and the law of England from the payment of rates is, by means of an obscure clause in a private Act, which naturally passed unnoticed, compelled in fact to pay the rates. This is how the matter works out; an ambassador sees a house which suits him and asks the rent; the owner says it is £600 per annum; the ambassador meaning business, explains who he is, whereupon the owner or his solicitor promptly replies, “Oh! £600 is the rent the tenant paying rates and taxes. If you take the house you are not liable for them, and the Vestry will come upon me. Now the rates are about £200; therefore the rent to you is £800.” This is not a matter of speculation but of actual fact, and sometimes landlords absolutely refuse to let their houses to a foreign minister at all. Thus the French Embassy at Albert Gate is not let to the French Ambassador, or his Government. The owner insisted on having as tenant a person who could be sued in British Courts and who could be forced to pay a British Vestry’s taxes. Accordingly, Rothschilds are the tenants of the Embassy and responsible to the landlord. So in half a dozen other cases the houses are nominally let to British subjects—banks, financial agents, and what not—while the real tenants are members of the diplomatic corps, all because of this wretched sneaking clause about rates. Now, against this the Foreign Ministers have at last risen in revolt. The Dutch Minister took the matter up after Sir Halliday Macartney’s case, and induced all his colleagues to sign a *note identique* or kind of round robin, on the subject to the Foreign Office in London, pointing out the grievance and suggesting the repeal of this humiliating and discreditable clause, which is

now to be found in the acts of various vestries in the West End of London. What the result of the appeal will be remains to be seen, but we are privately informed that the Ministers will go farther if necessary. They say—this is the gossip—that while no Minister abroad is so sensitive about his privileges and so ready to fight in defence of them as a British Minister, there is no capital in the world where the diplomatic corps is treated so scurvily as in London. In many other capitals a local authority which played such tricks as some London vestries have done in this instance would find its members by the heels in prison, or paying a heavy fine. It is a curious business altogether.

THE RICE CROP.

THE *Hochi Shimbun* confirms what we have written as to the effects of the recent storm upon the rice crop. Enquiries addressed to an agricultural expert by that journal, elicited the reply that the critical period for the rice crop is when the flowers are coming into bloom and the ear is forming. This process commences about the *uhyaku-toka*—210th day from the commencement of spring (*setsun*)—and continues for some three weeks. Thus the first twenty days of September are the really important time for the farmer. Previous to that period rain and storm can do little damage, unless deluges occur sufficiently heavy to bury the crop altogether. The typhoon of the 22nd instant consequently came too soon to accomplish any serious damage. The same authority explained that cold inclement weather is far more injurious to the rice than wind or rain. All the great failures of crop have happened in years remarkable for the raw, unseasonable weather prevailing throughout the summer. Floods and drought are by no means so formidable to the Japanese farmer as most people imagine: his really dreaded enemy is insufficiency of heat.

SECEDEES FROM THE "DAIDO DANKETSU."

AT the Koseikuan Meeting of the *Daido Danketsu*, held on the 24th ultimo, fifteen persons, offended by the disposition of the majority of the members to admit the *Kaishin-to* and the *Kiushu Doshi-kai* into the proposed amalgamation, withdrew from the deliberation and held a separate meeting in the Fujimi-ro. The list of the seceders contains the names of Messrs. Inagaki Shimeshi, Yagihara Hanshi, Inouye Kakugoro, Maida Anzanshi, Maida Kagaku, and others of lesser repute. These ardent gentlemen formed a coterie named "The Sunday Club," and elected Messrs. Yagihara and Maida executive officers. They published a declaration of some length, but which can be succinctly summed up as follows: We regard the policy bearing on foreign relations to be a national question of the greatest importance. We stand in diametric opposition to the *Kaishin-to* and the *Kiushu Doshi-kai* on this important question. Consequently we feel constrained to protest against the general opinion of the *Daido Danketsu*.

UNDER WHICH KING?

SADLY perplexed the Japanese must be if they are still sanguine enough to attempt the Sisyphean task of reconciling the arguments advanced by the opponents of Treaty Revision. As the times change, so do these scribbles change also, swallowing their own words without a wry face and calmly advancing statements the diametrical reverse of their previous contention. There was a day when everything depended upon fostering the spirit of opposition among foreigners themselves. Then the cry was all *cui bono*? Then the futility of hoping that the opening of the country would create any opportunities for the employment of foreign capital and foreign enterprise, was stoutly insisted on. Long articles were written to prove that Japan was played out; that her measure had been fully taken, and that she was found wanting; that only the tourist, the scientific explorer, or the invalid cared to be allowed free access to the interior; that for the practical merchant, manufacturer, agriculturist, or

capitalist, nothing more offered. It was all moonshine, we were assured, to expect that by freeing foreign trade, travel, and residence from the restrictions now imposed on them, any solid advantage would accrue to foreigners. Therefore these were urged to let well alone; to stick to their consular courts, their exemption from Japanese jurisdiction, their narrow settlements, their isolation and their ostracism. Such was the cry for many a year. But by and by a time came when it seemed essential to check the ardour of the Japanese themselves; when a probability presented itself that the Japanese nation, tired of being treated as a semi-civilized inferior, might strike off its own fetters unconditionally. What course did the unblushing opposition then pursue? Here are the *ipsissima verba* of one of their organs:—

Suppose Japan were thrown open as the happy-hunting ground of the Foreign Capitalist, what would the result be? She has abundance of cheap labour, and that is to the Capitalist what honey is to the buzzing flies. Now we must not lose sight of the fact—(we are still speaking from a Japanese standpoint)—that in these days of companies and pools and trusts and syndicates, the Occidental can simply as yet run rings round the Japanese in the management of capital. Besides, the command of the former over its amount is much greater than that of the latter, and everybody knows that the sort of law of gravitating applies to capital, its attractive power being in proportion to its mass. At present there is a very considerable number of capitalists in England on the outlook for profitable investments, as witness those Transatlantic trusts, buying up Mills and Hotels and almost everything else they can lay their octopus-like tentacles on in America,—and which, by the way, these cousins do not by any means regard as a great and unmitigated blessing. Open the country, and the chances are there is an immediate descent of these gentry upon the soil and resources of Nippon. This means, of course, that Japanese factories, on account of their smallness and limited command of capital, become simply unworkable, that they either close, or fall into the hands of the exploiters, and that the whole manufacturing industry of the country passes into the hands of these tremendous corporations,—which, be it recollected, have neither bodies to be kicked nor souls to be damned. In short, admit the foreign capitalist at the present stage of the country's industrial development and the proximate outcome of the step will be the nation's industrial slavery and consequently social degradation.

How is the position here taken to be reconciled with the contention that the opening of the country signifies nothing to foreign capital and foreign enterprise? Impossible, of course: the two contentions are utterly at variance. We hold this a small matter; however, having long ago ceased to look for logic or consistency among the mass of confused verbiage and inconsequential persiflage that is suffered to disfigure the cause of the opposition. Foreigners averse to any sweeping scheme of Treaty Revision have many excellent and sound arguments to advance, but they are not arguments advanced by such writers as the conservative we have quoted above. Be this as it may, however, what are we to say when an English journal sets itself to incite the Japanese to hug their semi-seclusion by warning them that if they abandon it, the result will be "the nation's industrial slavery and consequent social degradation"? The cowardly conservatism which ventured to raise its head last year in a season of political agitation so intense that men were ready to grasp at any straw of succour—that craven sentiment is now adopted and fomented by an English journal! Strange times these in sooth!

THE WRECKED CHINESE RAILWAY.

REFERRING to the case of the Chinese railway recently destroyed by the wanton cutting of its embankments in a time of flood, the *Chinese Times* says:—It becomes more and more patent that the general destruction of the railway on the Tongshan branch proceeded from the antagonism of the military officials, especially those stationed at the great camp of Lutai. These gentlemen have been in the habit of making most extravagant demands on the Company in the way of free passes, special cars, etc., and even insisted on being supplied with refreshment while travelling gratis. Free passes have been too lavishly granted by the directors of the Company to the whole tribe of military parasites, but the officers of the Company have required them to accommodate themselves to the

rules and regulations established for the preservation of order on the line, and for the convenience of the general public. The restraints of decency and order did not, however, suit the Lutai heroes, and because they were not allowed to subordinate the arrangements of the traffic to their barbarous military disorder, they have nourished resentment, and, an opportunity presenting itself, they seized upon it to wreak a revenge that would have brought upon them most severe punishment in any civilized country, and possibly even in China at another time. At the head of those swashbucklers is of course the General Yang, very locally yclept the Bismarck of China. When it became known that his proceedings were reported, he sat trembling in the midst of his "braves" in a condition of what is known in the West as "funk," but when the attitude of the higher authorities was found to be not unfavourable to the wreckers of the railway, the gallant General recovered, and he and his band of heroes are celebrating their triumph over that great enemy of misrule, the railway. H.E. the Viceroy has given orders to the military at Lutai to replace the railway embankment which has been destroyed. But no materials are obtainable, the country being under water, and the portion of the rolling stock accidentally left on the Tongshan section when the breach in the railway was made being quite inadequate to transport the requisite materials—estimated at half a million tons—within a less period than six months.

PROJECT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF WATER WORKS IN OSAKA.

THE first step towards the construction of water-works in Osaka was taken in 1885, when the city was suffering from cholera. The estimate then made for the necessary outlay was 2,500,000 yen and the city was to be supplied with water from the river Yodo by means of iron aqueducts, whose mileage was estimated at eighty-four *ri*. But the needed money was not forthcoming, and the work was dropped, the city not having subsequently suffered from any visitation of epidemic disease. The prevalence of cholera this year, however, resulting in more than a hundred new cases every day, and above all, the fact that the great majority of the cholera victims are residents of districts using bad water, have afforded a most cogent argument for the speedy construction of water-works. Some of the most influential citizens have been exerting their efforts to carry out the project. The delay has, indeed, been a subject of surprise to all observers. It is true that so long as Tokyo remained without a proper water supply, Osaka could not be greatly blamed for a similar want of enterprise. But the admission now made by the vernacular press, that an epidemic of zymotic disease is necessary to rouse the people of Osaka to a sense of the necessity which all civilized cities admit and act upon now-a-days, is decidedly humiliating. It must be a curious reflection that the only places which can boast the possession of water-works completed or in process of completion, are three out of the five foreign settlements.

ADVICE TO KOREA.

A KOREAN statesman, whose name is not given, is reported by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* to have had an interview lately with a Japanese General, concerning whose identity also we are told nothing. The Korean had been travelling in Europe and America, and returning home, brought with him large aspirations on the subject of reform. These he seems to have communicated to the Japanese General, and it is the advice tendered him by the latter that our Tokyo contemporary reproduces. The General seems to have been a strong conservative in one sense. He held that national reforms should be worked out, as far as possible, by the unaided strength of the nation concerned. If, he said, it were possible to employ foreigners and to use their brains without taking them into confidence, well and good. But in respect of this he invited his Korean friend to reflect carefully. What had been Japan's experience?

Before the Restoration, and especially since it, she had taken into her service many foreigners, in the capacity of military advisers, legal advisers, and so forth. Unquestionably she had profited largely by doing so, but, on the other hand, her private affairs had all become known abroad, with very inconvenient results in a military sense. Hence the General came to the not entirely relevant conclusion that national reformers should carefully and minutely examine the customs, traditions, history, and habits of their countrymen, with the view of preserving the good and altering the bad; that the duty of a small State placed between large ones should be confined to defending itself against aggression; that for such a purpose a standing army of thirty thousand men would suffice in Korea's case, inasmuch as neither China, nor Japan, nor Russia was likely to interfere with her; that she ought not to adopt the liberal policy of Western countries, but should in all reforms, foster her attachment for Oriental conservative patriotism; should encourage trade; should develop her commercial communications with China and Japan, and think chiefly of getting rich. "Otherwise she would fall a prey to the sharp foreigner."

Whoever this General may be, we cannot admire his capacity for casting up a balance. It seems to us very superficial to compare any infinitesimal and transient inconvenience which Japan may have suffered by taking foreigners into her confidence with the solid and permanent advantages she has derived from their assistance. But for her foreign employes she would still be a long way from attaining the point which she has now reached. Judged by its results, the policy that led her statesmen to resort freely to foreign aid was eminently wise and patriotic.

CHOLERA IN OSAKA.

THE cholera this year appears to show more virulence in Osaka than in any other of the localities cursed by the presence of the epidemic. Scarcely had the disease obtained a foothold in the city before it began to spread with alarming rapidity. The *Jiji Shimpō* attributes this to the general dampness of the soil in the city, the abundance of paupers, and above all to the circumstance that the Osaka folks depend upon the river for their drinking water. "Osaka," says our contemporary, "is intersected everywhere by canals, from which the greater part of the inhabitants obtain their supply of drinking water, and consequently when the virus is once communicated to the water, it speedily finds its way into every household. When the epidemic was first imported from Nagasaki this year, there were only two or three patients in Osaka, but in a very short time, five adjacent families fell victims to the disease in rapid succession. On carefully investigating the cause, it was found that the excreta of some of the first patients had been thrown into the river and that the people who caught the disease had all drunk the river water."

THE ROKUGO OVERFLOW.

COMMUNICATION by rail with Tokyo was again interrupted on Sunday in consequence of the unusually heavy rain of Saturday, and travellers between the two places had to find their way from the north side of the Rokugo to Tsurumi and *vice versa* as best they could, the trains from Yokohama going no further than the last-named station. Many persons from Tokyo returned to the capital when they beheld the condition of the river at Kawasaki, where the current ran at such a rate as to make the passage across it highly dangerous. The village of Kawasaki was of course flooded, and those acquainted with the lay of the land about there will understand to what extent when it is stated that the water flowed over the Tokyo road bridge several feet deep and with such force as to render the bridge useless as a means of crossing. The river at Tsurumi had also overflowed in places, though not sufficiently to cover the rice crop, which nowhere in that district has been injured in the slightest degree, the overflow being

generally back water. There has been no interruption of mails from Tokyo, though some delay would of course result from their transfer to and carriage in jinrikisha from Kawasaki to Tsurumi. The rainfall was evidently enormous along the course of the Rokugo, as the river rose more rapidly than usual, but one dry day in the neighbourhood of Futago and the hills beyond has reduced it to proper limits.

An incident, somewhat dramatic, though extremely inconvenient and disagreeable to the parties concerned, occurred yesterday in connection with the overflow of the Rokugo. M. Fédérici and his bride, the daughter of M. Boissonade de Fontarabie, were on the way to Yokohama to join the out-going French mail steamer. On arriving at the river it was seen that the passage across was decidedly dangerous, but M. Fédérici's duties demanded his presence in France, and he was compelled to proceed, leaving his bride to follow by the next mail. M. Fédérici got safely across, and waving a final "adieu" to the disconsolate lady on the northern shore, was soon on his way to Yokohama. M. Fédérici was married little more than a week ago, and his anticipated honeymoon has thus been very much curtailed.

MR. YOSHINO SEIKI.

CONSIDERING that a powerful section of the members elect of the Diet is endeavouring to have Mr. Yoshino Seikei appointed President of the House of Representatives, it may not be without interest to reproduce an open letter addressed to him in the columns of the *Roku-Hon*. The gist of the letter is as follows.—There are few who can surpass you in assiduity, sobriety, and justness. Since you were first elected member of the Tokyo City Assembly, you have discharged the duties of your position with unvarying devotion for the past ten years, during which interval you are reported to have absented yourself from the Assembly on two occasions only. From this circumstance alone, some idea of your character may be formed. You are a Chinese scholar, and are distinguished for simplicity of life. You still affect the *chon-mage* (the old manner of dressing the hair), but you are by no means one of those impractical scholars who abound in the community. That you are not an ordinary Chinese student, is evident from the skill with which you keep order in the local Assembly of the capital, while your unimpeachable integrity may be judged from the fact that on a notorious occasion certain bribers did not dare to approach you. No wonder, then, that you were elected to the Diet without spending a *sen* in canvassing the constituency. You are now pointed at as the most suitable candidate for the Presidency of the House of Representatives by members who do not wish to see that position occupied by a man without official experience. We also think that you are just the man to fill the important post. We do not indeed consider you a great man, nor do we think that you have the qualifications requisite for statesmen or administrators. But as a candidate for the position of President of the House of Representatives, you possess three important qualifications, viz., justness, impartiality, and skill in keeping order in debates. There are men who object to your want of experience, but your high moral character will have the effect of enhancing the weight of the Diet. In short you are the very man for the position in question.

DETERMINED SUICIDE.

A SUICIDE of a most determined character occurred on Sunday in Yokohama, the unfortunate victim of the rash act being Lieut. W. C. Turner of the U. S. Marines, recently serving on board the corvette *Omaha*. It appears that about half-past nine the deceased officer went to the store of the American Trading Company, and, having procured a small rifle, loaded the weapon, and there and then shot himself, the bullet taking effect in his brain, and causing almost instantaneous death. Lieutenant Turner, who joined the *Omaha* in April, 1888, was, with his wife,

who resided in the Club Hotel, well known in Yokohama, and both were much esteemed by a large circle of friends. Mrs. Turner was to have gone to the United States with her children by the last mail, starting on the day of the unhappy occurrence. According to original arrangements, her husband should have accompanied her, but it was found impossible to carry out this plan, and the frustration of his expectations is believed to have preyed greatly on the deceased gentleman's mind. On Sunday morning his behaviour attracted the attention of several persons, but though some notice was taken of his movements, no deliberate attempt seems to have been made to control them. On Saturday evening he had promised to see his wife again on Sunday morning, but instead of going off to the steamer he left the Hotel and proceeded to No. 28, where he asked the *banto* to let him have a revolver. The man replied that all the pistols were locked, but proceeded to Mr. Sargent's residence and told the latter of the request. Mr. Sargent at once started for the office, but before he reached it Mr. Rice had arrived and found Mr. Turner lying on the floor of one of the rooms with a rifle under him which he had obtained in the *banto's* absence. Medical assistance was at once summoned, but was of course useless. The body was removed to the Hospital. Deep sympathy is felt and expressed for Mrs. Turner, who had come ashore from the steamer to see her husband before the sad news was communicated to her. No cause for the unhappy occurrence can be assigned beyond the disappointment we have already mentioned.

The remains of the late Lieut. Turner were interred on Monday afternoon in the General Cemetery, being followed to the grave by a large number of mourners. Services were conducted at half-past five in the American Naval Hospital by Rev. W. F. Morrison, chaplain of the *Omaha*, after which the coffin was carried to the cemetery by eight men of the deceased officer's corps, accompanied by a firing party of 15 files of marines, and about 80 blue jackets from the *Omaha*, the fellow officers of the deceased being largely represented. The cortege was headed by the *Omaha's* band, playing appropriate music, while in the rear were the civilian mourners who had assembled. On the coffin were borne the shako, sword, and belt of the deceased, and these were covered by many beautiful wreaths, the offerings of brother officers and of other friends. At the grave, the firing party and accompanying detachment of seamen were formed up, and, the concluding part of the impressive service having been gone through, the usual volleys were fired. Lieut. Commander W. W. Reisinger was in command of the companies from the *Omaha*, Lieut. Cook acting as adjutant.

THE CUSTOMS RETURNS.

THE Customs returns for July furnish the following comparative figures:—

	1889.	1890.
Exports during first seven months of year	¥31,445,456	¥31,635,194
Imports during first seven months of year	¥35,536,155	¥49,455,557
Totals	¥66,981,611	¥81,090,751

Two features of these returns are remarkable: first, that the total trade is greater by ten millions this year than it was last year, and secondly that whereas exports and imports were virtually equal for the first seven months of 1889, the latter exceeded the former by no less than 17,820,363 *yen* for the corresponding period of the present year. This second fact is in great part accounted for by the one item of rice. In round numbers, the export of rice last year during the period we are examining amounted to 6,793,971 *yen*, whereas the staple was imported during the same period this year to the extent of over seven million *yen*. This represents a difference of nearly 14 million *yen* in favour of the import trade as compared with last year. Excluding rice altogether from the account, we find that the export trade for the first seven months of the present year amounted

to 31½ millions, in round numbers, the corresponding figure for last year being 28½ millions, while the import trade amounted to 42½ millions against 35½ millions for last year. There has consequently been an increase of 9½ million yen over the total normal trade, of which increase 6½ millions stand to the credit of imports and 3 millions to that of exports. These are remarkable figures. During the past three months the sterling value of the silver yen has appreciated by more than twenty per cent., which means that persons importing goods from gold-using countries and selling them at the same prices as before to Japanese consumers, make an additional profit of twenty per cent., while Japanese staples bought at the same rates as before in Japan and sold at the same rates as before abroad, return twenty per cent. less than before to the merchants engaged in the transaction. Evidently the effect of such a fluctuation ought to be almost crippling to the export trade and correspondingly encouraging for the import. Such indeed has been to some extent the case. The quantity of silk sent out of the country up to the end of August was only one-third of the quantity exported up to the same date last season. Japanese holders have not apparently realised that the situation imperatively demands concessions on their part. It is very probable that some of them are in a tight place, having taken the staple from the producers at prices that included no margin for serious fluctuations in exchange. But however this may be, there is no manner of question that unless Japan adapts her rates—as she can very well afford to do—to the altered silver price of the sovereign, the European and American markets cannot take her staple. Out of such a dilemma there can be but one exit, and during the remaining months of the year we shall probably see very large shipments of silk, especially since the stocks available for export are much larger than they were last year. That the export trade up to the end of July increased by three million yen in the teeth of such deterrent conditions speaks volumes for its vitality. With regard to imports, on the other hand, it would probably be unsafe to assume that exchange influenced them greatly during the period we are considering. The fact of American legislation seems to have been always regarded with distrust in Yokohama, and its consequences were greatly under-rated. Even when the Bill had become law, many people here believed that its effects had been fully discounted so soon as the dollar was driven to 3/5, and that a decline from that point rather than an advance was to be looked for. We ourselves never shared these views. Writing in the first week in June, we expressed the conviction that the contemplated action of the American legislature would send the silver dollar to four shillings, approximately, and that any fall for below that point need not be anticipated for a considerable interval. If any import merchants shared this conviction, they probably imported large stocks of goods before the upward movement of silver became very marked. But we do not think that such was the case, and under any circumstances only a small part of the increased imports can be attributed to this cause. It will be a matter of much interest to analyze, by and by, the influence really exercised upon the import trade by the rise in exchange. From Shanghai we learn that importers have fared sumptuously. In some cases, of course, rates were settled at the time of shipping the goods, and embarrassment rather than benefit was the result. But most of the large houses, appreciating the situation, left themselves a free hand, and have reaped fine profits. In Yokohama a more cautious policy appears to have been pursued with, of course, proportionately disappointing results. But as yet we have no returns which enable us to speak with confidence.

HOW TO GET TO NIKKO.

INQUIRIES have been addressed to us with regard to the best way of reaching Nikko during the break-down of the railway, and with regard to the probable time that must elapse before the

line is reopened for traffic. As to the latter point, our information is to the effect that the road will not be brought into working order before the middle of this month. The section beyond Omiya has been completely inundated by the water of the Tonegawa, which at its time of greatest flood, rose to a height of 20½ feet above its usual level. Looking at the map and remembering that the ordinary highways must have suffered nearly as much as the railroads, the best plan of procedure seems to be a journey by water from Tokyo to some point on the line beyond the breakage. There is, indeed, under normal circumstances, a service of steamers on the Tone river from Tokyo to Koga, but owing to the swollen state of the river and the consequent rapidity of the current this service is now suspended. Returning from Nikko to the capital the river route is of course available, but the up journey seems scarcely practicable until the volume of water is somewhat reduced. Just at present, we believe that the best, indeed the only, plan, is to proceed by train as far as Kumagaye, and there take *jinrikisha* to Ashikaga. The latter lies on the Ryomo Railway from Mayebashi to Oyama. The distance to be traversed by *jinrikisha* is only six ri at the outside, but the roads are exceedingly bad. At Oyama the train can be taken to Nikko. The only chance of accomplishing this journey satisfactorily would be to leave Tokyo by the first train, starting from Ueno at 6 a.m. Kumagaye would then be reached at 8.05, and since the train from Mayebashi to Oyama passes Ashikaga at 12.12, the traveller would have about 4 hours for the *jinrikisha* journey of 15 miles. Reaching Oyama at 1.06, he would leave that station at 2.15 and be at Nikko at 4.40. It ought to be possible to accomplish the 15 miles between Kumagaye and Ashikaga in 4 hours, but as the passage of the Tonegawa is included and as the roads are greatly cut up, nothing can be predicted with certainty.

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION IN FRANCE.

SIR B. SAMUELSON M.P., who has lately been studying technical education on the continent of Europe, has written an extremely interesting report on elementary education in France, which has been printed by order of the House of Commons. It seems that for more than twenty years every commune in France of not less than 500 inhabitants has been compelled to provide at least one public elementary school for boys and one for girls, but if the commune contains less than this number the school may be mixed. Since 1881, however, there have been so many extensions in the system of education that it may be said to be completely transformed. By successive Acts elementary education was made gratuitous, compulsory, and strictly secular; but, to enable the parents and guardians to provide religious instruction for the children outside the school, one day in the week in addition to Sunday is reserved for this purpose. In France the cost of primary instruction is generally defrayed by the Central Government, by the departments, and by the communes in varying proportions, but the schools of Paris are maintained entirely by the municipality. How sensible Paris is of the importance of giving children the benefit of a good education is strikingly apparent when we consider the amount of money expended and the extent and quality of the instruction given. There are 111,112 children on the books of the primary schools of Paris, for whose education the city annually pays nearly £800,000, which means, if we exclude rent, interest, and repairs of buildings, £5 18. 7d. per head. This is much higher than the rate in the Board schools of England and Wales, where the average cost is only £2 48. 7d. The courses of instruction are, however, very different in Paris. Even in the infant schools "the instruction comprises the first principles of moral education, rudimentary lessons on common objects, the first elements of drawing, writing, and language, "notions" of natural history and geography, stories within their comprehension, manual exercises, and graduated gymnastic ex-

ercises." In the schools for elder children the courses are, it need hardly be stated, much more advanced and comprehensive. Since 1882 the distinction between compulsory and optional subjects has been abolished, and the ordinary curriculum of the primary schools of Paris now includes "moral and civic instruction; reading and writing; the French language and the elements of French literature, geography, history, elementary notions of public law and political economy; the elements of science and their application to agriculture, health, and the industrial arts; manual instruction and the use of tools in the principal handicrafts; the elements of drawing, modelling, and music; gymnastics, and for boys military exercises, for girls needlework." This programme, Sir B. Samuelson says, includes all the fundamental notions of moral, intellectual, and physical instruction, with the exception of religion, which is left to the direction of the child's natural guardians. The variations in the distribution of these subjects with respect to the time devoted to them are very sensible, and for the older scholars much more time is devoted to technical education. Sir B. Samuelson was, however, less satisfied with the elementary science teaching than with other branches, though he adds that in the advanced schools for scholars above the age of thirteen "science is taught under the best conditions." For the teaching of geography, arithmetic, and geometry he has nothing but praise. Home lessons are seldom given; when they are, they only consist of exercises of the memory in the form of short pieces to be recited which can easily be learnt in twenty minutes. Moreover, in all the primary schools throughout the country corporal punishment is absolutely prohibited. The salaries of the teachers are not so high as in the London Board schools, so far as the highest positions are concerned. In Paris the maximum is £212 for male and £180 for female teachers, but the average is for the former between £108 and £144, and for the latter between £94 and £124 per annum. The statistics which give the occupations of the parents of the children in the primary schools are also very interesting. Of the professional class there are 3,000, of officials 7,000, of clerks and shopmen 16,000, of tradesmen 20,000, of domestic servants 4,000, and of workmen 63,000. The results of the examinations testify to the general efficiency of the instruction, and the health of the children in school is carefully inquired into. Twice in every month there is an inspection of every school, and for this work 120 salaried medical practitioners are engaged, who inquire into the lighting, heating and ventilation of the buildings; and in addition to this the children are individually examined once a month, while the head teachers receive from the inspectors such instructions as enable them to detect the earliest symptoms of infectious diseases.

THE IMPERIAL UNIVERSITY.

LAST April there was much talk of the advisability of separating the University from the Government and attaching it to the Imperial Household Department. By journalists and many other folk this idea was attributed to a sense of the expediency of removing the financial affairs of the University beyond the control of the Diet, it being anticipated at the time that the tendency of the Diet would be strongly in the direction of cutting down all grants of public money in aid of education, and that the University would probably fare ill during the first exercise of this economical mania. We never, for our own part, attached much importance to the apprehension. The representatives of the people are likely to be at least as solicitous as the Government about the success and prosperity of the National University, and it would surprise us greatly if they were so shortsighted and unpatriotic as to cut down the appropriation for its support. Such seems to be the impression in other quarters also, for the subject has now been revived, and we read in the *Mainichi Shimbun* that the dominant idea of its originators last April was, not to secure the University against unwise retrenchment on

the part of the Diet, but to increase its functions and add to its resources. Prince Sanjo, Counts Yamada, Matsukata, and Saigo, and among the Privy Councillors Counts Higashikaze and Soyejima, Viscounts Fukuoka and Sano and Mr. Motoda are said to be now in favour of the project. If the thing is to be done at all, the sooner it is done the better, for all such changes, if effected on the eve of the assembly of the Diet, are likely to be regarded with disfavour by that body.

THE MAGAZINES.

AMONGST articles in the magazines last month which will interest our readers is one by Mr. F. H. Balfour formerly of Shanghai, in the *National* called "Angelic Immorality." The subject is Goldsmith's "Vicar of Wakefield," and the title is derived from the famous line "He wrote like an angel, and talked like poor Poll," or as Mr. Balfour, in Johnsonian phrase puts it, "not only did he write like an angel, but talked, actually talked, like one of those accomplished creatures which, in their jewelled ornate and power of soaring heavenward, resemble angels quite as nearly as any other beings upon our globe." Mr. Balfour thinks the morality of the famous novel is abominable, and attacks poor Dr. Primrose in the most violent fashion. One wonders why Mr. Balfour thought it worth while to write the article, and why Mr. Alfred Austin thought it worth while to insert it. In the *New Review*, Mr. H. M. Moore writes on "The first General Election in Japan," and gives a sketch of the different Japanese political parties, for the information in which, unless we are greatly mistaken, he is indebted to certain recent articles in the *Japan Mail*. Sir Alfred Lyall in the *Nineteenth Century* discourses on "Official Polytheism in China," basing his observations on the *Peking Gazette*. He has compiled one or two similar articles already with materials obtained from the same source. They appeared, we believe, in the *Fortnightly* ten or twelve years ago and are reprinted in his volume of "Asiatic Studies," published by Mr. Murray.

THE USUI PASS.

News published by the vernacular press from Uyeda, in Shinshu, says that owing to a violent storm of rain and wind on the 21st, 22nd, and 23rd ultimo, the new road over the Usui-toge was rendered impassable by landslips of considerable magnitude, by which also seventy telegraph-poles were thrown down and the section of the Shinyetsu railway between Myoda and Karuizawa became unfit for the passage of trains. Even the carriage of mail matter seems to have been stopped from the 23rd to the 28th. It is further reported that considerable damage to houses and crops has been caused by the flooding of the Chikuma river. Evidently the elements have conspired to imprison the good folks who have fled to Karuizawa to escape the mid-summer heat of the capital. Nikko, too, still remains cut off, so far at least as communication by railway is concerned. It is possible, of course, to make the journey to and from Tokyo by steaming down or up the Tonegawa, but the operation is tedious, and somewhat expensive, a shrewd individual having bought up all the available boats and fixed the tariff at twenty yen for the down trip.

THE "INQUEST" ON MONDAY.

THE coroner's inquiry held last Monday to investigate the circumstances under which Lieutenant Turner of the United States Marines met his death, seems to have been conducted in a remarkably perfunctory manner. We have no doubt that the verdict of temporary insanity was correct, but the evidence on which it was founded can only be described as very meagre. Of the two witnesses who saw Lieut. Turner on the morning of his unhappy death and who deposed that he failed to recognise them and appeared to be more or less distraught, one had known him for two years and had been frequently in his company. Yet no question was put to this witness with reference to the habits of the deceased or his

general condition. It is stated, too, that Lieutenant Turner had been in hospital and that he was about to return thither. Yet no evidence was sought from the hospital as to the nature of his ailments and the state of his mind. Reading the account of the inquest, we are almost constrained to think that the jurors were influenced rather by their own knowledge than by the evidence submitted for their consideration. Of course something of that kind may be expected to happen frequently in a place like Yokohama. It is practically impossible to find a jury here the members of which can approach an inquiry with their minds in the ideal condition of neutrality and ignorance contemplated by the law. The original function of the jury was not to determine the facts of a case according to evidence, but to deliver an opinion in the absence of evidence. The jurors were, in short, expected to pronounce their idea of the affair from their previous knowledge of the parties concerned and from their conception of what local public opinion thought about it. A jury in Yokohama or any other small settlement, is apt to revert unconsciously to the pristine type of this great institution. But there are considerations which make for the advisability of avoiding the semblance of such a tendency, and in the case we are considering, since evidence might easily have been procured to render the inquiry complete and independent, it seems a pity that the effort to procure it was not made.

NAGASAKI AMENITIES.

SOME time ago a certain Mrs. Schroder, who had arrived recently at Kobe from Shanghai, died of cholera in the former settlement. It was at first supposed that the deceased was identical with a Japanese lady of the same name who resides in Tsukiji; and we accordingly wrote that "we believed" her to be Japanese. Subsequently inquiry showed, however, that the victim of cholera was not Japanese; that she had been at one time a nurse in Shanghai; and that she had left that settlement in a state of considerable prostration from diarrhoea. Europeans and Americans in Japan have hitherto enjoyed comparative immunity from cholera, and when cases occur there is natural anxiety to ascertain any explanatory particulars. Hence the publication of details which would otherwise seem superfluous. The *Nagasaki Rising Sun* re-produced our original expression of belief as to Mrs. Schroder's nationality. Thereupon a person calling himself a friend of the deceased, waited upon the editor of that journal and gave him a broken head. It is impossible to conceive any reason for the assault, since however proud of his nationality and civilization this truculent individual may have been, he can scarcely have deemed it an insult to Mrs. Schroder that she should be supposed a Japanese lady. At all events, he was summoned before the United States Consular Court by the victim of his assault and fined twenty-five dollars. How the amount was assessed we do not know, but that it is a ludicrously small sum, will be admitted by every one. If Occidental *soshi* can purchase for twenty-five dollars the privilege of entering a man's house and laying his head open, it will behave people to take measures on their own account for punishing such lawlessness.

TERRIBLE INUNDATION IN SAITAMA PREFECTURE.

THE heavy storm of the 22nd ult. caused serious flooding of the rivers Arakawa, Ichinokawa, and Tokigawa in the Yokomi District of Saitama Prefecture. The inundations resulted in a total loss of crops over an area measuring more than two thousand *cho* of farms and rice-fields, and in the flooding of more than one thousand dwelling houses, three of which were completely swept away. There were five persons drowned. Where the flood was deepest, the roofs only of houses could be seen, and in other places the water stood at a height of four or five feet above the floors. Thus about 3,500 people have been reduced to a state of great distress, almost to starvation indeed; and though no effort is being spared by

the local Authorities to afford speedy relief by the distribution of boiled rice and other food, the continuance of the floods makes it a very difficult task to carry out the work of succour effectually. The cause of this disastrous catastrophe is attributed to a weak spot in a dyke which was in course of construction. The dyke yielded readily to the pressure of the flood at this point, and was speedily demolished altogether. Among many hair-breadth escapes, illustrating the extraordinary rapidity of the water's rise, we read of a man named Shidzokura Jiro, who, perceiving the muddy stream mounting towards his dwelling, hastily led out his two children, a girl of seventeen and a boy of twelve, and fled to a boat. The next moment the boat, struck by a surging rush of water, heeled over and was whirled away like an arrow over the turbulent flood. Two boatmen plunged into the boiling stream to save the young people at the imminent danger of their own lives, but all in vain. One of the boatmen, after being swept down for a couple of miles, was fortunately washed ashore upon the roof of a temple and the other succeeded in raising himself into the branches of a tree, where he passed a very uncomfortable night in the company of snakes. He was picked up by a relief boat in the morning.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE PEERS.

ON the occasion of the meeting of the five orders of peers, convened by Prince Iwakura in the Rukmei-kan, on the 24th ultimo, it was resolved that a special committee of fifteen should be appointed. In pursuance of this resolution, another meeting was held on the 28th ultimo to elect the committee. The total number of votes cast was eighty, and the result was the election of the following noblemen:—Marquis Hachisuka, Count Yanagisawa, Viscount Tani, Baron Makimura, Viscount Kageyukoji, Viscount Nabeshima, Baron Senke, Viscount Kano, Prince Iwakura, Marquis Asano, Baron Nagaoka, Count Matsura, Viscount Matsudaira, Prince Tokugawa, and Viscount Ogiu. This committee has nothing in common with the so-called "Committees for investigating Political Matters" so much in vogue among political parties. It was appointed for the sole purpose of deliberating in a convenient manner upon the different rules which the House of Peers may be called upon to make in accordance with the provisions of Art. 51 of the Constitution, which says:—"Both Houses may enact, besides what is provided for in the present Constitution and in the Law of the Houses, rules necessary for the management of their internal affairs."

SILVER COIN IN CHINA.

"At last," writes the *Chinese Times*, "after many false starts and much delay, a silver coinage for at least so much of China as is comprised within the jurisdiction of the Governor-General of the Liang Kuang is an accomplished fact." A proclamation has been issued by the Shanhou Chu (the provincial administrative board), intimating that large and small silver coins have been minted in adequate quantities for general circulation, and calling upon merchants to take them at the current rate and in every way place them on the same footing as the foreign dollar. The coinage consists of dollars, half dollars, twenty, ten, and five cent pieces, and very handsome coins they are, bearing on the one side the Imperial Dragon surrounded by an inscription in English setting forth the value of the coin, which in the case of the dollar is seven mace two candareens. On the reverse side the centre of the coin has inscribed on it the four characters "Kuang-hsi Yüan-pao" in Chinese and Manchu, surrounded by the Chinese version of the English words on the face. (Kuangtung Sheng-tsao; K'u P'ing Ch'i Ch'ien Eih Pen.) The weight of the dollar very closely approximates that of the Japanese yen, being, if anything, a trifle heavier. It contains 90 per cent. pure silver, the half-dollar containing 86 per cent., and the other coins 82 per cent. It seems a pity that the Governor-General did not take advantage of the

opportunity thus afforded him to take steps to suppress the very objectionable habit of chopping dollars, so much in vogue in the South of China. If energetically taken up it ought not to prove a difficult undertaking, and it would certainly confer a great boon on the foreigners as well as on the Chinese themselves. His Excellency having made a beginning of what we fear will to him not be a very profitable enterprise, it is to be hoped that the Imperial Government will be brought to see the great necessity that exists for a national coinage, and will themselves take charge of the mint. It is much too large and costly for the requirements of the provincial government, but in the hands of the Central Authorities would prove an important factor in the great work of fusing the Empire into one homogeneous whole."

KOREA AGAIN.

SOMETIME ago the *Hochi Shimbun* and some other vernacular papers published a statement that the Korean political refugees, Kin-o Kiun and Boku-yei Ko were contemplating a return to their peninsular home and had asked for the pardon of the King of Korea through the Korean Minister to Japan and an American Councillor in the employment of the Korean Government. This little item of news seems to have created quite an alarm in the Hermit Kingdom, especially among the clansmen of Bin, now in power. Orders are said to have been at once issued and actually carried out for arresting some fifty men and women having relations to the family of Kin. The Minister in Tokyo was removed from his diplomatic office and sent to some unimportant post in a remote part of the Kingdom, and the American Councillor lost much of his influence with the dominant Bin clan. On being interviewed, Mr. Kin-o Kiun, who is now sojourning in Tokyo, told the *Yiji Shimpō's* reporter that he had no knowledge whatever of the act ascribed to him by the vernacular papers. In fact he affirmed that he had no idea of returning to his country, and that he intends to devote the remainder of his life to the reclamation of some land in Hokkaido. He said with great feeling that it caused him bitter grief to find himself thus unwittingly made the cause of suffering to his friends at home. In this context, our contemporary remarks that undue importance was purposely attached to the statements of the Japanese papers by some political wire-pullers at the Korean Court, with the object of undermining the growing influence of Mr. Kin Ka-chin, the Korean Minister to Japan.

A PROBLEM IN JAPANESE POLITICS.

UNDER this heading, the *Koku-Hon* of a recent date discusses a question which, though at present attracting little notice, is destined sooner or later to become very important under the new régime. Suppose that any statesman in the Opposition has been called upon to form a Ministry, what will he do with the crowd of his followers who made politics their livelihood and who, therefore, expect to be rewarded by their leader for their services? In Japan, an official career is one of the best paying professions, and ambitious young men naturally seek in most cases to enter the civil service. Such being the case, the reward to which the majority of the professional politicians in any party look to is an official position. Our contemporary tells us that a large number of men have special claims on their leaders for rewards in the shape of official posts, as they have sacrificed their fortune in the cause of their party to such an extent that they are on the verge of ruin. The Tokyo magazine thus thinks that any party leader, on being required to assume the responsibility of constructing a Cabinet, will be placed in an embarrassing situation. He must either satisfy his needy followers by admitting them into officialdom, or disregard their claims. If he follow the first course, it will be necessary to dispense with the existing system of competitive examinations, a step which is incompatible with the progressive spirit of the time. On the other hand, the pursuance of the second course would involve a serious rupture between the leader and majority of his followers.

The *Koku-Hon* illustrates this point by referring to the case of Count Goto. Since his entrance into the present Government, he no longer possesses the same influence which he formerly wielded over the members of the *Daigo Danketsu*. As to Count Okuma's case, our contemporary observes that he was able to maintain his power over his party while he held the portfolio of Minister of Foreign Affairs, solely because his Ministerial position was a secondary one. Had he been Minister President of State, the case would have been entirely different; it would, then have been extremely difficult for him to preserve the allegiance of his party without giving a share of the official honey to a large number of his followers. Count Itagaki being the first statesman in the camp of the Opposition, our contemporary addresses itself chiefly to him, and asks him to consider the means which he would employ to satisfy his followers, should he ever find himself in a position to form a Cabinet.

CUSTOMS RETURNS.

THE following is a summary of the Customs Returns for July, showing the foreign trade of Japan for the month:—

	EXPORTS AND IMPORTS.	
	1890. KIYOKU YEN.	1890. SILVER YEN.
Exports	4,638,839,500	5,258,875,370
Imports	5,190,625,000	8,857,832,720

Total exports and imports	14,116,708,090
Excess of imports	3,598,957,350

	CUSTOMS DUTIES.	
	1890. KIYOKU YEN.	1890. SILVER YEN.
Exports	162,377,281	255,977,508
Imports	255,977,508	11,218,382

Total	429,573,261
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TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS TO AND IMPORTS FROM VARIOUS FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

	Exports. Silver Yen.	Imports. Silver Yen.	Total. Silver Yen.
United States of Ame.	2,465,614,000	644,251,760	3,109,865,760
Great Britain	353,300,120	2,547,073,150	2,899,373,270
Hongkong	1,016,614,000	616,709,320	1,633,323,320
China	476,150,240	938,759,060	1,414,909,300
British India	39,022,540	1,256,597,000	1,295,619,540
France	284,212,970	300,507,790	644,720,760
Korea	60,587,310	504,890,660	575,477,970
Germany	61,557,250	495,410,150	556,967,400
Canada & other British America	379,287,110	1,337,750	380,624,860
Switzerland	313,400	88,147,700	88,461,100
Belgium	7,817,970	70,651,130	78,469,100
U. S. Philippine Islands	7,714,400	354,000,470	361,714,870
Siam	120,000	47,140,310	47,260,310
Russia	9,057,640	35,337,720	44,395,360
Australia	15,223,900	70,218,800	85,442,700
Italy	14,501,340	18,411,110	32,912,450
Denmark	—	11,098,200	11,098,200
Austria	4,370,500	3,600,210	7,970,710
Holland	3,127,050	2,208,350	5,335,400
Spain	50,000	2,150,000	2,200,000
Hawaii	1,437,620	10,700	1,448,320
Portugal	—	870,700	870,700
Turkey	85,000	320,700	405,700
Other Countries	78,608,320	1,163,350,120	1,241,958,440
Total	5,102,747,620	8,857,327,790	13,960,075,410

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS FROM AND TO EACH PORT.

	Exports. Silver Yen.	Imports. Silver Yen.	Total. Silver Yen.
Yokohama	3,028,727,930	4,714,358,860	7,743,086,790
Kobe	1,500,359,060	3,167,723,720	4,668,082,780
Osaka	162,740,710	3,870,000,110	4,032,740,820
Nagasaki	331,018,430	320,171,600	651,190,030
Hakodate	80,777,510	130,425,440	211,202,950
Shimonoseki	2,451,660	120,584,910	123,036,570
Mori	44,040,700	—	44,040,700
Hakata	715,710	5,900,470	6,616,180
Karatsu	13,191,700	—	13,191,700
Kuchinotsu	91,751,500	—	91,751,500
Mitsui	10,107,000	—	10,107,000
Shimonaka	11,015,000	8,660,200	19,675,200
Shimonaka	2,245,100	2,223,800	4,468,900
Sasumi	740,000	708,290	1,448,290
Ofuna	6,245,000	—	6,245,000

Specie and Bullion { Exports	1,324,222,190
{ Imports	29,194,010

Total	1,353,416,200
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Excess of exports	1,500,028,150
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VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS BY JAPANESE MERCHANTS AND GOVERNMENT.

GOVERNMENT.		
By Japanese Merchants { Exports	57,618,500	
{ Imports	1,951,689,880	
Imported by Government	129,484,100	

THE CONSTITUTION AND TREATY REVISION.

"It is reported" says the *Nippon*, "that the Minister for Foreign Affairs is determined to suffer no interference of the Diet in any matter connected with treaty revision. Viscount Aoki seems to attach to article 13 of the Constitution, saying 'The Emperor declares war, makes peace and concludes treaties,' a meaning sufficiently extensive to render all matters appertaining to treaty revision wholly independent of the Diet."

But as article 37 of the Constitution provides that 'every law requires the consent of the Imperial Diet,' the Viscount's opinion is entirely untenable. That the power of concluding treaties belongs to the prerogatives of the Crown is beyond any possible doubt. It is also true that no express provision is made in the Constitution defining the powers of the Diet in regard to matters of this kind. But as the conclusion of treaties is a national affair of the gravest importance, it behoves a Minister of State to avail himself of every possible means to ascertain the view entertained by the people. True statesmanship requires him to base the conclusion of treaties upon the consent of the nation. That legerdemain policy which shuns public observation and tries to work in darkness should no longer be resorted to by statesmen of the present day. However, the report concerning the determination of Viscount Aoki may possibly be a mere groundless rumour: its accuracy cannot be vouched for." We (*Japan Mail*) venture to assure our contemporary that it is a groundless rumour. No one acquainted with the present Minister for Foreign Affairs could suppose for a moment that he contemplates any course of action likely to conflict with the provisions of article 37 of the Constitution. The *Nippon* and its fellow-thinkers had better give themselves no further concern about phantoms of their own creation.

MR. KANEKO AND THE NOBLES.

On the last day of July a social gathering of the Nobles was held at the Kazoku-kaikan, Ueno. Some speechifying took place, among the speakers being Mr. Kaneko, who returned recently from a tour in Europe—whither he went to investigate the practical details of parliamentary work—and who, after his return, received the appointment of Chief Secretary to the Upper House. The subject of Mr. Kaneko's address was "The Responsibility of the Nobles," and his manner of handling it gave rise to much comment. Unfortunately no detailed report of the address has been published, but the gist of it, so far as we can gather, was very unfavourable to the Nobles. Mr. Kaneko began by comparing the share taken by the nobility in England with the share taken by the nobility in Japan in bringing about constitutional government, and if we may trust the published version of his words, he affirmed that whereas the nobles of England had contributed largely to the result, the nobles in Japan could not claim any credit at all for a work which had been accomplished entirely by the *Shizoku* and the commoners. Contrasting the two Houses of Parliament, Mr. Kaneko went on to say that the advantage in respect of ability and experience lay plainly with the lower House, and he then proceeded to ask the Nobles what they meant to do in return for the favours bestowed on them by the Emperor, and how they intended to secure their own future. It may well be supposed that such harsh speaking gave no little umbrage to the Nobles, but Mr. Kaneko's utterances were nevertheless left unnoticed publicly until a few days ago, when at a social gathering of the five orders of nobility in the Rokumei-kan, under the presidency of Prince Shimadzu Tadayoshi and Shimadzu Tadanari, the well known Senator Viscount Kayada seized the occasion to utter a very strong protest on behalf of his peers. His speech is given in several of the vernacular journals. It ran thus:—"At the Kazoku-kaikan, the other day, Mr. Kaneko, Chief Secretary of the House of Peers, gave an address in which he pronounced the Nobles to be nationally useless, and spoke of them as a body in terms of great contempt. On what grounds did he found this condemnatory estimate? A man of his knowledge and information cannot surely be ignorant of the services formerly rendered by the Nobles to the Imperial House and to the country. In the sixth month of the sixth year of *Kayei* (1853) when the American Commodore Perry came to Japan, and when the officials of the Bakufu Government were thrown into a state of confusion, it was the Prince of Mito who rose to the situation and sent the two Nobles, Fujiwara and Toda, to the various fiefs to arrange matters."

Again in the *Ansei* (1854-1859), *Genji* (1864), *Keio* (1865-1867) and *Meiji* eras, in the Fushimi war and the Oshu campaign it was the Princes Shimadzu, Mori, Nabeshima, Tosu, Li, Date, and their illustrious retainers, Yoshida, Hashimoto, Saigo, and Okubo who did everything. Then in the story of the great work of the Restoration, where do the names of Princes Sanjo, Konoye, Kuno, Nakayama, and Iwakura stand? Without the aid given by the bearers of these great names, the *Shizoku* and *Heimin*, whatever their abilities and earnestness, could not have accomplished the national reform. In a word, the services rendered by the Nobles are great. On what pretext does Mr. Kaneko despise them? Is it because they have made themselves little heard since the Restoration and the fall of feudalism? They have only been silent because the occasion to speak did not present itself. But Mr. Kaneko also declared that as the chief function of the Nobles is to uphold the Throne, they ought to remain a separate body and have no intercourse with the commoners (*Heimin*). This is an error. It is true that distinctions of *Kazoku*, *Shizoku*, and *Heimin* exist in Japan, but from the day that parliamentary institutions are adopted, nobles and commoners are placed on the same level as subjects of the empire, and are equally called on to maintain its independence by their exertions. Most unreservedly do I condemn the opinions expressed by Mr. Kaneko on these points."

THE AMALGAMATION OF POLITICAL PARTIES.

THE amalgamation of all the progressive parties continued for many months to be an absorbing topic of political discussion, and now that the Constitutional Liberal Party has been organised, the political prophets are busy forming conjectures as to the cause of the movement. The *Yiji Shimpō* advances an interesting hypothesis, not vouching for its accuracy, but simply giving it as a theory entertained in certain quarters. Its gist is that Counts Kuroda and Okuma are the actors behind the curtain, Messrs. Kawashima Jun and Taketomi Tokitoshi being also assigned very important rôles in the drama. Indeed, the connection of these gentlemen with the movement is assumed as strong circumstantial evidence of the truth of the conjecture. Mr. Kawashima, our contemporary says, had long been known as one of the most confidential lieutenants of Count Matsukata, but after his return from Europe, he attached himself to Count Kuroda more intimately than to his former chief. Mr. Taketomi enjoys the special confidence of Count Okuma. This much premised, the Tokyo journal refers its readers to the resignation of Counts Kuroda and Okuma on the treaty revision question of last year. It assumes that Messrs. Kawashima and Taketomi shared in full the mortification of their respective chiefs, and that this feeling exercised a powerful influence in shaping their future course. Mr. Kawashima organized the *Doshikai* in Kagoshima, his native country, while Mr. Taketomi's section of the *Kiushiu Kaishin-to* became more enthusiastic than ever in their support of Count Okuma. Ere long, these two parties combined to form the *Kiushiu Shimpō-to*, the avowed object of which was uncompromising antagonism to clan government. The predominance of *Choshu* statesmen in the Cabinet,—we are quoting from the *Yiji Shimpō*,—must have been very offensive to the catholic views of these gentlemen. At all events, the *Kiushiu* party took the initiative in bringing all the progressionists into one political camp. The *Kaishin-to* was the first to concur in the project, but the *Aikoku-to* was by no means less distinguished for zeal in promoting the proposed union. In regard to this attitude of Count Itagaki's party, the following conjecture is advanced:—A little prior to the collapse of last year's treaty revision programme, Count Kuroda tried to induce Count Itagaki to enter the Cabinet, in order to consummate his pet scheme of bringing together all the noted men of the Restoration. Count Okuma was a warm supporter of the admission of the Tosa statesman into the Cabinet. A meeting was held between the three Counts, and everything was appa-

rently arranged upon a satisfactory basis, but before their resolve could be translated into action, the Minister President and the Minister for Foreign Affairs resigned their portfolios. Now Mr. Kataoka Kenkichi, one of the leading spirits in the amalgamation project, is to Count Itagaki what Messrs. Kawashima and Taketomi are to Count Kuroda and Count Okuma respectively. Nothing was more natural, says the *Yiji Shimpō*, than that a good understanding should spring up between these three lieutenants. Of course the upshot of these conjectures is that, should political power fall into the hands of the amalgamated party, Count Kuroda will be the future Minister President, Count Itagaki the President of the Privy Council, and Count Okuma the Cabinet Councillor, while to Messrs. Kawashima, Taketomi, Kataoka, Kono, Oi, Hayashi, Oye, Shimada, Tanimoto, Take-mouchi, and other satellites will be assigned the Ministerships and Vice-Ministerships of the different Departments of State.

THE GENERAL MEETING OF THE "KAISHIN-TO."

THE long expected general meeting of the *Kaishin-to* came off in the afternoon of the 1st instant at the Nakamura Restaurant near Ryogoku-bashi. The meeting was formally opened at 2 o'clock with Mr. Nakano Taketomi in the chair, according to a motion made by Mr. Shimada Saburo. As the first business of the meeting, a report was read by Messrs. Shimada, Kato, and Yoshida, detailing the steps taken by these gentlemen in pursuance of the instructions they had received on the subject of amalgamation. After the report had been read, Mr. Okano moved that the party should be dissolved, which motion was supported by a few members. After a spirited debate the motion was lost. The meeting then passed to the consideration of the rules of the party. A draft resolution was submitted changing the number of the councillors of the party from 25, as prescribed in the original rule, to 30, and providing expressly that "In case of urgency, the thirty councillors should be authorized to hold a 'representative meeting' invested with the full powers of a general meeting, to take any step that may be deemed necessary, two-thirds of the whole number of councillors being regarded as the quorum for holding such a meeting." After three hours of animated debate, the resolutions were carried by a large majority. The election of the councillors then took place, with the following result:—Kato (105 votes), Ozaki (104), Fujita (104), Yoshida (102), Nakano (101), Koizuka (101), S. Shimada (100), Tsunoda (95), Tanaka (93), T. Shimada (98), Aoki (85), Yamada (82), Tachibana (76), Kotakagari (74), Kondo (73), Shindo (72), Naido (72), Takahashi (71), Hatano (70), Ikano (67), Kajima (63), Okano (61), Yokowo (58), Naka (58), Minoura (58), Nanjo (58), Irokawa (57), Takaki (56), Kirihara (53), Ida (45). It is thus clear that, for the present at all events, the *Kaishin-to* has abandoned any idea of amalgamating with the *Rikken Jiyu-to*, a result which became tolerably apparent some time ago, and upon which, we think, the nation may congratulate itself.

BRITISH ORDERS.

WRITING recently about British Orders and their recipients in Japan, we expressed the hope that the good beginning now made by the presentation of the Grand Cross of the Bath to Prince Komatsu might be followed ultimately by the presentation of the Garter to his Majesty the Emperor, whenever "the requisite train of circumstances" should be accomplished. This expression seems to have puzzled some of our Japanese friends, and for their information, as well as to remove a feeling of dissatisfaction that the Emperor wears the best Orders of all the Great European Powers except England, we may explain that chief among the train of circumstances alluded to would be a visit of his Majesty in person to Great Britain. The rule has never been departed from that the Garter is presented only to sovereigns and dignitaries who have been present at the British Court. All the Great Potentates of Europe wear this much

valued Order, but every one of them, either before or after accession to the Throne, has been the guest of Her Majesty the Queen. That the Garter has not been presented to the Emperors of Japan is, therefore, no evidence whatever that Great Britain is less courteously disposed towards his Majesty than are the other Sovereigns of Europe.

A MURMURING MOUNTAIN.

IN the province of Iwami there stands a mountain called Mikame-yama, or the hill of the three tortoises, because its three peaks are supposed to resemble to backs of those sacred animals. Between two of the peaks there is a hot spring known as Shigaku-no-Onsen. It was a feeble sort of spring in former times, but the big earthquake in 1872 roused it into vigorous life and it became thenceforth a place of considerable note. Seven or eight years ago it earned an additional title to public notice by being the scene of a very heavy snowstorm, which resulted in landslips that overwhelmed a number of houses and buried sixteen people. Since last June, says the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, the heat of the spring has gradually increased: it now amounts to a hundred and seventy or eighty degrees Fahrenheit, and cannot be used for bathing purposes without considerable addition of cold water. As additional evidence of the region's volcanic activity, the Three Tortoise Mountain has lately begun to emit sounds which throw dwellers in the neighbourhood into great alarm and threaten to depopulate the district.

THE REV. MR. SUMMERS.

A CORRESPONDENT writes from London:—"Mr. Summers has reached this country during the past fortnight, and I believe intends returning to Japan about the end of the year. I am told that he has no intention of making public representations of any kind in regard to the events which led to his departure from Japan unless he is compelled to do so by statements adverse to him being published here. He seems to take a very sensible and unsensational view of the position, and he is naturally anxious to do nothing that might excite hostility or render his future residence in Japan uncomfortable. The statements which have hitherto been published on the incident have been very few and have been confined, as far as I have seen, to a bare report of the facts. Telegrams did, in the first instance, come from Yokohama, announcing that he had left the country, and these were repeated from San Francisco, but I cannot perceive that the matter has excited any public interest, although it has been discussed by persons acquainted with Japan."

LEGAL CONSERVATISM.

MR. MASUJIMA and his fellow-thinkers have told us that the new Commercial Code would inconveniently disturb Japanese trading customs. Are the customs described by our correspondent, "An Import Merchant of 25 years experience in Japan," among these to which the learned gentleman refers? We freely admit that sound and properly enforced laws of contract and bankruptcy would greatly interfere with the continuance of these bad practices, and it is for that very reason that we have advocated the speedy enactment and operation of such laws. Every measure that tends to remove differences between Japanese and Western commercial methods, ought to be advocated and promoted by patriotic Japanese, instead of being criticised and thwarted.

THE CHINESE MINISTER.

THE present Chinese Minister to Japan, writes the *Choya Shimbun*, will finish the term of his office by December next. Rumour says that Mr. Li Haku, the adopted son of the renowned Viceroy Li, will be appointed as his successor. Mr. Li is a gentleman of dignified carriage and fine address, very skilled in the use of foreign languages. These excellent qualities added to his relations with the influential Viceroy, and his past diplomatic service in the capacity of Secretary of the Chinese Legation in London, eminently qualify him for the post. But in

some quarters, an objection is raised on the ground that he is yet too young to fill the position of Minister with dignity. Mr. Den Unryo, who, was formerly dispatched to Japan and other foreign countries to make investigations into political affairs, is also said to have a good chance of securing the coveted prize.

UNION CHURCH ORGAN.

LOVERS of music in general, and church-goers in particular, will be glad to hear that the fine organ recently purchased in England for the Union Church has arrived. It is being set up, and its myriad pipes voiced, tuned, and regulated under the expert supervision of Mr. W. A. Crane, who expects to have everything in perfect order before the end of the present month. We learn that the quality of tone is particularly good, the diapasons, flutes, gamba, etc., being uniformly excellent; while the grand display of reeds (no less than four—oboe, clarinet, corneopane, and trumpet) give a brilliancy to the "full" organ seldom attained in an instrument of ordinary church dimensions. The post of organist has been offered to Mr. Griffin, who we are sorry to say, has declined the honour. He has, however, promised to play at one or two opening performances (which the committee have arranged to give early in October), and will then exhibit the organ in its capacity for solo-playing, as well as in its use for the accompaniment of vocal music of all descriptions. The chorus work is already in rehearsal under the direction of Mr. C. V. Sale, organist of the Church, and we may look forward with anticipation to an organ-recital in about a month.

THE HARVEST.

It is pleasant to read in the *Hochi Shimbun* that the prospects of the rice crop this year are everywhere excellent. In Echigo above all—which is one of the great rice-producing districts—there has not been promise of such an abundant yield for the past century. The length of the ear in some places is said to be 21 inches, and 460 grains have been counted on one stalk. The maximum number of grains in ordinary years is about 200, so that the farmers are naturally much excited about the result. More convincing than this report, the details of which sound almost apocryphal, is the fact that the price of rice fell nearly seventy *sen* per *koku* in the Tokyo market yesterday. Dealers and speculators alike have evidently made up their minds that all serious danger of an inferior harvest may be considered past.

SERICULTURE IN NAGANO PREFECTURE.

OWING to the moderate amount of rainfall and the generally favourable temperature this year, says a report from Nagano Prefecture, the farmers are expecting to have twice as large a crop of rice as last year. In regard to sericulture, one of the principal local industries, the summer crop was a great success, but fears are entertained about the autumn yield. The worms are now in their third or fourth sleep, but owing to the unseasonably cool weather which has prevailed during the past few days, they are beginning to show signs of sickness. The sericulturists are said to feel very uneasy about the result. Should the weather improve, however, the crop may yet turn out a great success.

ERUPTION OF A SULPHUR MOUNTAIN IN HOKKAIDO.

THE *Official Gazette* of the 25th ult. contains the following report of the Hokkaido Administration Board in regard to the eruption of a sulphur mountain:—"The Shiridoko Sulphur Mountain near Tone-mura, in the province of Kitami, broke out into violent eruption in August last year, but subsequently lapsed into a state of comparative calm, only emitting white smoke from its crater. Lately, however, the mountain was observed to throw out ash-coloured mud at intervals of twenty-four or thirty hours. The height of these muddy ejections gradually increased until it attained an elevation of fifty or sixty feet, the ejected matter

falling at a distance of four or five hundred yards when blown by the wind. As the liquid mud poured down into the gorges below, a large quantity of sulphur deposited by previous eruptions, was washed away. From the 18th of July last, the emission of the mud ceased altogether. The mountain remained in this state till the 28th of the same month when an eruption attended by a loud report took place. Sulphur of dark greenish colour was thrown out and covered about five thousand *tsubo* (four acres) round the crater, being deposited in a new layer of thickness varying from five to eighteen inches. The greater portion of the ejected sulphur, however, flowed down into the sea while yet in a liquid state." No injury was suffered by men, animals, or houses."

CHOLERA RETURNS.

THE latest cholera returns derived from official sources are as follow:—

Prefecture or City.	Date.	New Cases.	Deaths.
Osaka	28th	148	59
	29th	141	21
	30th	125	85
	31st	100	71
	1st	145	133
	2nd	161	105
	3rd	183	81
	4th	8	6
	5th	34	23
	6th	8	10
Nagasaki	28th	57	43
	29th	32	19
	30th	25	14
	31st	5	2
	1st	14	6
	2nd	8	1
	3rd	49	34
	4th	7	7
	5th	51	31
	6th	37	18
Hyogo	28th	21	14
	29th	23	14
	30th	25	17
	31st	27	20
	1st	49	20
	2nd	19	31
	3rd	31	23
	4th	40	20
	5th	39	28
	6th	35	19
Yamaguchi	28th	39	33
	29th	44	39
	30th	41	14
	31st	61	33
	1st	58	39
	2nd	25	18
	3rd	45	25
	4th	35	37
	5th	36	31
	6th	41	20
Fukuoka	28th	21	14
	29th	20	12
	30th	38	20
	31st	45	11
	1st	18	6
	2nd	42	15
	3rd	27	10
	4th	10	14
	5th	31	10
	6th	21	13
Oita	28th	31	10
	29th	30	15
	30th	21	13
	31st	45	16
	1st	30	10
	2nd	49	35
	3rd	17	8
	4th	15	7
	5th	13	15
	6th	17	8
Saga	28th	17	8
	29th	15	7
	30th	13	15
	31st	17	4
	1st	27	15
	2nd	27	15
	3rd	5	0
	4th	17	8
	5th	15	7
	6th	13	15
Kumamoto	28th	17	8
	29th	15	7
	30th	13	15
	31st	17	4
	1st	27	15
	2nd	27	15
	3rd	5	0
	4th	17	8
	5th	15	7
	6th	13	15

The numbers of cases and deaths since the commencement of the epidemic, inclusive of the above figures, appear in the following table:—

Prefecture or City.	New cases.	Deaths.
Osaka	2,047	1,004
Nagasaki	2,803	1,868
Hyogo	432	240
Yamaguchi	1,264	712
Fukuoka	2,040	1,330
Oita	491	114
Saga	501	288
Kumamoto	679	494

The total number of cases and deaths in the following Cities and Prefectures since the commencement of the epidemic to the 2nd instant, not included in the above, are:—

City or Prefecture.	Cases.	Deaths.
Tokyo	991	519
Kanagawa	930	606
Chiba	293	107
Chiba	10	3
Rechi	10	5
Shimane	53	33
Okayama	21	8
Nara	13	7
Kagawa	8	4
Ibaraki	18	3
Shizuoka	28	12
Iwate	17	11
Fukuoka	24	13
Hiroshima	259	83
Mayasaki	7	7
Kagoshima	181	118

THE HOKKAIDO TANKO (COLLIERY) RAILROAD.

PREPARATIONS have been going on steadily for the construction of the Hokkaido Colliery Railroad. According to latest reports the first cargo of rails, for one hundred and twenty-eight miles,

ordered from England, has already arrived at Otaru, and a further quantity is expected to follow shortly. The work of laying the rails will be begun between Iwamizawa and Sorachi-futo with the first and second arrivals, while the third cargo will be landed at the ports of Mororan and Otaru to be used for the section between Iwamizawa and Mororan. The first section is expected to be completed by next October, but it will not be opened to traffic until the spring of 1891. We take these particulars from the *Jiji Shimpō*.

SHIRANE-ZAN.

THE *Official Gazette* says that the well-known volcano of Shirane, in Gumma Prefecture, has been again giving evidence of activity. On the 22nd of last month, during the storm of wind and rain then raging, the mountain burst into eruption. This event occurred at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, and at half-past four the same afternoon, the water of the Higashi-ko river was observed to be discoloured with ashes. In respect of violence and the quantity of matter ejected, the eruption is said to be only about two-thirds of that which occurred last year. No lives were lost.

THE "QUARTERLY REVIEW" ON CHINA.

THE last *Quarterly Review* contains a very long article from Mr. Archibald J. Little to which we have already referred. The title is "Western China, its products and trade." The author is full of hope for the future of Western China, but he throws a little cold water on so-called Chinese progress. He evidently has no great faith in the Chinese Government or in their desire to carry out trade obligations, a view perhaps which is not surprising when we remember the negotiations for the past two years for opening up the Upper Yangtze in which Mr. Little was so deeply interested.

THE TELEPHONE EXCHANGE.

THE work of setting up telephone posts in Tokyo has made steady progress. So far as the main lines are concerned, the task is nearly completed. At present experts are engaged in planting posts for branch lines to the different postal and telegraphic offices. This part of the undertaking is expected to be finished within the present month, when the company will set about extending the lines to the residences of persons desiring to avail themselves of the convenience. The whole system, says the *Jiji Shimpō*, is expected to come into full operation about the 20th of September.

THE EMPEROR OF CHINA'S FATHER.

NEWS was received by wire yesterday (27th ult.) says the *N.-C. Daily News*, from Peking of the death, on Monday, the 25th instant, of I-huan, Prince Ch'un, the Seventh Prince, Father of the Emperor of China. The following day the same paper says:—A later telegram, dated Tientsin, 25th August, has been received this morning, contradicting the report of Prince Ch'un's death, but adding that he is very ill.

THE DIET.

IN regard to the convocation of the Imperial Diet, the *Nippon* says that, after various discussions, the date for this important ceremony was finally fixed for that auspicious day, November the 3rd, the birthday of His Imperial Majesty. The election of the Presidents and Vice-Presidents will be held on the 1st November and the Imperial confirmation will take place on the following day.

THE RAILWAYS.

VARIOUS sections of the lines north of Tokyo are declared to be re-opened, but the fact signifies little to tourists, inasmuch as Nikko, Karuizawa, and Ikaio remain inaccessible except at the cost of a journey which few people would be disposed to take. It is expected that at least a week must elapse before all the roads are again fit for traffic.

THE steamer *Nestor*, from Singapore to Hong-kong, is reported on shore on an island about twenty miles from Hoihow.

JAPANESE IN THEIR DEALINGS WITH FOREIGNERS.

JAPANESE who care to see their foreign trade prosper and the good name of their people established will read with very great regret the letter published to-day in our correspondence columns. The statements made by the writer are neither partial nor prejudiced: he represents the best class of foreign import merchants in Yokohama, and his account must be accepted as a trustworthy description of what actually occurs. It is a disheartening account. What it tells us is simply this—that in transactions with foreign importers the Japanese merchant is indifferent to the dictates of good faith. If, in the interval between ordering goods and their arrival, or between signing a contract and the date of its implement, the market happens to go against the Japanese, he contrives to evade his obligation by subterfuges against which the foreigner has practically no redress. In cases where the law ought to provide a remedy, the foreigner shrinks from any appeal to it, knowing by dearly bought experience that, in the present state of Japanese bankruptcy law, the expense and delay of pursuing a debtor are generally the only results a creditor has to show. On the other hand, if the foreigner seeks to take advantage of the market, the Japanese strenuously protests. Even where exchange is in question, although the native dealer will not hear of making any concession should rates have gone against the foreign importer, he fully expects to share whatever advantage may have accrued from a rise in the sterling price of silver. In short, an entirely one-sided state of affairs exists. It is all take and no give on the part of the Japanese.

One marvels, of course, that trade can be carried on under such conditions, or that the shrewd and helpful foreigner submits to be treated in such a fashion. But on the whole it must be presumed that the balance is on the side of transactions conducted with tolerable punctuality on the Japanese side and leaving a fair margin of profit to the foreigner. What chiefly interests us, therefore, is the question, why should Japanese commercial morality be so low at the principal emporium of the country's foreign trade, and why should Western merchants be unable to devise a means of protecting themselves against such selfish and unprincipled treatment? It has often been inferred, and we cannot be surprised at the inference, that the Japanese trader is everywhere as bad as his Yokohama representative; everywhere as grasping and everywhere as unscrupulous. It is not so, we think. No one will pretend that commercial morality in Japan stands at the level which it has reached among the most advanced Western peoples. It would be extravagant to look for anything of the sort. Commercial morality, like all

other products of high civilization, is a plant of slow growth, requiring special conditions for its development. Until recent times the conditions were unfavourable to it in Japan, and twenty years have not by any means sufficed to convert the despised and comparatively unscrupulous trader of feudal days into the respected and high principled merchant of nineteenth-century Europe. But it would be unjust to conclude that Japanese merchants, in their dealings with one another, show the same want of integrity and the same grasping selfishness that dishgure their conduct in transactions with foreigners. Even the strictest moral canons are not entirely proof against the influence of circumstances, and it is easy to see that circumstances in Yokohama are singularly favourable to the indulgence of faults such as our correspondent describes. The Japanese dealer is relieved from two restraints, in the absence of which honesty and fairness would be comparatively rare anywhere: he fears the law very little and public opinion not at all. Only the most flagrant fraud will drive a foreigner to native courts, and the Japanese tradesman knows this well. Equally well does he know that, whatever wrong he may do the foreigner, his own character will not be blasted among his people. For these can only learn just so much of his performance as he chooses to tell them: they do not hear the foreign version, and if they did they would naturally prefer that of their own countryman. Thus neither penalty of law nor punishment of public opprobrium stands in the way of chicanery. The absence of both these deterrents signifies a great deal in Yokohama, and would signify a great deal anywhere. It is supplemented, two, by other circumstances peculiarly convenient for the Japanese. The foreign community in this settlement is made up of a dozen different nationalities. Combination is impossible among such heterogeneous units. Competing keenly with a number of shrewd rivals, the foreigner is ready to extend every possible indulgence to the Japanese. Deceived, he will trust again; treated with the scantiest consideration, he will still be indulgent; his margin of profit reduced almost to a vanishing quantity, he is ready to make fresh concessions. And all the while he seems to prosper for he lives and fares luxuriously. Moral equilibrium much less stable than that of the Japanese trader might be shaken by such temptations. So the foreigner is mercilessly preyed upon. Probably the Japanese, when they combine to force his hand, or when they separately devise subterfuges to baffle and pretends to deceive him, laugh at the notion that he cannot and does not protect himself effectually. They estimate his shrewdness and fertility of resource so highly that even if the good rule of give and take occurs to them, they dismiss it with the thought that they them-

selves stand in more need of its application than the wily, hard-headed foreigner. A letter like that of our correspondent ought to open their eyes; ought to show them that their conduct has created an evil impression of Japanese character among foreigners, and is largely responsible for the reluctance shown by so many Yokohama folks to trust Japanese promises in any direction, or to admit that confidence may be placed in the integrity of Japanese tribunals and the impartiality of Japanese administration.

Is it inevitable that the foreign merchant should submit to this treatment? We fear so, for the present at all events. Any one of three remedies would be effectual, but all three alike are unavailable. The first is combination among foreign importers. A union the members of which pledged themselves to have no dealings with any Japanese who violated an agreement, would soon correct the situation. Such a union is out of the question. So too seems to be the second remedy, return to the custom of exacting bargain money. Apparently competition among foreigners is too keen to permit this, an obstacle to be regretted, for certainly no more effective check could be imposed on the loose practices now in vogue. The third remedy is partnership between foreigners and Japanese. On such partnerships, unfortunately illegal pending Treaty Revision, we base our chief hope for the inauguration of a wholesomer state of things. At present the hand of the Japanese is distinctly against the foreigner, and will remain so until the artificial partition now holding the two asunder is removed. There are undoubtedly many Japanese of honour and integrity who would gladly combine with foreigners for purposes of industrial and commercial enterprise if the law permitted such association. When, and only when, this is possible will it be practically understood that Japanese and foreigners are equally interested in developing the country's external trade and equally entitled to share its profits. At present it is idle to complain. Everything is in favour of crooked and selfish dealing on the part of the Japanese, and they will continue to deal crookedly and selfishly until their relations with foreigners are radically altered. Meanwhile we can only warn them that it will be difficult hereafter to wipe out the reproach which their present conduct is bringing on their nation.

THE NEW HOTEL IN TOKYO.

THE Tokyo Hotel—to be called we believe the Imperial Hotel—is now fast approaching completion, and will probably be opened for business on the 1st of October. It stands on a site perhaps as convenient as any that could have been chosen in the capital, being within five minutes drive of the Shimbashi terminus,

and inside the limits of the quarter where all the principal official buildings and the foreign legations lie. Immediately opposite is the moat, to the left stands the official residence of the Minister of State for War, and immediately behind is the Rokumei-kan. The hotel is another monument of Count INOUE's energy, influence, and progressive spirit. It was he who, during his tenure of office as Vice Minister of Finance, conceived and put into practice the scheme of rebuilding Tokyo in solid materials; a scheme which, owing to its planner's retirement, was not prosecuted further than the building of Ginza and its immediate neighbourhood in such a fashion that the incessant conflagrations by which Tokyo is devastated have failed, during eighteen years, to invade this district. Had Count INOUE's project been pursued, there is little doubt that fully one-half of the capital would ere now have been reconstructed in brick and stone. It was he, too, who conceived and carried to practical inception the scheme of making Hibiya and Nagatacho the official quarter of Tokyo, and constructing there for all the Departments of State and the Law Courts edifices worthy of modern Japan. It was he who conceived and executed the project of the Rokumei-kan and the Tokyo Club; a project which has immeasurably increased the pleasure of life in Tokyo. And it was he who, appreciating the need of a really fine, commodious hotel in Tokyo, used his great influence to persuade a number of capitalists to subscribe the required funds. For many years the Seiyoken, little better than a dingy pot-house, diligently modelled itself on the example of the shanties that did duty as inns in those early days of the foreign settlements, and disgusted the tourist by its dirt and discomfort as much as it disgraced the capital by its monopoly. By and by the Tokyo Hotel sprang up, a nominal rival, but in quality an imitator, its arrangements and service suggesting more wants than they satisfied. Meanwhile Japan year by year attracted an increasing number of visitors, and foreign enterprise, eagerly seizing the occasion, provided hotels in Yokohama which speedily became known in Europe and America and as speedily enriched their proprietors. Yet it was evident that tourists, coming to Japan to see the country and its people, would not, of deliberate choice, lodge in one of the foreign settlements could they find suitable accommodation in the capital itself. A first class hotel in Tokyo ought, therefore, to succeed as a financial enterprise, and was certainly called for in the interests of the city's reputation. But to build such a hotel would involve heavy expenditure; too heavy to be faced without some exceptional ability of promotion. Count INOUE became the promoter. He laid the situation before several of the leading merchants in Tokyo—men like Messrs. IWASAKI, SHIBUSAWA, MASUDA, OKURA, HARA ROKURO, and so

forth—with the result that they agreed to subscribe the necessary funds. Twenty shareholders were induced to come into the project. They purchased forty-two shares at five thousand *yen* a share, and the Imperial Household Department subsequently took ten shares. Thus the capital reached two hundred and sixty thousand *yen*, the whole of which has been spent upon the building, furniture, and grounds. Unfortunately, owing to a false calculation on the part of the original architect, a European, some twenty thousand *yen* were wasted on the foundations, a discouraging *début*. From this difficulty the projectors were rescued by Mr. J. CONDER, architect to the Japanese Government, who devised foundations suitable to the ground, and moreover carried into practice an excellent principle expounded by the Seismological Society of Japan for minimizing the effects of earthquake shocks. The edifice itself was designed and its construction has been superintended by Mr. WATANABE, a graduate of the former Imperial Engineering College, where he enjoyed the advantage of Mr. CONDER's instruction. It is a handsome and imposing building, at once solid and picturesque, its wide verandahs and finely arched façades showing that climatic exigencies have been considered as carefully as architectural beauty. Fortunate in the possession of spacious grounds, the directors have decided that lawn tennis courts shall be laid out at the back of the building; that is to say, on the south side. They have further provided roomy coach-houses and stables, where forty horses and twenty-four carriages will always be at the disposal of guests. There is also ample jinrikisha accommodation, and the residence of the managers as well as the quarters of the staff all lie within the enclosure. The interior arrangements, however, are of chief importance, and concerning them it will be agreed, we think, that they deserve the highest encomiums. Nothing could be more commodious or better planned than the suites of bed chambers and sitting rooms, the baths, the dining and breakfast salons, the billiard and reading rooms, the bar, the manager's and porter's offices, and so forth. All this, however, might have been anticipated, since the best arrangement of rooms dictated by Western experience would naturally be adopted in a hotel of such dimensions and on such a scale. But what we were not prepared to find was a combination of richness and artistic beauty rarely seen in foreign buildings in Japan. We know what incomparable work Japanese carpenters can do if they please, but we know, too, that they cannot be induced to put their strength into a building where the grain of the wood is to be covered with paint and defects of joinery are to be concealed by putty. They have, however, done themselves justice in the new hotel. The mouldings of the doors and windows,

the parquetry of the floors, the plaster—and what achievements the Japanese plasterer is capable of!—the decorative designs, the ceilings, the proportions of the rooms, the panelling, the carving of the staircases, and so forth, are of such a character that the building takes rank at once among the handsomest structures in Tokyo. Whether in Yokohama or elsewhere in Japan, there is nothing worthy to be mentioned in the same breath with it as a hotel. We shall not attempt to speak in detail of the interior arrangements, or of the sixty rooms which will be available for guests. But the principal dining room—which is also to serve as a ball-room if required—deserves a word of special mention. It is a noble chamber, 60 feet by 45, lofty, beautifully decorated, and opening into an immense stone verandah where alone there is space for several dining tables. The band-room communicating with this salon is on the floor above it, and is so contrived that the sound of the music will pass through an arch opening into the salon at a point a little below the elaborate network of carved beams and girders constituting the ceiling. The verandah of the salon abuts upon the tennis lawn, and will be a charming place for dining in summer. The furniture is all made in Japan—by Messrs. SUGITA-YA and Company, Tsukiji, the designer being Mr. YAMAMOTO, a well known painter. Japanese furniture has not proved itself possessed of very durable qualities, but these pieces of SUGITA-YA's manufacture look serviceable and are undoubtedly very handsome. The one uncertain point in the hotel's vista—a vital point, however—is the management. Let the building be ever so commodious, the furniture and decorations ever so handsome, unless the management is efficient the hotel cannot succeed. At present the intention of the directors is to have Japanese management only, and undoubtedly they have been fortunate in securing the services of such a gentleman as Mr. YOKOYAMA. If any Japanese can conduct the hotel satisfactorily, he seems to be the man. But does any Japanese possess the experience and knowledge requisite to direct a hotel for foreign use? A foreigner attempting to manage a Japanese *yado-ya* without Japanese assistance, would be deemed a singularly sanguine and self-reliant person by his countrymen. The difficulties in the way of a Japanese managing a foreign hotel are certainly not less, and if the Imperial Hotel, under purely Japanese direction, gets the better of its foreign competitors, we shall be greatly surprised. The organization must include banking facilities, guides, communications with the steamboat companies, advertising on an extended scale, and the furnishing of a thoroughly good cellar, not to speak of the cuisine, the waiters and the multitude of peculiar services which make all the difference between comfort

and discomfort, and which can only be learned by experience. Bad foreign management would be ruinous, but there ought not to be much difficulty in procuring a Swiss or a Frenchman thoroughly versed in hotel affairs, who, acting as second to Mr. YOKOYAMA, would supplement the latter's business aptitude and knowledge of Japan by practical experience and special qualities of which we cannot conceive any Japanese as yet possessed. If successful, the Imperial Hotel will be a credit to Tokyo; if it fails, the pecuniary loss will represent only a small part of the misfortune.

JAPANESE IN THEIR DEALINGS WITH FOREIGNERS.

DISCUSSING, in a recent issue, the bad practices attributed by a correspondent to Japanese tradesmen in their dealings with foreigners, we said that "sound and properly enforced laws of contract and bankruptcy would greatly interfere with the continuance of these bad practices." It appears to be thought by some people that the laws alone are in fault. Indeed a writer in a local contemporary, who would doubtless be very indignant were he pinned to the logical issue of his contention, claims that the situation would be radically corrected could the foreigner appeal to proper laws justly administered. If this be so, it follows of course that the laws are entirely responsible, and that the morality of the Japanese merchant is as good as the morality of merchants in the West—a proposition which we cannot endorse, inasmuch as tradespeople in Japan have always been a despised class, standing at the bottom of the four-fold division of the people—*Shi-no-ko-sho* (*Samurai*, farmer, mechanic, and merchant)—and not expected to shape their conduct in accordance with any high principles of probity and integrity. The *Samurai* was taught to despise money and all money-getters, and he naturally learned, at the same time, not to look for admirable qualities among folks condemned to a contemptible calling. The farmer might and often did become a *Samurai*. Under any circumstances, he ranked next to the *Samurai*, and the latter, whenever he was obliged to lay aside the sword, turned to the hoe and the harrow. Therefore Japanese farmers as a rule were men of sturdy integrity, simple-minded, loyal in public and in private, and comparatively free from avarice. As for the artificer, we have only to remember two things; first that the forger of swords and the maker of sword furniture were included in this class; and secondly that the great majority of artificers consisted of those remarkable artizans whose ability and character have justly elicited such high encomiums from foreigners. The skilled swordsmith might surely count on admission to the ranks of

the *Samurai*. No man was more honoured, and a wholesome though romantic tradition taught him that not deft hands alone but also nobility of mind were needed to produce a really fine blade. The chiseller of sword-furniture, the forger of armour, the potter, the lacquerer, the decorative designer, the weaver, the joiner—all there were artists rather than money-earners. Their representatives to-day need not shrink from comparison with artizans anywhere in respect of skill, capacity, and integrity. It is true that the traditional, gain-contemning creed of the *Samurai* and the peculiar nature of the patronage bestowed by him on the artizan class, taught the latter to undervalue time and to be indifferent about organization. But for the rest the Japanese artizan is an honour to his country, and will yet be the means of enriching it. It is not so with the merchant. He was always treated as a person of mean instincts and unscrupulous methods, and the shadow of old times lies upon him still. There are indeed merchants in Japan who may properly be ranked with the best representatives of their class in the West, and we are glad to think that their number is constantly increasing. But of Japanese tradesmen in bulk, the most lenient critic cannot speak well. Laws alone, however strict, however ably administered, will not check the inherited failings of those people. It is not the fear of incurring legal penalties that has made the typical British merchant what he is. Something over and above any such restraint is needed, and that something can only be supplied in Japan by experience, by the operation of new social creeds, and by the contact of Western civilization. We may observe, *en passant*, that too much stress seems to be laid on faulty administration of the present law. Is the administration so defective? Is it not rather the fact that the foreign suitor generally obtains a verdict in the lower Courts, but that undue facilities of appeal and the failure of the law to provide means for restraining or tracing a debtor's disposal of his property, ultimately render the verdict fruitless? In this form the foreign creditor's complaint is always couched, so far as we know, and the inference of course is that the law, not its administration, is to blame. Apart from this, however, we are persuaded that good laws, well administered, would offer only a partial remedy for the state of affairs complained of. Two reasons lead us to think this. The first is that we doubt whether foreign merchants would have recourse to the law: their competition appears to be too keen. According to the account of our correspondent, they are perpetually victimised, yet they adopt no measures of protection. Bargain money they will not exact. Simple and efficacious as that remedy seems to be, it would evidently produce discriminating effects unless all agreed to apply it uniformly, and competitors so ardent will not consent to

combine permanently for any purpose. Even the much simpler step of posting the names of defaulting Japanese is not taken. It is asserted that Japanese import dealers have been practising chicanery for the past twenty-five or thirty years. Now the number of Japanese import dealers is limited. Obviously one of two things must be true: either the same unscrupulous tradesmen have been playing their game of fast and loose over and over again during this long interval, or else pretty nearly all the import dealers are tarred with the same brush. In either case, why does not the foreign merchant, when he finds himself deceived, post the name of the dishonest Japanese at the Chamber of Commerce, so that every member of the Chamber may be warned against exposing himself to deception at the hands of the proclaimed rascal? Such a process, we venture to think, would soon eliminate the knaves. But nobody inaugurates it. The foreigner is deterred by the same apprehension that restrains him from demanding bargain money: he fears to take any step which might prejudice his Japanese customers against him, and he dares not trust the good faith of his foreign colleagues to support him. In short, cut-throat competition places the foreigner at the mercy of the Japanese. That we are justified in employing the epithet "cut-throat" is proved by a portion of our correspondent's letter:—

And another instance I may quote: the Japanese will go to a foreign firm and get them to telegraph home about some special business, and when he has got the foreigner down to the last cent he will withdraw under pretence of seeing his "client in the country," and will go to a foreign competitor, and say, "Mr. — will do this business for so much, but you shall have it if you will do it for so much less," and the competitor, knowing probably that Mr. — is a careful man and not likely to make a mistake, will accept, which he can probably afford to do, he not having disbursed in telegraphy, &c., the amount Mr. — has spent and which the dealer never thinks of refunding! This is not at all an uncommon case, and can be borne out by any foreign firm here, for lucky is the one that has not had this experience!

A singular state of affairs is here disclosed. The foreign merchant, to whom the Japanese applies in the second place, is represented as undertaking the business because he is saved the preliminary expenditure which another foreign merchant, whose name he knows, has been dishonestly betrayed into incurring. Yet this, we are told, "is not at all an uncommon case." Obviously if foreign merchants treat each other with such exceedingly scant ceremony—to use a mild expression—it is quite hopeless to expect that they will combine in any manner against Japanese chicanery. We cannot pretend to determine which is more to blame, the Japanese who cajoles the foreigner into sending telegrams and making estimates of which another is to reap the benefit, or the foreigner who wittingly associates himself with this Japanese rogue. Indeed, we take it upon ourselves to assert that the second foreigner in our correspondent's case is never a British merchant. Be that as it may, however, the conditions described re-

present a community which, owing to the exigencies of sharp competition, offers its own throat to the knife of the Japanese operator, and is incapable of any effective measure of self-defence. We cannot believe that the members of such a community would resort freely to the protection of laws, however good and well administered. The same considerations that bar recourse to other preventive measures at present would operate to keep men out of court. Besides, it is in the isolation of the foreign merchant that the root of the evil lies. His position invites the Japanese to take advantage of him. They may exploit him to their heart's content without incurring any risk other than the loss of his esteem, which they do not value, believing probably that it is beyond their reach. There is no radical remedy except to free the foreigner from ostracism and enable him to secure the co-operation of the hands now clutching at his throat. Unless such co-operation be possible, the future of the Western merchant, manufacturer, and capitalist in Japan is very gloomy. He cannot punish his deceivers by the aid of the law; he cannot appeal to public opinion to discredit them; he cannot secure the assistance of his fellow-sufferers to drive them from business. His one hope is to obtain the aid of Japanese against Japanese; to make common cause with those who now regard him simply as an alien with hostile interests, the legitimate prey of every shrewd native.

JAPANESE MERCHANTS IN THEIR DEALINGS WITH FOREIGNERS.

IT is greatly to be regretted that the moderate tone adopted by a correspondent, who recently addressed this journal on the subject of dealings between Japanese and foreigners in Yokohama, should have been quickly exchanged for an extreme form of the violent and abusive language unfortunately habitual with certain writers when Japanese subjects are discussed. The "Importer" who now takes the field in the columns of a local contemporary, charges Japanese merchants with "barefaced robbery;" calls them "scoundrels and burglars," and speaks of "the loathing and contempt" felt towards them by foreigners. He is careful, too, to assure us that the persons to whom he applies this vehement language are "some of the leading merchants of the capital of the empire." We need scarcely observe that the rude exacerbation betrayed by this gentleman is entirely out of tune with the self-contained moderation of sober business-men, and that it has doubtless been severely condemned already by public opinion in Yokohama. One does not expect any exercise of judgment or discrimination on the part of a writer so plainly carried away by his feelings, and we shall, therefore, take no notice of sneering allu-

tions to this journal made by "Importer." But the incident he describes is sufficiently interesting and important to justify a few comments. He tells us that he has been waited on by a deputation representing "some of the principal Japanese houses in the fancy piece-goods trade," who informed him that, in consideration of the extraordinary rise which has taken place in exchange since spring, Japanese dealers have "decided to demand" an allowance upon contracts made with foreign importers but not yet implemented, the rates of allowance being ten per cent. upon contracts made between January and April; five per cent. upon contracts made between May and June, and two and a half per cent. upon contracts made in July. This "demand," according to "Importer," is backed by a threat that unless the foreign merchant complies, he will "be visited by direct vengeance in the boycotting or similar lines." Now from January to the middle of April the sterling value of the *yen* averaged less than 3s. 1½d. It is now 3s. 10d. In other words the sterling value of the coin in which the importer receives payment to-day is 22 per cent. more than it was at the time of making the contract. During the second half of April the average value of the *yen* was 3s. 3½d. approximately. It has therefore appreciated by 16½ per cent. since then. These figures enable us to comprehend the position taken by Japanese merchants. Speaking broadly, they ask the foreign importer to share equally with them the gains which have unexpectedly accrued from exchange fluctuations. Now it seems to us that this proposal cannot be dismissed by merely calling it "a cool specimen of barefaced robbery," and stigmatizing the Japanese as "scoundrels and burglars." Neither can we agree that "there is no earthly justification for their demand." Looking at the matter calmly, the first point to be noted is that the Japanese merchant has made a hard and fast contract in definite terms, and that by all the principles of honour and legality he is bound to carry out his contract. Whatever unforeseen advantage may accrue to one side or the other after the signing of an agreement, it is the plain duty of both as honest men to abide by the terms of the covenant. If exchange had behaved in exactly the opposite manner; if the sterling value of the *yen* had depreciated as much as it has appreciated, would the foreign importer have asked his Japanese customers to bear one half of the loss? We do not think so. He might have been greatly crippled, nay even ruined, by the catastrophe, but as an upright, honourable trader he would have fulfilled his obligation to the letter. It must be noted, too, that fluctuations of exchange are nothing new. We who write can remember when the dollar was worth 4s. 10d. or even 5s. During the twenty-four years

the course of exchange has been steadily against the foreign importer. He has always been in the position of receiving payment for his imports in coin less valuable than it was at the time of contracting for them. Against this evil state of affairs he has had to struggle as best he could. Naturally, so far as competition permitted, he indemnified himself by the prices at which he made his contracts; for it is the consumer eventually who suffers by obstructions to trade. But it happened many a time that a sharp downward movement in the sterling price of the dollar converted the slender profit anticipated by the foreign importer into a heavy loss, and this risk he had to bear single-handed for many years. Is it not natural, then, that when exchange favours him signally for the first time, he should strongly resent the idea of being required to divide his gains with men who have never helped to lighten his losses? Besides, what assurance have we, how can Japanese merchants know, that the difference in the sterling value of the *yen* goes into the pocket of the foreign importer? The Banks may possibly be the only gainers. It is a common habit with foreign importers to fix the rate of exchange at the time of making a contract. An importer who adopted that course during any of the first three months of the present year, and who is now required to choose between making a reduction of ten per cent. on his contracted prices or being boycotted, may justly be indignant. We are told that "some of the leading merchants of Tokyo" are offering this harsh and unscrupulous alternative. If so, we can only hope that the foreigner will not tamely submit. His difficulty in respect of legal redress has hitherto been that the defective processes of Japanese civil law enable a debtor to make away with all his property in the interval between the delivery of a judgment in a lower court and its confirmation on appeal. Presumably this danger need not be apprehended where "leading merchants of the capital" are concerned. We trust, therefore, that the aid of the law will be resolutely invoked.

"Importer," however, angry as he evidently is, seems to see no prospect of resistance. "The probabilities are," he writes, "that this plant will prove successful; foreigners will suffer, and add something to the loathing and contempt they feel for the scoundrels they have to deal with." We are not accustomed to regard the Western merchant as a passive victim of Oriental chicanery, content to exchange feelings of loathing and contempt for the coin out of which he is cheated. That is not his character. If he submits in the present case, it must be because there is another side to the question. And so there is undoubtedly. Fancy piece-goods now offered for sale in the Japanese market, or on their way hither from the West, are not confined to articles contracted for

during the first six months of the year, or even to articles imported, at any time, under contract with native dealers. It is morally certain that some foreigners have been shrewd enough to take advantage of the state of exchange, and that piece-goods are consequently purchasable by Japanese at silver prices greatly reduced on account of the appreciation of the *yen*. If this be so, the position of Japanese traders who have signed contracts without sufficient consideration for exchange, may be very embarrassing. They may find themselves saddled, or about to be saddled, with goods which are selling at ten or twelve per cent. less than contract prices. That is not a valid reason for shirking their contracts. But it is an excuse, and throws a new light on their contention. Instead of saying to the foreigner, "Share with us the profits which you ought to have made if you had been prescient," what they say is, "Help us to bear the losses to which we are exposed by the competition of your clever nationals, who are now underselling us in the Japanese market." If between the date of signing a contract and the time of its implement, the articles contracted for become ten or fifteen per cent. less valuable for selling purposes, we imagine that most foreign importers would willingly do everything in their power to ease the situation for the Japanese signatories of the contract. But if, as is probably the case in many instances, the foreigner himself has avoided risks by fixing his exchange, then instead of having unexpected profits, a part of which he may be content to spare rather than drive his Japanese client to the wall, he has no margin at all to draw on, and is confronted by a heavy loss unless the contract be implemented. After all, the thing resolves itself into the old fact, that the competition among foreigners places them at the mercy of the Japanese. The latter are masters of the present situation. They know that, failing a law-suit, the foreign importer must accept their terms, or find himself saddled with goods unsaleable even at the prices they offer. Is it necessary that foreign merchants should be exposed to this kind of thing? Have they no resource except to rail at Japanese bad faith, and to complain that they are the victims of that sharp practice which invariably disfigures trade when opportunities are inviting? It is tacitly assumed that foreigners in Yokohama are incapable of combination. Is that so? We remember two notable instances where the foreign merchants engaged in the silk and tea trades combined successfully to resist obnoxious action on the part of the Japanese. Certainly in these cases the foreigner occupied the position of buyer, and could therefore show a stronger front. But if the import merchant suffers as we have been told that he suffers, it is hard to believe that no remedy is within his reach. The export merchant has planned and carried

out his own system in the teeth of the Japanese. He takes silk into his warehouse and treats it in a fashion against which, rightly or wrongly, the Japanese protest strongly; he purchases tea, re-fires it in his own godown, exports it under his own "chops" and eliminates the Japanese producer altogether. His reason for these unusual methods is that neither the Japanese sericulturist nor the Japanese tea-grower can be trusted. But the foreign import merchant, though he prefers equally sweeping charges against his Japanese clients, submits to be the victim of their sharp practices. The contrast seems to us very remarkable.

FAMINE RELIEF FUND.

LAW No. 47.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Regulations relating to Law No. 3 of the 23rd year of Meiji, and order the same to be duly promulgated.

[His Imperial Majesty's Sign Manual.]

[Great Seal.]

Dated August 27th, 1890.

(Countersigned)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.
COUNT SAIGO TSUKUMICHI,
Minister of State for Home Affairs.
COUNT MATSUOKA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of State for Finance.

Law No. 3, of January, 1890, shall be abolished as to the localities where the Law relating to the organization of Cities and Prefectures are carried into practice. In cases where a contract to borrow from a famine relief fund was already entered into in accordance with Article 2, Law No. 3, before the Law relating to the Organization of Cities and Prefectures came into force, even if the loan was not actually made, the contract may be continued.

LAW OF BANKRUPTCY.

LAW No. 69.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Regulations relating to Law of Bankruptcy, and order the same to be promulgated. We also order the same to come into force on and after the 1st day of the 1st month of the 24th year of Meiji.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign-Manual.)

(Great Seal.)

Dated August 20th, 1890.

(Countersigned)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.
COUNT YAMADA AKIYOSHI,
Minister of State for Justice.

Article 1.—All Courts having the necessary jurisdiction shall be competent to issue decrees in bankruptcy by decisions *ex officio*, in accordance with a petition by or against debtors who are found to be insolvent and in accordance with the provisions of the Code of Civil Procedure.

A decree in bankruptcy may be pronounced without oral pleading, and objections to the decrees may at once be taken.

Article 2.—Petitions in bankruptcy may be documentary or oral.

Article 3.—A decree, as referred to in Article 1, shall be made public by posting the same on the public board of the Court or at the office of the municipality, town, or village.

Article 4.—Bankrupts shall be deprived of electoral rights on the day on which the decree of their insolvency is issued.

Article 1055 and succeeding articles of the Commercial Code shall be applied as to the restitution of the rights of insolvent persons.

Article 5.—Paragraphs and articles of former laws which regulate the deprivation of public rights as against persons who have been adjudged bankrupt, shall have effect against those who shall become bankrupt or insolvent on and after the day on which the Commercial Code or this law shall come into force.

THE LICENCES OF VETERINARY SURGEONS.

LAW No. 76.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Regulations relating to amendment of the Law as to the Licences of Veterinary Surgeons, and order the same to be duly promulgated.

[His Imperial Majesty's Sign Manual.]

[Great Seal.]

Dated August 27th, 1890.

(Countersigned)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.

MUTSU MUNEMITSU,
Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

Article 1.—Practice by Veterinary Surgeons shall be limited to those who obtain licences from the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce:—

Article 2.—The following persons only shall be granted a licence to practice as Veterinary Surgeons:—

- (1.) Persons who have duly passed the examination and obtained a certificate.
- (2.) Persons who have specially studied veterinary science at a veterinary or agricultural school established by the Government in Cities or Prefectures, and have obtained its diploma.
- (3.) Persons who have specially studied veterinary science in accordance with the rules sanctioned by the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce at a public or private school, and have obtained a diploma.
- (4.) Persons who have specially studied veterinary science in foreign countries in accordance with rules similar to, or higher, than those of veterinary or agricultural schools established by the Government in cities or prefectures, and have obtained a diploma.

Article 3.—Should persons who have qualified according to Article 2 desire a licence, they shall petition the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce through the local office, sending with their petition a copy of their certificate or diploma.

Article 4.—The names and registered residence of persons holding licences shall be registered in Veterinarian's Record of the Agricultural and Commercial Department and be also publicly announced.

Article 5.—A veterinary on ceasing to follow his occupation, or in case of death the surviving members of his family, shall, within 30 days, return his licence to the Agricultural and Commercial Department through the local office.

Article 6.—Persons on obtaining a licence shall pay a fee of *yen* 1 when the licence is delivered.

Article 7.—Should a license be destroyed or lost, or when a registered residence is changed, a petition for a new licence, with the reasons for the same, shall be sent to the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce through the local office.

Persons who obtain a new licence shall pay *sen* 50 as fee when the licence is delivered.

Article 8.—Should a veterinary be found guilty of neglect or incapacity, the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce may suspend him from following his occupation in his district for not less than 5 days and not more than 50 days, according to circumstances; he may also prohibit the veterinary from following his occupation altogether in a case where the circumstances are aggravated. Persons so prohibited shall within 10 days return the licence to the Agricultural and Commercial Department through the local office.

Article 9.—The prohibition mentioned in Article 8 may be withdrawn, according to circumstances, after 3 years have elapsed.

Should a Veterinary be reinstated, a new licence may be granted according to Articles 3 and 6.

Article 10.—Persons practising as a veterinary without a licence shall be punished with fines not less than *yen* 5 and not more than *yen* 50.

Article 11.—Should a veterinary practice during suspension, he shall be punished with fines of not less than *yen* 1 and not more than *yen* 25.

Article 12.—Should a veterinary refuse his assistance without proper reason, he shall be punished with penalties of not less than *yen* 1 and not more than *yen* 1.95.

Article 13.—Rules for examination for a licence to practice as a veterinary shall be laid down by the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

SUPPLEMENTARY RULES.

Article 14.—The Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce may grant temporary licences in places where veterinary surgeons are scarce for limited periods and in certain districts, in view of

the former occupation of petitioners, though they may not possess the qualifications mentioned in Article 2, according to recommendations from the Superintendent of the Hokkaido Administration Board and the Governors of cities and prefectures.

Article 15.—These Regulations shall apply to persons who obtain temporary licences in accordance with Article 14.

Article 16.—Rules for the examination of veterinary surgeons, Notification No. 17 of the 18th year of Meiji, and other regulations which are in conflict with this law, shall be abolished.

WAR MATERIAL AND STORES.

LAW No. 76.

We hereby give our sanction to the present regulation relating to examination of war material and stores for the Army and Navy, and order the same to be duly promulgated.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign Manual.)
(Great Seal.)

Dated, August 20th, 1890.

(Countersigned)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.
COUNT OYAMA IWAO,
Minister of State for War.
VISCOUNT KASUYAMA SUKENORI,
Minister of State for the Navy.

The Minister of State for War and the Minister of State for the Navy shall be responsible for the examination of all war material and stores for the Army and Navy, and the Law relating to the Auditor's Board shall not apply.

PUBLIC NAVAL LOAN BONDS.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Regulation for an alteration in the Regulations concerning the Public Naval Loan Bonds, and order the same to be duly promulgated.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign Manual.)
(Great Seal.)

Dated August 15th, 1890.

(Countersigned)

COUNT MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of State for Finance.

Paragraph 2, Article 8, of the Regulations concerning to Public Naval Loan Bonds, Imperial Ordinance No. 47, the 19th year of Meiji, shall be expunged.

LIMIT OF DEPOSIT IN SAVINGS BANKS.

LAW No. 75.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Regulations relating to limit of the sums to be deposited in Savings Banks and to the purchase of Consolidated Loan Bonds with the money so deposited and order the same to be duly promulgated.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign Manual.)
(Great Seal.)

Dated August 27th, 1890.

(Countersigned)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.
COUNT MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of State for Finance.

Article 1.—Should the sum deposited in a Savings Bank, according to (2) and (3) of Article 1 of the Rules relating to the deposit of money, reach above yen 300, Consolidated Public Loan Bonds may be bought at the request of depositor and be handed to him.

Article 2.—Should the sum deposited, as mentioned in the last Article, exceed yen 2,000, the manager of the Savings Bank may purchase Consolidated Public Loan Bonds with the amount in excess and hand them to the depositor.

Article 3.—Consolidated Loan Bonds purchased in accordance with the two preceding Articles may be kept by the Savings Bank at the request of the owner, except in cases where the entire sum deposited has been withdrawn.

Article 4.—This law shall come into force on and after the 1st day of the 1st month of the 24th year of Meiji.

CORRESPONDENCE.

CONTRACTS BETWEEN JAPANESE AND FOREIGNERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I have often wondered that amongst the many writings about the relations of Japanese with foreigners so little appears to have been said on the subject of contracts between the two, and how they are kept by the former; and as my experience has been probably as great as most import merchants here, my views on the subject may be interesting as regards the Japanese brokers, dealers, or merchants, with whom we have to do business at the treaty ports. Perhaps when the new treaties are carried through, and we have more access to the native merchants or consumers, we may find things different, but I can only write as they are now, and I feel sure my opinions will be endorsed by the majority of my fellow merchants.

In the first place, I may mention that the dealers in question almost invariably buy goods professedly for account of a third person, whom they never declare; at the same time they use this anonymous client as a scape-goat for any shortcomings, and whatever happens, on him is laid the blame, although we know (and this is probably the rule rather than the exception), that they often buy on their own account speculating on the turn of the market.

Taking first contracts for goods to arrive by a given date, the sale note has usually on it the clause that if the goods do not arrive by a certain date the contract is to be cancelled. When the market goes against the buyers, if the goods arrive even a single day late, the contract is invariably cancelled, on else an allowance has to be made to meet the fall in the market:—there is no hardship in this, it being as fair for seller as for buyer, but on the other hand if (the goods arriving late) the market has advanced and the seller wishes to use his privilege of cancelling the contract, the Japanese dealer thinks himself very hardly treated, and will combine with other dealers to boycott the goods, so that in nine out of ten cases the foreign importer, knowing this, lets the original buyer have the goods at the arranged price, and thus the dealer gets the advantage both ways. But should the goods arrive by the proper time, the market having gone down in the meantime, the native dealer makes every frivolous excuse possible to get off his bargain, declaring the goods not up to sample &c., &c., and generally ends in the long run in getting a reduction fully equal to the decline in market value, it being far easier for the importer to do this than to fight the question, and have the contract thrown up, and then probably have the goods boycotted in the same way as mentioned above. For this reason, since the good old days when bargain money was invariably received on signing a contract, I may safely say that no foreign merchant looks upon a contract as a writing that will be carried out in its integrity by the native dealer, but merely as a memorandum of his "intention" at the time of making it, and so one rarely hears of a suit against a Japanese for breach of contract, as it would be only time wasted, and even if judgment were obtained, experience has shown that by that time the native is only possessed of a soroban, hibachi, and a few mats. Where his other assets have vanished to in the meantime is a mystery that has yet to be solved!

Taking next contracts for sale of goods arrived to be delivered by a certain time:—these are usually made verbally, although sometimes in writing, for delivery 10, 15, 20, or 30 days as the case may be, and in many cases I have known it has been particularly explained to the native dealer that the goods are only sold at this price because the money is wanted by a certain date for a special purpose to meet a draft or to remit by mail, &c., and the dealer replies with a light heart that this is perfectly understood, and that the goods will be cleared by the stipulated time. But if the market goes against the dealer, what is the result? He simply never comes near the importer, who has to send down to him for the money, getting always the same answer, that the (undeclared) country buyer has not sent down the cash, but it will certainly come "to-morrow," and so it goes from day to day, week to week, month to month, and sometimes from year to year. I am not exaggerating this, for I know it will be found that there are now in godowns here goods that should have been cleared more than a year ago by dealers who have never been made bankrupt but are doing fresh business all the time! It may, of course, happen to any one in business that it is not always convenient to take up a contract immediately, and there is no disgrace in it. It happens every day to foreigners, say in the matter of drafts with their

bankers, but then a few days before the acceptance falls due they make the necessary arrangements for renewing it, and replacing the transaction on a sound basis as may be agreed upon. Did they not do so, the acceptance would be protested and the foreigner made bankrupt, or at least he would be able to do no more business with the bank he had treated in so unceremonious a fashion.

As I have said above, there is no disgrace in a Japanese or foreigner not being able to implicitly conclude a contract or, say, to his having reasons for wanting to extend it, but I wish to impress upon the Japanese dealers that it is a disgrace and dishonest to shun the other party to the contract and not to make the necessary arrangement before the contract expires. But as it is, the native dealer allows the foreign merchant to think that "to-morrow" the goods will be taken delivery of, whilst he knows well he has not the slightest intention of such being the case, and all this time he is using *gratis* the foreigner's capital, godowns, &c., until such time as the market turns in his favour, or for some other reason it suits him to take away the goods. He never by any chance offers to pay interest, godown charges, &c., and when at last the foreign importer loses patience and says "well, take away the goods and get a loan on them from your own bankers," the answer is generally (accompanied by a pleasant smile), "oh, then I should have to pay interest and charges!" I am not now speaking of the small dealers, but the large buyers of staples, such as yarns, shirtings, metals, woollens, sugar, &c., and I may safely say, what will be confirmed by all my fellow importers, that not one of them, the largest as well as the smallest (when the market goes against him), will be found to complete his delivery of goods by the stipulated time. They will sometimes take delivery of say half the quantity in good time, leaving the other half for an indefinite period, and if by any chance the foreigner has so far got to windward of them as to be in a position to insist on being paid interest, godown charges, and for other expenses incurred by the dealer's breach of contract, he, the native, thinks it very hard, and will come to the foreigner with tears in his eyes begging him to forego the money actually lost to the foreigner by the other's breach of good faith. Goods imported are as a rule drawn against, and it seems impossible to get into the native dealer's minds the fact that until the whole parcel is cleared the drafts cannot be retired, and so interest is running on the whole amount, as the banks only allow 3 per cent. interest on part payments, the current rate on the bills being 6 per cent. I have several times enquired of Japanese what is the rule amongst themselves: i.e. when a contract to be closed on a stipulated date is entered upon, whether that date sees its closure, supposing of course no other arrangement is mutually made, but the answers I get are very conflicting. Some say it must be carried out or the breaker "loses face," and others that a few days more or less make no difference. I should very much like to have the opinion of some leading native merchant or banker on this subject, as to the custom, say, with the banks about acceptances, and whilst a few "days" may not matter much, I am sure that in their business intercourse one with another the native merchants never act as the dealers at the treaty ports do with foreigners, where it is not a question of days but of weeks and months, to say nothing of years (but we will hope this last is somewhat exceptional). It has always been a surprise to me, now that the country has been opened for foreign trade for some thirty years, and so many Japanese have been educated abroad and studied commerce in the great cities of Europe and America, that those dealing with foreigners, of whom a new generation has sprung up, have not become more exact in their dealings, if only from a sense of policy and seeing what advantages accrue to a business man who is known to be honest and whose word is his bond. Those who have been abroad must have been witnesses of the gigantic transactions entered into amongst foreigners by word of mouth or telegram without the slightest question arising, and I should have thought that by this time at least some of the native dealers would have discovered that honesty is the best policy. Of course one great trouble lies in the competition amongst foreigners, and again in the fact that sellers are, as all over the world, more numerous than buyers, but I am sorry to see, as time goes on, instead of there being any improvement in the way the native dealers treat foreigners the contrary seems to be the case, and the sad and undoubted fact remains that no foreign importer looks upon a Japanese contract as more than a memorandum, and it is only when the last goods are delivered and the cash received that he can feel that the stipulations of the contract will be carried out and the transaction finished. And I am sorry to say the native dealer is the reverse of grate-

ful for any concessions that may be made, for if he is once allowed to get behind hand, whether in paying money or taking delivery of goods, he will not come in a straightforward manner and arrange to let that particular transaction stand and in the meantime do other business, but for anything fresh he will go to some other house and start a fresh account. And another instance I may quote, he will go to a foreign firm and get them to telegraph home about some special business, and when he has got the foreigner down to the last cent he will withdraw under pretence of seeing his "client in the country," and will go to a foreign competitor, and say Mr. — will do this business for so much, "but you shall have it if you will do it for so much less," and the competitor, knowing probably that Mr. — is a careful man and not likely to make a mistake, will accept, which he can probably afford to do, he not having disbursed in telegraphy, &c., the amount Mr. — has spent and which the dealer never thinks of refunding! This is not at all an uncommon case, and can be borne out by any foreign firm here, for lucky is the one that has not had this experience!

Again, I have noticed the native dealer as a rule is very much annoyed when he thinks the foreigner has made what he considers a good thing out of any transaction, whatever he (the native) may make out of it, and he seems only to be happy when he knows goods are sold at a loss! Now amongst foreigners I think it will be admitted that if the buyer or seller has made a fair profit, he is only too glad when the other party does the same. It makes things pleasant all round, and paves the way to other transactions. The native dealer seems to have an idea that on every transaction the foreigner makes an inordinate profit, although this is generally soon dispelled when he enters into "direct importation" and takes all the risks borne by the foreigner. This idea is no doubt brought about by the style of living of the foreign merchant, but he forgets that the transactions of foreigners here being large, a very small percentage amounts up in the course of the year, neither does he think of the stock the merchant carries, and on which in nine cases out of ten the apparent profit is all eaten up by interest, godown charges, &c., &c. In the present case of rise in exchange the native dealer thinks that the foreigner is making a large profit on goods sold to arrive, but as a matter of fact in a great many cases the latter reaps no benefit by the advance in exchange, as where profits are cut as fine as they are with most goods sold to arrive, the importer fixes his exchange at the time of making the contract, since with such a fine margin any drop in silver or exchange would turn the transaction into a positive loss, and he cannot afford to run any risks. Of course with the advance in exchange and the competition of foreigners the native dealer or his (mysterious) client gets the benefit of lower prices for all goods not actually contracted for. During the last few weeks with contract goods all foreigners have been importuned by the native dealers to make a reduction in price because exchange had advanced! and in many cases this has been done as a matter of policy, otherwise the goods would have been found fault with and not perhaps have been taken delivery of for months. But I would ask the native dealers what they would think of a foreign importer who should ask the dealers to give a higher price for goods sold under contract because exchange had meanwhile declined? The question has been sometimes put to the dealers, when they laugh and think it a fine joke! Yet they, even the best amongst them, do not for a moment hesitate to ask for a reduction because the goods can be brought here cheaper than at the time of making the contract, although for reasons already stated the foreign importer may not have benefited by the advance in exchange.

Finally, it resolves itself into this, in my opinion, and I think it is that of the merchants here generally:—that, as trade is now carried on at the treaty ports, all contracts entered into by Japanese and foreigners are entirely one-sided. If the former sees a profit he takes it, but if there is a loss the latter has to bear it, perhaps not by an actual breach of contract on the part of the Japanese, but by their delay in taking delivery of the goods and loss of interest, &c., &c. Goods cost roughly 1 per cent. per month to hold, calculating interest, godown charges, &c., so it will be seen if they are left undelivered for, say, three months (a not at all unusual time) there is actually a loss on them, for as things are now it is very rarely that a 2 to 3 per cent. profit is seen on a transaction when it is entered into. I have not in any way exaggerated the present position of affairs at the treaty ports, and have written this to show how foreigners look upon the way in which the native dealers keep their (so-called) contracts, and I shall be glad if it may serve to show them it will be to their advantage to deal more honestly with foreigners, or, in other

words, to do as they would be done by. It would be interesting to hear the dealer's own account of such transactions as I have mentioned above, and what excuses they can give for their continued breach of faith in keeping contracts.

One of the chief causes of England's great commercial success has been the integrity of her merchants, and if the Japanese have any wish for their country to attain a corresponding position, the first thing they must do is to honourably keep their contracts, whether written or verbal, and not, as at present (with foreigners at least), to take every possible opportunity of getting out of them when affairs have taken a turn they did not anticipate at the time of entering into them. They would do well to remember one of the sayings attributed to Confucius, which runs somewhat as follows:—"A man who enters into a speculation and sees only the profit and not the loss, is like unto a fish which sees only the bait and not the hook."

Since writing the foregoing there has appeared in the *Japan Mail* of 23rd August an article on the new Commercial Code which ends up with the following sentence:—"Is the Japanese trade system so very unlike the American or European? Many people would be pleased to have instruction upon this point." I venture to think Sir, that what I have written above may be to a certain extent an answer to this question.

I remain, Sir, your obedient Servant,

AN IMPORT MERCHANT OF 25 YEARS
EXPERIENCE IN JAPAN.

Yokohama, 26th August, 1890.

THE KOBE SECULARIAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Kobe undoubtedly is the most progressive town of the most progressive country in the Orient. Amongst the infinite number of objects for which its inhabitants have ample reasons for self congratulation, there are two which stand pre-eminently above all the rest on account of their intrinsic value. A more judicious method of their utilization, however, might bring an ocean of blessings not only to the town alone but to the whole of humanity at large. Hence I hope, any suggestions made for the consummation of such a sublime ideal will be gladly welcomed, especially when they are sincerely made and freely offered.

The first one of these two objects in point of priority, is that extraordinary child of humanity whom the tales of Christianity have been unable to choke: I mean "Secularian." The depth of thought, the insight of human nature, the superhuman mental productivity, the retrospective knowledge of the universal affairs which this wonderful being has lately displayed, place him far above all. In fact he has discovered new regions, invented new criteria of criticism, hence exalted it to its highest ideal, of which Mr. Matthew Arnold never dreamed.

The second in this order is that—he it far from me to call it a "pestiferous advertising sheet"—unsurpassable institution for human education called the *Hyogo News*. The high and admirable position which this paper is gradually taking is simply beyond any human expectation and ambition. Its editor—who I hope is not the same person as "Secularian"—fool that I am to think that such superhuman qualities can be combined in one human being!—has called before the bar of his paper every rank of mankind indiscriminately. He has fearlessly rebuked emperors, kings, presidents, bishops, poets, missionaries, merchants, and what not?

But as our superstitious ancestors have taken the number three as the symbolical representation of perfection, hence to perfect these two additional objects is required. For a long time I have given this matter my weighty consideration, and finally have reached the conclusion that the being who has rechristened himself "Agnostic" has the highest claim for this position of honour. Of course, his claim rests solely upon his personal adaptability and not upon any airy sentimentalism. The manner in which he has handled every recalcitrant problem of philosophy has not surprised the whole world?

In the persons of these three worthies humanity would possess a perfect Trimurti before whose infallible tribunal every problem of human affairs, whether concerning religion, science, international politics, jurisprudence, &c., could be presented for final settlement. As all these three worthies have been pleased to keep themselves unknown to their fellow mortals, they would make, I should think, a fair representation upon our terrestrial sphere of the great "Unknown" of modern Agnosticism.

Moreover, as a fit residence for the Trimurti, I should suggest, that the grandest temple ever

built upon this globe should be erected upon the highest peak of the mountains backing Kobe. The money needed for this grand superstructure should be raised by voluntary subscriptions from all nations under the celestial orb. Upon its portals should be carved in gigantic gold characters so that all vessels coming to the East could read from a long distance:—

"What fools these mortals be."

And as the atmosphere of the country is usually hazy and misty, by the help of some artificial ingenuity the temple could be kept perpetually surrounded by an impenetrable darkness—a condition indispensable for all similar oracular manifestations.

Enthroned in the natural altitude of the temple, with the *Hyogo News* as its organ, the Trimurti would infinitely surpass the Oracle of Delphi which was so venerated by the most civilized nation the earth has ever seen. In the innermost sanctuary of this shrine of humanity "Secularian," with Mephistopheles, could sing:—

I am the spirit that denies!
And justly so: for all things from the void
Called forth, deserve to be destroyed:
'T were better, then, were naught created.
Thus, all which you as sin have rated—
Destruction—naught with evil blent,—
That is my proper element,
Chorus by the Trio.

Black spirit and white,
Red spirits and grey;
Mingle, mingle, mingle,
You that mingle may.

Your obedient Servant,

THE RAILWAYS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—As the whole of the railway line between Tokyo and Matsuida, via Takasaki, is now again open to traffic, any remarks on the working of the line in connection with the points at which it was obstructed have no immediate practical interest for the public, but as a warning to travellers of the inconveniences to which, under similar circumstances in the future, they may be possibly subjected, the experience of a traveller on this line yesterday (the 1st instant) may be useful.

On arriving at the station of Shimmachi at 10.35 a.m. the passengers proceeded to make their way as best they could to Honjo, whence the train to Tokyo was timed to start at 12.48. After a 10 minutes' ride in jimikisha we came to the first obstruction in the shape of a stream over which we were carried by coolies. A few minutes afterwards we came to the river Kanogawa, which was flowing in two streams. The first was fordable by coolies, but the second, the main stream which was running in flood, could only be traversed by a ferry boat. There were some 300 passengers in all, a proportion of whom consisted of women and children collected on a little island a few yards square in the middle of the river bed. For the transport of these to the opposite shore one ferry boat capable of accommodating at a pinch some 20 or 25 people, was the only means available, and when I add that the same boat was also charged with the task of conveying people from the opposite side of the river to a point some little distance down the stream on its return journey, it will be understood how long an interval necessarily elapsed between each trip made. There were no police on the island to regulate the traffic, and much delay was caused by the struggle on the part of the crowd to get seats in the boat each time it called for passengers. The boatmen behaved exceedingly well, but it was of course impossible for them to control the rush made for the boat by passengers anxious not to lose the connecting train. Fortunately some of those on the island, realizing the situation and the danger to the women and children in the front ranks who were forced by those behind into the stream, and some of whom remained for over an hour knee deep in water, lent their assistance to the boatmen and in this way some semblance of order was maintained and the eager rush to the boats in a measure controlled. In the midst of the confusion an officer of the Takasaki Garrison, Colonel Uyeno, appeared on the island and holding up a piece of silver money in his hand shouted to the boatmen to give him the next boat for himself and his family, six persons in all alone, adding that he was proceeding to Tokyo on urgent Government business. In spite of murmurs on the part of the crowd, this officer was allowed to take the boat to himself. Had the police been present this would hardly have been permitted, at least, had precedence been granted to him, some of the lady passengers who had been waiting before his arrival would certainly have been allowed to share his boat. It was not until more than an hour and three quarters had elapsed from the time that the passengers by the train from Takasaki had reached the river that all of them had reached the opposite bank, and conse-

quently not one in three was able to reach Houjo in time to catch the connecting train. Moreover very few indeed, if any, of those who crossed escaped a serious wetting.

The circumstances I have related may possibly form one of those cases in which responsibility rests with nobody, but it seems to me that if it was no part of the duty of the railway company in its own interest, to facilitate the conveyance of passengers by its trains in places where the line is temporarily obstructed, it was clearly the duty of the Police Authorities in the interests of the public to take the necessary steps to regulate the traffic over the river.

Your obedient servant,
Tokyo, September 2nd, 1890.

VACATION RAMBLES IN IBARAKI.

About 35 miles south from Mito is a place called Kashima. It is the seat of one of the oldest temples in Japan, and is the centre of many interesting traditions. A branch of that temple was established by Naritaki (Rekkō), Prince of Mito, in connection with the Kōdōkan, the school organized by him for the instruction of his *samurai*; and near the temple was set up a stone containing the following inscription:—"Ever to tread without deviation the way of Akitushina Yamato [Japan] is necessary (*baname*)."¹ Having thus seen and heard much about Kashima, I determined that a trip to that old and historical spot should be among my summer recreations. I found a Yokohama friend, Mr. D—, who was glad to participate in such rambles, and invited Prof. T—, of the Ibaraki High School, to accompany us as guide and interpreter.

We started from Mito in *jinrikisha* about half-past five in the morning of Monday, August 11th. The road to the sea-shore had just been repaired with gravel, and was so rough that our progress was slow; and it was about eight o'clock when we reached Onuki, only 3 *ri* distant from Mito. Here our coolies stopped a little while to satisfy their hunger, and then coolly informed us that it would be impossible to make Hokoda in time to catch the steamer for Kashima. Vexed at this turn of affairs, and disappointed in not being able to find extra coolies to assist, we nevertheless decided to keep on our journey as rapidly as possible. But just out of Onuki we came upon a long stretch of sand, and then to a place where the road was broken up for repairs. Through those places we walked to a village called Natsumi, about a mile distant; and then, hearing that the road ahead was in a very bad condition, we dismissed the *jinrikisha* men, and engaged pack-horses.

This change delayed us a half or three-quarters of an hour, and did not prove as beneficial as we had expected. In some places, it is true, the road was impassable for *kuruma*; but most of the way it was only tolerably bad; so that, by walking a little now and then, we might have made it without changing. At noon, the hour for the steamer to start from Hokoda, we were about a *ri* distant; but kept on to that place in the hope of being able to find a sailing-boat to take us down the lake to our destination. If we had been only ten minutes earlier, we should have gone into Hokoda without any mishap; but, just as we had reached the hill above that town, heavy rain came on suddenly, and compelled us, in a pretty wet condition, to seek shelter in a hut by the road-side. When the rain subsided a little, we descended to Hokoda, and, finding an inn, proceeded to get into dry *kimono*, and to "cloy the hungry edge of appetite" by something more substantial than the "bare imagination of a feast." Satow and Hawes, on page 475 of their "Hand-Book" (second edition), describe Hokoda as "a dirty, tumble-down fishing town, with narrow streets," and having "no good inns." The lapse of several years, and the rebuilding made necessary by a large fire, have improved somewhat the condition of the place; so that, although it is not pretty, and the inns are not extra good, the language quoted above is now out of date.

While the maids were drying our garments over charcoal fires, we had a *sōdan* about the situation of affairs. We could get no sailing-boat; and we disliked to wait there till the next noon for the steamer, as that would delay us exactly one day. On the other hand, as the road between Hokoda and Kashima is ordinarily not very good, and was then much worn on account of recent rains, the *jinrikishi* men demanded "double teams" and exorbitant prices. After a great deal of parleying, the other side "came down" a little, so that we decided to push through that night at all hazards.

We started out in flying style about half past four o'clock, and, as long as day-light lasted, had

a delightful ride. The road wound up and down along the east shore of the Kita Uta, or North Lake, and ran, now through the fields, now at the base of the hills, now high upon the hill side. Our six *kuruma-ya* were a rapid and lively set, and carried us along in fine style, with the evident desire of making as much ground as possible in the day-light. After darkness set in, the road grew more and more romantic, and more and more dangerous. It seemed as if we were cutting across the fields by "unbeaten paths," so that we had to pick our way very slowly. Sometimes we came to little ditches, where the yelhide and its occupant had to be carefully let down and pulled up, or even lifted across. It, however, partook considerably of the ridiculous to hear the coolies call a little brook *ōtōi kama*! Occasionally we passed through a small village with a few stores, in which, by the dim light of lamp or *andon*, we could just see boxes inscribed with "oil-115° fire-test," "Comet-oil," "New York City,"—words, which, simply because they were English, had a talismanic influence in making us feel that other "things American" besides ourselves were in those out-of-the-way places among "things Japanese." The darkness and the stillness of the night would have been intolerable to a single traveller; but, as there were three of us, even though we might not often speak out, we could at least feel each other's presence. The shouts of the coolies were almost the only sounds which broke the stillness; but these were really delightful. "*Abunai yo*," "*massugu ka*," "*migi da*," "*hidari takai*," "*mattare yo*," and other unclassical phrases sounded as pleasant that dark night as many a charming song. Finally, about half-past nine o'clock, we reached Ohnatsu, where we could obtain better accommodation at the inn called Daikoku-ya than in Kashima, about a mile distant. Thus ended the first day's story, which is a tale of vexing delays and disappointments, and "extraordinary expense."

After a fairly good night's rest we were up early the next morning, to see the sights of Kashima before noon, as the returning steamer was scheduled to leave about two p.m. It did not take long to inspect the temple and its surrounding objects of interest; and then we set out to find some one who could give us a little historical and mythological information. The chief priest of the temple happened to be about; but, when we called on a High School pupil, named Hanawa, we found that his family was a part of the priestly house, and obtained a great many "points." The materials which we obtained from the elder Hanawa's reminiscences and books, and from other sources, are compiled into the following paragraphs.

Although a few think that the word "Kashima" is an abbreviation of "Kamishima" ("the Island of the Gods"), the best authorities say, that it means, as now written, "Deer Island." It is certain that from ancient times deer abounded on the island, and, being held sacred as messengers of the gods, "used to wander freely through the groves around the temple." Even till the Revolution they were quite numerous; but they have since been gradually killed, until now probably not one remains. It is also stated on good authority that, when that district was really an island, the Kita Uta extended northward beyond Hokoda to a lake called Hinuma, 5 miles or more from Mito, and emptied its waters into the Pacific Ocean through the valley between Onuki and Oarai. In fact, Kashima *gun* of Ibaraki *ken* extends at present just about to those limits.

Concerning the temple and the deity worshipped, we may first borrow the account given on page 474 of the "Hand Book of Japan," as follows:—"The principal deity worshipped here is Take-mika-zuchi no Mikoto, one of the three gods who originated from the blood of Kagu-tuchi, the god of summer-heat, as it dropped from the bill of his father Izanagi's sword on to the storm in the 'River of Heaven,' i.e. the Milky Way. According to the ancient myth, Taka mi musubi no Kami (one of the creators) assembled the gods in council, to choose a leader who should be sent to subdue Japan, when the choice fell upon a certain 'Futsu-nushi'; but Take-mika-zuchi advanced and said: 'Futsu-nushi is not the only brave man; am I not one also?' The assembly was so impressed by his noble language and air that he was joined with Futsu-nushi in the expedition. The two gods descended into the province of Izumo, where they received the submission of Onamiji and his son, Koto-hiro-nushi, the rulers of the country. The way was thus prepared for the advent of the Sun-goddess's grandson, from whom the Mikado is said to be descended. Probably Take-mika-zuchi, which seems to mean 'Stout-big-hammer,' was the name of the sword carried by a chieftain to whom the epithet Futsu-nushi (Owner of Sharpness) was given. The

temple is usually said to have been founded in the "age of the gods," and certainly dates from the prehistoric epoch; it is, with most probability, to be ascribed to the reign of the Mikado Sujin Tennō [97-30 B.C.]. Besides the principal god, there are three other *at dono* gods worshipped jointly with him, namely Futsu-nushi, Amaterasu Koyane-no-Mikoto, and his wife. These last two are the remote ancestors of the family which was appointed to be hereditary high priests of the temple.

The documents ("History of Kashima" and "Famous objects in Kashima") which we were allowed to investigate, differ in some respects, especially in ascribing greater antiquity to the temple. According to the "official records" Take-mika-zuchi no Kami, the son of Nigi-hayashi no Kami, advised O-ama-mutsu no Mikoto, who held "the middle countries," to surrender his dominions to the grandson (?) of Amaterasu O Mikami (the Sun goddess). Afterwards, when Jimmu went on his eastern expedition, "the spirit of Take-mika-zuchi" sent his sword, named Futsu-no-Mitama-no-Tsurugi, and in such a way helped Jimmu very much. It seems that Take-mika-zuchi had travelled east and north, even so far as Shiohana (near Sendai), for the subjugation of various tribes, and finally came to Kashima, where he probably passed his life. In the first year (660 B.C.) of Japan, the Emperor Jimmu built there a temple dedicated to Take-mika-zuchi.

All the succeeding emperors paid great respect to this god; and, among military men, he was known as the god of military art. It became a place of great resort for the purpose of offering up prayers, and also thanks, for victory. There was a prevailing custom, called *Kashima-tachi* (starting-out from Kashima), according to which, when men set out on any great enterprise, they came first to worship at Kashima. It is said that the Empress Jingū did so, before she left to subjugate Korea. We are also informed by Satow and Hawes, that the famous Kamatari, the fabled founder of Kamakura, undertook "a pilgrimage to the temple of Kashima in Hitachi in performance of a vow." In very ancient times the annual contributions of land, money, crops, &c., were large, and sometimes amounted to 100,000 *koku*. In the time of Hideyoshi the regular annual contribution from the Government was only 500 *koku*; under the *Bakufu* it was increased to 2,000 *koku*; now it amounts to 1,600 *yen*.

It is reported that, in the second year of Jingū Keimū (768 A.D.), Take-mika-zuchi manifested himself in the capital (Nara), so that the Empress Shōtoku dedicated to him in that city a temple still existing and known as Kasuga, which is more generally popular than that of Kashima. "It is said to have been founded in the year 767 [768?] at the desire of Take-mika-zuchi, who rode up to Nara on a white deer in search of a new residence" (Satow and Hawes). Around the Kasuga temple in Nara there are yet many deer, which are reported to have been transferred from Kashima.

When Shōnin, the founder of the Buddhist sect, called Shinshū, came to Kashima, probably in the early part of the thirteenth century, to worship Take-mika-zuchi, the supply of water was very scanty; therefore, he brought water from a well in a village near Kasama. On that same day (the fifteenth day of the sixth month) of every year, the well at that village become empty, while the seven wells of Kashima rise very high. These seven wells are included by some among the "seven wonders" of Kashima; it requires just a day's walking to visit them all.

Before the Revolution there were 80 priests; now there are only 6. The family of the high priest is named Kashima, and is said to have descended from Sayama-no-mikoto, whoever he may be. The present head of the family is named Noribumi, who has been promoted to be a priest of the famous Ise temples.

A temple was built at Kashima by Hideyoshi on the site of the present temple, but was removed to a little distance, when the present temple was built in the second year of Genwa (1616). The temple differs from other Shintō temples in that it faces the north; but "the box containing the sword which is the embodiment of the god, faces east, i.e. toward the Pacific Ocean." The orthodox style is for a Shintō temple to face either east or south; and the irregularity of the Kashima temple is explained by Satow and Hawes as follows: "We may suppose that this temple was founded to symbolize the extension of the Mikado's rule to this part of the country, and that its facing to the sea typified his claim to dominion at least as far as the shore."

There are many festivals, the chief of which are the Spring Festival (March 9th) and the Autumn Festival (September 1st). The latter is called *Jinkōsai*, or the Festival of the Divine Visit, when

there is a large procession, the chief feature of which is the yells of victory.

There are many relics preserved in the storehouse, and exhibited only once a year, when they are taken out to be exposed in the sunshine. Of these it will be sufficient, perhaps, to mention only two, one is a model of a bell, called *Ekiro no Susu*, or the Post Road Bell, which was the emblem in ancient times of the chief commander, who, with it in his hand, could collect an army. This bell, which had a very high tone, is singular in form; the larger end is shaped like the human face. The other relic is a model of the sword, *Futsu-no-Mitama*, which is about ten feet long, and like Chinese swords, double edged. Indeed, the *samurai* of very ancient times always used two-edged swords.

Kashima boasts of "three excellent places," "eight views" (comparatively insignificant), "seven famous wells" (already mentioned), and "seven wonders." The "three excellent places" are the *Kaname-ishi*, *Mi-tarashi*, and the *Takama-ga-hara*, of which we were to see the last, which was too far distant for us to visit within our prescribed time.

The first in order and in fame is the *Kaname-ishi*. Some authorities say that the word *Kaname* is an abbreviation of *Kani-no-me* (crab's eyes), and the *Kaname-ishi* means "round stone." The ordinary interpretation, however, is that *Kaname-ishi* means "rivet-stone," or "pivot-stone" (Saw and Hawes). In a certain book it is said that the god of Kashima made a pillar of this stone which rose from the centre of the earth, and to this pillar bound Japan (Hondo?) with the roots of the wistaria; hence Japan is sometimes called "the country of the wistaria-roots." Saw and Hawes, in their "Hand Book," refer to another tradition, that "it was sanctified by the local god taking his seat on it directly after his descent from heaven." In verification of this tradition we were informed, that the stone was at first called *mi-mashi* (honourable seat), and that another proof may be found in this poem:—

Tazune-kane
Kô mitsuru kana
Chihayafuru
Mi-yama no oku no
Ishi no mi-mashi wo.

"After diligent search I have this day seen the honourable seat in the midst of the holy mountain."

The most interesting tradition is that this stone holds down the head of the enormous catfish (*namazu*), "whose contortions are the cause of earthquakes." For, just as the giant Euceladus was supposed to be buried underneath Mount Etna, and "as often as he changes his weary side, to make all Trinacria [Sicily] to tremble," so a huge fish is fabled to lie underneath the islands of Japan, and as often as it moves, to make all Nippon tremble. But, whatever tradition may put forward in explanation, it is at any rate a fact that earthquakes are very scarce and very light in Kashima. And this granite stone may furnish us with a scientific, as well as a mythological, explanation. So far as it is visible above the ground, it is exceedingly insignificant, being only about four inches high, and one foot or so in diameter across the top. But, as you dig down deeper, it becomes very large; in fact, Mitsukuni, the second Tokugawa Prince of Mito, had workmen dig for seven days and seven nights [not "six," as Saw and Hawes state it], "without finding the lower end. This may possibly indicate a foundation of old volcanic rock, on which the sand of the ocean was gradually deposited. This same granite rock is found farther south around Chôshi, and as far west as Mount Tsukuba; and such a foundation would naturally render that portion of the country less susceptible to earthquake shocks.

But now, after trying to explain away an interesting tradition by dry facts of science, let us pick up another fable,—one which was told us by an old woman who kept a little booth at the side of the path, and one which will, perhaps, defy a scientific explanation. We noticed that the earth all around the stone was mud, and bore the appearance of frequent digging. This is done, it seems, by childless women, because, if one finds a round, white worm, about an inch long, she will surely be blessed with a child. The efficacy of this performance was proven to us by the fact that many women, who found such worms, have afterwards returned there to render thanks for being blessed with progeny, while those who were so unfortunate as to find no worm never return!

Near by the enclosure containing the *kaname-ishi* is set up a stone, inscribed with a poem by Bashô, the founder of the *haikai* style of poetry of seventeen syllables. The poem reads as follows:—

Kare-eda ni
U no tomai keri
Aki no kure.

"On an autumn evening a crow perches on a withered branch."

The second "excellent place" is the *mi-tarashi*,

or "honourable spring," the waters of which are collected into a reservoir. This reservoir is divided by a *torii* into two parts, into the larger of which visitors are allowed to enter, but the other in kept "holy" to the god. There is a "story" that the water of this reservoir always reaches just to the breast of the bather, whether that individual be short or tall. A huge oak (?) tree grows out horizontally from the side of the hill, and rests on the *torii*. It is, indeed, a very picturesque spot.

The third "excellent place," *Takama-ga-hara*, is a sand-plain about a mile east of the temple. It is said to be the place where the god used "to engage in frequent contests with foreign demons"; and "in the middle of the moor is the *oni-suka*, a mound which marks the grave of a demon slaughtered by the god." Not only is it true that "stone arrow-heads are often found here," as we are informed by the "Hand-Book" of Saw and Hawes, but there are also found stone and copper swords, which are thought to be relics of the stone age and the bronze age of Japan. The sand of the plain is red, made so, according to the tradition, by the blood of the demons, or of the hostile tribes, whom *Take-mika-zuchi* conquered. But the inevitable scientist steps forward to state that iron enters largely into the composition of the soil, and that "iron-sand" (*tessha*) is one of the famous products of that locality.

When we were informed that Kashima has its "seven wonders," we were not a little surprised, that the Caucasians and Mongolians should both have hit upon the number "seven" in the same connection. It must be left to the anthropologist to ascertain whether this coincidence is only accidental, or had its origin in a common source. A clue toward the opinion of a common origin, possibly in Hindostan, may be found in the fact that "seven" is one of the Buddhist sacred number. The masses for the dead are held on the seventh, twenty-first, thirty-fifth, forty-ninth days, etc., after death; there are seven gods of fortune, and seven passions; and one kind of a Buddhist cathedral originally consisted of seven temples. But, however, we may explain the coincidence, it is a fact that the Japanese have their *nana-fushigi* (seven wonders).

Of the "seven wonders of Kashima" the first two have already been explained (the *kaname-ishi* and the *mi-tarashi*). A third is found in certain pine chopsticks containing no resin. The superstition says that, if the pine trees are cut to make chopsticks with which to eat *mochi* and *ôdori* during the festivities of the New Year, they will be free from resin; but, if cut at any other time, or for any other purpose, resin will be abundant. Science, however, again comes forward with iconoclastic axe to chop up this nice story by informing us, that pine-trees do not yield sap in cold weather, which happens to include the time of that festival.

The remaining four wonders we cannot describe from the personal experience of seeing or hearing, and shall mention more briefly. One is "the sound of the waves," which when heard from the north, is a precursor of fair weather, but, when heard from the south or east, is a sign of storm. We have tried, but in vain, to find a satisfactory explanation of this.

Another "wonder" is found in the wistaria, which, by the quantity of their leaves, foretells the kind of each year's harvest.

Still another is an "endless river," the waters of which seem to be lost in the sand; but, as only a few *chô* beyond water suddenly gushes out of the sand, we may naturally conclude that the stream is only a miniature Acherusa.

The seventh and last "wonder" is found in "the second growth of pines" of *Takama-ga-hara*. It is ordinarily true, that, if a pine tree be cut down, the stump will not sprout again; but the pines of *Takama-ga-hara* produce a second growth. We were shown in Mr. Hanawa's yard such a stump, which had sent out several shoots with leaves.

A few short items, which have come by mail from Mr. Hanawa, while I have been writing, I must mass into one paragraph, regardless of connection. Those who killed deer were banished for three years. In the rear of the temple is a round, flat stone, which, possibly from its polished condition, was called *kagami-ishi* (mirror stone). Near the temple at Kashima, just the same as near the temple of Kasuga at Nara, is a so-called "Three Hat Hill" (*Mikasayama*). From a distance it looks as if the trees on the summit were arranged in three groups, each of which resembles a broad-rimmed hat made of split bamboos. That hill abounds in flowers, especially azaleas. As Kashima was the domain of the gods, it was politically independent; and its priest always had great influence in political affairs. In the times of Suikô Tennô (593-628 A.D.) a Buddhist temple called Shinguiji, was built at the foot of the hill on which Kashima is situated. The priest of this

temple was one of the few honoured with the privilege of holding direct converse with the Shôgun. Five *chô* south-west of Kashima is a bridge called *Katai-hashi*. At the bridge all pilgrims, even the Emperor himself, must dismount from horses or carriages, and proceed on foot across to the temple, and must return from the temple, on foot, till they have again crossed the bridge. There is a "story" that Mitsukuni, Prince of Mito, passed over that bridge on a horse, and became a leper (*Katai* or *Katai*), hence the name; but this is probably pure fable, invented, perhaps, to account for the name.

There are many other traditions more or less interesting, perhaps, but comparatively insignificant; therefore, for fear this contribution, though it cannot, by omitting them, be called exhaustive, might, by including them, be called exhausting, we shall be content with what has been thus far noted. Only pausing a moment to examine these traditions as a whole, we shall then proceed on our homeward journey, at the end of which the tired reader will likely be as willing to rest as were the weary travellers.

From an examination of the preceding stories, it will be readily seen that almost all are purely fabulous. Many of the tales have basis in geological and geographical facts; and others are certainly fabrications out of "airy nothings." All the references to *Take-mika-zuchi*, *Jimmu*, etc., are evidently pure myths; and we can not find any firm basis of historical truth, till we come down to the sixth century A.D. and thereafter. Even the traditions about Shotoku and Shinran Shonin, who were historical characters, are disfigured by fable. It is a greatness that the Imperial claim to an "unbroken succession" should rest upon such incredible tales. But, studying Japanese mythology as we would study Grecian and Roman mythology, we must admit that it is exceedingly interesting, and, in many points, astonishingly like the mythology of those two Caucasian peoples.

As stated above, the steamer for Hokoda was due at Ofunatsu at two p.m. Just at noon we all returned from Kashima to the inn, and ordered our meal set before us. We had only just begun to eat, when the maid, looking down the lake, suddenly exclaimed, "The steamer is coming," and exhorted us to make haste. We had no recourse but to shovel down the victuals with undue speed, or lose a good share of them; and, even as it was, we had hardly time to eat in a rush, pack in a hurry, and get out to the little steamer. To have a boat arrive more than an hour ahead of time, was decidedly a new experience for Japan, where "behind time" is so much more likely to be the fact.

The steamer was not large or elegant: there were two cabins, the larger of which is "third class," and the smaller "first class." There were a number of passengers, though not a crowd, in the third class; and in the first class cabin, which boasted a carpet on the floor instead of mats, there were besides ourselves, only two passengers. We preferred to sit most of the time on the deck just outside of the cabin, where we could better enjoy the breeze and the "pretty" scenery. We failed, however, to discover the "numerous small islands" which, according to the "Hand Book," "dot the surface of this inland lagoon." It is true, that "boats have to wind in and out through a channel traversing the reed-grown marsh in front of the town [Hokoda], and then by a wide canal penetrate into its very centre"; but the steamer could enter the channel only a little way. Then the passengers were transferred to a scow, crowded together into one small, close room, and pushed up to town.

Having reached Hokoda somewhat earlier than we expected, we conceived the idea of pushing ahead about five or six *ri* to Oarai, a pleasant sea-shore resort, to spend the night there. But the *jinrikisha* men said that, as the road was very muddy, they could not go, except in "double teams" at high charges, and, as we did not like the idea of being "gouged" again in that way, and could not find any horses, we concluded to foot it to the next "station," where we thought we could get pack-horses. We started out in gay spirits, but had not gone far, before we found that the road was "awfully" muddy. It was, in fact, impassable for *kuruma* and exceedingly unpleasant for foot-travellers. But being too proud to give up beaten and turn back to Hokoda, we trudged on for about a mile through the mud, and then tried, but in vain, to hire pack-horses. Taking off our shoes and stockings, putting on *waraji*, and rolling up our trousers above our knees, in native style, we kept on, and at six p.m. reached Momiyama. It was then out of the question to try to reach Oarai or even Onuki that night; and it was "in the question" only to stop at Momiyama, or to go ahead one *ri* to Konashi. Saw and Hawes describe Momiyama as "a very

poor village" with "no inns, no *kuruma*," and add: "If the unfortunate traveller be absolutely forced to halt for the night, there is a small inn at Benten, just beyond Konashi, called Ebi-ya, but the accommodation here only consists of two very small uncomfortable rooms." The present condition of both places is somewhat better than described above; for they have inns and *kuruma*, though the quality of the former is nothing extra. The inn (Koji-ya—Yeast House), where we were resting, present a little better appearance than we had anticipated; so that we finally decided to try our chances by halting there for the night.

The landlord was a little nervous, because it was the first time foreigners had stopped with him; but he did his best to entertain us. We ordered pack-horses for the next morning at five o'clock; got into the *o-ya*, which made us feel very comfortable after our tramp; were supplied with the best water and the best rice we had found on our trip; and went to bed early. We had joked a little about the name of the inn, and its probable "rising" qualities; but we did not fully appreciate our own jokes, till about eleven o'clock, when we began to "rise" in turns, step out into the corridor, to shake our night-clothes and bed-clothes, in the hope that the "*numi*" would "flee" away to "fresh fields and pastures new." I need say no more, except that we did not oversleep, but had dressed and eaten our breakfast before the horses came. A little before six o'clock we mounted to leave Moniyama (Fir Hill), which we had taken the liberty to change only a little into Noniyama (Flea Hill).

When we passed by the inn Ebi-ya, recommended above by Satow and Hawes, we concluded from an outside survey, that it might not be any better than the inn at Moniyama, unless perchance the fleas should be scarcer. Just beyond that inn we turned off from the road, cut through the woods down to the beach, along which we travelled the remainder of the way to Onuki.

Right here I make bold to correct the itinerary given on page 475 of the "Hand-Book." Those distances are stated as "only approximate," and are not far out of the way, except in one case; but the following are nearer the truth:—

Kashima to	8	Kashima to	81
Hokoda	8	Narumi	13
Moniyama	9	Onuki	15
Konashi	10	Mito	16

The direct road from Kashima to Moniyama would shorten the distance from one to two *ri*; but, as that road is more or less sandy, it is pleasanter to go via Hokoda and the steamer, especially as the boat is much quicker than *junkishia*.

In conclusion, as our packhorse men did not wish to go beyond Onuki, we hired an *obaa-san*, who offered herself, to carry our baggage in the basket in which she is accustomed to collect shells, and walked bare-footed along the beach about half a *ri* to Oarai. Having rested there a few hours, and enjoyed a salt-water bath, we walked a short mile to the Nakagawa; and, there hiring a sail-boat, had a pleasant ride of about three hours up to Mito, which we reached at six o'clock. Thus ended a three days' trip, which had given us a great variety of experiences. We had travelled early in the morning, at mid-day, and late at night; in sunshine, rain, wind, and darkness: by *junkishia* (single and double teams), by horse, by steamer, on foot, by sail-boat; over gravel, through sand, through mud, on lake, sea-beach, and river; in "full dress" and bare-footed; and we had been bitten by fleas, mosquitoes, and coolies; but we had seen a good deal of country scenery and country life, obtained much interesting information, and gained strength for body and mind. CLEM.

Mito, Aug. 30th, 1890.

INQUEST.

An enquiry was held on Monday afternoon in the U.S. Consular General Court before G. H. Scidmore, Esq., Vice-Consul-General, and Messrs. J. K. Goodrich and O. H. P. Noyes, Associates, into the circumstances attending the death of Lieut. W. C. Turner, of the corvette *Onuma*, which took place on Sunday, the 31st ult.

Dr. Stuart Eldridge deposed that at twenty minutes or a quarter to ten on Sunday morning he was called to No. 28. He met Mr. Rice, who told him that there was some man in the sample room, either dead or in a fit. On entering the room witness found a body lying in a rather inconvenient corner of the room amongst some papers, with a large pool of blood around. A small rifle was lying under the leg of the man. On examining the body witness found that life was extinct. Not recognizing the body, witness examined it and found a paper addressed to W. C. Turner. The

result of death was from shooting. The bullet entered a little above, and behind, the right temple. Such a wound could be easily self-inflicted with a rifle of no greater length than the one found. Witness examined the rifle; it had a cartridge in it recently discharged. Witness found a memorandum which looked as if some one had been writing something and had stopped, and a note of the amount of Mr. Turner's indebtedness to the Club Hotel to the 28th ult. He examined the body, and finding it that of a naval officer communicated with Dr. Gravatt. The rifle was a short one for shooting at targets in rooms. The size of the cartridge corresponded with the size of the wound. The wound was powder-singed, and the weapon must have been held in very close proximity to the head of the deceased. There was no other wound.

Geo. E. Rice deposed—About half-past nine I left my house to go to the office, and it probably took me ten or fifteen minutes to get there. On entering the compound I saw the back door of the office open. I asked of the boy's wife who was there, and his wife replied that there was an *o-kyaku* upstairs. I went up expecting to find in the *banto's* room the boy with a friend of his, as it did not occur to me that the person she referred to was a foreigner. On reaching the *banto's* room I was surprised to find no one there, nor in the next room. The sample room door was open. I stepped in there and looked around, but saw no one. Just then I heard a sound as of very deep breathing coming from the adjoining sample room, which I entered and after a search found in the western corner the body of a man lying on the floor, with his back to me so that I could not distinguish who it was. I went round to the other side of the body to ascertain who it was, and what was the trouble, but could not see who it was, the head being under the body. I then returned to my first position and discovered a small rifle under the body, and at that moment, another deep breath taking place, I connected this sign with the presence of the rifle. I at once went over to North and Rae's for assistance, and sent for Dr. Eldridge, who came in about ten minutes. I ought to have said that when the boy's wife mentioned about the visitor, she said the other boy had gone to Mr. Sargent's. When Dr. Eldridge came I took him to the room and pointed out the body to him. He at once made an examination and pronounced life extinct. When Dr. Eldridge turned the body over I recognised it, partly from a document found on it. Before it was taken from the premises I had recognised it clearly as that of Lieutenant Turner.

E. A. Sargent deposed—About half-past nine yesterday morning one of the boys of the office came to my house, and told me there was a foreigner in the sample room at No. 28, who wanted a pistol. I enquired who it was, but he could not tell me more than that he was from the Club Hotel. I asked if the visitor was sober and a gentleman in appearance, and he said he was. I rather resented the idea of any one coming into the place on Sunday, especially if he came in the back way, so I did not hasten, but finished my breakfast. I then went to the office, arriving there at ten minutes past ten. Mr. Rice met me at the door and said poor Turner was there, dead. I went in and found Dr. Eldridge, who assured me he was dead. Everything subsequent has been detailed by previous witnesses. When I went in the rifle was lying on the body, on the ribs. The deceased gentleman was quite familiar with our premises, and had been there frequently during business hours. During his visits there he had handled firearms. We have small saloon rifles and have often fired at the target there, and he has done so also. He knew where the rifles were and where the cartridges were kept. The cartridge that he used was a 22-calibre short, in-fibre cartridge, not the kind usually employed when we have shot at the target.

Nakaamura Takajiro deposed—I am employed at No. 28. I was there between 8 and 10 o'clock yesterday morning. A foreigner whose name I do not know came while I was there. He asked me to sell him a pistol, as I understood him, though he spoke in English. I told him that as this was Sunday, no one, not even Mr. Sargent, was there. He produced 20 cents and asked me to pay the *junkishia*. I did so, bringing back 10 cents change. He then gave me 2 yen 20 cents to give to Mr. Sargent on the following day. As I did not know his name I asked him to write his name, but he only wrote "Club Hotel." He asked me to give him a pistol, but I told him that all the doors were locked. I asked him to call on the following day. He went to the next room, where he saw a small air gun. He asked me whether there were any bullets, and I said there probably were some, somewhere. The bullets were on a raised stand; he loaded the gun and fired a trial shot. I do

not know whether the gun would fire bullets by means of powder. I do not know much of the working of such guns. He handed the rifle to me, and I went outside with it and asked the other boy whether he had gone for Mr. Sargent. He said he had not gone as he could not get a *junkishia*. I told him that I would go myself, and asked him to look after the premises upstairs. I placed the gun in the stair way and walked over to Mr. Sargent's. As I could not make out what the foreigner's intention was, I asked Mr. Sargent to come to the office. On my return, I met Mr. Rice, who asked me whether I had been to Mr. Sargent's, and I said I had. Mr. Rice told me to send Reikichi for the Doctor, and when the latter came he and Mr. Rice, Reikichi and I went into the room, where there was some one. The foreigner who came to purchase the pistol was there; dead as I supposed. Reikichi was the only person on the premises besides myself when the foreigner was present. I do not remember exactly, but think there were three or four other gus of the same kind.

Mr. Rice re-examined, deposed—The gun was called an air gun, but I think it fires cartridges as well. I have seen Mr. Turner shoot with the gun at the target in the office.

Kaneko Reikichi deposed—I was at No. 28, yesterday morning between 8 and 10. A foreigner, whose name I did not know, came while I was there. He did not speak to me. Takajiro got 20 cents from the foreigner to pay the *junkishia* man, but I took the money to the coolie and brought back the 10 cents change. I went out to the front of the office to send a *junkishia* man for Mr. Sargent, but finding none there returned, and Takajiro started off himself to find Mr. Sargent. I went upstairs and began to write, but came down soon expecting to find that Mr. Sargent had come. The foreigner had gone into the sample room at the beginning with Takajiro. The door was open; I presume it was opened by Takajiro when he went upstairs to clean the premises. The room in which I was writing was separated from the sample room by one wall. On going downstairs I went to another part of the premises, and on my return saw Mr. Rice. The only time I went to the sample-room was when I took back the change.

Mr. Rice here produced in Court the rifle found lying across the deceased's body, the discharged shell, and a box of similar cartridges.

T. W. Kennaway deposed—I am familiar with the gun now produced. With these cartridges it makes a very slight report. In the *banto's* room they might hear the report, but not downstairs.

Takajiro, recalled, deposed—The gun produced in Court is not the gun the deceased was handling at the time I was there. I think it was in the sample room together with the one he handed to me.

M. H. Robertson deposed—I last saw Lieut. Turner alive yesterday morning about nine o'clock. I saw him at the Club Hotel. I had seen him about seven or half-past seven. When I went to my bath I stopped at his window and called to him. He answered, and I opened the door and entered. He lay in bed with his eyes open, and said to me "Who are you? What's your name?" I told him, and asked him to get up and go off to the *City of Rio de Janeiro*. He refused at first, but finally consented. I got my bath and breakfast, and was passing through the side passage of the hotel when he called me by name, and said he wanted to talk with me for a few minutes. We went into a small room, and I asked him then to go off to the ship, and said I would go with him. He refused to go, and putting out his hand said "Good bye. When you see me again I'll be a dead Turner." He went back to his room, and laid down on the bed. I asked Mr. George to go for his friend Mr. Charlesworth, who I thought might have some influence. As he did not come for some time, I went myself—telling Mr. Hearne of Mr. Turner's condition. When I returned I went to the *Onuma* to notify Dr. Brush that the deceased was crazy. His eyes were wild, but his speech was perfectly cool, measured, and regular. He did not recognise me when first I awakened him. I noticed his eyes then. I have known Lieut. Turner nearly two years, intimately. I came directly back from the ship when I learned that deceased was at No. 28.

Charles George deposed—I saw the deceased yesterday morning between half-past four and five. I last saw him at from five minutes to nine to a quarter past. When I said "Good morning" to him, he did not know me. I said to him "Good morning, Turner; how are you getting along?" He said "Who are you?" I then asked, "Are you sick, Turner." I stayed with him till about five minutes to nine, when Mr. Robertson asked me to go round and get Mr. Charlesworth. He continued in the condition I have described. He was very quiet.

I went for Mr. Charlesworth, and as I came back called for Paymaster McDonald. I did not see Lieut. Turner afterwards, until yesterday afternoon, when I saw the body. From what I observed of his demeanour that morning there was every indication that deceased was out of his mind. He said—"Next time you see me I'll be a corpse."

The Court then retired for five minutes.

On resuming, Mr. Sculmore read the finding of the Court as follows:—

"(1.) That said William C. Turner was at the time of his death a citizen of the United States of America.

"(2.) That he died at Yokohama, Japan, Aug. 31, 1890, from the effects of a gunshot wound in the head, which wound was inflicted by his own hands.

"(3.) That at the time of inflicting said wound he was suffering from temporary insanity."

THE INDUSTRIAL TRANSITION IN JAPAN.

The political and social history of Japan during the past thirty years is one of the marvels of the nineteenth century. A feudal system which had lasted for several hundred years has been overthrown, and the country is now about to enter on an era of constitutional government, with all its possibilities for good and evil. Under the feudal system Japan was divided into sixty-four provinces, each having its own government, its own finance, its own money, and every one of those provinces constituted an organism which was independent industrially as well as politically. Each produced and consumed, flourished and declined, independently of the others. Over each was a feudal lord, with his body of retainers. Below these were traders, artisans, and farmers, who worked primarily for the welfare of the ruling classes, by whom they were held in contempt. The land was burdened with heavy taxes, and industry was held subservient to military purposes. Under such a system no large or varied industrial and economic activity was possible. In the short space of a single generation all this has been changed. The feudal system has been swept away, and the country consolidated under one central government, and the change in political conditions has brought with it a change in economic conditions. Japan is now undergoing an industrial revolution, and the country is in a state of industrial transition, the study of the evolution of which forms one of the most interesting problems of the age, and by no means a simple one. Not only is it affected by political conditions, but it also in turn reacts on them, for whatever affects the methods of production and distribution tends, not only to revolutionise politics, but also to change existing social arrangements and to modify ethical ideas. A glance at the history of Britain shows how the development of machinery profoundly modified social conditions. The yeoman disappeared, large factories arose, and the population crowded into large towns, new industries were organised, and the commercial spirit began to dominate the nation. Large fortunes were accumulated, and the working classes as now known became an important social factor, and the evolution of the industrial system brought us face to face with those problems which are now engaging the attention of economists and philanthropists. The period of the industrial revolution has not been very long in Britain, but it seems as if Japan were destined to go through the same stages at a much more rapid rate. What it will all lead to, either in this country or Japan, is hidden in the future, and all that students of the subject can do is to study the conditions of the past and the signs of the present, so that from these they may be able to give some little guidance for the future. The spirit of economic and sociological inquiry is stronger in Japan than almost any other country with which we are acquainted. Years ago earnest students were found spelling their way through Buckle, Herbert Spencer, and John Stuart Mill, and the results were crude theories of government and of economics. Now, however, there are to be found men in Japan who have undergone a thorough training in their own and in foreign countries, and their opinions and writings are worthy of the most careful consideration. One of these, Mr. Yeihiro Ono, Ph.D., has published, through the American Economic Association, a very thoughtful monograph on "The Industrial Position in Japan," and to a few of his chief points we propose to briefly direct attention.

Mr. Ono begins a sketch of the present industrial status of Japan, and gives interesting information regarding the population and the effects of recent changes on its amount and distribution, the methods

of agriculture and the systems of land tenure, the chief manufactures, and means of transportation. Mr. Ono remarks that, industrially as well as politically, Japan has developed independently of foreign influences. Of course this can only apply to purely native industries, for every one knows that Western influence has, in recent years, profoundly modified industrial methods, and displaced the domestic system by that of the factory. With few exceptions, the purely Japanese manufactures were carried on in the houses of the master workmen. Establishments were usually small, having at most not more than twenty or thirty employes, some of them being hired by the day and others being taken as apprentices during a certain number of years. As in all branches of industry appliances were very meagre, a long term of apprenticeship was required to develop the necessary skill. In gold lacquer painting, for instance, a young artisan required eight or nine years of training, aided by unmistakable natural talent, before he could succeed in working as a master in his department. Even in the common trade of a carpenter, five to seven years of apprenticeship is required. But no law existed touching the subject of industrial organisation, as was once the case in Europe. While Japan was passing through the period of handicraft industry, industrial matters were wholly regulated by customs, which, in many cases, were peculiar to each house and to each community. In such a state of affairs, it is not at all strange that art products reflected the individual characteristics of the artists. As in Europe, many of the industries had their guilds, by which they aimed to secure the good quality of their work, a feature which seems to show that human development tends to move along the same lines in all parts of the world.

The first industry in which the factory system was introduced in Japan was that of silk, as the extension of foreign demand for fine and uniform silk yarns called into existence many silk-reeling factories. For the first time in the history of Japan, women and children were employed in factories side by side with men, and the price of their labour was calculated according to the number of hours worked, the majority of the workers, however, being women and girls, adult men forming only 5 per cent. of the whole. The number of working hours varies from nine to fourteen per day, twelve hours being the most common. On account of the specially artistic nature of Japanese silk cloth, power looms have not been introduced to any great extent except for the most common fabrics. For many years it has been the policy of Japanese Government, either local or central, to encourage private industries of all kinds. Loans were made on liberal terms, and land granted with or without nominal rent. Cotton spinning and weaving factories, gas works, electric light plants, engineering and shipbuilding works, chemical manufactures of all kinds, water works, street cars, and many other industrial arrangements are rapidly increasing in Japan, and society is growing in activity as well as complexity. Mr. Ono gives a return of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce for 1886, showing that at that time the number of steam engines used for industrial purposes was 311, and the principal industries in which they were employed were as follows:—

Engines.		Engines.	
Silk factories	82	Shipbuilding	16
Coal mining	47	Cotton spinning ...	13
Rice hulling	44	Printing	6

Since the above-mentioned date there has been quite a "boom" in company promoting, and the number of engines must have increased to a very considerable extent. In addition to those just mentioned, the industries in which steam power is more or less used are iron smelting, sugar refining, paper manufacture, and chemical manufactures.

The means of communication and of transportation have been very much improved and extended. Roads are now greatly improved in condition, and coast navigation has been very much developed. The Japan Mail Steamship Company, which is under the supervision of the Government, has established regular communication, not only with the chief ports of the country, but also with China and other countries. Besides these there are many smaller companies trading between the different ports. In 1886 the whole tonnage of Japan, including steamers and sailing ships, was 117,303 tons, and the number of Japanese junks was over 727,000. To crown these improvements the expansion of telegraph lines—which in 1887 was over 16,000 miles in extent—and the establishment and development of the postal service deserve special mention.

One of the most important factors in the industrial development of Japan has been the rapid extension of railways. The first line was only constructed in 1872, between Tokyo and Yokohama. The next was between Kobe and Osaka. The total length of lines then was not more than

eighty miles. In 1881 "The Japan Railroad Company" was chartered, with a capital of 30,000,000 dollars, for the purpose of building a railroad between Tokyo and Aomori, in the north, a distance of 529 miles. This was the first instance in which such an enterprise had been undertaken in Japan by a corporation. About the same time the Government built a line of eighty-five miles in Yezo. But it was in 1885 that the true importance of railroads was realised by the people, and that a railroad mania began to spread throughout the country, and in 1886-7 thirteen new companies were created. About the same time the Government decided to build a railroad between Tokyo and Kyoto, along the eastern coast, and this was opened in June of last year, and at the same time a meeting was held to celebrate the completion of the first 1,000 miles of railroad in Japan. We may add that the private lines obtain charters from the Government, and are subject to its general supervision as regards details of working. It is hardly necessary here to go into the details of the various schemes for extending the railway and shipping facilities, and we refer such of our readers as are specially interested in the subject to the yearly reports issued by the Imperial Railway Department of the Japanese Government.

The facts we have mentioned are sufficient to give some idea of the great industrial changes which have taken place in Japan, and at another time we may consider some of the conditions which Mr. Ono considers necessary for the continuous industrial development of his country.—*Industries.*

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, September 1st.

A detachment of artillery has been brought into Melbourne as a precautionary measure. The coal supplies at the gas works having been exhausted and no further cargoes forthcoming the city is almost in darkness.

London, September 2nd.

A demonstration has taken place at Melbourne in which forty thousand strikers took part. The excitement was intense, but has since calmed down. Trade, however, remains at a standstill.

London, September 3rd.

Since Friday last the United States Treasury has purchased five hundred thousand ounces of silver at 119 to 119½.

The King of Portugal is ill of typhoid fever.

London, September 4th.

The miners' strike is extending in Australia, and it is expected will shortly spread to New Zealand.

[FROM MANILA PAPERS.]

Madrid, August 15th.

There is a suspicion that cholera has invaded Tortosa.

Sr. Canovas has left for San Sebastian, where the French and Austrian squadrons are expected.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki & Kobe	per N. Y. K.	Friday, Sept. 12th.
From Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co.		Monday, Sept. 15th. #
From Hongkong, per P. M. Co.		Monday, Sept. 8th. †
From Hongkong, per C. P. M. Co.		Tuesday, Sept. 16th. ‡
From Hongkong, per P. & O. Co.		Sunday, Sept. 14th. §
From Europe via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd.	Wednesday, Sept. 16th. ||

Albatross left Vancouver on August 29th. † *China* (with English mail) left Hongkong on September 4th. ‡ *Albatross* left Hongkong on September 4th. § *Perma* left Hongkong on September 5th. || *General Warden* left Hongkong on September 5th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, Sept. 9th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Sept. 13th.
For Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd.	Sunday, Sept. 14th.
For Europe, via Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Sept. 14th.
For Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co.		Tuesday, Sept. 16th.

FOR DYSPERSIA USE HORSFORD'S ACID PHOSPHATE.

Dr. T. G. VAWDREY, M.R.C.S., and L.R.C.P., Handsworth, near Birmingham, says:—"In cases of atonic dyspepsia I consider it superior to any of the dilute mineral acids of the Pharmacopœia."

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Bengloe, British steamer, 1,158, Farquhar, 30th August.—Kobe 28th August, Rice.—Thompson & Co.

Aucania, British steamer, 1,878, W. D. Mudie, 31st August.—Hongkong 22nd, Nagasaki 26th, and Kobe 30th August, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Else, German steamer, 975, M. Velisen, 31st August.—Hongkong 24th August, General.—Maurilyan, Heimann & Co.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, G. W. Pearne, 31st August.—Hongkong 24th, and Kobe 30th August, General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.

Marie, German steamer, 884, C. A. Hendeweds, 31st August.—Hongkong 23rd August, Rice.—Maurilyan, Heimann & Co.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Brown, 31st August.—Kobe 30th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 31st August.—Shanghai and ports 22nd August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Straits of Belle Isle, British steamer, 1,586, Grigs, 1st September.—Vancouver, B.C., 11th August, General.—C. P. M. S. S. Co.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 2nd September.—Kobe 1st September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,523, Christensen, 3rd September.—Hakodate 1st September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bellona, German steamer, 2,032, Haesloop, 4th September.—Hongkong 29th August, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 4th September.—Kobe 3rd September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saghalien, French steamer, 2,580, Homery, 5th September.—Hongkong 27th, Shanghai 31st August, and Kobe 4th September, General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Drummond, 5th September.—Hakodate 3rd September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Belgie, British steamer, 2,695, W. H. Walker, 31st August.—Hongkong, General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, D. S. Austin, 31st August.—San Francisco, General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Highfield, British steamer, 1,665, W. P. Casson, 31st August.—Kobe, General.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Sydney, French steamer, 3,450, Vaquier, 31st August.—Shanghai via Kobe, General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Sussex, British steamer, 1,619, F. H. Holt, 31st August.—Vancouver, B.C., General.—C. P. M. S. S. Co.

Mongkut, British steamer, 850, Anderson, 31st August.—Vancouver, B.C., General.—C. P. M. S. S. Co.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Drummond, 31st August.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ningchow, British steamer, 1,735, Allen, 1st September.—Kobe, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Niobe, German steamer, 1,666, Pfaff, 2nd September.—Kobe, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Glenavon, British steamer, 1,789, Jacobs, 2nd September.—Kobe, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Glendower, British steamer, 650, Hodge, 2nd September.—Kobe, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Brown, 2nd September.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 2nd September.—Shanghai and ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, W. G. Pearne, 3rd September.—San Francisco, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.

Endeavour, British steamer, 1,640, Thompson, 3rd September.—Kobe, General.—Order.

Anahuac, American ship, 1,221, Wheldon, 4th September.—Royal Roads, Ballast.—R. Isaacs & Bros.

John Gill, British bark, 1,010, McKenzie, 4th September.—Royal Roads, Ballast.—China & Japan Trading Co.

Manuel Llaguna, American ship, 1,650, C. D. Buier, 4th September.—Port Townsend, Ballast.—China & Japan Trading Co.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, C. Young, 4th September.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Eclipse, American ship, 1,535, Shillabar, 5th

September.—Portland, Tea.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,523, Christensen, 5th September.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Marie, German steamer, 884, C. A. Hendeweds, 5th September.—Newchwang, Ballast.—Maurilyan, Heimann & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Aucania*, from Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Prevost, two Misses Russell, Mr. E. Stoner, Mr. F. Collins, Hon. G. H. Cox, two Misses Cox, Mr. J. Gribbon, Mr. P. H. Schmid, Mr. Chong How Keong, Mr. Ah Sam, Miss Eyre, and Miss Hamper in cabin; 28 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from Hongkong:—Messrs. W. Wotton, M. Argenti, M. Palmer, M. Wilkinson, E. George, Lieut. Vignoles, and Mr. M. O. Diocoll in cabin. For San Francisco: Lieut. Colonel J. Stevens, Messrs. O. Chadwick, H. Budler, S. Hancock and servant, O. Lloyd Owen, and Mr. and Mrs. Salvador Roa in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Satsuma Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. Peebles, Mr. Forbes, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Chapbell, Stanley's opera troupe (31 members) in cabin; and 25 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Prince and Princess de Carati, European nurse, and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. Hy. Edgar, Mrs. T. Jordan, maid, and 3 children, Mrs. H. T. Lee, Miss Shed, Mr. J. M. Birch, and Mr. J. R. Black in cabin.

Per British steamer *Straits of Belle Isle*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—5 Japanese in cabin; 28 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, from Hakodate:—Mr. Blakeway, Miss Blakeway, Mrs. Scott, Mr. and Mrs. Fujie, Messrs. Kondo, Katayama, Saito, Hiraoka, and Fushibato in cabin; 4 passengers in second class, and 62 passengers in steerage.

Per German steamer *Bellona*, from Europe:—Mr. von Farp in cabin. From Singapore: Mr. Fied in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. Bergman, Schmeier, and N. Wilson in cabin; 35 passengers in steerage.

Per French steamer *Saghalien*, from Hongkong via ports:—Messrs. Tsubaki, John Timke, V. Gans, Hanson, Mr. and Mrs. Siloiya, Mrs. Von Hemert, Messrs. Hart, Clinard, Bunnah, Saino Yomio Shoude, Marie Olier, Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Jones, amah, and infant, Messrs. Douglas J. Pince, Kuchedia, and John Roberts in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, from Hakodate:—Mrs. Holms and 3 children, Mr. Hainki Yoshiaki, and Mr. Sone Seizo in cabin; 6 passengers in second class, and 38 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for San Francisco:—Mrs. W. B. Bunnell and six children, Miss E. Allen, Mrs. G. W. Donald, Mrs. M. Allen, Mrs. Bowyer, child, infant, and Japanese servant, Mrs. Wex, Dr. H. Smith, U.S.N., Dr. J. S. Owens, Messrs. Gen. Fillard, Jas. Larty, I. Wallace, Jas. Bissett, A. J. Macpherson, E. Wex, Chas. Flynn, G. Gowers, R.N., Kirk Kinney, T. P. Lightfoot, H. Falch, H. T. Fink, Mrs. Jas. Slauson, Messrs. P. Welner, H. I. Miller and servant, and Geo. Murray in cabin.

Per British steamer *Belgie*, for Hongkong:—Messrs. A. G. Stephen, Ho Ming Sam, C. M. S. Bryant, and Mrs. C. George in cabin.

Per French steamer *Sydney*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Miss Scott, Mrs. G. J. Brocklinder, Mrs. C. C. Marsh, Messrs. Ch. Haenni, H. W. Sale, Wagner, F. Palmer, Uguhart, E. S. Perrot, Mrs. S. P. Campbell, Mr. Shaw, Mr. and Mrs. J. Aranger, 2 infants and amah, Mrs. Ward Hall, Mr. Henry R. Kinneal, Mr. J. P. Donovan, Mr. Thomas Gatwell, Mr. and Mrs. Romer, 2 infants and amah, Mrs. A. Werner, Miss Yellop, Mr. K. Kimball, Mrs. J. Darryll, Mr. Fedérick, Mr. L. Muraour, Mr. and Mrs. P. Muraour, Mr. Wadagaki Yasuzo, Mr. Yamada Saku, Mr. Hirai Raikichi, Mr. Arisaka Shozo, Mr. J. Siebenmann, Mr. A. Lentz, Mr. L. Abrahamson, Mr. Mo-guer, Mr. J. M. Mur, Mrs. Rocher, Mr. Clister Holcombe, and Mr. Geo. W. Donald in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Dr. and Mrs. Kimball and infant, Dr. and Mrs. Brander, Mr. and Mrs. Moore, Mrs. Morrison, Mrs. F. A. Carroll, Miss Allen, Miss Simons, Rev. C. H. Marshall, Dr. Max Fesca, Dr. Miles, Archdeacon Wolf, Messrs. Isaac Meyer and Lee Te-za Kwai in cabin; Miss Yamamura, Messrs. Yoshida, Fujino, Matsun, Kato, Ando, and Tashiro in second class, and 127 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco:—Messrs. O. Chadwick, Sydney Hancock and Chi-

nese servant, H. Budler, O. Lloyd Owen, Mr. and Mrs. Salvador Roa, Mr. and Mrs. H. Edgar, Messrs. S. B. Samuels, L. Schneider, Jas. Taylor, S. Sakata, John Woodward, Mr. and Mrs. J. Hutchinson and three children, Mrs. Jordan and two children, Messrs. W. Roth, J. H. Twigg, Chevalier de Martino, Dr. K. Rathgen, Mrs. Turner and two boys, Lieutenant Nakamura, Mr. S. C. Healing, Mrs. Thellaf, Miss Thellaf, Mr. J. M. Birch, Dr. G. Wagner, Messrs. S. Kasai, J. A. Greenwood, E. A. Brocklehurst, W. M. Abbot Anderson, C. E. Lehmann, J. S. Lapraik, H. J. Hunt, Rev. and Mrs. W. R. Clancy and three children, and Captain W. G. Walker in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Sydney*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Silk for France 71 bales. Waste Silk for France 38 bales.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—8042.50.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco:—

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	OTHER PORTS.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	2,177	1,833	2,252	6,262
Hyogo	484	700	3,516	4,700
Yokohama	6,754	1,357	7,222	15,333
Hongkong	195	—	—	195
Total	9,610	3,950	12,990	26,550

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	OTHER PORTS.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	26	—	26
Hongkong	—	257	—	257
Yokohama	—	315	—	315
Total	—	598	—	598

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Gaelic*, Captain Peaine, reports:—Left Hongkong the 24th August at 6.04 a.m.; had light N.E. winds and smooth sea. Arrived at Kobe the 28th at 6.30 p.m., and left the 30th at 12.15 a.m.; had westerly winds and cloudy weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 31st August at 5.22 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, Captain Swain, reports:—Left Shanghai the 22nd August at 2.30 p.m. Arrived at Nagasaki the 24th and left the 25th at 5 p.m. Arrived at Kobe the 27th at 8.20 a.m.; had fine pleasant weather throughout the passage. Left Kobe the 28th at noon; off Ooshima had light variable winds with heavy easterly swell. On 29th weather very threatening; stood up Shimizu Gulf for Shimizu, where anchored at 1 p.m. At 6 p.m., began to blow hard from N.E. with falling barometer and rain. On 30th blowing a heavy gale with squalls of hurricane force; lowest reading of barometer 29.10. Left Shimizu at 10.20 p.m. Arrived at Yokohama the 31st August at 8.40 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, Captain Young, reports:—Left Kobe the 1st September at noon; had light south-easterly winds and overcast weather and rain at intervals to Hamisaki at 4.5 p.m.; thence E.S.E. to E. and moderate breeze and rainy weather to 2 p.m.; when the weather cleared, easterly wind holding but no rain till 8 a.m. on the 2nd off Omisaki; thence E.N.E. to N.N.E. gentle breeze and occasional smart showers to Sagami at 4.10 p.m. when the wind came light from N. with fine cloudy weather, and so to port, heaviest easterly swell off Sagami. Arrived at Yokohama at 6.15 p.m.

The German steamer *Bellona*, Captain Haesloop, reports:—Left Hamburg the 12th July and Hongkong the 29th August; had fine weather to Ku Channel; thence to Rock Island strong easterly wind and high southerly sea.

The Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, Captain Drummond, reports:—Left Hakodate the 3rd September at 8.15 p.m.; had fine weather and light southerly winds; passed Suiza-saki at 11.53 a.m.; abreast of Kuro-saki at 7.42 p.m. with moderate S.S.W. winds. Arrived at Oginohama the 4th at 6.20 a.m., and left at 10.20 a.m.; had light to moderate south easterly winds; passed Imbays the 5th at 1.42 a.m., weather still the same; rounded Susaki at 9.35 a.m. with fresh to strong N.N.W. winds, which continued to port. Arrived at Yokohama at 6.30 p.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

At the moment the Yarn Market is quite demoralized: buyers do not seem to know how low to offer for goods, and are sometimes surprised that the very cheap prices offered by them for English Yarns are taken. Prices are very irregular. Bombays are nominally lower, with nothing doing. Piece goods are also quiet. Sales for the week amount to 500 bales English, and 50 bales Bombay Yarns.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 lb, 34 yds, 34 inches	\$1.35 to 1.90
Grey Shirtings—9 lb, 34 yds, 34 inches	1.05 to 2.54
T. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yds, 32 inches	1.30 to 1.50
Indigo Shirtings—12 yds, 44 inches	1.25 to 1.60
Prints—Assorted, 24 yds, 30 inches	1.70 to 2.00
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	0.07 to 0.14
Turkey Reds—12 to 24 lb, 24 yds, 30 inches	1.19 to 1.22
Turkey Reds—24 to 36 lb, 24 yds, 30 inches	1.25 to 1.55
Turkey Reds—36 to 48 lb, 24 yds, 30 inches	1.75 to 2.05
Velvets—Black, 35 yds, 24 inches	4.50 to 6.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yds, 42 inches	0.50 to 0.65
Taffetaelans, 12 yds, 43 inches	1.35 to 2.25

WOOLLENS.

Plain Orleans, 40 yds, 32 inches	\$4.00 to 5.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches	0.26 to 30
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches	0.21 to 26
Common	0.17 to 21
Monocline de France—Cape, 24 yds, 34 inches	0.43 to 0.17
Cloths—Pilots, 51 to 56 inches	0.30 to 0.45
Cloths—Presidents, 51 to 56 inches	0.50 to 0.60
Cloths—Union, 51 to 56 inches	0.35 to 0.60
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 34 lb, per lb	0.30 to 0.38

COTTON YARNS.

Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	\$25.50 to 26.50
Nos. 16/24, Medium	26.50 to 27.50
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	27.50 to 28.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	29.00 to 30.00
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	28.75 to 29.25
Nos. 28/32, Medium	29.25 to 31.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	31.00 to 31.75
Nos. 32/36, Medium to Best	34.00 to 36.00
Nos. 32/36, Two-fold	31.50 to 35.00
Nos. 48/56, Two-fold	35.50 to 39.00
No. 208, Bombay	74.00 to 80.00
No. 468, Bombay	74.50 to 79.50
No. 1074, Bombay	—

METALS.

A small business at low prices. Buyers appear to be a little more inclined for trade, but will not improve their offers. The best sales have been made in Wire Nails, other sorts of Iron being dull, and No. 3 Pig decidedly lower in value.

Flat Bars, 1/2 inch	\$2.70 to 2.80
Flat Bars, 1 inch	2.80 to 2.90
Round and square up to 1 inch	2.70 to 2.90
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.
Nailrod, small size	Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	3.00 to 3.15
Sheet Iron	3.30 to 3.50
Galvanized iron sheets	6.00 to 6.50
Wire Nails, assorted	4.70 to 4.60
Fin Plates, per box	4.80 to 5.40
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.20 to 1.25

KEROSENE.

Very few sales reported of late, and the deliveries have not been sufficient to counterbalance arrivals. Quotations are nominally unchanged, but there is really no business to test them. Stocks are heavy, being in the neighbourhood of 750,000 cases.

QUOTATIONS.

Chester	Nom. \$1.75 to 1.77 1/2
Comet	Nom. 1.70 to 1.72 1/2
Devoe	Nom. 1.67 1/2 to 1.70
Russian	Nom. 1.65 to 1.67 1/2

SUGAR.

Next to nothing doing in Sugar, the sales noted below being confined to White sorts. Sales are 1,339 piculs at \$6.42 1/2 per picul, 702 piculs at \$6.20, and 280 piculs at \$5.75; total, 2,321 piculs.

White Refined	\$5.80 to 8.40
Manila	3.80 to 4.60
Taiwanfoo	—
Pentama	3.00 to 3.40
Namiida	2.90 to 3.20
Cake	3.70 to 4.10
Brown Takao	4.40 to 4.50

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was on the 29th August, since which date settlements are entered as 450 piculs, divided thus:—Hanks 55; Filatures 220; Re-reels 155; Oshu 20. In addition to this direct export has been 64 bales, making the total business of the week equal to 520 piculs.

The Market has been much more active European buyers entering pretty freely; shippers for the United States also have not been idle, and with higher Exchange holders are asking and obtaining a rise of \$10 per picul on some descriptions of Silk. Japanese are encouraged considerably by this little turn in their favour; and many holders refuse to sell at all, having made up their minds to wait a little longer and see what the future brings forth.

Business done has been pretty equally divided between America and Europe, and the last few

days buying has become more general; telegraphic news from consumers is not very brilliant, although some shippers appear to think that the worst is past.

Supplies during the past week have been very meagre owing to the detention of Silk en route from the country by the broken down roads; in consequence of this our stock list shows a slight reduction upon that of the 29th August, but there is no doubt we shall again see ample Silk when the railways are once more mended.

There have been five shipping opportunities during the interval: no less than four steamers leaving on the 31st August. These carried the following Silk:—Sussex, 35 bales; Mongkut, 70 bales; City of Rio de Janeiro, 109 bales, all for the American market; while the French mail boat Sydney carried 71 bales for Lyons. On the 31st inst. the Gaelic left for San Francisco taking 315 bales for the New York market. These departures bring present export up to 2,767 against 7,085 last year and 5,214 on the 5th September, 1888.

Hanks.—There has been a fair amount done in these, several parcels being taken for Europe, and at the close prices are strong, tending upwards; the transactions done include Shimomita at \$550; Maibashi, \$540; Hachoji, \$510 and \$500. Stock is small and well held.

Filatures.—These have hardened considerably, and holders have managed to find buyers at quotations. On the 1st inst. Tokusha and equal quality were done at \$615; they are now held for \$625, \$620 having been refused. Hakuonru has touched \$635, and owners would not go on unless at an advance. Some Matsumoto Silks have been hooked at \$625, and the large Filature men have practically withdrawn from the Market for the time being. Some nice parcels of fine sized Silk have been taken for France at prices ranging from \$610 to \$650 according to quality.

Re-reels.—These, already too dear in comparison with Filatures, have again advanced and business has been done at the advance; considerable parcels of Kanrakusha have been booked at \$612 1/2 for No. 1 and \$590 for No. 3. These prices with present rates of Exchange look dear. Various lots of common Bushu and Yechigo with Hitachi have been taken at \$585, \$570, \$565, and are probably destined for Europe.

Kakeda.—No transactions at all this week; prices nominally the same.

Oshu.—The sale foreshadowed in our last was completed at \$545, and the goods shipped to Europe by the French Mail.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No. 14	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shimshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Oshu)	\$550
Hanks—No. 24 (Shimshu)	540 to 545
Hanks—No. 24 (Oshu)	535 to 540
Hanks—No. 24 (Shimshu)	530 to 535
Hanks—No. 24 (Oshu)	510 to 525
Hanks—No. 3	510 to 515
Hanks—No. 34	500 to 505
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	—
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	640 to 645
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	640 to 650
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	625 to 635
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	610 to 620
Filatures—No. 2, 10/13 deniers	610 to 620
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	600 to 605
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Shimshu and Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	605 to 615
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	595 to 600
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	580 to 585
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/19 deniers	570 to 575
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	560 to 565
Kakedas—Extra	Nom.
Kakedas—No. 1	Nom.
Kakedas—No. 14	570 to 575
Kakedas—No. 2	550 to 565
Kakedas—No. 24	550 to 555
Kakedas—No. 3	540 to 545
Kakedas—No. 34	530 to 535
Oshu Sendai—No. 24	—
Hamatsumi—No. 1, 2	540 to 550
Hamatsumi—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 24	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 5th Sept., 1890:—

	BALES.	1889-90.	1888-89.
Europe	637	3,507	2,752
America	2,050	3,509	2,189
Total	2,687	7,016	5,141
Settlements and Direct	2,677	7,085	5,214
Export from 1st July	2,900	8,800	5,200
Stock, 5th September	8,550	4,300	8,300
Available supplies to date	11,450	13,100	13,500

WASTE SILK.

Settlements in this branch have been 133 piculs of Noshi, nothing done in other kinds.

The Market is very dull, and shippers get but very little encouragement from their clients abroad.

Japanese on the other hand appear to be listless, not caring whether they sell or no.

The only export during the week has been per steamer Sydney, which vessel took 18 bales Noshi for Marseilles and 20 bales for London. Shipments to date are therefore 908 piculs against 1,217 last year and 1,294 in 1888.

Pierced Cocoons.—No business as yet; the stock is not very large, and holders seem quite content to wait.

Noshi.—The only sales this week have been in this department, and they include Oshu at \$127 1/2 and \$132 1/2, with Joshu assorted at prices ranging from \$75 to \$80.

Kibiso.—No business at all in this, although the stock is very large being over 5,000 piculs; dealers must come down in price if they want to do any considerable business.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi—Oshu, Filature, Best	\$140 to \$150
Noshi—Oshu, Filature, Good	130 to 135
Noshi—Oshu, Filature, Medium	—
Noshi—Oshu, Good to Best	135 to 140
Noshi—Shimshu, Best	—
Noshi—Shimshu, Good	—
Noshi—Shimshu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shimshu, Good to Best	—
Noshi—Joshi, Best	—
Noshi—Joshi, Good	80
Noshi—Joshi, Ordinary	70 to 75
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	105 to 110
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	95 to 100
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shimshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shimshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshi, Good to Fair	50 to 40
Kibiso—Joshi, Middling to Common	—
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good	—
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	—
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	15 to 11
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 5th Sept., 1890:—

	1889-90.	1888-89.
Waste Silk	908	1,195
Pierced Cocoons	22	3
	908	1,217
Settlements and Direct	950	3,300
Export from 1st July	950	450
Stock, 5th September	9,850	8,000
Available supplies to date	10,800	11,300

Exchange has fluctuated from day to day; the price of silver in London has been fairly well maintained at a high figure but without much activity. We quote:—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits, 3/11; Documents 3/11 1/2; 6m/s. Credits, 3/11 1/2; Documents 3/11 1/2; New York, 30d/s. U.S. \$94 1/2; 4m/s. U.S. \$95; PARIS, 4m/s. fcs. 493; 6m/s. fcs. 495.

Estimated Silk Stock, 5th Sept., 1890:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	245	Cocoons	870
Filatures	4,950	Noshi-ito	3,080
Re-reels	2,965	Kibiso	3,350
Kakeda	200	Mawata	360
Oshu	195	Sundries	190
Taysam Kinds	5		
Total piculs	8,550	Total piculs	9,850

TEA.

Business no doubt would have been larger if the brokers had not demanded higher prices for Common to Medium grades. These grades are now one dollar per picul higher all around. Settlements for the week are 3,615 piculs, making a total of 195,045 piculs, as compared with 160,150 piculs in 1889. At the close the market is quiet, with scarcely anything doing.

	PER PICUL.
Common	\$11 & under
Good Common	14 to 13
Medium	13 to 14
Good Medium	15 to 16
Fine	17 to 19
Finest	20 to 22
Choice	23 & up'ds
Choicest	—
Extra Choicest	—

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has varied but little, and closes firm at rates below:—

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/9 1/2
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/10 1/2
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/10 1/2
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/10 1/2
On Paris—Bank sight	4.80
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4.90
On Hongkong—Bank sight	100 to 100
On Hongkong—Private to days' sight	100 to 100
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72 1/2
On Shanghai—Private to days' sight	73 1/2
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	92 1/2
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	93 1/2
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	92 1/2
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	93 1/2

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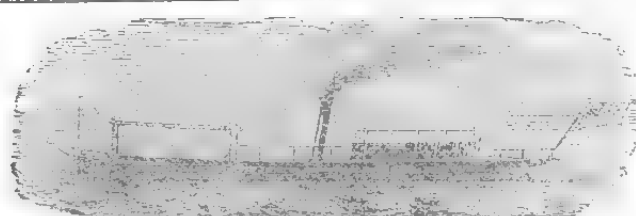
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YOKOHAMA, SEPTEMBER 13TH, 1890.

通信者認可

[VOL. XIV.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"PAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPT. 13, 1890.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

COUNT YANAGIWARA will, it is said, be nominated by the Emperor Vice-President of the House of Peers.

H.I.H. PRINCE KOMATSU, who visited Yokosuka on the 4th instant, returned to the capital on the following day.

BARON H. VON SIRBOLD, Secretary of the Austrian Legation, will leave Japan on or about the 15th instant for home.

H.I.H. PRINCE ARISUGAWA TARUHIRO arrived at Kyoto on the 3rd instant, and proceeded to the Arima Hot Springs on the following day.

DURING the month of August last the amounts of coins struck in the Osaka Mint were yen 87,510 in gold and yen 1,185,473 in silver.

PRINCE MORI, ex-chief of the Choshu clan, proceeded to the Imperial Palace on the 6th instant, to pay his respects to the Emperor.

H.I.H. PRINCESS KITASHIRAKAWA returned to the capital on the 8th inst. from Tochigi Prefecture, where she had been staying for some time.

THE line of the Osaka Railway Company between Kashiwabara and Kamegase, having been completed, was to be opened for traffic on the 8th instant.

It is commonly reported that Mr. Shibusawa Eichi, President of the 1st National Bank, will be nominated by the Emperor a member of the House of Peers.

THE receipts of the Tokyo Tramway Company during last month amounted to yen 12,054.80, showing a decrease of yen 2,513.82 as compared with the previous month.

NEWS from Sapporo dated the 9th inst. announces that in consequence of recent heavy rains the Toyohira River has overflowed. Great damage has been done to embankments; about

three hundred houses have been submerged, and thirteen buildings carried away.

THEIR MAJESTIES THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS have been pleased to grant a sum of yen 1,000, towards the fund for the relief of sufferers by the recent conflagration at Osaka.

RAILWAY communication between Shiraishi and Okawara, which had been stopped in consequence of damage done to the line by the recent heavy rains, was re-opened on the 8th instant.

THE number of visitors to the Botanical Garden of the Imperial University during August last totalled 463, of whom 5 were foreigners, and 9 special, the remainder being ordinary visitors.

THE ordinary meeting of the Cabinet was held on the 9th instant, and was attended by Counts Yamagata, Yamada, Matsukata and Saigo, and Viscount Aoki, the proceedings closing at 4 p.m.

THE receipts of the Patents Bureau in the Agricultural and Commercial Department during the month of August last were yen 1,194.175, showing a decrease of yen 392.55 as compared with the previous month.

ON the 25th ultimo two men were killed by lightning at Tomiokacho, Amakusa-gun, Kumamoto Prefecture. On the 1st inst. a man was killed by lightning at Tanabecho, Nishimuro-gun, Wakayama Prefecture.

H.I.H. PRINCE KACHO, who leaves Japan on the 14th inst. for Germany to complete his studies, was received in audience by the Emperor on the 9th inst. Afterwards His Highness paid a visit to the Imperial Sanctuary.

ACCORDING to a report by the Sanitary Bureau of the Home Department, the number of persons seized by cholera throughout the empire from the commencement of the epidemic to the 8th inst. was 16,804, of whom 10,152 died.

IT is commonly reported that the Senate will be abolished on the 30th instant, when twenty Senators will be nominated by the Emperor as members of the House of Peers, while the remainder will be placed on the retired list.

TWO Chinese, named Ah Ro and Ah Chu, employed on the *Saito Maru*, were arrested by the Japanese Authorities on the 7th instant at Yokohama, on a charge of having smuggled sixteen tins of opium, and were handed over to the Chinese Consulate.

A TYPHOON swept over the island of Yonakuni, Okinawa Prefecture, on the 17th ultimo. It raged from morning till evening, destroying a hundred and thirty houses. On the 25th of last month a whirlwind visited Fukunamimura, Kamizaga, Fukuoka Prefecture, and destroyed two dwellings.

AN outbreak of fire took place early in the morning of the 5th instant, in a house at Shimomachi Ichome, Nishiku, Osaka. The wind being very strong at the time, the flames spread quickly, and some eighteen hundred houses were destroyed before the fire could be got under control. About a hundred and fifty police and firemen were injured.

AN earthquake was felt in the capital on the 5th instant at 7h. 57m. 19s. The duration was three minutes, the maximum horizontal motion

being 0.8 millimetre in 2.4 seconds. A shock was experienced on the 6th instant at 1h. 11m. 55s. The duration was one minute and forty seconds, the maximum horizontal motion being 0.6 millimetre in 1.0 second.

AT Osaka, a Chinese firm has been robbed of the sum of \$150,000 by one of its Chinese employees, known among the Japanese workmen as "Tama-san," who absconded. A reward of \$1,000 was offered for his arrest, or for information leading to the same, by the Chinese Consul at Kobe. The man was finally arrested by Messrs. Miura and Morita, Osaka detectives, on the 4th instant, in Fukui Prefecture, where he was hiding.

ACCORDING to a report issued by the Home Department there occurred in the empire during July last, 56 earthquakes, felt on 23 different days; the day on which the largest number was felt being the 8th, when there were 8 shocks; while on the 4th, 10th, 19th, and 25th there were 4 shocks each day. The hour during which the greatest number of earthquakes was felt was between 2 and 3 a.m., and the most severe oscillation took place between 11 p.m. and midnight. The hours free from earthquakes were between 11 a.m. and noon, and between 6 and 8 a.m. The provinces which were visited by shocks during the month were Iwaki, Iwashiro, Echigo, Kozuke, Shimozuke, Hitachi, Shimoda, Kazusa, Musashi, Sagami, Izu, Suruga, Ise, Kii, Iwami, Aki, Suo, Higo, Satsuma, Bungo, Hizen, Buzen and Hyuga, and the Kurile Islands. The earthquake of widest effect was that of the 19th, which extended to eight provinces and affected an area of 2,010 square *ri*. The provinces which experienced shocks most strongly were Suruga and Hitachi.

THE Import trade has increased largely in volume, but prices have seen a considerable decline, and business can only now be done on a much reduced scale of rates. The large sales of Yarn have been nearly all English spinnings—3,700 bales, against 120 bales Bombay. A small business has been done in Shirtings and T.-Cloths, the remaining principal item being Italians, of which 14,000 pieces have been taken. Metals all round have been dealt in, and the total is considerable, but at another smart drop in prices. Deliveries of Kerosene have been fair, but values are almost nominal, though unchanged, and the stock still continues in the neighbourhood of 700,000 cases of all brands, though there have been no arrivals during the week. Sugar is a drug. Business in the principal Export still hangs fire, and holders of Silk appear to be as strong as ever. It is now generally admitted that reellers paid very high prices for cocoons, and that the growers are reaping the benefit. Last year this was reversed: the country people sold their produce at low rates, the reellers and middle-men getting the "pull." Stocks are heavy, and there is a large quantity of good Silk on the market, and as arrivals are on the increase as communication with the interior is restored, it is difficult to see how holders can relieve themselves from the tight place into which they have fallen. If they rely upon any considerable drop in exchange, they are surely depending upon a rotten reed. There has been some business in Waste Silk, though not much, prices asked being still high. The Tea trade is gradually narrowing, and this week grades above Good Common and Medium have received slightly more attention, though the bulk of the business has been in Common to Medium. Prices tend upwards. Exchange has fluctuated slightly, the latest movement being a further drop to-day.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE "KEIZAI ZASSHI" ON THE EXHIBITION.

THE *Keizai Zasshi* declares that the Exhibition of 1890 has been in many respects a failure. The want of system in the arrangement of the exhibits, the difficulties that have arisen between the assessors and the exhibitors, the singular circumstance that a large number of articles which were relatively moderate in price were sold during an incredibly short period after the opening of the Exhibition—these are but trifling, in our contemporary's opinion, when compared with some of the fundamental mistakes that have been committed by those connected with the Exhibition. In the first place, the Tokyo magazine alludes to the circumstance that the sale of the articles has been extremely unsatisfactory. While the exhibits sold at the Exhibition of 1881 amounted to yen 160,000, the amount in the present case has been only yen 150,000, out of which about yen 30,000 represents the amount realized by a special public sale held after the formal closing of the Exhibition. Taking the amount of sales in 1881 as a criterion, the sales of the present year's exhibits ought to have been upwards of yen 400,000, the total number of exhibits having been exceedingly numerous this year. Now, this result is attributed by the authorities, or at least by some of them, to the general depression of trade in the country. The *Keizai Zasshi*, however, while acknowledging in part the truth of this contention, is inclined to place a considerable portion of the responsibility on the shoulders of the Exhibition authorities, as well as on those of the exhibitors themselves. The latter and those who encouraged them made a fundamental mistake in giving an undue share of their attention to those objects of art which there is least prospect of disposing of in the present state of the country's economical development. To take a few practical examples: our contemporary mentions that there were screens and other furniture costing many thousands of yen. Now, to use such articles, the house and all the other accessories must be correspondingly luxurious in style. Yet how many persons are there in Japan who can afford to spend several hundreds of thousands of yen in the construction and furnishing of their dwellings? In short, our contemporary is of opinion that the majority of the objects of art exhibited in the 1890 Exhibition were above the purchasing capacity of the Japanese. The *Keizai Zasshi* attributes this to the indiscriminate encouragement given by the authorities to art and art manufactures. There is now a strong movement both within and without the Government for the purpose of reviving and developing the country's art, but the Tokyo journal deprecates strongly the injudicious encouragement given to artists and art manufacturers. If any special art is really capable of development, it will advance even under unfavourable circumstances, and too much encouragement is very often highly injurious to its natural and legitimate development. Our contemporary thus calls the attention of the Government and the exhibitors to the importance of devoting in future more of their attention to the development of arts of practical utility.

PERSONAL NEWS.

MR. YANO FUMIO, formerly one of the leaders of the *Kaishin-to*, now devotes himself to literary pursuits. He is contributing a series of literary jottings to the columns of the *Hochi Shimbun*. Unfortunately, however, he has become the subject of general mirth on account of several absurd blunders which he recently made in his criticism of celebrated poems—and also in a historical criticism. He pointed out supposed blunders in the poems, whereas the blunders were entirely the fault of his memory, the phrases pointed out by him never having been used by the poets. His mistake in historical criticism was of the same nature, and need not be explained here.

Mr. Kusumoto Masataka, Vice-President of

the *Geuro-in*, and member elect of the Diet, is now reported by some journals to be in no enviable situation. He is understood to be desirous of being appointed President of the House of Representatives, but it is rumoured that there is little hope of his ever obtaining the position, as he has offended a large majority of his fellow members by his "tall" stories and his haughty manners.

Mr. Hatoyama, formerly director of the Bureau of Investigation in the Foreign Office, is reported to be canvassing the suburbs of Tokyo, with a view to filling the vacancy which is likely (almost certain as some persons say) to occur on account of the legal disability of Mr. Mori Tokinosuke. Mr. Hatoyama has to contend against a host of antagonists of no mean ability. Mr. Tsunoda Shunpei, a distinguished barrister who was defeated in the urban division of Kanda at the general election, and Mr. Masuda Kokutoku, younger brother of Mr. Masuda Takashi of the *Mitsui Bussan Kaisha*, are the more prominent of the five or six gentlemen now reported to be in the field against Mr. Hatoyama.

Count Ito has often been mentioned as the most likely person to receive appointment to the Presidency of the Upper House, and the report has as frequently been contradicted. It is again rumoured in certain quarters that he has at last consented to accept the offer. We believe the Count is now recruiting his health either at Kobe or Kyoto.

Mr. Kaneko Kentaro, Chief Secretary of the House of Peers, who, as we have already stated in these columns, seems to hold no very high opinion of the nobility, will, if we may credit a rumour, be transferred to the Chief Secretaryship of the House of Representatives. At any rate, Mr. Kaneko is now believed to have got himself into difficulties with his superiors.

Mr. Snematsu Kencho, who lately resigned the Directorship of the Bureau of Local Government on his election to the House of Representatives, applied for admission to the *Taisei-kwai*, and the application was accepted. It is now reported, however, that he has since reconsidered his position, and declines to avail himself of the favourable reception accorded to his application. He has not declared himself in favour of any of the existing parties. His successor at the Home Office has not yet been appointed. Mr. Oseko and Mr. Oki (formerly Governor of Kanagawa) are mentioned as probable candidates.

DIFFERING DOCTORS.

We have lately received a European merchant's account of the manners and customs of Japanese tradespeople in their dealings with foreigners. Let us now see what a Korean has to say of these same Japanese—an anonymous Korean, whose words are reproduced by the *Choya Shimbun*:—"Commerce has not yet made much progress in my country. The only foreign merchants doing business there are Japanese and Chinese. Of Western traders we see nothing. The chief staples of import are camlets and kerosene, together with tea and matches. The articles of export are gold dust, hides, and cereals. Japanese carry on seven or eight-tenths of the business; Chinese, the remainder. If you ask why the Chinese, whose shrewdness and perseverance in matters of trade are proverbial, should be thus distanced by the Japanese, I reply that the Chinese merchants do not possess skill to distinguish the quality of gold dust, Korea's principal article of export; they are taken in by the Koreans and lose money. The Japanese, on the contrary, are very expert in judging its quality, and the same is true of hides and cereals, which long practice has qualified them to handle without risk of loss. Another reason is that the Chinaman allows himself to be carried away by the prospect of immediate gain: he takes advantage of the Koreans' simplicity, and by deceitful prac-

tices forfeits the goodwill of the people of the country. It is not so with the Japanese. A man of integrity, he does not seek to take undue advantage of a customer, and the consequence is that he is everywhere preferred by Korean dealers. Many ancient objects of Korean art are carried to Japan by Japanese merchants, and on the whole one may almost say that the whole of Korea's foreign trade is in Japanese hands. But if the Chinese acquire skill to judge gold-dust, they may take their place of the Japanese in respect of this staple. The Japanese merchant is a clever buyer; the Chinese, a clever seller. If the Japanese desire to retain their supremacy in the Korean markets, they must combine against the Chinese. I believe that some Koreans have lately exported rice to Japan. This is the first instance of Korean merchants engaging directly in foreign trade."

THE "TAISEI KWAI."

THE *Taisei-kwai*, the new political body formed by the so-called independent members of the Diet, is the subject of decidedly unfriendly criticisms among a certain section of the metropolitan press, especially the twin journals *Kokumin-no-Tomo* and *Kokumin Shimbun*. The former, writing on this subject in a recent issue, goes so far as to express the suspicion that the new party may be in reality an instrument in the hands of wily statesmen of either pro-conservative or pro-government tendency. Nobody, our contemporary observes, has as yet been able to take the measure of the new political association, but, as it contains one-fourth of the whole number of members of the House of Representatives, there can be no question as to its influence in the Diet. Our contemporary remarks that, although Viscount Tanaka, the Metropolitan Inspector-General of Police, is reported not to regard the *Taisei-kwai* as a political association, there is no gainsaying that it is an association organized for political purposes, as is evident from the publication of its manifesto and the manner in which its meetings are conducted. The Tokyo journal goes on to ridicule the idea of independent members forming a political party, for the essence of independence consists in keeping aloof from every party in the Diet. Copious illustrations are taken from the history of political parties in England and America, in order to show that the first condition of a political party is that its members should unite for the attainment of common objects. Our contemporary entertains strong doubts whether this primary condition has been fulfilled in the case of the *Taisei-kwai*. What is certain is, the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* says, that this party is composed of heterogeneous and apparently incongruous elements. In its ranks are seen (1) the members of the aristocratic *Fichto*, (2) secularized Buddhist and Shinto priests, (3) the members of the *Kokusai Hozon-to* or *Shin Hoshu-to*, (4) retired officials on the *hishoku* list, (5) a few business men who owe everything in their possession to the liberality of the Government, (6) some politicians who entertain no fixed opinions, (7) several genuine lovers of their country and of liberty, who are truly independent in their opinions, and (8) some who, for business reasons or other motives best known to themselves, do not think it advisable to attach themselves to any of the existing parties. With such heterogeneous elements, our contemporary thinks it impossible to expect any real movement from the new party, either in the country or on the floor of the Diet. The manifesto of the new party, which is reproduced, runs as follows:—"We make it our object to promote the prosperity of the country and the welfare of the people, and we propose to attain this object by making justice and righteousness our guiding principles. In our eyes there is neither a Government nor an anti-Government party. Progress is our object, but we will not be betrayed into radicalism; neither shall our love of order make us conservative. We propose to pursue a sound, unbiased, and middle course, our sole concern being as to the interests of the country and the happiness of the nation. Under present circumstances, the lightning of the

public burdens of the people is an urgent necessity, but this consideration ought not to make us niggardly of expense when the extension of the national rights is concerned. Laws and legal institutions must be provided, but at the same time due consideration must be given to the claims of national customs and the actual condition of the people. The carrying out of the principle of a responsible Cabinet is, no doubt, important, but it is at the same time important to be on guard against the inauguration of the evil practice of transferring or accepting political power from motives of ambition and self interest. It is, beyond doubt, necessary to revise the treaties, but we cannot approve any policy the tendency of which is to hurry the consummation of the immediate object of revision without regard to the true interests of the country. In short, so called "principles" (*shugō*) and "platforms" (*kōjō*) are but shadows; practical questions form the substance. We therefore make no declaration of our principles. We mean to determine our views on practical questions as they may arise from time to time, and in this way we hope to assist in the completion of Parliamentary Government. Such is the *raison d'être* of our association." The *Kokumin-no-Tomo* compares this manifesto with the advertisement of a patent medicine, and observes in a contemptuous way that the effect of trying to please everybody will be to please nobody. Our contemporary next proceeds to reproduce the rules of the association in question. In Article 3 it is provided that "the members of the present association shall institute investigations on practical questions, and shall determine their course in debates by reference to the results of such investigations." From this provision our contemporary infers that the members of the *Taisei-kwai* do not as yet possess any definite opinion on any subject. It is indeed strange—the Tokyo journal continues—that the organization of a party should precede the determination of its aims and principles. "Who knows," says the *Kokumin-no-Tomo*, "who knows that the independent party under consideration may not in reality be either a conservative or a Government party, that it may not be a monster called into being by a few unknown but cunning statesmen desirous of using it as an instrument for the attainment of their political purposes?" In conclusion, our contemporary warns the members of the association to be on their guard against being sold by astute statesmen.

Such is the view taken of the *Taisei-kwai* by one of the journals unfriendly to it. Let us now see what an equally powerful but friendly magazine says on the subject. An anonymous writer in the *Nippon-jin* takes an entirely opposite view of the question. He maintains that what is of the most urgent importance is that there should be men of independent opinion in the Diet—men who are ready to take just and unbiased views of every political question, and who are not bound to vote with any of the existing parties. Now that the representatives of the people are about to assemble in the Diet, the heat of party strife cannot but increase day after day. In outward appearance, every political party seems to make justice and reason the springs of its action, but, when looked at more closely, it is discovered to be guided in many cases not by reason but by passion. Passing on to speak of future political parties in the Diet, the writer says that, judging from past experience, all the existing parties will sooner or later undergo a thorough process of separation and amalgamation, and that there will arise two antagonistic parties, the negative (Conservative) and the positive (Progressive) parties. If there were no third party between them, those two might sacrifice the interests of the country for the attainment of supremacy. The writer, therefore, thinks it important that there should be a third party, which, keeping itself independent of either of the other two, will be able to hold the balance of power in its own hands. In such a state of affairs, if the

independent party fulfills its mission by giving its support only to that party which it thinks takes the correct view of any particular question, then many of the evils inseparable from the competition of two parties struggling for power would be avoided, or at least largely mitigated. Our author observes that it is the intention of the *Taisei-kwai* to occupy the position attributed to the independent party above alluded to.

As to the question whether the *Taisei-kwai* falls under the scope of the Law of Political Associations, the *Nippon-jin* observes in an editorial note that, being an association exclusively of members of the Diet, the *Taisei-kwai* is not a political association in the sense of the law.

THE TOKYO WATER WORKS BILL BEFORE THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

SOME reference has already been made in these columns to the project of constructing water-works in the capital. As the bill for raising the requisite funds by a municipal loan is now before the Tokyo Municipal Council, we are in a position to give a fuller account by reproducing a detailed report of the deliberations of the council meeting held in the afternoon of the 24th ultimo, at which the water-works bill passed the first reading. It ran thus:—

DETAILED ESTIMATES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURES OF THE TOKYO CITY IMPROVEMENT WORKS FROM THE 24TH FISCAL YEAR TO THE 28TH FISCAL YEAR.

	Yen.
I.—Total Expenditure	10,000,000
(A). Cost of Water-works Improvement	6,500,000
1. Cost of Pipes, &c.	3,332,462
2. Cost of Settling Pond, Filtering Pond, and Reservoir	1,906,161
3. Expense of the Purchase of lands for Works	255,000
4. Cost of Pumps, Steam Engines, Boilers, and Buildings	285,000
5. Salaries	140,000
6. Remunerations and Allowances	25,000
7. Expenses for Surveying	30,000
8. Fund to be reserved for lending* and for Expenses for Constructing Branch Pipes	200,000
9. Reserve Fund	328,075
II.—Cost of improving Streets, Canals, Bridges, and Parks	3,500,000

* The original is ambiguous.

Upon Mr. Kuroda Tsumahiko asking for an explanation of the bill, Mr. Ginbayashi, the Secretary of the Tokyo Fucho, who attends the Council *ex officio*, made a speech in support of the bill. The following is the gist of his statement:—At present the city of Tokyo is supplied with drinking water by three different aqueducts, to wit, the Tamagawa Josui, the Kanda Josui, and the Chikawa Josui. According to statistics compiled in February, 1886, the city contains 52,654 wells, of which 7,755 are directly supplied from the aqueducts, the rest being ordinary wells. Of this latter class, 3,825 have undergone tests as to the fitness of the water for drinking purposes. The testing has shown the alarming fact that in "the lower town," eighty per cent. of these wells give water entirely unfit for drinking. Now the population of "the lower town" is estimated at 1,025,000, and this large portion of the metropolitan population is almost cut off from wholesome water. Besides, owing to the faulty construction of the aqueducts, the water, which can be drunk with safety in the higher part of its course, gets very soon contaminated and is thus made wholly unfit for drinking. In case of fire, moreover, the want of a sufficient supply of water is keenly felt. All these disgraceful circumstances existing in the capital of the Empire demonstrated the imperative necessity of improvement to the Tokyo Fucho as early as the tenth year of Meiji (1879). But financial considerations prevented the inception of an undertaking requiring so large an outlay. Meanwhile, the population of the city has increased with astounding rapidity, the increment being forty thousand during the last five years. The necessity of improving the aqueducts has thus become more imperative than ever, and since the project of city improvement was practically entertained the Fucho has taken many steps for accomplishing its object in respect of water-works. Some-

times the opinions of foreign employes were taken on the subject, and official experts when going abroad were asked to make full investigations in foreign countries. Even the views of the Chief of the Bureau of Aqueducts in Berlin were asked. After careful consideration of all the information obtained from various sources, the Fucho has decided to carry out the work in the form now submitted to the municipal council. To say nothing of the sanitary point of view, the work when completed will be found to render inestimable service in case of fire, as, according to the plan, three wells are to be made in every *cho*, each affording eighty cubic feet of water. The secretary also stated that upon this bill being passed by the council, application will be made for a subsidy of 150,000 yen from the national treasury. After some debate by the members of the council, the motion was made and carried by a large majority that the second reading of the bill should be shortly proposed.

THE SOY SUIT.

It appears probable, from what the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* says, that the suit instituted by the manufacturers of the well-known Yamaju soy against the Exhibition Jurors—on the ground that the latter had judged incorrectly and thus injured the reputation of the soy—will be settled out of Court. The Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce is said to have exerted himself strenuously to bring about an arrangement, believing that if the case came into Court, it would have an injurious effect on the manufacturing industry in Japan, though what the grounds of such an apprehension may be, we cannot clearly perceive. After various visits between the plaintiffs and the other side, Mr. Ishida succeeded, on the 13th instant, in finding a basis of arrangement. In one sense this is fortunate, but in another we almost regret that the suit will not be proceeded with, for it certainly seems desirable that the conception of its instigators should be legally dealt with. To us it has always appeared incredible that any remedy should be obtainable in a court of law against the award of jurors at an exhibition. The position of a juror is virtually that of a private arbitrator, to whose judgment the exhibitors agree to submit from the moment when they send in their exhibits. It does not lie within the province of the law, as we think, to take any cognisance of such matters.

SIR JOHN POPE HENNESSY.

Now that Sir John Pope Hennessy is clear of official trammels, he is giving scope to his literary tastes and talents and is discussing topics on which his mouth has hitherto been shut. In the *Nineteenth Century* a short article of his, entitled "The African Bubble," fills the place of honour. It has not been received very favourably, however, and no wonder, because what he proposes is that the greater part of our African territory "Spheres of influence," and the like, should be bartered off to France and Germany in order to get the former out of Newfoundland and the latter out of New Guinea. He does not believe that Africa will be of any service, or that the new chartered companies will be able to do anything with their acquisitions. A more interesting article, which however is anonymous, but which is generally attributed to Sir John, appears in the *National Review*, and is entitled, "His Excellency, the Governor, by an ex-Governor." If he is the writer, he has certainly made a clever effort to conceal his identity. The substance of this article is that the policy of the Colonial Office in its recent appointments of Governors to the Australian Colonies is wrong. This policy is not to promote men who have spent their lives in the administration of Crown Colonies, but to send out young men, mainly peers, who have had some acquaintance with public life at home. "Ex-Governor" laughs at the coronetted governors, their inexperience, their incapacity for dealing with the wily Colonial politician, and so on, and suggests that a wary old Colonial administrator would be able to form a better judgment on Australian affairs and to advise

both the Secretary of State and the Colonial Governments in matters of difficulty. To this as to every other question, there is, of course, another side, and the Colonial Office's answer to these criticisms would be that no Australian Governors have been anything like so successful or so popular, nor have administrative matters ever gone as smoothly as under these young peers from home. In the hands of the regular Colonial Governors constitutional crises were constantly taking place. For instance, there was the trouble during the régime of Sir George Bowen in Victoria, and only a couple of years ago that under Sir Anthony Musgrave in Queensland, whereas under Lord Carrington, Lord Kintore, and Lord Ouslow everything went with perfect smoothness, while as for personal popularity there is no comparison. And after all, when one comes to think of it, there are reasons why a good Governor of a Crown Colony should make a very bad Governor of a self-governing colony, for in the former he is the be-all and the end-all; his finger is in everybody's pie; nothing can be done without his direct approval. It is not surprising, if he carries these habits into a self-governing colony, that he should soon set everybody by the ears. By the way, we believe that Sir John Pope Hennessy was once grievously disappointed that he did not get Queensland; the Colonial office was inclined to send him, but the Colonial Government raised an objection.

TWO ADDITIONS TO THE SCIENCE OF DESTRUCTION.

THE science of destruction has been carried a step farther by two inventions, of which one is the Walkin position-finder, the other the Brennan torpedo. The position finder is a device enabling a commanding officer at a distance from a battery to accurately direct the fire of the battery upon any desired point. It is particularly useful for the direction of fire at high angles, as it renders it possible for guns so fired to be mounted altogether out of sight of an enemy. The Brennan torpedo is a hollow steel spindle. "In its head is a charge of gelatin; in its body are a hydrostatic device for regulating its depth, a mass of delicate machinery, and two reels, upon each of which is wound a great length of strong steel wire. Erect on the summit of its back is a steel flag-staff 8 ft. high, surmounted by a little flag. The torpedo having been launched, motion is imparted to its two screws by the simple operation of rapidly unwinding by means of the engine on shore the wire from the reels in the body of the machine. The more quickly you unwind the more speedy becomes the motion of the torpedo away from you. The more you pull, the more you accelerate the runaway; and, meanwhile, you guide it whether you will by unwinding one wire more rapidly than the other, and by so giving a greater number of revolutions to one screw than to the other. The interior of the Brennan torpedo is an unknown territory to all but a very few people; but such is its general geography." On the 5th of July an experiment was made with the torpedo at the mouth of the Solent. "An old merchant-ship was towed at a speed of nine knots, and at a distance of about twelve hundred yards, past the fort. When she was nearly abreast of it a Brennan was launched. At an immense rate of speed the torpedo, leaping like a great fish in the water and then settling down to a depth of six or seven feet, darted into the channel, got into the wake of the ship, rounded her stern, and went plump into her on the starboard quarter. A great jet of black and white smoke, a violent upheaval of smashed spars and a dull report followed; and, as the smoke cleared, the unfortunate ship, which seemed to be absolutely shaken to pieces, slowly sank. Four minutes after she had been struck she was beneath the water, which all round was covered with her wreckage."

BURGLARS IN TOKYO.

ANOTHER burglary has been successfully effected in the house of a foreigner in Tokyo, the victim in this instance being Professor Clay McCauley, who resides at 29, Shinzaka-machi,

Akasaka. The circumstances attending the breaking into the house, and the thief's methods, all point to the fact that the burglar is an old and accomplished cracksmen. Mr. McCauley had returned from the country on the night of the robbery, and his luggage had been put into the library for the time, where it remained unpacked until discovered by the burglar, who made a clean sweep of all that he could lay his hands on, including the whole of Mr. McCauley's summer clothing and other property. Having arranged this outside the house ready for removal, the thief paid a visit to Mr. McCauley's bedroom, and whilst he was collecting the clothing worn that day, the Professor woke up just in time to see the thief dash out, pick up the property arranged outside, and disappear with his arms full of articles including a valuable watch and chain, a small sum of money, and various memoranda and papers of no use to any one but the owner. As the watch bears a monogram, and much of the clothing is marked, these may possibly lead to the capture of the thief; and the police are now at work on the case.

THE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF PEERS AND A NEW JOURNAL.

WE are informed by the *Choya Shimbun* that some of the Peers elected to the Diet have the intention of publishing a journal which will serve as the organ of the Upper House. The object of the projectors is said to be to convert the *Official Gazette* into their organ. "Previous to the publication of the *Official Gazette*" they are represented as arguing, "the public expected it to be a medium by which they might obtain some idea of the general line of policy adopted by the Government, and learn, to some extent at least, the reasons dictating the enactment of the various laws and regulations published in the *Gazette's* columns from time to time. People were, however, entirely disappointed in their expectations, for the *Official Gazette* in its present form is nothing more than a mere medium for promulgating official orders. True, it contains various reports on foreign affairs, agricultural, commercial, industrial matters, &c., &c., but they are mostly out of date and cannot serve any practical purpose. For these reasons, the *Official Gazette* is very far from giving satisfaction to the general public. Under these circumstances the Nobles think that, if they decide to have an organ, they will have good grounds for asking the Authorities to entrust to them the publication of all matters at present appearing in the columns of the *Official Gazette*. The contemplated paper would thus serve as the medium by which not only administrative measure would be made known, but also the affairs of the Government would be made public, so far as they are not secret, and the views of the peers would, at the same time, find expression. A newspaper so edited could not fail, in their opinion, to merit public approval, so that there would no longer be any necessity to resort to a system of compulsory subscription, as is done at present for the maintenance of the *Official Gazette*. Since the paper would take the place of the *Official Gazette*, it is a matter of course that it should be placed under the official supervision of the Government, to some extent at least.

JAPAN ART PRODUCTS.

WE have often wondered where all the imitations of Japanese Art products, especially lacquer and porcelain, come from. They are obviously imitations, and do not pretend to be anything else. But how it could pay any one to imitate things which can be obtained genuine for so little, is past comprehension. It appears now that, in some cases at least, it does not pay. Sir Arthur Nicolson, the British Consul-General at Buda-Pesth, in a recent report on Hungarian trade and industry, says that there is only one porcelain factory in Hungary. While it was in private hands it occupied itself chiefly with some successful imitations of Chinese and Japanese porcelain. In 1884 the factory was taken over by a company, and it was found useless to continue the imitations of Oriental China, as the

original article found its way to Hungary, and was sold at prices which rendered competition impossible, so the factory is now attempting to make stone-ware instead. We wish that the German factories manufacturing imitations of Japan lacquer would also take to making stone-ware.

Talking of Consular reports reminds us to mention that the British reports want proof-reading very badly, for they sometimes come out with the most outrageous misprints. One can scarcely take up a Consular report from China without finding absurd mistakes which very ordinary proof-reading would obviate. It is not long since a report, from Ichang we think, in which detailed reference was made to the trade of Szechuan, came out with Chinkiang in place of Chung-king, which of course made nonsense of the whole report. Another report spoke throughout of the "Tonnosan" railway and "Tonnosan" tea and "Tonnosan" sugar, and it was only after a little investigation that one discovered the mysterious word to be *Formosan*. These stupid blunders are probably the effects of bad handwriting plus careless proof-reading, but also, we fear it must be said, of crass ignorance somewhere. Consular reports, we believe, are supposed to be edited by Mr. Willoughby Maycock of the Chief Clerk's department of the Foreign Office. It is pretty evident that he does not know as much about the Treaty Ports of China as about celebrated English trials, for he has been writing a series of very interesting papers on the latter in the *Sporting Times*, or "Pink-Un," a weekly paper which is very clever, very witty, and shockingly disreputable. No doubt it is difficult to turn from such spicy compositions to things so dry as Consular reports, but it is to be hoped that Mr. Maycock, if it is still his duty, will make the effort. We have just received the report from Newchwang in which the Consul, Mr. Walters, is made to sign his name "Walters!"

MR. DALGLEISH'S MURDERER.

THE story of the pursuit and capture of the murderer of Mr. Dalgleish in Central Asia two years ago, appears to be exciting considerable interest in Eastern circles in London. As the details may have escaped the attention of our readers and as the story is exceedingly dramatic, we will briefly recapitulate it. Mr. Andrew Dalgleish was in his early years a sailor. Having given up the sea, he settled in Bombay in business and, being of a roving disposition apparently, he travelled for trade purposes into Cashmere and later on into Eastern Turkestan. He seems to have spoken several of the dialects of that region, and to have travelled regularly between the Punjab and Kashgar. In the spring of 1888, he was on one of these journeys with a caravan composed of thirteen baggage animals, their attendants, and five Yarkhandi servants, and had traversed Cashmere to the foot of the Kara Korum Pass where, on the 8th April, he encamped for the night before ascending the pass. Some time previously he had been joined by a small Pathan Chief named Dad Mahommed with a few followers. Dalgleish had known this chief before, and treated him as a friend, and they travelled together from stage to stage. On the night of the 8th, the Pathan for some reason shot Mr. Dalgleish dead in his tent, killed his favourite dog, and seized his goods. He took the caravan over the mountains while Dalgleish's servants carried their master's body to Ladakh. The Pathan made no secret, once he got into Chinese territory, of what he had done, believing no doubt he was perfectly safe there, and in fact to a considerable extent he appears to have been right. But the murder of a *Kafir*, as he called poor Dalgleish, was not a matter to be passed by lightly. The Indian Government demanded his extradition from Peking, and the Chinese Government sent instructions into Central Asia for his arrest. As might have been expected, when the distance from Peking to Kashgar is considered, he was not arrested, the local mandarins always giving him a hint to make himself scarce and then

reporting that he was not to be found. The Indian Government suspecting this, had him tracked for two years by spies, and from time to time kept informing the Chinese Government where he was. Again he was warned, again he would fly followed by the spies, and so it went on for many months, every town being made gradually too hot to hold him, until at last he fled across the Chinese frontier into Russian territory and reached Samarcand. Here no doubt he thought he was safe owing to the hostility of England and Russia in Central Asia, but his arrival was soon made known by the Indian spies to the Russian Authorities and he was promptly arrested and put in jail. His extradition was requested, and the Russian Government, feeling no doubt that in such a matter the interests of all Europeans were identical in Central Asia, greatly to their credit made no difficulty about the matter, as they might well have done, seeing that the murder had not taken place on strictly British territory. The formal papers were on their way to St. Petersburg and in a short time Dad Mahommed would have been on his way under escort to Cashmere, but he balked justice by committing suicide in prison. For two years the ruffian must have led the life of a hunted dog in Chinese Turkestan, and his crime and his fate are now known throughout the length and breadth of Central Asia. Meantime, the site of the murder is marked by a cairn and cross set up by the Indian Authorities. A picture of it is published, with the road over the desolate Kara Korum in the immediate back ground. Dalglish seems to have been one of those men whose character and career teach us that the age of romance and adventure are far indeed from being past. No doubt some such fate as that he met must have been frequently present to his mind while he traversed remote regions through turbulent tribes composed of men of whom his murderer was a type.

A LUCKY POLICEMAN.

If we may believe the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, a policeman of Nara, named Nagamine Takejiro, has just come into a snug sum of money. This lucky individual has long been the possessor of a figure of Amida Nyorai, about fourteen inches high, said to have originally come from India. The idol was considered to have no particular value, except that it was a relic of ancient times, its age being accepted as fifteen hundred years at the least. It was suffered to lie for years buried in the dust of a shelf. Recently, however, it occurred to the owner to give the relic a cleaning, and, wiping off the dust, he had his attention attracted by a bright spot on the smoke-begrimed brow of the idol. Led by curiosity more than anything else, he proceeded to rub it very carefully, when he found that it omitted a light of uncommon brilliancy. On showing the strange relic to a virtuoso, he was agreeably surprised to learn that the brilliant light came from a diamond set into the forehead of the figure. According to the opinion of the expert, the idol is said to be an article of rare value, not only on account of the precious stone it bears, but especially from the fact that it is evidently the work of some Buddhist saint.

MEETING OF THE INDEPENDENTS.

THE third meeting of the elected members of the Diet professing independence, came off as expected in the afternoon of the 20th last in the Yaroisha, Shiba Park. The meeting was called to order at three o'clock and on the motion of Mr. Sugiura, Mr. Yoshino took the chair. Mr. Oyagi then addressed the meeting, saying:—"Gentlemen, we meet here to-day for the third time, but as we have no regulations whatever to conduct the affairs of an organized body, our meetings have thus far been only of a social nature. In regard to the formation of an organized body, I presume that you have various views, which it will be impossible to discuss on the present occasion without any kind of rules whatever. Under these circumstances, I beg to move that a committee be appointed for preparing draft of the rules of the association." Messrs. Mori Taichiro, Hashiyama

Chuzaimon, and others, members of the Diet from Aichi Prefecture, opposed this motion on the ground that, in view of the fact that the persons assembled had not yet had any opportunity to ascertain their mutual political views, it would be a very rash step to take measures pointing to organization into an association. These members urged, therefore, that full expression should first be given to political views before appointing a committee to draft rules. Mr. Okata Ryoichiro, a member from Shizuoka, remarked that as strict neutrality *vis-à-vis* existing political parties is the principle of all present, he deemed that principle a sufficient basis for forming the new association, and therefore he saw no need of discussing the various opinions that might be entertained by different members. Mr. Kitagawa Morikatsu, from Miye Prefecture, declared that while they profess at present no attachment to any of the existing parties, they are not pledged to adhere to this neutral position for ever. After these discussions had continued for about two hours, the original motion was put and carried by a large majority. The following resolutions were then adopted:—

Resolved: That a committee of twenty-one be appointed for preparing a draft of the rules of association and choosing its name. This committee shall be elected, one by each prefecture represented, the three prefectures of Aichi, Fukuoka, and Gifu, which have more than five independent representatives, being entitled to elect two.

2. That the committee appointed in the above manner shall hold a meeting at the residence of Mr. Oyagi on the morning of the 21st instant.

3. That another general meeting shall be held on the 22nd inst. in order to discuss the draft prepared by the committee.

The meeting was then adjourned.

The attendance at the meeting was sixty-five, all elected members of the coming Diet. We take this account from the *Choya Shimbun*.

DISSECTION OF CHOLERA SUBJECTS.

A MAN named Kato Takizo, one of the victims of cholera, left a will requesting that his remains might be dissected for the promotion of medical science. An anatomical examination was accordingly conducted on the 29th ult. in the Medical College, in the presence of the professors of the College, the medical staff of the Metropolitan Police Board, and others. Dr. Miura, one of the professors, performed the operation. Objections had at first been raised in some quarters, on the ground that the dissection of a choleraic subject, even though at the request of the deceased, would bring about injurious results by confirming the fears of those ignorant people who look upon the cholera hospital as a place where people are sent to be murdered, and thus lead probably to further concealment of cholera seizures. On account of the above objection, some sixty hours were suffered to elapse after the death of the man, and, consequently, the dissection showed no remarkable symptoms characterising the disease in the stomach or intestines.

APPLICATION FOR PERMISSION TO EMIGRATE TO IWOJIMA (SULPHUR ISLAND).

WE are informed by the *Kokumin Shimbun* that Mr. Arai Yoshikuni and three residents of the Bonin Islands have sent an application to the Minister for Home Affairs for permission to emigrate to Iwojima. This island, our contemporary informs us, is celebrated for sulphur deposits, as its name indicates. A few years ago when the Government sent the *Meiji-maru* to explore those regions, Iwojima was thought not to be rich enough in sulphur to make emigration profitable. But Mr. Arai subsequently sailed there and conducted more careful investigations, the result being that he discovered in the interior of the island two sulphur beds each about sixty square yards in extent and one foot in thickness. The mineral proved to be of very fine quality. On removing a portion of the bed, he found to his great delight that a new deposit was quickly formed in its place. Subsequently he despatched a few labourers armed with no better implements than common spades, and succeeded in digging up about 3,000 bales of sulphur

which he exported to Osaka. But sulphur is not the only inducement the island offers to immigrants. One half of it is covered with a luxuriant growth of vegetation, while the other half is a sandy desert, which affords a most convenient place for making salt by the solar process. The soil in the interior is very fertile, especially well adapted for the cultivation of sweet potatoes, pumpkins, &c. Different kinds of fowls abound in the island and furnish palatable meat, while thermal springs bubbling up in all directions give bathing facilities. In consideration of these inviting conditions, Mr. Arai and others are said to have determined to settle there permanently. For the sake of those among our readers whose geography is not strong, we may mention that Iwojima is one of the Bonin Islands. As these islands belong to Japan, we fail to see why any permission should be required by a Japanese subject to emigrate thither. What seems more probable is that Mr. Arai has petitioned the Government for a grant of land in Iwojima.

INDUSTRIES IN JAPAN.

MR. TAKAI SUKETARO, an engineer, has compiled some interesting statistics showing the growth of industrial enterprise in Japan during the three years 1886, 1887, and 1888. The figures are given in the *Fiji Shimpō*. They do not include manufactories employing less than ten persons or having a capital below a thousand yen. We translate them as follows:—

	1886.	1887.	1888.
Number of companies	1,000	1,440	1,365
Number of artisans	75,708	131,633	159,633
Number of employees	200,162	280,015	355,489
Number of steam engines	424	630	698
Horse-power	3,633	5,182	7,362
Number of water wheels	539	755	754
Horse-power	990	1,415	1,668
Capital, in yen	13,713,662	21,885,974	29,641,369
Income, in yen	14,745,858	18,943,002	20,155,219
Expenditure, in yen	13,549,434	18,005,627	17,857,641
Profit, in yen	1,210,424	937,974	2,297,578

As to the manner in which these undertakings are distributed among the various cities and prefectures, we learn that Gifu Prefecture has the greatest number (133), of factories; Nagano Prefecture the next greatest (119) and Tokyo City the next (95). With regard to the amount of capital embarked, however, Tokyo (with 2,781,110 yen) heads the list; Akita Prefecture, Osaka City, and Nagano Prefecture follow in order. But these distinctive figures relate only to 1886, and are therefore of comparatively little interest.

KEROSENE AS A RELISH.

TASTES are strange things. There is a young lady, says the *Suga Shimbun*, in Udomachi, Kumamoto Prefecture. She is seventeen years of age, and endowed with the charms usually observable in her sex at that tender time of life. But she has a quaint fancy, a love for kerosene oil. Its odour is perfume to her. She puts it on her hair; she makes little rolls of paper, steeps them in the pungent liquid and stuffs them up her nostrils; she drinks one or two cups full every day and feels bad if she does not. In vain her parents reprove her: the habit is incurable, and apparently harmless also, for though she has been sniffing and sipping the nasty stuff during several months, she shows no signs of ill-health. But if some mischievous lad should put a match to her one of these fine mornings!

HARVEST PROSPECTS.

THE vernacular press continues to speak hopefully of the rice crop. It would be difficult to exaggerate the anxiety with which the crop has been watched this season. The year will undoubtedly rank among the most unhappy of Japan's modern experiences. It opened with a feeling of much anxiety in the money market. Securities of all kinds fell, and for a time a crisis seemed inevitable. By clever financial management, however, this catastrophe was stayed off, only to be succeeded by a sudden and sharp rise in the price of rice. If well-to-do folks had been disturbed by the condition of the Stock Exchange, the middle and lower classes were thrown into a state of consternation by the rapidly increasing cost of living. Rice, as we have often explained, is a staple of wide influence.

Dear rice means that those whose incomes are not elastic must curtail their daily allowance of bread, as we may call it, or else must reduce their expenditure in other directions. Naturally they choose the latter alternative; dismissing their employes, postponing every undertaking that involves outlay, and refraining from making any additions to their wardrobes. Labour thus becomes a drug in the market, and the demand for manufactures declining, their price suffers proportionately. It is a time when the expense of living increases, on the one hand, and the difficulty of earning money is enhanced on the other. We cannot easily discover how much distress and sorrow Japan has experienced within the past eight months, but it is pretty certain that had the rice harvest this year been a failure, or even a partial failure, the people must have been reduced to serious straits. Fortunately the fear of such a catastrophe is now virtually past. The 19th of July, the *Doyo-iri*, or beginning of the dog days, passed favourably, and the Japanese farmer, to whom certain days in the year serve as almost infallible landmarks, began to breathe freely. It is true that his anxiety was roused for a time by the severe rains of last month, but these resulted in nothing worse than some flooding in the Kwantō, a district where rice is not largely grown. Meanwhile, from other and more important parts of the empire highly favourable reports were received, and when the vital *niyaku-toka* (September 1st) brought with it universal calm, and glorious sunshine except in a small district to the west of Nagoya, it was felt that the evil times might fairly be considered over. Add to this, as the *Shogyo Shimpō* says, that the high price of the cereal prompted its cultivation on an exceptionally large scale this season, and that the early rice, of which about fifty per cent. more than usual has been grown, was for the most part saved before the rains and winds of August could injure it seriously—and it would seem that there is reason from every point of view to anticipate a season of plenty. The 14th of this month is the *hassaku* of the old almanack. If the weather remains tolerably fine until then, the country may once again look forward to cheap food and general prosperity.

THE SILK MEN.

THE unfortunate silk men are beginning to reap the whirlwind. Exchange, leaping upwards some fifteen per cent. during the early days of the silk season, has virtually paralysed the hands of exporters. There is no margin of fifteen per cent., or even five per cent., on the export business done by foreign merchants in Japan. Every *yen* that they pay for a bale of silk this September costs ninepence more than it cost last September; and, unless the Japanese silk men consent to reduce their figures so as to bring the silver price of the silk at this end within a reasonable distance of the sterling price obtainable for it beyond the water, business must cease. The *Shogyo Shimpō* says the dilemma is serious, and well it may be. There are sixteen thousand bales (Japanese) stored in Yokohama, and it is becoming almost impossible to hold them any longer, while to sell at the prices offered by exporters would be ruinous. There is talk of an appeal to the Minister of Finance, and of official assistance through the medium of the Bank of Japan. But, what has the Minister of Finance to do with the matter? If the causes operating to check exportation were of a temporary character, we do not say that the Bank of Japan might not be justified in assisting the silk men to tide over the crisis. But this exchange trouble is not going to disappear in a month, or even in a year. America has pledged her credit to restore the white metal to its old place of honour, and American credit is a very big thing. Nobody can gauge its dimensions, or pretend to estimate the sort of strain that would prove too heavy for it. What is quite certain is that Congress is not going to stultify itself by repealing the tremendous measure it has just passed. A strange measure it may be; an exceedingly disturbing measure it undoubtedly is to commercial men; but it will be in operation next year just as it is

now, and the effects upon silver must be reckoned with for many a day to come. Everybody sympathises heartily with the silk men, but every one sees also that the longer they hold their silk, the greater loss will they have to suffer in the end. There is only one sensible course for them to pursue, and that is to make up their minds to the inevitable, and take what they can get at once. If they wait until the number of bales offering for sale grows larger, they may suddenly find themselves in the midst of a *débacle* where no control of any kind will be possible.

ENGLAND'S POETS AND THE UNITY OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

A propos of the erection of a monument to Walther von der Vogelweide at Bozen, one of our German contemporaries has an article, by Karl Blind, touching the influence of English poets on the solidarity of the British empire. Karl Blind reminds his readers that Walther von der Vogelweide lived at a time when the Fatherland was exposed to perils from within and without, and when it was as much as a man's life was worth to write courageously on political subjects. Yet the writings of Walther von der Vogelweide lacked none of the boldness that characterised the great German reformer of a later age, Martin Luther. To the ardent patriotism which in the latter part of the twelfth century permeated the poems of Walther von der Vogelweide Germany owes much of the prosperity which she now enjoys. At that time Germany had to cope with the machinations of Romish priests who were ever trying to sow seeds of discord among her rulers, in order that they might reap the benefit of the anarchy which would follow their disunion. England for some years, observes Karl Blind, has had to deal with a somewhat similar difficulty in the case of the Home Rule party, and it is at this juncture an interesting inquiry what is the position assumed by modern British poets on this question. Do they or do they not contribute to the preservation of the unity of the British empire? The first poet referred to by Karl Blind is Sir Edwin Arnold, "No one," says Blind of Sir Edwin, "has become so absorbed in the life of Easterns as Sir Edwin. His 'Light of Asia' we hold to be the greatest English poem of modern times. His warmest sympathies are given to the East. But as editor of the *Daily Telegraph* he has always figured as a liberal and as essentially anti-Russian. As the subjects of his poems show, he is given to dreary reflection on the primeval cause of things, and is fond of drawing attention to the various riddles of existence, yet when the interests of his Fatherland are at stake he becomes practical and displays great courage. He thus expresses himself to the Americans on the Irish question:—'My conviction is that Ireland has no just complaint. Therefore I am a staunch unionist. Every road to success, all offices of State are open to the Irish. The names of some of our most distinguished men such as Wellington, Wolseley, and Dufferin are Irish. . . . We have done all we can to conciliate Ireland. One of our greatest difficulties is that American statesmen are opposed to us on the Irish question.'" Karl Blind then goes into the causes of the action of America on the Home Rule subject. He attributes this action partly to jealousy of England, and a desire to see her embroiled in civil strife, and partly to the trouble which the immigration of Irish roughs by the thousand is causing America, and the hope that Home Rule, if established, would tempt a large number of the otherwise would-be immigrants to remain in Ireland. Karl Blind then proceeds to show how inconsistent it is that America should express approval of a policy being adopted in a European State which they would not hear of at home. That a people who preferred to endure the horrors of a long civil war rather than allow disunion should argue in favour of Home Rule is astounding. "It is a remarkable fact," says Blind, "that nearly all England's modern poets are on the side of the unity of the British empire." He then proceeds to point out how the spirit of Walther von der Vogelweide moves them all. "Alfred Tenny-

son," he remarks, "the poet Laureate, though a personal friend of Gladstone, is a decided Unionist. Algernon Swinburne, who ranks next to Tennyson, in his 'Songs before Sunrise' attacked the enemies of the State with extraordinary fervour. Of William Morris. Blind says:—'An exception to what we have said is William Morris. That the man who once called himself 'the idle bard of an idle day' should turn his attention to questions of State and develop into a communist has astonished everybody. He began by a thorough study of the North German songs, the legends of the Nibelungen and the Wölfungen.'" Karl Blind goes on to show that Morris' action in reference to the Home Rule question is to be attributed to the fact that he sees in it an element of revolution and anarchy, which latter he deems to be the inevitable prelude to a better state of things; a point of view that Ray Lankester, among others, is known to take. "Turning," continues Karl Blind, "to the stately row of scientific men who are at the same time free-minded nationalists, with Huxley and Tyndall at their head, at least nine-tenths of them are on the side of the unity of the British empire. Tyndall, who was born in Ireland, has even declared publicly that he would, in spite of his age (69) in case of war be prepared to use his rifle against the Parnellites." "Amongst historians," continues Blind, "the three best known, Froude, Seeley, and Lecky are on the side of the union. The views on the Irish question to which Lecky gave publicity when a young man of 25 have long since been abandoned. E. A. Freeman, the friend of Russia, and whose theological propensities lead him to take special interest in 'Eastern Rome,' is on the side of Home Rule, though he does not favour the present Gladstonian attempts to bring it about. He fails to perceive that a disintegrating process once commenced could not be stopped at will." Karl Blind concludes his article by congratulating England on the fact that her great literary leaders are deadly opposed to the dismemberment of the United Kingdom. He regards this as calculated to contribute in no small degree to the future stability of the British empire.

AN ELECTRIC LETTER CARRIER.

WE read in the *Hochi Shimbun* that Mr. Shida, the well known electrician, has, after many experiments, devised an electrical letter carrier which promises to be a great success. A brief description of the instrument is given by our contemporary, but we can only gather that it is a box supported on wheels which run on two wires. The speed is said to be about twelve miles (English) per hour, and the cost of the instrument, twenty thousand *yen*, details which are almost valueless without further data. We shall not be at all surprised to learn that Mr. Shida has really accomplished the feat attributed to him by our contemporary, but with such a very vague account before us, we must remain for the moment sceptical.

JAPANESE VERSUS FOREIGN COSTUME FOR LADIES.

THE *St. James's Budget* says:—"Whether the dress of European or of Japanese ladies is the more becoming is a problem which happily we need not attempt to decide. Probably each is equally becoming to those who are accustomed to wear it. The vesture of Japanese ladies is undoubtedly highly pleasing, and some at least of those who were in such a hurry to follow the example of the Empress and discard it, seem to think that they have been too hasty. The admiration for the 'Kimono,' the 'obi tabi,' and the rest of it which was expressed by the Duchess of Connaught during her recent visit, has given them pause. The Duchess, when she was at Kyoto, bought the complete outfit of a Japanese lady, to the huge delight of the patriotic party, which seems to have expected that she would make a public appearance in the silken raiment of old Nippon. They claim that European skirts, shoes, and bonnets are 'less comfortable and less becoming' than the native costume, and for the pleasingly diminutive

Madame Crysanthèmes it no doubt is so." There does not appear to be much chance any longer that foreign costume will be largely adopted by the Japanese ladies of the present generation. The mania which threatened its wholesale introduction is now a thing of the past. Japanese ladies have discovered that the mere cut of a dress is not the main question. Far more important is the knowledge how to wear it; which knowledge cannot be imparted, like arithmetic or spelling, but must be acquired by custom. Present indications suggest that, by-and-by, foreign costume will become the dress of society, Japanese costume still holding its sway in domestic circles. But even this will not happen until the children of to-day attain to years of maturity.

STRATEGICAL RAILWAY IN CHINA.

It is confidently asserted that the Chinese Government has decided to build a line of railway connecting Chili with the north of Manchuria. Such a line would be over eight hundred kilometres in length and would cost thirty millions of taels. It seems to us that a good deal of credulity is needed to believe China capable of any such effort. The uses of the railway would be purely strategical. Its prime object would be to convey troops and war material to the Russo-Chinese frontier. For such a purpose the Peking Government might be induced to sanction the building of a line of rails which would practically connect the capital with the sea as well as with its northern boundaries. But where is the money to come from, and when has China shown herself sufficiently resolute to take so great a measure of precaution against peril still distant and undefined? If she can really be roused to action of such a radically vertebrate character, the thing will be one of the wonders of the nineteenth century, and will, at the same time, furnish a very signal warning to her possible aggressors. As for Russia, however, against whom the railway would be chiefly designed to serve, we are disposed to think that the news of its construction will please rather than disconcert her. For should Russia's destiny drive her southward upon Manchuria, as probably will happen one of these days, every additional means of communication which brings her within striking reach of the vital parts of her foe, will be so much solid gain to her. Inaccessibility appears to be China's best protection in her present condition.

KARUIZAWA.

KARUIZAWA continues to grow in favour as a summer resort for foreigners. New houses have been built by Tokyo residents, and next year probably more will be erected. The village lately had unwelcome visitors. Last Saturday night a watch and some articles of clothing were stolen from an inn in New Karuizawa. The same night a thief got into the chief inn in the old village. He opened the *shoji* of a room on the ground floor and peeped in, but a dog in the room barked at him and awakened the inmate, a foreigner's servant. An alarm was given, and, search being made about the village, a man was found sitting outside a small detached house coolly ransacking a bag, beside which he had had the fool-hardiness to place a lighted lamp. However, he escaped, leaving behind him an umbrella and a hand-bag. In the latter were found a few *sen* and a list of probably stolen articles. In an adjoining field was found a large trunk stolen from the same house. The lock had been broken open and the contents scattered about, but nothing of value was taken. The occupant of this house, a foreign gentleman, had not been aroused by the entry of the thieves, for at least two must have been needed to move the heavy box. As yet the thieves have not been caught.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL LIBERAL PARTY AND THE PROGRESSIONIST PARTY.

BEARING in view the birthplace of the editor of the *Kokumin Shimbun*, it may not be amiss to infer that that paper reflects the opinions entertained by the Kiushiu wing of the newly amal-

gamated party. It has always been a most strenuous advocate of the amalgamation scheme, and even now it appears to hope against hope that the *Kaishin-to* may yet be reconciled with the Constitutional Liberal Party. The Constitutional Party, says our contemporary, in its usual nervous style, "entertains no narrow sectarian view, but flings wide open all its four gates and invites the *Kaishin-to* and others who may be found to be of the same political conviction." In order to declare to the public this catholic view, the party has appointed a committee, consisting of Messrs. Nakaye, Kawashima, Kuriwara, &c., to prepare a manifesto couched in language that is calculated to remove the stumbling block in the way of the *Kaishin-to*. The Tokyo journal informs us, further, that in the camp of the Progressionists nearly all the leading members are for union, but have come to the determination to hold aloof from the amalgamated party, simply because of sectional prejudice and the want of good understanding between them and their liberal friends. If certain concessions be made by the Constitutional Liberal Party, they will be most willing to pass over into the new party. On the side of the Liberal Party, all the prominent members are willing to make as many concessions as they can without losing their self-respect, but at the same time they do not think it possible to yield to all the demands of the *Kaishin-to*. They are, therefore, represented as hoping that the *Kaishin-to* will make their claims as moderate as possible. Indeed, they trust that their friends will unite themselves with the new party previous to the general meeting to be held on the 15th inst., when they will have a happy chance to carry out their views. Should there be any attempt on the part of the hostile section in the Liberal Party to reject the *Kaishin-to's* claim by sheer numerical force on the occasion of the meeting, other members are said to have pledged themselves to come to the rescue. But the *Kaishin-to* members remain firm in insisting that, unless the word *Jiyu* is stricken out from the appellation and principles of the new party, they cannot enter into amalgamation. Thus matters are at a dead-lock at present.

SALE OF GOVERNMENT LAND AT KAMIKAWA, HOKKAIDO.

THE selection of Kamikawa in Ishikari, Hokkaido, for the site of a detached palace to be hereafter erected, has naturally given rise to a good deal of real-estate speculation in that vicinity. Not only local business men, but many Tokyo merchants, have turned eager eyes towards the place. The *Choya Shimbun* transcribes from the *Hokkai Shimbun*, the local paper, a statement purporting to give trustworthy information as to the sale of Government land in that district. It says that the Authorities intend to sell the lots destined to be enclosed within the limits of the future city, and that, in the event of applications to rent land outside the city limits for purposes of reclamation, or for the erection of factories and so forth, the Government will give the matter favourable consideration provided that satisfactory information is furnished as to the nature of the enterprise, the amount of capital required to carry it on, and such matters.

THE RESULTS OF THE HAWAIIAN EMIGRATION.

THE Hawaiian Emigration under governmental auspices was inaugurated by Count Inouye, while he held the portfolio of Foreign Affairs. In inaugurating this system, the Authorities had two objects. The first was to enable the poor classes to enjoy the fruits of their labour in a fuller measure than is possible in Japan, and the second was to introduce among Japanese farmers habits of regular work and thriftiness. The latter object necessarily requires a long time for its accomplishment, in a tangible form, but it is not to be doubted that emigrants returning after years of regular work in Hawaii have produced a leavening effect on the habits of the people among whom they live. In regard to the former object, the wisdom of Count Inouye in encouraging the emigration has been proved in

very tangible form. Here is one instance of it: "We are," says the *Jiji Shimpō*, "informed by the Chief of the Kuga District in Yamaguchi Prefecture, that the three districts of Oshima, Kuga, and Kumage in the same prefecture have derived great benefit from the Hawaiian emigration. All the labourers, he tells us, who have returned after the expiration of their three years' contract term, have brought with them a considerable amount of savings, while those still working there have been in the habit of remitting money to their relatives at home. Thus poor farmers who did not own any property at all are now placed in a position to purchase land of their own. To such an extent is this the case that the price of land has been raised twenty per cent. Beside this, emigration had the effect of raising the wages of agricultural labourers generally. Thus the Oshima District, which, being very densely peopled, might naturally be expected to suffer keenly from the appreciation of the price of rice, is to-day much better off than other districts. These facts, says our informant, are inducing many people in the prefecture to become emigrants."

THE OSAKA FIRE.

FROM a translation in the *Hyogo News*, we learn that the *Asahi Shimbun* states that the corrected returns of the houses burned in Osaka on Friday put the number at 1,893, including two Buddhist temples and a bridge. The total number of firemen injured has now been ascertained to be 157. The same paper tells us that as soon as the bell sounded, twenty postmen were despatched to clear all the letter-boxes in the locality threatened, and by this means no small portion of the city's letters were saved. The total money loss occasioned by the fire does not seem to be yet known, but the loss to the timber merchants, of whom two or three were burned out, is placed at *yen* 40,000. The fire has resulted in public attention being drawn to the condition of the city's Fire Brigade, and the matter is to be brought forward at the next meeting of the City Assembly. The question to be discussed is, "Is the Fire Brigade of Osaka, in its present condition, equal to any emergency which may arise? If it is not in such condition, what reforms and improvements shall be introduced?" Another question which is to come forward for discussion has reference to *geisha* houses in Shinmachi. The question has arisen whether their reconstruction on the old site shall be permitted, or whether the quarter shall be suppressed. The Emperor and Empress have jointly forwarded the sum of *yen* 1,000 for the relief of the homeless, who are stated to number between 16,000 and 18,000. The *Shinonome Shimbun* places the number of houses destroyed at about 3,000, and states that the money loss is variously estimated at from *yen* 2,000,000 to *yen* 5,000,000.

THREE PARTIES IN THE HOUSE OF PEERS.

THE political complexion of the House of Representatives is now tolerably well known, but how the members will group themselves in the Upper House remains yet to be seen. The vernacular papers in their latest issues contain a report to the effect that three parties, the Progressive, the Conservative, and the Independent, will manifest themselves on the floor of the House of Peers. Our contemporaries take it for granted that in that case Marquises Saionji and Hachisuka, and Count Yanagiwara, will range themselves with the Progressive Party, and Marquis Asano and Viscount Tani with the Conservative Party, while the Independents will be led by Prince Sanjo. According to another rumour, it is predicted that the Peers will be divided into the Tani, Torio, and Aoki Parties. In regard to this latter report, however, a peer is represented by the Tokyo papers to regard it as a random guess on the part of persons not well acquainted with the situation of the Nobles. He is of the opinion that, while Viscount Tani may have some followers among the Peers in consequence of his past career as President of the Peers College, neither of the other two Viscounts has a sufficient number of adherents to constitute a party of his own.

Viscount Torio will belong either to the Conservatives or the Independents, while Viscount Aoki will take his seat with the Progressive Party. Our contemporaries further state that the Progressionists in the Upper House will take steps to act in concert with their political friends in the Lower House, but it is doubted whether Marquis Hachisuka, Viscount Aoki, and others can bring themselves into harmony with the Progressive members of Parliament.

STANLEY'S BOOK.

The latest home papers to-hand contain accounts of Stanley's book, entitled "In Darkest Africa." *The Times* says of it "Mr. Stanley's narrative of his adventures, privations, sufferings, trials, dangers, and discoveries during his heroic quest and rescue of Emin Pasha is as moving and enthralling a tale as ever was told by man. It is, moreover, told with so genuine a modesty of temper, so transparent a fidelity to fact, so generous and eager a desire on the part of the leader of the expedition to give their due meed of praise and recognition to each and all of his subordinates, not excepting the humblest of his African followers, that the critic's task becomes merely one of unstinted admiration of the almost unexampled greatness of the deeds accomplished and the profound ethical interest of the narrative which describes them. Nor does the interest of the book depend only on the thrilling nature of its subject matter; of its purely literary merits we can speak in terms of high commendation. The style of the narrative is direct, vigorous, and incisive, as becometh one who is a man of action rather than a man of letters; but in many of the descriptive parts Mr. Stanley shows that, consummate man of action that he is, he is a born man of letters as well."

A WRINKLE FOR HORSE OWNERS.

CAPTAIN HAYES, writing in his journal of the 2nd ult., gives a very simple remedy for a condition of horseflesh not at all uncommon in Japan, the cause of which in this country is partly due to the method of feeding. He says:—"I read a short time ago in some medical journal that bicarbonate (washing) soda, when given internally, has the effect, like antipyrine, phenacetin, quinine, etc., of reducing the temperature of the body. At the time I had just bought at a long price, a newly imported Arab pony, which was suffering very much from the heat; his skin being dry and hot, his respiration hurried, and his internal temperature persistently from one to two degrees higher than normal. Although this state could scarcely have been called fever, still it was evidently impairing the animal's health and would predispose to disease. I accordingly gave him for ten days, in his drinking water, an ounce of bicarbonate of soda daily, with the very best results. His temperature is natural; his skin is cool to the touch, and has acquired the gloss and bloom of health; his spirits, which were depressed, are now buoyant; and he perspires freely, which he would not do before. I need hardly say that I had him kept in the open as much as possible, and that his box was particularly airy one. If the soda did not effect all the good, it certainly materially aided in obtaining the desired result."

THE CASE OF THE YAMAJU SOY.

It is now denied that the Vice-Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce acted as mediator between the proprietor of the Yamaju soy and the Exhibition Judges. Several of the vernacular journals published a statement to that effect, but the details given by the *Koku-min Shimbun* show that Mr. Ishida did not really play the part assigned to him. What happened was that a mutual friend of the Vice-Minister and of Mr. Iwasaki, the proprietor of the Yamaju soy factory, chanced to call upon the former, and in the course of conversation the suit instituted against the Judges at the Exhibition by Mr. Iwasaki—not, of course, the well-known Mr. Iwasaki Yanosuke—came up for discussion. The Vice-Minister, who during his official residence in Chiba Prefecture had

become intimate with Mr. Iwasaki, explained to his visitor that from every point of view the suit was a great mistake, and that, however it terminated, the result must be bad for all the parties concerned. These arguments having been laid before Mr. Iwasaki privately by the mutual friend, led to the abandonment of the suit, a happy issue to an ill-considered and unreasonable procedure.

CHOLERA RETURNS.

THE latest cholera returns derived from official sources are as follow:—

Prefecture or City.	Date.	New Cases.	Deaths.
Osaka	4th	212	175
	5th	158	175
	6th	170	123
	7th	195	170
	8th	201	67
	9th	183	205
	10th	210	154
	11th	10	12
	12th	30	16
	13th	7	5
Nagasaki	4th	5	5
	5th	5	5
	6th	38	19
	7th	2	3
	8th	33	21
	9th	2	6
	10th	14	8
	11th	2	2
	12th	70	54
	13th	3	3
Hyogo	4th	53	38
	5th	39	35
	6th	54	45
	7th	40	38
	8th	44	39
	9th	41	36
	10th	52	33
	11th	33	10
	12th	39	28
	13th	15	12
Yamaguchi	4th	36	29
	5th	42	20
	6th	26	21
	7th	24	14
	8th	17	21
	9th	52	37
	10th	52	20
	11th	38	20
	12th	39	25
	13th	48	32
Fukuoka	4th	42	32
	5th	40	19
	6th	30	13
	7th	28	13
	8th	36	23
	9th	30	13
	10th	36	23
	11th	32	21
	12th	37	24
	13th	15	27
Saga	4th	19	12
	5th	14	3
	6th	27	22
	7th	8	7
	8th	7	2
	9th	9	4
	10th	10	5
	11th	19	12
	12th	19	12
	13th	19	12
Kumamoto	4th	14	3
	5th	27	22
	6th	8	7
	7th	7	2
	8th	9	4
	9th	10	5
	10th	19	12
	11th	19	12
	12th	19	12
	13th	19	12

The numbers of cases and deaths since the commencement of the epidemic, inclusive of the above figures, appear in the following table:—

Prefecture or City.	Cases.	Deaths.
Osaka	3,371	2,215
Hyogo	782	490
Nagasaki	3,153	1,060
Yamaguchi	1,427	855
Fukuoka	2,357	1,500
Saga	326	236
Naga	754	433
Kumamoto	773	461

The total number of cases and deaths in the following Cities and Prefectures not included in the above, since the commencement of the epidemic to the 10th instant, are:—

City or Prefecture.	Cases.	Deaths.
Tokyo	3,371	220
Ibaraki	10	4
Kanagawa	1,359	913
Mitsushima	418	135
Tokushima	151	45
Elime	5	5
Kochi	51	19
Kagoshima	201	122
Kagawa	124	43

THE GREAT FIRE AT SALONICA.

A TERRIBLE calamity has overtaken Salonica, the Thessalonica of the ancients, a city of European Turkey, the capital of Macedonia, and an archbishop's see. According to Reuter's telegram, published in this issue, a conflagration of unusual dimensions has laid an enormous area of this city in ashes and rendered homeless 12,000 of its inhabitants. Salonica is about five miles in circumference, though not all built over within the space. It is a place of considerable trade. The Greeks have 30 churches, and the Jews nearly as many synagogues. The inhabitants are computed at about 70,000. It is surrounded by walls, and is defended on the land side by a citadel, and near the

harbour by three forts. Some of its architectural remains, lately existing in its mosques and churches, were very interesting. It is seated at the head of a noble gulf whose waters wash the Grecian Archipelago, and lies about 310 miles west of Constantinople.

GOLD AND SILVER RATIOS.

THE *Official Gazette* gives the following table of comparative values of gold and silver coins and of the pound sterling for the week ended the 6th instant, as derived from the returns of the Bank of Japan and the Yokohama Specie Bank:—

Days	Gold Coin. (Per yen 100)	Pound Sterling. (Per £1)
	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.
1st	105.300	A.M. 5.2173 P.M. 5.1612
2nd	105.000	A.M. 5.2173 P.M. 5.1612
3rd	105.300	A.M. 5.2173 P.M. 5.1612
4th	105.300	A.M. 5.2173 P.M. 5.1612
5th	105.000	A.M. 5.2173 P.M. 5.1612
6th	105.000	A.M. 5.2173 P.M. 5.1612
Averages	105.150	5.2034

The above averages show for gold coin a decrease in value of yen 0.750, and for the pound sterling a decrease in value of yen 0.0402, compared with the previous week.

THE BANK OF JAPAN.

THE amounts of convertible notes and reserves in the Bank of Japan for the week ended the 6th instant were as follows:—

Convertible Notes.	Reserve and Securities.
Yen.	Yen.
Notes issued	Gold coin and bullion, 24,205,247
74,035,000	Silver coin and bullion, 24,407,000
	Public loan bonds, 13,470,450
	Treasury bills, 1,000,000
	Government bills, 1,000,000
	Other securities, 4,732,182
	Commercial bills, 9,034,055
74,035,000	74,035,000

Of the above total issue of notes, the sum of yen 4,227,646 is in the treasury of the Bank, and yen 69,807,354 in actual circulation, the latter showing an increase of yen 426,256 as compared with yen 69,381,098 at the end of the previous week.

THE AMOUNT OF MONEY TAKEN FROM THE FAMINE RELIEF FUND.

"WHEN the Government decided to use the Famine Relief Fund for the purchase of foreign rice," says the *Choya Shimbun*, "the public entertained grave doubts as to the advisability of making such a use of money set apart for a definite object. This doubt was, however, dispelled for a time by the hope that the condition of the rice market would probably bring about a very favourable result. But we regret to learn that, according to the present prospect, about 200,000 yen of the fund will be lost." And this despite all the talk about the Government having sold the imported rice at prices highly remunerative.

SHINSHU SILK MANUFACTURERS.

IN consequence of the extraordinary rise in the rate of exchange, says the *Choya Shimbun*, the price of silk has been lowered so much that all the silk manufacturers are said to have incurred heavy loss. On the other hand, the cocoons continue everywhere to command their original price. This state of things has led the *Kaimisha*, the *Kairyosha*, the *Hakkusha*, the *Ryujokwan* and other noted silk-manufacturing firms in Suwa, Shinshu, to form a mutual agreement that they shall desist altogether from further manufacture, so soon as they have used the cocoons they have in stock at present.

INFORMATION has been received in Yokohama to the effect that the name of a successor to Mr. Greathouse as U.S. Consul-General was sent to the Senate for confirmation on the 15th August. The new Consul-General, whose name is Govey, is Mayor of Olympia, Washington, and President of the first National Bank there. If his appointment is confirmed, he may be expected in Japan about the end of October.

FASHIONS OF OPPOSITION.

IF anyone had foretold, a dozen years ago, the nature of the opposition that would be raised to Treaty Revision in these latter days, he would have been treated with derision. That there should be a strong dislike to surrender the privilege of Consular Courts and to submit to Japanese jurisdiction, was a natural and by no means unreasonable feeling. The higher the value men attach to the efficient and pure administration of justice, the less disposed are they to place their persons and properties under the control of tribunals concerning which they know little, and against which they entertain a prejudice partly racial and partly founded on experience. This fact has never been lost sight of, we presume, by the negotiators entrusted with the task of Revision. If it was essential that any new system substituted for the old, should have the endorsement of the Japanese nation from the outset, scarcely less essential was it that the reasonable and well-founded reluctance of foreigners should not be treated with indifference. Both sides must be considered, for if a radically obnoxious programme were forced upon either, the revised treaties might only have the effect of accentuating and perpetuating the very conditions they were intended to remove. It was of this wholesome view that the celebrated "guarantees" were begotten: they supplied materials for a compromise acceptable to both sides, as it was hoped, and workable in practice. We know how the guarantees fared. Representing originally the general limits of Japanese concession, they underwent such a process of elaboration and expansion at the hands of the negotiators that Japan finally revolted against them, broke off the conference, and sent into retirement the able and liberal-minded statesman who first had succeeded in bringing the Revision problem within sight of solution. Then, after an interval, came the amended guarantees—amended so greatly that the principal of them could no longer compare with its original in respect of the solid, practical security it offered to litigants. None the less these amended guarantees represented the maximum concession of which Japan was capable, in that direction, at the time. They represented, indeed, more than she could subsequently bring herself to concede, for in the interval of unexpected delay that succeeded their acceptance by four of the Great Powers, the whole question had time to be dragged into the arena of party politics, and once more the prospect of a speedy settlement was marred by Japan's constantly growing sense of what she thought herself entitled to claim. Now no one pretends to think that foreigners can be induced to accept this situation as final; to admit that Treaty Revision must either be removed from the field of negotiation

altogether or accomplished by piecing together the shreds that remain of the old guarantees. It has been pointed out by several writers—this journal among the rest—that the practical value of the foreign-judge guarantee—in its latest form—bears no sort of comparison with the national umbrage which would be excited in Japan by any attempt to enforce it. In fact, the foreign-judge guarantee is dead and buried. No Japanese Cabinet dare revive it, and no sober Western Government would attempt to ask for its resuscitation. But what is not yet dead and buried is foreign distrust of Japanese judicial competence. That still lives; has nearly as much reason to live as it had two years ago, and must be seriously considered in any conference aiming at a mutually satisfactory settlement. The question of the laws themselves no longer deserves mention: such as remain of them will have been enacted and gone into full operation long before Consular Jurisdiction is abolished. The foreigner's unique faith in his own Judges, however, and his doubts, inbred as well as educated, as to the ability of Japanese Judges to administer full justice, are not modified or dispelled by the mere fact that Japan grows daily more intolerant of his conservative mood. So long, then, as he confines himself to a statement of his doubts and to a demand that due account be taken of them, he is treading reasonable ground and can reckon both on his nationals' support and on Japanese consideration. But of late his local representatives have resorted to methods as incredible as they are unscrupulous. When PERRY and ELGIN came here to open a trade route, they were constrained to be content with a very partial attainment of their object. If they could have persuaded Japan to permit unrestricted trade and intercourse between her people and the outer world, their achievement would have been universally applauded. But they only induced her to give a very limited consent. It remained for future effort to break down the remaining barriers of her isolation, and everyone, looking forward impatiently to that consummation, regarded it as a thing worthy of some sacrifices. As for Japan, however, when she had divested herself of her mediæval scruples, the only sacrifice she required was the restoration of her judicial and tariff autonomy. But among foreigners there were some so averse to such a sacrifice or so anxious to maintain a state of affairs which suited their own special interests, that they set about depreciating the value of everything Japan had to offer. They scoffed at the notion that the complete opening of the country would contribute to the development of foreign trade or furnish opportunities for the employment of foreign enterprise and capital. They declared that Japan was played out, and that anyone bringing his money here for investment, would exchange it for a

bitter experience. In a word, they argued that as the foreigner had nothing to gain by helping Japan to emerge from a state of isolation which he had himself denounced as barbarous when his interests seemed opposed to its continuance, the prudent and proper course was to leave her isolated. A quaint specimen of international morality was this contention, but morality seemed a small matter provided only that foreigners could be induced to regard the opening of the country with eyes of apathy and contempt. Suddenly, however, a new and diametrically opposite device has been adopted. Instead of proclaiming the barrenness of Japan and assuring foreign capitalists that they can find no investments of any kind here, the anti-revision agitators have gravely pirouetted, and are now warning the Japanese that if they open their territories, the foreigner, with his large capital, his wide experience, and his superior business methods, will step in, acquire possession of all the country's industries and reduce its people to a state of virtual slavery. Last year, in the excitement of unparalleled agitation, a little coterie of Japanese ventured to raise a similar cry of alarm. What reception did their utterances receive from foreigners? We all remember well. They were denounced as pusillanimous conservatives; their attitude was quoted as an evidence that Japan had not shaken off her mediæval tendency to isolation; they were accused of anti-foreign prejudice, and to cap all, they were laughed at for imagining that foreign capitalists or foreign industrials could be tempted to waste their money or their energy in such a place as Japan. But, since it seems desirable to play upon the apprehensions which were then ridiculed; since it appears possible that the best way to check the development of international intercourse is to revive in Japanese breasts the timidity and distrust which kept the country closed for so many years, the anti-revision agitators, with supreme effrontery and unscrupulousness, turn their backs upon their former utterances, and encourage Japan to shrink into her shell lest, by emerging from it, she become the prey of the masterful Occidental. Consistency, honesty, morality, the spirit of progress, the most rudimentary instincts of shame—we search vainly for any trace of such qualities in these chameleon-like arguments. It is simply a question of clutching at everything that offers any promise of aid. "We were always of the opinion," writes one of the agitators, "that about ninety-nine hundredths of the Japanese nation objected strenuously to the throwing open of the country to Europeans." How much respect, forsooth, was paid to such an objection thirty years ago when it suited Western convenience to open Japan? How much respect would the writer of the words quoted have claimed for it then? Does he even believe what he writes now?

Does he really imagine that the leading Japanese statesmen have been for the past ten years exerting all their energies to accomplish something to which ninety-nine out of every hundred of their countrymen are strenuously opposed? There does not exist one political party in Japan to-day which has not written "Treaty Revision" in the forefront of its programme. The five parties that combined to defeat Count OKUMA'S scheme last year, have they declared themselves opposed to the opening of the country? On the contrary, their cry is "a treaty on terms of absolute equality" (*taito-joyaku*), and such a treaty necessarily means the complete removal of all restrictions upon trade, travel, and residence. The one result of circulating these monstrous and palpable falsehoods, of lapsing into contradictions so flagrant and unscrupulous, of seeking to foster a narrow, illiberal spirit which every lover of progress should denounce, is to bring ridicule and contempt on the cause of the opposition. Never did a cause suffer so cruelly at the hands of its would-be supporters.

KOBE.

THE mental attitude of the foreign community of Kobe towards Japan and things Japanese has undergone a decided change for the worse during the past twelve-months. As a general rule, the state of commerce at a given time furnishes a pretty trustworthy index of the mood prevailing in any one of the foreign settlements. If trade is prosperous and money coming in easily, people are disposed to be good-humoured, and to take a pleasant view of the country where such success is attainable. But, when industry and perseverance bring no fruits, and losses are more frequent than profits, Japan is apt to receive a good deal of execration, and Japanese institutions have to run the gamut of ugly criticisms. Nothing could be more natural. The complexion of our circumstances depends largely on the temper with which we regard them, and, if the world happens to be using us harshly, it is our human privilege to abuse it. From this point of view Kobe ought to have been just what it was until the change of which we speak occurred—a genial, indulgent sort of place, where people saw the bright side of things, and were disposed to adopt a decidedly friendly tone towards the land that offered them good fortune. In those days, indeed, it was always pleasant to visit Kobe. A sunny, well-to-do atmosphere pervaded the settlement, and, though the streets could not be described as "bustling," the general aspect of the place suggested something of the remarkable commercial strides which were then rapidly bringing it within measurable reach of the principal open port in the empire. But the Kobe of to-day is not the Kobe

of last year. It has become captious and comparatively harsh, no longer turning to the better side of things, but disposed to search for the worse, and not to look beyond it when found. Possibly we may be mistaken in this judgment. Let us explain at once, then, that it is founded on the writings of the local foreign press, and not on any independent investigation or information. Kobe has now two newspapers, and its temper may not unreasonably be inferred from their tone. If they were illiterate and vulgarly scurrilous sheets, we should of course hesitate to consider them representative. But they are nothing of the sort. Their editors are evidently men of literary ability and considerable attainments, and their articles may be taken as fairly reflecting educated public sentiment. It is true that the conditions of journalistic existence in a foreign settlement in Japan are not conducive to independence or moderation. Every community, of Britishers at all events, resident in the Orient is permeated, to a greater or less extent, by a militant and masterful spirit. Against this there is nothing to be said in the abstract: it is the spirit that bears the English empire onwards; and, however unsightly its ebullitions may seem to other nationals, Anglo-Saxons know its value and the necessity of preserving it. But it is not everywhere appropriate and useful. In Japan, for example, the reign of arbitrary dictation is past and cannot be restored. Influence is no longer to be won and wielded here by the exercise of qualities serviceable thirty years ago, or by recourse to the methods of masters and victors. The number of those who recognise this fact, however, is still a minority, and newspapers of course seek to appeal to the majority. Their subscription list is their mentor, and, though an editor may laugh at the exquisite conceit of gentlemen who think it necessary to give detailed explanations of their reasons for ceasing to subscribe, or may marvel at the crooked morality and blind bigotry which impel them to decide that because a newspaper does not echo their sentiments they must abstain from purchasing it, he is not always happy enough to be able to set his conscience and his convictions above financial considerations. Especially, we take it, must this be the case in a small community like Kobe, where local circulation is nearly all that a journal can reasonably hope for, and where, if the editor wishes to lead an even tolerably happy life, he must adapt himself to the bent of a society with which he is in almost universal contact, both personal and journalistic. Under such circumstances, he is very prone to adopt the flippantly contemptuous tone and masterful spirit which, in their intercourse with Orientals, nine Englishmen out of every ten consider becoming, and regard as a proper evidence of racial superiority. But, when due allowance has been made for this, we still find that the

two Kobe journals display a bitterness and a harshness of criticism which would not have been tolerated by the community a year ago. If these newspapers are themselves conscious of the fact, they will doubtless explain it; but in the meanwhile we may note the conclusion suggested by our own enquiries, namely, that the behaviour of the lower classes of Japanese in the settlement, and the action of the police and local authorities, have roused a feeling of resentment and exasperation among foreigners. Several indignant and highly coloured accounts of fights between foreign sailors and Japanese mobs have been published of late, and in almost every case the police have been charged with wilful failure to protect the foreigner. Some features of these stories have been difficult of credence, but on the whole there is no closing our eyes to the fact that an unsatisfactory state of affairs exists, and that its existence tends to foster much ill-feeling. It is confidently asserted that the *jinrikisha* men are in collusion with the *sendoes*, and that, when the former bring a liberty man to the wharf, they demand from him an exorbitant fare, which he naturally refuses to pay, whereupon he finds that he cannot procure a boat to take him off to his ship. A European or American sailor placed in such a predicament, and being probably pretty "full," is prone to assert his rights in a violent manner, and the coolies and *sendoes* thereupon handle him very roughly. Representations are said to have been made without success to the local authorities, and the apparent apathy of the latter, combined with the official ill-will inferred from the police's supposed failure to protect foreigners, have greatly alienated foreign good will. It will be understood, of course, that we speak from hearsay only. Still, there cannot but be some truth in these various reports, and it is well that the attention of the Authorities should be drawn to them. Kobe's mood of resentment is not purely fanciful, and, as it is not a habitual mood, there should be the more anxiety to investigate and remove its causes.

THE ELEVENTH OF SEPTEMBER.

THURSDAY last being the Russian EMPEROR'S Fête, we are reminded of the important fact that the Crown Prince of that empire, accompanied by his brother, the Grand Duke GEORGE, is to visit the Orient next spring, and may be expected to arrive in Japan in May. From a European point of view the news is very interesting, since we may fairly infer from the Prince's tour that the maintenance of peace until the end of 1891 is regarded with entire confidence at St. Petersburg. It is evident that if any uneasiness existed on this score, the prolonged absence of the Heir Apparent would not have been contem-

plated by the TZAR. Not with Russia, indeed, does the final decision rest as to whether or no Europe shall be converted from an armed camp into a field of battle; but in a certain sense the great Northern Power may be said to stand between the probable belligerents, and she is plainly persuaded that for the next twelve months, at all events, her attitude of restraint need not be exchanged for one of alliance. When statesmen in Berlin or Paris tell the world that the forces making for peace are paramount at any particular time, the value of their assurances is discounted by the purpose evidently underlying them. Even a political forecast by the English Premier, though its comparative independence renders it more persuasive, cannot be said to furnish anything better than a strong basis of hope. But Russia, when she despatches her Crown Prince and the Heir Presumptive on an Eastern tour destined to last for many months, and when she detaches for their escort a squadron of ships the absence of which must materially weaken her navy, gives a practical assurance of exceptionally convincing character.

It has not yet been Japan's good fortune to receive the visit of the heir apparent to one of the Great Thrones of Europe. She will naturally, therefore, set much store by the event of next spring, and will seek to evince her appreciation of its import. Of course the idea most obviously suggested by the coming of the Czarewitch is that Russia's sentiments towards Japan are of a very friendly character. Of that fact, however, no further assurance was needed, we imagine. In all matters of public cognisance where Russia has had an opportunity of dealing amicably by Japan, she has not failed to show a kindly spirit. This has been conspicuously the case in respect of Treaty Revision. It is true that having comparatively small interests to safeguard, Russia could afford to accept terms proportionately liberal. But there is a marked contrast between mere indifference and active friendship. Russia has displayed the latter, and the credit it has won for her will doubtless be manifested in the nature of the reception accorded to her Crown Prince next year by the Japanese nation.

We are further reminded by this day of fête that the past twelve months have not been without the usual crop of disturbing rumours. Time and time again Russia has been represented as intriguing to obtain possession of Korea, now by diplomatic manœuvres, now by acts of aggression. Constantly discredited by events, these rumours ought to command less credence at each repetition. But the public, loving sensation, is always ready to listen to any story suggestive of stirring eventualities, and there is, moreover, a party of writers in the East who make it their business to seize every flying fable and invest it with

features of reality. Whether these men are the victims of honest credulity, or whether they are actuated by selfish motives, can only be matter of conjecture. They manage, at all events, to foster a spirit of doubt and international distrust which is in itself calculated to assist the events they describe. Sometimes, however, good comes out of even this evil. Such was notably the case in respect of the last report circulated, when the public was assured that this time, beyond all question, the inevitable island without a name had been annexed by Russia, and that now, if ever, grave complications were in store. Had it been apparent that this story emanated from the usual source, the Russian Government would probably have left it unnoticed. But, although published originally by Chinese newspapers, it found its way into the Japanese press in such a form that the latter became apparently responsible for its truth. The Authorities at St. Petersburg were therefore induced to take the decisive step of officially assuring Japan that Russia entertains no intention whatsoever of seeking to annex any part of Korea—a most important intimation, which, though communicated at the time to one of the leading Japanese journals, does not appear to have attracted the attention it deserved. There should be no difficulty in perceiving, as we think and have often said, that Russia's attitude towards Korea must be distinctly pacific for the present, and indeed for several years to come. Like her European neighbours and rivals, she is not exempt from the action of the law which decrees that empires must either wax or wane. By and by, therefore, supposing her vitality to remain unimpaired, we look to see her continue her advance southward along the Amur and into Korea. But the time for that movement has not yet come, and any attempt to precipitate it would inevitably bring Russia face to face with difficulties which she knows herself unprepared to overcome. When we are told that she is negotiating a protectorate over Korea, or that she has seized such and such a portion of Korean territory, we recognise at once a repetition of stories so groundless as to deserve only ridicule. Her present policy plainly is to preserve the *status quo* in the Orient, and to maintain with Japan relations of friendship which will doubtless be strengthened by the contemplated visit of the Crown Prince and his brother next spring.

ON THE PRONUNCIATION OF JAPANESE BY ENGLISH SPEAKERS.

(COMMUNICATED.)

WE suppose most people will agree that an exact pronunciation of a foreign tongue is, for those who want to speak it, of more practical importance even than grammar and idiom. Such being the case, it is somewhat surprising to observe

how few English-speaking people attain to any exactness in the pronunciation of Japanese, and yet how superficially the differences between the pronunciation of English and Japanese are dealt with in books relating to the study of the latter language. We are not here alluding to differences in tone and accent, but simply to the pronunciation of the letters or syllables of which words are composed.

It appears to us that two methods should in all ordinary cases be employed by those who wish to speak Japanese with a correct pronunciation; the first is *learning by ear*, the second, *learning by rule*.

The first method is followed by a man who, after the manner of a little child, simply imitates (or tries to imitate) the sounds that fall on his ear; the second is followed when a man enquires *how* those particular sounds are produced, and then follows such rules as result from his enquiries.

Most English-speaking people are content more or less exclusively with the first method only, that is they trust to the correctness of their own ear for rightly catching the different sounds, and to the natural power of their own mouth and tongue for rightly reproducing them. It is needless to say that (if used exclusively) such a method, with most men, ends unsatisfactorily, simply because few have that exact ear for sound which they credit themselves with; fewer still have the power of reproducing this or that sound exactly as it falls on the ear.

But if in addition to the first method—for the two should never be separated—the second method also be employed, the chances of learning to speak with a correct pronunciation are doubled; because by the second method we learn the principles which underlie right pronunciation, and the actual way in which each letter or syllable is formed.

If any one with a fine ear for sound listens carefully to a Japanese in conversation, he will find that there is probably no one Japanese letter or syllable pronounced in *exactly* the same way as the corresponding letter or syllable in English is pronounced; this is more easily noticeable with some Japanese speakers than with others, but it at least guides us to recognize what we now wish to explain, namely, that the Japanese method of speaking is fundamentally different from the English method. The fundamental differences may be summed up as follow:—

A Japanese in speaking shows a tendency to use his mouth as little as may be, keeping it almost closed, and to let his tongue do nearly all the work.

An English speaker on the contrary (if he speaks at he ought) shows a tendency to let his mouth do nearly all the work, and to keep his tongue quiet as far as may be.

These two fundamental differences between English and Japanese speakers in the use of the mouth and the tongue lead to, or possibly result from, a third which should be very carefully noticed, as it may

be called the key to the right pronunciation of Japanese:—

The tongue in speaking Japanese is invariably slightly more forward in the mouth, than in pronouncing the corresponding letters or syllables in English.

It will be found most useful for the English speaking student of Japanese to bear in mind these three general points of difference, for if observed, they will assuredly put him in the way of pronouncing Japanese correctly. It will also be both useful and interesting to trace out briefly the application of the last mentioned point—about the position of the tongue—in the pronunciation of the various letters and syllables.

The ordinary English speaker does not appear to touch the upper front teeth with his tongue to form any sound except *th*; but a Japanese touches (in ordinary cases) the upper front teeth with his tongue to form

t, including *ta*, *te*, *to*, and *tsu*,

d, including *da*, *de*, *do*, and *dsu*,

n, including *na*, *ni*, *nu*, *ne*, *no*;

almost, if not quite, for forming

s, including *sa*, *su*, *se*, *so*, and *ji*,

sh, including *sha*, *shu*, *she*, and *so*.

In other words, the tongue (even if it does not quite touch the front teeth) is slightly more forward in the mouth than it is for pronouncing the corresponding English syllables or letters.

Next take *shi* and *chi*;

to form these syllables a Japanese brings his tongue slightly more forward than an English speaker would, so as sometimes almost but not quite to exclude the sound of the middle letter *h*.

The same rule should be observed in the formation of the syllables

wa, *wo*; *ya*, *yu*; *ye*, *yo*.

it has the effect of weakening the full sound of the English *w* and *y*.

The following syllables seem to suffer the least change, but if the three general rules mentioned above are all borne in mind and followed, a slight modification will almost necessarily appear even in these:—

ba, *bi*, *bu*, *be*, *bo*,

pa, *pi*, *pu*, *pe*, *po*,

ma, *mi*, *mu*, *me*, *mo*.

There only remain the syllables formed with *k*, *g*, *h*, and *r*, and the five vowels *a*, *i*, *u*, *e*, *o*.

With regard to

ka, *ki*, *ku*, *ke*, *ko*,

the rule applies quite distinctly, but *k* being a guttural it is not so easy to form the modified sound as in the case of most of the other letters; instead of forming these syllables direct from the throat as in English, the tongue must be allowed to form an artificial throat as it were, and the sound be allowed to come from a point a little farther forward in the mouth than the actual throat; the effect produced is a softer, more aspirated sound, than in the English *k*; this is perhaps

more distinctly noticeable in the syllable *ki* than in *ka*, *ku*, *ke*, and *ko*.

For *ga*, *gi*, *gu*, *ge*, *go*, the same rule applies as for *ka*, *ki*, *ku*, *ke*, *ko*, and the result is to make *g* sometimes sound like *ng* in English "singer," especially when it occurs in the middle of a word.

And here it should be observed that with regard to *k* and *g* (and other letters also) a harder sound is heard in some parts of the country than in other parts; this harder or softer sound is regulated by the position of the tongue, which is slightly more forward for softer than for harder sounds.

Ha, *hi*, *fu*, *he*, *ho*.

For *h* the rule applies very clearly; we should especially observe that in the case of *hi* the tongue is sometimes so far forward as to produce a sound almost like *shi*.

Again *hu* (spelt *fu*) is generally but not always so pronounced as to sound like *fu*, but the lower lip must not be drawn in to touch the upper front teeth as in English; the effect is in fact produced by saying the English *hu* with the tongue well forward in the mouth (which remains nearly closed according to the rule).

Ra, *ri*, *ru*, *re*, *ro*.

For *r* also the same rule holds; in every case (for *ra*, *ri*, *ru*, *re*, or *ro*) the tongue is more forward than for the corresponding English sounds; consequently *ri* becomes quite naturally almost like *di*; and any roll of the letter *r* becomes a physical impossibility for polished speakers.

a, *i*, *u*, *e*, *o*.

If the principles of pronunciation given above and the application of them be carefully followed, it will be found that the vowel sounds will almost necessarily be modified in the same way as they are with a Japanese speaker; but of course there must be a constant application of the ear method as well as of rules, if final exactness of pronunciation is to be attained.

We may add in conclusion that for a Japanese wishing to pronounce English correctly, these same rules given above will be of the greatest service, if he will take the trouble to reverse them.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT CHANGES.

LAW No. 77.

We hereby give our sanction to the present regulations relating to changes in the names of municipalities, towns, and villages, as well as to changes in the locality of the offices of municipalities, towns, and villages, and order the same to be duly promulgated.

[His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.]

[Great Seal.]

Dated August 29th, 1890.

(Countersigned)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.

COUNT SAIGO TSUKUMICHI,
Minister of State for Home Affairs.

Article 1.—Should it be intended to change the name of a municipality, town, or village, or to change a town to a village or a village to a town, the Council of the relative city or prefecture shall

decide the same after taking the opinion of the assembly of the respective municipality, town, or village, or the Council Board of the rural district, and shall thereafter obtain the permission of the Minister of State for Home Affairs.

Article 2.—Any decision of the Assembly of a municipality, town, or village to change the locality of the offices of such municipality, town, or village shall be subject to the sanction of the governor of the respective city or prefecture.

THE ADMINISTRATIVE COURT.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 192.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Regulations relating to the management of the affairs of the Administrative Court, and order the same to be promulgated.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign Manual.)
(Great Seal.)

Dated August 20th, 1890.

(Countersigned)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.

Article 1.—Judges to try each Administrative suit shall be appointed by the Chief of the Administrative Court.

Article 2.—Should any judge be required to act as chief judge in accordance with Article 8 of the Law of the Administrative Court, he shall be appointed according to the order mentioned in paragraph 2, Article 7, of the Law.

Article 3.—The Chief Judge may appoint one or two judges to conduct the preliminary process of a trial.

Article 4.—Should the Chief judge deliver sentence involving a penalty in the cases provided for in paragraph 2, Article 38, of the Law of the Administrative Court, he shall direct the clerk to enter the same in the record of cases.

Article 5.—The Administrative Court may from July 11th to September 10th in each year suspend suits already begun, or postpone the commencement of new suits, except in cases which the court deems to be urgent and important.

Article 6.—No decisions can be given in ordinary sessions of the Administrative Court unless above two-thirds of the total number of judges are in attendance.

Article 7.—The Chief Judge of the Administrative Court shall act as President of the ordinary sessions. Should the chief be prevented, the judge of highest official rank shall represent him.

Article 8.—The Administrative Court may serve writs or summonses, as well as other documents connected with proceedings, by process-servers or by post, or may serve them by entrusting the duty to an ordinary court of law.

Article 9.—The Administrative Court may issue notifications as to matters involving its official rights, within the limits of laws or ordinances.

Article 10.—The Chief of the Administrative Court may establish regulations relating to the order and mode of managing its affairs, within the limits of laws and ordinances.

Regulations relating to clerks shall be fixed by the Administrative Court.

CORRESPONDENCE.

JAPANESE IN THEIR DEALINGS WITH FOREIGNERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I have read with much interest and concern the correspondence and leading articles that have appeared in your paper on the question of the business morality of the Japanese import traders at Yokohama. I am in no way connected with the mercantile profession, much less with the particular class of merchants in question. I can not, therefore, answer for these men; but, the question having indirect bearings on the moral character of the Japanese nation at large, I think it may not be improper for me to offer a few remarks on the subject.

First, the Japanese import dealers at Yokohama (and at other open ports likewise) form a group distinct in many respects from the rest of the mercantile class in the country. The term *bōchi-shō* (men engaged in foreign trade) is associated in popular fancy with whatever is most disgusting in the character of the Japanese merchants—dishonesty, unscrupulousness, and faithlessness. They do not receive at the hands of their *confères* in the interior the consideration and respect which

the latter show to each other among themselves. They are rather regarded as dangerous men to be trusted. The fact is, the conservative, though sound and honest, merchants of the interior are in awe of these sharpers of the open ports. Why are the import dealers at open ports so bad in general? Because most of these men were originally desperate adventurers, who, having lost either fortune or character in the interior, repaired to the treaty ports as the last place where they could hope to better their condition. The majority of the genuine merchants being timid and ignorant, these unprincipled men have in time monopolized the foreign trade of the country.

Secondly, your correspondent speaks of the rising generation of import dealers. There is, however, no wonder that the younger dealers are no better than their elders, as they have been educated in the school of the latter. The generation to which we look for the improvement of the present state of affairs at open ports is yet to arise. The young men who are now undergoing training at the various business schools of the Empire will be found an entirely different set of men. They are sons of *shizoku*, farmers, mechanics, and merchants of the genuine sort.

Thirdly, as you have pointed out, the merchant class having been during many centuries despised by the ruling classes of the nation, it represents the lowest point in the scale of national morality. But, even among this despised class there is an aristocracy of its own, which is very careful of its honour, if not dignity. It is composed of the great hereditary commercial houses which are found in every town throughout the country. These houses are at least as trustworthy as any mercantile firms in Europe or America. The only difficulty is that these houses are extremely conservative, and cannot be induced by any argument to engage in foreign trade.

Fourthly, from what has been said thus far, it will be seen that, for many years to come, there will be no hope of the present state of affairs being remedied, unless, as you say, the foreign merchants either combine among themselves or with Japanese. But neither step is likely to prove feasible. What is, then, to be done? There is only one way in which the problem can be solved, and it is an extremely simple and easy one, if foreigners will only open their eyes. Revise the treaties and obtain free access to the whole interior of Japan. This and thus alone can foreign merchants rid themselves of the pests now preying upon them. When the country shall have been opened the situation will be reversed. The Japanese will then be the competitors, and foreigners the gainers by the competition. If foreign merchants choose to remain in the settlements, the present state of affairs is, in one sense, a just reward of their conservatism and race prejudice.

I am your obedient servant,

A JAPANESE WHO IS NOT A MERCHANT.

Tokyo, September 2, 1890.

(Our correspondent has slightly misunderstood our articles. The remedy indicated by us was combination between foreigners and Japanese, not under existing circumstances—such combinations being now illegal—but after the opening of the country. It will then be possible for upright, sound Japanese traders to go into partnership with foreigners, and by that means to eliminate the present injurious parasites. Practically our correspondent's view and our own are identical.—Ed. J.W.M.)

THE ROUTE TO NIKKO.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Unless the following information is already in your hands, it is now placed at the disposal of your readers. Having just come to Nikko *via* Kumagaye and Ashikaga, I speak wittingly. Taking the 6 a.m. from Tokyo, Kumagaye is reached at 8.05, though there is sometimes a delay at the station just before Kumagaye, waiting for the np train. From Kumagaye to Ashikaga the legal fare is 58 *sen* per man, but it will take some persuasion to get men for less than 1 *yen* apiece. We paid 75 *sen*. Two men are necessary. The entire distance is short 7 *ri*. The first half to the Tonegawa is rough and slow. The road is not flooded, but the holes are too frequent and deep for the men to keep up a trot. The ferry (10 *sen*) at the Tonegawa lands one on a mud island, about 3 *cho* wide and difficult to cross without getting shoe deep in mud. On the other side is a short ferry (5 *sen*). Thence to Ashikaga, 3½ *ri*, the road is ichiban, especially after passing Otamachi. Just beside Ashikaga there is the Watarasegawa, to be crossed by a swift but shallow ferry (4 *sen*). Then comes a rough walk of 2 *cho* over debris of the late flood, and then about two miles in *jinrikisha* through the town to the station. To make this distance between Kumagaye and Ashikaga in time to reach Nikko same day is possible, but not probable. The first half of the road is slow; at the ferries are delays. Three men for

one *jinrikisha* would make the connection more probable. By leaving Yokohama on the 10.22 a.m. *via* Kumagaye, spending the night at Ashikaga, a pretty and attractive town, Nikko may be reached by 11.40 a.m. next day. Ashikaga to Oyama, thence Utsunomiya and Nikko, all rail. The scenery from the Tonegawa all the way to Oyama is fine.

Yours, &c.,

Nikko, September 5th.

TRAVELLER.

TRIP DOWN THE TONEGAWA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I have made a trip down the Tonegawa for about 75 miles, and a short account of it may interest your readers. My reason for going was that I wished to see something of the floods. I left Ueno station at 6 a.m. on Wednesday for Kumagaye, paying *yen* 2.20 for freight on a canoe. Had the canoe carted to Menuma Ferry, on the Ashikaga road, for 70 *sen*; launched bark on the Tonegawa at 10.30 a.m. About 2 *ri* down I came to a breach in the bank, on my right, at a place called Shikamura. I was told by a policeman that this breach is 67 *ken* wide, and was made on the night of the 23rd ult. at ten o'clock, and that 25 houses were then swept away. Even when I was there the water was rushing through, but there was a large force of men employed piling and filling the breach with sand bags, and they expected to get it closed that night. A policeman told me that the overflow water extended to Tokyo and ran into the Rikugo. This would mean about 50 miles. The width of the flood in some places, he said, was 25 miles. When the river burst through it was 15 feet above its normal level, but when I passed it was only 2 feet. The policeman said the farmers there were wild with their losses, and had shot at passers-by. I would like to have gone over the flooded district, but of course could never have found my way, under the circumstances without a guide.

About two *ri* above Koga I passed two breaches, each about 200 feet wide. Through the breaches the flooded country could be seen, in one direction for at least 10 miles. Nothing was being done to close these.

The suffering in this district must be intense. I passed the Railway Bridge at three p.m., and reached Sekiya about five. Here you turn nearly at right angles, and leave the main stream for the branch which flows into Yedo Bay, about six miles to the east of Tokyo. The current, at the bend, made things lively for a few seconds, and is so strong that craft bound up have to be hove through by ropes, I understand, for which purpose there are two craft anchored in the fairway with powerful windlasses on board. The ascending vessels are examined at Sekiya by a policeman stationed a little down the stream, for cholera victims, I presume. Coming down in the dark I passed several junks sailing up. They carried no lights, but the overhanging square bows as they surged through the water gave ample warning of their approach. I left the Tonegawa for the Sumida at 12.45, and arrived at the Tsukiji Custom House at 2.30 on Thursday morning, having had to paddle against the wind all the way.

I remain, Sir, yours faithfully,

TONEGAWA.

Tokyo, September 4th, 1890.

THE KOBE "SECULARIAN."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Again the saying "history repeats itself" has been verified. In "Secularian" we have a modern Gadarene, so true to the original type that his existence in the last quarter of the 19th century seems almost anachronistic. Could he be transported backward through eighteen centuries and placed on the shore of Lake Galilee he would find himself among congenial and companionable spirits. The story of the Gadarenes is familiar to all Bible readers, but I repeat it. Christ one day visited them, and his first act after landing on their shores was to cast out the demons from two men who were so fierce and refractory that they had become a terror to the community. By this act the two demons were instantaneously converted into peaceable, law-abiding citizens, and the country rid of a great pest. But in the meantime Christ suffered the demons to enter into some hogs that were feeding near by, and the hogs, becoming frightened, ran down into the lake and were drowned. The Gadarenes, on learning what had happened, ran out to meet Christ, but, instead of expressing their gratitude for the merciful deed that he had done in healing the mad men and thereby ridding the country of a public nuisance, they allowed the loss of a few hogs to embitter their souls, and

rudely ordered him to leave their shores. Ignoring the great public benefit that had been conferred, they allowed their personal prejudices, excited by the loss of a little pork, to move them to reject their benefactor. So "Secularian," passing by the innumerable blessings that Christianity has conferred upon the world and is now conferring, seizes upon the past blunders and inconsistencies of Christians and declares them to be the legitimate outgrowth of Christ's teachings. And when a Christian apologist, actuated by the love of truth and the good of his fellow men, and guided by a spirit of honesty and fairness, exposes the emptiness of his assertions, he immediately resorts to disgusting braggadocio, and tacitly arrogates to himself a monopoly of learning; and from the lofty height of his fancied erudition he condescendingly refers to the ignorance of his opponent, and with the kindness of a learned infidel freely offers that which is the cheapest of articles—gratuitous advice.

"Secularian" has also shown himself an adept in retreating and advancing, which is admirable in military movements, but unfair and condemnable in a serious discussion. In his first attack he alleged that "infidelity has quenched the fires of persecution lighted by Christians." This allegation was made in contradiction of Bishop Newman's remark that "infidelity has never given anything to the world." And fairness demands the same use of the word in both instances. Since Bishop Newman used it in the sense in which it is generally used by Christian apologists, viz., the sense in which I used it, I could only infer that "Secularian" used it in a similar sense; and indeed, as an honest controversialist, he could have used it in no other without clearly defining it. But when by historical reference I clearly demonstrated the inaccuracy of his allegation, he sought refuge behind a definition of the word so broad and comprehensive that it practically precludes discussion. His definition, framed to relieve himself of a dilemma, is worthy of repetition. Infidelity, says he, is a word "fairly descriptive of those who, on any particular point—slavery, or witchcraft, or persecution for example—laboured in direct antagonism to the teachings of their creed." Then the term is descriptive of such men as Wycliff, Tyndall, Luther, Melancthon, Zwingli, Calvin, Latimer, Ridley, and a host of others. With such a definition I certainly shall not dissent from "Secularian's" claims for infidelity, and, if he will emerge from behind his pseudonym and reveal himself to me, I should be happy to grasp his hand and say, *viad voce*, that we have one point of agreement. He practically admits that for which I have been contending, that the fires of persecution were extinguished by Christians themselves, for the words "their creed" in his definition plainly refer to religious creeds, and hence exclude all that are not, nominally at least, professing Christians. I am happy to note the spirit of progress which this admission denotes, though the admission is made rather indirectly.

"Secularian" labours industriously to refute the statement made by me that "there is not that in infidelity which makes martyrs," and devotes nearly a column to quotations that seemingly favour his position. But I ask in candour if the hardihood evinced by those whom he mentioned was due to the influence of infidelity *per se*. They were bold and laudably tenacious of their honest opinions, but did they possess boldness and tenacity because they were infidels? In other words is infidelity a mysterious, vital, transforming influence by which a man is regenerated and his hopes unalterably fixed upon a sustaining power beyond him? Is there in infidelity a great central, cardinal truth, wonderfully attractive and rich in promise of future bliss towards which the hearts of all infidels are turned, and which is so dear to them that they would sooner relinquish their claim upon life than upon it? If so, what is it? Let the diverse opinions of infidels themselves answer the question. A man's soul must be conquered by some over-mastering truth that is dearer to him than life before he will suffer martyrdom, and until infidelity can adduce some such truth it is superlative folly to speak of its producing martyrs. Examine the cases of persecution which "Secularian" alleges to be the legitimate outcome of infidelity, and what do we ascertain? We find men whose souls had been conquered by the truth that liberty of conscience and freedom of thought, which truth was first emphasized in the Bible, are the inalienable right of every man whatever his religion or nationality. These men chose to advance ideas contrary to the established religious system of their country, which they had a perfect right to do, and were classed as infidels. Because they advocated these ideas publicly they were persecuted, and perhaps bore their sufferings with becoming fortitude. But were they sustained and

comforted by infidelity in the hour of trial? Or was their fortitude in any way the product of infidelity? Nay, verily, they were brave men independently of infidelity, and suffered rather than renounce the privilege and right of free thought for which their Christian fathers, imbued with the spirit of the Bible, had bled and died. Then is it not absurd to ascribe their powers of creditable endurance to the influence of infidelity? Imagine them as they lay suffering in the dark and gloomy dungeons, perhaps hungry, sick, and sore, denied the pleasure of social intercourse, yet cheered and sustained by infidelity, and, oblivious of their discomforts, lifting their voices in hymning its glorious praises. The absurdity becomes ridiculous. And yet "Secularian" affirms that infidelity has that in it which makes martyrs, and when I affirm the contrary he assumes an air of great learning, and charges me with ignorance. "Better not know so many things than to know so many things that ain't so," I reaffirm that "infidelity has not that in it which makes martyrs." Men die for their beliefs and not for the absence thereof.

But my real purpose for entering into this discussion was not to spar with "Secularian," but to vindicate Christianity from the false and impious charges preferred by a ranting infidel. It is patent that "Secularian" hates Christianity with all the venom of his soul, and it appears that he is seeking to justify his hatred. In order to do this he must either prove that Christianity is an evil and vicious institution, or he found in bitter opposition to that which is pure and good. He chooses the former, and seeks to establish the fact that Christianity is an "unmitigated evil," by deliberately distorting various passages of Scripture so that they are made to foster and teach the most relentless persecution of unbelievers. His argument, if reduced to syllogistic form, would be: whatever system of doctrine teaches and enforces the persecution of its dissenters is an unmitigated evil; Christianity both by practice and precept is such a system, therefore Christianity is an unmitigated evil. The weakness of his argument lies in the falsity of his minor premise, though the truthfulness of the major itself needs to be established. But a failure to establish the minor would result in a complete overthrow of his argument and place him in a very unbecoming and disagreeable light before the civilized world. In order to prove that Christianity is by practice a persecuting religion, he affirms that persecution existed prior to the conversion of Constantine and the consequent coalition of Church and State, and still continues. The most decided traces of persecution that can be found before Christianity united with the State are found in the case of Victor, one of the Pontiffs of the last quarter of the second century, a man described as "rash and hot-headed" who excommunicated certain Asiatic bishops because they differed from him about the rule for observing Easter. His act was reprobated by the generality of Christians, and the letter of Irenæus, in which he offered a most vigorous protest, has been preserved for us by Eusebius. Lactantius, who wrote during and after the persecution of Diocletian, says, on the subject of Christians using coercive measures, "Religion is to be defended, not by murder, but by persuasion; not by cruelty, but by patience; not by wickedness, but by faith. If you attempt to defend religion by blood, and torments, and evil, this is not to defend, but to violate and pollute it; for there is nothing that should be more free than the choice of religion, in which, if consent be wanting, it becomes entirely void and ineffectual." And in so writing he expressed the sentiments of his Christian contemporaries, and his words still find a hearty response in the hearts of present Christians. Now in this case of inchoate persecution, what are the facts? First, we find already existing a hierarchy, with a recognized head, viz., Pope Victor, in whom had been concentrated supreme ecclesiastical power. This was unscriptural. No one from the teachings of Christ and his Apostles can successfully vindicate the existence of any permanent ecclesiastical judiciary. The centralization of power has been the bane of the Church of Christ, and the exercise and abuse of this power by unscrupulous men has been the prime factor in the dreadful work of persecution. The office of Pope, Cardinal, Bishop, in fact the whole system of practical authority, in whatever form it may exist, is unscriptural. In the second place, the celebration of Easter, concerning which the persecution arose, if indeed an act of excommunication may be called persecution, can find no justification either by precept or example in the whole of the New Testament, and therefore was unscriptural. Then the facts in the case are, the persecutor was holding an unscriptural office, exercising unscriptural authority, and prosecuted those who differed from him concerning an unscriptural festival. This

beginning of persecution which thus originated outside of Scripture was rapidly developed after the coalition of Church and State, which marked a still greater departure from the teachings of Christ and the Apostles. Still "Secularian" avers that persecution naturally issues from Scriptural teachings, wherein, as I have clearly shown, its genesis is directly traceable to the centralization of ecclesiastical power. And in his eagerness to establish his proposition that Christianity is essentially a persecuting religion he says, "If to one or two minor sects we add the Quakers, who have always been honourably distinguished for their tolerance . . . and the Unitarians . . . there is scarcely a sect from ultra Romanist to ultra Protestant, but has persecuted in its turn." I should like to know what is meant by the term "minor sects," and to know just how much influence must be exerted by a sect before the term "minor" becomes inapplicable. The Baptists have always been staunch advocates of liberty of conscience and religious freedom, and, while not persecuting, were themselves persecuted most bitterly. So early as 1611, in their Confession of Faith put forth in Amsterdam, the doctrine of religious freedom was emphasized. The nearest approach to persecution of which the Baptists have been guilty was in the days of Cromwell, when the commission of "Triers" was constituted for the examination of candidates for the ministry, and their chief offence then consisted simply in the fact that they were represented on that commission. Does "Secularian" mean to imply that the Baptists are a minor sect? So it seems, but perhaps he has been betrayed by his ignorance into this conclusion. According to the New York Independent, May, 1887, the entire membership of the Baptist Churches of America was 3,727,020, which is proof enough of their influence. Again, can he point to the time when the Methodists persecuted? But perhaps he also calls them a minor sect, and hence a glance at their numerical strength in 1887 is not inopportune. According to the same authority given above, their communicants numbered in 1887 no less than 4,532,658. Here then are some of the leading Christian denominations who not only have never engaged in persecution, but have always vigorously opposed it as unscriptural and un-Christian.

As to the statement that Christianity still retains its persecuting character, I reply that Christians to-day cannot be called a persecuting body, and this "Secularian" knows. Then, in view of the above facts concerning persecution, its origin, and the strenuous opposition that certain Christian sects have always offered thereto, can it be truly said that Christianity is essentially by practice a persecuting religion? Let fair-minded, intelligent judges decide.

Now let me consider the other part of the minor premise, viz., that Christianity by precept fosters persecution. "Secularian," with the whole Bible from which to choose, quotes only two passages in support of his assertion, passages that will not at all bear the interpretation that he gives. Let us examine these, beginning with Deut. 13:6-9. I quote it in full: "If thy brother, the son of thy mother, or thy son, or thy daughter, or the wife of thy bosom, or thy friend, which is as thine own soul, entice thee secretly, saying: Let us go and serve other gods which thou hast not known, thou nor thy fathers; of the gods of the peoples which are round about you, nigh unto thee, or far off from thee, from the one end of the earth even unto the other end of the earth; thou shalt not consent unto him nor hearken unto him; neither shall thine eye pity him, neither shalt thou spare, neither shalt thou conceal him; but thou shalt surely kill him; thine hand shall be first upon him to put him to death, and afterwards the hand of all the people." Such is the command in all its severity that God gave to Israel through his servant Moses. Enjoining as it does the necessity of brother taking the life of brother, parent the life of child, and husband the life of the wife of his bosom, in case an attempt is made to induce one to forsake God and worship idols, it is revolting to us and causes the most hardened nature to recoil. Therefore it invites earnest investigation. First, knowing that God is perfectly just and holy (Deut. 32:4, Lev. 19:2, Ps. 22:3, Is. 45:21, and many other passages), contrasting the severity of the command with his nature forces the conclusion that the reason for issuing it was based upon a dire necessity. Then let us inquire, that we may ascertain, if possible, what was this necessity. An historical review of the circumstances will help to right conclusions. But a few years had elapsed since Israel's release from bondage; Egypt and its idolatry were fresh in their memories, and now they were about to enter into the Promised Land and for the first time establish their national independence, while around

them lay idolatrous nations. And their past history bore unmistakable testimony to their own idolatrous tendencies. God had chosen them to be his own peculiar people, and made them the depositories of his truth. Knowing their natural tendency to mingle with other nations and adopt their practices, he hedged them about with separate laws, that they might be kept entire and distinct, and at the same time enacted very strict and rigorous laws against idolatry, thereby emphasizing its sinfulness. He furthermore established a Theocracy, with himself as the invisible yet omnipresent Head. His ultimate purpose in doing all this, as a comprehensive study of the Bible amply shows, was the preservation of his truth till the world was ready for the scheme of universal redemption through Jesus Christ which was to follow. Now then, had he allowed the sin of idolatry to go unpunished, indeed, had the laws against it been less severe, what would have been the result? His truth would have been buried beneath heaps of ignorance, superstition, and degradation, and the world would have suffered. Besides, under the existing circumstances the enactment and enforcement of such strict and severe laws were the wisest and most humane course possible. Turning to Deut. 12:31, we see the awful atrocities from which this law was directly intended to save Israel. Referring to the nations immediately surrounding the Israelites, Moses says, "for every abomination to the Lord which he hateth have they done unto their gods; for even their sons and their daughters do they burn in the fire to their gods." We then see the necessity for the existence of such a severe law in the duplex truth that God's ultimate aim was to preserve his truth inviolate, and to prevent Israel's lapse into such heinous crimes as those above mentioned. But "Secularian" seems to think that the law was given once for all, and hence is now binding. Is it not a pity that he will not use some common sense when he comes to read the Bible? The law was the outgrowth of the stress of existing circumstances. The stress removed, the law became null. While the Old Testament contains many moral precepts that will always remain in force, it is also a history of the Israelites, and contains many ordinances and commands that are purely national and temporal. And the particular law in question is not binding upon Christians to-day, any more than are the numerous sacrificial laws which the New Testament declares to be a "copy and shadow of the heavenly things," (Heb. 8:5), "and carnal ordinances imposed till a time of reformation" (Heb. 9:10). Paul in discussing the sacrificial law says: "It was added because of transgressions, till the seed should come to whom the promise hath been made" (Gal. 3:19), and again "the law hath been our tutor to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith," (Gal. 3:24). But perhaps "Secularian" will claim that he knows more about the subject than Paul.

Now let me briefly notice the other quotation which "Secularian" makes, to justify the assertion that Christianity is by precept a system of persecution. "And whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear your words, as ye go forth out of that house or that city, shake off the dust of your feet. Verily I say unto you it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment than for that city." Herein is the foundation of "the most bitter and intolerant persecution," according to "Secularian." In the first place nothing is said directly or indirectly, nor even by way of implication, about persecution, and in the second place God expressly reserves till the day of judgment the punishment which would follow the rejection of the Gospel, thereby teaching his disciples that it was their province to preach, and his to punish. The plain unmistakable teaching of the text is that God's people have no part in punishing those who reject the Gospel, but that a faithful and earnest declaration of the Word is all that is required of them, looking to God for results. But note "Secularian's" inconsistency. He is a stickler for literal interpretation, and rakes about Christians explaining Scripture in "a non-natural sense," and charges them with saying, "This doesn't mean what it says, but something quite different;" yet he himself, an avowed literalist, solemnly avers that shaking the dust from a disciple's foot means coercing, imprisoning, torturing, and burning, and that the priests who did those things were "entitled to respect as more logical, more honest, more straightforward than the present representatives of Christianity." Certainly he who is guilty of such glaring misrepresentations must either be wanting in integrity of soul and honesty of purposes, or is excusably ignorant and shallow. Now a few Scripture references, that Christ's teachings may be clearly seen, and I shall close. "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This

is the great and first commandment. And a second like unto it is this: Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hangeth the whole law, and the prophets." Mat. 22: 37-40; With this compare Rom. 13: 9 and 10, "Thou shalt not commit adultery, thou shalt not kill, thou shalt not steal, thou shalt not covet, and if there be any other commandment, it is summed up in this word, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." Also compare Lev. 19: 18, "Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." Again, "Ye have heard that it was said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour and hate thine enemy: but I say unto you, Love your enemies and pray for them that persecute you," Mat. 5: 43 and 44. Compare 1. Pet. 2: 20, "If, when ye do well and suffer for it, ye shall take it patiently, this is acceptable with God." Also compare Rom. 12: 14, "Bless them that persecute you; bless and curse not." I could multiply references, but will refrain.

Then, the allegation that Christianity is essentially by practice and precept a religion that persecutes has not been proved, and moreover, cannot be. Christians persecuted in the past, but the spirit of persecution was due to the absence of the Christ, the Christian lawgiver. Hence "Secularism" occupies the unenviable position of one who stands before the world as a bitter antagonist to the best, purest, and most benign system of truth that has ever been delivered to mankind.

In conclusion, let me ask him to read The Sermon on the Mount; Mat. Chaps. 5, 6 and 7; 12 Chap. of Romans, and 13 Chap. of 1 Corinthians, and then if he can pronounce Christianity "an unmitigated evil," I can only pray God be merciful to him.

Respectfully, JNO. A. BRUNSON,
Sept. 6th, 1890. 151, Hill, Kobe.

THE TREATY REVISION MEETING.

A public meeting of residents of Yokohama, of all nationalities, was held Thursday afternoon at 4.30 in the Public Hall, being convened by the following advertisement:—

Negotiations for the revision of the Treaties having been resumed, and there being grave reason to apprehend that Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs may be induced to concede the demand of the Japanese Government that British Subjects shall come under the jurisdiction of the Japanese Courts, without any of the safeguards that have hitherto been considered necessary for their protection, it is thought that no time should be lost in formulating and transmitting to Her Majesty's Government the views of British Subjects upon this very serious and momentous question. Another point calling for an expression of the opinion of those interested is the alleged proposal to interfere with the vested interests of land-holders, by altering the conditions of their tenure without their consent. A Meeting of British Subjects, at which all are invited to attend, will therefore be held at the Public Hall, on Thursday, the 11th instant, at 4.30 p.m. for the purpose of taking these and cognate matters into consideration, and of taking action thereon.

Yokohama, September 6th, 1890.

With reference to the above notice, as Citizens of other nations have signified their wish to join with British Subjects, it has been resolved to make the Meeting a general one of the whole Community, and to hold it at the Public Hall, at 4.30 p.m.

Yokohama, September 6th, 1890.

There was a large attendance, among those present being:—Messrs. G. H. Alcock, J. T. Griffin, C. Wilson, T. Rose, W. J. Cruickshank, M. T. B. Macpherson, F. Vivanti, C. J. Strome, L. Lichtenstein, F. Biagioni, A. O. Gay, A. W. Payne, A. Schmitze, N. P. Kingdon, Geo. Adams, M. Russell, J. E. Beale, W. J. S. Shand, J. Rickett, J. R. Merian, M. Kaufmann, F. Lowder, Capt. J. J. Eford, Messrs. W. Gordon, H. C. Litchfield, E. B. Watson, B. Gillett, X. Salabelle, E. Andreis, Capt. Wilson Walker, Messrs. J. de Becker, F. H. Bull, E. Leopold, E. A. Sargent, T. W. Kennaway, E. Beart, F. H. Grant, A. M. Forbes, F. Owston, J. Walter, A. W. Curtis, R. A. Wyllie, F. S. Schwabe, J. Diack, W. Bourne, James Martin Jun., J. R. Anglin, J. B. Maxwell, R. Johnstone, J. Bissel, B. J. S. Brinkworth, M. Engel, W. W. Tili, W. H. Taylor, H. Harding, E. A. Bird, Dr. Hall, Messrs. W. B. Walter, O. Schime, C. Ziegler, Capt. Geo. Walker, Messrs. A. C. Read, F. H. Olmstead, J. O. Averill, jun., J. Mendelson, M. J. B. N. Hegt, Gower Robinson, A. Brent, Otto Reimers, W. G. Bayne, A. Barnard, J. L. O. Eytan, B. H. Pratt, C. Weinberger, F. Townley, R. N. St. John, C. W. Arnold, T. L. Brower, J. P. Mullison, J. A. Fraser, R. M. Varnum, D. Fraser, H. V. Henson, J. H. Brooke, K. Crawford, A. Best, H. J. Goiman, E. C. Passey Adams, W. Brylus, P. Burside, A. Langfeldt, W. Paterson, J. T. Bag, C. M. Martin, H. Steele, G. N. Macdonay, P. Saida, W. Sutter, A. L. Robinson, F. Gillett, J. Witkowski, Baird, L. Pollard, J. W. Hall, C. H. Hinton, W.

Aitchison, W. H. Forbes, A. T. Watson, W. K. Treize, L. Davis, Dr. Vander Heyden, A. Motin, &c. About a dozen Chinese residents also attended the meeting.

Mr. J. A. Fraser, on the motion of Mr. Lowder, took the chair.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, before proceeding with the business of this meeting, I had intended to state that although this was a public meeting it was neither expected nor desired that the reporters who are present on this occasion should take notes of the proceedings for insertion in the papers. But since coming up here I have learned that there is a very strong feeling among a number of those present that this course should not be followed, but that the proceedings of this meeting to-day should be reported in the usual way in the papers.—(Applause.) It appears to me that there is a considerable diversity of opinion on this point, and therefore I think the best course for us to follow is to take a vote.—(Applause.) I shall now put it to the meeting whether the proceedings on this occasion are to be reported and to appear in the press or not. I will ask those in favour of their being reported to signify the same by holding up their hands.—(Hands both for and against, held up.) There is a large majority, 121 for, to 39 against, their being reported, so that the reporters may stay and take notes.—(Cheers.) I have been asked, gentlemen, at rather short notice, to take the chair on this occasion, and I confess that I consented to do it somewhat reluctantly, feeling that there were many members of this community who could fill the post much better than I can.—("No, no.") Having yielded and given way, I shall only add that I must ask your indulgence and that you will kindly overlook any shortcomings on my part on this occasion.—(Applause.) I think the fact that so large a meeting has met here to-day shows that the question of treaty revision still possesses a deep interest for all the members of this community.—(Applause.) I am quite sure that had the occasion of this meeting been any other than this, we should not have seen one fifth of those present now attending it. I think it is further a subject for congratulation that this meeting which was originally projected to consist of British subjects only has been so enlarged and extended as to embrace members of all nationalities.—(Applause.) It is highly gratifying to find such a large number of the various nationalities comprising this settlement, and such a representative assemblage. Well, gentlemen, I am sure every one of you has come here to-day with a desire to obtain some information in regard to this question of treaty revision, and in regard to what is being done in connection with it. Well, I am sure that is a very natural wish and desire on your part, and I am only sorry that I am not in a position to satisfy it—that I am not in a position to give you the information you seek; for I am in the same position myself. I am in quest of information as to the subject of treaty revision, and what is being done in regard to it. But, gentlemen, there are some members of this community who are present to-day who will tell us that they have got information from a source which, unfortunately, they say they are not at liberty to divulge, but information which they say is of a trustworthy and reliable character, and it is to the effect that there is some risk in the negotiations which have been resumed now, that the proposals of the Japanese Government may be accepted, at least in the case of Great Britain by Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, without any of those safeguards which have hitherto been stipulated for in all previous negotiations, and which we are all more or less firmly of opinion our representatives ought strenuously to insist upon. Well, gentlemen, this is the information, such as it is, which has been the main cause I may say of leading up to this meeting, and leading up to the resolutions which will be put forward at this meeting. And of course if there is truth in the information which has reached this place, then undoubtedly it would seem that the occasion had arisen for some action on our part—and it may be for some prompt action on our part. Of course, we are to a certain extent asked to take this information on trust, and we are bound to do it to that extent—but I say if there is truth in it, then an occasion may have arisen for somewhat prompt action, and I think the necessity for that might be a fitting excuse for our acting as we are doing—without, as some might suggest, in the first instance before taking any steps at all, going to our various representatives and asking them whether they can give us any information and whether there is any truth in the reports we hear.—(Applause.) Now, gentlemen, with these few preliminary remarks I shall proceed to state that three resolutions have been drawn up, which will be submitted to this meeting. They will not be put from the chair, but they will be read

by me one by one, and I will then call on the gentlemen who are here present to speak to them. The first resolution is "1.—That in the opinion of this meeting the time has not arrived when questions in regard to rights, whether of property or person, arising between Subjects and Citizens of foreign Powers in the dominions of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, can be unconditionally and safely subjected to the jurisdiction of Japanese tribunals; or when an estimate can be formed of the period within which the unconditional relinquishment of extraterritorial jurisdiction in Japan can be safely promised." I call upon Mr. Lowder to be kind enough to speak to it.—(Applause.)

Mr. J. F. LOWDER—Gentlemen, this is the largest and most representative meeting that I have ever seen assembled together in Yokohama. The question naturally arises—two questions naturally arise—first, what are we here for? and, secondly, why are we here? The first I think admits of a very easy reply. We are here for the purpose of expressing our opinion upon two subjects of great and serious interest and moment to the community at large. That opinion has been passed into the form of a resolution which you have just heard read from the chair, and I will ask you whether it embodies your opinion as representing this community—whether it embodies your opinion upon that question. If it does, then there is no reason whatever to proceed to any arguments in support of this resolution.—(Applause.) That applause, gentlemen, shows me that it will not be necessary to depart from my original resolution, namely, to hold my peace entirely as to the reasons why we have this opinion. We have arrived at it from knowledge and from experience which is common to every individual in this room, and common to all of us as a community.—(Applause.) The second question, however, that arises is: why do we take this opportunity of expressing this opinion at the present moment? And the reason—our worthy chairman has already anticipated me in what I was about to say—the reason is that the British section of the community have lately had reason to believe that the policy hitherto pursued by the British Government in regard to treaty revision has been, or is about to be, reversed. You will recollect that in the year 1887 the first proposals came forward from the Japanese Government in regard to treaty revision, and it was then suggested that a large number of foreign experts should be added to the Japanese Bench in order to protect our interests.—(Applause.) I am sorry myself that those negotiations proved a failure. In 1889 the question was again taken up and the proposal then was to appoint only four foreign judges in the Court of Appeal. These propositions found favour with certain of the Treaty Powers, but it was always understood—I think it may be said to be a fact—that our representative at home, Lord Salisbury, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, was of opinion, which opinion he expressed to the Japanese Government through the proper channels, that he did not consider that to be a sufficient safeguard for the protection of our interests.—(Applause.) For that reason it is that the British portion of the community, at all events, has hitherto maintained a distinct silence, because up to the present moment we have always been of opinion—and I think with great reason—that our interests were being protected in the manner in which we wished them to be protected.—(Applause.) Lately, however, it has come to the knowledge of some of us that there is imminent danger of that policy being reversed—in other words that the proposals now put forward by the Japanese Government are to this effect: that outside what are known as treaty limits foreigners shall immediately become subject to the jurisdiction of the Japanese tribunals, and that after a period of five years all foreigners, whether within what are known as the Concessions or whether in the interior, shall become subject to Japanese jurisdiction, and that without any conditions at all. It is that information—the origin of which, as you have already heard, may not be divulged, but which comes, I may inform you, from a source which convinces my mind of the truth of the fact that there is danger, and imminent danger, of these proposals being agreed to—it is this that called the British section of the community together and gave rise to the advertisement you have seen in the newspapers. It was after that that requests were received from all nationalities of the community to be allowed to take part in this meeting, and it was thought by those who were taking an interest in promoting the meeting that it would be extremely ungracious on the part of the British community if we were to refuse our consent.—(Applause)—not only ungracious, but also there were these considerations which suggested themselves to our minds. If these resolutions are to be considered in the light of a protest—and we

don't know whether they will be so regarded or not—if they are to be so regarded, however, then that protest is very much stronger as coming from all sections of the community than coming from British residents alone.—(Applause.) If it is not a protest—if the information to which I have referred is incorrect—then, at all events, no harm can be done; in fact a great deal of good may be done, because then it would appear that we should be of one mind with those who represent us, and the hands of those who represent us will be materially strengthened by this expression of opinion from the community of Yokohama. I therefore propose, gentlemen, the first resolution.—(Applause.)

Mr. H. C. LITCHFIELD—I have much pleasure in seconding the proposal made by Mr. Lowder.

The CHAIRMAN—Now, gentlemen, this resolution which has been so ably spoken to by Mr. Lowder, and seconded by Mr. Litchfield, is before you; if you are ready to have it put I will now proceed to put it.

A show of hands was then called for in favour of and against the passing of the resolution, as the result of which the Chairman declared the resolution unanimously carried.

The CHAIRMAN—I now read, gentlemen, the second of the resolutions:—"2.—That in the opinion of this meeting it would be an act of grave injustice to foreigners who have purchased land in Japan under covenant with the Japanese Government, if the conditions or incidents of their tenure of such land should be altered without their consent." I shall call upon Mr. Gay, who has kindly consented to speak to this resolution.

Mr. A. O. GAY, who spoke in a very low tone, and was therefore imperfectly heard, said the matter forming the subject of this resolution had already been before the Chamber of Commerce a year and a half ago when the Chamber addressed the Foreign Ministers on this very subject. The replies received from those that did reply, all expressed determination and willingness to take up the matter and give it their full consideration at the proper time. That was the substance of all the replies that were made. He might point out that the elements of the covenants that had been entered into were that they were between individuals and the State, and that they were based on existing treaties. New treaties could not be retrospective, so far as property was concerned. The properties were all sold at auction by the Government, proving that the right of property was acquired, apart from the ground-rents, and those who bought them paid for the property and received certain guarantees, which guarantees, he maintained, could not be taken away without the consent of the holders.—(Applause.) Further, the ground-rent was fixed, representing the equivalent of the Japanese taxation at date. We have, continued Mr. Gay, been in the enjoyment of those properties now for nearly thirty-five years, and of course under the laws of the different Consulates at which the deeds were registered, without any reference to the laws of Japan, and I may mention that under English law enjoyment of immunity for twenty-five years makes the immunity perpetual. Further, the compulsory changing of the right of title is virtual confiscation. No reduction of ground-rent will compensate for the taxation to which we shall be subject under the new arrangement. The income tax alone is about 7½d. in the £, not to speak of stamps on documents. If Foreign Powers take the responsibility of so altering the treaties that they dispossess individuals of their right of recourse against the Japanese Government, they will create by their illegal action a right of recourse against themselves.—(Applause.)

Mr. W. J. S. SHAND seconded this resolution.

The CHAIRMAN—What Mr. Gay said in support of this resolution was so good that I wish all of you at the back of the hall could have heard him. You have heard the resolution in support of which he has spoken; I shall now put it to the meeting.

A show of hands was taken, and the resolution was declared carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN—The third and last resolution, gentlemen, is as follows:—"3.—That thirty persons or thereabouts be elected by ballot at this meeting, to be a standing Committee, with the following powers:—to transmit copies of the foregoing resolutions without delay to the Representatives of Treaty Powers; to Chambers of Commerce; and to any other bodies or persons, at the discretion of the Committee; to act as the representatives of the Community in any and all questions incidental to or arising out of the foregoing resolutions, now or at any time hereafter; to co-operate with any Committee that may be formed at any out port for objects similar to the foregoing; to call meetings of the Community whenever they consider it desirable; and to collect and send such monies as may be necessary for the efficient exercise of the said powers."

Mr. J. H. BROOKE, who was called upon by the Chairman to speak to this resolution, said—

Having undertaken at the request of the Committee the proposal of this resolution, it is now my duty to carry out my promise. I think it must be as obvious to you as to me that the want of some public organization in this community has been severely felt for a great number of years.—(Applause.) You have of course in the newspaper press a large amount of writing upon public affairs; but while the public press may be the eyes and ears of the community, it certainly is not its hands, and there is nobody to which appeals can be made to take in hand serious matters that require attention.—(Applause.) You have heard to-day from the various speakers that addressed you that we have arrived at something that looks like a crisis in our affairs. The amount of information now before us is not great, but it has been so difficult all through this treaty business to get any information at all, that at present we must be thankful for small mercies. We ought to have taken the alarm many years ago.—(Applause.) We ought to have formed a Citizens' Committee representing all the nationalities of the place to take cognizance of the various propositions that have been made, because, as no doubt you are aware, the propositions of the Japanese Government have been of a very shifty character. They never remained constant to any proposition they have asked Foreign Powers to agree to. No sooner was there a chance of a proposition being agreed to than that was used as a stepping stone and fresh demands made.—(Applause.)

The first speaker, Mr. Lowder, gave you a short history of what has taken place with regard to a most important matter, namely, the future judicial arrangements in this country. With regard to the tariff, I think a general agreement was arrived at some years ago as to the limit of duties to be charged, but it had been a bone of contention for a long period. We are all willing to submit to a certain amount of additional taxes, but what we object to is to surrender into Japanese hands those rights and privileges that as citizens we all enjoy. Under the arrangements that have prevailed in the treaty ports, we have been enabled to move along with the Japanese with very little friction indeed.—(Applause.) It has always appeared to me that the raising of the question of treaty revision as far as regarded the bringing together of foreigners and Japanese, has been altogether premature. When this question was last raised—I have the recollection that it was first raised as far back as 1872—there was a part of the judicial system of this country; the prisons were in a lamentable state, and there was no law as we understand law. At that time the Foreign Powers were asked to agree to the abolition of extra-territoriality. Of course they refused. As time wore on various proposals were made, until now we have arrived at the present condition of affairs, namely, that the Japanese propose to withdraw the diplomatic notes providing for a certain number of foreign judges being employed, and they ask us to submit to Japanese jurisdiction without any of those safeguards that we have a right to expect. Apart from serious question arises from this, that we are asked to surrender a great deal of that which we now possess. I need hardly point out to educated Englishmen the value of the writ of *habeas corpus*; that is not proposed to form any part of the future judicial system of this country. Then, again, there is to be no question of a system of juries, and we know certainly in political trials how valuable they have been. In point of fact a great deal of the liberty of the press has arisen from the firmness and independence of juries when prosecutions have been instituted by the Crown against liberal-minded men who wished to increase the liberties of England.—(Applause.) Also there is an amount of supervision and surveillance in this country which may be tolerated by the natives, but which is altogether foreign and alien to that degree of freedom which we have enjoyed in other countries. An Englishman's house is said to be his castle.—(Applause.) How far can he calculate on its being his castle here? I think that is a very doubtful business. There are a number of arrangements which, however well adapted to a race that has never breathed the air of freedom and has all apprehension they excite in such a people, excite because we should not be disposed to submit to those arrangements that are looming in the future—we cannot tell when, for we are always kept in the dark by our representatives—we may be quite sure that a large number of cases will arise not likely to exist, and it seems to me particularly requisite that we should agree to have a representative Committee of the Community to take cognizance of the various circumstances

as they arise, and to interfere in cases where the public interest is seriously threatened.—(Applause.) You will be willing, I am sure, to bear your share of any expenses that may be incurred—for you cannot carry on a war on paper or otherwise without money—and you will also, I feel certain, be willing to co-operate as mentioned in the resolution with the aggregations of foreigners that exist at the various treaty ports. Whatever we desire for ourselves—and I hope we desire nothing that is extravagant—will also no doubt be desired by foreign communities at the treaty ports, and if we hold out the right hand to them I have no doubt that it will be grasped, and that they will form similar organizations and put themselves in communication with us. I will not enlarge, but simply ask the meeting to adopt this resolution, and to take care in selecting men to sit on the Committee, to select those who will give the benefit of their experience and their intellect. I do not know whether it is practicable to carry on a ballot here; perhaps, a ballot might be afterwards taken and the Secretary could sit here and receive votes.—(Applause.)

Mr. N. P. KINGDON seconded.

The third resolution was then put and carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN—The next question is as to the election of the Committee. Mr. Brooke has suggested whether the election can be conveniently done at this meeting now. We have to make up our minds thoroughly as to the men we should wish to serve on the Committee, and if the meeting is of opinion that we can proceed to the election of Committee we can do so. Am I to understand that the desire of the meeting is that we should proceed to the election of a committee now?—(Applause.)

Mr. GAY proposed that a ballot-box be deposited at the Chamber of Commerce Rooms, and be left open for three or four days.

Mr. BRENT seconded.

Mr. LOWDER—With reference to that, I think I may be able to facilitate the election of a committee now without further delay by reading out to you the names of fourteen or fifteen Englishmen who have expressed their willingness to serve upon a committee if they are elected by the meeting, and it may then be very easy for the other sections of the members present at this meeting to add names so as to make up the thirty.—(Applause.) The names I have to propose are:—Chairman: J. A. Fraser; Committee: J. H. Brooke, A. H. Groom, J. D. Hutchinson, R. Johnstone, N. P. Kingdon, W. H. Taylor, James Walter, W. Gordon, F. Townley, D. Fraser, R. A. Wylie, W. J. S. Shand, A. Barnard, F. Lowder. I do not think any ballot would give you a better selection among the English portion of the community than that, and if the members of other nationalities are prepared to add their names to those, I think we may select the committee to-day.

The CHAIRMAN—I think it will be in order before proceeding further to put to the meeting the amendment of Mr. Gay. Mr. Gay's amendment is that a ballot-box be left at the Chamber of Commerce Rooms for three days, during which time this committee can be balloted for.

On being put, the amendment was lost by 66 to 52.

Mr. SCHULTZ proposed to represent the German community, Messrs. O. Reimers, Schultz, Grosser, and A. Meier.

A number of persons got up to leave the hall, on which

The CHAIRMAN said—I have been requested to ask you to sign the lists on which the resolutions to which you have agreed will be found outside.

Several lists of names were handed in on behalf of other nationalities.

The CHAIRMAN—Before reading out these names it would be as well, seeing the mode of election has been different from that proposed by Mr. Brooke, to ask that gentleman and his second if they agreed to the committee in this form.

Mr. BROOKE had no objections.

The CHAIRMAN asked the reporters to take note of the circumstance, and then read the names of the Committee as follows:—British—Messrs. J. A. Fraser, J. H. Brooke, A. H. Groom, J. D. Hutchinson, R. Johnstone, N. P. Kingdon, W. H. Taylor, James Walter, W. Gordon, F. Townley, D. Fraser, R. A. Wylie, W. J. S. Shand, A. Barnard, and F. Lowder. American—Messrs. Gay, Howard, Lindsey and Varnum. German—Messrs. O. Reimers, Schultz, Grosser, and A. Meier. French—Messrs. Sarda, Guillo, Halphen, and Douville. Swiss—Messrs. F. Abegg, L. Motin, J. R. Merian. Dutch—Messrs. Von Hemet, Scheuten, and Dr. Von der Heyden. Italian—Messrs. Biagioni, Giusani, and Andreis. Chinese—Mr. Wong Vick Tong. Portuguese—Mr. Fomeca. In all 37.

The Committee as thus formed was agreed to unanimously.

Mr. W. G. BAYNE proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Fraser.

Mr. FRASER—I thank you, gentlemen. I am sure it is a very great pleasure to preside at such a very large and very enthusiastic meeting, and I think it is a matter of satisfaction to all of us that the resolutions put before you, and so ably spoken to by the various speakers, have been carried unanimously.—(Cheers.)

This brought the proceedings to a close.

Of those present at the meeting the following signed the lists bearing the resolutions.—British 87, German 20, American 15, other nationalities 16.

BRITISH CONSULAR TRADE REPORT FOR YOKOHAMA FOR 1889.

Consul ENSLIE to the Marquis of SALISBURY.

Yokohama, April 17th, 1890.

MY LORD,—I have the honour to furnish you with my Report on the Foreign Trade of this Port for the year ended December 31, 1889, accompanied by the ordinary returns based on the Statistics published by the Bureau of Customs, and by a return of the number of British and Foreign Residents and Firms.

The trade of this port during the past year compares with that of 1888 as follows:—

	1889.	1888.
Imports	5,399,015	6,891,708
Exports	6,519,154	6,276,743
Total	11,828,169	12,668,450

Decrease in imports for the year 1889... 1,082,692
Increase in exports for the year 1889 ... 242,411

Actual decrease of trade for the year 1889 840,281

It is only by comparing the amount of merchandise imported with the deliveries and stocks remaining that anything like a fairly correct estimate can be formed of the volume of import trade. I have, therefore, availing myself of statistics furnished by the Yokohama General Chamber of Commerce, compiled a return extending over a period of three years of the importation of some of the principal articles of merchandise, the deliveries, and stocks, showing at a glance the increase or decrease in each case in 1889 as compared with 1888.

Summarising this return, there was a large falling-off in the deliveries of English and Bombay yarns, grey shirtings, prints, blankets, pig-iron, and sugar of all kinds; whereas indigo shirtings, Turkey reds, victoria lawns, mousseline de laine, and kerosene oil were more extensively dealt in.

Stocks were on the whole heavier on December 31 last than at the end of 1888, cotton yarns showing an increase of 3,399,000 lbs., T-cloths 16,000 pieces, Turkey reds 36,600 pieces, and kerosene oil of 297,376 cases.

IMPORTS.

The business of the year under review has, as a whole, not been of a satisfactory nature, exceedingly few of the staple articles coming up to 1888 in quantity, and values being, as a rule, low.

It will be observed in the following remarks on the course of trade for 1889, that whenever reference is made to quantities or prices these are given both in local values and pounds sterling, and English weights. This is in compliance with instructions, but it may be well to observe that for obvious reasons, among which is the question of exchange, the local quotations are the more reliable.

YARNS.

The year commenced with stocks of English, 3,195,200 lbs. (23,964 piculs), and Bombay, 642,800 lbs. (4,821 piculs), both descriptions being, notwithstanding the new year's holidays, very firm, and with a tendency to rise. The demand remained good, English selling at better prices, and Bombays rather excited at an increase of 3s. 1½d. (1 dol. to 4s. 8d. (1 dol. 50 c.), per bale, but the Chinese new year soon caused complete stoppage in yarns and piece-goods generally.

Early in February business was resumed and continued for some days, sales being made in all numbers at advanced values. During March there was absence of life in the market, though with moderate transactions in English; there was at one period considerable activity in Bombays at lower prices.

After being very quiet, a fair demand set in for Bombays in April, good 16's being asked for, and moderately firm, though the continued rise in Manchester prevented holders from being free sellers of English. Importers were very firm during May, and apart from a few small sales at slightly better prices, English were quiet and Bombays neglected.

Dullness amounting almost to stagnation was the ruling feature of June, till towards the end of the month there was a sudden spurt of about 2,500 bales at better prices, small sales in Bombays being made at generally falling rates. The English movement did not hold on, and all kinds, including Bombays, were dull, with a weak market in July and August.

A favourable change occurred in September, though the demand was not very strong, and holders, in sympathy with a good rise in Manchester, were firm. Some considerable activity ensued for a short time, English selling at 4½d. to 5½d. (12 c. to 15 c.), and Bombays from 4s. 9d. to 6s. 4d. (1 dol. 50 c. to 2 dol.) per bale higher. Reports about the damage done to Japanese crops materially assisted in creating this temporary advance.

While English were quiet in October, buyers constantly demanding fresh concessions, Bombays, on the contrary, came in for considerable attention, and though a slight improvement took place in the former during a portion of November, the close of the year was unsatisfactory, Bombays having also given way in sympathy with general depression and a further decline in Japanese spinings. The estimated stocks at close of year were—English, 5,440,000 lbs. (40,800 piculs), and Bombays, 1,800,000 (13,500 piculs).

On the whole the trade has, owing to the constant tendency towards lower prices, been unfavourable both to importers and Japanese dealers. Nor can it be said to be satisfactory as regards volume, owing largely, it is alleged, to cost in dyeing, attributed to the great hydraulic pressure for packing, to which English yarns are subjected, one of the reasons why Japanese-made yarn is becoming a more or less formidable competitor.

GREY SHIRTINGS.

Prices opened steady, but 8½ lbs., not in stock, were wanted, and there was a brisk demand for 9 lbs. at slightly better rates before the end of January. After a quiet month a fair inquiry arose for both kinds, 9 lbs. being a little higher and at firmer rates.

They fell off early in May, but a little later 9 lbs. attracted considerable attention, the firmness of holders, however, preventing a large business, though there were fair sales at tugging advances.

The attitude of importers soon stopped the demand, only small lots of 8½ lbs. being sold, and 9 lbs. quite neglected from June to August.

Inquiry sprung up early in September, at an improvement of about 1d. (2½ c.) per piece, and a large business was done in 9 lbs. In October there was a very limited request for 9 lbs., and 8½ lbs. were going at lower prices. Later on 8½ lbs. were asked for, the other kind being fairly well maintained at former values notwithstanding a decrease in demand, there being also inquiry for superior 8½ lbs., which were not on the spot. Estimated stocks at the end of the year were 236,000 pieces, closing prices being for 8½ lbs. 5s. 11d. to 7s. 2d. (1 dol. 80 c. to 2 dol. 20 c.), and for 9 lbs. 7s. to 8s. 4d. (2 dol. 15 c. to 2 dol. 65 c.).

T-CLOTH.

The previous year's stocks were small, and early in January T-cloths were steady at last quotations, 7 lbs. ranging between 4s. 5d. to 4s. 7d. (1 dol. 40 c. to 1 dol. 55 c.). The demand soon dropped, and little or nothing was done till March, when there was a slight movement in lesser qualities with rather more inclination to buy in April.

Rates were rather higher in May, and with good sales continued to be wanted.

The few transactions in better kinds during June were followed by an inquiry for medium, though business during the next few months was on a small scale.

After great dullness some desire was shown for middle quality in November, and towards the end of the season there were signs of a demand all round.

Stocks on December 31 last were about 30,000 pieces, and prices from 4s. 8d. to 6s. 0½d. (1 dol. 42½ c. to 1 dol. 60 c.).

FANCY COTTONS AND WOOLLENS.

In these there at first seemed more inclination for business, but the demand was of short duration save for velvet, of which there were large sales at fair prices.

Indigo shirtings and Turkey reds next claimed attention, and a large business was also done in Italians and mousselines, but for blankets there was no demand.

Prints and other fancy cottons, as well as nearly all woollens, remained dull, though a few occasional sales were made, while indigo shirtings again met with fair inquiry towards the end of April. A little later Turkey reds, middle and heavy weights, came into good demand, Mousselines were firmer, and some Italians were sold.

Late in May there were fair sales in Turkey

reds, and woollens generally showed improvements, more particularly Italian cloth and mousselines.

June was dull and with very limited business, but in July there was a moderate demand for Turkey reds and victoria lawns, more attention being also paid to velvets, Italians, and mousselines.

August brought better prices, and holders soon became so firm as to stop business. In September a fair trade was done in coloured shirtings and Turkey reds, with small sales of mousselines, coloured goods generally being scarce and inquired after at increased prices.

A moderate general business marked October but at reduced values, the remaining part of the year being quiet, with small sales, principally coloured shirtings, Turkey reds, and velvets.

METALS.

The business for 1889 was as a rule satisfactory to importers, caused chiefly by the continued advances in home cost, as it may be safely said that at no one period could the equivalent of the prime cost be obtained; under the circumstances holders were, however, all the time current sellers of goods bought at lower prices than ruled when they arrived.

Nail Rods.—Deliveries 5,608½ cwt. (4,711 piculs) against 4,893 cwt. (4,110 piculs) in 1888, 6,665½ cwt. (5,599 piculs) in 1887, and 9,402½ cwt. (7,898 piculs) in 1886. As stated in report for the past year, the demand is continually decreasing whilst nails show each year a larger business; 1889 has been an exception to this rule, the transactions in nail rods having somewhat increased, whereas those in nails have fallen off, probably accounted for by the price of the former having, if anything, declined during the year, nails, on the other hand, steadily increasing in value.

Iron Bars, Plates, and Sheets.—Deliveries, 267,730 cwt. (225,643 piculs); in 1888, 260,641½ cwt. (218,939 piculs); and 1887, 232,351½ cwt. (196,675 piculs).

Bars.—The year opened with rather a small stock, and parcels as they arrived were freely taken for reasons mentioned above, and the year showed a gradual hardening of prices, which was the prevailing feature of most metals.

Plates and Sheets.—Prices for these did not increase in the same ratio as bars, and while the latter advanced during the year about 10 to 11 per cent., plates were throughout quoted much the same, though the cost laid down advanced considerably. Sheets advanced only about 5 per cent., while cost increased fully 15 per cent.

Pig-Iron.—Deliveries 60,352½ cwt. (50,696 piculs) against 108,659½ cwt. (91,274 piculs) in 1888, 44,991 cwt. (37,800 piculs) in 1887, and 32,963½ cwt. (27,689 piculs) in 1886.

There was a full stock left from last year, and prices of No. 3, north country, advanced but slowly in sympathy with the home market, value at end of year being only about 2½ per cent. more than at the commencement, whilst home cost advanced some 12½ per cent. during the same period, the general result of importations having been unsatisfactory.

Deliveries show a serious falling-off compared with 1888, when they were, however, very large as compared with previous years. This decline is probably accounted for by Japanese using up old stocks of scrap-iron, &c., instead of buying pig at a comparatively high price.

Galvanised Iron.—Deliveries in 1889, 11,657½ cwt. (9,792 piculs), against 1888, 10,277½ cwt. (8,633 piculs); 1887, 7,797½ cwt. (6,550 piculs); 1886, 4,259½ cwt. (3,578 piculs). This continued to increase in importance, being in more demand for roofing, &c. The year opened with next to no stocks, and prices, despite the advance in cost, about 2s. 7½d. (85 c.) per cwt., have been pretty steady, any advance being checked by heavy arrivals and holders meeting the market to effect pier clearances, rather than store their importations. At close of year there were comparatively heavy stocks, for which nothing like cost could be obtained, the result of trade in this article being generally disappointing.

Wire Nails.—Deliveries during the past year 81,533½ cwt. (68,488 piculs); in 1888, 88,228½ cwt. (74,112 piculs); in 1887, 86,607½ cwt. (72,750 piculs); and 75,612 cwt. (63,514 piculs) in 1886.

Stocks amounted to some 23,809 cwt. (20,000 piculs) when the year opened, and at the end of December last there were some 25,000 cwt. (21,000 piculs) on the spot, with heavy arrivals due very shortly. Prices advanced only some 5 to 12 per cent. with occasional fluctuations, though cost increased fully 25 to 30 per cent. Holders met the market freely, and deliveries having fallen off, as compared with 1888, there have always been ample stocks in the market.

Tin Plates.—Deliveries in 1889 were 7,050 boxes; in 1888, 5,160; in 1886, 6,560; and in 1886, 9,392. For the first time for some years there has been an increase in the deliveries of the article,

Original from

owing, probably, to a larger quantity being required for canning goods, and for which old kerosene tins are unsuited. Hitherto the rule has been that while the consumption of petroleum increased, business in tin plates fell off, as old kerosene linings proved an excellent substitute. During the past year prices declined, notwithstanding the increased importation of kerosene, and a considerable rise, particularly during the latter part of the year, of the home cost. The result of this business has been unsatisfactory, stocks being some 1,250 boxes, against 600 in December, 1888.

Taken all round, the year closed with a good stock of metals, but with small demand: the prospects for the present season, looking at the higher prices for nearly everything at home, are good, and, if holders continue to be firm, a period of remunerative sales is at hand.

PETROLEUM.

What with the firmness of holders, and dealers having sufficient stocks, there were no sales during the first two months of the year, quotations being entirely nominal. Business early in March was large in American brands, at a lower range of prices, and 150,000 cases were sold at from 6s. 2d. to 6s. 2½d. (1 dol. 97½ c. to 2 dol. 2½ c.), after which some further considerable transactions took place at slightly better rates. April and May were quiet, prices remaining firm, and a few small sales only being made.

The market was weaker in July owing to the arrival of 78,000 cases of Russian oil, several unimportant transactions at a decline in quotations being effected during that month, though a large business was done towards the end of August.

Dealers holding nearly all the stocks, and therefore disposed to wait, the market was steady but quiet at the beginning of September, after which there was an improved tendency, owing to rumour of rise in Russian oil, and better prices in China.

Heavy arrivals occurred in December, to a great extent sold "to arrive," and as the holdings were large, business was very dull, but quotations nominally unchanged, being 6s. 6d. (2 dol.) per case for American "Comet" brand and 6s. 4d. (1 dol. 95 c.) for Russian.

Highest and lowest prices during 1889 were, for American 7s. 2d. to 6s. 6d. (2 dol. 20 c. to 2 dol.), and for Russian 6s. 7½d. to 6s. 2d. (2 dol. 3 c. to 1 dol. 90 c.). Stocks on December 31 last being heavy, and estimated at 476,596 cases against only 179,220 in 1888.

Reviewed generally, the past year has seen a further considerable expansion of the trade in this article, deliveries having amounted to 1,844,820 cases against 1,466,407 in 1888. Russian oil shared largely in the increase; no less than 10 steamer cargoes were received here from Batoum, amounting in the aggregate to 756,253 cases, of which 301,378 were forwarded to Kobe, while in 1888 the total import was only 251,935 cases.

There has been a very marked improvement in the packing of Russian oil, and the Batoum factories are now turning out tins and cases little, if at all, inferior to those sent from the United States. This oil has consequently increased in favour among dealers, the area of consumption over which it is distributed widening very considerably. Though it has thus become a formidable competitor with American oil, it cannot be said that the latter has so far lost ground in Japan, as both imports and deliveries are larger than in previous years.

The respective values of the two products are, however, approximating more and more; thus where formerly there was for the most part a difference of 4d. to 6d. (10 c. to 15 c.) per case between the average selling prices of the various American brands and Russian oil, the difference during the past year has not averaged more than half that amount.

On the whole the trade for the past year has been a fairly remunerative one to importers.

SUGAR.

Quietness was the prevailing characteristic of the market in January, brown kinds continuing dull, with little doing in refined at easier prices, the general tendency being downwards. About the middle of February there was some activity, the bulk of some 28,000 bags "New Takao" being sold at 11s. 0½d. to 11s. 2½d. (3 dol. 85 c. to 3 dol. 91 c.), as also some stocks of Taiwan. This spirit did not last, as the demand was small, and business consequently limited, the balance of supplies of New Takao being, however, held at the former quotations.

In March there was fair demand for refined at an advanced price, and even sales of Takao were effected, but the terms of a large transaction in Formosa were found difficult of settlement.

The large sales of Takao which took place during the latter part of April were followed by quiet and an active demand at higher prices set in for refined. Next came another movement for brown

kinds, and large transactions at good prices took place in Takao, Taiwanfoo, &c., refined also advancing.

By the end of May there was a quieter feeling, and little demand, due in a measure to the wet weather impeding distribution in the country. The first few days of June were dull, when a revival took place, and 35,713 cwt. (30,000 piculs) of Takao changed hands; there were also large sales of refined at better prices.

The market was remarkably quiet in July and August, but holders were firm, and prices fairly well maintained.

Great activity and cargo settlements in Takao and other brown kinds marked September, but "refined" was dull and the market unsettled. Takao stood at 15s. 1d. (4 dol. 75 c.), and Taiwan at 14s. 3½d. (4 dol. 50 c.) early in October; but the market of browns weakened slightly on fresh arrivals, remaining remaining firm and steady. Later on the stock of Formosa kinds became exhausted, and small parcels of Manila and Penang were disposed of, a large trade being done at the end of December in refined, though sellers had to make some concessions in prices.

Business for the year in browns showed a falling off as compared with 1888 of about 10 per cent., and in refined of about 15 per cent.; but the value of the trade in the latter was fairly well maintained by the higher prices ruling throughout.

RAW COTTON.

The trade in this important staple is a growing one, and has already assumed large dimensions, the importation for last year having been upwards of 8,000,000 lbs., as against 3,793,000 lbs. in 1888.

It is largely used in the numerous cotton spinning mills erected in various parts of the empire and which are gradually affecting the import trade in cotton yarns. Large sums of money have been sunk in these undertakings, and as the Japanese cotton crop, always uncertain, is, even at the best of times, far short of the home demand, foreign cotton is now largely used with the native article to the extent of some 80 per cent.

According to Japanese statistics, the annual cotton crop is about 41,000,000 lbs.; whereas the demand for cotton piece-goods, yarn, and thread is estimated at more than double that amount, the deficiency being made up by foreign importations from China.

Last year inquiries were instituted on the spot as to the possibility of using Indian raw cotton in the mills of this country with better results than the China staple; a commission investigated the question very minutely, and have reported favourably.

This result is of great interest and value to all concerned in the cotton trade, and immediate effect was given to the recommendations of the commission, the raw produce having already arrived in Japan side by side with the manufactured Indian yarn.

Some surprise has been felt that Bombay raw cotton can be shipped to this country and spun with the expectation of successfully competing with the foreign yarn placed on this market, but inquiry has shown very clearly, that compared with India, available labour is cheaper here.

American cotton is also being imported; mixed with that from China it is expected to produce a quality of yarn better than that now turned out by the mills.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.

This is an increasing trade, large quantities of chemicals being imported for manufacturing purposes, such as paper and match making, glass works, and other industries. They come chiefly from the United Kingdom, but a considerable portion is of German origin.

The business is, judging by the "Daily Import List," compiled from customs returns, distributed among the majority of the importing firms of this port.

The Japanese Government are themselves manufacturers of caustic and other sodas, and sulphuric acid, which is shipped in considerable amounts to the China market, or sold to Japanese.

Medicines for pharmaceutical purposes are also made on a large scale at establishments generally reported to be furnished with Government loans.

Some importers complain of the difficulties, almost prohibitory, raised in regard to the sale of foreign drugs and medicines; these being constantly rejected by the Government analysts, as not being up to the standard of the Japanese Pharmacopœia, and it appears, from a recent Government notification to Japanese traders, that this condition will in future be strictly enforced.

The standard is, I am informed, higher than that of England, and necessitates the preparations submitted to the test being chemically or absolutely pure and free from inherent impurity, such as bluntness without a trace of arsenic, which nature places in it for medicinal purpose.

Chemically pure medicaments are, I am assured, not needful, absolutely pure chemicals being only used for scientific purposes.

Under the Japanese pharmacopœia, iodide of potash is required to be 97 per cent. pure; in the British it is 95 per cent.

This staple article, when pure, turns a yellow colour; it is rejected by the trader, and deliquesces, not containing what is called free salt.

The whole question, being of great importance to Japanese consumers and foreign importers, is entitled to earnest attention.

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

After the usual stagnation of business at the beginning of the year, the market re-opened, when holders proved very strong, prices being in some cases higher. Buyers had, moreover, apparently satisfied their most urgent requirements, but, notwithstanding a large number of rejections in hanks and filatures, a fair amount of buying was done for a short time. Transactions in Re-reels and Oshiu were, however, small, though there was a tolerable demand for Kakedas.

February commenced dull, but after the Chinese new year and the declaration of the New Constitution a good amount of buying at fair prices, equally divided between Europe and America, took place.

Little was done in hanks, but filatures had a fair amount of attention. There was also more demand for re-reels, as well as for kakedas, though they soon shared the fate of Oshiu, in which there was no business.

In March there was a fair amount of business almost exclusively for America, chiefly in Shinsiu filatures; re-reels and kakedas were also wanted, but unobtainable. The European demand was small, owing to the pending financial crisis, resulting from the Panama Canal, copper syndicate, and other affairs.

The market in April was dull, the improved demand for Europe not resulting in much business, prices being strong, though stocks had lessened, but there was a decided improvement for New York towards the 15th. The whole business was, however, insignificant, and principally in hanks, good Shinsiu and the class of Yoshin.

Small daily transactions in hanks and filatures, principally for Europe, marked May, suitable silks for America being scarce; and about the end of the month favourable reports were current regarding the new crop, notwithstanding the lateness of season.

The beginning of June was dull, but news about insufficient crops in Europe soon brought about a demand, with a decidedly firmer market for old silk, absorbing general attention. New silk arrived on the 12th, six days earlier than last year, the first batch of re-reels, No. 1 Joshi being bought at 97l. 0s. 1½d. (625 dol.), and Koshu filatures about 1 to 1½ at 98l. 11s. 1½d. (635 dol.). Prices, however, soon advanced, and 102l. 8s. 9d. (650 dol.) was refused for Shinsiu filature No. 1.

There was some buying of old silk in July, but the assortment was poor and stock exhausted, little being done in new silk, though arrivals considerably exceeded sales, as holders showed no readiness to sell, hoping for better prices later on. A great demand shortly arose, and on the 16th one solitary purchaser made a rush for filatures, and re-reels at full rates, which others were evidently unable to follow. Purchases for Europe were, however, soon in full swing for a short time, not so for the American market.

Till the middle of August business was dull again, when a brisk demand for Europe set in, high prices being obtained for really good quality. This was followed by a desire on the part of sellers to move, and prices weakened: full-sized filatures were pressed for sale, and a large business was done both for Europe and America.

September was marked by three rushes—the first from America which was soon over. Then came one from Europe, leading to a large business at hardening prices for fine kinds. When this had exhausted itself there was a lull, followed by another spurt at steadily increasing prices, which at last made buyers hesitate.

On October 2 a buyer for America began purchasing on a large scale, which disorganised the market, and the Japanese, becoming confident, at once raised their prices. On that day 80,000 lb. (600 piculs) of good filatures and re-reels changed hands. On the 13th a strong demand set in for Europe, and again for America, resulting in heavy purchases. At the end of the month the highest prices paid were (per picul of 133½ lbs.)—Best hanks, 107l. 0s. 5½d. (665 dol.); extra filatures, full sizes, 131l. 10s. 4½d. (820 dol.); No. 1 Shinsiu filatures, 133l. 11s. 6½d. (810 dol.); No. 1 re-reels, 126l. 16s. 3d. to 123l. 8s. 5½d. (760 dol. to 770

dol.), and No. 1 kakedas, 118/ 11s. 10 1/2 d. to 116/ 19s. 8 1/2 d. (740 dol. to 750 dol.).

November opened quiet, rise in exchange and absence of demand preventing operations. There was, however, great activity about the 15th, chiefly in filatures and hanks, kakedas continuing to be purchased to some extent, but hanks soon becoming neglected and firmly held. Towards the middle of this month it became clear that previous estimates of the year's crop were excessive, it having been generally supposed that 6,000,000 lbs. (45,000 piculs) would be available. This amount had now, however, to be reduced by about 1,333,333 lbs. (10,000 piculs), the falling-off evidently due to unfavourable weather during the rearing.

The month closed with a quieter market and very moderate business, owing to absence of superior silks, firmly held for higher prices.

Though there was some buying for Europe early in December the market was generally quiet; this was followed by fair daily business for Europe and America, without very marked features, and less than at the same time during 1888.

WASTE SILK.

As compared with 1888, wastes improved in January last, and a considerable business was done, principally in Noshi, filature, and Kibiso at advancing prices; no sales were, however, effected in Mawata.

In February the market was quiet and the selection poor, Noshi being conspicuous by its absence. Some business was done during the earlier part of the month in filature Kibiso, but the pierced cocoon season closed about this time.

There was considerable business for the time of the year in Noshi and Kibiso during March, though much hampered by scarcity of selection and poor quality of quality still on hand; and few sales of Mawata continued to be made.

Stocks were low in April, but moderate transactions in Kibiso were completed, the market showing no life, and business being insignificant in May.

A trifle more activity marked June, with inquiry for Noshi, of which, however, there were no good qualities, as the season was closing, what stocks remained having been thoroughly picked through.

For July business in old waste was very small, with nothing doing in new, though there were fairly large arrivals.

Inquiries for Noshi and Kibiso, made about that time, ended in nothing, as buyers and sellers held considerably different views regarding values.

Business in the new crop fairly opened in August, but was only on a moderate scale, prices being too high for the bulk of buyers. The market was active and business large in September, pierced cocoons and better classes of waste being heavily purchased; less was done in medium and lower grades of Noshi and Kibiso, these being held at too high prices to meet buyers' views.

October opened with a fairly active market in cocoons and Noshi, but buyers soon held back, as not only did sellers endeavour, though unsuccessfully, to create an advance, but the rise in exchange also impeded business. Later on there was a temporary increase in business, the chief transactions being in Noshi, the higher grades specially, and strongly sought for; large sales took place, the medium kinds, such as Joshi Noshi, being principally dealt. The superior grades, filatures Noshi, also found buyers, but, as stocks were comparatively small and prices high, no very large business was done. Though all through this month (November) Kibiso was in rather less demand than Noshi, a fair business was done in this class of waste.

During December a fair daily business was done for Europe, principally Switzerland, but though a fall in exchange was of some benefit to exporters, purchasers were not anxious, and sellers, relying on the future, did not press sales.

Briefly, the silk trade for 1889 may be summed up as follows:—

In raw silk there was less in quantity and more in value, the highest prices being reached on October 31, when Shinshu filature of extra grade, 17/15 den, which on September 13 stood at 103/ (660 dol.), was as high as 131/ 19s. 4 1/2 d. per picul of 133 1/2 lbs., all classes having advanced in proportion. On December 31 last the prices for fine quality filatures were fully 20 per cent. higher than on January 1, 1889, to which must be added the further disadvantage to the exporter of a considerably higher exchange.

With the exception of the farmers, who pretty generally, owing to a system of advances, dispose of their cocoons at low prices, other Japanese interested in silk, the filature and dealer, must have made large profits, in consequence of the rush caused by the moderate quantity produced in Europe, and the fact that the crop here also turned out smaller by some thousands of bales than at first anticipated.

In waste silk a large business was also done,

though nothing like the stir in raw. Prices increased irregularly, some classes of Noshi and filature Kibiso advancing from 10 per cent. to 20 per cent., while Joshi or Noshi, for instance, was no dearer than in 1888. The stocks at close of year were about 1,600,000 lbs. (12,000 piculs).

The general demand for "waste" has tended throughout towards the better qualities, the common kinds appearing to go gradually more and more out of favour.

MANUFACTURED SILKS.

These are a rapidly growing article of export, and numerous large factories, with the latest approved machinery, have started up in various directions. The foreign demand is steadily increasing, but reliable statistics of recent date on a question of such importance to Japanese and foreigners are sought for in vain.

The export under this head amounted last year to 426,000/ against 235,000/ in 1888, and 2,205/ in 1879.

TEAS.

A little activity was apparent shortly after the year opened, though business was unimportant, as holders were firm with the small stocks left; towards the end of January there was nothing doing, the season being virtually at an end.

On April 30 some 93,333 lbs. (700 piculs) arrived and were almost entirely bought at from 51/ 7s. 11d. to 61/ 3s. 4d. (35 dol. to 40 dol.) the leaf, and liquor being up to last year's first arrivals.

The May market was very active, more particularly during the latter part of the month, and everything was readily purchased at prices equal to those of last year, though the tea was now found not to be up to former quality.

Throughout June there was also much buying, principally medium and low grades, with prices very firm and rather higher than those of 1888. The first crop finished about the 21st, and the second commenced to arrive freely. Total settlements, up to the 28th amount to 16,106,667 lbs. (120,800 piculs), as against 15,040,000 lbs. (112,800 piculs) last year, quotations being:—

		STERLING.			CURRENCY.	
		£	s.	d.	¢	
Common	.....	1	17	1 1/2	0	3
Good common	.....	2	3	4 1/2	10	2
Medium	.....	2	9	7 1/2	10	2
Good medium	.....	2	19	0	10	2
Fine	.....	3	5	3	11	6
Finest	.....	3	14	7 1/2	4	13
Choice	.....	4	7	1 1/2	10	4
Choicest	.....	4	19	7 1/2	10	—

Stocks, 866,666 lbs. (6,500 piculs), principally medium and finest.

Owing to unsatisfactory news about the home market, July opened with small transactions, which, however, increased as the month grew older, though prices, particularly for lower grades, were high—too high, in fact, when compared with those ruling outside of Japan.

A fair amount of business was done during the first part of August, with easier prices, though the Japanese showed no disposition to urge sales.

Throughout September the market was active, with repeated business of considerable dimensions in low grades, which advanced 3s. 1 1/2 d. (1 dol.) per picul; the tea offering was, however, of the poorest quality.

October was quiet till the end, when there was rather more doing, though desirable teas continued scarce.

The business done in November was, on the whole, fair, though, notwithstanding a firm market, the tea on offer was very limited, low grades being apparently exhausted, and nothing above fine coming forward.

December was quiet, with firm prices and stocks on 31st, about 200,000 lbs. (1,500 piculs).

Quotations at close of year were:—

		STERLING.			CURRENCY.	
		£	s.	d.	¢	
Common	.....	1	19	0	2	3
Good	.....	2	5	6	2	8
Medium	.....	2	12	0	2	15
Good medium	.....	2	16	3	5	0
Fine	.....	3	8	3	1	6

with no "finest," "choice," or "choicest."

A somewhat curious feature about the tea business of this place is that shipments to the markets of the United States have steadily decreased, and were about 6,000,000 lbs. less last year than in 1887, those to Canada and Europe have respectively increased 1,683,000 lbs. and 441,000 lbs.

COPPER.

After almost complete stagnation and the ineffectual offering of some small parcels, business began to look up again towards the end of February, and there being a demand for China a few small sales of refined at 31/ 14s. 9d. to 31/ 15s. 3 1/2 d. were effected.

Bad reports from India and Europe, however, soon again depressed the market, and buyers,

awaiting the result of the pending crisis, abstained from purchase.

The report of the failure of the French syndicate caused much uneasiness in this market, and as both sellers and buyers were watching the course of events, there were no transactions, prices being quite nominal.

This dulness was only relieved to a slight extent by small purchases of Arada at 21/ 11s. 8 1/2 d. (16 dol. 50 c.), and Segawa at 21/ 13s. 9d. (17 dol. 50 c.), for China, until July, when a fair and increasing demand set in, both for India and China, arrivals in outside shops finding ready buyers: Arakawa at 21/ 8s. 5 1/2 d. (15 dol. 50 c.), and Fumikawa at 21/ 10s. 9d. (16 dol. 26 c.).

After this prices went up, and buyers withdrew from the market, 21/ 15s. 4 1/2 d. (17 dol. 75 c.) being asked for Segawa. Holders remained firm for some time, but a trifling business was ultimately done at rather lower rates.

TOBACCO.

Prices in the interior were very high about the beginning of the year, but supplies on the spot were obtained at slightly lower rates than those ruling in December, and speedily bought up for shipment to Europe.

This nearly exhausted the stocks of desirable quality of Joshi and Hadano, the remainder being firmly held at prohibitive prices: Joshi quoted at 11/ 15s. 11d. (11 dol. 50 c.) per picul of 133 1/2 lbs. and Hadano at 21/ 0s. 7 1/2 d. (13 dol.).

Demand still continued, but country stocks had rapidly decreased, the little left early in March being of most inferior quality. A few further shipments, the balance of purchases for export made in April, practically closed the season.

Small quantities still came in during May and June, but the mixed and poor quality of goods, as well as heavy rains, and generally unsettled weather interfered with business. What little was left, being taken up late in June, the market became bare and the season was closed.

About the end of December the quality and quantity of the new crop was reported to be insufficient, and prices were firm, sales to the extent of about 213,333 lbs. (1,600 piculs) being made at prices ranging from 11/ 10s. 1d. (9 dol. 25 c.) for Joshi to 21/ 17s. 4 1/2 d. (11 dol. 50 c.), and even 21/ 15s. 6d. (14 dol.) for Hadano.

Since then the unsatisfactory rumours have been fully confirmed, the available crop for this season being not only very inferior in quality, but about one-half in quantity.

RICE.

Only a limited business was done during the earlier part of the year, and prices fluctuated with a downward tendency, being rather in favour of buyers about the middle of May, though so little was offering that transactions were necessarily small. In June, best quality stood at 6s. 10 1/2 d. (2 dol. 20 c.) per picul of 133 1/2 lbs., continuous bad weather and numerous inundations in July caused fears for the harvest, and stocks being reduced to a very low ebb, heavy speculation set in and soon made prices prohibitory for foreign trade. Severe storms in September caused further damage to the new crops, and manipulators forced the market up to 11s. 6 1/2 d. (3 dol. 60 c.) in October, the year closing at 10s. 4 1/2 d. (3 dol. 20 c.) per picul.

For the whole of Japan the past year has been a most important one, the trade in this article amounting to some 100,000 tons of which fully three-fourths was contributed by Kobe.

During the period under review several new mills for cleaning rice with foreign machinery were started by Japanese, and turned out some 26,000 tons.

The Government, finding so large an increase in exports, have decided to cease making shipments to Europe on their own account.

FISH OIL.

The year commenced with a weak market, and though dealers appeared willing to meet sellers, they were not over anxious to do anything at 11s. 8 1/2 d. to 11s. 10 1/2 d. (3 dol. 75 c. to 3 dol. 80 c.) per picul of 133 1/2 lbs. A few small purchases were made, but not continued, as holders raised their demands till they reached 12s. 5 1/2 d. (4 dol. 15 c.) early in March. Later on this article was sought after, but supplies were absent, though ultimately some 7,000 cases changed hands at 13s. 4 1/2 d. to 13s. 8 1/2 d. (4 dol. 35 c. to 4 dol. 45 c.). Some further business was also done at 13s. 6 1/2 d. to 13s. 8 1/2 d. (4 dol. 40 c. to 4 dol. 45 c.), but dull home markets affected trade, and purchasers held off.

During the balance of the year, sundry sales were effected at quotations ranging between 13s. 9 1/2 d. and 13s. 6 1/2 d. (4 dol. 35 c. to 4 dol. 25 c.), which latter was maintained in December.

HAPPE SEED.

The market opened nominally at 11s. (3 dol. 50 c.), but fell to 9s. 9d. (3 dol. 10 c.), with no buyers; a demand for home consumption soon put

it up to 12s. 5d. (3 dol. 95 c.), at which export was out of the question; a state of things which lasted till the season closed in May.

The new crop was up to average in quality and quantity, prices starting in July at 9s. 8d. (3 dol. 10 c.), steadily rising, till about the middle of October they reached 13s. and 13s. 2d. (4 dol. 5 c., and 4 dol. 10 c.) with small stocks and nothing doing.

At the close of the year values had slightly fallen, and quotations were nominally 11s. 8½d. (3 dol. 60 c.).

WHEAT.

The absence of desirable stocks and price were at first a bar to business, purchases for home consumption tending to strengthen the market, which for some time stood at 6s. 1½d. (1 dol. 95 c.) per picul. In April, however, holders weakened, and upwards of 3,572 cwt. (3,000 piculs) changed hands at 5s. 7½d. to 5s. 9d. (1 dol. 82½ c. to 1 dol. 85c.) per 133½ lbs. Some further sales being effected, stocks decreased, and the prospects of the new crop not being very favourable, dealers became firm, for a short time only, and early in June prices were down to 5s. 5½d. (1 dol. 75 c.).

With a good demand, first arrivals of the new crop were taken up at 5s. 6d. (1 dol. 80 c.) during the first part of August, though subsequent business was done at rather lower rates.

The ideas of Japanese soon changed, and after holding back for some time, purchasers took 300 tons for export at 6s. 6d. (2 dol. 5 c.), which at once caused a rise to 7s. 1½d. to 7s. 3½d. (2 dol. 25 c. to 2 dol. 30 c.) at which figure export is impossible.

In October and November prices fluctuated, some purchases being made at 5s. 11½d. (1 dol. 82½ c.). Quotations at close of the year were 6s. 2d. (1 dol. 90½ c.) to 6s. 4d. (1 dol. 95 c.).

Cotton manufactures do not show any perceptible increase since 1869, and a falling off as compared with last year of some 260,000.

Woollen and mixed cotton and woollen manufactures have increased since 1886, but are 100,000 less than in 1888.

Metals have quadrupled since 1869 as regards the amount represented in sterling, but show a decrease during 1889 of some 350,000.

The Sugar trade has grown largely in volume, but is also less than in 1888.

Kerosene Oil has made large strides, and the quantity imported during the year under review is nearly double that of 1885.

Miscellaneous western goods have been subject to considerable fluctuations, and call for no special remarks.

Of miscellaneous eastern the most important article is raw cotton, the volume of which is rapidly increasing.

As regards rice, this article has, fortunately for Japan itself, not been required since 1885 until last year, when, owing to partial failure of the crop and a heavy "corner" by Japanese speculators, a small quantity of the foreign article found a market.

Silk has doubled in volume during the last ten years.

Silkworm eggs are practically nil. In 1869 considerably over 1,000,000 cards were exported, and last year not 10,000; this is, however, more than in 1888, owing to the insufficiency of the silk crop in Europe.

Tea figures for 2,000,000 lbs. more than ten years ago, and upwards of 18,000,000 lbs. more than in 1869.

Coal exported is said to be for ship's use, but as a fact is not, steamers being, by the interpretation put on the treaties, allowed to export it duty free; all coal carried in sailing ships is chargeable with duty. This trade has increased 34,000 tons since 1879.

Copper shows a considerable increase as compared with 1879 and 1888, though the export has fallen off with reference to the intermediate years.

From the import table it will be seen that, apart from cotton yarns, Italians, shirtings, T-cloths, victoria lawns, sugar, molasses, and galvanised iron, almost exclusively in the hands of local British firms, a very large percentage of the business in other articles is also transacted by them.

As regards exports our firms here deal largely in tea, copper, tobacco leaf, straw braid and paper, also to a considerable extent in silk, rice, fish oil, and awabi shells.

CUSTOMS DUES.

The duties paid during the past year amounted to 435,845½, as against 462,446½ in 1888.

It is a matter of regret that I am unable to mention the custom-house at this port in terms of unqualified praise. Many signs have been apparent of a desire to meet the growing requirements of trade, but much still remains to be done. Complaints about delays and excessive routine are general, and not without foundation.

EXCHANGE.

Owing to the fall in silver, exchange declined

in January, though money was scarce, and in good demand. During the following two months rates remained fairly steady, but business was dull, and little doing either in bank or private paper.

In sympathy with the fall in silver, exchange declined in April, though closing steady.

Finnish, with an upward tendency, money being scarce and in strong demand, set in early in May, and continued with trifling fluctuations till end of year.

	Private, 4 months on London.	Private, 6 months on Paris.	Private, 10 days on Shanghai.	Private, 30 days on New York.
	c. d.	Fr. c.	Cents.	Cents.
Lowest.....	3 0½	3 91	72½	74½
Highest.....	3 3½	4 18	74½	79½

SHIPPING.

The foreign carrying trade of this port was distributed as follows:—

	Per cent.
British	66
American	14½
German	9
French	8
Norwegian	2½

The total of foreign shipping amounted to 442 vessels, with a capacity of 766,063 tons, as against 410 ships of 688,480 tons in 1888. Of these, 54 were sailing vessels, 23 being British, 19 American, 10 German, and 2 Norwegian, representing a total tonnage of 51,373 tons, an increase of 7 ships and 4,617 tons over 1888.

The total steam tonnage was 714,690 tons, represented by 388 steamers, being in excess of 1888 25 ships and 72,966 tons. Of all the steamers, 269 were British, aggregating 485,687 tons, an increase over 1888 of 35 ships and 81,372 tons.

In connection with these details, reference must be made to the line of Peninsular and Oriental steamers put on at the close of 1888 between this port and Bombay. The first vessel of this branch arrived here in January, 1889, and was followed by others at pretty regular intervals, until in December last 20 had arrived here via ports of call, their tonnage being 31,104 tons.

Another circumstance with regard to shipping may also be mentioned. In June last the first vessel, a British steamer, arrived here direct from Batoum with kerosene oil; she was followed during 1888 by two others, also British, their collective tonnage being 5,462 tons. During the year under review there arrived direct from Batoum, laden with kerosene oil, seven British steamers with an aggregate tonnage of 11,782 tons.

The regular mail lines are:—

	Tons.
Oriental and Occidental (British)	80,735
Peninsular and Oriental (British)	74,088
Canadian Pacific (British)	64,774
Pacific Mail (British)	2,401

Total.....221,298

	Tons.
Pacific Mail (American)	85,796
Messageries Maritimes (French)	62,580
Nord. Deutsche (German)	23,060

The above summary of mail lines includes an item of 2,401 tons, being the net tonnage of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company's steamer *China*, which was built on the Clyde and continues to run under the British flag, all the other ships of that company being American. The *China* is a fine vessel, of 4,939·83 gross tonnage, and makes remarkable passages.

Of shipping other than British, Japanese shows during the past year as compared with 1888 a decrease in ships of 130, but an increase of 104,022 tons; American the same number of ships, and an increase of 431 tons; German a decrease of 4 ships and 926 tons; French a decrease of 1 ship and 4,476 tons.

Both are satisfactory proofs that British mercantile shipping interests are well to the fore and gaining ground. Twenty years ago with a general foreign tonnage of less than 500,000 tons, the percentage of British tonnage was rather more than 37, whereas last year, when the foreign shipping represented 766,000 tons, the British percentage was nearly 66. On the other hand, the percentage of foreign trade for the whole of Japan carried in British ships in 1882 was 48, while last year it had risen to over 62.

GENERAL REMARKS.

POPULATION.

The number of foreigners, exclusive of Chinese residing here, on December 31 last was 1,549, of whom 720 were British, showing an increase of 38 in the general foreign population, and of 12 in the British portion. Of Chinese there were 2,993, as against 2,981 in 1888. On the above date there were 331 foreign firms established here, and of these 57 were British. The enclosed return shows the gradual and steady increase during the past ten years of the foreign population of this port.

The Japanese population of Yokohama was 121,985, and of the prefecture of Kanagawa 958,653. The latest census (December 31, 1888) makes the entire population of the empire 39,607,234, of which 23,008,445 were males and 19,598,789 females.

EDUCATION.

Yokohama has 59 schools, of which 1 is normal, 7 are rural elementary, 31 private elementary, 1 commercial, and 19 general private.

In the prefecture of Kanagawa there are 668 schools, of which 603 are rural elementary, 36 private elementary, 2 rural, and 27 general private.

According to the latest returns there are 27,500 educational establishments in the Empire, namely, 2 universities, 1 higher normal, 45 ordinary normal, 7 higher middle class, 50 ordinary middle class, 25,530 elementary, 18 female first class, and 1,847 general schools; of these 39 are supported by the Government, upwards of 25,000 by the municipalities of various places, the rest being private schools.

In the last edition of a well-known Japanese encyclopaedia, published in Tokyo, it is stated that the number of industrial and commercial companies in Japan is 2,038, with an aggregate capital of nearly 68,000,000 Mexican dol.; of these 144 are agricultural, 1,360 industrial, 374 commercial, and 159 transport companies.

In 1881 the Tokyo Meiji Life Insurance Company was started with a capital of 100,000 yen,* and a reserve fund of 7,783 yen, which latter had, in 1889, increased to 231,099 yen. During the year ended July last, 5,609 lives were insured for sums amounting to 2,849,200 yen, the claims paid being 31,600 yen.

The Tokyo Marine Insurance Company was started in 1879, and appears to be a flourishing institution. It has a capital of 1,000,000 with a reserve of 144,366 yen, and in 1888 had 41 branches or agencies; the amount of insurances effected is, by latest statistics, 19,736,356 yen.

ROADS.

On January 1, 1889, there were, exclusive of mere country paths, 22,020 miles of high road; of these 5,127 miles are maintained by the Imperial Government, and the rest out of prefectural funds.

RAILWAYS.

The construction in Japan of railways was first considered in 1870, and, on December 31 last, 1,040½ miles were open to traffic; 421 miles are under construction, and expected to be opened during the current year, and 437 miles, also under construction, are to be opened subsequently.

During the first period of railway communication (May to December, 1872), the length of the Imperial Government lines was 18 miles, the number of passengers being 495,078, and the amount of goods transported 457 tons.

In the year ending March 31, 1889, the length of the Government lines was 446 miles; 8,404,776 passengers, and 616,913 tons of goods were conveyed.

At the present moment there are numerous private railway companies, some of the principal being the Japan Railway Company, the Rōmō Railway Company, the Sanyōdo Railway Company, and the Kiushin Railway Company.

TRAMWAYS.

Three have been opened to the public; one is in this prefecture, one in Tokyo, and one up north, between Yokogawa and Shin Kanuzawa, which serves as a connecting link for railway communication from the south with the town of Naotsu.

WATER TRANSPORT.

The total capacity of ships of foreign build, owned by Japanese, was, in January, 1888, 133,207 tons, of which 72,322 tons were steamers, and of the latter about two-thirds were over 500 tons burden. The two principal steamship companies are the Nippon Yusen Kaisha (Japanese Mail Steamship Company), and the Osaka Shosen Kaisha (Osaka Merchant Shipping Company).

The number of trading junks (ships of Japanese build) on that date was 17,194.

PUBLIC WORKS.

A note on the proposed scheme of harbour works at Yokohama appeared in the report for 1888; all the preliminary steps are now settled, and work is to commence next month. The general opinion is that when completed the additional facilities to be afforded will give a great impetus to trade.

ELECTRIC LIGHTING.

This was introduced some five years ago; there are at present in different parts of Japan six companies with a total number of lights amounting to 22,300, of which 11,000 are actually in use. One of these companies is now perfecting a scheme for lighting Yokohama.

Having at the commencement of these remarks mentioned the population of Japan, it may not be inappropriate to state in conclusion, and on the authority of the *Kokumin Shinbun* one of the

* 1 yen equals 1 Mexican dol.

leading newspapers, that on the 20th December last there were in this Empire 302,628 officials, which is in the proportion of 82 per 1,000 persons. I have, &c.,

(Signed) J. J. ENSLIE.

RETURN OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES OF EXPORT FROM YOKOHAMA DURING THE YEARS 1889-1888.

Articles.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Silk, raw.....Lbs.	5,444,976	4,100,700	6,220,601	3,992,890
Silk, waste.....Lbs.	1,790,386	216,910	1,000,000	216,517
Silk, waste (skibis).....Lbs.	1,454,965	122,344	1,800,000	142,438
Silk, jama.....Lbs.	—	—	30,395	2,006
Silk, floss.....Lbs.	276,483	11,470	216,502	25,416
Total.....Lbs.	8,943,184	4,451,420	10,313,195	4,384,927
Cocoons.....Lbs.	31,224	39,003	326,040	37,454
Tea.....Lbs.	23,944,161	503,114	23,806,714	550,038
Rice.....Cwts.	—	—	21,971	15,450
Coal, ship use.....Tons	61,848	58,059	48,047	45,091
Copper.....Tons	3,355	183,809	4,072	209,811
Fish and shell fish, dried, and various.....Lbs.	6,938,121	134,632	2,513,085	69,937
Miscellaneous.....	—	—	—	—
Bronze ware.....	—	25,315	—	19,635
Clothing and apparel, and raw materials thereof.....	—	10,778	—	15,374
Cotton piece-goods.....Pcs.	159,880	12,521	157,041	12,725
Drugs, medicines, and chemicals.....	—	—	—	—
Fans.....Nos.	—	22,340	—	26,609
Ginseng.....Lbs.	—	—	6,826,802	10,705
Iriko or beche-de-mer.....Cwts.	462,745	12,406	—	9,402
Lacquered ware.....	—	—	3,994	15,470
Mushrooms.....Lbs.	518,765	20,627	—	61,844
Mushrooms.....Cwts.	—	—	5,743	21,900
Paper, various.....	—	22,579	—	20,033
Porcelain and earthenware.....	—	—	—	9,718
Silk handkerchiefs.....Doz.	619,596	321,027	—	90,341
Silk handkerchiefs Nos. various, cut and sewed.....Cwts.	71,160	20,263	71,287	17,100
Straw plaits.....Bales	511,182	16,244	789,774	31,559
Silk piece-goods.....Pieces	33,893	80,202	10,773	10,773
Silk manufactures.....	—	—	18,474	10,327
Tobacco leaf.....Lbs.	1,431,869	10,810	—	—
Wood ware.....	—	—	17,478	228,096
Sundries.....	—	—	804,408	—
Total.....	—	1,033,244	—	779,427
Foreign produce and manufactures.....	—	55,174	—	70,828
Grand total.....	—	6,519,154	—	6,276,743

RECAPITULATION.

Articles.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Silk.....	4,451,629	4,384,927	—	—
Cocoons.....	39,003	37,454	—	—
Tea.....	503,114	550,038	—	—
Rice.....	—	18,456	—	—
Coal (for ship's use).....	58,059	45,091	—	—
Copper.....	183,809	209,811	—	—
Fish.....	134,632	69,937	—	—
Miscellaneous.....	1,033,244	840,583	—	—
Foreign produce and manufactures.....	55,174	70,828	—	—
Total.....	6,519,154	6,276,743	—	—
Exchange—1 dol. = 35 1/2 yds.	—	—	—	—

RETURN OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES OF IMPORT TO YOKOHAMA DURING THE YEARS 1889-1888.

Articles.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Cotton manufactures.....	—	—	—	—
Chintzes & prints.....Yds.	3,864,137	41,992	3,757,242	49,656
Drills.....Yds.	1,142,317	17,610	935,605	11,435
Satins, cotton.....Yds.	641,295	10,871	1,060,000	25,102
Shirtings, grey.....Yds.	15,049,202	131,865	22,152,892	321,699
Shirtings, white.....Yds.	1,475,097	16,137	1,048,200	21,014
Shirtings, dyed.....Yds.	1,028,311	30,066	1,080,811	38,314
Shirtings, twilled.....Yds.	1,105,918	13,055	1,000,005	13,103
T-cloths.....Yds.	3,187,364	29,000	3,124,144	37,072
Turkey-reds.....Yds.	5,093,959	33,189	4,012,162	49,412
Velvets.....Yds.	1,400,860	55,860	943,798	26,166
Yarns (not includ- ing India).....Lbs.	18,163,976	718,338	—	900,484
Indian yarns.....Lbs.	7,937,172	234,086	—	216,025
Sundries.....	—	37,107	—	93,707
Total.....	—	1,303,175	—	1,083,021
Woolen and mixed cotton and woolen manufactures.....	—	—	—	—
Blankets.....Lbs.	1,272,512	74,624	779,438	68,253
Cloths, woolen.....Yds.	895,024	104,024	988,196	154,609
Flannels.....Yds.	2,322,314	106,375	1,305,083	69,120
Italian cloths.....Yds.	5,642,041	132,073	972,014	150,275
Serges.....Yds.	138,392	12,848	157,107	13,589
Mousselines de laine.....Yds.	7,393,112	150,000	7,003,357	109,682
Yarn, woolen.....Lbs.	183,120	23,523	123,881	17,091
Sundries.....	—	12,311	—	54,206
Total.....	—	625,002	—	733,808
Metals and manufactures of—	—	—	—	—
Brass.....	—	—	—	16,138
Iron, bar and rod.....Tons	10,086	68,509	11,016	66,331
Iron, rail.....Tons	6,849	29,320	38,051	100,949
Iron, plate & sheet.....Tons	2,803	25,709	2,265	18,924
Iron, pig.....Tons	—	—	—	0,035
Iron, nails & various.....	6,565	69,553	7,075	96,801
Iron, screws, bolts, &c.....Tons	—	—	—	17,404
Iron, ware.....	378	78,482	—	142,944
Lead.....Tons	—	—	1,167	18,821
Lead, sheet & res.....Tons	366	12,805	—	18,347
Steel and steel-ware.....	—	—	—	20,720
Sundries.....Tons	—	128,377	—	110,720
Total.....	—	475,635	—	806,229

Sugars—				
Brown.....Lbs.	70,006,602	260,816	81,723,608	509,648
White.....Lbs.	42,974,548	347,160	52,795,497	375,882
Sundry.....	—	9,552	5,213,901	10,838
Totals.....	—	617,228	—	696,338
Kerosene oil.....Gals.	18,665,600	353,837	13,017,097	289,718
Miscellaneous western—				
Arms and ammu- nitions of war.....	—	20,403	—	37,088
Beer and porter.....Doz.	86,413	20,914	—	70,521
Butter.....Lbs.	—	188,573	—	11,203
Cakes.....Nos.	235,067	19,183	310,044	50,405
Cantons and duck.....Yds.	—	674,009	—	18,523
Clocks and fittings.....	—	33,814	—	31,271
Clothing and haberdashery.....	—	51,186	—	07,026
Coral beads.....Lbs.	—	—	9,976	15,043
Cordage.....Lbs.	—	—	558,218	11,758
Drugs, medicines, and chemicals.....	—	106,579	—	129,074
Dyes, aniline.....Lbs.	286,314	34,533	290,789	45,752
Dyes and paints.....	—	14,504	—	29,013
Engines, a steam boiler.....	—	79,397	—	—
Locomotives and fittings thereof.....	—	34,422	—	81,336
Dynamite.....Lbs.	—	—	280,349	12,689
Flour.....Lbs.	4,826,103	83,914	—	18,445
Flourpowder.....Lbs.	308,814	34,760	523,512	42,309
Glass and glass-ware.....	—	33,892	—	39,195
Hats and caps.....Doz.	50,605	41,450	—	669,040
Hats and caps.....Nos.	—	—	—	35,361
Handkerchiefs.....Doz.	258,396	14,177	—	12,731
India-rubber ware.....	—	11,551	—	13,093
Indigo dye.....Lbs.	529,446	38,717	379,484	28,751
Instrumental and implements.....	—	40,568	—	20,945
Jewellery.....	—	31,081	—	36,669
Logwood, extract of Lbs.	681,700	11,864	1,641,933	—
Lamps.....	—	11,554	—	—
Machinery, spinning.....	—	45,887	—	60,188
Machinery, weaving.....	—	12,027	—	—
Machinery, paper-making.....	—	87,700	—	99,138
Machinery, various.....	—	90,550	—	122,707
Milk, condensed.....	—	15,500	—	16,400
Oil and wax, vari- ous.....	—	15,994	—	20,938
Paint in oil.....Lbs.	1,071,043	11,300	894,730	11,027
Porcelain.....Lbs.	17,475	17,475	51,688	17,606
Portland cement.....Lbs.	11,508,912	10,004	50,018,701	94,518
Paper, printing.....Lbs.	2,593,369	33,566	—	—
Provisions and stores.....	—	25,943	—	28,178
Railway carriages and parts thereof.....	—	46,838	—	—
Satins, silk and cotton mixtures.....Yds.	337,108	37,648	480,960	47,155
Stationary and pa- per, various.....	—	37,100	—	114,669
Tobacco.....Lbs.	—	20,774	—	25,661
Wool.....Lbs.	288,485	43,049	1,079,048	54,407
Watches and fit- tings.....	—	94,475	—	119,561
Wines and spirits.....	—	33,204	—	35,103
Steamers.....	—	43,907	—	123,410
Sundries.....	—	214,704	—	202,030
Total.....	—	1,546,358	—	1,941,223
Miscellaneous eastern—				
Cotton, raw.....Lbs.	8,094,046	128,115	3,793,105	53,928
Cigars.....Lbs.	—	—	35,580	5,761
Drugs and medi- cines.....	—	23,684	—	20,941
Hair, human, ivory, and skins.....	—	31,078	—	24,743
Leather.....Lbs.	1,346,440	71,403	1,608,657	75,350
Pongee, silks and other silk piece-goods.....	—	10,524	—	9,763
Sundries.....	—	64,140	—	44,399
Total.....	—	331,548	—	237,865
Japanese produce and manufactures.....	—	5,332	—	5,475
Grand total.....	—	5,309,015	—	6,391,707
Exchange—1 dol. = 35 1/2 yds.	—	—	—	—

RECAPITULATION.

Articles.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Cotton manufactures.....	1,363,175	1,683,021	—	—
Woolen and mixed cotton and woolen manufactures.....	625,902	733,808	—	—
Metals, including manufac- tures.....	475,635	806,229	—	—
Sugars.....	617,228	696,338	—	—
Kerosene oil.....	353,837	289,718	—	—
Miscellaneous western.....	1,546,358	1,941,223	—	—
Miscellaneous eastern.....	321,548	237,865	—	—
Japanese produce and manu- factures.....	5,332	5,475	—	—
Total.....	5,309,015	6,391,707	—	—
Exchange—1 dol. = 35 1/2 yds.	—	—	—	—

RETURN OF ALL BRITISH AND FOREIGN RESIDENTS AND BRITISH AND FOREIGN FIRMS AT THE PORT OF YOKOHAMA ON DECEMBER 31ST, 1889.

Nationality.	Number of Residents.	Number of Firms.
British.....	720	57
American.....	257	17
Austro-Hungarian.....	21	1
Belgian.....	21	1
Chinese.....	2,993	213
Danish.....	20	1
French.....	120	1
German.....	201	19
Italian.....	20	2
Netherlands.....	39	2
Portuguese.....	60	1
Russian.....	3	1
Swedish and Norwegian.....	12	2
Spanish.....	—	2
Swiss.....	47	8
Total.....	4,542	331

RETURN OF ALL SHIPPING ENTERED AT THE PORT OF YOKOHAMA DURING THE YEAR 1889.

Flag.	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Tons.	Total Tonnage.
British.....	269	—	485,987	—
United States.....	36	—	19,470	505,457
United States.....	—	19	85,796	110,152
German.....	42	—	63,073	—
German.....	—	10	7,426	70,499
French.....	27	—	62,580	62,580
Norwegian.....	14	—	17,254	—
Norwegian.....	—	2	121	17,375
Japanese.....	2,111	—	1,404,310	—
Japanese.....	—	243	36,994	1,441,304
Total.....	2,499	297	—	2,207,367

RETURN OF BRITISH TRADE WITH YOKOHAMA (NOT INCLUDING TRADE WITH HONGKONG).

Country.	Exports.	Imports.
British Islands.....	312,516	2,371,837
Canada.....	69,554	3,589
Australia.....	11,843	39,563
East India.....	74,563	305,565
Total.....	468,476	2,720,554

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, September 7th.

Serious floods have occurred in Bohemia. The famous old bridge over the Muldau at Prague has collapsed, and thirty persons have been drowned.

London, September 7th.

The United States Treasury has decided to purchase an average of 4,500,000 ounces of silver monthly, instead of 54,000,000 ounces annually.

London, September 8th.

A terribly destructive fire has occurred in Salonica, the whole of the European quarter having been destroyed and 12,000 of the inhabitants rendered homeless. Two hundred and fifty acres of the city are laid waste, and the destruction includes consulates, mosques, churches, hospitals, and other public buildings, in which were many valuable archives that have been totally destroyed and cannot be replaced.

London, September 10th.

The race for the St. Leger has resulted as follows:—

Memoir.....	1
Blue Green.....	2
Gonsalvo.....	3

Fifteen ran.

Canon Liddon is dead.

LONDON, The Rev. Henry Parry, D.D., D.C.L., Canon of St. Paul's Cathedral, and probably the foremost living preacher of the English Church, was born in 1829. He became a student of Christ Church, Oxford, where he graduated B.A. in 1850, taking a second-class in Classics. In 1851 he obtained the Johnson Theological Scholarship and in 1853 proceeded to the degree of M.A. Having taken orders he was, from 1854 to 1859, Vice-Principal of the Theological College of Cuddesdon. He was also Examining Chaplain to the late Bishop of Salisbury. In 1864 he was appointed Prebendary of Major Pars A. in Salisbury Cathedral. He has been Select Preacher at Oxford (1865-69, 1870-72, 1877-79), and in 1860 he was Bampton Lecturer. From 1866 to 1875 he was a member of the Hulsean Foundation at Oxford. In

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE.

From Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co.	Monday, Sept. 13th.
From Hongkong, per C. P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Sept. 16th.
From Hongkong, per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Sept. 14th.
From Europe, via	
Hongkong, per M. M. Co.	Saturday, Sept. 20th.
From America, per O. & O. Co.	Thursday, Sept. 25th.
From Shanghai, Nagasaki, & Kobe, per N. Y. K.	Friday, Sept. 19th.

* *Aburatsubo* left Vancouver on August 20th. † *Natania* left Shanghai on September 6th. ‡ *Teana* left Kobe on September 13th. § *Tranadilly* with French mail left Hongkong on September 11th. † *Oceanic* left San Francisco via Honolulu on September 4th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES.

For Europe, via	
Hongkong, per N. D. Lloyd	Sunday, Sept. 14th.
For Europe, via	
Shanghai, per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Sept. 14th.
For Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Sept. 16th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki, per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, Sept. 16th.
For Hongkong, per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Sept. 20th.
For America, per O. & O. Co.	Thursday, Sept. 25th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 5th September.—Shanghai and ports, 30th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Guelcher, British steamer, 1,618, Francis Cole, 6th September.—Kobe 4th September, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Telartios, German steamer, 1,578, Decting, 6th September.—Kobe 4th September, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,182, Kenderdine, 7th September.—Kobe 6th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Alacrity (4), despatch vessel, Commander C. H. Adair, 8th September.—Hakodate 6th September.

Flintshire, British steamer, 1,871, Dwyer, 8th September.—Kobe 6th September, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

China, British steamer, 2,644, W. B. Seabury, 9th September.—Hongkong 4th September, General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Satsuna Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Brown, 9th September.—Hakodate 6th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Christensen, 9th September.—Kobe 8th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,129, J. M. Cavarly, 10th September.—San Francisco 23rd August, General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 10th September.—Hakodate 8th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

General Werder, German steamer, 1,820, Eichel, 11th September.—Hongkong 5th September, General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, P. Hussey, 11th September.—Kobe 10th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenace, British steamer, 1,803, J. Riley, 12th September.—Shanghai 8th September, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Thorndale, British steamer, 1,970, Etherington, 12th September.—Glasgow and Liverpool 19th June, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,878, W. D. Mudie, 6th September.—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Else, German steamer, 975, M. Yelsen, 5th September.—Newchwang, Ballast.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Charter Towers, British steamer, 1,995, Arthur, 6th September.—Kobe, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 6th September.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hamburg, British bark, 1,608, Caldwell, 6th September.—Royal Roads, Ballast.—China and Japan Trading Co.

Wachusett, American ship, 1,519, Smith, 6th September.—Nanaimo, Ballast.—R. Isaacs & Bro.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, P. Hussey, 7th September.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bengloe, British steamer, 1,158, Fairghar, 8th September.—Kobe, General.—Cornes & Co.

Glenorchy, British steamer, 1,840, Ferguson, 9th September.—Kobe, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,182, Kenderdine, 9th September.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 9th September.—Shanghai and ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bellona, German steamer, 2,032, Haeslop, 10th September.—Kobe, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Satsuna Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Brown, 10th September.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Flintshire, British steamer, 1,871, Dwyer, 10th September.—Kobe, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Alacrity (4), despatch vessel, Commander C. H. Adair, 11th September.—Endoumo Bay.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Christensen, 11th September.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. M. Cavarly, 12th September.—Hongkong, General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Sagami Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. H. H. Sale, Mr. John E. Lenss, Mrs. Portal, Messrs. Arthur Hoar, J. Tokuda, and H. Houjo in cabin; 86 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *China*, from Hongkong:—Miss Loggals, Mr. and Mrs. Namashima and servant, Mr. and Mrs. Cohen, Mr. E. H. Gore Barth, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. D. Haiman and servant, Mrs. J. flies, Miss Barnes, and Mrs. Webster in cabin. For Honolulu: Mr. and Mrs. Wong Wah Tong and servant, and Mr. and Mrs. Lun Cheung Wah in cabin. For San Francisco: Captain S. P. Bray, Mr. A. Schwenger, Mr. P. Sachse, Mr. A. P. McEwen, and Mrs. Castree in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Satsuna Maru*, from Hakodate:—Messrs. Mishioka, Nakamura, Honkuma, Yoshige, Yoshimi, Namben, and Fuchimoto in cabin; 9 passengers in second class, and 75 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. Nicolle and child, Mr. and Mrs. Tsutsumi, Mr. and Mrs. Ishie, Masters Braes (2), Master Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Kinukasa, Mr. and Mrs. Ikawa, Messrs. Osawa, Hino, Sukamoto, Sasaki, and Eaki in cabin; 7 passengers in second class, and 172 passengers in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from San Francisco:—Mr. John Newsom, Mr. G. W. Thompson, Miss Olive Blunt, Mr. A. E. Clementson, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Van Schoick and daughter, Mrs. M. M. Cassette, Rev. H. C. Waterman, Mr. Edward French, Rev. H. C. Mabie, Miss Lavinia Mead, Mr. Frank Fowler, Mrs. Mann, and Miss A. K. Davis in cabin; Messrs. Ernest Gordon, M. Koike, S. Yamaguchi, and K. Shochima in European steerage. For Hongkong: Mr. Herbert Regua, Mr. and Mrs. G. Culbertson, Messrs. Wing Won, L. J. Mowry, and E. Buchlow in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from Hakodate:—Dr. Adolf Friize, Mr. N. Rolsler, Mr. and Mrs. Buckley and child, Miss M. A. Holbrook, Miss A. Gill, Miss A. Richards, and Miss Young in cabin; 2 Japanese in second class, and 34 passengers in steerage.

Per German steamer *General Werder*, from Hongkong:—H. I. H. Prince Kouyou, Messrs. A. Lentze (German Vice Consul), Shira Fuyita, A. Hasche, Richter, Mr. and Mrs. Wong Pui Chun, Mr. Ah Tung, Mrs. Ah Sam, Mr. Schindal, and Mr. S. Kawakami in cabin; 25 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. H. J. Rothwell and S. Togo in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Rev. and Mrs. Williams and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. A. Evers and child, Mr. and Mrs. Ogura and child, Miss Kirkpatrick, Miss Ohara, Miss Palmer, Rev. W. B. Bonnell, Messrs. Asada, Nakano, W. F. Sharp, Duncan Glass, M. Woolf, Pow Sing, J. R. Black, G. Charlesworth and son, and A. Breton in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. Yamada, Mrs. Kato, Messrs. Nakagawa, Fujishita, and Suzuki in second class, and 70 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Shaw, Captain Martin, Surgeon-General Paterson, Mrs. and Miss Paterson, Rev. Charles and Mrs. Bishop, 3 children, and infant, Miss Hamper, Miss Eyre, Mrs. Lightwood, Messrs. A. H. Groom, F. J. Hall, L. K. Davis, G. Adet, John Gibbon, and Loo Ching Ying in cabin.

CARGO.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Silk for France 250 bales.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Sagami Maru*, Captain Kenderdine, reports:—Left Kobe the 6th September at noon; had fine weather with light south-westerly winds and high easterly swell to port. Arrived at Yokohama the 7th September at 9 15 p.m.

The British steamer *China*, Captain Seabury, reports:—Left Hongkong the 4th September at 2 45 p.m.; had all through Formosa Channel and well into eastern sea stiff N.E. winds, and rough seas; rest of voyage, easterly airs, and fine weather. Passage 4 days, 21 hours, 13 minutes.

The Japanese steamer *Satsuna Maru*, Captain Brown, reports:—Left Hakodate the 6th September at 8 a.m.; had moderate easterly winds and fine weather which continued until 4 p.m., after which breeze gradually freshened till 10 p.m., when it blew a heavy S.E. gale with blinding rain and high confused sea; have to till midnight, weather then moderating kept away again, and experienced thick, misty weather with heavy rain squalls and high easterly sea, which continued until arrival at Ogiuohama the 7th at 1 p.m. Whilst in port the weather became very threatening and at 8 p.m. the barometer began to fall rapidly, the wind gradually increasing in force until midnight when it was blowing from the east with typhoon force, accompanied by torrents of rain; this continued until 2 a.m., when the centre of the storm passed over the ship and for a few minutes it became perfectly calm, the barometer at this time being at its lowest reading, viz., 29.22; the wind then suddenly shifted to the N.W. and blew with great violence for about two hours, after which it veered to westward and gradually went down. Left Ogiuohama the 8th at 7 a.m.; had heavy rain squalls with strong southerly wind and high sea, decreasing until off Noshiro; thence to port light variable winds with passing showers. Arrived at Yokohama the 9th September at 11 a.m.

The American steamer *City of Peking*, Captain Cavarly, reports:—Left San Francisco the 23rd August at 1 13 p.m.; for first 36 hours had fresh N.W. gale, with rough sea; thence moderate to fresh winds from N.W. to S.W., with moderate sea, and swell, and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 10th September at 7 05 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, Captain Young, reports:—Left Hakodate the 8th September at 8 a.m.; had S.E. gale and thick rainy weather, when nearing Siyu saki encountered a tremendous S.E. sea and turned back to Hakodate; at 4 p.m. same day, weather having improved, left again with a gentle N.W. to W. breeze and fine. Big sea from Siyu saki to Yamada Head and light S.W. and southerly winds and cloudless sky which weather continued, sea going down all the time, to port. Arrived at Yokohama the 10th September.

The German steamer *General Werder*, Captain Eichel, reports:—Left Hongkong the 5th September at 5 45 p.m.; had through the Formosa Straits strong N.E. winds with high sea; thence to port fresh and moderate N. and N.E. winds with cross sea. Arrived at Yokohama the 11th September at 8 20 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, Captain Spreigalhal, reports:—Left Hachinohe the 9th September at 8 27 p.m.; passed Kikkosan the 10th at noon; passed Iwobye the 11th at 3 30 a.m.; Noshiro at 11 45 a.m., and rounded the lightship at 3 45 p.m.; passed H.M.S. *Alacrity* going S.S.W. Weather fine and clear throughout, with light southerly winds.

The Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Captain Hussey, reports:—Left Kobe the 10th September at noon; had light easterly winds and fine weather; passed Ooshiro at 9 34 p.m., a fresh breeze from the eastward and clear weather continued throughout the night; passed Rock Island the 11th at 1 48 p.m., with a fresh breeze from the eastward and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama at 8 15 p.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

During the week prices again dropped for English Yarns, and buyers were tempted with the unwarrantably low range of prices accepted by holders, which was caused no doubt by the uncertain movements of exchange, and a very large business was put through during the last four or five days. At the close sellers seem to have taken heart somewhat, and are trying to get prices up again, but owing to the weakness of one or two importers the move is very difficult. Shiftings have been without life, and only a small business in T. Cloths has taken place. Italians have had a considerable amount of attention, and some large lines have been put through, but the demand

has not been general. Sales for the week amount to 3,700 bales English, 120 bales Bombay Yarns, 4,500 pieces Shirtings and T. Cloths, and 14,000 pieces Italians.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIELD.	PER YD.
Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 lb, 38 yds, 39 inches	\$1.35 to 1.90	
Grey Shirtings—9 lb, 38 yds, 39 inches	1.50 to 2.24	
T. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.15 to 1.47 1/2	
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.20 to 1.60	
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.70 to 2.00	
Cotton—Italians and Satinets Black, 32 inches	0.07 to 0.14	
Turkey Reds—1 1/2 to 2 1/2 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.00 to 1.15 1/2	
Turkey Reds—2 1/2 to 3 1/2 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.20 to 1.40	
Turkey Reds—3 1/2 to 4 1/2 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.70 to 2.05	
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 42 inches	4.50 to 6.00	
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 34 inches	0.50 to 0.65	
La Rochelle, 12 yards, 43 inches	1.15 to 2.25	

WOOLLENES.

	PER PIELD.	PER YD.
Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches	\$4.00 to 5.50	
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.24 1/2 to .28	
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.20 to .24	
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.16 to .20	
Musceline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.14 1/2 to 0.15 1/2	
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.45	
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.60	
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.35 to 0.60	
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3 1/2 lb, per lb	0.30 to 0.38	

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PIELD.	PER YD.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	\$5.00 to 26.00	
Nos. 16/24, Medium	26.00 to 27.00	
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	27.00 to 28.00	
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	29.00 to 30.00	
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	27.75 to 28.50	
Nos. 28/32, Medium	28.50 to 30.00	
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	30.25 to 31.50	
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	34.00 to 36.00	
Nos. 38/42, Two-fold	33.50 to 35.00	
No. 42s, Two-fold	35.50 to 36.00	
No. 40s, Bombay	72.00 to 78.00	
No. 16s, Bombay	74.00 to 79.00	
Nos. 10/14, Bombay	—	

METALS.

Another smart drop in prices, and holders tired of waiting have met buyers, so that considerable business has been done at present quotations.

	PER PIELD.	PER YD.
Flat Bars, 1 inch	\$2.50 to 2.60	
Flat Bars, 1 inch	2.60 to 2.70	
Round and square up to 1 inch	2.50 to 2.70	
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.	
Nailrod, small size	Nom.	
Iron Plates, assorted	2.80 to 3.00	
Sheet Iron	3.00 to 3.25	
Galvanized iron sheets	5.80 to 6.20	
Wire Nails, assorted	4.10 to 4.60	
Tin Plates, per box	4.70 to 4.90	
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.20 to 1.25	

RUBBER.

No sales to report and no fresh arrivals. Prices nominally unchanged but weak. Deliveries fair. Stocks 680,000 cases, American and Russian.

QUOTATIONS.

	Nom.	\$1.75 to 1.77 1/2
Chester	Nom.	1.70 to 1.74
Connet	Nom.	1.67 1/2 to 1.70
Hevea	Nom.	1.65 to 1.67 1/2
Russian	Nom.	1.65 to 1.67 1/2

SUGAR.

Stagnation prevails in the Sugar trade, the small business being confined to White Refined at the following prices:—550 piculs at \$8.10 per picul, 750 piculs at \$7.90, and 812 piculs at \$6.20. Holders of Takao have reduced their asking prices for remaining stocks, but without effecting sales.

	PER PIELD.	PER YD.
White Refined	\$5.75 to 8.30	
Manila	3.80 to 4.60	
Taiwanfoo	—	
Pentana	3.00 to 3.40	
Namida	2.90 to 3.20	
Cake	3.70 to 4.10	
Brown Takao	4.35 to 4.45	

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last report was dated the 5th inst. since then settlements in this market are 369 piculs divided thus:—Hanks 10, Filatures 281, Re-reels 64, Kakeda 14. There has been no direct export so the total business of the week is represented by the above figures.

All the buying during the first few days has been on European account. Holders have raised their pretensions so much that buyers for the States are quite shut out. Exchange is something lower than last week, but closes firm, and the prices which holders now ask seem to threaten a quiet time in the near future. Japanese are abnormally strong, and some of them refuse to sell even at present quotations.

Business for America seems quite crushed out by this rise in price. It might be possible to make

a few shipments at values current a fortnight ago, but as things are, with the gloomy market now arriving from New York, it appears impossible that anything should be done.

There is no doubt that present and late quotations threaten reellers with very severe losses, and the *Shinshu* Mill owners are said to have entered into an agreement that they will reel no more silk after their present stock of *Coccons* is exhausted. Supplies are coming in more freely as communication with the interior is restored by degrees. Our stock has gained nearly 1,000 piculs on the week, and with a few days quiet we should soon see a reaction in our market.

There has been only one shipping opportunity since we last wrote; the English Mail Steamer *Ancona* of the 6th inst. carried 250 bales for Lyons and London. This departure brings the present export up to 3,011 piculs, against 7,435 last year and 5,928 on the 12th September, 1888.

Hanks.—There has been some further business done in these at an advance in prices; *Chichibu* being done at \$560. Stock is very small; less than 200 piculs, and is in strong hands.

Filatures.—These exhibit a marked rise, and holders are careless about selling even at these figures. In full sizes *Hiranoshu*, grading No. 1 *Shinshu*, has been sold at \$655. *Hakutsuru* asks \$670, with no takers; other *Shinshu* silks are held at proportionate prices, while *Koshu* sorts are off the market altogether. In fine sizes considerable business has been done, including extras at \$685, with best No. 1 at \$670, and No. 2 at \$640, all these being destined for Europe. At closing, buyers are not quite so eager and we might see a slight decline next week.

Re-reels.—These also are wonderfully firm and all more or less nominal, buyers in general being quite unable to continue purchases at present figures.

Kakeda.—Here also prices have been forced up, although very little business has been done. Quotations are mostly nominal, only one settlement being entered, and this consists of about 15 piculs *Flower Girl* Chop at \$597 1/2.

Oshu.—No transactions since our last and prices are without change.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

	Nom.	\$50 to 560
Hanks—No. 14	Nom.	540 to 545
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	Nom.	530 to 535
Hanks—No. 2 (Jushu)	Nom.	510 to 520
Hanks—No. 24 (Shinshu)	Nom.	680 to 690
Hanks—No. 24 (Jushu)	Nom.	670 to 680
Hanks—No. 3	Nom.	650 to 660
Hanks—No. 3 1/2	Nom.	630 to 640
Hanks—No. 3 1/2	Nom.	620 to 625
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	Nom.	620 to 625
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	Nom.	620 to 625
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	Nom.	650 to 660
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	Nom.	630 to 640
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	Nom.	620 to 625
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	Nom.	620 to 625
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	Nom.	620 to 625
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	Nom.	620 to 625
Re-reels—Extra	Nom.	620 to 625
Re-reels—(Shinshu and Oshu) Best No. 1	Nom.	620 to 625
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	Nom.	620 to 625
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	Nom.	620 to 625
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	Nom.	620 to 625
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	Nom.	620 to 625
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	Nom.	620 to 625
Kakeda—Extra	Nom.	620 to 625
Kakeda—No. 1	Nom.	620 to 625
Kakeda—No. 2	Nom.	620 to 625
Kakeda—No. 3	Nom.	620 to 625
Kakeda—No. 4	Nom.	620 to 625
Kakeda—No. 5	Nom.	620 to 625
Oshu Sendai—No. 24	Nom.	620 to 625
Hanatsuki—No. 1, 2	Nom.	620 to 625
Hanatsuki—No. 3, 4	Nom.	620 to 625
Sandai—No. 24	Nom.	620 to 625

Export Raw Silk Tables to 12th Sept., 1890:—

SEASON 1889-90. 1890-90. 1890-90.

HANKS. HANKS. HANKS.

Europe 887 3,507 2,752

America 2,050 3,840 3,072

Total 2,937 7,347 5,824

Piculs 3,011 7,435 5,928

Settlements and Direct 3,200 9,500 6,350

Export from 1st July 3,200 9,500 6,350

Stock, 12th September 9,400 5,350 8,550

Available supplies to date 12,600 14,850 14,900

WASTE SILK.

Settlements in this branch have been 435 piculs, of which 385 are Pierced Coccons, the remaining 50 being Kibiso.

The Market is by no means brisk, and it would seem that we must have lower prices before we can see any considerable trade. The principal event of the week has been the opening of the market for Pierced Coccons, in which article business has been done at prices which seem to be unusually dear.

The only export during the week by the P. & O. steamer *Ancona* on the 6th inst. She carried 58

bales of *Noshi* for Trieste. Shipments to date are 1,080 piculs, against 1,217 last year and 1,294 in 1888.

Pierced Coccons.—As noted above, the market has opened; about 460 piculs, good to best quality, averaging say 75 per cent, have been taken at prices ranging from \$122 1/2 to \$127 1/2. These prices at current rates of Exchange would seem to be dearer than the same quality would realize to day in consuming markets.

Noshi.—No sales this week; but some parcels of *Joshu* are under consideration and will probably be settled at or about \$78 per picul.

Kibiso.—The purchases in this department are not large; they include *Filatures* at from \$100 to \$110; with ordinary *Joshu* at \$35 1/2.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

	PER PIELD.	PER YD.
Pierced Coccons—Good to Best	\$120 to \$130	
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	140 to 150	
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	130 to 135	
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	—	
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	135 to 140	
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	—	
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	—	
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	—	
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good to Best	—	
Noshi-ito—Jushu, Best	—	
Noshi-ito—Jushu, Good	80	
Noshi-ito—Jushu, Ordinary	70 to 75	
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	105 to 110	
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	95 to 100	
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—	
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—	
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—	
Kibiso—Jushu, Good to Fair	50 to 40	
Kibiso—Jushu, Middling to Common	35 to 30	
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good	—	
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	—	
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	15 to 8	
Mawata—Good to Best	—	

Export Table Waste Silk to 12th Sept., 1890:—

SEASON 1889-90. 1890-90. 1890-90.

Waste Silk 1,080 1,195 1,291

Pierced Coccons 22 3

Total 1,080 1,217 1,294

Settlements and Direct 1,400 4,300 750

Export from 1st July 1,400 4,300 750

Stock, 12th September 10,400 8,600 9,000

Available supplies to date 11,800 12,900 9,750

Exchange has fluctuated somewhat, closing firm at the following rates:—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits, 3/10 1/2; Documents 3/10 1/2; 6m/s. Credits, 3/10 1/2; Documents 3/10 1/2; NEW YORK, 30d/s. U.S. \$93; 4m/s. U.S. \$93 1/2; PARIS, 4m/s, lcs. 4.86; 6m/s. lcs. 4.89.

Estimated Silk Stock, 12th Sept., 1890:—

RAW. PICULS. WASTE. PICULS.

Hanks 190 Coccons 650

Filatures 5,275 Noshi-ito 3,650

Re-reels 3,395 Kibiso 5,500

Kakeda 437 Mawata 360

Oshu 188 Sundries 240

Taysam Kinds 5

Total piculs 9,400 Total piculs 10,400

TEA.

Buyers have operated to the extent of 2,530 piculs for the week ending yesterday, and at higher prices than is warranted, considering slow sales on the other side. Low grades continue to be most in request, though better qualities have received some attention. Quotations remain unchanged. Tea shipments to date are 10,397,965 lbs. for New York, 13,909,970 lbs. for Chicago, 8,799,631 lbs. for Canada, and 2,608,491 lbs. for California; total, 35,716,057 lbs., as compared with 30,336,461 lbs. last year for the same period. The combined settlement at both ports are 342,050 piculs, against 288,220 piculs at the same date last year.

PER PIELD.

Common \$11 & under

Good Common 2 1/2 to 13

Medium 13 1/2 to 14

Good Medium 15 to 16

Fine 17 to 19

Finest 20 to 22

Choice 23 & up/ds

Choicest —

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has fluctuated slightly during the week, and has further dropped to-day, but is firm at the following quotations:—

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand 3/9

Sterling—Bank 1 months' sight 3/9 1/2

Sterling—Private 1 months' sight 3/9 1/2

Sterling—Private 6 months' sight 3/10

On Paris—Bank sight 4/72

On Paris—Private 6 months' sight 4/83

On Hongkong—Bank sight 1 1/2 dis.

On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight 1 1/2 dis.

On Shanghai—Bank sight 7 1/2

On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight 7 1/2

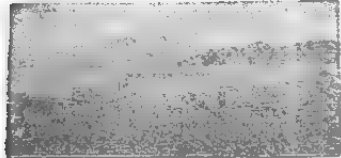
On New York—Bank Bills on demand 91

On New York—Private 30 days' sight 92

On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand 91

On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight 92

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 12.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, SEPTEMBER 20TH, 1890.

通信者認可

[VOL. XIV.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPT. 20, 1890.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE opening ceremony of the Administrative Court will take place on the 1st October next.

VISCOUNT ENOMOTO, who went to Hokkaido some time ago, returned to Tokyo on the 17th instant.

It is commonly reported that Prince Sanjo has resigned his position of Lord Keeper of the Seals.

COUNT ITO, who had been staying at Kobe for some time, proceeded to Arima on the 14th instant.

H.I.H. PRINCE KITASHIRAKAWA left the capital on the 16th instant and proceeded to the Takasaki Barracks.

H.I.H. PRINCESS ARISUGAWA started from Tokyo on the 12th instant for Kyoto, Osaka, and Hyogo Prefecture.

VISCOUNT TORIO will publish a newspaper in the capital in October, which is to be the organ of the *Hoshu Chusei* party.

It is stated that Count Yanagihara will be nominated by the Emperor as President of the House of Peers shortly.

FIRE broke out on the afternoon of the 10th instant in a house at Mimamura, Imadate-gun, Fukui Prefecture, and twenty houses and four

godowns were entirely destroyed, five houses being partially burned, before the flames could be subdued.

MR. KATO MASANOSUKU, editor of the *Hochi Shimbun*, will leave Japan on the 24th instant for Europe and America.

HER MAJESTY THE EMPRESS will proceed to Kyoto in October next to visit the tomb of Prince Kujo, Her Imperial Majesty's father.

THE Joyetsu Railway Company has applied to the Cabinet for permission to construct a railway between Takasaki and Niigata.

MR. ARISHIMA is rapidly recovering from his recent attack of cholera and will soon be able to resume his duties at the Custom-house.

THE line of the Sanyo Railway Company between Kasaoka and Kanagasaki, which is now in course of construction, will be completed in July, 1891.

HER MAJESTY THE EMPRESS proceeded to the Aoyama Detached Palace on the afternoon of the 17th instant to pay a visit to the Empress-Dowager.

H.I.H. PRINCE KITASHIRAKAWA returned to the capital on the 12th instant from Gumma Prefecture, where His Highness had been staying for some time.

ACCORDING to investigations made by the Nishi District Office, Osaka, the total amount of damage caused by the recent conflagration was yen 634,173.75.

THE line of the Kyushu Railway Company between Onga and Hakata (twenty-seven miles) having been completed, will be opened for traffic in the present month.

AN ordinary meeting of the Cabinet was held on the 16th instant, at which all the Ministers of State were present, the proceedings lasting till a late hour.

MAJOR-GENERAL IMAI, Commander of the 7th Brigade of the Osaka Military Division, was seized by cholera on the afternoon of the 15th instant at Kobe, and died a few hours after.

MR. MATSUMURA NINZO, Assistant Professor of the College of Science in the Imperial University, was promoted to Professor on the 13th instant, being raised to fourth class of *souin* rank.

AN ordinary meeting of the Cabinet was held on the 12th instant in presence of the Emperor, at which all the Ministers of State with the exception of Count Oyama were present.

DYSENTERY is now prevailing in Kyushu extensively, and the number of persons attacked in Fukuoka Prefecture up to the 10th instant was 14,494, of whom 2,369 died.

MARQUIS SATONJI, Japanese Minister to Germany, and Marquis Tokugawa, Japanese Minister to Italy, have applied to the Foreign Department for permission to return home on six months' leave.

FIRE broke out on the night of the 12th instant in a house at Omonaicho, Iwanai, Shiribeshi, Hokkaido, and about six hundred houses, including the Law Court, the Post Office, and the branch office of the Mitsui Bank, were entirely destroyed. On the evening of the 13th

instant forty-one houses were burned to the ground at Yamagieho, Noshiro, Yamagata Prefecture.

THE Sobu Railway Company will be amalgamated with the Hokuso Railway Company shortly and Mr. Narahara Shigern, President of the Japan Railway Company, will become President of the amalgamated company.

A REPORT by the Sanitary Bureau of the Home Department shows that the number of persons attacked by cholera throughout the Empire from the commencement of the epidemic to the 15th instant, was 21,769, of whom 13,663 died.

ACCORDING to a report made by the Sanitary Bureau of the Home Department, the number of persons seized by cholera throughout the Empire from the commencement of the epidemic to the 12th instant, was 19,726, of whom 12,235 died.

AN outbreak of fire took place early in the morning of the 16th instant in a house at Bakurocho, Akita, Akita Prefecture, and thirty-five dwellings and two telegraph posts were entirely destroyed before the flames could be got under control.

It is rumoured that the rank of all Prefects will be raised to *chokunin*, and that instead of two Secretaries in each Prefectural Government one only will be appointed, in connection with the revision of the Law for the organization of Prefectural Governments.

IN consequence of the recent heavy rains the Ito and Ainogawa Rivers, in Tosa, overflowed on the 11th instant. Embankments were damaged in several places, the village of Nishimachi, Susaki, was flooded and thirty-six houses carried away, fifteen persons being drowned.

THE improvement in the Import trade last week continued for several days, and a large business was done at gradually hardening rates, though during the past day or two buyers have begun to slack off somewhat in their demands; the general position, however, is much improved. The brisk business in Yarus was shared by Shirts and Fancy Cottons at better prices, the sales being 3,400 bales English, 550 Bom-bays, and 35,000 pieces Shirts. There is more doing in Metals, and though no large sales of Kerosene have transpired, values are unchanged in spite of a stock-increased by the arrival of a cargo from Batoum—of 800,000 cases. There have only been two small parcels of White Sugar sold, and notwithstanding that holders of Formosa have further reduced their prices, no transaction in that kind has been reported. Utter stagnation in the Silk trade in the States and a meagre demand from Europe, added to the strongly entrenched position of holders here, have combined to almost paralyse the local market, the settlements, including some direct shipments, only totting up 130 piculs. Heavy arrivals come in and the stock is over 10,000 piculs; still holders say they can afford to wait, that buyers will be forced into the market later on, and that they can rely on a large quantity being taken by home manufacturers, whose business is largely and steadily increasing. Waste Silk has been taken—about 350 piculs—at late rates. The Tea trade is fairly steady; receipts of common diminishing, buying has extended to better grades, and sellers have obtained full rates for the leaf purchased. There is probably not a great deal more to come in, and stocks here are not heavy. Exchange again fluctuated during the week, but on the whole is much about the same, and closing rates are fairly firm.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE ANTI-REVISION MEETING.

Nothing can be clearer than that the promoters, or at least some of the promoters of the recent Anti-Revision Meeting were either misrepresented by their organ, or that they intended to give the proceedings a very different complexion from that which they actually assumed. On the evening of the day when the meeting was held, a local English newspaper, which reflects the sentiments of, and is well known to be in direct touch with, the most violent anti-revision agitators in the Settlement, made the following statement:—"If the editor of the *Japan Mail* were to have the courage to attend the meeting, he would hear some remarks both about the Japanese and himself, which would probably astonish him." This assertion, though its prophetic character indicates that it was penned before the meeting, did not appear in print until the meeting was over. In other words, the writer was so entirely confident as to the truth of his prediction, that he took no trouble to provide for its correction should the results of the meeting be opposed to his expectation. The statement also indicates that the intention of the promoters who inspired it was to hold the meeting with closed doors; otherwise there could have been no need to attend in order to learn what occurred. Such indeed was the plain purpose of the little band of promoters, and from it we acquire additional reason to suspect that they intended to adopt a tone and pursue a line of argument not conveniently reconcilable with the idea of publicity. But, as might have been expected the inbred love of open-handed dealing which prevails among all Western peoples, defeated this sinister project. When the reporter of the *Japan Mail* presented himself at the meeting, he was informed by the chief promoter that notes were not to be taken for journalistic purposes, but as to this he very properly replied that he should look to the meeting itself for instructions. He foresaw that an unauthorized attempt to muzzle the press, and shroud the proceedings in secrecy, would not be endorsed by the community. And he was right; for when the Chairman, after announcing his original intention—namely, to state that it was neither expected nor desired that reporters should take notes for insertion in the newspapers—proceeded to ask the sense of the meeting on this point, his project of privacy was defeated by an overwhelming majority, though all the leading promoters voted with the minority. The consequence was that with the exception of some remarks by Mr. J. H. Brooke, who whether in speaking or writing has never shown himself capable of moderation or accuracy, the meeting passed off without the utterance of a single word calculated to astonish anyone in the sense predicted. Either, then, the nature of the proceedings had to be modified because the more violent among the promoters found themselves forbidden to hold the meeting with closed doors, or else the announcement of their intentions, published by their organ, was unauthorized and untrue. Whichever hypothesis be correct the result was decidedly amusing. For when the proceedings of the meeting were published, the very journal which, in its issue of Thursday, had exultingly prophesied that things would be spoken calculated to astonish the Japanese and the editor of the *Japan Mail*, this very journal, in its issue of Friday, had the consummate coolness to announce its "pleasure at being able to remark that—with the exception of the actual object of the meeting—there was nothing against (*sic*) which the Japanese could object, the speeches having been calm and dignified." It was certainly well that the public took the management of one part of the affair, at any rate, out of the hands of men who contemplated secrecy in such a movement.

"TU AGUARD."

The *Tokyo Koron* has been betrayed into one of its not unusual ebullitions of extreme violence and unreason. Its wrath against the promoters of the anti-treaty-revision movement in Yoko-

hama has led it to call British merchants by a great many ugly names, such as unprincipled, ignorant, grasping, selfish and so forth. The *Tokyo Koron* merely renders itself ridiculous by such outbursts. It does not understand British merchants, and will perhaps be unprepared to learn that abuse so utterly inappropriate excites only their laughter. The incident has been rendered still more ludicrous by the irate rejoinder of an English local newspaper, which daily moves its readers' mirth by really marvellous displays of juvenile hyperbole. By this journal the *Tokyo Koron* has been spitted, gibbeted, and lung up to public scorn as an example of Japanese barbarity, and as a proof that the nature of the nation is savage after all. But let us go softly. Was it not only a few days before the *Tokyo Koron's* tirade that an English merchant addressed a letter to one of the Yokohama papers in which he charged Japanese traders with "bare-faced robbery, roguery, and rascality," called them "scoundrels," likened them to "burglars," and declared that foreigners "regarded them with loathing and contempt?" A candid comparison of this gentleman's language with the diatribes of the *Tokyo Koron* leaves us in some perplexity as to which side should carry off the palm of rudeness and vulgarity. On the whole we think that the Englishman has it. At any rate he began the mud-throwing.

SPIES.

It was indeed a gross outrage that attempts should have been made to spy upon the promoters of the anti-revision meeting and its proceedings, as related in the columns of a local contemporary. This, of all things, is least endurable in the eyes of the true pot-house politician, the genuine British agitator in moral shirt sleeves, who is perpetually on the watch to nail a piece of bunting to some pole or other. A great philosopher once corrected the suspicions of a fussy but not too cleanly scrivener who imagined that his converse and actions were the object of official scrutiny. "My friend," said the philosopher, "be re-assured. No outsider except a parasite or two of the insect genus takes any interest in your personal movements." But no such consolation can be offered to the honest folks who were spied upon last Thursday by the Japanese police. Why, the police actually had the audacity to station themselves at the entrance to the Public Hall and to watch who entered. Must foreigners submit to such insults! Let us not be idly reminded that the office of the police requires their presence at all large assemblages; that to be at hand on such occasions is part of their business as guardians of law and order, and that if they had not been at the entrance to the Public Hall they would have been guilty of a district dereliction of duty. Such pleas are mere subterfuges. They came there to spy, and to spy only. It is true that they could not recognise any of the foreigners passing in and out. It is true that they could not hear any of the speeches, or, hearing, could not have understood a word of them. It is true that the meeting was absolutely public; that the names of the principal persons present, the speeches delivered, and the resolutions passed would all appear in the newspapers; that anybody and everybody was allowed to be there—with one exception. None the less the police acted as spies. Governor Asada had better call off his myrmidons. We Britons who have been reared in the glorious atmosphere of freedom, begotten of trial by jury and the *habeas corpus*, will not submit to the indignity of having constables posted to keep order in the precincts of buildings where we hold mass meetings in defence of our liberties. Bring out the Union Jack, the hammer and the tacks.

What is more, the meeting was insulted by the "discourteous intrusion of a Japanese behind the platform." What business had the spy to come there? It is true that free admission was given to Chinamen; it is also true that every Japanese newspaper of enterprise should have had a reporter there; and it is also true that the meeting was held by foreigners on Ja-

panese territory. But to admit a Japanese spy! Monstrous notion! Most happily there was a fine straightforward Briton to meet the emergency. He directed the Japanese to abscond, and showed by his demeanour that no trifling would be suffered. The Japanese took the hint, but, before leaving had the gross audacity to enquire the name of the gentleman then addressing the meeting. Mark how the extender of spies rose to the occasion. He promptly gave a false and unpronounceable name. Still unabashed, this most intrusive Japanese enquired how the wonderful name was spelled, and then the Briton capped his ready heroism by ringing out the four letters of a filthy word which we are forbidden to print, though we would fain give all the details of so splendid a champion's conduct.

The worst of it is that after all this spying, after actually having had the insolence to enquire the name of one of the speakers who addressed the meeting, the Japanese contrived to obtain most misleading accounts of what went on. The details given furnished another example of that "weakest and most slovenly feature of Japanese journalism," the reporting. Can anything be more contemptible than newspapers which fail to give accurate accounts of meetings from which their representatives are extruded with an obscene word of four letters ringing in their ears?

THE ANTI-TREATY REVISION COMMITTEE.

The first meeting of the Committee of thirty gentlemen appointed at the general meeting of foreign residents on Thursday, took place at 2 p.m. on Saturday in the old Chamber of Commerce Rooms at No. 60. Mr. J. A. Fraser presided, and there was a large attendance of members. The chief business of the meeting was to consider and decide on means for carrying out the instructions of the general meeting, and it was resolved, the Committee being of somewhat unwieldy size, to appoint a sub-committee of seven to make the necessary arrangements for communicating the resolutions of the General Meeting to Chambers of Commerce and the representatives of Treaty Powers. An understanding was arrived at that distinctions of nationality should not be recognized in the action of the Committee, but that English should be the language employed in its communications, and that it should be held to represent simply the views of foreign residents, not of so many nationalities.

MEETING OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL RADICALS.

On the 11th instant at 2 o'clock in the afternoon the Constitutional Radicals held a meeting in the Yayoi Club, Shiba, Tokyo, to discuss the recently drafted principles and rules of the party. About 130 members were present, and various resolutions were passed. It was decided, in the first place, that the meeting should continue its sessions for three consecutive days for the purpose of fully discussing the platform and financial affairs of the party; that each city and Prefecture should be invited to elect its representatives to the Committee on the 14th instant; that steps should be taken to draft the rules, elect the directors, and so forth before the meeting broke up on the 13th instant, and that another grand meeting to celebrate the organization of the party should be held on the 15th instant. At half-past five in the afternoon of the 11th, when the assembly was on the point of breaking up, about ten *soshi*, who seem to have been loitering about for fully an hour, set upon Mr. Kawashima Jun as he was leaving the Yayoi Club, and attacked him with stones, knives, and sticks. Mr. Kawashima is physically powerful. He made a stout resistance, and being succoured by his brother as well as by other members of the party who ran on on hearing the noise, he escaped with trifling injury. The *soshi*, seeing that they could not accomplish anything, took to their heels, and running rapidly round the building evidently by pre-concerted plan, got into *jinrikisha* which were waiting to receive them, and succeeded in effecting their escape. The same evening, how-

ever, two men, called Goto Ichitaro and Yoneta Kichitaro, were arrested on suspicion by the police of the Kyobashi district. Mr. Kawashima Jun has made himself very conspicuous in respect of the organization of the new amalgamated party (Constitutional Radicals) and it was doubtless for this reason that the *soshi* attacked him. His injuries were so trifling that he was able to attend the meeting on the following day. It is, we think, very much to be regretted that he did not disable or even kill two or three of his assailants. The *soshi* are an intolerable blot upon Japanese civilization, and no measure, however severe, would be condemned if it put a stop to their lawless proceedings.

A NEW BOOK.

A LITTLE book lately published in London is entitled "A Social Departure," the "departure" being that two ladies travel together round the world without an escort, and are apparently very proud of their defiance of Mrs. Grundy. We have an idea, however, that the departure is not "new" by any means. In one year Miss Bird and Miss Gordon-Cumming visited Japan on their way round the world without an escort. We refer to the book now because of its account of an interview between a Japanese newspaper reporter and the fair travellers. We suppose that it is all right: the ladies say so, and therefore it must be so. But we cannot understand why a Japanese reporter interviewing two foreign ladies for the purposes of a Japanese journal, should write in English, or if he did, how the ladies contrived to see what he had written before it passed under the editorial pen. However, here is the interview:—"Yesterday by Canada steamer radies arrived. The correspondent, who is me, went to Grand Hotel, which the radies is. Radies is of Canada, and in the time before of Engand. They have a beautiful countenance. Object of radies recomotion is to make beautiful their minds. Miss Elder Rady answered: Our object is to observe habits makings, and beings of the Japanese civilization, and to examine how civilization of Engand and America prevails among the nation. And other objects is to examine the art and drawing and education from the exterior of the confectionery. In order to observe customs of Japan we intend to earn a private house. Miss Younger Rady, measuring ten stone and wearing six shoes and a half. Radies has the liability of many news. "That last item," remarked "Orthodocia, the younger of the two, is frightfully correct." The book is very amusing, although this little reporter's incident leads one to think that the amusement is due rather to a lively fancy and a capacity for finding materials for a laugh everywhere than to a strict adhesion to literal fact. Mr. B. H. Chamberlain, however, has taken this interview, or rather the two ladies' description of the manner in which it was conducted, and has enshrined it in his "Things Japanese," at the same time pledging his own word for its absolute truth, a proceeding which indicates that Mr. Chamberlain's judgment is less mature than his scholarship.

DEPARTURE OF PRINCE KACHO AND MR. WATANABE.

THE Shimabashi terminus presented a remarkable appearance on Sunday morning at the time of the departure of the 6.40 train for Yokohama. At that early hour H.I.H. Prince Kacho and suite, who are proceeding to Germany, and Mr. Watanabe, who goes to Vienna with Madame Watanabe, to assume the post of Japanese Representative, left Tokyo to embark in the Messageries Maritimes mail steamer *Saghalien*. The combined parties numbered thirteen in all, there being included three students of the Imperial Japanese University who visit Germany to carry on their studies. Despite a drizzling rain and the very early hour, one of the largest crowds we have ever seen under similar circumstances assembled to bid good-bye to the departing Minister, whose life during the past three months has been a succession of farewell scenes. The spacious platform, the ticket office, and the waiting rooms held such a multitude of persons that ingress or egress was

a matter of no small difficulty. Numerous carriages and hundreds of *jinnikisha* formed a sea of vehicles in front of the station, and the business of finding and entering one's conveyance after the departure of the train was such a task as would have to be undertaken at a large garden party where no attempt at organization had been made. In the case of a crowd so immense it is obviously impossible to give a nominal list of the principal units, but among them were Ministers of State, officials of high rank, University Professors, officers of learned societies, the whole staff of the Korean Legation, and many foreigners. Mr. Watanabe may justly feel proud of the demonstration evoked by his great popularity, and of the universal good wishes which he carries with him on his way Westwards.

"BUSINESS CHANCE."

WE are not sure whether a correspondent writing to one of our local contemporaries over the signature of "Business Chance," is in earnest. Two things make us doubt. First, that he considers it expedient to question us through the columns of another journal instead of adopting the straightforward and courteous course of addressing us direct; secondly, that, although representing, as he says, a firm having large command of capital, and despite of being engaged, as a matter of business, in arranging certain commercial affairs in Japan, he is singularly ignorant of the fundamental conditions with which he has to deal. Here are his own words:—

"The commercial public would be greatly indebted to you if you could induce the Editor of the *Mail* to publish in his paper the names and addresses of Japanese merchants 'of honour and integrity'—'who will be found ready to gladly combine with foreigners for purposes of commercial and industrial enterprises,' with the understanding, of course, that the editor of the *Mail* is to be financially responsible for their honour and integrity. That would be bringing things to a practical issue, whilst vague general assertions have no more value than the papers representing money that the Chinese throw after their dead. I have been on the lookout for such Japanese merchants for the last three years, and made quite a number of drafts of agreements in negotiations with those whom I have approached on the subject of combination, but any clause fixing a hard and fast responsibility on them, or requiring any immediately convertible security for credit to be given, invariably ended all negotiations.

Incredible as it sounds, this gentleman appears to be ignorant of the fact that combinations between foreigners and Japanese for business purposes are at present illegal. He says that, during the past three years, he has "made quite a number of drafts of agreements in negotiations with those whom he has approached on the subject of combination," but that the negotiations always ended when there was question of "fixing a hard and fast responsibility." Of course it ended there. Not because Japanese merchants fit to combine with and willing to combine are non-existent, but because the law would not recognise any deed of combination, or sanction the making over of any tangible security in the shape of property outside the Settlements. It seems to us that "Business Chance" would have done well to seek fuller information before setting about an impossible task.

We are sorry to find that what we wrote has given umbrage to "Business Chance," and led him to descend to angry remarks which are at once unjust and unconnected with his subject. His second letter does not, however, throw much light on the position. The simple fact is that partnerships for business purposes between Japanese and foreigners are illegal at present in Japan. "Business Chance," in his first letter spoke of "Japanese combining with foreigners for purposes of commercial and industrial enterprise," and went on to say that, within the past three years, he had "made quite a number of drafts of agreements with those whom he had approached on the subject of combination." If these statements did not mean that he had contemplated actual partnerships with Japanese, we really do not see that we were to blame for reading them in that sense. He now explains, however, that he intended to refer to other forms

of combination "strictly within the letter and spirit of laws and treaties." What those forms are he does not tell us, but we trust he will pardon us for saying that while giving full credit to his knowledge and accuracy, he perplexes us not a little by his reference to "foreign firms which have entered into combinations with Japanese and are to-day doing business under Japanese names with the Japanese Government with full knowledge of the Government of the fact that these establishments are carried on under foreign direction, with foreign capital, and outside of Settlement limits." What bearing have such firms—if indeed they really exist—on the question under discussion? "Business Chance" evidently knows that they are illegal, for he asserts—quite erroneously we think—that their precedent warrants other foreigners in claiming the same privilege. We understand, however, that the combinations to which he originally referred, and now refers, are of an entirely different character, being "strictly within the letter of laws and treaties." Why then mix the two things up—illegal combinations surreptitiously carried on, and combinations perfectly legal and proper?

The interesting point now made clear by "Business Chance" is that the difficulty in the way of effecting the combination desired by him has been that the Japanese could not put up sufficient tangible security. In some cases they offered bonds "but not in amounts sufficient for the credit asked for," he writes. From his previous letter we were led to suppose that the chief obstacle was absence of "integrity and honour" on the part of the Japanese. Insufficiency of funds is surely a horse of another colour; a misfortune rather than a fault.

A second point worthy of note is his very frank admission that any secret evasion of the law successfully accomplished by one or two foreigners, and overlooked or winked at by the Japanese Government, constitutes a precedent for an open evasion of the same law by all foreigners. This is precisely what the Japanese Authorities have always apprehended with respect to passports and any other privileges which foreigners are permitted to enjoy over and above those conferred by the treaties. We have been scouted for admitting that grounds exist for such an apprehension. "Business Chance," however, furnishes a conclusive proof that neither we nor the Japanese are mistaken.

THE NEW COTTON CROP.

THE *Fiji Shimpō* publishes the following report from its Osaka correspondent on the cotton crop of this year:—"The breadth of cotton planted this year in different parts of the country is about five per cent. less than that of last year. But, as the weather has proved very favourable, the crop is expected to be twice as large as that of the past year. In the vicinity of Kashiwabara in Kawachi, picking was begun on the 23rd ult., about ten days earlier than usual. The new cotton is said to be of the finest quality that has been obtained for many years. Some has already been sent to the Osaka market, where it is expected to bring about one yen per 750 *momme*. The cotton of this district is usually ranked as a third class article. The first class cotton, coming from Sakauye in Settsu, will be picked from about the 20th Sept., and will probably be sold at the rate of one yen per 700 *momme*. As a rule, twelve *kwamme* of cotton command the same price as one *koku* of rice, but more recently this ratio has varied against cotton, in consequence of the importation of Chinese cotton. Thus, last year, while one *koku* of rice was quoted at nine yen, the highest market price attained per 12 *kwamme* of cotton was seven yen. Hence, on the supposition that the average price of new rice will be seven yen per *koku* this year, the probable price of cotton is about six yen per twelve *kwamme*. But, in consequence of the abundant yield of all kinds of farm produce this year, the farmers can well afford to wait patiently, and are apparently unwilling to sell their cotton at a disadvantage. This circumstance, added to the fact that the

cotton districts in China have suffered from inundations and drought, may produce a much higher price for the new cotton than in preceding years.

CASUALTIES AT SEA.

THE loss of the Turkish frigate *Ertugroul* with her captain and 586 officers and men, is an appalling catastrophe. The ship seems to have been pursued by an evil fate from the time she left Europe. Her progress to Japan was so slow, and her stoppages *en route* were so numerous and protracted, that all sorts of strange stories were circulated about her, and people began to doubt whether she would ever reach her destination. Ultimately, however, it was discovered that this leisurely method of procedure had been prescribed for her, and that her voyage was intended to be a liberal course of instruction for her officers and crew in the geography and customs of foreign countries. In good time she reached Japan, and Admiral Osman Pasha, with several of his officers, became the guests of the Japanese Government, and spent some weeks at the Rokumei-kan in Tokyo. Highly educated and genial men, they won golden opinions in the capital, and were universally liked. But after a time cholera broke out in the ship, and her commander decided to proceed to the disinfecting station at Nagaura, where she lay for several weeks, fresh cases of the epidemic occurring on board almost every day. Much surprise was expressed at this proceeding. It was thought that the better course would have been to proceed to sea at once, and the strong probability is that had this plan been adopted, the terrible catastrophe which we have now to record would have been avoided. On the 16th instant a typhoon swept across Japan, its full force apparently striking the sea between Kishiu and Shikoku. The *Ertugroul* was an old and by no means strong vessel. Her machinery broke down when she encountered the fury of the gale, and she was cast on the rocks. More than this we do not know, except that of her crew of 653, all told, only sixty-six escaped, and many of the survivors have received severe injuries. The Admiral, Osman Pasha, is among those who have perished, and with him have probably died a number of youths of high Turkish families who had joined the ill-fated frigate for a trip round the world. No disaster so terrible has happened on the coast of Japan in modern times. Neither in the case of the U.S.S. *Onida* nor in that of the *Unbe Kan* were nearly so many lives lost. Viscount Matsudaira has been despatched by the Emperor to the aid of the survivors.

Two other terrible casualties occurred on the same day and in the same waters. The first was the loss of the Japan Mail Company's steamship *Nusashi Maru*; the second, the loss of the same company's sailing ship *Forinobu Maru*. The *Nusashi Maru* was a large cargo steamer which came out from England in March last. She left Shimonoseki for Yokohama at 7 a.m. on the 15th instant with a cargo of coal on the company's account. The next news heard of her was a telegram received yesterday from Wakayama Prefecture, saying that one of her quartermasters had landed at Tanabe in that Prefecture with a report that the vessel had foundered off the coast of Tosa on the 15th instant. This date is probably incorrect, however, as the ship would have taken about 20 hours, under ordinary circumstances to reach the place where she is said to have been wrecked. It may fairly be assumed that she too succumbed to the terrible gale of the 16th instant. One of her life-boats was picked up near Oshima, Kishiu, by a vessel called the *Bocho Maru*. In it were found the chief engineer's clothes, a sailor's knife, and a pair of boots. Hopes are still entertained that some of the crew may have escaped, but as yet the only known survivor is the quartermaster. She carried no passengers, and her crew, all told, numbered 62 men, among whom were six foreigners, namely, the Captain, P. Frahm, a Dane; the Chief Officer, A. Jappe, a Dane;

the Second Officer, J. S. Peoples, an Englishman; the Chief Engineer, W. Miller, an Englishman; the Second Engineer, F. E. Forder, an Englishman, and the Third Engineer, A. McInnes, an Englishman.

The *Forinobu Maru* was also bound from Shimonoseki to Yokohama with a cargo of coal. She was lost on the 16th instant near Cape Oishi, Oshima, on the west side of the entrance to the Kii Channel. Only her chief officer and four men were saved out of a total crew of thirty-one, all told. The wreck of these two vessels in one day is a sad break in the record of comparative immunity from accident enjoyed by the fleet of the Japan Mail Steamship Company during the past three years. We learn that the President and Directors of the Company are greatly grieved at the loss of so many valued employés.

A report was freely circulated last evening that the German steamer *Bellona* had either been lost or that some accident had happened to her. There can be very little ground for the rumour, for the agents here have no information, and a Kobe paper received this morning shows the vessel to have been safe in that port on the evening of the 18th, and she was not supposed to take her departure till yesterday.

"JINSAN TEMPO."

WRITERS about Japan have differed about some things, but unanimity has always marked their verdict when the treatment of foreigners by the middle and lower classes of Japanese is in question. Politeness, gentility, and courtesy, they have invariably declared, mark the demeanour of the bulk of the nation towards strangers. But there has now appeared a sharp person who sees deeper into all things than any one else. By ragged children on the sea-beach and in suburban alleys this deliver after truth has been greeted with cries of "*Jinsan tempo sinjo*," which he interprets "Mr. Barbarian respectfully offer me a penny." "What an outrage!" the expert in ethics cries. "Fancy being called Mr. Barbarian! And fancy being asked by an ignorant vulgar child to 'respectfully offer' it a penny! Old cocks crow and young ones learn. It is evident that the Japanese consider us inferior creatures since they do not beg us of charity to bestow, but bid us 'respectfully offer' to those who though poorer are yet admittedly superior beings." Aye, in truth, it is very dreadful. The more so when we remember that foreigners themselves have taught this word *sinjo* to the Japanese. In the olden days when a foreigner purchased something, valuable or trifling, in a Japanese shop, the shopkeeper occasionally presented to his customer some little memento of the transaction. Whence the habit arose we cannot tell. It was never, so far as we know, practised quite in the same manner among Japanese. Perhaps the tradesman desired to conciliate his unwonted customers by some mark of generosity; perhaps he intended to assert his own superiority by bestowing alms in kind even while he trafficked! At all events he made these little offerings with a pretty air of polite deference, employing the usual formula of respectful presentation, *sinjo itashimasu*. Soon the foreigner came to regard it as his right to receive a gift when he made a purchase. Over and over again have we ourselves seen a foreigner take up some object in a Japanese shop and unblushingly say "*sinjo*." He did not even get the Japanese word right, but what matter for that. There could be no doubt about his meaning. He was deliberately begging some petty tradesman to "respectfully offer" him a gift, and he generally got what he asked for. Probably some foreigners imagined that in doing this they were merely proposing to have another article thrown into the purchase. For their own sakes we hope so, but under any circumstances the position they placed themselves in was ridiculous and humiliating in the extreme. The Japanese were too courteous to betray astonishment at these strange antics.

They regarded them as foreign fashion, and politely complied. But by and by, when it became quite evident that "*sinjo*" had been adopted into the foreigner's pidgin Japanese as the only intelligible equivalent for give, the Japanese began to employ it to him in that simple sense, dropping, as he had in the first place dropped, the distinction between the polite phraseology of giver and receiver. It is thus that urchins, looking up from their mud pies as a foreigner passes, call out "*tempo sinjo*." Their little vocabulary never included such a word as "*sinjo*." Still less do they know about "*sinjo*," its origin or its shades of meaning. But they have been taught by tradition that in the pidgin employed by foreigners "*sinjo*," and "*sinjo*," alone signifies "give," and so they formulate their "*tempo sinjo*" in innocent expectancy. Unconscious urchins! If they could only have understood that their prattle was destined to enter the long ears of a learned student of ethics and to be written down as evidence that they are inspired by "the condescension of superior creatures," and that their whole nation is rude and uncivilized!

HARD WEATHER IN THE NORTH.

DR. BENJAMIN HOWARD, of London, is lying in Hakodate with two ribs broken and other injuries received during a terrible voyage on the Japanese schooner *Toyama Maru*, from the Okhotsk Sea to that port. Dr. Howard has been examining into the management of the hospitals and prisons in Siberia and Saghalien. After spending some weeks as guest of the Governor at Korsakofski, he left there on the Japanese brig *Koûn Maru* for Hakodate. At midnight of the 23rd ult., in one of the most furious storms ever known in that region, the *Koûn Maru* was driven upon a sunken reef, and all hands had to lash themselves or take to the rigging. The vessel went to pieces and became a total loss, but by means of a rope secured on the shore end by some fishermen, all hands were eventually saved. The proprietor of the *Koûn Maru*, the Captain, and Dr. Howard, with some sailors, put to sea in a flat boat with matting for sails, and about 70 miles distant were taken on board the schooner *Toyama Maru*. This vessel, with another schooner the *Nanno Maru*, went to the relief of the survivors and thence sailed for Hakodate. The weather became so violent, however, that the *Toyama Maru*, after a severe struggle, reached here only by means of extemporized sails, her two masts being broken. The other schooner accompanying the *Nanno Maru* has for eight days not been heard of. Dr. Howard, although quite disabled, is likely in time to recover without difficulty, but apart from his actual injuries he is very much shaken. When sufficiently recovered to travel he expects to return to Tokyo, and via America to London.

AN ALLEGED SPY IN THE "DAIDO" CAMP.

A CONSIDERABLE sensation has been caused in political circles by the report that Mr. Imakado Choga, a well known member of the *Daido Club*, has been discovered to be a political detective of the Government. The secret, if we may believe rumour, was divulged by his *jiriki-sha* man, who told some one that his master was wont to pay secret visits to Count Matsukata, and that on every such occasion he (the man) was enjoined to keep the matter a strict secret. The late Mr. Kokatsu Shunkichi of the former *Yifu-to* was also suspected, a little previous to his untimely death, of being a spy. In his case the suspicion seems to have been based on some substantial ground. As to the present instance, we cannot yet pronounce an opinion either way. But considering that the *Kokumin Shimbun* only recently had to apologize to Mr. Kumagae, a young politician whose name first became known in the anti-treaty revision agitation of last year, for publishing in its columns a telegram charging him with the same contemptible offence, the present rumour about Mr. Imakado ought to be received with doubt.

A VAGABOND.

A SHIP carpenter named Kruger, who was convicted and sentenced in the Yokohama Sabau-

sho the other day—the German and American Consulates declining to recognise him—to eleven days imprisonment for trespassing on the compound of Mr. F. Vivanti, has recommenced the worthless career which was interrupted by incarceration. On Saturday, having just emerged from prison, he presented himself, wearing irreproachably white pants and a black coat, at the house of Mr. E. J. Moss. On being introduced to Mr. Moss he whined a request for food. Having on a previous occasion acceded to a similar prayer, and offered the applicant a plateful of substantial food and a draught of Yokohama beer; and having also witnessed with compassion the visitor's heroic attempts to simulate an appetite and eat what he plainly did not require; and having further the knowledge that Kruger had refused to accept a berth in a large sailing ship, the master of which even offered to buy tools for his use, Mr. Moss, finding no policeman close by into whose hands the fellow could be entrusted, ordered him off the premises. Of course the authorities cannot act unless a charge is preferred against such vagabonds as Kruger.

THE FUTURE OF THE SUMITSU-IN.

UNDER this heading, the editor of the *Choya Shimbun* says, "When Count Ito insisted that the draft Commercial Code should be submitted to the deliberation of the *Sumitsu-In*, one of the opinions advanced in opposition to the Count's view was that the powers at present vested in the Privy Council were too great to be consistent with those of the Imperial Diet. As the opening of the Diet approaches, this opinion appears to gather strength. It is reported that, simultaneously with the convocation of the first Diet, the powers of the *Sumitsu-In* will be so much circumscribed that it will no longer be empowered to discuss draft laws and ordinances, its official functions being limited only to participation in discussions regarding important matters concerning the Imperial House. In this case, the present fixed maximum membership of the Council will be abolished, and many persons distinguished by past service will be appointed, thus making the institution virtually a second *Genro-In*."

AN OLD HERREY.

How hard errors die; so hard in this Settlement that we sometimes think that people actually prefer to be in the wrong. "The lords of the soil in their jealousy of foreigners," says a correspondent, writing in the columns of a local contemporary, "deny us the creation of a municipality." Now this question is one that has been discussed *ad nauseam*, and any person desiring to write about it can easily ascertain the facts. The whole matter lies in a nut-shell. As Sir Harry Parkes lucidly explained a long while ago, to procure the authority necessary to set up an efficient foreign municipality in Yokohama would probably require twenty years' negotiation, for every Western Power concerned would have to legislate specially in order to invest its Consular representatives with authority to enforce the regulations of the municipality. If this was Sir Harry Parkes' estimate in the days when diplomatic co-operation was in full swing, what shall be said now that the solidarity of Powers is broken up, and each works on its own account? We do not pretend to think that the Japanese Government could be persuaded to confer the necessary charter, but to attribute the present strange state of affairs in Yokohama to "the jealousy of the lords of the soil" is quite misleading.

MOVEMENTS ABOUT THE REVISION MEETING.

The *Choya Shimbun* has the following:—"Great indignation has been caused among thoughtful persons in Tokyo by the meeting held by British subjects opposed to treaty revision. Messrs. Nagao Kageshige and Kobayashi Sentaro, holding that the action of the foreign merchants of Yokohama in opposing treaty revision is an outrage to Japan's national dignity, have sent to the Japanese traders of

Yokohama a very strong letter urging them, if they desire to show their patriotism, to adopt the same plan as that pursued on the occasion of the silk dispute, namely, to form a combination among themselves and put a stop to all transactions with men who engage in attempts to injure Japan. If this plan be adopted, the writers think that the association of foreigners will soon be dissolved. Other persons in Tokyo have organized an association called the *Kinkisha*—brocade club, in allusion to the flag of Japan—three members of which, Messrs. Soji Tokusaburo, Inui Rokuro, and Kaneko Ryoichi, are to proceed to Yokohama and interview the leaders of the movement on the British side, at the same time organizing a large lecture meeting with the object of commercially ostracizing Englishmen."

The *Shogyo Shimpō* says:—"In consequence of the decision to put an end to treaty revision, of which movement English residents of Yokohama were the promoters, two gentlemen of Yokohama, Messrs. Sakai and Yenomoto, organized a movement to open communications with foreigners on the subject. Fortunately at the Kodo Club in the same place a meeting of committee-men was opened on the 13th instant, and these, being of the same way of thinking as Messrs. Sakai and Yenomoto, decided to choose representatives and approach the foreign committee. Steps are now being actively taken to arrange preliminaries."

A JAPANESE STATESMAN'S OPINION.

THE *Hochi Shimbun* publishes an opinion which it says has been expressed by a certain Count, well versed in foreign affairs. "The duty of Ministers," said the Count, "is to promote good relations between their nationals and the people of the country to which they are accredited. Unless grave questions of right and wrong are at stake, they will do nothing to disturb those relations. In the present case, recognising the shallowness of a movement the chief promoters of which are one or two gentlemen, discontented because they have lost their positions in the service of the Japanese Government, the Foreign Ministers will pay little attention to it. Moreover, many of those who took part in the demonstration merely obeyed the dictates of fellowship or attended the meeting out of curiosity. If the Japanese merchants of Yokohama show a little strength of back and resolve to have no more dealings with men who, while residing in Japan, behave as the promoters of this recent movement have behaved, the break up of the foreign combination will soon be witnessed."

We make no comments on these various items of intelligence from the vernacular press, but merely publish them for the information of our readers.

THE REVISION MEETING AND THE FOREIGN MINISTERS.

WHATEVER attempts may be made to evade or conceal the truth, it is beyond all question that every person signing the resolutions adopted by the Anti-Revision Meeting of the 11th instant publicly records a vote of want of confidence in the Foreign Representatives. If there could have been any doubt upon this point, it is dispelled by correspondence addressed to one of our local contemporaries. The latter had stated, in a leading article, that the Anti-Revision Meeting "was practically based upon a very justifiable distrust of Ministers, and was a unanimous vote of want of confidence." To this assertion an American correspondent took strong exception, declaring that no such construction could be placed on the intention of the meeting, and that American residents feel every confidence in their Minister. But this correspondent himself shows the error of his disavowal, for he admits that American residents of Yokohama who did not attend the meeting "were kept away by a fear that their action might be construed" in the sense of a vote of want of confidence. The meeting was held on the 11th

instant, and the first journalistic intimation that it amounted to "a unanimous vote of want of confidence" in Ministers appeared two days later. Evidently, therefore, the fact that the affair would be open to such a construction was appreciated long before a local newspaper drew attention to it. Observe, too, what followed. The journal in question, being hastily taxed with using such language calculated to deter intending signatories, replies that its words cannot possibly be construed as applying to the present American Representative, because he did not negotiate the Treaty concluded last year between the United States and Japan. It follows, therefore, that the "unanimous vote of want of confidence" does apply to all Ministers engaged in the negotiation of last year's Treaty. Apart from the United States, the Powers which actually signed that Treaty or consented to accept its principal stipulations, were Russia, Germany, and France. Subjects or citizens of the last three Powers understand, therefore, the construction put upon their action in signing the resolutions.

But without any referency to the utterances of our local contemporary, or the disclaimer of its American correspondent, can any intelligent person be in doubt about the significance of the meeting and its resolutions? The meeting was originally convened on the explicitly stated grounds that Her Britannic Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs was believed to be about to take a step inimical to the interests of the British residents of Yokohama. The Representative of Great Britain in Japan is invested with plenipotentiary powers to negotiate the revision of the Treaty, and the action of Her Majesty's Government is directed chiefly by his advice. When a public meeting of British subjects passes resolutions declaring that the course contemplated by Her Majesty's Government, acting through its Plenipotentiary in Japan, is to be condemned, do not the resolutions distinctly signify that the meeting lacks confidence in that Plenipotentiary? If such a meeting were held in England with reference to negotiations conducted in Washington by Sir Julian Pauncefote as British Plenipotentiary, for the purpose of settling the Behring Sea dispute, would not every English newspaper regard the meeting as a vote of want of confidence in Sir Julian Pauncefote? If the promoters of the agitation had not intended to organise a demonstration of that kind, they should have proceeded in a very different manner. They should have prepared a memorial for the information of Her Majesty's Minister, setting forth their objections to being placed under Japanese jurisdiction without adequate guarantees, defining what they regarded as adequate guarantees, and explaining that while they had every confidence in the ability and intention of their Representative to protect their interests, they desired to assist him by placing him in possession of their full views. They might have adopted another course, too; they might have placed themselves in communication with their Representative, and obtained such information as would have obviated the necessity of appealing to the public in the vague and mysterious manner resorted to. But they resolved upon holding a demonstration condemnatory of the supposed action of the British Plenipotentiary and of the British Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and it is futile now to attempt any palliation of their proceeding.

It is a great pity that the promoters of the demonstration did not adhere to their original intention—the intention which guided the phraseology of the advertisement summoning the meeting. We do not think that the dignity of the British nation is consulted or the loyalty of British subjects evinced when men of all nationalities—Germans, French, Dutch, Italians, Portuguese, Chinese and others—are associated in a public declaration that Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs is about to commit an error. If Englishmen want to make demonstrations of that kind, they should surely limit the performance to their own household.

What makes the matter worse is that the information upon which the promoters acted is generally believed to have been obtained from a non-British source. Certainly times have changed greatly for the worse when Englishmen go about secretly gleaning scraps of intelligence from foreign sources, and then employing them to organise a demonstration of mixed nationalities against the action of British officials.

AN INTERESTING DISAVOWAL.

THE *Shogyo Shimpō*, the principal commercial journal published in Japan, contains a significant paragraph in its issue of the 11th instant. We translate it as follows:—"Mr. R. Masujima, acting on behalf of Messrs. J. P. Mollison and W. B. Walter, has addressed to us the following correction:—"Among the miscellaneous items in your issue of the 10th instant, there appears a statement that British subjects resident in Yokohama are to hold a meeting with reference to treaty revision on the 11th instant, and that Mr. J. P. Mollison of No. 48, Yokohama, and Mr. W. B. Walter, of Messrs. Jardine Matheson & Company, No. 1, Yokohama, are among the promoters of the meeting. This statement is groundless. The above two gentlemen have no connection whatever with the affair, and I have to request that you will lose no time in making a correction to that effect." It will be discovered, by and by, that the much vaunted unanimity of the Yokohama community on this subject is not so complete as some people assert.

THE TWO NEW ENGLISH DICTIONARIES.

It is well known that within the lifetime of most of us the world will be enriched with two new English Dictionaries, which judging from the parts that have already appeared will in point of arrangement, fulness, accuracy, and convenience of reference surpass anything that has as yet been published. The two Dictionaries referred to by us are "A New English Dictionary," edited by James A. H. Murray; which is being published by the Oxford Clarendon Press; and "The Century Dictionary," under the superintendence of William Dwight Whitney, LL.D., published by the Century Company, New York. The two works do not interfere with each other. The aim of the English work is thoroughness at all costs. Neither time or expense is spared. Part I. was published in 1884. It is calculated that it will not be completed till about 1910, thus occupying nearly thirty years to compile. In "A New English Dictionary" the reader may rely on finding a complete account of the past and present usage of any word that he may come across. It is constructed on historical principles and is acknowledged by common consent to be perfect of its kind. "The Century" is compiled on a different plan. It describes itself as an encyclopaedic lexicon. The historical element is made subordinate in it. Its aim is to be a book of reference on technical, and to a certain extent, scientific subjects. Literature is in it of secondary importance. It does not pretend to be exhaustive nor perhaps to be original in the sense that "A New English Dictionary" is so. But it promises rapidity of publication. Vol. I. has already appeared. There are to be six volumes altogether, and it is calculated that they will all be out in two years. The typography is clear and the illustrations first class. For the specialist of the future the Clarendon Press Dictionary will be indispensable, but for ordinary students of literature the Century will prove more than adequate.

A LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE MEETING.

THE vernacular press publishes a letter said to have been addressed by Messrs. Yenomoto, Sakai, Hamano, and thirty-three others, on behalf of public-spirited persons in Yokohama, to Mr. J. A. Fraser, President of the Anti-Revision Meeting and, also of the Citizens Committee. The letter translated runs thus:—Sir,—We learn from the newspapers that on the 11th instant in the Public Hall on the Yokohama Bluff, your countrymen and other foreigners, to the number of some hundreds, held a meeting,

at which three resolutions opposed to the claims of our Government in respect of Treaty Revision were adopted. Deeming it inconsistent with our duty to our country to remain silent, we desire to have an interview with you, and we have the honour to request that you will give us an answer one way or the other by noon on the 16th instant.—(Signed) Yenomoto Keizaburo, Sakai Keiji, Hamano Kuisuke, and thirty-three others." The vernacular newspapers add that the writers of the letter, being anxious to learn the views of the Japanese merchants of Yokohama, have placed themselves in communication with them. The letter is polite enough, with the exception of the peremptory tone of the request for an answer by a fixed time. Behind a hard and fast demand of that kind, there seems to lurk a suggestion that if the recipient of the letter fails to furnish a reply by the appointed hour, the writers will take other measures. Messrs. Yenomoto, Sakai, and Hamano must know perfectly well that the question of meeting them and discussing treaty revision with them, rests entirely with Mr. Fraser for decision, and that he is even under no sort of obligation to answer their letter. We greatly doubt, for our own part, whether any good can come of such meetings. Mr. Fraser's interviewers can tell him nothing about Treaty Revision which he does not know already, and if they think to shake the resolution of a particularly courageous and upright Scotchman, who believes that his convictions are founded on a just estimate of his fellow-residents' interests, they are the victims of an amusing delusion. We do not share Mr. Fraser's faith, but we know that it is conscientiously held, that he has never wavered in it, and that he is a Scotchman. The Japanese had better let him alone, for although he will give them a kindly and courteous greeting, the result must be absolutely *nil* so far as bridging over the gulf between the two sides is concerned. There is only one legitimate and influential way for the Japanese to act under present circumstances, and that is to follow the example of the foreign residents—hold public meetings and let their Government and the world know how far they are in earnest. To go about interviewing this foreign merchant or that is an idle occupation, sure to be misunderstood, if not actively resented, by some muscular members of the Yokohama community.

BRITISH SUBJECTS AND TREATY REVISION.

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, writing under the heading "Who injures the credit of Britons?" says:—"Defamatory statements usually find belief when frequently uttered, and so we once believed that foreigners were all proud and insolent, treating the Japanese as so many savages. In our youth we frequently heard such statements, and by their repetition we came to believe them. When, however, we were able to read books and to have intercourse with foreign scholars and gentlemen, we began to think that the ideas of our younger days with regard to aliens were false and unfounded. When we were able to travel in foreign countries, and specially in England, we gradually familiarized ourselves with the conviction that Englishmen were righteous and just in their dealings, and that among them were many persons such as John Bright. In short, we supposed that the English were not a turbulent and ferocious people, but that they were a nation with whom we ought to have intercourse, and whom we should trust. Unfortunately an opinion of quite an opposite nature was generally held in Japan. We did not repose confidence in England. This was no doubt a regrettable circumstance from England's point of view, for it caused considerable injury to her interests. Among the causes of this feeling we may no doubt include the attitude adopted by Englishmen in regard to concessions to Japan, but the chief cause was beyond all question England's rejection of our proposals for treaty revision. The English Government is probably incapable of international injustice, but it is always deceived by a few selfish persons who arrogate to themselves superior knowledge of Japanese affairs.

Those are the persons who influenced Sir Harry Parkes against Japan; we refer to a section of the English community at Yokohama. When Count Inouye proposed his scheme of treaty revision it seemed as if England was about to recover her lost credit, for at that time she was apparently influenced by friendly feelings towards this empire. When Count Okuma brought up his proposals she held a neutral position, but the scheme now put forward appears to appeal favourably to her judgment. Among the Japanese people this fact was noted with great gratification, and it seemed as if Englishmen were about to recover their lost credit, and to raise the name and repute of their country among Eastern nations. How curious in these circumstances, then, must appear the recent conduct of English residents in Yokohama. Quite ignoring the fact that for thirty years they have been tarnishing our national honour by persisting in the maintenance of extra-territoriality, and that they have by their practical exemption from taxes been gaining large and unreasonable profits, they now show themselves desirous of retarding and obstructing by their selfishness the acceptance by the English Premier of our treaty revision programme. Surely such conduct as this must work for the injury of the credit of Britons in Japan, and of England's national honour. And yet English residents have held a meeting openly; they have attacked our laws and condemned them as full of defects; they slander our system of administration as imperfect, and they vilify the Japanese people by describing them as having the spirit of slaves, who have never breathed the air of liberty. And they call themselves civilized men! If such conduct be true civilization, we had much rather be barbarians. What would Mr. Bright call such actions if he were still alive? And Mr. Bright, too, was an Englishman!

TOO PRECIPITATE.

MR. J. L. HALPHEN writes to the *Japan Herald* in reference to a letter which he sent to this journal, and which appears in this issue, and says:—"I am inclined to believe that the editor of the *Japan Mail* did not care to insert any contradiction," &c. Mr. Halphen must be labouring under a curious mental condition, for he gives no reason whatever for his belief. Indeed, Mr. Halphen is perfectly well aware why his letter did not appear on the morning after it was received. Mr. Halphen sent the letter here written over a *nom de plume*, but omitting his name. His messenger took back a reply to the effect that his communication could only appear on his furnishing his name, though of course not for publication. He did not answer that day, consequently his letter did not appear next morning. The following day, however, Mr. Halphen wrote to say that he thought we could have known that the letter was his "by the club-book." Mr. Halphen's methods are evidently rather loose, and his ideas somewhat crude as to the conduct of newspaper correspondence. Pressure upon space often necessitates the holding over of letters for a day or two, but Mr. Halphen's failing to obtain an immediate hearing was entirely due to his own carelessness, hence it is that he has been "too precipitate."

INSUFFICIENT SAUCE.

THE Press Laws of Japan are most abominable things. Nothing can exceed their arbitrariness. Over and over again they have been denounced in unmeasured terms by free-born foreign editors, who rightly rail against the tyranny of punishing a newspaper because its articles are calculated to be prejudicial to the cause of law and order, or to bring officials into contempt. There ought to be no such restraints upon free speech. It is a hateful state of affairs. And what makes these laws particularly odious is that their stringency cannot be stretched so as to protect foreigners against vernacular abuse. If the Japanese Authorities would only supplement the law a little, so that its provisions might furnish a pretext for coming down with a hard hand on every native journal which indulges in

"the virulent, insolent, and false course" of calling foreigners by bad names, foreign newspapers, on their side, being meanwhile free to go on saying as many disagreeable things as they please—if only this could be accomplished, if only, in short, the laws could be made more arbitrary than they are, they would be quite pretty examples of legislation. But really the situation at present is very uncomfortable. Here are foreign newspapers, as is quite just and proper, going on month after month and year after year, reminding the Japanese what semi-barbarous, untrustworthy, depraved, and corrupt people they are, yet when the Japanese have the ungrateful insolence to retort in kind, the wretched defective law won't step in to aid the foreign editor, and he has consequently no resource but to call the Japanese "unparalleled liars," "sewer-mouthed spouters of the smutty and the reeky," "coiners of bestial expressions," and to apply to them other cognate epithets which, owing to the refined and moderate character of the vocabulary necessarily employed by scholastic and courteous Occidental writers, cannot produce any effect upon callous Oriental traducers.

NIKKO TO TOKYO.

THERE appears to be very little chance of the railway from Tokyo to Nikko being opened right through for several days still. At the Ueno terminus the officials do not attempt to fix any date for the resumption of service, and from their uncertainty we may fairly infer that the prospect of complete repairs is remote. Travellers to and from Nikko are not, however, subjected to any serious inconvenience. The portion of the line still closed to traffic is very small—a distance of a little over five miles, from Kurihashi to Kuki, and there is an excellent *jinrikisha* service by which passengers can transport themselves and their baggage without difficulty. By road the distance between the two places is called three *ri* ($7\frac{1}{2}$ miles), but a *jinrikisha* drawn by one man traverses it easily in two hours, and as the interval between consecutive trains passing down or up the line is three hours, there is ample time to accomplish the *jinrikisha* ride without pressing. A delay of one train is practically the whole inconvenience: in other words, the journey is lengthened by three hours—instead of accomplishing it in 5 hours 40 minutes, one has to spend 8 hours 40 minutes. The railway people have evidently taken much pains to organise the service of *jinrikisha*. A number of these vehicles are always in readiness, and they invariably demand the same fare—35 *sen*, which is certainly a very moderate charge. One point, however, should be noted, for it is very likely to cause trouble to passengers unable to make themselves fully understood in the vernacular. It is this—foreigners riding by *jinrikisha* generally desire to have two coolies, but no provision is made for this at either Kurihashi or Kuki. The reason is very simple: the second coolie, going without a *jinrikisha* of his own, is deprived of the chance of obtaining a fare for the return journey. This embarrassment can be immediately overcome by offering to disburse the price of the return journey—35 *sen*—and thus paying one *yen* five *sen* for *jinrikisha*. But if the traveller has no previous knowledge of the point, his position will prove perplexing. For the *jinrikisha* folks do not attempt to explain such an intricate question to the pidgin-speaking foreigner. They are content to meet his request for a second coolie with a simple *non possumus*, and an assurance that one man is amply sufficient.

The trouble with the railway is that a considerable part of the section between Kurihashi and Kuki is still under water. What happened was that the Tonegawa burst its southerly bank at a point about three miles below the railway bridge near Kurihashi. The big river, pouring through the breach, inundated all the country lying below the level of the flood, and reaching back to the railway, laid a portion of it under water. From Kurihashi onward the traveller towards Kuki keeps along the top of the river

embankment, and finds that all the space on his right is a huge lake, as far as he can see. On his left the Tonegawa flows along, now peaceful and self-contained enough, and it is not until the breach in the bank is reached that the source of the disastrous inundation is comprehended. The breach has now been completely stopped, but the building of the bank has not been carried to a stage permitting passage by vehicles. At this point, therefore, travellers must descend from their *jinrikisha* and allow the latter to circumvent the breach by boats, of which a number are assembled under the energetic control of a railway official. Passengers themselves, however, will do well to walk along the bank and meet their *jinrikisha*, for the boats are cranky affairs, dirty, wet, and without any arrangements for sitting. The place is worth visiting if only to obtain a conception of the ravages caused by the inundation. Scores of houses have been rendered totally uninhabitable for the time being; in many the surface of the flood is barely below the floor, and in the case of others unfortunate people find themselves knee-deep in a muddy stagnant lake the moment they descend from their verandahs. We have not seen any accurate statistics as to the area of the submerged district, but from rough observation we judge it to be fully thirty square miles. Needless to say that within this space the crops are wholly destroyed, and the unhappy farmers brought to the verge of ruin. Strong measures of relief have been taken by the Local Authorities, and the people themselves seem to support the catastrophe with all the bright helpfulness that characterises the Japanese in times of difficulty. But their sufferings must be very great and their losses cruel.

IMPERIAL NOMINATIONS TO THE HOUSE OF PEERS.

ACCORDING to a statement in the *Nippon*, it appears that the Cabinet had originally the intention of limiting the number of Members of the House of Peers by Imperial nomination to thirty, of whom twenty were to be selected from among the Senators, and ten from officials in the service of the various departments of State as well as distinguished persons outside the Government. But, in consequence of the adverse result of the election lately held for Members of the Upper House, this original intention is said to have undergone some change, the number being increased to fifty. Our contemporary further states that the Cabinet has recommended for His Imperial Majesty's consideration the nomination of Count Ito for the Presidency of the House of Peers. The Vice-President will probably be Count Yamagata.

THE TAXING OF FOREIGNERS OUTSIDE THE SETTLEMENTS.

A QUESTION which at one time attracted some attention though its importance was, we think, greatly exaggerated, has been re-opened by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. Last year, says our contemporary, enquiries were addressed from various localities to the Foreign Office with regard to the taxation of foreigners residing beyond the limits of the settlements, and the then Minister for Foreign Affairs issued instructions to the effect that such foreigners should pay exactly the same taxes as Japanese, and in the event of default should be treated precisely as Japanese subjects are treated. The present Minister of Foreign Affairs, however, is reported to have so far modified his predecessor's instructions as to direct that the Foreign Office must be consulted before any action is taken in the case of foreigners failing to pay these taxes. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* conjectures that this change may be connected with the general policy of the Foreign Office. But without making any comment on the probability or improbability of the *Nichi Nichi*'s information, it may be worth while to point out that if instructions of the above character were really issued by Count Okuma, no steps appear to have been taken towards carrying them out. Foreigners residing outside the settlements have never been required to pay any taxes other than those which they have always paid. Our Tokyo

contemporary may be surprised to hear us speak of taxes which foreigners have always paid, but a little consideration will show that we are correct. Every foreigner living outside the settlements pays rent for his house, whether he hires it direct or has its cost deducted from or included in his salary. The principal taxes for which a householder in Tokyo is liable are land tax, local tax, house tax, and lighting rates. The first of these is nearly always paid by the owner of the land who naturally takes care to include it in the rent. The remaining three are a question of arrangement between the owner of the house and the lessee: if the former pays them they are of course added to the rent. The better classes of Japanese in Tokyo generally own their houses, but a foreigner residing outside the settlements can only be a tenant, unless indeed he contrives to purchase in the name of a Japanese, a contingency which need not be considered here because the nominal Japanese owner then becomes liable for all taxes leviable on the tenement. Now every foreign tenant of a house outside the settlements pays a far higher rent than would be charged to a Japanese for the same premises. It is not easy to state the difference arithmetically, but we shall scarcely be exaggerating if we put it at twenty-five per cent. What does this twenty-five per cent. represent? It represents, in the first place, an allowance on account of the greater wear and tear supposed to result from foreign methods of living as compared with Japanese; and in the second place, an allowance for the taxes which the lessor himself has to pay in case of a foreign lessee. It will thus be seen that foreigners residing outside the settlements have always been paying and do now pay, though in an indirect form, a considerably larger sum on account of taxes than they would have to pay were they placed in every respect on the same footing as Japanese subjects. To require them to pay over again taxes already simply levied upon them in the shape of extra rent would be a harsh and unjust proceeding. Considering all this, and considering also the excitement which would be caused by such a measure as compared with the trifling amount at stake, we are strongly inclined to doubt whether Count Okuma issued the instructions attributed to him. So far as concerns the principle involved, we presume that no question can be raised. Foreigners have no manner of claim to live outside the settlements under conditions more favourable than those enjoyable by Japanese subjects. Any measure which goes no farther than placing the two on a precisely similar footing, would never, we imagine, be objected to by the foreigners concerned, or opposed by their Governments. It can only be for the principle that the Japanese contend, and that is beyond cavil.

GENERAL MEETING OF THE SHAREHOLDERS OF THE SPECIE BANK.

ACCORDING to the *Keizai Zasshi*, the Yokohama *Shōkin Ginkō* (Specie Bank) convened the general meeting of its shareholders on the 10th instant, at 2.30 p.m. The meeting was held at the Bank itself. One hundred and twenty-six shareholders attended in person, while about 200 others were represented by proxy. The chair was occupied by Mr. Sonoda, President of the Bank, who in a short address explained the embarrassing situation in which the Bank now finds itself in connection with the silver question. The extraordinary appreciation of silver has caused considerable loss in the transactions of the Bank. This was frankly admitted. With regard to future fluctuations of exchange, Mr. Sonoda could only promise the shareholders that he should not spare any effort to so arrange the affairs of the bank as to meet every emergency. He then caused one of his clerks to read a report on the general business of the bank, after which the profit and loss accounts were laid before those present. The total amount of profit during the first half of the present year from January to June inclusive was *yen* 672,417.134. Deducting from it *yen* 316,471.685, the amount of loss sustained as explained by the chairman,

and adding the balance from the preceding half year, yen 19,666,969, the aggregate net profit amounted to yen 375,612,418. From this amount, the following items were deducted:—special reserve fund, yen 100,000; rewards to officers, yen 25,590; and ordinary reserve fund, yen 25,600; amounting in all to yen 151,190. The item called "special reserve fund" is to meet losses caused by the appreciation of silver. Thus the amount available for distribution as dividend on the shares was reduced to yen 224,422,418, and in order to bring the dividend to par with the general rate of interest at present ruling in the market, Mr. Sonoda explained that it was found necessary to appropriate yen 140,000 from the fund specially reserved for that purpose. The total sum available for distribution among the shareholders thus reached yen 364,422,418. Of this amount, yen 360,000 was actually appropriated as dividend, the balance being carried over to the account of the coming half year. Thus the rate of dividend was 5 yen per old share and 4 yen per new share, that is 16 per cent. per annum on the face value of the shares. These arrangements were unanimously approved by the shareholders. The meeting closed at half-past three o'clock.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL LIBERAL PARTY.

The principles and rules of the Constitutional Liberal Party have been drawn up by the Committee appointed for that purpose. They have yet, it is said, to be revised by leading members of the party:—

AIMS.

The following is a statement of the tenets of the party:—It is not long since political parties first made their appearance in Japan, and yet we have already had instances of dissension and disputes among bodies professing similar ideas and objects. Perfection of the system of limited monarchy is impossible of attainment so long as such conditions prevail. Lamenting this state of affairs, we desire to form a new party, dissolving our previous organizations, clearing the political atmosphere of ill feeling and conflicting sentiments, and by reliance on Liberal principles and progressive measures,—thus increasing the power of public opinion,—to promote the happiness alike of sovereign and people. If others, whether connected with parties or not, should be induced to come among us and join in our discussions, we shall extend to them a hearty welcome.

PRINCIPLES.

After conference we have decided on the following general and detailed principles:—

Liberalism shall be our first and great principle.

Our general principles shall be as follow:—

We shall maintain the dignity and promote the prosperity of the crown, and extend the popular rights. We shall endeavour to discourage interference with internal government, and shall labour to secure treaties on equal terms and equality of intercourse with foreign countries.

We shall strive to realise the true representative system and to arrive at the end of government by political party.

To carry out these general tenets not a few points require attention, and we have therefore decided on the following ten detailed propositions. Of course we do not intend to bring all these matters before the Diet this year, nor do we pledge ourselves to limit our labours to those enumerated. We content ourselves now with settling the general direction of our policy, reserving the right of varying the same as circumstances may require.

Political affairs should be simplified and political expense reduced.

Military and naval arrangements should be systematized.

The educational system should be amended.

The Law of Finance should be amended, and the supervision of the expenditures and receipts of the Treasury be made more strict.

The system of dealing with national debts and with Government property should be amended.

The laws as to taxation should be amended, and attempts made to reduce the land tax.

Methods for the protection of the occupations of the people should be amended.

Local institutions should be reformed and the best arrangements relating to local economy aimed at.

The several laws relating to speech, meeting, and political association should be amended, and the Peace Preservation Regulations abolished.

The Laws of the Houses and of Elections should be amended.

DRAFT RULES.

Article 1.—The office of the party shall be established in Tokyo.

Article 2.—There shall be five directors, who shall be chosen at a meeting of delegates and shall deal with all the affairs of the party. Their term of office shall be 6 months.

Article 3.—There shall be three officials to conduct the affairs of the party, to be chosen by the directors, and act under their orders. Their term of office shall be 6 months.

ORDINARY MEETINGS.

Article 4.—Ordinary meetings of members shall be composed of ordinary delegates, not more than two for each city or prefecture, chosen by the members of the party in each city or prefecture.

Article 5.—Ordinary delegates shall discuss the affairs of the party, control the officials, and draft bills to be submitted to the general meetings. Their term of office shall be six months. (Any city or prefecture which cannot be represented by a member of delegation, may entrust its representation to the delegates of another city or prefecture by means of a power of attorney.)

GENERAL MEETINGS.

Article 6.—General meetings shall consist of representatives of the same number as the members of the House of Representatives, chosen by members of the party in each electoral district for members of the House of Representatives in cities or prefectures.

Article 7.—The mode of election and term of office of representatives shall be decided in accordance with the convenience of each locality.

Article 8.—A general meeting shall be held at Osaka each year on April 10th and in Tokyo each year on October 10th, to discuss the affairs of the party, and to receive the settled accounts of finance, and reports of the results of the work of the party during the preceding term.

EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETINGS.

Article 9.—Should any important matter present itself an extraordinary general meeting may be held at any time on the decision of a meeting of delegates. Where the case is urgent and time will not permit of the holding of an extraordinary general meeting, the matter shall be decided at a meeting of delegates and reported to the members in each district.

ADMISSION, RESIGNATION, ETC.

Article 10.—Persons desirous of joining the party shall intimate the same to the office of the party, on the introduction of two members.

Article 11.—Persons desirous of resigning from the party shall intimate the same to the office.

Article 12.—Members who are guilty of improper conduct shall be expelled by decision of a meeting of delegates.

ORDINARY EXPENSES.

Article 13.—Ordinary expenses shall be borne by each member. The mode of defraying expenses shall, however, be regulated separately by means of supplementary rules.

ADDITIONAL RULES.

Article 14.—These rules cannot be amended or added to unless by decision of a general meeting.

THE SENATE.

"We are informed on trustworthy authority," says the *Nippon*, "that the 30th of this month will be the last day of the life of the Senate. In regard to the management of such affairs as have to be attended to after the dissolution of the institution, a rumour has been current for some time to the effect that they will be intrusted to fifteen Senators, who are to be selected for that special purpose. But the latest report is that the Cabinet has come to the resolution to place such business in the hands of the secretaries of the Senate. Twenty of the present Senators will be appointed Members of the House of Peers by Imperial nomination, of whom ten will be Court Councillors in addition. All the other Senators will be placed on the retired list, with one third of their present salaries. Of the Senators thus superannuated, those who have been in the Government service for fifteen years or more will be granted pensions under the Pension Regulations, while to those whose service has not extended over so long a period H.M. the Emperor will grant a special reward in recognition of their past labours."

TOURISTS.

YEAR by year the number of tourists visiting Japan increases. Already the British Legation has furnished passports for some eight hundred of its nationals this season, and if the present rate be maintained, it seems probable that instead of the two thousand British holiday-makers who "did" Japan last year, three thousand will have come and gone before next Christmas. On the average we may fairly assume that every

one of these visitors spends five hundred yen in the country, their total expenditure thus amounting to a million and a half. What this means for Japanese hotel-keepers, *jinrikishas*, guides, and curio-dealers we need not attempt to explain. It may be mentioned here that the stream of tourists this season does not seem to have been appreciably influenced by the Exhibition. The notices which appeared in *The Times* and the *Daily Telegraph* doubtless sufficed to bring the matter to the attention of the British public, but they were scarcely published in time to be of much service. Moreover, it was from the United States that the greatest number of sight-seers might have been expected to come, and in the United States people seem to have remained in complete ignorance as to the prospect of an industrial exhibition in Japan. Even now American tourists arrive who say that, previously to embarking at San Francisco, they had no notion that an Exhibition was being held in Tokyo. It is very much to be regretted that more thorough steps were not taken to advertise the affair. Had full notice been given, we conceive that many of the exhibits which remain unsold might have found a market.

THE "EDINBURGH REVIEW" ON JAPAN.

THE new number of the *Edinburgh Review* contains an article on "Progress in Japan" which is nominally a review of certain Japanese reports. There is nothing original in the article, which is on the whole favourable to Japan. The author suggests that the difficulty as to foreign judges might be got over by the appointment of foreign assessors to Japanese judges, as in the Mixed Court at Shanghai, in all cases in which foreigners are concerned. Here is the suggestion in his own words:—"If, in all cases where Europeans were concerned, a foreign assessor sat on the bench to watch the course of justice, an effectual check would be put to any irregularities, should there ever be a disposition towards any, and, in the absence of such, the Japanese would have a free hand in the administration of the law." Later on he says that "the *amour-propre* of the Japanese must be sensitive indeed, if so harmless a precaution can be offensive in their sight." We fear that this device would scarcely meet the situation. The writer is said to be Professor Douglas of the British Museum.

A LETTER ABOUT THE REVISION MEETING.

THE *Hochi Shimbun* publishes a letter from a member of the Tokyo Exchange, whose name is not given. The letter runs thus:—"It is very much to be regretted that the Englishmen in Yokohama have assumed an attitude of opposition to treaty revision, and are endeavouring to place impediments in the path. I am resolved to have no more dealings with such persons. I understand, however, that some Englishmen are in favour of treaty revision. May I beg of you, Mr. Editor, to clearly distinguish for our information in your columns what foreigners of Yokohama are opposed to treaty revision and what foreigners are in favour of it. It will then be possible to cease dealing with the former and limit our transactions to the latter. In this way a combination may be effected, the Chamber of Commerce of course joining and also the foreign merchants themselves who are in favour of revision. Pray take what steps you can to assist this consummation."

SLANDER.

MORAL decency has ceased to be an appreciable influence in the lives of journalists who do not hesitate to publish the contents of private letters maligning individuals. A Canadian newspaper inserts among its telegraphic items an extract from a "private letter" received in San Francisco from Tokyo. The subject of the epistle is Sir Edwin Arnold, about whom some diaphanous and grossly false statements are made—statements calculated to pain Sir Edwin and his friends. This extract is reproduced verbatim by the *Japan Gazette*, and thus introduced to the notice of people who are in daily contact

with the poet. Of course we fully appreciate the motive of such shameless and treacherous action. Sir Edwin has advocated a liberal attitude on Great Britain's part towards Japanese claims, and having thus become an object of hatred to the intolerant section of the community, is to be traduced, attacked, and hounded in every possible way. He can bear it, we dare say. But what an opinion he will carry away of the people who set themselves up as representatives of British fairness and British patriotism in Japan.

LIBERTY OF CONSCIENCE.

A CORRESPONDENT of a local contemporary, stating his reasons for signing the resolutions passed by the meeting of the 11th instant, says:—"Should the Japanese Government, unasked, nobly guarantee us liberty of conscience, right to public meetings, freedom of the press, and freehold tenure of all our lands, these liberties would never be abused by the class of foreigners residing or likely to reside in Japan, and by so doing the present Government of Japan would deservedly take rank as the most enlightened Government in Asia." The writer can only refer to the granting of these privileges after the abolition of extraterritoriality, for under the present system foreigners enjoy them all, with the exception of freehold tenure of their lands, which has not been yet recognised. Now we would ask this correspondent and his fellow-thinkers, in all seriousness, on what conceivable grounds of reason can strangers residing in a foreign country expect the Government of the country to grant them privileges in excess of those enjoyed by the people of the country? We cannot look for the full right of public meeting and freedom of the press in Japan so long as it is not considered safe to extend the enjoyment of the same rights to Japanese subjects. Surely this is only consistent with common fairness. Japan is not England. We have left England for the purpose of settling in this country to earn a livelihood, and we must not expect to enjoy all the advantages of residence in England plus the commercial opportunities which attracted us to Japan. Freedom of speech and public meeting will come all in good time. It is far nearer than it was ten years ago, and its advent will be immensely hastened when parliamentary institutions come into operation. We are not too sanguine when we assert that before consular jurisdiction is abolished, speech and pen will be as unfettered in Japan as they are in almost any European State. Meanwhile, it may be worth reminding our contemporary's correspondent that freedom of conscience is already guaranteed by the Constitution. "Japanese subjects," says the 28th Article of that charter, "shall, within limits not prejudicial to peace and order, and not antagonistic to their duties as subjects, enjoy freedom of religious belief." As for freehold tenure of our lands, that too will follow immediately on the abolition of extraterritoriality, for we shall then become the absolute owners of such lands, and receive title-deeds confirming us in the ownership for ever.

FISHING AT SAPPORO.

THE fishing at Sapporo has been very poor this year, and the reason assigned for this is that the refuse from the hemp-works is allowed to fall into the river, with the result that the fish cannot come up. There are few things more pungent than the decayed outer skin of hemp or flax; and we can easily understand the failure of several parties to find sport at Sapporo, as one of the most successful fishermen in Japan only got seven fish during the few days he was there this season, a carload being nearer the result of some of his visits to the river in previous years. There is a peculiarity about the fish in this river—they only take the fly when the water is of a certain temperature. That this temperature lasts from ten to fourteen days only has been proved year after year by Captain Blakiston and others who have paid many visits to the place and studied the water. At other times, however, spinning has often resulted in large takes. The fish are not particular as to the lure, and

seize greedily anything bright as readily as do mackerel a piece of red cloth or an inch of clay pipe-stem. Spoons of various designs have been found effective, so have other artificial baits—the "Devon," the "Phantom," the "Swivel-tail," and so on. We are led to these remarks by an article in the *Hongkong Telegraph*, reproduced from the *Regimental Gazette*, a little paper published by the Highland Regiment stationed in the Crown Colony. It appears that two officers visited Sapporo this year, and shared the fate of several others—that is, they got no fish. This is what they say about it:—

Hakodate, which we next visited, was chiefly remarkable for bear skins, a plentiful lack of accommodation and the smell of dried salmon; which last peculiarities so annoyed two other officers that they beat a hasty retreat, going back by the same boat which had brought them. We, however, persevered and reached Sapporo, having suffered severely from the weather. At least I did; Z declared that he felt quite well, but if greenness of complexion and want of appetite go for anything, I should say he told a tarradiddle. Fishing was our object; we had heard that there was magnificent fishing at Sapporo, that the river was simply full of salmon trout. The morning after our arrival we sallied forth, armed with powerful rods, and books of seductive flies, and followed by trishaws carrying our tilfins, and to carry the fish. In our limited phrase-book Japanese, we had asked the people of the hotel about the fish; they had replied, their faces wreathed in agreeable smiles, that there were "Taksan," which is being interpreted "plenty." We had inquired about the size, and holding their hands about four feet apart they had made as though they were lifting exceedingly heavy weights. This was of happy augury and naturally as we walked along we were gay at heart. We soon came to the river; it looked splendid. We fished several pools carefully but with no result. A countryman came by; "Sakuna arimaska?" (are there any fish?) we asked. "Takyu," he replied, with a grin, and pointed up the river. "They seem to be further up," we said, and trudged on again. We put on new flies and did our level best, but we caught nothing. Every time we asked a passing countryman about the fish he said there were "Taksan," and pointed up the river; we must have walked about ten miles that day, but we were not rewarded by a single rise. Next day was the same, except that we each caught a sort of titlbat. Our feelings were too deep for words; we did not put the wretches back, but gave them to the trishaw coolies, a piece of generosity we thought would be appreciated. On opening my door next morning I found my titlbat, the coolie's titlbat, suspended by a piece of string to the handle. Z found his in the same position. It spoilt our appetite for breakfast; even the coolies laughed at us. We came to the conclusion that the fish must have gone to the upper waters, and determined to follow them. We went to the upper waters, a painful journey on pack horses. We fished with flies, we fished with spinners, we descended to bait, but we caught no salmon trout. On getting back, while our cuticle was slowly healing from the injuries it had received from the pack horse, we studied works on Chinese tortures, with a view to experimenting on the person of the villain who gave us the alluring details of the beautiful fishing at Sapporo.

MESSRS. FRASER AND YENOMOTO.

MR. YENOMOTO, one of thirty-five Japanese in Yokohama, who has taken up the question of Treaty Revision with special earnestness, having written to ask for an interview with Mr. J. A. Fraser, Chairman of the Anti-Revision Meeting, received a reply in the negative. Mr. Fraser assigned two reasons:—first, that pressure of other business did not permit him to accede to his correspondent's request; and secondly, he was not authorized to enter into discussion with either foreigners or Japanese. To this Mr. Yenomoto has addressed the following answer to Mr. Fraser—we extract it from the columns of the *Nichi Nichi Shinbun*:—"I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday. You say that pressure of business makes it impossible for you to meet me. Such a reply is natural in the case of one engaged in active pursuits, but in view of the fact that the present question affects our mutual interests as well as international contentment, I cannot think it right that pressure of business should be allowed to prevent a meeting. You worked hard as one of the promoters of this demonstration. In the second place, you say that you have no authority to discuss this matter with either Japanese or foreigners. That sounds reasonable, but I fail to see why you should not discuss it on your own account. We are not inspired by any desire of controversy. We believe that by discussing the views of both sides with thought and

care, the truth may be arrived at. If you cannot meet me, may we at least discuss the subject by letter? If to this, too, you object, there is nothing more to be done. I respectfully await a second answer from you."

We admire the wish of Mr. Yenomoto and his fellow-thinkers to open relations with the foreign merchants, but we cannot think that any good is to be gained by interviews. There is now a Citizens' Committee, one of whose functions is "to act as the representatives of the Community in any and all questions incidental to or arising out of the resolutions" passed at the Anti-Revision Meeting. We recommend Mr. Yenomoto to address to the Committee a written statement of the views held by himself and his associates. The Committee is bound to reply, and the resulting interchange of ideas may help to clear the air.

The experience of Mr. Kobayashi bears out our recommendation. The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* publishes an account of his proceedings. He waited upon Mr. Fraser, and being recommended by that gentleman to betake himself to a barrister or a newspaper editor, he proceeded to the chambers of Messrs. Lowder and Litchfield. Failing to find either of the latter, he next repaired to the residence of Mr. J. H. Brooke, and had a long interview with that gentleman, which is reported with apparent fidelity in the columns of the *Nichi Nichi*. Of course these old baubles of insular conservatism, *habeas corpus*, trial by jury, castles to live in, and freedom of speech, were once again ranged in the van of the controversy, and made to parade their decrepit respectability in a most striking manner. But in the end the disputants came down to "hard pan," and discovered that wealth and strength, not right and justice, were at the bottom of it all. Such must be the end of all interviews. Better dispense with them.

PERSONAL NEWS.

VISCOUNT TOKO seems to have obtained a considerable number of converts to his religious-political doctrines in the provinces of the Tokaido. It is also reported that he is about to establish a branch office of his party at Kyoto. The latest rumour about him says that he is contemplating the publication of a daily paper in Tokyo as his party organ. The funds will be supplied by himself and Generals Harada and Horie.

MR. TAKASHIMA Kaemon, of Kanagawa, in addition to commercial sagacity, is noted for dexterity in the art of divination. He has originated a new school of his own for interpreting the Book of Change (易经), and is the author of several elaborate volumes on the subject. Lately he is said to have prophesied, in compliance with Count Yamagata's request, about some of the more important questions of the day. He is reported to have assured the Minister President that the amalgamation of the progressive parties will not succeed, and that the Diet will be dissolved. The *Kokumin-no-Tomo*, noticing this rumour, observes that, if he attaches any value to the prophesies of Mr. Takashima, the best thing the Minister President could do would be to appoint this shrewd man of business to the position of Cabinet Adviser. Harmless pleasantries, enough.

HOUSES AND CASTLES.

WEARY as is the task of correcting errors which have been repeatedly corrected before, and conveying information which has already been conveyed time after time, we think it desirable at this juncture that every effort should be made to remove false impressions. We notice, therefore, a paragraph in a local contemporary, asking:—"If it is true that a Japanese house is inviolable and cannot be entered without a warrant, what becomes of the complaint so constantly put forward by and on behalf of the police, that they are handicapped in their efforts to detect theft and repress crime in the settlements by reason of their inability to enter the premises of

foreigners?" The writer of this is evidently a new comer. The complaint put forward by the police is that great difficulty and delay are involved in obtaining a warrant from a foreign Consul, and that before they can act upon the warrant, they invariably find that the person they seek to arrest has received warning of their intentions and taken refuge in the premises of another foreigner, probably of a different nationality. This necessitates an application for a new warrant and involves a delay perhaps of a day. A warrant from a Japanese police magistrate, on the contrary, can be swiftly and quietly obtained. The difference lies entirely in this. Were Consular Jurisdiction abolished, the police would have no more right to enter a foreigner's house without a warrant than they have at present. The Constitution says:—"Except in the cases provided for in the law, the house of no Japanese subject shall be entered or searched without his consent." Why should there be any misapprehension about these things? They are plain enough, surely.

GOLD AND SILVER RATIOS.

The *Official Gazette* gives the following table of comparative values of gold and silver coins and of the pound sterling for the week ended the 13th instant, as derived from the returns of the Bank of Japan and the Yokohama Specie Bank:—

Days	Gold Coin, (Per yen 100)	Pound Sterling (Per £1)
8th	106.000	A.M. 5.2459 P.M. 5.2459
9th	106.000	A.M. 5.2892 P.M. 5.2892
10th	106.800	A.M. 5.2892 P.M. 5.2892
11th	106.800	A.M. 5.2892 P.M. 5.2892
12th	106.800	A.M. 5.2892 P.M. 5.2892
13th	106.800	A.M. 5.3333 P.M. 5.3333
Averages	106.533	5.2893

The above averages show for gold coin an increase in value of *yen* 1.383, and for the pound sterling an increase in value of *yen* 0.0859, as compared with the previous week.

THE TELEGRAM TO LONDON.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* says that, with regard to telegraphing the resolutions of the Anti-Revision Meeting to London, as previously resolved upon, the gentlemen charged with the business, fearing that if they made use of the wires in Japan the message might be stopped by the Japanese Authorities, decided to send one of their number to Shanghai, in order that the message might be despatched from that place. We do not believe this for a moment. Such distrust of the Japanese Telegraph Authorities would be extravagant. The same journal adds that the expense of sending the telegram is estimated at 8150. The first two resolutions consisted of 116 words, to which very nearly as many would have to be added in order to make the message intelligible, and to include names and addresses. The telegram must have cost something more like four hundred dollars than one hundred and fifty.

THE EMPEROR'S BIRTHDAY.

The *Fomuri Shinbun* says that the celebration of the Emperor's birthday this year, on the 3rd of November, will be marked by an unprecedented feature. His Majesty proposes to entertain all the members of both Houses of the Diet in the Homeiden at the Imperial Palace. The Household Department, our contemporary adds, is already making preparations for the banquet, and has given an order to several workers in metal in Morikawacho, Tokyo, for the manufacture of a number of candelabra to be used for the first time on this historical occasion. From what the *Fomuri* says we gather that the candelabra are to be silver, and that the well known cranes and tortoises are to figure prominently in the decoration, chrysanthemums being of course added to distinguish them as articles of Imperial furniture. The sockets for the candles will be a cluster of chrysanthemum blossoms, and each candelabrum is to weigh about eighty pounds avoirdupois. If

this statement be correct, it is evident that the Imperial waiters will not find it a very simple business to move the candelabra about.

CHOLERA RETURNS.

The latest cholera returns derived from official sources are as follow:—

Prefecture or City.	Date.	New Cases.	Deaths.
Osaka	11th	240	249
	12th	180	143
	13th	280	158
	14th	261	265
	15th	314	137
Hyogo	16th	201	161
	17th	259	103
	18th	99	59
	19th	182	109
	20th	57	44
Nagasaki	11th	35	28
	12th	62	35
	13th	54	34
	14th	48	30
	15th	53	31
Yamaguchi	16th	50	32
	17th	50	32
	18th	50	32
	19th	50	32
	20th	50	32
Fukuoka	11th	40	30
	12th	3	7
	13th	5	12
	14th	17	11
	15th	3	5
Oita	16th	10	10
	17th	1	2
	18th	1	3
	19th	1	4
	20th	1	3
Saga	11th	13	11
	12th	4	3
	13th	34	33
	14th	24	22
	15th	18	9
Kumamoto	16th	15	14
	17th	34	22
	18th	9	8
	19th	21	13
	20th	46	23
Tokyo	11th	33	17
	12th	33	17
	13th	20	11
	14th	20	10
	15th	38	18
Yokohama	16th	24	18
	17th	20	10
	18th	25	18
	19th	15	15
	20th	19	10
Kanagawa	11th	12	0
	12th	18	13
	13th	12	0
	14th	18	13
	15th	18	13
Chiba	16th	12	0
	17th	12	0
	18th	12	0
	19th	12	0
	20th	12	0
Ibaraki	11th	25	15
	12th	27	12
	13th	27	12
	14th	27	12
	15th	27	12
Utsunomiya	16th	10	7
	17th	9	10
	18th	18	5
	19th	7	12
	20th	8	2
Maebashi	11th	21	2
	12th	5	6
	13th	5	6
	14th	7	4
	15th	1	—
Mito	16th	34	14
	17th	34	14
	18th	34	14
	19th	34	14
	20th	34	14

The numbers of cases and deaths since the commencement of the epidemic, inclusive of the above figures, appear in the following table:—

Prefecture or City.	Cases.	Deaths.
Osaka	5,210	3,711
Hyogo	1,210	784
Nagasaki	3,490	2,119
Yamaguchi	1,580	940
Fukuoka	2,571	1,632
Oita	741	418
Saga	392	406
Kumamoto	860	503

The total number of cases and deaths in the following Cities and Prefectures not included in the above, from the commencement of the epidemic to the 17th instant, are:—

City or Prefecture	Cases.	Deaths.
Tokyo	1,360	1,101
Tsukuba	103	53
Kanagawa	1,612	1,115
Chiba	603	352
Ibaraki	15	4
Utsunomiya	933	434
Ehime	39	51
Okayama	23	22
Mie	6	3
Shizuoka	87	32
Yamanashi	20	11
Shiga	30	19

INSTANTANEOUS SPECIFIC FOR CHOLERA.

The *Colonies and India* mentions another specific for cholera. It is styled "Dr. Harkin" or "Vagus treatment of cholera," and consists in the simple application with a camel hair pencil of the *Liquor epispasticus* (a blistering fluid) of the British Pharmacopoeia to the skin of that part of the neck lying immediately behind and round about the lobe of the ear. The blistering fluid is said to excite a nerve that controls the heart and digestive functions. The effect is described to be instantaneous; the purging, vomiting and cramps cease; and the patient generally falls asleep, and awakes cured.

THE TAITO JOYAKU-KAI.

The Association for the Revision of the Treaties on Terms of Equality held a meeting, on the 16th instant, in the Kaika-tei Shinsakana-cho,

Kyobashi, Tokyo, and came to the decision that, in consequence of the Anti-Revision meeting held by foreigners in Yokohama on the 11th instant, steps should be taken to put an end to commercial dealings with foreigners opposed to Japanese jurisdiction. With this object it was resolved to send deputies to the Chambers of Commerce in Tokyo and Yokohama, the deputation to consist of three members of the Association and two outsiders. The persons chosen for the purpose were Mayeda Kagashi, Ishizaka Masataka, Yamaguchi Shichiji, Morimoto Tokichi, and Futsabayashi Katsu.

THE BANK OF JAPAN.

The amounts of convertible notes and reserves in the Bank of Japan for the week ended the 13th instant were as follows:—

Convertible Notes.	Reserves and Securities.
YEN.	YEN.
Notes issued	Gold coin and bullion
74,565,860	24,645,247
	Silver coin and bullion
	21,011,279
	Public Loan Bonds
	13,476,459
	Treasury Bills
	—
	Government Bills
	—
	Other securities
	4,732,182
	Commercial Bills
	10,100,721
74,565,860	74,565,860

Of the above total issue of notes, the sum of *yen* 5,743,554 is in the treasury of the Bank, and *yen* 68,822,315 in actual circulation, the latter showing a decrease of *yen* 985,039 as compared with *yen* 69,807,354 at the end of the previous week.

ARREST OF MR. KRIPS.

MR. KRIPS, who absconded from Chefoo some time ago in a Chinese junk, having embezzled or dishonestly made away with a large sum of money, has been arrested at Chemulpho. It was expected that he would have come on to Japan, in which case another Power, Austria—for Krips is an Austrian subject, though he acted as Consul for Sweden in Chefoo—would have had to tackle the extradition problem. In Korea, however, the Authorities give themselves no concern about such matters, and we have no doubt that Krips by this time is safely returned for trial at the place of his misdeeds.

"KIRIN" BEER.

The "Kirin" beer has just won a great victory. Owing to the strong dissatisfaction engendered in many quarters by the decisions of the Judges at the Exhibition, the *Fiji Shimpo* undertook to consult public opinion as to the best article in each class, promising to mark the verdict by presenting a handsome silver medal plated with gold to the exhibitor of the articles which obtained most votes. One hundred of these medals were given, and the "Kirin" beer was fortunate enough to obtain one. This settles the question of its superiority over the "Yebisu" beer, at least according to Japanese taste.

POLICE CONSTABLES AT THE ANTI-REVISION MEETING.

We are informed on the best authority that the police constables, whose presence outside the Public Hall while the anti-revision meeting was in progress has been commented on in several quarters, were sent by the authorities to preserve order, and chiefly to secure that no lawless conduct should be committed by any boisterous Japanese youths who might be drawn to the locality.

ILLNESS OF MR. ARISHIMA.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* says that Mr. Arishima, Superintendent of Customs, was seized by cholera on the morning of the 12th inst. and is now under medical treatment.

We are glad to be able to report that Mr. Arishima is daily improving, and it is hoped that he will be about again in a few days.

YOKOHAMA CRICKET AND ATHLETIC CLUB.

The committee of the above Club find it impossible to hold the autumn athletic meeting in the month of October, as was suggested last year, in the face of the numerous events taking place then, viz., the two interport cricket matches, the regatta, and the races. The meeting will therefore be held as early in November as possible.

JAPANESE COMMERCIAL MORALITY.

THE commercial morality of Japanese brought into contact with foreigners been discussed pretty fully of late, but many of the comments evoked have been so obviously inspired by a feeling of hot anger that the net result of the discussion will probably be more injurious than profitable. Many Japanese, instead of seeing that the conduct of their countrymen at the open ports deserves severe reprobation and is calculated to impair the nation's good name, will be apt to conclude that the average foreign resident dislikes and despises the native too heartily to form anything like an impartial estimate of his character, and that the much abused *Boyeiki-shōnin* is the victim of prejudice rather than of his own misdeeds. Moderate men, indeed, must have been astonished and pained by the display of rancour which this controversy has called forth. It is plain that some of the writers were smarting under the keen sense of recent losses, and that their language came from outraged pockets rather than from calm conviction. We do not wish to say a word calculated to embitter feelings already only too bitter, but it would be misleading were we to leave unanswered certain difficulties and objections that have been raised.

It has been frankly recognised in these columns that the morality of the native merchants in Yokohama, and indeed at the treaty ports generally, is below Western standards. Six years ago the foreign residents of Yokohama, in a memorial addressed to their Representatives, spoke of these merchants as "remnants of an evil past;" three years ago, in an official remonstrance presented to the then British Minister, they described the same merchants as sound traders with whom they were content to deal and upon whose competence and general integrity they were indignant that any reflections should be cast; now, they remain silent while the most injurious epithets are hurled at the same merchants by writers in the local English press. It is obvious that great differences of opinion exist, and the fact is emphasized by the letter of our correspondent, "Twenty-one years in Japan," who avers that he has "come across many Japanese merchants who are particularly honest," and gives it is his experience that "if you can get a Japanese to have faith in you, he will deal pretty honestly with you." We ourselves have, nevertheless, accepted the unfavourable statements addressed to us by more than one British merchant of standing and experience, not because we consider our informants to be beyond the reach of prejudice, or proof against the danger of making a mistake, but because the conditions under which trade is conducted in Yokohama seem to us so eminently calculated to encourage dishonesty that we

are altogether unable to reconcile them with any hypothesis of strictly straightforward dealing. We analysed these conditions at length in previous articles, and need not recapitulate them here, especially since no attempt has been made to deny their existence. But surely it is extravagant to claim, as has been confidently claimed, that, because the practice of Japanese merchants in Yokohama, under these peculiar conditions, invites condemnation, therefore Japanese merchants must be equally bad everywhere. There are men of low morality in every body of traders, of whatever nationality, but their existence does not establish the unsoundness of the whole body. It is a fact, strange at first sight but easily explicable, that the worst types of Japanese of all classes congregate at the treaty ports. Just as the better grade of Japanese merchants despise and distrust the *Boyeiki-shōnin*, so do all Japanese hesitate to employ a servant, clerk, or labourer who has lived in Yokohama. Considering the stigma that attached to money-getting in feudal times, and remembering the social status then occupied by the merchant, we are constrained to admit that the profession of commerce does not yet attract men as upright on the whole, or encourage methods as honourable, in Japan as in Europe or America. But to measure the morality of the whole by the stature of the most deformed section is grossly unjust. Still more preposterous is it to argue that, because Japanese traders in Yokohama are, in the main, unworthy of confidence, therefore the entire nation is unfit to be trusted. With equal justice might one assert that, since certain fathers and mothers in England treat their offspring with revolting brutality, therefore all English parents are inhuman, and therefore the whole English race is degraded. Such arguments cannot be reconciled with any sentiment of justice or kindness. They emanate from persons who glory in traducing the Japanese, and who pretend that, whereas to claim the highest virtues for one's own countrymen is manly and patriotic, to say a good word for people of foreign origin is mean, cowardly, and mercenary.

This brings us at once to a strange misconception on the part of our critics. In answer to our contention that the only hope of inaugurating a better state of things is to abolish the settlements and enable foreigners to combine with Japanese, we are told that respectable foreigners would not dream of combining with men who rob and cheat. We confess that we have sometimes been puzzled to understand how respectable foreigners can induce themselves to go on, year after year, dealing with Japanese, if the latter are really as black as they are painted. Be that as it may, however, the change contemplated by us had expressly declared reference to partnerships with Japanese

merchants of a type different from those who now monopolise the trade at the open ports. That there are many merchants of high probity outside Yokohama and Kobe cannot for a moment be denied. There are, indeed, many such within those settlements. Legally recognised partnerships between these men and foreigners would not only secure the latter against much of the dishonesty said to be now practised, but would also remove them from their present alien and isolated position, which makes them the prey of sharpers and low traders of every description. To have legally recognised partnerships, however, Treaty Revision must be accomplished, and to that consummation we have almost ceased to look forward. It seems to us that a body of aliens confined within the limits of a settlement; forbidden to trade in the interior or to combine with the people of the country for purposes of business; maintaining their isolated position for the avowed reason that they consider themselves a superior race to the nation whose territory they inhabit; conducting one half of their commerce in a high-handed and exceptional manner because they declare their inability to trust a native dealer, and denouncing, in uncompromising terms, the chicanery and immorality of the Japanese who come to trade with them—it seems to us that the history of these men's commercial existence must, in the very nature of things, be unsatisfactory, and that they cannot possibly expect to find themselves in contact with the best classes of Japanese, or to be treated with anything like the consideration and integrity which mark the dealings of civilized men with their own nationals.

THE TREATY REVISION MEETING.

IT seems to us that when the community of Yokohama comes to consider the action to which it pledged itself at the Treaty Revision Meeting on the 11th instant, there will be some surprise and even disgust. From beginning to end the affair has been of a strange and startling character. The meeting came together in response to an advertisement bearing no signature, emanating from a totally unknown source, and professing to be "by order." Under such circumstances, it might have been anticipated that one of the first steps taken would have been to tender or seek an explanation of this extraordinary formula. But nobody seems to have thought of doing either the one thing or the other. It was enough for those present to know that they had been brought together. They cared nothing about the means, nothing about the form of summons; and this indifference as to preliminaries, supplemented by the fact that so large a number of residents put in an appearance, must be taken as denoting unusual interest and earnestness.

But if such was the mood of those present, how are we to reconcile it with the fact that outside the little band of gentlemen by whom the demonstration had evidently been projected and organised, not one person brought with him an idea which seemed worthy of ventilation; not one person had a question to ask or a word to say? The whole affair suggests the idea of a theatrical performance at which half a dozen persons played the principal rôles and all the rest behaved as audience. Possibly this was because everybody's mind was made up beforehand to vote for whatever anti-revision propositions were submitted to the meeting, putting no queries and raising no issues of any kind. Such very practical determination is, in one sense, impressive, but its consequence was to impart to the proceedings a meagre and stereotyped character which must necessarily detract greatly from their value as an intelligent expression of public opinion. The little band of leaders were active enough. They all came with duly prepared speeches, moderate and for the most part effective, and they had the pleasure of finding an appreciative and not inquisitive audience. But the difficulty of performing all the items on their programme with such a limited corps must have been keenly brought home to them when they found that, in two instances, the task of proposing names to serve on a committee had to be discharged by the aspiring committee-men themselves. These, however, are small matters compared with the singular discovery made after the meeting had assembled, namely, that no one could give any distinct explanation of the causes of the agitation. The Chairman was perfectly frank about this. He confessed his complete ignorance, and avowed himself a searcher after the very information on the strength of which the meeting had been convened. He alluded mysteriously, however, to a gentleman possessed of information, trustworthy but obtained from a source which could not be divulged. This gentleman turned out to be Mr. J. F. LOWDER. Mr. LOWDER for a long series of years occupied a position of honour and trust in the Japanese Government's Service, and is now a life pensioner of the same Government. During that protracted period his sympathies were openly and strongly given to the cause of Treaty Revision, and to the efforts made by Japan to obtain international recognition of her rights. Whether with such a record immediately behind him, the part now played by Mr. LOWDER is consistent with the dictates of either decorum or friendliness we shall not attempt to decide. It is certain, however, that the official confidence which he formerly enjoyed, and the sources of knowledge to which he now has access, render his statements credible. For that reason, perhaps, the meeting was content with his very vague assertion that he had

obtained, "from a source which convinced his mind of the truth of the fact," information that there is imminent danger of the English Government's accepting Japan's proposals, and placing British subjects under Japanese Jurisdiction without any of the safeguards hitherto considered necessary. On the strength of this hazy piece of news, resting entirely on Mr. LOWDER's responsibility, the meeting had been convened, and showed itself prepared to act. In such a remarkably complacent mood it proceeded to consider resolutions which would never, we are persuaded, have been accepted on calm reflection. The first resolution consisted of two parts, to one of which the meeting's unanimous consent was natural and proper—namely, that "the time has not arrived when questions in regard to rights, whether of property or person, arising between subjects and citizens of Foreign Powers in the dominions of His Majesty the EMPEROR of Japan, can be unconditionally and safely subjected to the jurisdiction of Japanese tribunals." This decision, we say, is precisely what any body of Englishmen might have been expected to formulate. It is, to be sure, a strangely worded decision. For it speaks only of "rights of property or person arising between subjects and citizens of Foreign Powers in Japan," and says nothing whatever about the very much larger and more important question of such rights as between Japanese and foreigners. We can conceive what the drafters of the clause intended to say, but in a case so important their phraseology ought surely to make no demands on our imagination. It is the second part of the resolution, however, which may fairly be described as astounding. Anybody, even Mr. LOWDER, the proposer of the resolution, can claim that Treaty Revision without guarantees may not inconsistently be opposed by advocates of Treaty Revision with guarantees. But every form of revised treaty, whether proposed in the past or to be proposed in the future, must contemplate the complete abolition of Consular Jurisdiction after a fixed term of years. No guarantees offered by Japan can be claimed in permanency. Their operation, as part of an international agreement, must be of a temporary and limited character. When, therefore, the meeting passed a resolution declaring that "the time has not arrived when an estimate can be formed of the period within which the unconditional relinquishment of extraterritorial jurisdiction in Japan can be safely promised," it declared, in the most unequivocal manner, that the time for Treaty Revision on any terms whatever has not yet come. There is no gainsaying the import of this clause. The meeting of Thursday last distinctly pledged itself to the assertion that any attempt whatsoever to revise the Treaties is at present premature. Did the gentlemen who voted this extraordinary and sweeping resolution

understand what they were about? We greatly doubt it. Mr. LOWDER himself, in his speech proposing the resolution, declared his regret that the negotiations of 1887 had proved a failure. But the principal condition of the draft treaty of 1887, as Mr. LOWDER well knows, was that Consular Jurisdiction should be completely abolished after a fixed term of years. Are we to understand then, that what was not premature in 1887 is premature in 1890? Mr. LOWDER evidently relied implicitly on the disposition of his audience when he permitted himself to drift into such flagrant contradictions. And he was right. Consistency is evidently an idle fancy now-a-days. Last year a deputation from the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce assured Count OKUMA of their sympathy with his efforts to secure Treaty Revision. This year the Vice-Chairman of the Chamber, who was himself a member of that deputation, votes for a resolution declaring that Treaty Revision is out of the question.

Passing to the second resolution, we find that it was laid before the meeting in terms which betray singular misconception of facts. The resolution ran thus:—"That in the opinion of this meeting it would be an act of grave injustice to foreigners who have purchased land in Japan under covenant with the Japanese Government, if the conditions or incidents of their tenure of such land should be altered without their consent." Now as to the general question whether land leased in perpetuity on certain terms may be placed upon a different footing without the consent of the lessee, we can understand that many persons will be disposed to hold strong opinions. On the other hand, we cannot understand or believe that any fair-minded foreigner, enjoying in Japan all the rights and privileges of a Japanese subject, would object to being placed on the same fiscal footing as a Japanese subject. An alien cannot properly claim, in any part of the world, that he should be allowed to conduct trade or industry on terms more advantageous than those enjoyed by a native. When, therefore, the foreign land-renters receive title-deeds of ownership in lieu of their present leases, and are placed in all other respects on the same footing with respect to land tenure as Japanese subjects, it will be an act of simple justice that they shall be liable for whatever land taxes are leviable upon land similarly held by Japanese subjects. The resolution submitted to last Thursday's meeting by Mr. A. O. GAY, and unanimously carried, speaks of "foreigners having purchased land in Japan under covenant with the Japanese Government." Where is any evidence of such purchase to be found? Not in the Treaty. The third article of the Treaty between Japan and Great Britain, after enumerating the ports to be opened to British subjects on July 1st, 1859, says:—"In all the foregoing ports

and towns, British subjects may permanently reside. They shall have the right to lease land and purchase the buildings thereon." The land, it will be observed, is to be "leased;" the buildings "purchased." Mr. GAY, in his speech proposing the resolution, said:—"The properties were all sold at auction by the Government, proving that the right of property was acquired, apart from the ground-rents, and those who bought them paid for the property." These statements betray singular carelessness and want of research. If Mr. GAY had taken the trouble to think he would have remembered that all the properties held by foreigners were not purchased at auction, many of them having been handed over by the Japanese Government without any charge whatever. And if Mr. GAY had taken the trouble to examine the Treaties and Conventions, he would have learned that the money paid by foreigners at auction cannot be regarded as the price of the properties they occupy. Yokohama happens to be the Settlement concerning which least information is obtainable from the letter of the Conventions. But even with regard to Yokohama Mr. GAY can inform himself. If he turns to the memorandum of 1864 and the Convention of 1865, he will learn something about the destination of the money paid by foreigners for lands acquired at auction. Referring to the Swamp Lots, the former document says that "the proceeds arising from their disposal shall be added to a municipal fund, which shall be employed for the making of drainage and roads, &c., and keeping them in a state of repair," and with regard to the Bluff Lots the latter document provides that "the premia obtained by their sale at public auction shall be used for the improvement of the locality." Certainly these articles and others which can easily be found, do not indicate that the foreigners acquiring Swamp or Bluff lands, paid the Government for the right of property in them. Further, Mr. GAY went on to say that "the ground-rent was fixed, representing the equivalent of the Japanese taxation at date," and he then wandered off to speak of income tax, evidently under the impression, which his words conveyed to his hearers, that the ground-rents include all kinds of taxation. Here again he might easily have avoided flagrant misconception by referring to the Hyogo and Osaka Convention of 1867, where the nature of ground-rent is very clearly defined—namely, "an annual rent calculated at a rate that will be considered sufficient to meet the expenses of keeping in repair the roads and drains, the cleansing and lighting of and maintaining order in the settlements, and the ordinary land tax payable at the present date to the Japanese Government." The only tax included in the ground-rent is the land tax, and we must confess unbounded astonishment that an old resident like Mr. GAY, having

undertaken to address a public meeting of Yokohama residents on a subject so often discussed and so easily studied, should have betrayed such remarkable ignorance.

As to the silly speech of another member of the little corps, one of the firebrands of this Settlement, who intimated that Japanese jurisdiction could never be trustworthy until those fine old English institutions, *habeas corpus* and trial by jury, were introduced, we need not waste space on such empty clap-trap. Nearly all the most highly civilized nations in the West are without both *habeas corpus* and trial by jury, and Japan also can very well afford to dispense with them. Altogether it must be confessed that the anti-treaty-revision movement, with whatever enthusiasm and earnestness its little posse of promoters may be animated, has been inaugurated amid a good deal of blundering and confusion. Absolute ridicule it might have escaped had fate been a little kinder. But the last straw was added when the name of a Chinaman was included on the roll of the Committee of Thirty Citizens—a Chinaman to work hand in hand with the champions of Western progress in protecting the privileges of the "superior races" and opposing Japan's claims to be recognised as a civilized country! Could the irony of an evil genius be more cruelly displayed than in this wonderful association of a Celestial with the guardians of Yokohama's haughty isolation!

THE EFFECT OF THE TREATY REVISION MEETING.

WE find it impossible to believe that the resolutions passed at the Treaty Revision Meeting will have any serious effect on the course of the negotiations. It goes without saying that in such a matter HER MAJESTY'S Government will be disposed to consult the wishes of British subjects residing in Japan, but it is equally obvious that the Secretary of State must be guided by the dictates of reason, by the obligations of national dignity, and by the principles of sound statesmanship. All these he will have to ignore, we think, if he resolves to follow the route now indicated for him.

If the first resolution—which, after all, is the only one that has any bearing on the general question—had been confined to a declaration that, in the opinion of the meeting, the time had not arrived when the persons and properties of British subjects residing in Japan could with safety be placed unconditionally under the jurisdiction of Japanese tribunals, HER MAJESTY'S Secretary of State might have accepted it as a reasonable and proper protest, and could have promised to give it favourable consideration. It is true that the resolution would have been superfluous, Lord SALISBURY'S opinion and indeed the opinion of everyone engaged in the negotiations, being al-

ready emphatic as to the prematurity of unconditionally abolishing consular jurisdiction. Still the resolution in that form would have been a moderate plea for due caution, and would have strengthened the hands of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs without embarrassing him. But the resolution did not stop there. It went incomparably farther. Instead of pleading for the exaction of satisfactory guarantees, which was all that the meeting was summoned to do, it declared that "the time had not yet come when an estimate could be formed of the period within which the unconditional relinquishment of extraterritorial jurisdiction could be safely promised." Now a promise to abolish consular jurisdiction completely and unconditionally after a fixed term of years, has constituted the basis of every scheme of treaty revision hitherto advanced, and must constitute the basis of every scheme hereafter advanced. By that object and by that object alone the Japanese Government is actuated in seeking to revise the treaties. That object and that object alone has been openly recognised as the ultimate aim of the negotiations in which all the great Powers have been engaged for the past ten years. Thus the announcement made to Lord SALISBURY by the meeting of the 11th instant is simply this:—"Western States have for ten years been carrying on negotiations with Japan for a purpose which we, HER MAJESTY'S subjects in Yokohama, now declare to be untenable and dangerous. Western States, in each of the three series of negotiations hitherto conducted, have announced their readiness to promise that after a fixed term of years Japan's judicial autonomy shall be unconditionally restored: their only difficulty has been to agree about the nature of the guarantees which Japan shall pledge herself to put into operation during a part or the whole of that term of years. But we now declare that no such promise can yet be safely made, and consequently that all negotiations on the subject of Treaty Revision must be postponed *sine die*." Is it in the smallest degree probable that Occidental Governments will accept this dictum? Are they at all likely to turn round at this eleventh hour and say to Japan:—"The engagement which through so many years has formed the basis of all our negotiations with you; the engagement, namely, that we are willing to set a fixed limit of time to the further existence of Consular Jurisdiction within your territories—from that engagement we now withdraw, being informed by some three hundred of our subjects and citizens in Yokohama as well as by certain Chinese folks also resident there, that we have been acting prematurely and rashly, and that the time has not come when any engagement of the kind can be safely entered into." The Cabinets in London, in Washington, in Berlin, in Paris, in Rome,

in St. Petersburg, and in Vienna, will not dream of performing this undignified pirouette at the suggestion of a meeting of Yokohama residents. On the contrary, they will want to know why the Yokohama residents did not make this radical discovery long ago. Nobody is deceived by the shallow pretext with which the proposer of the resolution tried to reconcile the inconsistencies of his own conduct, and to hide from his audience the extravagance of the resolution itself. Both the Treaty of 1887 and the Treaty of 1889 distinctly fixed a term of years at the end of which Consular Jurisdiction should be unconditionally abolished, yet the foreign residents made no attempt to object or protest. What, it will be naturally asked, what has led to the sudden and complete change of opinion in Yokohama? If any importance is to be attached to the resolution adopted by the meeting, Western Governments will at once ask what reasons now persuade the people of Yokohama that the basis upon which negotiations for treaty revision have been conducted with their tacit acquiescence for the past ten years, is to-day unsafe and premature. Reasons, however, are precisely what the people of Yokohama do not give. They appear to think that a simple announcement of their opinion is sufficient. Only one of the speakers at the meeting on the 11th ventured into the dangerous realm of argument, and what arguments his were to be sure! There was no *habeas corpus* in Japan! There was no trial by jury in Japan! It was not certain whether a man's house is his castle in Japan! Truly when one reads such silliness one is disposed to conclude that the meeting of the 11th barely escaped being converted into one of those farces for the performance of which its place of session is usually reserved. If this reasoning is to be laid before the Marquis of SALISBURY, his Lordship will form a very flattering estimate of the motives of Yokohama's action.

If we have said also that the principles of sound statesmanship are opposed to Great Britain's endorsement of the position taken by the meeting of the 11th instant, it is because we believe it to be now too late for Foreign Powers to recede. They cannot, with any show of reason, impose upon the Japanese Government the impossible task of restraining the sentiments of its nationals within amicable limits, in the face of such a declaration of Western unfriendliness. The history of the past is open and legible to all. Just as in mediæval times the overbearing and arbitrary conduct of foreigners themselves brought about the substitution of dread and dislike for the confidence and hospitality with which they were originally received in Japan, so in these modern days the position of superiority openly assumed by the foreign residents, their rough and rude criticisms

of the country and people, above all the haughty isolation which they persist in maintaining, and their refusal to recognise the empire's claims to civilized treatment, are gradually and surely sapping Japanese regard, and, if suffered to remain unchanged, must inevitably bring about a state of affairs fraught with the gravest international danger. To step back now, in obedience to an unexplained and suddenly adopted resolution of certain residents of Yokohama; to step back and inform Japan that she must be content to revert to the position which she occupied a dozen years ago; to tell her that the time has not come when even an estimate can be formed of the period after which her international ostracism may be brought to an end—to do this would certainly create such a feeling of bitter indignation throughout the whole country that no Administration could be answerable for the consequences. Lord SALISBURY is far too shrewd a statesman to invite such a crisis. He will see quite clearly that if Yokohama's lead is to be followed, Great Britain must fall back upon the *régime* of force, which happily she has been enabled to abandon for ever in her dealings with Japan.

THE ANTI-REVISION MEETING AND THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

OF course the meeting of the 11th instant has attracted considerable attention in Japanese circles, and been very largely commented on in the vernacular press. To the violent utterances of such a newspaper as the *Tokyo Koron* we need not pay much attention, inasmuch as they represent the extreme view of the case, and are no more to be considered representative than the equally violent and far more persistently bitter writing which appears from time to time in the English local press of the foreign settlements. But we are sorry to see that a sensible, solid, and generally moderate journal like the *Shogyo Shimpō*, in language carefully chosen indeed, but none the less emphatic, attributes the movement entirely to the selfishness of British merchants who do not want to expose their established business to any risk of change or competition, and who care nothing about the general progress of trade and industry provided that their own selfish interests are safeguarded. Now it would be idle to deny that there are such merchants in the Yokohama community—men who having built up a business on certain lines, are opposed to everything savouring of innovation; men who do not want the country opened, and do not wish to see any strong encouragement offered to the inflow of Western capital or Western enterprise. It is natural that there should be such men among foreigners, just as on the Japanese side there are not a few merchants who find their account in keeping

things in the old groove, and who pretend that the opening of the country is fraught with danger to national interests, whereas in truth its only danger is to their own monopoly. The *Shogyo Shimpō* must be well aware of the existence of these objectors among its own nationals, and must see that their motives are even less defensible than the selfish conservatism of their foreign counterparts, for whereas the latter only block the path of general progress, the former oppose a consummation in which the honour of their country is involved. While admitting frankly, however, that the foreign opposition is by no means free from the taint of illiberal selfishness, we cannot admit, and the *Shogyo Shimpō* ought not to suspect, that all the opponents of Revision are actuated by such motives. The higher the value set by a man on good laws and their efficient administration, the more reluctant is he to transfer the guardianship of his person and property to codes with which he is not familiar, and to tribunals concerning the competence and purity of which he entertains doubts. It is a very serious step for Englishmen to submit to any alien jurisdiction whatsoever, above all to the jurisdiction of an Oriental country for the first time in their history. Were it proved that educated Japanese do not and cannot appreciate this reluctance on the part of British subjects, we should regard the fact as a strong evidence that Japan is not yet fit to discharge the functions with which she seeks to be entrusted. Instead of suggesting that British merchants, as the originators of and most prominent figures in the present agitation, should be boycotted by the Japanese traders at the treaty ports, the *Shogyo Shimpō* ought to recognise that, in this as in all other Oriental questions, Englishmen take the lead which properly belongs to the preponderance of their interests and to their preëminent sense of the sacredness of personal rights and personal freedom. We do not ourselves agree for one moment with the methods of the promoters of the agitation. On the contrary, we believe that they have reawakened a most mischievous spirit; that they are blind to the true interests of their country in the first place, and of their commerce in the second; that they have placed fresh obstacles in the path of a problem the solution of which is absolutely essential to the smooth relations of Japanese and foreigners; and that their act will one day be prominently classed among a train of incidents contributing to a catastrophe which will be regretted when too late. None the less we give many of them full credit for honest and conscientious motives, and are not at all offended by the blind zeal which induces them to regard all their opponents as renegades and men of corrupt morals. Equally of course must thoughtful persons appreciate and sympathise with the intense chagrin and exas-

peration felt by the Japanese. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* says truly that it seems quite hopeless to look for any liberal recognition of Japanese efforts on the part of foreign residents. Reviewing the legislative reforms accomplished during the past twenty years, our contemporary points out that foreigners seem just as dissatisfied and just as distrustful as when they first advanced the valid objection that Japanese laws, being based on Oriental principles, could not be applied with propriety to Occidental peoples. What can be answered to this? Stronger than anything we could write is the flagrant fact that at the meeting of the 11th instant not one single word was uttered showing a sense of the progress Japan has made. Not one of the speakers thought of admitting that she had done much, however far her accomplishments might still, in his opinion, fall short of sufficiency. It was a monotone of condemnation. "Not yet has the time come when even an estimate can be formed of the interval that must elapse before Japan will be fit to assume jurisdiction over the persons and properties of foreigners residing within her territories,"—such was the harsh and sweeping verdict which the meeting was betrayed into passing. Not one of the little group of uncompromising promoters seemed to care a jot how much anger and indignation their reckless proceedings must create in the breasts of every Japanese having any concern for the reputation of his country. Not one paused to think what kind of character such a concert of bigoted contempt and distrust must impart to the international dealings of Western peoples. And to crown all, they did not hesitate to make the Chinese residents their associates in this declaration of Japanese semi-civilization and national incompetence. What wonder that the Japanese are deeply insulted and bitterly angered. If the band of agitators are in any doubt as to the mood which their proceedings must rouse in Japan, let them recall the treatment they themselves, or their newspaper representatives, extend to every one venturing to plead Japan's cause; how they abuse him, hound him, bully him, ascribe to him the meanest motives, and even deny his possession of that sentiment which the most abandoned Englishman never loses—patriotism. In truth the Japanese have ample reason for indignation, but it were well if they can remember that every angry expression uttered by them will surely be construed as an evidence of anti-foreign feeling. They cannot afford to be impatient, unless indeed they are already resigned to the end towards which the acts of men like the promoters of the anti-revision meeting would inevitably drive them.

MR. LOWDER AND TREATY REVISION.

A QUESTION propounded in a few lines often requires an answer filling more than one column. We will try to be as brief as possible in replying to Mr. LOWDER, with whom we share the desire to discuss all matters relating to Treaty Revision in a calm and friendly spirit.

But first we must call attention to the fact that the principal resolution voted at the meeting of the 11th instant, has assumed, by the light of Mr. LOWDER's subsequent explanation, a complexion very different from that indicated by its language. The words of the resolution say that no period can safely be fixed for the unconditional abolition of Consular Jurisdiction. Mr. LOWDER, who proposed and, we believe, framed the resolution, says that a period for the unconditional abolition of Consular Jurisdiction *can* be safely fixed, provided that Japan engages to adopt a measure for strengthening and educating her judiciary. The former hypothesis would preclude Treaty Revision altogether. The latter constitutes the basis upon which all negotiations for Treaty Revision have hitherto been founded. We are now told that the drafter of the resolution intended it to convey the second meaning. But by ordinary readers, and especially by readers acquainted with the history of Treaty Revision, the resolution must inevitably be read in the first sense. To illustrate this, let us refer to the Treaty of 1887, since that seems to have been taken by the malcontents as a point of departure. The Treaty of 1887 provided that the foreign settlements and consular jurisdiction should remain *in statu quo* for five years. At the expiration of that period the settlements were to become as other parts of the Empire, and consular jurisdiction was to be completely and unconditionally abolished. During a period of seven years from the time of its abolition, foreigners coming into Japanese Courts were to find legal experts of Western origin occupying the Bench in a majority. Thus this Treaty fixed five years as the term of life remaining to Consular Jurisdiction, and decreed that it should then die finally and unconditionally. Foreign States reserved to themselves no title to revive the system under any circumstances, and its demise was therefore absolutely unconditional. Mr. LOWDER now explains, if we understand him aright, that the framers of the resolution did not intend it to preclude negotiations on a basis similar to that of the Treaty of 1887. But it will certainly be construed in that prohibitive sense by HER MAJESTY'S Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and it must have been voted in that sense by the Meeting, for its proposer did not then attempt to explain, as he has since done, that it was intended to convey a meaning not deducible from its language. We shall not, however,

pursue this part of the subject. It is at all events satisfactory to learn that the proposer of the resolution did not intend to pledge the meeting to any illiberal and retrogressive policy, and that, assuming the resolution to have been voted in the sense contemplated by him, a large number of Yokohama residents were in accord with the proposals of the Japanese Government in 1887.

Passing now to Mr. LOWDER's query, we might remind him that our charge of inconsistency was based on the radical difference between the strict terms of his resolution and the terms of the Treaty of 1887, which he approved and promoted. So soon as he asserts that he adheres to his attitude of 1887, and that his resolution was not framed in opposition to that attitude, we freely admit—as we did in our foot-note to his first letter—that his intentions at least are consistent. But we presume that this point is altogether secondary to his desire to discuss the problem indicated by his query. Has, then, "anything occurred between 1887 and 1890 that would justify any modification to-day of the admission of three years ago as to the necessity for the judicial safeguards that were agreed to by the Japanese Government and the Foreign Representatives?" Yes, we reply; something very important has occurred: the promulgation of the Constitution. It is for the Japanese to interpret their own Constitution, and the majority have interpreted it as vesting in Japanese subjects an exclusive right of property in civil appointments, and therefore as declaring that to confer such appointments on aliens would be to dispose unlawfully of a portion of the nation's property. Against this interpretation we ourselves fought with what strength we possessed. But the other side won the day, and it is hard now to find a single Japanese willing to admit that the Constitution would not be violated were alienage made a condition of appointment to places on the Japanese Bench. Things must be dealt with in their actuality. The Constitution stands irremovably in the way of giving Japanese judgeships to foreign legal experts.

A second thing has occurred: years have passed. There is no longer any possibility of negotiating revised treaties, and putting them into operation before the meeting of Parliament. The Diet possesses no treaty-making power, but the Diet must give its consent to any law required for putting a treaty into operation. The enactment of a law would be necessary in order to the constitution of courts having a majority of foreign experts on the Bench. Such a law the Diet would undoubtedly refuse to pass. Therefore the Japanese Government can no longer agree to embody the Judge Guarantee in the revised treaties.

A third thing has occurred: the Japanese nation has grown up to a much fuller

sense of its rights and dignity. In 1885, when the Judge Guarantee found a place in the basis of negotiations, the Japanese were undoubtedly ready to make the concession, hurtful though it must necessarily have been to their patriotic feeling. The occasion was unique. Had it been wisely utilized, the treaty-revision problem might have been satisfactorily solved long ago. But it was not wisely utilized. In 1887 when the guarantee emerged from the manipulation of the negotiators, it had assumed startling dimensions. The body of Judges of foreign origin, destined to discharge judicial functions in respect of three or four thousand foreigners, had swelled to a number in excess of the total *personnel* of the English Bench, and appeared capable of very much larger expansion according to the terms of the Treaty. Nominally Japanese Judges, these foreigners were completely removed beyond Japanese authority, and were made answerable to themselves alone for their conduct and competence. Avowedly appointed by the Japanese Government and to discharge legal functions only, it had become plain that each Foreign Power would claim a voice in their selection, and that, being nominated in proportion to the preponderance of their countries' respective interests in Japan, they would tend to become judicial representatives of their nationals, not impartial arbiters of right and wrong. Presented in such a form, the Judge Guarantee shocked the Japanese nation. Mr. LOWDER speaks of it as "acquiesced in by all Japanese and foreigners alike." He means the guarantee of 1885, certainly not the guarantee of 1887, which, by short-sighted and imprudent handling, had been converted from a reasonable and statesmanlike proposal into a veritable scarecrow, calculated to warn Japan away from the field of every similar concession in the future.

We need not pursue this retrospect. Enough has been said to show that between 1887 and 1890—or, to speak more accurately, between 1885 and 1890—the course of events has carried Japan beyond all possibility of accepting the judicial guarantee, whether in its practical and valuable form of 1885, or in its attenuated and comparatively worthless form of 1889.

But, it will be justly objected, all this has reference solely to Japan's point of view. For foreigners the crucial consideration is whether they have better grounds for confidence now than they had in 1887. We think that they have. In the first place, the progress of Japanese reform is maturer by three years. No one will deny that time has much to do with this question. Every year sees an improvement in the education and experience of the Japanese judiciary. If it were possible to conceive the treaties left unrevoked for the next decade, it will be conceded that Japan, at the expiration of that period, supposing her present rate of progress to

remain unbroken, will be in a position to claim a much larger measure of international consideration than she can expect now. What is true of ten years, is proportionately true of three. Further, the promulgation of the Constitution has greatly raised the status of Japanese Judges by securing them in their tenure of office for life, and by making them independent of the Executive. The organization of the courts has also been materially improved, at large cost to the nation—a reform which constituted one of the secondary guarantees contemplated by the foreign negotiators in 1887. Different estimates may be formed of the value of all this. We limit ourselves to noting that such facts must by no means be ignored in comparing the situation in 1887 with the situation in 1890.

It comes to this then—that the day has irrevocably past when the appointment of foreign legal experts to the Japanese Bench can be made a condition of Treaty Revision, and that foreigners have more reason to trust the Japanese judiciary now than they had when such a condition was first proposed.

This seems to us a strictly fair and accurate statement of the situation which has to be dealt with by the negotiators. That there is neither possibility of finding, nor necessity to seek, an exit which, though differing from the paths hitherto chosen, shall be at once acceptable to the Japanese and satisfactory to foreigners, we do not for a moment assert.

POSTAL SAVINGS BANKS REGULATIONS.

LAW No. 63.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Regulations relating to Postal Savings Banks, and order the same to be duly promulgated. This law shall come into force on and after the 1st day of the 1st month of the 24th year of Meiji.

[His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.]

[Great Seal.]

Dated August 12th, 1890.

(Countersigned)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.
COUNT GOTO SHOJIRO,
Minister of State for Communications.

Article 1.—Matters relating to Postal Savings Banks shall be under the control of the Minister of State for Communications.

Article 2.—The deposit and repayment of funds entrusted to Postal Savings Banks shall be dealt with by Postal and Telegraph Offices and by such Post Offices as shall be fixed by the Minister of State for Communications.

Postal Savings Banks shall be opened at places where the Minister of State for Communications deems it necessary to establish the same, and such banks shall receive deposits.

Article 3.—Evidence of the deposit of money shall consist of a pass-book in which shall be entered all money deposited, and evidence of repayment of money shall be the document of repayment.

Article 4.—The amount to be deposited by one person at one time shall be to *sen* or above; fractions of one *sen* shall not be received, and the maximum that may be deposited in one day by one depositor shall not exceed *yen* 50.

The total sum of money deposited by one person shall not exceed *yen* 500, counting principal and interest together.

Article 5.—The rate of interest on money deposited shall be decided by Imperial Ordinance.

The interest on money deposited shall be computed on March 31st in each year, and be added to the capital, and interest shall begin to run from April.

No interest shall be allowed on money deposited in a Post Office for the month when such deposit took place, nor shall interest be allowed on sums under 10 *sen*.

Should repayment of money deposited in a Post Office be applied for, interest shall not be allowed for the month in which the document of repayment is issued.

If the interest on a sum deposited involves fractions of *rin*, such fractional sums shall not be included in computing the interest.

Article 6.—Depositors of money in a Post Office may at any time require repayment of all or part of the money deposited. In the case of part repayment, however, interest which has not yet been added to capital may not be included in the repayment.

Article 7.—Depositors of money in a Post Office may apply for the purchase and custody of Public Loan Bonds with part of the money deposited. Any Public Loan Bond so acquired shall, however, be one whose nominal amount is *yen* 50 or a multiple of *yen* 50.

Depositors may at any time require delivery of the above mentioned Public Loan Bonds into their custody.

When depositors require repayment of all the money deposited by them, they shall also demand the delivery of public loan bonds acquired on their account.

Article 8.—Should a deposit in the Postal Savings Bank exceed the limit of Article 4, the fact shall be intimated to the depositor, who shall be required to reduce the amount to the limit fixed.

Should such reduction not be made within 60 days after the notice provided in the last article is given, Public Loan Bonds shall be bought with the excess of deposited money, for the account of the depositor. In this case, however, the bond to be purchased may not exceed the nominal value of *yen* 50.

Article 9.—One pass-book shall be given to each depositor; should any person in depositing money receive two pass-books, repayment shall be made, without interest, of all money except that mentioned in the pass-book received first; and repayment shall be made with interest only on the larger sum when two pass-books so received bear the same date.

Article 10.—Depositors in Postal Savings Banks shall present their pass-books to the Department of Communications at the end of each full year after the month in which the first deposit was made, and shall then obtain entry of the interest calculated for the term. Should the last full year be begun in April or May, the book shall in future be presented in June.

Article 11.—Should a depositor in the Postal Savings Banks fail to make any fresh deposits, or to demand repayment, or to present his pass-book to the Department of Communications during 10 years after the last deposit, or after the pass-book was presented and written up, or interest was entered in it for the last time, or after the last repayment was applied for, no interest shall be added to the principal from the month next to that in which the term elapsed. Interest on Public Loan Bonds in the custody of the banks shall not be so treated however.

Should no deposit be made, or repayment required, or pass-book presented to the Department of Communications during 20 years in addition to the above term, the deposited funds shall become the property of the Government.

Should there be in the last case Public Loan Bonds in the custody of the Banks, then such bonds shall also become the property of the Government.

When a deposit is made or repayment required or a pass-book presented to the Department of Communications, interest shall accrue from the next month.

Article 12.—Money the repayment of which has been applied for, or Public Loan Bonds delivery of which has been required, must be received within one year from the date of the document of repayment or the document of delivery.

If they be not so accepted within such period, they shall be sent to the deposit office.

Article 13.—No application can be made for transfer to another name of money deposited in the Postal Savings Banks, except when a change has taken place in ownership by succession.

Article 14.—In cases where the Government is responsible for the indemnification of loss by depositors, the latter must apply for such indemnifica-

tion within one year after the date on which the loss was sustained, or after the date on which entry of interest for the next term would be made in the absence of knowledge of such loss. Otherwise the Government shall be freed from responsibility.

Article 15.—Mail matter relating to the affairs of Postal Savings Banks shall be carried free through the post.

Article 16.—Documents relating to the receipt and payments of money deposited in Postal Savings Banks shall be released from stamp duty.

Article 17.—Bye-laws for the carrying out of this law shall be fixed by the Minister of State for Communications.

SUPPLEMENTARY RULE.

Articles 157 202 and paragraph 2, Article 242, of the Regulations as to Posts, Notification No. 59, December, the 15th year of Meiji, shall be abolished on and after the day on which this law shall come into force.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 193.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Regulations relating to Voluntary Contracts as to works, as well as sales and purchases, leasing or hiring property of the Government, and order the same to be duly promulgated.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign Manual.)
(Great Seal.)

Dated September 1st, 1890.

(Countersigned)

COUNT MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of State for Finance.

When no bidder comes forward for public works, or for the sale or purchase, or for the leasing or hiring, of property of the Government by competition, or where the prescribed price has not been reached, even on a second invitation of tenders according to Article 77 of the Regulations of Finance, voluntary contracts may be made. Prices and other conditions settled previously in competition must, however, be adhered to.

**COMMERCIAL AND MARINE
REGISTRY.**

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 207.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Regulations providing for an addition to the Regulations as to the registry of Commerce and Vessels, and order the same to be duly promulgated.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.)

(Great Seal.)

Dated September 12th, 1890.

(Countersigned)

COUNT MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of State for Finance.
COUNT YAMADA AKIYOSHI,
Minister of State for Justice.

The following article shall be added to Imperial Ordinance No. 133, promulgated in July of the present year:—

Article 3.—Fees shall be paid in registry stamps.

THE RAILWAY BOARD.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 198.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Regulations relating to the changing of the name and the control of the Railway Bureau, and order the same to be duly promulgated.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.)

(Great Seal.)

Dated September 5th, 1890.

(Countersigned)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.
COUNT SAITO TSUKUMICHI,
Minister of State for Home Affairs.

The Railway Bureau shall become the Railway Board and be under the control of the Minister of State for Home Affairs.

CUSTOM-HOUSES.

LAW No. 80.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Law relating to Custom-Houses and order the same to be duly promulgated. We also order that the same shall come into force on and after the 1st day of the 11th month of the 23rd year of Meiji.

[His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.]

[Great Seal.]

Dated September 6th, 1890.

(Countersigned)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.
COUNT MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of State for Finance.

Article 1.—Matters relating to the entrance and clearance of vessels of foreign build and vessels of Japanese build which navigate between this and foreign countries, as well as to the export and import of goods at open ports shall be under the jurisdiction of a custom-house.

Article 2.—Matters relating to the control of foreign trade at any open port shall be dealt with by the custom-house which has jurisdiction over such port.

Article 3.—No vessels shall be permitted, except in special cases mentioned in laws or ordinances, to proceed to a foreign country from any port which is not an open one, or enter to any port which is not an open one from a foreign country. The master of any vessel contravening this law shall be punished with a fine of yen 1,000.

No navigable vessel trading between this and a foreign State is permitted to enter, from an open port, except in special cases mentioned in laws or ordinances, any port which is not opened. The punishment for breaches of this provision shall be the same as provided in the last paragraph.

Article 4.—Vessels proposing to proceed to foreign countries shall obtain beforehand the permission of the chief of a custom-house. The owner of any vessel which proceeds to a foreign country without obtaining such permission shall be punished with a fine of yen 1,000, and the cargo of such vessel shall be forfeited.

Article 5.—Persons producing false documents to a custom-house for the purpose of evading the whole or part of the customs duty shall be punished with a fine of yen 125.

Article 6.—Should the freight in an invoice produced to the custom-house of the port to which it is directed, be less as compared with the invoice produced to the custom-house of the port whence the freight was sent, then, in accordance with the Rules of Custom-houses as to coastwise trading vessels which have freight on board in regard to which the usual procedure for import has not been complied with, and if such conduct be found to be wrongful, the master of such vessel shall be punished with a fine of yen 1,000.

Article 7.—In the case of persons who transport goods the export of which is prohibited, between open ports, in accordance with the Rules of Custom-houses, such persons shall produce a certificate as to landing the goods, given by the Custom-house to which the goods were directed, to the Custom-house whence they were sent, within the period mentioned in the regulations. For each breach of this regulation the offender shall be punished with fines or penalties equal in amount to the original value of the goods.

Article 8.—Persons who have transported goods between open ports in accordance with the Rules of Custom-houses, who have lost or mislaid the certificate of transport, and who do not take the prescribed action within the period mentioned in the Rules, shall be punished with fines or penalties equal to five hundredths ($\frac{1}{200}$) of the original value of the goods so transported.

Article 9.—Persons who land imported goods not mentioned in invoices shall be punished with fines or penalties equal to the import duty on such goods, in addition to forfeiting the latter.

Article 10.—Where goods the export of which is prohibited, are exported, or the loading or landing of export or import goods takes place at a port not opened, against laws and orders, such goods shall be forfeited.

Where goods are landed without obtaining a licence for landing in accordance with the Rules of Custom-houses, or goods are loaded without obtaining a licence for loading or for transport, or goods are imported without obtaining a licence for import, such goods shall be forfeited.

Article 11.—Where prohibited goods, or goods which should bear duty but are not mentioned in the letter of notice of export and import, or in the document which enumerates the goods brought, are concealed in an export or import package they with the package shall be forfeited.

Where goods which should bear duty are concealed in travellers' luggage such goods shall be forfeited.

The application of the Penal Code shall not be interfered with by this article.

Article 12.—If goods which should be forfeited are already sold or consumed, their price shall be imposed.

Article 13.—If the Chief of a Custom-house considers it to be necessary for carrying into practice this law or the Rules of Custom-houses, he may suspend the departure of vessels, or order an inspector of the Custom-house by writ to seize goods designed for transport or for export or import.

Article 14.—Inspectors of Custom-houses may go on board vessels entering ports to inquire into necessary matters and examine the interior of such vessels, or conduct inspection on board such vessels.

The master of such a vessel shall provide a cabin for such inspector and shall treat him properly.

Article 15.—Should the inspector of a Custom house know of the existence of, or believe that there are in existence smuggled goods, he may take measures for finding proofs of a breach of the Rules by entering houses or other places.

Inspectors of Custom-houses shall carry a badge to show their office, in the cases mentioned in the last and in this article.

Article 16.—The Chief of a Custom-house may pronounce a decree against persons who contravene this law or the Rules of Custom-houses, ordering them to bring to such Custom-house money equal to the fines or penalties imposed or the goods to be forfeited, or the cost of conducting an examination into a breach of the law or Rules.

Article 17.—Persons thus ordered shall produce a letter of receipt whether they obey such decree or not, within two days, Custom-house holidays being excluded.

Should they obey such decree the goods shall be brought the same day, and the money shall be paid within ten days.

Should they refuse to obey, or produce the letter of receipt within the period mentioned in paragraph 1, or to bring in the money or the goods, the Chief of such Custom-house shall appeal to the Authorities.

Article 18.—When the Chief of a Custom-house conducts an examination into an alleged offence he may summon the offender, witnesses, and other persons concerned.

The Chief of a Custom House shall appeal to the Authorities in regard to any offence if the decree mentioned in Article 16 cannot be carried out owing to the non-attendance of the offender, witness, or other person concerned, or if objections are raised.

Article 19.—The costs of examination into an offence by the Chief of a Custom House shall be reckoned and decided in accordance with the process adopted in criminal judgments.

Article 20.—In the case of offences against this law and the Rules of Custom-Houses, the provisions as to mitigations, aggravation by second offence, and simultaneous offences, mentioned in the Penal Code, shall not be applied.

Article 21.—Matters relating to vessels navigating between this and foreign countries, vessels navigating coastwise; goods for export and import, the remission of duty, release from duty, and tentative duty, except those mentioned in this law, shall be regulated by the Rules of Custom-houses.

Fines or penalties under yen 100 may be provided in the Rules of Custom-houses.

Article 22.—The Rules of Custom-houses shall be decided by Imperial Ordinance.

SUPPLEMENTARY RULES.

The paragraph in the Rules of Merchant Shipping, Notification dated January 27th, the 3rd year of Meiji, which deals with the prohibition of navigation to foreign countries without licence, Notification No. 123, the 7th year of Meiji, Notification No. 20, the 8th year of Meiji, Notification No. 163, the 8th year of Meiji, and Notification No. 149, the 9th year of Meiji, shall be abolished on and after the day on which this law shall come into force.

"IN DARKEST AFRICA."—EFFECT OF THE LIEBIG COMPANY'S EXTRACT OF MEAT ON A MADZ CARVER.—"On the 22nd, soon after the advance had reached camp, a cold and heavy shower of rain fell, which demoralised many in the column; their failing energies and their impoverished systems were not proof against cold. Madzis and Zanzibaris dropped their loads in the road, and rushed helter-skelter for the camp. One Madi managed to crawl near my tent, wherein a candle was lit, for in a rainstorm the forest, even in daylight, is as dark as on an ordinary night in the grassland. Hearing him groan, I issued out with the candle, and found the naked body rigid in the mud, unable to move. As he saw the candle-flame, his eyes dilated widely, and he attempted to grasp it with his hands. He was at once borne to a fire, and laid within a few inches of it, and with the addition of a pint of hot broth made from the Liebig Company's Extract of Meat, we restored him to his senses. On the road in front of the rear guard two Madzis died, and also one Zanzibari of the rear column, stricken instantaneously to death by the intensely cold rain."—Stanley's "In Darkest Africa."

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE JAPANESE "BANTO."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I have waited before addressing you, hoping that some abler pen than mine would be wielded in defence of the Japanese Merchant. Though what your Japanese correspondent, in a recent issue, says is in the main true, yet I have come across many of the class he cries down who are particularly honest. Just lately I had this experience. I had some orders on commission; these were placed at home at the very top of the Metal market, immediately afterwards home prices fell greatly, and the goods were paid for before silver had appreciated much, yet they were taken without a murmur, all that was said was "that it is unfortunate." For the last twelve years I have never had anything to do with a banto, and to the banto class I ascribe all of the foreigner's woes. I have no doubt in my mind but that the demand to participate in the profits of the rise in exchange, mentioned the other day in one of the Yokohama papers, was suggested by a banto. The banto has a peculiar position; he must pretend to serve both buyer and seller; he receives wages from the foreigner and a commission from the Japanese. The banto originally came from Nagasaki, where many years of diamond cut-diamond business between Japanese and Dutch evolved him. My experience is that if you can get a Japanese to have faith in you he will deal pretty honestly with you. There are many rogues in Japan; so there are elsewhere. Their modes of looking at certain subjects are sometimes different from ours, but then from their standpoint of view we are not quite what we ought to be.

I remain, dear Sir, yours truly,

TWENTY-ONE YEARS IN JAPAN.

September 9th, 1890.

MR. LOWDER AND TREATY REVISION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—It seems to afford you satisfaction to misrepresent me. My opinion on the subject of treaty revision, whatever it may be worth, has been public property for at least eighteen years. During that time I always have been, and still am distinctly in favour of concession, to the reasonable demands of this country. I may cite the proposals put forward or agreed to in 1887 by Japan's greatest and wisest Foreign Minister as illustrative of the meaning I here attach to the word reasonable. At that time all Japanese and foreigners alike, you yourself included, recognized and admitted that the judicial safeguards contemplated in those proposals were necessary. I know of nothing that has occurred during the three years that have elapsed since then to justify any modification of that admission. Do you?

Yours faithfully,

J. F. LOWDER.

September 14th, 1890.

[If Mr. Lowder had confined himself to the point noted in this letter, we should have had no cause to question his consistency, whatever we might have thought of the good taste of his action. But he seems to forget that he proposed, and spoke in support of, a resolution declaring that "the time has not arrived when an estimate can be formed of the period within which the unconditional relinquishment of extraterritorial jurisdiction in Japan can be safely promised." A distinct promise of that nature was included in the terms of the Treaty of 1857. A finite term of years was fixed, at the expiration of which Japan should recover full and unconditional jurisdiction over foreigners within her territories. Such a promise and such a fixed term must be included in the draft of any negotiable treaty. Mr. Lowder must know this perfectly well. He must know that the object of all treaty revision, from Japan's point of view, is the total abolition of consular jurisdiction after a definite period. Therefore he must also know that his proposition is distinctly and unequivocally intended to announce the complete removal of treaty revision from the field of practical politics, for the present at all events. It is here that the contradiction between his past attitude and his present proceedings is so flagrant. He is very greatly mistaken in his idea that it gives us satisfaction to misrepresent him.—Ed. J.M.]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I am pleased to learn from your editorial note to my letter of the 14th instant that I am mistaken in thinking it gives you satisfaction to misrepresent me. Then for whose satisfaction do you do so?

You say that in 1887 a finite term of years was fixed, at the expiration of which Japan should recover full and unconditional jurisdiction over foreigners within her territories; and that therefore I am inconsistent in now supporting a resolution declaring that "the time has not arrived when an estimate can be formed of the period within which the unconditional relinquishment of extraterritorial jurisdiction in Japan can be safely promised," seeing that "a distinct promise of that nature was included in the terms of the Treaty of 1887."

This is no answer to the very simple question I propounded, but a mere evasion of it. It seems necessary to remind you that the promise given in 1887 that extra-territorial jurisdiction should be unconditionally abolished at the end of fifteen years, was itself conditional upon the undertaking that during the whole of that period the efficiency of the Japanese Bench should be guaranteed by the addition thereto of a large number of foreign judges, whose educational influence was of course a main object of the proviso. It is the absence of this condition which constitutes the difference between the proposals of 1887 and 1890, and which justifies the terms of the resolution you affect to misunderstand.

Yours faithfully,

J. F. LOWDER.

Yokohama, September 15th, 1890.

[Nothing that Mr. Lowder writes now can change the language of the resolution proposed by him at the meeting on the 11th instant. The resolution said:—"In the opinion of this meeting the time has not arrived when an estimate can be formed of the period within which the unconditional relinquishment of extraterritorial jurisdiction in Japan can be safely promised." This statement is perfectly explicit. What Mr. Lowder may have desired it to mean we do not pretend to know. What it does actually mean neither we nor any one else can doubt. If the resolution was intended to convey the signification now attached to it by Mr. Lowder, it should have been worded thus:—"In the opinion of this meeting the time has not arrived when an estimate can be formed of the period within which the relinquishment of extraterritorial jurisdiction in Japan can be unconditionally promised with safety." We observe with some surprise that Mr. Lowder is ignorant of, or at any rate that he greatly mis-states, the terms of the Treaty of 1887. But that is a question apart. Should he have occasion to address another communication to this journal, it will be rejected unless he observes the ordinary forms of courtesy more strictly than he has done hitherto in this correspondence.—Ed. J.M.]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Will you be good enough to pardon all previous faults in taste, courtesy, consistency, and grammar on my part; to read the resolution of the foreign residents of Yokohama, to which you attach a hard and fast meaning, in the light of the interpretation placed upon it by me in my communication of yesterday; and then to answer the question I took the liberty of putting to you in my first letter, namely, whether you know of anything that has occurred between 1887 and 1890 that would justify any modification to-day of the admission of three years ago as to the necessity for the judicial safeguards that were then agreed to by the Japanese Government and the Foreign Representatives, and acquiesced in by all Japanese and foreigners alike, yourself included?

You will, of course, see the bearing of this question upon the present discussion. You have challenged me to give my reasons for my present attitude. I point to those which were universally admitted to exist in 1887, and I say that they exist still.

Yours faithfully,

J. F. LOWDER.

September 16th, 1890.

[The issue raised in this letter is entirely unconnected with the charge which Mr. Lowder originally undertook to rebut. Our accusation was that the resolution proposed by him conflicted flagrantly with his attitude in 1887. He now asks us whether we can assign any reason to justify him in changing that attitude. We have nevertheless endeavoured to answer his questions in our leading columns.—Ed. J.M.]

THE TREATY REVISION MEETING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In your report of the Treaty Revision Meeting held yesterday in Yokohama, one of the speakers said: "Under the arrangements that have prevailed in the treaty ports we have been enabled to move along with the Japanese with very little friction indeed."—(Applause.) Does not this statement conflict somewhat with certain other statements recently made by Yokohama merchants in the newspapers about the general dishonesty and unscrupulousness of the Japanese? One would suppose from the way the Yokohama merchants are said to suffer at the hand of the Japanese merchants that their lives would be far from frictionless. The same speaker points out the enormous importance of the well-known safeguards of English liberty: *habeas corpus*, trial by jury, and the fact that an Englishman's house is his castle. If the absence of these safeguards constitute a true ground for the continuance of the present condition of extraterritoriality, ought not the same claim for extraterritoriality to be made in France, Germany, Russia, and in fact nearly every country of the civilized world except England and America. I am no lawyer, but I am of the opinion that *habeas corpus* is unknown in Europe outside of England; trial by jury is likewise unknown in Continental Europe except in certain criminal cases in France. Surely the German and French gentlemen must, like the Roman augurs, have smiled at each other when they listened to this argument in favour of extraterritoriality. As I understand it, no treaty is to be made by any foreign country with Japan until her system of law is perfected, a system of law compiled by

foreign experts from Germany and France. It may be true that the Japanese will not impartially carry out this law, but that was not the point raised. If the speaker in yesterday's meeting wishes to have his English safeguards about him at all times, he had better begin his reforms in France and Germany (not to mention Russia). Was the gentleman quite fair, after making his remarks, in calling for a representative Committee of the Community, instead of a representative Committee of his own countrymen or Americans?

Yours truly,

X.

Tokio, September 12th, 1890.

THE ANTI-TREATY REVISION MEETING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—It is easy for a savior or a petty clerk, or for people from Macao or the Celestial Empire, to raise the common cry that foreigners cannot come under the jurisdiction of Japan. But to impart to that cry the sound of reason, persuasion, and conviction is another thing, even when the attempt is made by such men as Messrs. Lowder and Brooke.

I for one should be very glad to hear fair discussions on a question which necessarily affects foreign interests, but I am at a loss to understand why the meeting swallowed the resolutions like a pill or a draught without any discussion. Unlike what one might have expected from a lawyer, Mr. Lowder did not deduce any specific objection why foreigners can't submit to Japanese jurisdiction. The objections raised as the gravest by Mr. Brooke were that in 1872 torture was part of the judicial system; prisons were in a lamentable state, and there was no law that foreigners could understand; there is no right of *habeas corpus*; the system of juries does not exist; the supervision and surveillance in this country though tolerated by natives, is altogether foreign to an alien; and that the castle-like inviolability of an Englishman's house may not be recognized by the Japanese.

These objections seem to me very weak. On the same principle, a British Minister accredited to the Court of Rome might raise objections in a treaty negotiation of to-day that in Italy torture was part of the judicial system, that prisons were in a lamentable state, and that there was no law which Englishmen could understand, 25 years ago. A British Minister accredited to the French Republic might insist that British subjects living in France must have the right of *habeas corpus*. Is it only Japan that has not that much questioned system of juries? Is it the duty of a country to teach and educate all comers in its institutions and laws? Is it not the fault of foreigners themselves that they can't understand Japanese laws? I presume that supervision and surveillance will not be so altogether foreign to those who come from a country where Criminal Codes are based on the Code Napoleon. A man's house here in Japan cannot be entered nor can a man be arrested without proper warrant. Formerly the house of a Japanese was even more sacred than an Englishman's house. The criminal law which was partly in force until 1882 said that a man's house could not be entered without the permission of the owner, and that anyone venturing to enter against the will of the owner could be put to death with impunity by the owner. That spirit was jealously guarded by the framers of the present Code. Be it as it may, a man's house here is safer than a man's house in Ireland. I am sorry that Mr. Brooke did not state his objections to the Japanese Courts of Law. If he has any, I wish to warn him not to forget to compare what he finds here with what exists elsewhere; what exists even in English Courts of Law. I saw the other day in the *Japan Gazette* some English gentleman's complaint about his case being delayed in one of the Japanese Courts. If I rightly remember, in one instance three months and in another six were spent between the filing of a petition and the rendering of judgment. As a matter of fact a case to be conducted in more than one language takes a longer time than a case conducted in one language all through. You cannot expect a court of law to be perfect in any country. Delay and expense are common to law-suits everywhere. I am in a position to state that a similar case requires a very much longer time in England, and involves a far larger expenditure.

Mr. Brooke's view seems to be that an Englishman has the right to expect the same English institutions wherever he goes. It seems to me that he must wait a pretty long time to fulfill his expectation; he must wait until England conquers the whole world and turns it into one country.

I am quite in accord with those who assembled on the 11th that the resolutions be forwarded in due course to Her Majesty's Government, accompanied by a request for favourable consideration. But I see some doubt whether Lord Salisbury as a guar-

dian of British interests in the large sense of the term will swallow the resolutions as they were swallowed here. He has to look a little ahead; has to consider the general interests of the British Empire. He knows very well that a great question like this does not depend on the number of sales or purchases made by a few foreigners in a little settlement. He knows very well that British statesmen cannot afford to consider the views of the share-holders of the East India Company where the control of India has to be taken over. He will not ask, are such and such Japanese laws different from corresponding statutes in England? He will ask, is Japan a fairly well governed country? Is she not a better governed country than Hayti, Cuba, and some of the South and Central American States? Is she not a better governed country than even some European States?

Your obedient servant,

A JAPANESE WHO HAS TRAVELLED.

Tokyo, September 14th, 1890.

TREATY REVISION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—On March 20th, 1886, I had such interest in Treaty Revision as prompted me to raise a warning voice through the medium of your columns. Mr. J. A. Fraser had written his opinions, promulgated by the *Japan Herald* of the 17th of March. Mr. Fraser said:—"I feel sure that a feeling of uneasiness, amounting it may almost be said to anxiety, pervades the members of this community—a feeling intensified by the thought that some changes in the status of foreigners in this country are in contemplation, possibly impending, but of the nature of which they have no exact information, and in regard to which the respective Governments may afford them no opportunity of expressing an opinion." Mr. Fraser was afraid that extraterritoriality would be abolished at a more or less early date with the consent of the Treaty Powers. Mr. Fraser said that he must "decline to endorse the statement that there is ability in Japan to administer her laws, and that such an expedient as the so-called mixed tribunals would fail to remedy the evil." Mr. Fraser conceded that "it might be a desirable step, and might be productive in time of some benefit to the commerce of the country, but that the balance of advantage would be undoubtedly to Japan." Mr. Fraser was a good representative of the opinions and desires of the then residents of Yokohama. Mr. Fraser then thought that foreign trade would be best carried on within the confines of the open ports. The warning voice, added to the spirited letter of Mr. Fraser, had no immediate effect; the foreign residents remained supine and unconcerned. Now there is energy and purpose manifested in the matter of Treaty Revision, but in a modified form. The refuge of extraterritoriality may be swept away by common consent after a fixed and full period of five years provided an admixture of foreigners on the Bench is guaranteed. Such an admixture in 1886 was not in favour. Now it is desirable, and is deemed to be just the thing. It is only the fool who never changes his opinions, so let us look upon the men who in 1886 held with Mr. Fraser did as wise men, inasmuch as they have changed their opinions regarding the so-called mixed tribunals. Give us mixed tribunals and Treaty Revision is not so bad after all, but to submit to Japanese jurisdiction without that guarantee is protested against. There is a Committee of 37 good men and true, who are to see to it that no new treaty is made that does not provide for foreigners on the Japanese Bench, though just what interests these foreigners would benefit during the period that Consular jurisdiction is in force in the treaty ports is not shown. There are at present no vested interests held by foreigners in the country outside of treaty limits; there can be none while the present treaties exist and are in force.

Supposing that the active remonstrance formulated by the fearing, tender-footed projectors and participants in the late meeting held in the Public Hall should fail of its purpose, what interest would suffer. At present no one is allowed to place himself under Japanese jurisdiction as a foreigner. Should a treaty be signed by Great Britain giving to the Japanese Government complete and full jurisdiction over British subjects who should elect to try their fortune in the interior, why should anyone fear for his well-being? The treaty ports will afford them a refuge for a term of five years. No man can take them by the throat and force them to become subject to Japanese jurisdiction, with mixed or unmixed Courts. If they have that dread of Japanese Courts, and Japanese justice, it would seem that a full period of five years after the promulgation of a new treaty would prove sufficient time for one or

all to put their house in order and enable them to close all accounts with the merchants they are so fearful of trusting, giving them ample time to shake the dust of Japan from their feet, and bid themselves to other lands without detriment to their material interests. There is no treaty to be made that will divest any Government of its duty and privilege of caring for its citizens or subjects wherever it has a diplomatic representative. England would not suffer Japan or any other country, through its tribunals, to jeopardise the lives or vested interests of its subjects. America protects its citizens throughout the wide world, no matter what Government attempts a wrong upon them; so do all Governments that are worthy of respect in the world. Does an Englishman fear that his Government will not protect him against outrage in Japan? If there is one such I fear he has lost faith in the British Lion. It has been for so long the correct thing to hold everything Japanese in contempt, whenever the present condition of things is attempted to be altered, that to be consistent the average foreigner, yes, even the Chinaman, must throw his castor into the ring and declare that nothing must be done without guarantees being given that the so-called Mixed Courts shall be established. Of course he will demand that he have at least one Judge on whom he could depend, and who but another Chinaman would suit him, and all protestants must be suited or they will not submit—viva la humbug. We must name the men we desire for Judge; we have them in Yokohama. Brooke of the *Herald* is our first choice. He is nearly a square man.

Yours, &c.,

ANXIOUS WARNER OF 1886.

September 15th, 1890.

THE TOKYO HOTEL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Allow me to correct one or two misconceptions contained in your leader of the 3rd instant upon the subject of the New Imperial Hotel in Tokyo. I am therein mentioned as having devised new foundations for this building, and therefore, it would seem, by implication, as having pronounced defective the foundations first executed by the "original European architect." The facts of my slight connection with the structure in question are as follows:—

The promoters of the Hotel having, for reasons with which I am not acquainted, made a final settlement with the architects who had prepared the original designs and planned the foundations of the building, placed the subsequent control in the hands of Mr. Watanabe, Japanese architect of the modern school, who had just returned from Berlin. Mr. Watanabe, working on the lines already determined by the executed foundations, prepared new plans and elevations suited to a somewhat altered programme, and it was after this that I was professionally consulted, in conjunction with Mr. Watanabe, as to the best methods of construction to be adopted in the superstructure.

Considering the very unreliable nature of the soil with which I was familiar, and also the demand for a speedy completion of the building which was intended as a commercial enterprise, I did not hesitate to recommend the employment of the lightest possible structure consistent with stability and durability, and suggested the adoption of a strong timber and iron framework filled in with brick, and cemented, in order to render it fire-proof. I also expressed the opinion that a building thus tied and braced continuously in every direction, besides distributing weights with greater equality, presented certain seismicological advantages which could not exist in any equally light structure executed entirely in brickwork or masonry.

These very simple suggestions of mine, were, I believe, put into practice.

With regard to the general arrangement of the hotel, it goes without saying that, finding foundations almost completed when he assumed charge of the work, the architect, Mr. Watanabe, followed to a great extent the original ground plans; but for modifications in these plans, for the whole exterior design, construction, details, and architectural decoration, and for the very satisfactory execution of the building within a reasonable time, all responsibility and full credit belongs to Mr. Watanabe.

I am, Sir, yours obediently,

J. CONDER.

Tokyo, Sept. 10th, 1890.

A DOG WARNING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The Foreign residents of Tsukiji, Tokyo, have been disturbed beyond further endurance

during the past few weeks by the howling and barking of vagrant curs, that go about the streets of the Foreign Concession in droves sometimes of fifteen or twenty, apparently all barking at once. During the excessively warm weather it is absolutely necessary for the residents of Tsukiji to keep their windows open all night; but whether the windows were kept open or not, it would be impossible to sleep during these dog concerts, consequently a few of the outraged residents of Tsukiji take this means of informing those of their neighbours who may have dogs that they value, to keep the same shut up at nights for an indefinite period in the future. It would pain the authors of this notice exceedingly to cause the destruction of any innocent canines, but from present indications the present hot weather is almost certain to breed an aggravated form of "dog cholera" on or about Monday the 15th instant. A word to the wise is sufficient.

Yours respectfully,

RESIDENTS OF TSUKIJI, TOKYO.

Tokyo, September 12th, 1890.

BLACKGUARDLY JOURNALISM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Whatever may be published in America, there is no excuse for reproducing here, where the truth is known, the lying, scandalous paragraph in reference to Sir Edwin Arnold which appears in last night's *Gazette*. It is, perhaps, too much to expect anything approaching decency from the persons who control the columns of the local gutter sheet, but as a friend of the victims of this outrage I beg that you will permit me to enter my protest.

Yours, &c.,

AN ENGLISHMAN.

September 16th, 1890.

NO DOCKYARD AT SOUTHAMPTON?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—It would be well if the Editor of the *Japan Herald* tried to learn something about England instead of pretending to know everything about Japan. He states in an Editorial Note that there is no dockyard at Southampton. What next?

Your obedient servant,

A JAPANESE WHO HAS TRAVELLED.

Tokyo, September 17th, 1890.

JURIES AND HABEAS CORPUS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I should feel most obliged by your inserting in your next number the few following lines. In reply to Mr. X—who, in a letter published in the *Japan Mail* states that although he is no lawyer, he is of the opinion that *habeas corpus* is unknown in Europe outside of England; and that trial by jury is likewise unknown in Continental Europe except in certain cases in France. I beg to state that Mr. X—is perfectly right when he says that he is no lawyer, as all his other statements are absolutely wrong.

There are juries for almost all criminal cases in France, Italy, Switzerland, Belgium, Netherlands, Germany, Austria, Servia, Roumania, Denmark, Sweden and Norway, Greece, and even Monaco and San Marino; and I think also in Spain and Portugal.

As for the *habeas corpus*, there is, of course, no law in Continental Europe bearing that old Latin name, but there are in many countries laws very much similar to that celebrated writ, and severe penalties inflicted upon those officials who might commit arbitrary arrests.

If the German and French gentlemen were to smile at each other, it would therefore be surely while listening to Mr. X's—extraordinary knowledge of Continental jurisdiction.

Thanking you in advance, I remain, Sir, yours faithfully,

CONTINENTAL DOCTOR JURIS.

Yokohama, September 15th, 1890.

THE LATE MEETING AT THE TOWN HALL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—As a stranger in this country, I would take it as a favor if you could inform me of any book or pamphlet to be obtained in Japan on the subject of Treaty Revision. The few acquaintances that I have made here appear to know nothing whatever about the subject, and seem to care less, and a gentleman—certainly an American—next to whom

I sat at a late meeting in the Town Hall, let me in for a big blunder, which is now on its way to my native city. When I left home I promised a relative who runs a daily paper that I should write an occasional letter from Japan when I met with any subject which I considered of sufficient interest or importance, and my first attempt at newspaper correspondence—it ought to be my last—contains the statement, made to me at the meeting by my neighbor, that the entire community was present. According to your issue of this date (*vide* English Consul's report) I find that there are 1,549 foreigners in Yokohama, and a fair estimate I think of the number at the meeting would be from 260 to 280. There were several seats near me vacant, but I noticed a few persons standing in the doorway; and, setting down the number at 300, which leaves a balance of 1,249, am I to suppose that these are all women and children? On asking this question to-day, I was told that the major portion of the foreign residents of this city is composed of single men. I do not find that the English Consul gives any returns for the other towns in Japan, and I am told that our Consul does not publish any trade or population statistics. I now find that several inaccuracies are contained in my letter sent by the *China*, and will feel much indebted if you will kindly refer me to some work of reference on this country by which I may be enabled to steer clear of error in the future letters which during my visit here I may find it worth while to write. Enclosing my card—and address in case I may be favored with a reply by letter.

Respectfully,

AMERICAN CITIZEN.

September 16th, 1890.

[There is, unfortunately, no book on Treaty Revision. The back files of newspapers are the only aid to which we can refer our correspondent.—*Ed. J.M.*]

JAPANESE SAILORS IN SOUL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL"

SIR,—The points of your editorial note, in the issue of July 26th, denying the presence in Soul of Japanese troops, are well taken. Nevertheless, you are slightly in error. While there was at no time a body of troops in or near the capital, there was a small detachment of blue-jackets quartered at the Japanese Hotel in Chingo-Kai. I saw them with my own eyes on the a.m. of June 8th, and a few hours later was advised of the despatch from Chemulpo of a steam launch containing a large party.

Naturally many persons here asked the diplomatic officials of Far Eastern Consistory for information. They at first denied the presence of the sailors, and then attempted to explain it by saying they were simply an excursion party up to see the sights of the capital. Finally, upon its being remarked that officers and sailors visiting a friendly city did not usually wear their side-arms and ammunition pouches, it was quasi-admitted they might have been hastily sent up by mistake; and at any rate, they were to go down immediately.

All attempts to obtain information as to the movements of the detachment said to be on the river failed before the diplomatic reticence of the Japanese representative.

This is, I believe, the second time an armed force of Japanese sailors has been present in Soul, since 1888.

Enclosing my card, I remain, Sir, yours very respectfully.

Soul, Korea, August 9th, 1890.

TSSO.

SUICIDE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL"

SIR,—Perhaps care and doubt never wrote their signatures so deeply on the face of any generation as on the countenance of this. The pressure to the square inch is greater now than ever. Life is shortened thereby, and the light of day obscured. And probably never did men love life less. When one, then, more reckless than the rest, breaks through the fences by which this life is bounded and rushes unsummoned into the presence of his Creator, it is not strange if there are some who venture to follow in his steps. The contagion of evil example is almost sure to spread, till a number of persons who feel that life is a burden too heavy to be borne, plunge into the abyss of eternity.

The love of life is instinctive in man, and so is the dread of death. But what passion has not been at some time or other, in some bosom or other, sufficiently strong to annihilate or at least to overpower both the one and the other? Disappointed ambition, insulted pride, implacable wrath, burning resentment, fierce hunger or pain, tortured affection—any of these may become so powerful as to overcome the dread of death. The first King of Israel, exulting in his pride, went forth to battle.

Victory was with his enemy: "And the battle set sore against Saul, and the archers hit him, and he was sore wounded by the archers. Then said Saul, unto his armour bearer, 'draw thy sword and thrust me through therewith;' but his armour bearer would not, therefore Saul took a sword and fell upon it." As if in death he should find healing for him, and discharge from the dishonour of defeat.

It is true that suicide is often committed under the disease of melancholy or that of mental derangement, where no responsibility is incurred for the act itself, except as the disease is the effect of a series of acts, each of which involved guilt, because they were all committed despite the warning voice of conscience. But it is no less true that the stupendous crime is often committed by those who are in the full possession of all their faculties. Yet it probably never takes place except under the influence of passion, when reason has been imposed upon so far as to "call evil good, and good evil, to put darkness for light, and light for darkness." Addison makes even Cato distrust his judgment when it was too late to rectify it:

"Alas! I fear

I've been too hasty. O ye powers that search
The heart of man, and weigh his inmost thoughts,
If I have done amiss, impute it not."

It may be well to consider briefly some of the reasons with which suicide is defended. Mr. Hume argues for the right of suicide from the paltriness of human life, and declares that the life of a man is of no greater importance to the universe than that of an oyster. But is it so? Can anybody be persuaded that Kossuth, Cavour, Bismarck, Gladstone, Lincoln were or are of no more importance to the race than so many oysters? The great Master said to His disciples: "You are of more value than many sparrows." Mr. Hume further insists that suicide is absolutely the work of God. He says: "When I fall upon my sword, I receive my death equally from the hands of the Deity as if it had proceeded from a lion, a precipice, or a fever." How can one reason with a man who denies the very principles which underlie public opinion, domestic education, and human legislation? Fortunately for Mr. Hume and his fame, he is here inconsistent with himself, and argues elsewhere for right against wrong. But it had been better had he seen the radical character of his contention, which involves the absurdity that all crimes are the acts of God.

Again, it is argued, why should we not obey the impulse to avoid evil? Is it not written, "The prudent man foreseeth the evil and hideth himself"? But is death a refuge from calamity?

"To die,—to sleep:—

To sleep I perchance to dream; ay, there's the rub,
For in that sleep of death what dreams may come,
When we have shuffled off this mortal coil,
Must give us pause

The dread of something after death,
The undiscovered country, from whose bourne
No traveller returns, puzzles the will;
And makes us rather bear the ills we have
Than fly to others that we know not of.

But, granting for the sake of argument that death by suicide is a refuge from the ills we suffer, is it right to avoid evil in this way if we involve others in suffering? The claims of family are to be considered, and the influence of an act in furnishing an example which others may be induced to follow, ought not to be ignored.

Finally, self murder has received the high-sounding name of magnanimity. Let us oppose to this the verdict of Aristotle: "To die in order to avoid the pains of poverty, love, or anything that is disagreeable, is not the part of a brave man, but of a coward; for it is cowardice to shun the trials and crosses of life, not undergoing death because it is honourable, but to avoid evil." The picture of steadfast courage under calamity which the old Latin poet draws presents to us a character that cannot fail to command our profoundest respect. Here is magnanimity; never do we see it in the self murderer.

"Not the rage of the people commanding
harsh measures, nor the look of the threatening
tyrant, nor the southern blast, the stormy ruler of
the restless Adriatic, nor the mighty hand of
thundering Jove, can shake from his settled
purpose the man who is just and firm in his resolve.
If the shattered heavens fall upon him the ruins
will strike him undismayed." To endure evil
patiently and unflinchingly though long and weary
years, to remain resolute of purpose and unbroken
in spirit though evil report and good report, amid
strain of sore temptation and frequent assaults of
one's enemies—here is a spectacle of magnanimity,
for the wonder and admiration of angels and devils
and men.

"When all the blandishments of life are gone,
The coward sneaks to death—the brave lives on."

It is perhaps more to the purpose to say that suicide is destructive of human happiness. To the

self-murderer himself, it is the *coup de grace* which completes and perfects his misery. To his family it brings disgrace and possibly ruin. To the world about him the loss of one who might have been a useful citizen.

This enormous crime is forbidden by our religion. Our life is given us by our Creator. Our times are in His hand. "Thou shalt not kill" is His command. "Do thyself no harm" is the spirit as well as the language of the New Testament, while the example of our Lord teaches us that evil is to be endured and how it may be alleviated. Poor Imogene in "Cymbeline" cries:—

"Against self-slaughter
There is a prohibition so divine
That craves my weak hand."

Moreover, the unhappy suicide closes his probation by a crime of which he has no space to repent. In view of what lies before him it is "an awful thing to die; more horrid still to die by his own hand," and to appear in presence of his Judge with all his guilt upon his head. There need be no enlargement of this awful thought. Let the reader only ponder its full import.

The practical question with which I conclude is: what can be done to arrest the spread of this evil contagion? My answer is: Load the crime with all the opprobrium which it deserves. Let it be felt to be as mean and disgraceful as it really is, and men may be deterred from its commission. We are told that the spirit of suicide became epidemic among the girls of Milestia. Neither prayers nor tears of friends availed anything, and they died daily by their own hands. At last a council set forth an edict that every girl that laid violent hands on herself should, dead as she was, be carried naked along the market place. The edict had its desired effect. Those that trembled not at death would not endure such an indignity. Let the law of our pious ancestors be re-enacted, that suicides shall be buried where four roads meet and a cartload of stones be thrown upon each body. And the suicide himself, who presumably is not without regard to his posthumous reputation, brand as a poisoner.

It may be that not one who reads this communication dreams he can ever be guilty of this crime. So a while ago thought those self-murderers who have lately passed away from us in this ignoble fashion. No man can be sure, who has begun the downward course by gambling, drinking, or animal pleasures, that he will stop short of the final plunge. Breakers ahead, young man, breakers ahead.

Let the man before whose mind the spectre of suicide has been raised take his guilty woes to the Lord Jesus, confess and obtain absolution, and then cease brooding over them. Else, remorse may prey upon him till, withering in his pain "like the scorpion girl by fire" which darts "the sting she nourished for her foes into her desperate brain," he comes to that crisis in his destiny where he bids farewell to the world and plunges into the abyss. How infinitely better it is to keep the fort committed to our trust, and remain at the post of duty till released by the Great Arbitrer of our destinies. The obligations we are under to God, to our families, to society—all

"Duty requires we calmly wait the summons,
Nor dare to stir till heaven shall give permission."
G. M. M.

Yokohama, Sept. 13th, 1890.

SCIENCE AND CHRISTIANITY.—GENESIS AND GEOLOGY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—During the latter part of last month there appeared in the columns of the *Mail*, under the head of "unclaimed letters," one addressed to "Saten, Tokyo." That letter seems to have been delivered to Saten about the first of this month, for it does not appear in the list of advertised letters of the 2nd inst. We are correspondingly solicitous! For while it is not impossible that a being of flesh and blood bearing that euphonious name may be living here, it is quite certain that the Prince of Sheol has many emissaries among us, and, for aught we can prove to the contrary, may be making his own headquarters in the Japanese Imperial City, and have ordered his letters to be forwarded. Conceding this to be true,—as the hypothetical scientist says when arguing from a fancy,—Saten may have come here to strengthen the antagonisms supposed to exist between Science and Christianity (antagonisms whose plausibility has been somewhat shaken in the past few months), and we feel that it was only by giving the "devil his due" if we briefly set forth the Herculean task he has before him ere he digs a hole in the geological strata deep enough to bury Genesis.

Dissolving pleasantry into seriousness, it should

be understood that the Mosaic records of Creation are defended by the guns of at least two impregnable fortresses, in such a manner, that from whatever direction enemies approach, their ranks may be raked with a fire that all the "powers of Hell" and "false science" combined, cannot resist. It gives us pleasure therefore to present in a nutshell *one phase* of the invincible character of the Mosaic cosmogony, by virtue of which it is enabled to "smile at Satan's rage and face a frowning world" in that calm serenity which only Truth imparts to any cause.

The Summer Solstice has gone by; but it has left some ugly marks upon this fair land. The dog-days, aided and abetted by the germs of epidemic cholera, have not only caused the "heart to stop" among the living, but the hearts of other thousands have stopped in death. Our pestilential environment has had its "due influence upon us, by leading us to consider how frail and uncertain our life is," also to consider whether, after leaving this country on other than commercial lines, the "pale horse and his rider" is likely to escort us into another, "a heavenly." Hence any consideration of the integrity of that Book upon which our hopes of immortality are wholly centred cannot be inopportune.

It is useless for Christians to fancy they can mutilate the *Clart* by which they are sailing,—that they can reject Genesis, or the Old Testament, for instance, and retain the promises of the New Testament. The Bible is one complete whole. As such its essential parts must be kept together, or rejected together. Certain conclusions are drawn from Genesis by its enemies, which Christians are bound to concede. One of the most pertinent of these is the fact that Jesus Christ and his immediate followers all undoubtedly received the Mosaic writings as of Divine origin. Jesus not only quotes the name of Moses, but he quotes from the first eleven chapters of Genesis, no less than six times, twice directly, while those Scriptural writers who are regarded as inspired, quote from these eleven Chapters sixty times more, making *sixty-six* in all again. The whole plan of Redemption is based upon the account of man in Genesis. Genesis must therefore stand, if the philosophy of Christianity is to endure. Any form of the latter which can exist without the former, is a mere empty husk without consistency or excuse for existence, no matter how plausibly advanced, or by what University fostered. It is greatly to be regretted that the whole Christian world do not properly appreciate the dilemma, into which infidels and agnostics would like to plunge them, by persuading them that Genesis ought to be revised (by such astute theologians as Rob Ingersoll) when as a matter of fact, Genesis, including its account of Creation, is as impregnable as the rock of Gibraltar. All these notions that the Mosaic account of Creation is getting "out of date," will be found, upon candid examination, to be nothing more than will-o'-the-wisps which fit hither and hither over the dark swamps of ignorance or moral turpitude. This is not a "whistling to keep our courage up," for we believe in meeting all difficulties fairly and squarely. If demonstrated science,—not hypothetical, you understand,—destroys all possibility of the honourable acceptance of the Biblical account of Creation, let us be men and frankly concede that it is only a beautiful legend, and do without any religion which cannot stand the test of truth, even though we go down to our graves without God. Anything is better than *deception*. It is the height of absurdity to try to make ourselves believe we have a true religion if we have not.

But, on the other hand, if upon careful investigation we find the Mosaic Cosmogony admits of one or more interpretations which a candid man can accept, then in that case let us say so, and stand by the grand old record, even though the very dogs in the street bark their hatred at our heels, and the *bon ton* of Eastern society curls the aristocratic lip of superciliousness and scorn at our approach. One of the very first things an intelligent stranger to the Bible wishes to know when invited to accept it, is, whether it is really true or not. That point settled, and the more effectually the better, he is then prepared to appreciate all its wonderful beauties, its records of a matchless love and sacrifice, and its promises of future happiness and eternal life.

We have no need to evade any fair question which may be put to us regarding the Biblical account of Creation. That being the case, we propose to show an interpretation of it, which is in perfect accord with the teachings of the Bible as a whole, and one which at the same time discloses the most perfect harmony with Geology and Biology.

There are two ways of harmonizing the geologic and Biblical records of Creation. The first, is by interpreting the word "create" to mean the *actual material* production upon the earth of the forms of

life mentioned. The second, is to give the word "create" a higher meaning, by which the *designs, plans, and types* of life were made in heaven, and *afterwards* actually produced more leisurely upon the earth.

Either of these views may be consistently held in face of all the difficulties supposed to exist. The first view requires that the word "day" should be interpreted to mean a long period of time. The second is satisfied with an ordinary day, or one revolution of the earth upon its axis. It is the latter one, that of the production of types and designs in heaven, and the use of the word *day* in its ordinary sense, which will now be elaborated.

There is a large and very respectable class of men who, from time immemorial, have regarded the maker of the Universe as an *Architect*. For the time being at least, please adopt this idea of *God as an Architect*, and try to hold it firmly in your minds, while we proceed to sketch the processes of an earthly architect as he goes about the construction of new buildings.

Let us suppose that a modern architect has received an order for the production of six buildings, all of different designs and for different uses.

These six buildings may correspond to the products of the six days of Creation. The first thought that comes to the architect's mind, is that it is really desirable to construct this group of buildings, and in one act of volition he decides that it shall be done.

Then he takes up the first, say a Japanese house, and in his "mind's eye" he sees the structure, and proceeds to put the design of it on the drawing paper, with the arrangement and size of rooms, the number and location of doors and windows; the materials of construction are decided upon, with the amount of lumber, tiles, plaster, and stone required. The *creation* of the first building is then practically complete,—and at the close of the first day, allowing the whole could be architecturally finished in one day,—not an impossible thing,—the plans are handed over to the forces to be employed, and orders given to proceed at once to the careful construction of the Japanese house. It only remains for the mechanics to work out the design handed them by the architect, who, in the days and weeks to come, along with other duties will exercise a careful supervision of the work in order that it may be executed according to his wishes. *Time only* is now required to finish the *material* structure, every detail having been first created and finished by the architect. "And there was evening and there was morning, one day."

The next day the architect proceeds in a similar way to elaborate the mental picture of a foreign residence upon the drawing board, finishing all the details as before, with size of rooms and their coming uses, material, general style of structure and ornament, until the plans of the second house are at the close of the second day completed and ready to hand to the workmen. The creation of the second day is ended, and nothing but the necessary time is required to bring that which the architect has created into actual existence. And "It was so." From the standpoint of monetary obligation, as well as that of coming material reality, the structure is finished.

Again on the third day, comes from the architect's mind the plans for a great eleemosynary institution, in the same systematic manner. It is converted into detailed designs, handed to the workmen, finished. The creation of the third day is complete.

Next on the fourth day,—corresponding to the one in which the sun and moon and stars were appointed,—is undertaken the construction of an electric light tower. It is to rise to a giddy height in light and airy framework, with electric lamps at specified points on the structure where they may be most effective and useful to those who require the illumination. The architect is not called upon, we will say, to create or design the lamps for this tower on this fourth day, the lamps, and their proper working having already been attended to some days previously. He now only deals with finished lamps and arranges them on the lofty tower in the manner that will best subserve the interests of the people who have objects to be illuminated on the surface of the earth below. He plans the times and seasons in which the lights shall shine, being governed in the matter largely by the wants of those who are to be benefited by the light, and also by those periods when other sources of light are not available. At the end of the fourth day his creation of a lighting tower is complete, and the designs are handed to the proper builders, who in this case are a different class of workmen. The structure will not have a complete material existence for many days yet, but as an object of creation it is all complete on the fourth day.

On the fifth day, our architect begins the drawings of a prince's palace, and rapidly puts another

new creation on paper. It is in the most elaborate detail. Its observatories, towers, balconies, and conservatories are of the most ornate and beautiful proportions. It excels all the work of the previous days of this hard week's work, and at evening when the master workman receives the drawings, the whole is practically done, for the pledges are made, the contracts given, and time alone is required, to bring the beautiful picture into a tangible reality.

On the sixth day, corresponding to the one in which man was created, the architect whose ability and fertility of resource we cannot but admire almost to veneration by this time, is seized again with the creative afflatus, and lo! from his mind to the drawing board is transferred the grand cathedral. Its arched roof and stately dome, its pinnacles and imposing proportions, its worship-inspiring chancel and choir, its antique colourings of windows and ornamentation, and its massive stone-work, all appear on the enchanted paper as the architect and his draughtsmen toil on in harmony, inspired by the master mind.

At last the cathedral is finished. Its minutest detail is worked out. Experts in art are called to criticize it. They are lost in intensest admiration of that which they behold, and pronounce it the *crowning work* of the Great Architect. As they depart, they bow to him more reverently than when they came. And as the wearied architect sits in his studio at the end of this sixth day,—the whole work of the week completed,—the last design handed to the workmen who are to execute the wonderful creations of the master mind, he looks once more over the duplicate copies of the six days work, beginning with the modest Japanese house and ending with the grand cathedral, and he realizes that it has all been well done. He "saw everything that he had made, and, behold, it was very good."

The next day he rests from all his work, the studio is closed, the busy draughtsmen are gone, silence reigns about the architect's home, and he "blesses the seventh day, and hallows it; because that in it he rests from all his work which he has created and made."

At this juncture we hardly require to ask you to transfer your thoughts from an *earthly* architect, whose powers at best are but limited, to an *heavenly* One, the Omnipotent God; and in place of perishable earthly buildings, to think of the work of the separate days of Creation as recorded in the first chapter of Genesis.

Looking down the vista of the departed ages, away back into the eternity of the past—on—on—back of the time when the nebulae of La Place are supposed to have come into existence, the over-taxed and fainting imagination dimly discerns a time when at the call of Jehovah, a heavenly conclave assembled around the throne of God, to attend upon the King of Heaven while He created a new universe. There during six days, which were natural days, the designs and plans,—the architectural work of the Universe, and of this present world, were created and finished, and the working agencies which were none other than the forces of nature, began at once as each day's work was completed, to carry it out in the slow course of time, according to the words, "and it was so." The architectural work performed in one day by Almighty God, might easily have required untold eons of time for its material accomplishment by the slow processes of nature, even as the earthly architect may finish work in one day which will require a number of workmen many weeks to bring into tangible existence.

All real creative work is performed in the mind of the architect, not by the rough hand of the less cultured journeyman, who only executes the designs previously created.

Doubtless God might have completed his whole creation in one instantaneous fiat, instead of in the six days named. Why He did not we cannot know. The idea of time, as we understand it, probably does not exist in the Divine mind. Or, the relation of work days to the Sabbath, as it was afterwards to be impressed upon the minds of the Israelites, may even then have been a consummation which controlled God's work.

The whole Bible will support this idea of an original creative conclave, in which the designs, the types, and the architectural work were completed, before much, if any part, of them had been practically inaugurated upon the earth.

Let us refer to some of the Scripture which will support this view of Genesis. "These are the generations of the heaven and of the earth when they were created, in the day that the Lord God made earth and heaven. And no plant of the field was yet in the earth, and no herb of the field had yet sprung up; for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was not a man to till the ground." Gen. II; 4 and 5.

If, as assumed by many, the first chapter of

Genesis meant to convey the idea that all the plants, likewise Man himself, had been *materially* created, if those verses refer to the *actual production upon the earth* of the things and creatures named, then these verses taken from the second chapter would seem to be a direct contradiction of the first chapter. For it is plainly stated that plants had not yet grown, and that Man had not yet appeared.

But if we interpret all of the first chapter of Genesis to be an account of the creation of designs in heaven, then the passage quoted has a meaning as lucid and beautiful, as it was before obscure. Then, too, this second account of creation drops into its proper place, for it undoubtedly alludes to the work actually in progress on the earth as distinguished from the architectural work of the first account. It does not go over all the productions of each separate day as the first one did, for the main object of Revelation is to show the dealings of God with man.

The account of the building of the Tabernacle throws some light on the methods which God was pleased to use on another occasion. That narrative expressly states that the divine power originated the designs of the Tabernacles, and caused Moses to understand them. The tabernacle was truly God's creation, because it was all commanded in design and pattern by the Almighty, before Moses put the material together that realized the pattern in the camp of Israel.

In the 16th verse of the 136th Psalm, is also found this very suggestive statement:—"In thy book were all my members written which day by day were fashioned, when as yet there were none of them."

In the 38th chapter of the very ancient book of Job, we find a distinct allusion to a time when God "laid the foundations" of the earth, "prescribed its measures," made a "decreed place" for the sea, and framed "the ordinances of heaven," and all this in the presence of the heavenly host assembled,—"when the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy."

Also in the 3rd. verse of the 11th chapter of the Epistle to the Hebrews, we read that "Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear."

Here we rest our case. Certainly the columns of a popular journal cannot be expected to go into a detailed account of the subject here presented in general outlines, but those desiring it can find this view in its fullest detail in H. H. Baden-Powell's "Creation and its Records."

It will now be in order for some great repository of human knowledge to come forward and "smile" benignly upon the "ignorance" of the writer, but it is greatly to be hoped that he will confine himself to the subject matter of the *writing*, and let the *writer* alone. We have no doubt that opponents of the Bible would prefer to have the other view of Genesis taken up, in which "days" are interpreted to mean indefinite periods of time. For it was upon this interpretation that the older infidels threw the geologic rocks of their wrath with peculiar vigour, in which also they are imitated by those who are still "voting for Jackson." It will, therefore, afford us much pleasure to present to them the other aspect of the Mosaic Cosmogony at another time. For, as Spencer has proven to their minds that the whole universe *was* and *is* in a state of evolution, so Biblical opposition appears to be evolving and the old species of antagonism to Genesis have given way to entirely different breeds of critical inquiry. Indeed, the wheel has at last made a complete revolution, and like the old-fashioned bonnet which has come again into vogue, the objections to Genesis, having been all around the camp, at length find themselves looking once more into the serene face of Moses with these reflections on their lips: "Moses was no scientist." True! "He had no geological means of knowing what the rocks contained." Right again! How, then, did Moses happen to hit upon the exact order of Creation, when, as Dr. Samuel Kins has shown in his "Moses and Geology," if he had no special knowledge, the chances against his hitting upon the correct order of the fifteen scientific events he names, were more than a billion to one? How, indeed! Except by inspiration of the Great First Cause?

Yours sincerely, V. MARSHALL LAW.
September 16th, 1890.

A NERVE TONIC.

HORSFORD'S ACID PHOSPHATE.

Dr. F. G. SADD, M.R.C.S., and L.S.A., 50, Church-street, Rugby, Warwickshire, says:—"I have a favourable opinion of it, and consider it an excellent nerve tonic."

VACATION RAMBLES IN IBARAKI.

II.

After an interval of only one day, we were off on another jaunt—this time to Tsukuba. We were three again—two Americans and one Japanese, Mr. A. as guide and interpreter. We had the opportunity of making part of this trip by rail; accordingly we left Mito by the first train at 6.25 o'clock, and went by rail as far as Shimodate. Travellers from Tokyo by the train leaving Utsunomiya at 6.40 a.m. would reach Shimodate about 10 o'clock, and get to the town of Tsukuba early in the afternoon; while those leaving Utsunomiya even as late as 11.40 a.m., reaching Shimodate about 3 o'clock, could make Tsukuba before dark by hurrying a little. The road from Shimodate has been recently repaired, and is in a pretty good condition as far as a place called Oshima, but beyond that is bad. If there are ladies in the party, it would be better for them to ride in *kuruma* a little farther to Numata, or, if possible to Usui, from which it is a short, but hard climb to Tsukuba. (It is foolish, as some one has suggested, to go to Hojo; for the ascent from there is almost twice as long as from Numata.) We went by *jinrikisha* only as far as Oshima, whence we rode on pack-horses, through Numata and Usui, clear up to the hotel, named Yedoya, in the town of Tsukuba. The ascent was very steep and rough; most of the road in Tsukuba consisted of stone steps.

Satow and Hawes, in their "Hand-Book," give an itinerary direct across the country from Tokyo to Mount Tsukuba; but they wrote when there was no railroad. That trip, being more than 23 *ri* long, would be an exceedingly hard day's journey; but the railroad brings the mountain within an easy and pleasant day's ride from the capital. However, as some travellers might have occasion to pass through Hojo, it may not be out of place to quote a little from page 470 of the "Hand-Book" (now out of print):—

"Hojo, 1,500 inhab., stands at the foot of a hill which was formerly crowned by a castle belonging to the family of that name. From this place it is a walk of 1 *ri* to Tsukuba through the villages of Kangori and Usui. Usui lies in a valley which is said to have been once an arm of the sea, on a spot which was then the port of Toyo-ura. At the foot of a hill to the right of the road among some fir trees is a temple dedicated to Waka-nusubi no Mikoto, who is said to have come ashore here, under the name of Ko-gai Mio-jin, the illustrious deity of silk-worm rearing." The legend says that long before the historical age a god was borne hither by a tidal wave across the lagoon, and, after spending several days on the mountain, disappeared, leaving a precious stone behind, which diffused a brilliant light around. Mulberry-trees and silk-worms developed spontaneously over the whole region affected by its rays. This is only one of the numerous legends of the introduction of sericulture into Japan.

The hill to the right of Kan-gori is called Kai-gosan. At the Shinto temple here the priest exhibits one side of the coffin in which, according to another form of the legend, the goddess was conveyed to Toyo-ura. Here is also a block of stone, which has been scooped into holes by the worshippers at her shrine, who believe that the powder, scattered over their farms, will ensure plentiful crops. The village of Tsukuba lies about half way up the mountain, and contains numerous inns. * * Most of the inns command a fine view from their upper stories of the plain of Yedo, stretching away towards Fuji-san. The ascent of the mountain begins immediately after leaving the village."

Mount Tsukuba is 2,897 feet ["2,880 feet"—Satow and Hawes] above the sea level. It is sometimes called "*Shintō*," or "purple peak," because in the fall it has a purple appearance when the evening comes. Concerning the name "Tsukuba," one report says, that in very ancient times a "governor," named Tsukuba-kō lived in those parts, and, wishing to perpetuate his name, applied it to the mountain. The prevailing opinion, however, is essentially that given in the "Hand-Book," from which we again quote as follows:—

"Tsukuba is said to be composed of two Chinese words meaning 'built bank,' and the legend is that Izanagi and Izanami constructed the mountain as a bulwark against the waves of the Pacific Ocean, which they had forced to retire to the other side of Kashima, formerly an island in the sea. This tradition is in accordance with the fact recently verified by geologists, that the eastern shores of Japan have been gradually rising during many centuries past. One legend says that Tsukuba is a fragment of the sacred mountain in China called Gō-dai-san, which broke off and flew over to Japan. This is supposed to account for

the peculiar species of plants found on it. But the fact is that no botanical species occur here which are not found on other mountains, although the inhabitants of the vicinity, noticing the difference between the flora of the mountain and the plain, might naturally be led to suppose that there was something special about the former." (It is necessary to make one correction, to the effect that the word "Tsukuba," as now written, means, not "built bank," but "built wave," with the possible idea, in accordance with the tradition, of "built against the wave," although the explanation is a little difficult.)

It would be very interesting, for one with the requisite ability, to study the geology of Mount Tsukuba. Its granite formation indicates a volcanic origin, probably in the older Palaeozoic; but, though it may once have been a volcano, there have been no eruptions within the true historical period. How far the above mentioned tradition concerning the origin of Mount Tsukuba embodies geological facts, I cannot state with precision. If the mountains of the Tsukuba range were suddenly elevated by volcanic action, it is very apparent that a considerable extent of country round about, which might have been under the ocean, would have become land. So much for rapid elevation; but that is not all; there are other facts indicating the more gradual elevation, which, as Professor Milne, of the Imperial University, writes, "may yet be in progress."

For instance, as stated in No. 1 of these "Vacation Rambles" (*Japan Daily Mail*, 3rd Sept.) the present Kashima country of this province was, as its name signifies, originally an "island," but in time became connected with the main land. This connection, however, was probably in comparatively recent times; for the surface soil of Kashima is "diluvial," while the deposits surrounding it on the land side are "alluvial."

Again, in the north-eastern corner of this province, is a sea-shore town, called Hirakata, near which is the location of a former "barrier" (*seki*), named Nagaso no seki, or "come-not-barrier." At present the ocean is a few *chō* distant; but, in ancient times, that barrier was rendered the more difficult of access, and easier of defence, because it overhung the sea. The proof of this is found in a poem, written by Saigyō Hoshi, a famous pilgrim of Yoritomo's time (700 years ago):—

Kokotsura ya,
Shio-michi kureba,
Michi mo nashi
Koko zo Nagaso no
Seki to yuran;

Which may be freely translated, "Kokotsura [name of a place]! If the tide comes in, there is no road; hence, probably, this place may have been named the Nagaso barrier." This same place is mentioned also in a poem, written by the famous warrior, Yoshitane, or Hachiman Taro, who passed through it on his way to Oshio to subjugate some rebels:—

Fuku kaze wo
Nagaso no seki to
Omoodomo,
Michi mo se ni chiru
Yama-zakura kana;

which, also freely translated, means "Though I wished that the blowing wind would not come, yet the mountain-cherry blossoms are scattered so as to fill up the way."

Once more taking up the geological topic, the other day, while taking a sail on the Nakagawa, I was shown large numbers, in one place, almost a "bed," of oyster shells in the banks of the river at a place called Kogawa, about one mile up from the mouth. On the down-trip I did not pay much attention to them, as I supposed that they had been cast away by various persons. But on the up-trip I examined them more closely, and noticed that, however the scattering shells may have come there, the "bed" showed no signs of artificiality. Of course, the shells only remained, as the meat had all decayed; but the shells were imbedded in the bank in a kind of "oyster-village." The boatman, an old *samurai*, knew, when a boy, of their being there, and had heard from old men stories of their having been there for a long time back. A young farmer, a fellow-passenger for a short distance, bore similar testimony; and added, that sea-shells are sometimes found in the fields, and huge rocks, like the present sea coast rocks, may be seen on the small hills, even so far up as opposite the city of Mito. All through the lowlands of Hitachi may be seen indications that these parts were once under water. I have instituted inquiries, but have not yet received answers, concerning the age of Mito, the harbour at the mouth of the Arakawa, and of Kogawa, the place where the oyster-

* Since writing the above, I have come across an article dealing with the elevation of the Kōriyama range, and mentioning especially this barrier. The article is not long, and may be found in No. 24 of Vol. II. of the *Geographical Magazine of Japan*; its author is Mr. Gunji Atsutori, of Mito (Ibaraki).

shells were found. I was sorry to learn the other day that in the recent floods many of those shells were washed away; but I hope that all have not been destroyed. These facts are all interesting, as they show that the name *Mito* (water-door) was the appropriate name of a place, which was a port at the (then) mouth of the Nakagawa. As I am not a specialist in geological science I dare not pursue the subject further, but content myself with merely presenting these superficial points, in the hope that some geologist will investigate the matter carefully. These facts have interested me also as showing, that traditions are oftentimes but the chronicles of geology. Now let us return to Tsukuba.

This mount, like all the "immoveable and unchangeable" mountains and "everlasting hills," often appears in poetry as a good example of the inflexible and immutable. Inasmuch as it is the highest mount in these parts, and is visible from almost all parts of the Kwantō, it is very famous, and ranks in poetical favour almost with Fuji-san. The following poetical allusion is quite famous:—

Tsukuba-ne ni
Kumo uie some,te,
Toki no ma ni
Sumida-gawa ra wo
Suguru yudachi.—

"A speck of cloud on Tsukuba peak in a short time becomes a shower passing over the Sumida River basin." One is forcibly reminded of the incident in *I Kings*, 18, when Ahab saw rising "a little cloud out of the sea, like a man's hand." One of the Tsukuba rivulets, named the Minagawa, is also used often in *uta*, as in the following instance:—

Tsukuba-ne no
Mine yori otsuru
Minan gawa
Koi zo tsumorite
Fuchi to nari naru.

"Like the Minan river falling from the peak of Tsukuba, love increasing has become a deep pool."

Likewise, from ancient times even till now, the mount has been considered holy and sacred; and is frequented, not only "for purposes of amusement," but also for purposes of worship. When the weather is pleasant, on an average 100 persons daily climb the mount, most of them to pay their homage at the shrines of Izanagi and Izanami. By superstitious people, however, it has always been considered dangerous to make the ascent after eating the flesh of birds or beasts; for the *Kami* (gods) hate and punish the unclean, and sometimes *tengu* (sky-dogs) appear and kick down those who have eaten or done any unclean thing. The faithful worshipper, therefore, keeps a seven days' fast, in order to make his body pure and clean. We, however, were sacrilegious enough to indulge in "unclean" chicken, to strengthen us the more for the arduous climb, but we failed to meet any *tengu*!

The Buddhist temple in Tsukuba is called *Omido*, and is sacred to Kwannon, the Goddess of Mercy. It was built by Iyemitsu, the grandson of Iyeyasu, for the same reason that temples were built on Hiyei-zan, of Kyoto, and Uyeno, of Tokyo—because all those localities are situated to the north east, unlucky quarter. In the Japanese Zodiac that quarter of the heavens is *unhi-tora* (ox-tiger), and in mythology is called *himori* (devil's gate); so that it was deemed necessary to build holy temples in those quarters to keep out the devils. It is for a similar reason, that carpenters, at the close of the day upon which they set up the frame work of a house, shoot arrows to the north-eastward. Such a custom still prevails here, but it is sometimes omitted; if, for instance, the house is to be rented, for there the tenant can himself look after the devils; or, when a house was constructed for the foreign teacher, who could likewise be left to fight the devils in his own way.

This Buddhist temple at Tsukuba suffered much through Rekkō's zeal for Shintoism and Confucianism, and his despoilment of Buddhist temples. During the Mito Civil War, Fujita Koshiro made Tsukuba the head quarters of the Seito forces, and established his main camp in "the high fenced place" in front of Yedoya. Here he was assaulted by the army of the *Bakufu*, and several battles were fought, during which that temple was almost destroyed by fire. When the *Bakufu* lost its power, the temple became a possession of the Emperor; for though the *han* still remained, this place had belonged to no *han*, but personally to the Shōgun. The Emperor then established in that place *Wakamori ken*, which was afterwards incorporated into Ibaraki *ken*.

The Shintō temple, called Tsukuba-jinja, with its two shrines, one at the summit of each peak, is more popular. One report says, that these shrines are dedicated respectively to a son and a daughter of Izanagi and Izanami; but the commonly received opinion is, that they are sacred to Izanagi and Izanami themselves. There is a legend that,

when Izanagi came to these parts, he climbed the mount, and was so kindly entertained by the gods then resident there, that he sang them a song. Inasmuch as the "official records" state, that the Emperor Kaikwa, in the 28th year of his reign (130 B.C.), ordered the priest of Tsukuba to fix the winter and summer celebration days, it is inferred by the "faithful," that the temple was built anterior to that time. In the 14th year of Konin (823 A.D.), this temple became a Government temple; and at different times, according to native customs, ranks were conferred upon these divinities by Imperial edict. In Yoritomo's time the last son of Hata Tomoye, of a famous family related to Yoritomo, became high priest of the temple; and his descendants have since served in that position. In the 10th year of Keicho (1605) Tokugawa gave the temple a domain of 1,500 *koku*, and undertook the repairs of the temple as necessity demanded. At present the great festival days are the *setsuhun*, in the first month, and the first day of the fourth month (O.C.). When the *setsuhun* arrives, "great multitudes" climb the mountain, and buying parched peas, scatter them about to welcome the New Year.

If the traveller intends to climb the two peaks, and return to the hotel in Tsukuba, it is just as well, as advised by Satow and Hawes in their "Hand-Book," to make the ascent on Nantai-zan, and the descent on Nyotai-zan, as the path on the former is "less steep" than that on the latter. We, however, having planned to descend on the opposite side of the mountain, took the ascent on Nyotai-zan, because it contains most of the queerly shaped rocks and romantic passages.

We left the hotel at about six o'clock in a "drizzle," which, though it made the climb cooler than the sunshine would have made it, was, nevertheless, "dampening" to our prospects of getting a good view from the summit. The ascent was, indeed, steep and difficult, and occupied more than two hours. Twice we stopped to rest at tea-houses, where is sold *Benkei no chikara mochi* (Benkei's strength bread), which is supposed to give the eater the strength of Benkei, who is well-known as the strong and brave companion of Yoshitsune. This Japanese Samson again figures on Mount Tsukuba in connection with some rocks which, according to their appellation, form "the door of the gate of Heaven." Here the path passes between two huge rocks, over which rests another immense rock, which looks as if it would easily fall. This place is also called *Benkei (no) nana-modori*, or "Benkei's seven-retours;" and the tradition that even Benkei, brave as he was, seven times drew back in fear of passing under, proves that it is an exceedingly dangerous spot.

A very low passage through which we must pass stooping is also called "Heaven's gate," and reminds one that "strait is the gate, and narrow is the way which leadeth unto life." Other stones of peculiar shape bear such name as *Kuni-wari-ishi* (country-dividing stone), because Nature has drawn lines thrown as if tracing the boundaries of countries; *defune-irifune ishi* (departing-ship [and] entering-ship-stones), because they are thought to resemble such vessels; *Daikoku-ishi*, whose shape reminds the imaginative pilgrim of the fat, jolly old god of wealth; *hokutō seki* (north star stone), a rugged stone, rising in bold relief, like a pole-star; *hōshi-seki* (precious jewel stone), which looks like a jewel in a rock setting; *kodane ishi* (child-seed stone), which has efficacy in giving children to childless women; *Daigin seki*, a stone sacred to Daijin, or Tsuchi daijin, or Amaterasu O Mikami, the sun goddess; *meoto-ishi* (husband and wife stone), because it is composed of two parts resting on one base; *Raijin iwaya* (the thunder-god's rock-den), where lives the Jupiter Tonans of the Japanese. Frequently the ascent must be made up the flat surface of a rock by catching hold of an iron chain; and in one instance we had to climb a rope ladder with similar assistance.

To reach the very summit we must first cross the *Ama no uki hashi*, or floating bridge of heaven, so famous in Japanese mythology. Izanagi no mikoto and Izanami no mikoto, who represent respectively the male and the female elements, met on this bridge, "which spanned the waste of waters." Then Izanagi dipped into the sea his sword, named *Ama no nuhoko* (Heaven's jewelled sword), from which the drops of brine falling congealed into an island, called Onogoro-jima, one of the poetical names for Japan.

On the very summit of Nyotai-zan (female-body mount) is the shrine sacred to Izanami, who was the first manifestation of the female principle in life; correspondingly on the summit of Nantai-zan (male-body-mount) is the shrine dedicated to Izanagi, who was the first manifestation of the male principle in life. Thus are the two peaks of Tsukuba always coupled off.

The descent from Nyotai-zan and the ascent of

Nantai-zan, are comparatively easy; the distance is only about half a mile. Between the two peaks there is nothing special, except in one of the tea houses. In this tea house is a *gaku* (inscription) written by Fujita Koshiro, who named it "a booth standing on the clouds."

When we reached the summit of the first peak, we had been much disappointed, because the clouds shut out the view on all sides. But we pushed on hopefully to the next peak, only to be similarly disappointed. It was merely with the opera-glass of the "Hand-Book" that we could realize that "the view is very extensive, and commands the eight provinces of the Kwantō." We had anticipated the sight that is vouchsafed in fair weather;—not only of the plain lying just beneath, with Lake Kasumi in its bosom, and stretching away on one side to the ocean, and on another side to Mito; but also of Nikkō, the city of Tokyo, and Fuji-san; but, though we waited a little, it was in vain.

The traveller who makes the descent (or ascent) of Nantai-zan on the Tsukuba side will find a few difficult and romantic spots. One water-fall bears the name *Nuubiki-no-daki*, because it resembles hanging linen cloth (*nuno*). There are other falls here and there around Tsukuba, such as *Shira-ito-daki* (white thread falls), *Shiva kuno-daki* (white cloud falls), &c.; but they are nothing extraordinary.

Our plan stated above, to descend on the opposite side, had been suggested by our landlord, when he ascertained that we must get home that Saturday night; because, by so doing, we could save time and distance. He was also kind enough to give us cards of introduction to several other hotels, which with his evidently formed a guild. The list included Kashima, Nikkō, Mito, and other places; but we had occasion to use only two out of the number.

It was about half-past 9 o'clock, when we began the descent with enthusiastic ideas of being able to make connections, so as to reach home about 5 o'clock that afternoon; but, as is usual in Japan, "the land of disappointments," the reality much exceeded the anticipation. There were no huge rocks to climb over, or between, or under; but the path was steep and slippery. To render matters worse, a rain storm came up and blew on us from all sides. One foreigner, who was wearing *waraji*, found them less safe than shoes; and had occasion two or three times to sit down and reflect on the *facile descensus* sung by Virgil! Perhaps, it was a *tengu* that made the meat eating barbarians slip down! By 11 o'clock we had descended to a small hill, called *Shii-no-o-zan* (Live oak tail hill), where is located a large and elegant Buddhist temple, sacred to Kwannon, and where we found an inn at which to rest and eat our dinner.

A large and flourishing Buddhist temple within the limits of the old Mito *han* is a great rarity; for it was the fixed purpose of the Mito princes, at least of Gikō and Rekkō, to weaken as much as possible the influence of Buddhism, and to strengthen the power of Shintoism and Confucianism. It is true that Gikō left intact some of the Buddhist temples, notably that in Mito called Gionji, of which a Chinese refugee, Shinyetsu, became priest; but Rekkō was less sparing. I wanted to collect some statistics concerning that temple at the foot of Mount Tsukuba; but, being in a great hurry, I learned only that it is very old, perhaps, 1,000 years or so.

Having hired pack-horses, we left that place, a little after noon, for a ride of perhaps, 5 *ri* to Iwase, the nearest station on the Mito Railway. We found the road pretty bad, and were glad that we had changed our original plan to walk to Makobe, the chief town of a county of the same name. In Makobe *kuruma* may be hired; but on that day they could not possibly have been used, even with two men to pull. The road beyond Makobe was in a dreadfully muddy condition; and, as the rain poured down almost all the afternoon, the riders could not, with umbrellas only, protect themselves sufficiently, and were wet through to the bones!

Part of the way the road was used also for a "baby" narrow-gauge railway to convey big rocks from the quarries of Mount Kaba to the Iwase station. This railway consisted of a single track, on which small flat cars were drawn by horses. The fact that there is only one track makes it rather inconvenient, when trains going in opposite directions happens to meet. It seems to be the just law that the rock-laden trains should have the right of way over the returning cars, on which the drivers were enjoying a ride. On that day, however, it must have been more than ordinarily difficult to run the cars off into the deep mud, and get them back on the track again.

On the way we passed along the foot of a mountain, called *Anabikiyama*, where also is a

temple dedicated to Kwannon, the Goddess of Mercy. This temple is likewise 1,000 or so years old from its foundation, and 300 or 400 years old from the time when last rebuilt. It is much frequented by worshippers, especially by pregnant women, who go to pray for safe delivery.

About 5 o'clock that Saturday three weary, soaked, and bedraggled travellers rode up to an inn at Iwase; and, having more than an hour to wait for the last train to Mito proceeded to get out of their wet clothes, to rub themselves thoroughly, and then, as there was no resource, to get into the same clothes again. One pair of stockings, however, had been cut to get them off, and one pair of shoes were too hard to get on again; so that one individual had to wear *tabi* (blue) and *waraï* and carry his shoes. One had also needs to be charged up against the Tsukuba trip, which came to an end, when, about 11 o'clock that evening, we reached "home, sweet home." For a day or so after, we experienced fatigue from our rough jaunt; but finally we came to feel as if we had revived our youth at the Ponce de Leon spring.

Mito, September 15th, 1890. CLEM.

LETTER FROM SAN FRANCISCO.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT).

San Francisco, August 23rd.

Mr. Blaine's unexpected bolt has been followed by a very similar movement on the part of Senator Quay of Pennsylvania, the discoverer of Wanamaker the tailor. Quay is one of the shrewdest politicians of the day, and has risen to be boss of the party in the banner Republican state. He had a misfortune a few years ago; being treasurer of the State, he managed to mix up his own private account with his account as treasurer, and the latter suffered to the tune of \$150,000 or thereabouts. The deficiency was made up by Cameron and others, who feared that the party could not stand the scandal of a disclosure of the facts, and Quay retained his position in the party. He is now Senator, and is very close to the President. To him, whose shrewdness is not to be questioned, it occurred that the Republicans were rather crowding things, and he introduced a resolution the object of which was to postpone indefinitely consideration of the Force Bill. This has brought down upon him the wrath of Hoar of Massachusetts and others, and the Democrats are not grateful to him for saving the administration from falling into the pit they had dugged for themselves. Between the two they may defeat Quay's benevolent intentions. But he announces his purpose to fight the thing to the bitter end.

The Tariff Bill is slowly forging its way through the Senate; friends of the administration say that a vote may be taken in the last week of September. Meanwhile, all amendments—whether offered by friend or foe—are voted down by a strictly party vote. The impression gains ground that the long controversy will end in an irreconcilable conflict between the two houses; but political predictions are unsafe guides.

There are many who believe that Congress will remain in session till the opening of the next session. No such thing ever took place in our history, but there is no reason why an interval should elapse between two sessions of the same Congress, if members choose to sit *en permanence*.

There is no news from the departments. The papers are full of dark forebodings of a collision between the British and the American fleets in Behring Sea, but Mr. Blaine and Sir Julian Pauncefote are bearing themselves with such serene composure that they, at all events, can hardly share the prevailing apprehensions. The administration is mute as an oyster on the subject. Our latest authentic information is taken from the passage in the Queen's Speech which states that England has offered to submit the dispute to arbitration. Meanwhile, the new lessees of the fur-seal islands wish it to be understood that the seal is being so rapidly exterminated that persons who propose to buy seal-skin garments had better hasten to purchase before the supply is exhausted.

Mr. Wanamaker has again got himself before the public by excluding Tolstoi's "Krentzer Sonata" from the mails, and thus seeming for that rather nasty book an unexpectedly large sale. There are two laws which protect the public from improper publications; one is a State law, which prevails in almost every State, and under which the publisher or vendor of indecent literature may be prosecuted and jailed; the other is a United States regulation, under which rule publications may be excluded from the mails and stopped at the Custom House. No State has interfered with the sale of Tolstoi's book, and its circulation

will not be reduced by its exclusion from the mails. This is the less to be deplored, as, while the impression it produces on the reader's mind is unpleasant, it is hardly calculated to promote immorality among the young. Mr. Wanamaker's object has been to make some capital with the giddy-giddy class. No order—that the public have heard of—has ever been issued excluding from the mails a much more objectionable book—Zola's "La Terre." But its admission has been stopped at the Custom House, and it is practically impossible to buy a copy in this country. To the keen eye of the moralist, it is questionable whether much is gained by its exclusion, so long as the book-stores are flooded with the productions of the modern erotic school of novelists. Book for book, one of the late works of Mr. Phillips is calculated to do more mischief than the entire Rougon-Macquard series.

In commenting on the moulders' strike in this city in a recent letter, I drew the attention of your readers to the indications that it and other similar demonstrations did not spring out of disputes over wages and hours of labour, but were the initial steps in a rebellion by employers against the tyranny of labour unions. That view has received confirmation from a recent strike on the New York Central Railroad system, the largest railroad system in this country, and possibly in the world. Its steps thus far have been as follows:—A number of railroad hands, who were Knights of Labour, were discharged by the company. The Order of the Knights charged that they were discharged, not because they were insufficient, but because they were Knights of Labour, and invited the Board of Directors to join the Order in an investigation of their cases. The Directors replied that the men were discharged for reasons which to the company were good and sufficient, but which they declined to discuss with outsiders. Thereupon, a certain proportion of the hands struck, and at the hour I write a general strike on the whole Vanderbilt system is threatened.

There is no doubt but Powderly was right when he said that the men were discharged because they were Knights of Labour, and that the step was notice to the New York Central employees that the Company would not keep in its service men whose allegiance was divided between the employer who paid them and an organization of their own. Employers have at last made up their minds that the usurpations of the labour organizations have become too intolerable to be borne, and they propose to inaugurate the inevitable war.

Outsiders sometimes fail to comprehend the growth of the hostile feeling toward foreigners in this country. A case which has just been tried in one of our city courts sheds light on its cause. A woman named Silverwise, a Pole, sued her husband, also a Pole, for a divorce, on the ground of cruelty and failure to provide. It was shown on the trial that the pair had six children, a girl of 19, a boy of 18—who was a hoodlum—and four younger children. They all, with the mother, and the father when he was in, slept in two beds, in one small room. They were supported by the earnings of the mother, who kept a small bread and candy store adjoining the joint bedroom, and by the wages of the daughter, who worked in a shop. The father was habitually drunk, and contributed nothing to the support of the family. He visited them at intervals, however, when he beat his wife, and lavished brutal epithets in his own tongue on her and her daughter. He could not speak English, and could not be made to understand the nature of the proceedings which were brought against him. Such is the material out of which the new generation of American citizens is expected to be evolved.

The new cruiser *San Francisco* tested her capacity once more yesterday in the bay, before going down to Santa Barbara for her trial trip. She astonished the spectators. Her speed appeared to be something marvellous; it was said to exceed twenty miles an hour. The spray dashed up from her bow over the bowse pipes, and the swell in her wake nearly swamped some small craft which happened to be passing. If it should turn out that *San Francisco*, with no non except what comes from the Atlantic coast, and no experience in ship-building, should beat the shipyards of the East in the construction of men-of-war, it will be another illustration of the truth that the best energies of man are developed by obstacles.

Everybody has heard stories of runaway trains. One of the most thrilling of these is the history of the experience of freight train No. 19 at Cascade Station yesterday morning. When the train reached Summit at 4 a.m., the two engines which had been hauling it were detached to bring up two other cars. The conductor remained in charge; the rest of the crew went off with the locomotives. All the air brakes were set, but not the hand

brakes; and it seems that the air leaked into the air brakes. At any rate, without a moment's warning, the freight train, consisting of eleven loaded and six empty cars and a caboose, began to move down the grade, which at this point is very steep. Conductor Kingley must naturally have rushed to the nearest brake, but by that time the train had acquired such a momentum that it could not be checked. The last seen of him was his figure standing on the top of a freight car, setting the hand brake with might and main.

On the train rushed, thundering down the grade, through cuts and round curves, gaining speed as it went. At Cascade Station it got off the track, struck the station building, and shattered it. If the telegraph operator had been at his post, he would have been killed so quickly that he would never have known what hurt him; happily for him, he was off duty and was in bed. The first thing he knew, he was several feet away from his lodging, in the open air, with a lot of bruises, and fragments of the wreck around him. A short distance beyond Cascade, the runaway train struck the rear end of a freight train which was making its way to a siding. The caboose was still in the line of the runaway. In an instant it was smashed to fragments, and the wreck of half a dozen cars was piled on top of it. Three men who were in it were killed at once. They had heard the thunder of the approaching train, but, not understanding it, had neglected to place themselves in a position of safety.

There have been some changes in the steamship service between this city and Japan. A truce has been patched up between the Pacific Mail and the Canadian line, and each will for the present restrict itself to its old territory. There is no reason why the *San Francisco* lines should touch at Vancouver; but eventually the Canadian line, it would seem, will have to make this port its eastern terminus if it wants to get business. It is understood that the Pacific Mail ships and the O. & O. ships will hereafter make better time, which they can easily do by increasing their consumption of coal. Another trifling change has been instituted. Henceforth steamers for Yokohama will sail from this port at noon instead of 3 p.m. My ignorance of this change caused me to miss the last mail.

CRICKET.

The opening match of the Autumn Season came off on Saturday, when the First Eleven met the Next Nineteen. The latter went first to the wickets, but developed no brilliant play, nor did any one make much of a stand; only three managing double figures, several were non-contributors, and the innings closed for 83. Although the batting was not strong, it must be said that, with Edwards, Sutter, and Walford bowling, heavy scoring could hardly be looked for. This, of course, cut both ways, for, when the Eleven went in, Walkinshaw and Crawford punished the bowling, what there was of it, severely, and the pair rapidly compiled 110 between them before being sent home. Shortly after this Edwards made 55 and retired, and the game concluded with Tilden and Walford not out, and with Kenny, Chope, and Chalmers not batting the total made was 193. In view of the pending matches this season, this kind of practice is not calculated to improve either batting or bowling so much as games would do where two elevens were chosen as nearly equal as possible, in which case the batsmen would be called upon for a far better defence, and the bowlers would find it necessary to make a much more vigorous assault upon the enemy than in matches of the description of that of Saturday. Following are the scores:—

THE NINETEEN.

Mr. Adams, b. Walford..... 3	Mr. Nash, b. Walford..... 3
Mr. Stewart, run out..... 3	Mr. Hood, c. Chope, b. Grant 1
Mr. Wickett, c. & b. Sutter..... 13	Mr. C. W. Arnold, b. Sutter 9
Mr. E. Edwards, c. and b. Edwards..... 1	Mr. Vivanti, c. Dickenson..... 1
Mr. Wood, b. Edwards..... 0	Mr. Grant..... 1
Mr. Watson, st. Walkinshaw, b. Walford..... 1	Mr. F. Gullett, c. Dickenson..... 10
Mr. Philip, b. Dickenson..... 5	Mr. Edwards, b. Edwards..... 10
Mr. C. D. Moss, b. Edwards 7	Mr. Tordell, b. Edwards..... 5
Mr. Clarke, c. Edwards, b. Sutter..... 16	Mr. Abbley, not out..... 5
Mr. Hinton, b. Walford..... 3	Mr. Mott, b. Edwards..... 2
	Mr. Alcock, c. Edwards..... 2
	b. 2, l. b. 3..... 5
	83

THE ELEVEN.

Mr. Walkinshaw, c. Nash, b. Stewart..... 77	Mr. Sutter, c. Adams, b. Water..... 3
Mr. Crawford, c. Nash, b. Stewart..... 33	Mr. Walford, not out..... 0
Mr. Grant, c. Nash, b. Adams..... 11	Mr. Tilden, not out..... 0
Mr. Dickenson, c. Wickett, b. Adams..... 11	Mr. Kenny..... did not bat
Mr. Edwards, retired..... 55	Mr. Chope..... 6
	b. 0..... 6
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SAILING RACES.

Two sailing races took place on Saturday, one for boats over 17 rating—twice round the Club Course—and the other for 17 raters, postponed from 30th August. There was a fresh easterly breeze, the weather being thus most favourable.

The large boats started at 2 p.m., *Molly Bawn* being first across the line, followed by *Lady Louise* and *Princess Maud*, and later by *Maid Marion* and *Traveller*. *Princess* laid a straight course for the North Mark; the others, especially the blue cutter, the *Maid*, and *Molly*, headed up so far to windward—probably making allowance for the flood—that at the end it was practically up helm and squaring away for the mark. *Lady Louise*, however, was first round, *Molly*, *Traveller*, and *Princess Maud* coming all, at a few seconds interval between each, astern of her, *Maid Marion* a minute later. After rounding, all stood for a few minutes out on the starboard tack before coming about, as they did pretty much together, for a long leg in towards the Bluff. *Molly* and *Princess Maud* stood in farthest, *Lady Louise* and the *Maid* working up to the Lightship in shorter tacks, but *Molly* most unaccountably fell astern of her blue antagonist, while *Princess Maud* also failed to get near the leader. Mr. Martin's cutter was first round the Lightship, *Lady Louise* only 15 secs. astern of her, *Molly* being now all of 6 min. to the back. At the Home Mark *Maid Marion*, even with jib topsail, had lost her grip of Captain Owston's craft, and, jibing, passed round half a minute astern of her, *Molly* having effected a barely perceptible improvement in her position. The reach to the North Mark brought *Maid Marion* to the front again—half a minute—*Molly* being just in the same position relative to the blue boat as before, and evidently unable to get away from *Princess Maud*. The wind had calmed a little to the northward, so that the Lightship was reached this time with less beating, the *Maid* being now a full minute ahead, and *Molly*, though practically sailing over the same ground as *Lady Louise*, 10 minutes astern of the latter. On the run in to the finish Captain Owston crept up on the *Maid*, getting his gun some thirty seconds later than her, *Molly* coming in 10 minutes astern and only half a minute ahead of the *Princess*. The victory was therefore an easy one for *Lady Louise*, *Princess Maud* taking second place on her time allowance.

The 17 raters started at 2.15. *Sayonara* got the best of it at the outset, rounding the Green Lightship first and gaining on *Jessie* during the run down to Kanagawa. Close to the *Hiroshima Maru*, however, Capt. Campbell undertook to shorten the course by steering through a narrow channel which seemed to be open amid the dismantled ribs of the *Glendon*, with the result that *Sayonara* was caught on a spike which ripped a considerable hole in her bottom, and necessitated henching. This gave *Jessie* a lead which she maintained to the finish.

Mr. Beart acted as officer of the day for both races.

The following are non-official times:—

	Rating.	N. mark.	Lightship.	Home.	N. mark.
30 Rater.					
<i>Maid Marion</i>	39	2.22.00	5.03.00	3.21.00	3.38.30
33 Rater.					
<i>Traveller</i>	31½	2.20.45	5.15.00	3.42.30	4.00.00
29 Rater.					
<i>Lady Louise</i>	28	2.20.15	5.03.15	3.20.30	3.39.00
<i>Molly Bawn</i>	25½	2.22.30	5.09.00	3.25.45	3.44.45
<i>Princess Maud</i>	24	2.21.00	5.13.00	3.28.00	3.47.45
			Time	Cor.	
			allowance.	rected	
<i>Maid Marion</i>			4.27.20	—	4.27.20
<i>Traveller</i>			did not finish	—	—
<i>Lady Louise</i>			4.27.50	allows	4.27.50
<i>Molly Bawn</i>			4.37.30	0.34	4.36.56
<i>Princess Maud</i>			4.38.00	1.23	4.35.37
			Green. Kana.		
			Rating. I./t.-ship. gawa.		
			h.m.s. h.m.s. h.m.s.	allowance. h.m.s.	
<i>Sayonara</i>	13½	2.24.00	2.43.45	did not finish	3.07
<i>Jessie</i>	16	2.24.30	2.44.00	3.34.10	3.34.10
<i>La Belle</i>	16	2.25.00	2.44.30	5.43.45	3.43.45

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, September 12th.

Serious disturbances have occurred at Southampton among the strikers. The troops were called out, and the situation became so serious that they were ordered to charge with the bayonet. Gunboats are patrolling the harbour, and military guards have been posted to protect all the approaches to the Dockyard.

London, September 16th.

As the Washington Mint is now ready and willing to buy largely of silver, Mr. Windom,

in order to relieve the stringency of the money market and prevent a panic, conferred yesterday with a number of the leading bankers.

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

Hyogo, September 19th.

While the Turkish frigate *Ertongroul* was passing the coast of Kishu on her way to Kobe, an accident happened to her boiler, and the ship, becoming unmanageable, drifted on the rocks, and sank off the Kashinosaki Light House at about four o'clock in the afternoon of the 16th instant. Admiral Osman Pasha, and 587 officers and men went down with her. Sixty-six only were rescued and brought ashore, most of them in a wounded condition. They are being tended by the inhabitants of Oshima. Four dead bodies are said to have been cast up. Two officers of the ill-fated vessel have just arrived at this port under the escort of policemen and local officials of Oshima, for the purpose of conveying information of the catastrophe. They report that every assistance was given by the people as well as by the Local Authorities of Oshima.

[FROM THE "SINGAPORE FREE PRESS."]

London, August 25th.

The Marquis of Salisbury, in reply to the circular of the Porte, intimates that the British forces cannot evacuate Egypt until the work of improvement is properly consolidated.

Affairs in Armenia are becoming very serious.

London, August 26th.

During the Italian manoeuvres at Brescia the smokeless powder was used with remarkable success, the batteries having cannonaded for half an hour without in the least betraying their position.

London, August 27th.

Tokay, the famous wine centre, has been totally destroyed by fire, rendering seven thousand persons homeless and foodless.

London, August 28th.

There is intense excitement at Newcastle, New South Wales, in consequence of the strike of the miners. The military have been sent to the scene of the disturbance, and the police both at Sydney and Melbourne have been reinforced. It has also been considered necessary to swear in a considerable number of special constables.

The strike has now extended to the gas stokers, they having refused duty at Melbourne.

The fleet representing the enemy under the command of Rear-Admiral Seymour at the late naval manoeuvres completely eluded the defending force, and he was able to coal his ships in mid-Atlantic from the colliers brought from Bantry Bay.

London, August 29th.

The report that the Sikkim difficulty had been settled is confirmed, and the ratification of the Treaty has now taken place.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki	per N. Y. K.	Friday, Sept. 26th
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Thursday, Sept. 25th.*
From Canada, &c.	per C. P. M. Co.	Sunday, Sept. 28th.†
From Hongkong	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, Sept. 21st.‡
From Hongkong	per C. P. M. Co.	Saturday, Sept. 27th.§
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Sept. 28th.||

* *Oceanic* left San Francisco via Honolulu on September 4th. † *British* left Vancouver on September 18th. ‡ *British* left Hongkong on September 18th. § *Straits of Belle Isle* left Hongkong on September 18th. || *Ancona* left Hongkong on September 19th. The English mail is on board the steamer *Daphne*.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, Sept. 23rd.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Thursday, Sept. 25th.
For Europe, via Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Sept. 28th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Sept. 30th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Oct. 7th.
For Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd.	Wedn'day, Oct. 15th.

TIME TABLES AND STEAMERS.

TOKYO-YOKOHAMA RAILWAY.

DOWN TRAINS LEAVE SHIMBASHI Station at 6.05* 6.40, 8.35, 9.30,* 10.25, and 11.45 a.m., and 1.25, 2.30, 3.55, 4.45, 5.50, 6.50, 8.30, 9.55, and 11.15† p.m.
UP TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 6.30, 7.20, 8.10, 9.15,† 10.22, and 11.30 a.m., and 12.45, 2, 3, 4.25†, 5.30, 6.35, 7.50, 9.10, 10.05, and 11.05† p.m.
FARES—First-class, *sen* 60; second-class, *sen* 40 and third-class, *sen* 20.
Trains marked * run through without stopping at Omori, Kawasaki, Isurumi, and Kanagawa Stations. † Those marked (†) run through without stopping at Omori, Kawasaki, and Tanrumi Stations.

TOKAIDO RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA (down) at 6.50, 9, 10.20, 11.25 a.m., and 12.40, 3.25, 4.55, 5.35, and 7.45 p.m.; and Kozu (up) at 6.35, 8.40, 9.40, and 11.07 a.m., and 1.17, 2.45, 4.58, 7.25, and 9.46 p.m.
FARES—To Hadogaya, first-class *sen* 6, second-class *sen* 4, third-class *sen* 2; to Toisuka, *sen* 18, *sen* 12, *sen* 6; to Ofuna *sen* 36, *sen* 24, *sen* 12; to Fujiwara, *sen* 42, *sen* 28, *sen* 14; to Hiratsuka, *sen* 66, *sen* 44, *sen* 22; to Oiso, *sen* 75, *sen* 50, *sen* 25; and to Kozu, *sen* 93, *sen* 62, *sen* 31.
Down trains at 6.50 a.m. run no further than Kyoto arriving there at 11.20 p.m.; at 10.20 a.m. no further than Nagoya, arriving at 10.10 p.m.; at 12.40 p.m. no further than Shizuoka, arriving there at 6.50 p.m.; at 3.25 p.m. no further than Shizuoka, arriving at 8.48 p.m.; and the train at 5.35 p.m. runs to Kobe, arriving at 12.45 p.m. next day.
A tramway runs between Kozu and Yumoto (distance 4½ m.) Hiratsuka may be hired between Yumoto and Miyasohitz (distance 1½ m.).

OFUNA-YOKOSUKA RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE OFUNA (down) at 7.30 and 9.40 a.m., and 12.05, 1.30, 4.03, 6.14, and 8.30 p.m.; KAMAKURA (down) at 7.41 and 9.51 a.m., and 12.16, 1.41, 4.14, 6.25, and 8.41 p.m.; and ZUSHIMURA (down) at 7.50 and 10 a.m., and 12.25, 1.50, 4.23, 6.34, and 8.50 p.m.; YOKOSUKA (up) at 6.45, 8.55, and 11.20 a.m., and 12.50, 3, 5.10, and 7.45 p.m.; ZUSHIMURA (up) at 7.01, 9.12, and 11.36 a.m., and 1.06, 3.16, 5.26, and 8.01 p.m.; and KAMAKURA (up) at 7.11, 9.22, and 11.46 a.m., and 1.15, 3.26, 5.36 and 8.10 p.m.
FARES—To Kamakura, first-class *sen* 9, second-class *sen* 6, third-class *sen* 3; to Zushimura *sen* 15, *sen* 10, *sen* 5; and to Yokosuka *sen* 30, *sen* 20, *sen* 10.

TOKYO-SHIOGAMA RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE UENO (down) at 6.40, 8.50, and 11.40 a.m., and 2.40 and 5.40 p.m.; UTSUNOMIYA (down) at 10 a.m., and 3.03 and 5.59 p.m.; SHIRAKAWA (down) at 8 a.m., and 12.35 and 5.41 p.m.; KORIYAMA (down) at 9.25 a.m., and 1.54 and 6.58 p.m.; FUKUSHIMA (down) at 7.35 and 11.33 a.m., and 3.45 p.m.; SENDAI (down) at 6.15, 10.25, and 10.40 a.m., and 2.30, 6.35, and 6.50 p.m.
TRAINS LEAVE ICHINOSERI (up) at 6.40 a.m., and 2.50 p.m.; SHIOGAMA (up) at 7 and 11.05 a.m., and 3.10 and 7.15 p.m.; SENDAI (up) at 7.35 and 11.40 a.m., and 3.45 p.m.; FUKUSHIMA (up) at 6.40 and 10.26 a.m., and 2.36 p.m.; KORIYAMA (up) at 8.29 a.m., and 12.22 and 4.28 p.m.; SHIRAKAWA (up) at 6.35 and 9.47 a.m., and 1.40 p.m.; UTSUNOMIYA (up) at 6.20 and 9.05 a.m., and 12.18, 4.14, and 6.33 p.m.
FARES.—Ueno to Utsunomiya, first-class *sen* 2, second-class *sen* 1.32, third-class *sen* 66; to Koriyama *sen* 4.10, *sen* 2.74, *sen* 1.37; to Fukushima *sen* 5, *sen* 3.32, *sen* 1.66; to Sendai *sen* 6.45, *sen* 4.30, *sen* 2.15; to Shingama *sen* 6.75, *sen* 4.50, *sen* 2.25.

SHINJIKU-HACHIOJI RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE SHINJIKU, TOKYO, (down) at 6.55 and 9.55 a.m. and 12.52, 4, and 7 p.m.; and HACHIOJI (up) at 5.25, 8.25, and 11.25 a.m. and 2.20 and 5.30 p.m.
FARES—First-class, *sen* 90; second-class, *sen* 60; third-class, *sen* 30.

TAKASAKI-YOKOKAWA RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE TAKASAKI (down) at 6.30 and 9.25 a.m., and 12.20 and 3.15 p.m.; and YOKOKAWA (up) at 8 and 11 a.m., and 1.50 and 4.55 p.m.
FARES—First-class, *sen* 75; second-class, *sen* 45 third-class, *sen* 25.

UTSUNOMIYA-NIKKO RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE UTSUNOMIYA (down) at 5.25 and 10.05 a.m., and 12.25* and 3.05 p.m.; and NIKKO (up) at 7.20 and 11.55 a.m., and 2.25 and 4.55* p.m.
* Through Trains to and from Utsuno.

TAKETOYO-OFU RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE TAKETOYO (up) at 5.40 and 10.40 a.m., and Ofu (down) at 3.55 and 8.55 p.m.
FARES—Second-class, 26 *sen*; third-class, 13 *sen*.

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

STEAMERS LEAVE the Nippon Hatoba daily at 7.50 and 10.30 a.m., and 1.15 and 4.00 p.m.; and LEAVE YOKOSUKA at 7.10 and 10.30 a.m., and 1.30, and 4.50 p.m.—Fare, *sen* 20.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Moyune, British steamer, 2,640, J. S. Hogg, 12th September.—Kobe 11th September, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.
Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,359, Haswell, 12th September.—Shanghai and ports 6th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Abergeldie, British steamer, 1,876, J. Murray, 13th September.—Batoum 30th July, Oil.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Abyssinia, British steamer, 2,300, G. A. Lee, 14th September.—Vancouver, B.C., 29th August, General.—C. P. M. S.S. Co.
Batavia, British steamer, 1,661, J. C. Williamson, 14th September.—Hongkong 4th, Shanghai 9th, and Kobe 13th September, General.—C. P. M. S.S. Co.
Carmarthenshire, British steamer, 1,775, Alex. Clark, 14th September.—Nagasaki 11th September, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.
Verona, British steamer, 1,878, F. H. Seymour, 14th September.—Hongkong 5th, Nagasaki 10th, and Kobe 13th September, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Diana, American schooner, 75, Alex. Petersen, 15th September.—North Pacific, 6 Otter and 239 Fur Seal skins.
Iraouaddy, French steamer, 3,400, Flandin, 15th September.—Hongkong 11th, Shanghai 15th, and Kobe 18th September, General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.
Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 15th September.—Shanghai and ports 13th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Altonowar, British steamer, 1,759, Buntel, 20th September.—Kobe 18th September, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Gwalior, British steamer, 1,648, Francis Cole, 13th September.—Kobe, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
China, British steamer, 2,641, W. B. Seabury, 13th September.—San Francisco via Honolulu, General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Glenfallach, British steamer, 1,434, McGregor, 13th September.—Kobe, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Tataros, German steamer, 1,578, Brechtung, 13th September.—Kobe, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, P. Hussey, 13th September.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
General Werder, German steamer, 1,820, Eichl, 14th September.—Hongkong via Kobe, General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.
Saghalien, French steamer, 2,580, Homery, 14th September.—Shanghai via Kobe, General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.
Batavia, British steamer, 1,661, J. C. Williamson, 16th September.—Vancouver, B.C., General.—C. P. M. S.S. Co.
Abyssinia, British steamer, 2,300, G. A. Lee, 16th September.—Hongkong, General.—C. P. M. S.S. Co.
Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 16th September.—Shanghai and ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Teucer, British steamer, 1,578, Brechtung, 17th September.—Kobe, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Northorn, British steamer, 1,466, Richardson, 17th September.—Kobe, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.
Moyune, British steamer, 2,640, —, 18th September.—Kobe General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.
Verona, British steamer, 1,876, F. H. Seymour, 20th September.—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. Bieher, Mr. S. E. Gevrey, Mrs. Komodomi, Messrs. Caldecott, C. W. Collier, Takasaki, Winkler, H. J. Pearce, H. L. Baggaley, Yoshikawa, Master Yoshikawa, Messrs. Nishimura, L. Nishimura, Orita, and Motoi in cabin; Mrs. Nakajima, Mrs. Kuroda, Mrs. Suzuki, Messrs. Yeta, Tamori, Tai, Ohno, Baba, Nomura, and Kagatsuma in second class, and 63 passengers in steerage. For San Francisco: Messrs. J. Richards, E. B. Skattowe, W. Bean, and Captain Perkins in cabin.
 Per British steamer *Abyssinia*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Sir James Russell, Mr. E. Whittall, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Falconer, Miss Lizzy Falconer, Miss S. L. Falconer, Master Bruce Falconer, Miss Berton, Miss Cushing, Mr. and Mrs. Archibald Little, Rev. and Mrs. Jno. Wilkie and child, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. E. Hobhouse, Mr. C. D.

Averill, Mr. Burton, Miss Greirson, General J. Johnstone, Right Rev. C. J. Coife, Messrs. J. M. P. Fuller, Showler, Nakita, Nakada, Nubom, Mr. and Mrs. Hardie and child, Dr. Landis, Messrs. Holse, Liddiard, McLaren, Holland, Craig, Yamauchi, and H. H. Coates in cabin.
 Per British steamer *Batavia*, from Hongkong via ports:—Captain Saukey, and Mrs. Sutherland in cabin. For Vancouver: Mrs. McCauslin, Mr. Lapham, Mr. Brennan, 2 children, and nurse, and Mr. J. R. Kent in cabin; 85 Chinese in steerage.
 Per Japanese steamer *Satsuna Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. Charlesworth and son, and Mrs. T. L. Marshall in cabin; 2 passengers in second class, and 39 passengers in steerage.
 Per British steamer *Verona*, from Hongkong via ports:—Messrs. A. L. de Moiray, J. Herapit, H. T. Green, R. A. Lamb, Mr. and Mrs. Popp, and Dr. Syfret in cabin; 3 Japanese in steerage.
 Per Japanese steamer *Sagami Maru*, from Hakodate:—Mrs. M. H. De Lacy, Mrs. N. E. Macklin and infant, and Mr. M. E. Pine in cabin.
 Per French steamer *Iraouaddy*, from Hongkong via ports:—Messrs. Takahashi, C. Jubin, Matsugata, T. Toyoda, Shochi, Kato, Asoba, Yokonizu, I. Toyoda, Takasu, T. Tsuda, Watson, Mr. and Mrs. Downing, Mr. Drummond, Mr. S. Komuro, Baron de Gunzberg, Mrs. Clarke and child, Miss Clarke, Messrs. Isaac Rook, Leroy, Schluter, and Servas in cabin.
 Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Rev. and Mrs. Jno. R. Hykes, 3 children, and infant, Mr. and Mrs. Oltmans and infant, Messrs. J. Stark, A. H. Groom, J. King, Geo. Sale, L. L. Fobes, R. Fukuta, and S. Namaye in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. Y. Mayeda and 3 children, Messrs. K. Ihara, K. Ohoka, T. Okamoto, K. Amano, T. Ono, Miss Ono, and Mr. Ihara in second class, and 60 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *China*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mrs. J. B. Houston and maid, Miss Houston, Mr. B. Houston and servant, Miss Brewster, Captain S. P. Bray, Mrs. M. Castee, Captain Jas. Perkins, Messrs. Wm. Bean, E. B. Skattowe, J. Richards, Chas. Flint, Robert Seales, Mrs. Henderson and child, Mr. A. Schnepfer, Dr. H. N. Rucker, Dr. C. Sylvester, Messrs. J. F. Shepley, J. L. Smith, W. H. Fessenden, A. P. McEwen, C. Inouye, Fukui, Mr. and Mrs. M. H. Robertson, child, and Japanese amah, Mr. P. Sachse, Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Allen and daughter, Lieutenant-Colonel J. Stevens, Mr. A. Van Winkle, Mr. S. Isaacs, Mrs. J. R. Whitney, Mrs. L. Tobias, Mrs. W. Beyfus, child, governess, and native servant, Mr. Emil Deutsch, Mr. Western Edwards, Miss Portal, Mr. R. M. English, Mr. Hugh Cayley, Miss Florence O. Driscoll, Mr. Caldecott, Mrs. E. Bieber, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Wab Foy and servant, Mr. and Mrs. Lum Cheong Wan, Messrs. Wm. Gutteridge, C. Capillos, G. Alex, and C. Kalbe in cabin.
 Per German steamer *General Werder*, for Hongkong via Kobe:—Miss A. Macgregor, Mr. Hasche, Mr. and Mrs. Mannich, Messrs. Kubes, Yamagi, Pak Chaw, Mr. and Mrs. Chang Ga Ting, 2 children, and nurse, and Mr. Chang Sing in cabin; 1 Indian, 1 Portuguese, 3 Europeans, 1 Japanese, and 15 Chinese in steerage.
 Per French steamer *Saghalien*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Mrs. Tudor Davies and 1 amah, Mr. Minami Iwakura, Mr. Maurice Bovis, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Roberts, Mrs. Jackson, Mr. John M. Luckie, Mr. and Mrs. Watanabe, H. I. H. Prince Kacho, Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Jones and 1 infant, Mr. Mueller, Mr. Calcombet, Mr. Colvet, Miss Mary Parker, Mr. C. E. Mitchell, Mr. L. Andersen, Mr. Saunders, Mr. Yumome Suketaka, Mr. Hironaka, Mr. Shigashikura Tsubino, Mr. Tanaka Jusaburo, Mrs. R. T. Lee, Mr. B. Laur, Mrs. Sophie Carin, Mrs. Heine, Mr. Shin Hirayama, Mr. Jico Tsuboi, Mr. Maunen Uyeda, Mr. Kageyama Masahara, Mrs. Federici, Mr. H. L. Baggaley, Mr. A. V. Zane, Mr. H. G. Pearce, Mr. F. G. Pearce, Miss Pearce, Mr. Bedap, Mrs. A. Sam, and Mr. Shimidzu Ishtar in cabin.
 Per British steamer *Batavia*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. Clarke and 2 sons in cabin. From Shanghai: Mr. Edward Gray Lapham, Mrs. McCauslin, Mr. J. A. Kerr, and Mr. E. V. Brennan, 2 children, and European nurse in cabin.
 Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Rev. J. L. and Mrs. Van Schoick and child, Mrs. M. M. Crossette, Mrs. De Lany, Mrs. Macklin and infant, Dr. Landis, Mr. and Little, Messrs. McLaren, W. D. Graham, Mals, Bayne, Winkler, Mrs. A. Thomsen, Miss Birchhead, Captain Bindis, and Rev. Woodhull in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. Akakabe, Mr. and Mrs. S. Joseph, Messrs. Satake, Chew Chin, Lesner, Noguchi, Kaneko, Kusada, Housher, Kojima, Shimizu, and Araya in second class, and 80 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Falconer, Miss S. Falconer, Miss L. Falconer, Mr. B. Falconer, Colonel C. H. Chaney, Colonel Pemberton, Colonel and Mrs. Fish and infant, Messrs. J. Meyerdicks, Hearn, E. Bueshlow, Isamu Ono, and Wong Ping Him in cabin; one Chinese in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure \$10,000.00.
 Per British steamer *China*, for San Francisco:—

	TEA.	NEW YORK.	OTHER.	TOTAL.
	FRANCISCO.	YOKO.	YOKO.	YOKO.
Shanghai	415	361	479	1,255
Hyogo	187	264	1,660	2,111
Yokohama	3,822	1,161	2,110	7,093
Hongkong	499	1,043	—	1,542
Total	4,933	2,829	4,258	12,020

	TEA.	NEW YORK.	OTHER.	TOTAL.
	FRANCISCO.	YOKO.	YOKO.	YOKO.
Shanghai	—	31	—	31
Hongkong	—	139	—	139
Yokohama	—	118	—	118
Total	—	279	—	279

Per French steamer *Saghalien*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Silk for France 240 bales. Waste Silk for France 135 bales. Treasure for Shanghai \$2,500.

Per British steamer *Batavia*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—

	TEA.	NEW YORK.	PACIFIC.	TOTAL.
	FRANCISCO.	YOKO.	YOKO.	YOKO.
Shanghai	820	2,306	4,552	7,718
Hyogo	1,646	1,230	—	2,876
Yokohama	2,783	975	1,143	5,001
Hongkong	—	25	—	25
Amoy	—	2,473	2,813	5,316
Foochow	1,776	—	1,589	3,365
Total	7,025	6,969	10,127	24,301

	TEA.	NEW YORK.	PACIFIC.	TOTAL.
	FRANCISCO.	YOKO.	YOKO.	YOKO.
Shanghai	—	122	—	122
Hongkong	—	20	—	20
Yokohama	—	20	—	20
Canton	—	80	—	80
Total	—	242	—	242

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure \$1,000.00.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Silk for France 91 bales.

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Abyssinia*, Captain Lee, reports:—Left Vancouver Railway Terminus the 29th August at 7.30 p.m.; calling at Victoria and finally leaving Victoria the 30th at 1.55 a.m.; passed Cape Imbuoye-saki the 14th September at 8.40 a.m. and arrived at Yokohama at 6.30 p.m. From Victoria to 180° meridian had moderate to fresh westerly winds, overcast, and foggy weather with confused seas; thence to Yokohama moderate variable winds and fine clear weather with smooth sea; actual time on voyage 14 days, 23 hours. September 8th at 3.30 a.m. in Lat. 48.56 N., Long. 179.50 E. passed a steamer showing Canadian Pacific S.S. Co. night signals and supposed to be steamer *Mongkut*.

The Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, Captain Haswell, reports:—Left Kobe the 11th September at noon; had moderate breeze and cloudy weather; at 4 p.m., wind increased to moderate gale with occasional heavy squalls from E.S.E. to S.E. and high S.E. sea accompanied with heavy rain; passed Oshima at 9 p.m. this weather continuing to Rock Island which passed at 12.22 p.m. on the 12th; thence to port moderate winds and cloudy weather.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The improvement in the Yarn Market for English Spinnings report last week continued for several days at gradually enhanced rates, and a very large general business was done, but at the close buyers are showing signs of satisfaction for the present, and an interval of dulness is naturally to be expected. The position appears to be somewhat improved, as stocks in first hands must be very much reduced and imports are moderate. Bombay Yarns have been left out, owing to the cheapness of English Spinnings, but at the close there is more inclination to business. Shillings have improved, and fair sales are reported at better prices. Fancies have also received continued attention. Sales for the week amount to 3,400 bales English Yarns, 550 bales Bombays, 35,000 pieces Shirtings, and 4,500 pieces Italians.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

Grey Shirts—84 in, 34 yds, 39 inches	\$1.35 to 1.90
Grey Shirts—94 in, 34 yds, 39 inches	1.50 to 2.52
1. Cloth—7 1/2, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.15 to 1.47
Indigo Shirts—12 yards, 34 inches	1.20 to 1.60
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.70 to 2.00
Cotton—Italians and Satens Black, 32 inches	0.07 to 0.14
Turkey Reds—1 1/2 to 2 1/2, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.00 to 1.15
Turkey Reds—2 1/2 to 3 1/2, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.20 to 1.40
Turkey Reds—3 1/2 to 4 1/2, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.70 to 2.05
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	4.50 to 6.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.50 to 0.65
Laifachelas, 12 yards, 43 inches	1.35 to 2.35

WOOLLENS.

Plain Orleans, 10 to 12 yards, 32 inches	\$1.00 to 1.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.24 to .28
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.20 to .24
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.16 to .20
Mouseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.14 to 0.15
Cloths—Pilot, 51 to 56 inches	0.30 to 0.45
Cloths—Presidents, 51 to 56 inches	0.50 to 0.60
Cloths—Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.35 to 0.60
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 5 1/2, per lb	0.30 to 0.38

COTTON YARNS.

Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	\$25.00 to 26.00
Nos. 16/24, Medium	26.00 to 27.00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	27.00 to 28.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	29.00 to 30.00
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	27.75 to 28.50
Nos. 28/32, Medium	28.50 to 30.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	30.25 to 31.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	14.00 to 30.00
Nos. 38/42, Two-fold	31.50 to 35.00
No. 425, Two-fold	35.50 to 36.00
No. 205, Bombay	72.00 to 73.00
No. 165, Bombay	74.00 to 79.00
No. 10/14, Bombay	—

METALS.

There is rather more doing in this branch, in sympathy with other divisions of the Import trade. Prices, nominally unchanged, are by no means strong.

Flat Bars, 1/2 inch	\$2.50 to 2.60
Flat Bars, 3/4 inch	2.60 to 2.70
Round and square up to 1/2 inch	2.50 to 2.70
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.
Nailrod, small size	Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	2.80 to 3.00
Sheet Iron	3.00 to 3.25
Galvanized Iron sheets	5.80 to 6.20
Wire Nails, assorted	4.10 to 4.60
Tin Plates, per box	4.70 to 4.90
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.20 to 1.25

KEROSENE.

The chief event of the week has been another arrival of a cargo per steamer from Batoum. No sales of any moment. Deliveries are fair, but the stock on hand is over 800,000 cases.

QUOTATIONS.

Chester	Nom. \$1.75 to 1.77 1/2
Cornel	Nom. 1.70 to 1.72 1/2
Devoe	Nom. 1.67 1/2 to 1.70
Russian	Nom. 1.65 to 1.67 1/2

SUGAR.

Prices for Formosa Brown have been further reduced without eliciting any bids. Consequently the business done has been confined to two parcels of White Refined amounting to 1,114 piculs, viz., 614 piculs at \$7.25 per picul, and 500 piculs at \$6.40 per picul.

White Refined	\$5.75 to 8.30
Manila	3.80 to 4.60
Taiwanfoo	— to —
Pentaina	3.00 to 3.40
Namiida	2.90 to 3.20
Cake	3.70 to 4.10
Brown Takao	4.30 to 4.40

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was dated 12th inst., since then settlements are only 79 piculs, divided thus:—*Filatures* 64 piculs; *Re-reels* 15 piculs. The Japanese direct shipments which went by the *China* bring the figures up to about 130 piculs in all as the total of the week's business.

We may again say that all the buying has been for European account, purchases for the States being practically nil. Exchange has been lower in the interim, but closes at about last week's rates, and Japanese who were very strong when exchange declined are now somewhat more easy although they refuse to alter their prices.

Business for America seems quite dead, and the Market there shows a state of paralysis such as has not been known for years. It would seem that the "Silver Bill" which was to have been a panacea for all commercial ills, has acted like a "boomerang," for the stringency in financial

matters at New York has apparently been increasing ever since the passage of the Bill. It remains to be seen whether the proposed Government action there will evolve any relief in the present situation.

Holders here are very strong; in spite of the heavy arrivals, they seem to be able to wait a bit longer and will undoubtedly do so. They recognise the present abnormal state of affairs in the New York Market, and are apparently wise in looking on until the state of suspense is ended one way or another. The small business done for Europe has been at full rates, but the demand is very limited and trade generally is by no means lively.

There have been three shipping opportunities since we last wrote; the French Mail, American Mail and Canadian Mail. The first named of these, *Saghalien* on the 14th inst., took 294 bales; the *China* on the 13th inst. had 118 bales for New York, and the *Batavia* on the 16th took 20 bales for the same destination. Present export is therefore 3,451 piculs, against 8,680 last year and 7,071 on the 19th September, 1888.

Hanks.—No business at all during the week; holders are strong and the Stock is but small. They profess themselves quite easy, because they say that if Foreigners do not want the *Hanks* Native Manufacturers can use them at remunerative prices.

Filatures.—The business for Europe goes on; \$685 being paid for extra, and a small parcel of best No. 1 Uzen, fine size, has been shipped to New York at \$675. The same price has also been paid in *Hikone* *Filatures* for Europe, but the bulk of the trade has been in Mino, Bushu, and similar grades at \$640.

Re-reels.—Business done has been very small and consists of a few bales *Bushu* and *Koga*, grading No. 2 and No. 3 at \$608 and \$585 respectively and the goods were shipped to New York by the *Batavia*.

Kakeda.—No business at all in these; holders are strong and sympathise with the rest of the market, but there has been absolutely nothing doing; quotations for these and in fact for every other kind of silk are more or less nominal until the market revives.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No. 1	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	Nom.
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	Nom.
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	Nom.
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	550 to 560
Hanks—No. 2 (3)	540 to 545
Hanks—No. 3	530 to 535
Hanks—No. 3	530 to 520
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	680 to 690
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	670 to 680
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	660 to 670
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	650 to 660
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	630 to 640
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	630 to 640
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	620 to 625
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Shinshu and Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	Nom. 620 to 630
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	Nom. 610 to 615
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	Nom. 600 to 605
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	Nom. 590 to 595
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	Nom. 580 to 585
Kakedas—Extra	Nom.
Kakedas—No. 1	Nom.
Kakedas—No. 1	590 to 600
Kakedas—No. 2	Nom. 580 to 585
Kakedas—No. 2	Nom. 570 to 575
Kakedas—No. 3	Nom. 560 to 565
Kakedas—No. 3	Nom. 550 to 555
Kakedas—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 24	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	540 to 550
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 24	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 19th Sept., 1890:—

	SHABON 1890-91.	1889-90.	1888-89.
Europe	1,181	4,764	3,516
America	2,188	3,840	3,440
Total	{ Bales 3,369	{ 8,604	{ 6,956
	{ Piculs 3,451	{ 8,680	{ 7,071
Settlements and Direct	PICULS 3,300	PICULS 11,100	PICULS 6,550
Export from 1st July	—	—	—
Stock, 19th September	10,700	4,900	9,800
Available supplies to date	14,000	16,000	16,350

WASTE SILK.

Settlements in this branch have been 350 piculs divided thus:—*Cocoons* 110; *Noshi* 173; *Kibiso* 67.

While there has been more doing here than on the Raw Silk side, the Market cannot be called lively or trade good; buying is in the hands of two or three firms, some of the regular large shippers holding quite aloof.

The French Mail Steamer *Saghalien* on the 14th inst. took 51 *Waste* and 84 *Pierced Cocoons* for Europe. These have been the only shipments this week, and the present export stands at 1,506 piculs,

against 2,879 last year and 1,681 to the same date in 1888.

Quotations generally are unchanged; perhaps they are a little stronger for the better kinds of *Joshu Noshi*, but in all else there is absolutely no difference.

Pierced Cocoons.—The solitary buyer continues his purchases on the last basis, taking in another 200 bales. So far, no other shippers seem to have the courage to operate on the basis of quotations.

Noshi.—Some few parcels of *Joshu Noshi* have been done for Switzerland and Italy at prices ranging from \$77 1/2 to \$82 1/2. Some ordinary *Oshu* was bought at \$110.

Kibiso.—All the business of the week has been in *Filature* at prices ranging from \$100 to \$110, according to quality and grade.

All other sorts are quite neglected.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	\$120 to \$130
Noshi—No. 1— <i>Filature</i> , Best	140 to 150
Noshi—No. 1— <i>Filature</i> , Good	130 to 135
Noshi—No. 1— <i>Filature</i> , Medium	—
Noshi—No. 1— <i>Oshu</i> , Good to Best	135 to 140
Noshi—No. 1— <i>Shinshu</i> , Best	—
Noshi—No. 1— <i>Shinshu</i> , Good	—
Noshi—No. 1— <i>Shinshu</i> , Medium	—
Noshi—No. 1— <i>Bushu</i> , Good to Best	—
Noshi—No. 1— <i>Joshu</i> , Best	—
Noshi—No. 1— <i>Joshu</i> , Good	80 to 85
Noshi—No. 1— <i>Joshu</i> , Ordinary	70 to 75
Kibiso— <i>Filature</i> , Best selected	105 to 110
Kibiso— <i>Filature</i> , Seconds	95 to 100
Kibiso— <i>Oshu</i> , Good to Best	—
Kibiso— <i>Shinshu</i> , Best	—
Kibiso— <i>Shinshu</i> , Seconds	—
Kibiso— <i>Joshu</i> , Good to Fair	50 to 40
Kibiso— <i>Joshu</i> , Middling to Common	35 to 30
Kibiso— <i>Hachioji</i> , Good	—
Kibiso— <i>Hachioji</i> , Medium to Low	—
Kibiso— <i>Neri</i> , Good to Common	15 to 8
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 19th Sept., 1890:—

	SHABON 1890-91.	1889-90.	1888-89.
Waste Silk	PICULS 1,254	PICULS 2,413	PICULS 1,678
Pierced Cocoons	252	466	3
	1,506	2,879	1,681
Settlements and Direct	PICULS 1,250	PICULS 5,400	PICULS 3,400
Export from 1st July	—	—	—
Stock, 19th September	14,400	8,400	9,300
Available supplies to date	13,150	13,800	10,700

Exchange has fluctuated somewhat, closing firm at the following rates:—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits, 3/10 1/2; Documents 3/10 1/2; 6m/s. Credits, 3/10 1/2; Documents 3/10 1/2; New York, 30d/s. U.S. \$93; 4m/s. U.S. \$93 1/2; PARIS, 4m/s. lcs. 4.86; 6m/s. lcs. 4.89.

Estimated Silk Stock, 19th Sept., 1890:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	200	Cocoons	720
Filatures	6,090	Noshi-ito	4,320
Re-reels	3,350	Kibiso	5,760
Kakeda	590	Mawata	360
Oshu	265	Sundries	240
Taysam Kinds	5		

Total piculs 10,700 Total piculs 11,400

FEA.

A firm market combined with small receipts have enabled holders to obtain top prices for their leaf. Buying has been well distributed over all grades, and settlements for the week amount to 3,020 piculs, making 200,020 piculs to date, as compared with 167,020 piculs at the same period in 1889. The fifth picking has now been nearly all gathered, and it is said that there is not much more to come in, remaining stocks up country being small. The market is actually a shade higher than our quotations represent.

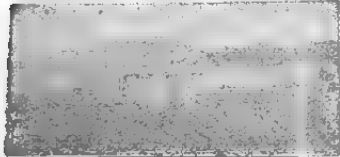
	PER PICUL.
Common	\$11 & under
Good Common	11 1/2 to 12
Medium	12 1/2 to 14
Good Medium	15 to 16
Fine	17 to 19
Finest	20 to 22
Choice	23 & up/ds
Choicest	—
Extra Choicest	—

EXCHANGE.

Still fluctuating slightly during the week, exchange closes fairly firm at rates quoted:—

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/9 1/2
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/9 1/2
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/10
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/10 1/2
On Paris—Bank sight	4/7 1/2
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4/8 1/2
On Hongkong—Bank sight	par.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	4 1/2 d/s.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72 1/2
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	91 1/2
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	92 1/2
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	94 1/2
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	95 1/2

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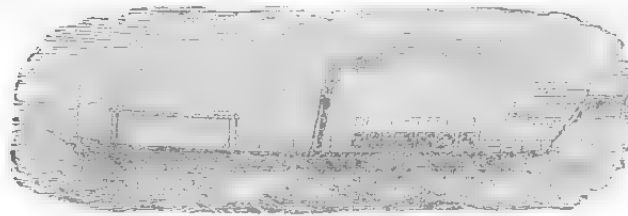
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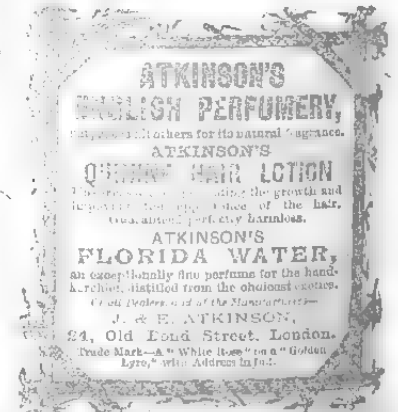
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 13.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, SEPTEMBER 27TH, 1890.

通信書認可

[Vol. XIV.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPT. 27, 1890.

BIRTH.

On 25th September, 1890, at 28, Minami Kajiva-cho, Nagoya, the wife of W. H. SMITH, Esq., of a Daughter.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THEIR IMPERIAL HIGHNESSES PRINCE AND PRINCESS Komatsu left the capital on the 19th instant for Numazu.

H.R. MAJESTY THE EMPRESS-DOWAGER will proceed to Kyoto in October next to visit the tomb of Prince Kujo.

MARQUIS NADESHIMA will, it is said, be nominated by the Emperor Vice-President of the House of Peers.

H.I.H. PRINCE HARU paid a visit to the Emperor and Empress on the 19th instant, returning to his Palace at 4 p.m.

H.I.H. PRINCE KITASHIRAWA returned to the capital on the 19th instant from Takasaki, where His Highness had been staying for some time.

It is stated that an Imperial Proclamation for the convocation of the Diet will be issued in a day or two in accordance with Art. 1 of the Law of the Houses.

THE line of the Kansai Railway Company between Seki and Tsuge, which is now in course of construction, will be completed about the middle of November.

THE line of the Japan Railway Company between Ichinoseki and Aomori, which is now in course of construction, will be opened for traffic on the 1st October next.

A PROJECT has been started by residents of Fukushima Prefecture to construct a railway

between Shibata, Niigata Prefecture, and Wakamatsu, Fukushima Prefecture.

A MEETING of the Central Sanitary Association was to be held on the 24th instant at the Home Department to discuss methods of preventing the spread of infectious diseases.

RAILWAY communication between Shizuoka and Yaidzu on the Tokaido Railway, which had been suspended in consequence of damage to the line, was re-opened on the 22nd instant.

THE values of articles imported into and exported from Jinsen during the month of July last were yen 240,602.50 and yen 202,636.61 respectively, making a total of yen 443,239.11.

ALL the Ministers with the exception of Viscount Katsuyama met at the official residence of Count Yamagata on the 22nd instant to discuss matters in connection with Treaty Revision.

DURING the month of August last the number of visitors to the Library of the Japan Educational Association was 1,220, showing an increase of 310 as compared with the previous month.

A MEETING of chiefs of various police stations in Tokyo was held on the 20th instant at the Metropolitan Police Office for the purpose of discussing matters in reference to the regulation of *sushi*.

HER MAJESTY THE EMPRESS was pleased to grant a sum of yen 200 on the 19th instant, towards the funds of the Osaka Sanitary Association, which gives medical assistance gratuitously to persons attacked by cholera.

At a meeting of the Osaka City Assembly held recently, it was decided that a waterworks system should be provided for the city, and that a municipal loan of yen 1,800,000 should be raised for defraying the cost of the work.

THE Sanitary Bureau of the Home Department reports that the total number of persons attacked by cholera throughout the Empire from the commencement of the epidemic to the 21st instant, was 25,723, of whom 16,464 died.

A TELEGRAM from Takamatsu dated the 18th instant, states that in consequence of the recent heavy rains various rivers in the province of Sanuki overflowed; about forty houses were destroyed, and thirty-four boats sunk, twelve persons being drowned.

AN outbreak of fire took place on the night of the 13th instant in a house at Yanaginachi, Yamamoto-gun, Akita Prefecture, and thirty-nine houses, one temple, and one godown were entirely destroyed before the flames could be got under control.

OWING to the heavy rains on the 16th instant various rivers in Kagawa Prefecture overflowed; 1,238 houses were entirely destroyed, three bridges carried away, and embankments damaged in 19 places, five persons being drowned and eight injured.

FIRE broke out early in the morning of the 16th instant, in a house at Bakurocho, Akita, Akita Prefecture, and twenty-two dwellings and two telegraph posts were entirely burned, one house being partially destroyed before the flames could be got under control.

THE Japanese Consul at Fusan reports that the number of Japanese attacked by cholera there between the 6th and the 11th instant was 35, the number of deaths being 30. The Japanese Commercial Agent at Vladivostok also reports

that 22 Japanese were seized by cholera there between the 17th ultimo and the 8th instant, 11 of whom died, 5 recovered, and the remainder were still under treatment.

A MEETING of members of the Equal Treaty Association was held on the 21st instant, at the Kaika-tei. Among these present were Messrs. Inouye Kakugoro, Mayeda Kagashi, Kumagaye Naosaki, Ayai Takeo, Yagihara Shigeshi, Uda Taro, and Morimoto Tokichi.

IN consequence of the recent heavy rains various rivers in Tokushima Prefecture overflowed on the 12th instant, causing much damage to crops and embankments. Over 870 houses were carried away or destroyed, and 38 boats were lost, 12 persons being drowned.

THE opening ceremony of the Nippon Horitsu Gakko (Japan Law School) took place on the 21st instant. About a hundred gentlemen were present. Addresses were delivered by Count Yamada, Mr. Tsuji, Vice-Minister for Education, Mr. Kaneko, chief secretary of the House of Peers, and Mr. Kato, President of the Imperial University.

ACCORDING to returns compiled by the Finance Department, the amount of Government paper currency and bank notes in circulation on the 31st August last was yen 65,141,303.40, of which yen 39,098,966.90 represented Government paper, and yen 26,042,336.50 bank notes. As compared with the previous month the above shows a decrease of yen 966,289 in Government paper, and yen 117,549 in bank notes.

THREE men named Hirayama Suyematsu, Matsumami Shonosuke, and Mori Kamezo were convicted in the Nagasaki Correctional Court on the 13th instant of having kidnapped girls for conveyance to Hongkong, several of whom were smothered on board the *Fushiki Maru*. They were sentenced to imprisonment for two years with hard labour, and to pay fine of yen 20 each. A woman named Awoki Yumi was also sentenced in the same court to imprisonment for three months with hard labour, and to pay a fine of 5 yen on a charge of having aided the prisoners in the commission of the crime.

THERE is not much to be said about the Import trade, the heavy sales of Yarns last week having, as expected, induced a quietness in both English and Bombays; and Shertings, Fancy Cottons, and Woollens have followed suit. Prices, however, are unchanged, and the outlook is not unpromising. Something approaching a revival has taken place in the Metal market, though the only improvement in prices is in Wire Nails. Dealers in Kerosene appear to be fairly supplied, and very little reduction has been made on the large stock recently reported. Only a few retail transactions have been effected in Sugar; prices have declined, and holders are weak. The Silk trade remains in an unsatisfactory condition, and stocks continue to accumulate, there being now about 12,000 piculs on this market. Less than 400 piculs have been settled during the week, about one-fourth of the total being by direct shipment. There has been a fair quantity of Waste Silk taken, and rates incline to stiffness. The Tea trade has not been large, but news from consuming quarters indicate an improvement, and holders of leaf are firm, this attitude being strengthened by the belief that there is comparatively but a small quantity to come in. Exchange has again fluctuated, the direction during the last day or two being decidedly downward; in fact present rates are lower than for several weeks past.

Original from

EDITORIAL NOTES.

SPIES.

TWENTY-EIGHT lines devoted by one of our local contemporaries last Saturday to an attempt to prove that the Japanese Authorities employed spies to report upon the doings of the Anti-Revision Meeting, are now effaced by a tiny paragraph, announcing the discovery, "on the highest authority," that the police stationed at the door of the Public Hall "attended solely with the object of preventing any disturbance by the class of Japanese it was thought might turn up," and were not spies at all. This is very interesting. In view of the infantine condition of the minds of certain critics in Yokohama, it might be advisable to attach labels to the police when their duty calls them to places where foreigners congregate. A collar round the neck of each constable, bearing the legend, "This is a guardian of the peace," might have prevented all this silly prattle about spies, and saved a highly respectable journal the humiliation of having to retract and apologise.

Ought not these discoveries to teach caution? They do not, however. A much more remarkable one, made some time ago, seems to have produced no good result whatever. It was about an unfortunate coolie at Yokosuka whose brains were supposed to have been bashed out by a policeman, with a log of wood. What flaming paragraphs this awful piece of savagery produced, to be sure! How the police were rated, raved at, and held up to public execration! Then the discovery came. The man who carried the story to the gullible newspaper had heard it from another man, who turned round and declared that he had never told it. So the brained coolie and the brutal policeman disappeared in the noise of two foreigners charging one another with lying. The journal which has now distinguished itself by discovering, "on the highest authority," that policemen have other duties than spying to perform, was also the means of making that other brilliant discovery that men sometimes depart from the truth. What a trustworthy newspaper it will be when its conduct begins to be directed by its discoveries.

Speaking of the police reminds us of a tale told by one of the two Kobe English journals some time ago. It was a detailed account of a very inhuman process of torture said to have been applied by the police to a boatman charged with stealing kerosene oil. We ventured to question the truth of the story, and asked our Kobe contemporary to publish particulars—which it professed to be able to obtain—showing exactly where the thing had occurred. In reply the original vague information was republished, and by and by we were taunted with inability to refute it. Now the fact is that we found it quite impossible to trace the origin of the story. We applied to officials of the Government, and they, being anxious not only to discover whether such a breach of the law had really been perpetrated, but also to refute the libel if untrue, made every effort to sift the matter. But the information furnished by the Kobe journal proved quite insufficient, and no intelligence of any kind could be obtained from Hyogo. In every country the police are abused. But in few countries will a newspaper be found so unjust as to prefer a charge of detailed brutality against them without adding such information as will either enable the accused persons to defend themselves or enable the authorities to convict and punish them.

TREATMENT OF FOREIGNERS.

"We, too" (says the *Nichi Nichi Shinbun*) find it an extraordinary proceeding on the part of the English residents of Yokohama to have raised difficulties about Treaty Revision and passed resolutions in an opposing sense at a meeting. We believe it to be an occasion when public-spirited Japanese should not keep silent. Messrs. Yenamoto, Sakai, and Humano, traders of Yokohama, sought an interview with

Mr. Fraser, the President of the meeting, but he declined to meet them, alleging, first, his business occupations, and secondly, his resolve not to discuss the matter with either foreigners or Japanese. Mr. Kobayashi, of Chiba Prefecture, also waited on Mr. Fraser and subsequently had a discussion with Mr. Brooke, editor of the *Japan Herald*. What steps will be taken after this we do not know. As for the attitude of opposition assumed by foreigners, they find fault with our laws and our administration, and say that they cannot consent to come under such unsatisfactory laws and such an unsatisfactory administration. This rudeness cannot be tamely brooked; it cannot be tamely suffered that the consummation of treaty revision should be prevented by the action of a few foreigners. Therefore we find no fault with the zeal of public-spirited men to thwart the action of foreigners. But if foreigners are to be attacked, let them be attacked in a proper way. Do not fall into the error of being betrayed into violence and rudeness by the strength of momentary anger. If indeed foreign Governments share the views of the section of hostile foreigners; if the Foreign Representatives are of the same way of thinking, then we may conclude that however we amend our laws, however we improve our judiciary, whatever may be our general progress, whatever preparations we may make for treaty revision, there is no hope of accomplishing our purpose. But although on this occasion some foreigners in Yokohama have held a meeting and passed resolutions, all are not of the same mind. British subjects are the chief promoters of the opposition. The French and Italians are in favour of revision and others maintain a neutral attitude. It must not be supposed, therefore, that all the Foreign Representatives and all the Foreign Governments share the views of the hostile section. If then, in our anger at the doings of the agitators, we behave with violence and rudeness, the effect will be to alienate the goodwill of the foreigners who are well disposed towards us, and possibly, by convincing them that Japan is not yet fit for equal intercourse, to drive them into the opposite camp. Nay, even more serious results may be entailed. The anti-foreign party of the Bakufu days, impelled by their hatred for foreigners, set fire to Legations and killed foreigners. Their motives were undoubtedly patriotic, but the loss they caused to their country, the injury they did to her prestige, the impediments they opposed to her progress, were very great. It was through their doing that British and French troops had to be stationed in Yokohama for the protection of the foreign residents. No one will be now guilty of similar violence, nor would equally bad results ensue. But any excesses might impede the progress of treaty revision and thus inure similarly to the country's loss. Public spirited men should keep these facts steadfastly before them, and remember that the time to be careful is before the trouble occurs."

THE PRESS.

In an article on the future of the foreign press in Japan, the *Japan Gazette* writes:—

What guarantees, we ask, have the Ministers required as to the liberty of the foreign journals at present published in Japan—that they shall not become so enslaved, so oppressed, and so controlled by petty, flogging Government officials that their news must degenerate into unreliability and their enunciations into untrustworthiness? In Chap. 2, Art. 29 of the Japanese Constitution these words appear: "Japanese subjects shall, within limits of law, enjoy the liberty of speech, writing, publication, public meeting and association." The words we have italicized must be particularly noted as they constitute a reservation which confers enormous power on the executive, and practically nullifies the Article. Count Ito's commentary on the Constitution of Japan omits to give any very satisfactory explanation of Art. 29. It is true some comment is offered, but the wording is very cautious, and fails to convince experienced foreign residents that the Japanese Government will not hereafter pass Ordinances even more severe than the present highly obnoxious and tyrannical Press laws. This is no chimerical danger—it is a real and serious menace to the liberty of the subject when the Press of a country is under the control of severe censorship. Since the writer of this article takes the trouble to quote the Constitution and Count Ito's Com-

mentary, he might also have taken the trouble to read the latter with some care. His fear is that the Japanese Government will "hereafter pass Ordinances even more severe than the present highly obnoxious and tyrannical press laws," and he avers that a portion of the Article which he quotes from the Constitution "confers enormous power on the Executive and practically nullifies the article." Will he be surprised to learn that the Constitution confers no power at all on the Executive in this matter, and that the Government cannot issue any Ordinances of the nature referred to by him? Will he also be surprised to learn that this fact is clearly explained in Count Ito's Commentary. A "Law," as the word is used in the Constitution, is entirely distinct from an "Ordinance." The most careless student of the Constitution should understand that. But if he needs enlightenment, he has only to refer to Count Ito's Commentary, where he will find that what the *Japan Gazette* describes as a "cautious and not very satisfactory explanation," is in fact the following most explicit and unequivocal declaration:—"The restrictions" (mentioned in the Article) "must, however, be determined by law, and lie beyond the sphere of Ordinances." Now, according to the same Constitution, every "law" must receive the consent of the Diet. It follows then that the Executive has no power at all in this matter; that Ordinances cannot be issued curtailing freedom of speech, and that every restriction hereafter imposed upon freedom of speech must have the consent of the people's representatives. Could not the *Japan Gazette* have ascertained these easily ascertainable facts before publishing statements so diametrically opposed to the truth?

MR. KAWASHIMA JUN ON THE REFORM OF THE LAND TAX.

As one of the leading spirits of the newly organized Constitutional Liberal Party and an official of high standing in the Department of Finance, Mr. Kawashima's opinions on financial questions deserve very careful consideration. In a recent issue of the *Kokumin-no-Tomo*, he publishes his matured views on the reform of land taxation. When the present Government, shortly after the Restoration, set about the task of rearranging the system of taxation, it was found that the people had been harassed by specially heavy burdens under the feudal régime. Count Matsugata and Mr. Watanabe, the present Minister and Vice-Minister of Finance, had, according to Mr. Kawashima, the principal charge of the business. It was decided to make the value of land the basis for taxation. But the sale of land having been under the old Government systematically discouraged, if not arbitrarily suppressed, it was impossible to ascertain its value. A Choshu statesman then came to the rescue of those charged with the responsibility of carrying out tax reform, and suggested a mode of assessing the value of land, illustrating it by the system followed in his own clan. Adopting his advice, the Government assessed the value of land throughout the country on the basis of the yield of the crop. The rate of tax was then fixed at 3 per cent. of the value thus assessed. But it is plain that the assessed value (*chika*) of land did not represent its market value; the two were entirely independent of each other; and the consequence was that the tax weighed on the farmers as heavily as ever. In 1875 and 1876, insurrections took place in various parts of the country, and the Government reduced the rate of the land tax to 2½ per cent. of the assessed value. But this measure of the Government did not prove a welcome one to the people, because simultaneously with it the public burden on land was actually increased by the imposition of newly devised local taxes and communal rates (*choshon-zei*), which were all based on the land tax. Thus the actual burden on land was increased to 3½ per cent. and, in some cases, even 4 per cent., of the assessed value. Since then several reforms have been effected, but the system pursued being altogether wrong, they have not proved satisfactory to the people, and the reform of land taxation, Mr. Kawa-

shima remarks, remains one of the standing questions of the day. The writer observes that there are two methods of land taxation followed in Europe, the French and German methods. According to the former, the total amount of land tax for the whole country is first determined, and then it is divided among the different local administrative divisions. Each of such divisions then divides the amount among its sub-divisions, and so on, until each rural commune divides its share among the landowners within its jurisdiction. The German method is just the reverse of this: the land is classified according to the average profit obtainable therefrom, and the tax is assessed at a certain rate on the basis of such a profit. Mr. Kawashima proposes to adopt the latter method, and maintains that it is the only equitable mode of taxation that can be carried out in practice. He further proposes to entrust the task of classifying land on the basis of the net profits realized from it to a series of Committees. The Central Committee would be formed of an equal number of men from the Executive and the Legislature, presided over by one of the Ministers of State. Each *Fu* and *Ken* would then appoint a similar committee; while each *Gun* and *Cho* and *Son* would in turn have a sub-committee. These committees would be subject to the authority of the Central Committee in Tokyo. Should a landowner object to the assessment of a *Cho* or *Son* Committee, he might appeal to the *Gun* Committee, then to the *Ken* or *Fu* Committee and so on until the final decision of the Central Committee was obtained. In this way Mr. Kawashima hopes that the reform of taxation on land may be effected in a tolerably equitable manner.

MESSRS. BAVIER AND COMPANY.

THE following letter appears in the columns of the *Shogyo Shimpō*:-

TO THE EDITOR "SHOGYO SHIMPO."
DEAR SIR—We have the honor to request you to be good enough to publish in your next issue that not only were we not represented at the late foreign Anti-revision meeting, but that we emphatically disapprove of the said proceedings. We remain, &c.,
Yokohama, 16th, September 1890. BAVIER & Co.

The *Japan Herald*, incorrectly translating this letter from the Japanese, makes Messrs. Bavier & Co. say that they did not "support" the meeting, and on the strength of its own mistranslation indulges, *more suo*, in some vulgar ridicule of Messrs. Bavier & Co. The incident is characteristic. If any foreign firm has the courage to openly avow opposition to the views of the implacables, it may confidently reckon on being treated with the brutal intolerance which disfigures all their organ's utterances. Every resident in Yokohama must either be a foe to Treaty Revision, or, if he be a friend, must conceal his friendship. Otherwise abuse, rude attacks, and charges of mercenary motives will certainly be his portion.

BUSINESS CHANCE.

It becomes more and more apparent that wrath possesses the gentleman who, over the signature of "Business Chance," addressed one of our local contemporaries some time ago, complaining of his inability to effect combinations for business purposes with Japanese. We are sorry that this angry mood should have been excited, for a man out of temper never does himself justice, and the discussion raised by "Business Chance" is sufficiently interesting to be worth pursuing calmly. However, as the case stands, "Business Chance," greatly ruffled, has retired into a literary citadel and declared that the Editor of the *Mail* cannot write English. "A thorough knowledge of the English language" is a rare accomplishment to the possession of which we by no means pretend. But our two offences in this instance are surely not so very heinous. We did not say that a business combination must necessarily be a partnership. But we did say that the combination described by "Business Chance" bore a very strong resemblance to a partnership. With every desire to make full allowance for the state of "Business Chance's" temper, we think that he ought to have been able to appreciate this distinction. Our second

literary offence is that we described as an "admission" the avowal made by "Business Chance" that, according to his views, "successful and unrestrained evasion of the law by one or two foreigners confers on all foreigners a right to evade it. We called this an 'admission,' because the possibility of anything of the kind had hitherto been persistently denied by foreign writers. Perhaps, if we had possessed 'a thorough knowledge of the English language,' we might have understood what 'Business Chance' now asserts, namely, that 'open avowal' should have been substituted for 'admission.' So be it. But the 'open avowal,' or 'admission,' call it which you please, remains. Let us not be told any longer that it is perfectly safe for the Japanese Government to wink at violations of the Treaties in the interests of commercial expansion and for the sake of a liberal reputation. They now have it on the authority of a foreign merchant that if any foreigners are tacitly suffered to enjoy privileges not conferred by the Treaties, other foreigners will regard it as their right to enjoy similar privileges. "Business Chance" shies a little when brought face to face with this confession. "Wherever did I say or make" such an avowal, he asks. Well, here are his own words:—

I would further point out to him that some foreign firms have entered into combinations with Japanese, and are to-day doing business under Japanese names with the Japanese Government, with full knowledge of the Government of the fact that these establishments are carried on under foreign direction, with foreign capital, and outside of settlement limits. The editor of the *Mail* himself, in fact, lives and carries on his business of writing outside of settlement limits. I contend, therefore, that any foreigner who is in possession of the facts can claim the same privileges as those granted to the foreign firms in question.

Is it or is it not lawful, under the present Treaties, that a business establishment should be "carried on under foreign direction, with foreign capital and outside of settlement limits?" If it is lawful, then why assert that "any foreigner who is in possession of the facts can claim the same privileges?" If it is not lawful, then "Business Chance" stands committed to the avowal which we attributed to him.

"Business Chance" is quite at liberty to charge us with ignorance of the English language. But he has no manner of right falsely to accuse us of wilful deception. In his last letter he says:—

It is quite a new departure in journalism, too, for an editor of a paper to put his own inferences and suppositions in quotation marks, but the editor of the *Mail* apparently is not above such little tricks of trade by which the public would naturally be led to believe that the quotation is from the letter or article of his opponent.

This is absolutely false. We defy "Business Chance" to point out a single instance of the "trick" which he charges us with having employed. He is bound to substantiate his accusation or to stand convicted of having uttered a wilful falsehood.

THE MAIL TRAIN TO KYOTO.

It may be well to warn our readers that the train leaving Tokyo at 4.45 p.m. is not the mail train for Kyoto, and, in fact, does not run through at all, but only goes as far as Numazu. The train leaving at 3.30 p.m. is the one which carries the mails and runs through. This change was made some time ago, but has not been notified, so far as we know. It is not to be expected, of course, that notifications in English should be published with reference to the service on Japanese lines. The foreign passenger traffic is comparatively insignificant, and though changes of trains might be advertised at very trifling cost, and would be greatly appreciated by the foreign community, we freely admit that if the Railway authorities do not choose to perform this act of courtesy, foreigners cannot reasonably complain. But are changes of service notified in the vernacular press? We do not think so. At all events we have not seen anything of the kind. The Japanese travelling public seems to be left, just as the foreign is, to find out for itself what alterations are made in the time-tables. Is not this somewhat cava-

lier-like treatment? Take the case of the recent interruptions of service on several of the principal lines. Had anything of the kind occurred in England, full details would have been furnished by advertisement, informing travellers how to proceed, and letting them know exactly what difficulties lay in their way. Here, however, the only notice given was by meagre paragraphs in the *Official Gazette*, stating that such and such a section of such and such a Company's lines had been closed to traffic, or that such and such a section had been re-opened. Rome was not built in a day. We cannot expect to have everything just as it ought to be in Japan, but improvement in this particular respect would not be difficult.

PRINCE ARISUGAWA TAKEHITO AND THE NAVY.

We read in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* that H.I.H. Prince Takehito (Arisugawa), who was lately raised to the rank of Post-Captain in the Imperial Japanese Navy, is an ardent advocate of the policy of increasing the maritime forces of his country. During his travels abroad two years ago, the Prince is said to have been much impressed with what he saw of naval equipment and naval progress, and to have forwarded to the Head Quarter Staff in Tokyo numerous reports of what he observed. It was then that he became impressed with the necessity of increasing his country's fighting power at sea, and since his return he has more than once compiled memorials on the subject with his own hand. Our contemporary says that he sometimes sits up all night for the purpose of pursuing his researches, and that he is always ready to argue vehemently with any one opposed to his views.

BONES.

SHYLOCK's pound of flesh has a modern parallel in an ounce of bones. A certain householder in Nakacho, Hatchobori, Tokyo, says the *Fomuri Shimbun*, gave lodging to a *jinrikisha* driver, a native of Shimosa in Chiba Prefecture, who recently died of cholera. The corpse, according to regulation, was cremated at Sunamura, and the bones, having been collected, were handed over to his relatives. Thereupon the man's landlord stepped in, and preferring a claim against the deceased for money lent, demanded that the bones should be transferred to him as security until the debt was repaid. The demand was complied with, and the relatives are now said to be considerably perturbed about the matter, but truly we think that they might do worse than leave the creditor in quiet possession of his osseous security.

A MEMORIAL TO THE CABINET.

A POLITICAL association at Nagoya has addressed an interesting and significant memorial to the Cabinet. It is reproduced in the columns of the *Hochi Shimbun*, from which we translate it:—"The present is a great epoch in the history of our country, and we, deeply appreciating the importance of the conjuncture, beg respectfully to address these remarks to your Excellencies the Ministers of the Cabinet. The time has come for your Excellencies to complete your achievements by retiring from office. To step off the stage when fame is attained is a natural principle. Looking back on the events of the past twenty years, we see the Bakufu overthrown, the Restoration accomplished, the foundations of constitutional government laid, and even a national assembly opened; all which achievements, though due primarily to the virtue of the Emperor, have been largely brought about by the assistance of your Excellencies. Ascending from the people, you have attained high rank, and won the respect of all men through your talents and your loyalty, but also through the grace of the Sovereign. You are men who have an illustrious record and have won fame. To retire from office should cause you no regret. The whole nation asks for a party Cabinet. Your Excellencies, although you may not retire at once from office, being, as you are, true patriots, cannot choose but hearken to the wishes of the people. If, relinquishing your posts, you re-organise the Cabinet on party

lines under the direction of His Majesty the Emperor, the high virtue of your compliance with public opinion will long be remembered to your credit by the people of the Empire. Our country has reached the limits of the old government and the threshold of the new. At the epoch of the Restoration, when the public-spirited men of the country decided that unless the Government were centralized the empire could not be administered, nor its foreign affairs conducted with credit, the Bakufu was induced to restore the executive power to the Sovereign. The Tokugawa Prince, in his memorial to the Emperor, said:—"In the two hundred years that have elapsed since we assumed the reins of Government, our mistakes have been many, and it shames us deeply to-day to find how superficial is our administration. Moreover, intercourse with foreign countries has largely developed. Unless the executive be centralized its conduct will be impossible. Henceforth, therefore, reforming old customs, we restore the executive power to the Emperor, that the Government may be carried on by the Imperial direction in accordance with the will of the nation and in general unity, for the better promotion of the nation's safety and the people's happiness." Had not the Tokugawa Prince restored the executive power to the Sovereign, there would have been none to praise him afterwards. It cannot be doubted that the organization of a party Cabinet by your Excellencies would be an act of magnanimity and beauty. The Emperor's love for his people is as that of a parent for its babe. He does everything they desire, and he knows that they look for a party Cabinet. His Majesty has constantly before his eyes the great deeds your Excellencies accomplished at the Restoration, and your zeal for the country. Your Excellencies will not be acting contrary to the Imperial will by retiring from office. Your retirement to-day would be like the noble act of Prince Tokugawa in surrendering the executive power. If it be desired on the one hand to keep the Cabinet aloof from parties, while, on the other, the Diet which reflects the national sentiment endeavours to bring about a party Cabinet, what course can be pursued in the face of these conflicting views? Recourse must be had to government of the most intolerant character, and it will then be too late for you to resign office. Sooner or later your Excellencies must retire. Now is the time. Later on, constrained by the strength of the Diet, resignation will be unavoidable. To know the occasion is godlike, says the old proverb. If you resign now, and, forming a new Cabinet on party lines under His Majesty's direction, complete the fact of constitutional government, the whole nation will applaud your virtue. We pray you to hearken to our words, that the fame of the country may be heightened by your act."

When Prince Iyeyasu resigned the executive power into the hands of the Emperor, the Southern Barons were ready to assume the charge. When the feudal chiefs surrendered their fiefs, the Central Government was prepared to take over their functions and responsibilities. Is there to-day any political party competent to form a Cabinet?

AMENDMENT OF THE REGISTRATION LAW.

THE *Tokyo Shimpō* welcomes the appearance of the Amended Registration Regulations. The many obstructions that previously hampered the disposal of property constituted real interferences with the smooth progress of economical affairs; the complicated processes required and the heavy costs of the frequent journeys necessary proving most burdensome. Often people have had to waste several days, not to speak of actual outlay, and all about a matter of ten yen! Our contemporary finds many points which call for approval, among others the provision that an individual may obtain registration through an agent; that processes as to detention, attachment, public sale, &c., must emanate from a court or office; that a principal need not appear in person when he desires a copy of a document, &c.; that copies of contracts as to the sale, transfer, mortgage,

or hypothecation of lands, buildings, or vessels must form a part of the Registry Book, and that erasures or changes in the same may form ground for objection to registry unless proof of the consent of parties thereto, or some satisfactory explanation, is forthcoming; that the fees for registration in affairs of succession have been reduced; and that the responsibilities and duties of the Land Record and Registry Offices are distinct, each having to communicate transfers and other changes to the other. The *Tokyo Shimpō*, however, regrets that some change was not introduced in the provision requiring the attendance of both parties at the registration of each sale, transfer, mortgage, or hypothecation. This must without fail cause a vast amount of inconvenience and expense, and therefore our contemporary suggests that it would be sufficient if an agent were to produce on such occasions a certificate to use his principal's seal. The Tokyo paper further thinks the number of registry offices should be increased, greater care taken to locate the existing offices in the most convenient localities, and that officials be selected for such offices who have intelligence enough to perceive that their first duty is to facilitate the transaction of the business of the public. The last consideration our contemporary thinks of far greater importance than the other two.

THE OLD STORY.

In language the studied moderation of which is evidently intended to disguise its injustice, a correspondent of a local English contemporary charges this journal with incendiary writing, and declares that we shall be responsible if some excitable Japanese is betrayed into committing an act of folly. The article upon which this accusation is based was chiefly devoted to showing that the foreign opposition to Treaty Revision is perfectly explicable and in some respects natural; that the prominent position of British merchants in the agitation simply demonstrates the leading place they occupy in the Orient and "their preëminent sense of the sacredness of personal rights and personal freedom," and that if educated Japanese do not and cannot appreciate the reluctance of Englishmen to submit to an alien jurisdiction, the fact must be regarded "as a strong evidence that Japan is not yet fit to discharge the functions with which she seeks to be entrusted." The article then went on to admit that there was much connected with the anti-revision meeting to insult and exasperate the Japanese, but reminded them that every angry expression uttered by them would be construed as an evidence of anti-foreign feeling. It is actually against this article that the correspondent of our contemporary prefers his charge of incendiarism; it is this article which he calls "an attempt on the part of the editor of the *Japan Mail* to fan into a flame the feeling which he has done so much to create and foster hitherto," and it is this article which he pretends to think likely to instigate Japanese to acts of violence. Of course we do not for one instant think of defending ourselves against charges so extremely silly and obviously baseless, but it does seem worth while to point to this person as another illustration of the absolute incapacity shown by so many of the anti-revision writers to be commonly just and fair. Is it extravagant to conclude that if they descend to such dishonest and glaringly partial attempts to discredit those with whom they do not agree, their opinions on the subject of Treaty Revision are likely to be tainted with the same faults? It never occurs to them to protest against the ceaseless chorus of harsh and abusive writing penned by a portion of the local foreign press against everything Japanese. That writing, they appear to think, has nothing in it to rouse the anger of the people of the country or to offend their national feelings. But if there can be found in the *Japan Mail* a sentence expressing sympathy with Japan or admitting that she is not without cause for umbrage and disappointment, they seize upon that sentence, separate it from its context defending and explaining the motives of foreigners, and pretend to think that they have discovered

incendiary utterances calculated and intended to excite the Japanese to deeds of violence against foreigners. Let these people be ever so blind, they cannot but see how palpably dishonest are their methods, and how glaringly gross their prejudices. Were it not for the humiliation and disrepute which their proceedings bring upon the name of Englishmen in Japan, we should welcome them as most efficacious allies, for men who show not a scintilla of respect for fair play and ingenuous dealing, inevitably drag down every cause they espouse.

SOSHI.

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* says that a hundred and seventeen *soshi* arrived in Tokyo on the evening of the 19th. Eighteen were from Saga, twenty-two from Fukuoka, forty-six from Kumamoto, and thirty-one from Ishikawa. The whole number are said to be enemies of the new Constitutional Radicals, and it is conjectured that they purpose undertaking something grave. One rumour is that they intend to seek an interview, in the first place, with Messrs. Oi, Kono and Uyeke. For some time back the arrival of *soshi* in the capital from various parts of the empire has been noticed, and the Authorities are understood to be seriously discussing the advisability of adopting decisive measures for the control of these troublesome agitators. Their total number cannot be great—probably a few hundreds all told—but they are sufficiently numerous to cause much trouble, and to threaten to inflict heavy disgrace on the country unless they are checked with a strong hand. Possibly the Government may be obliged to enforce the Peace Preservation Regulations once again, and expel the whole batch from Tokyo whither their steps seem to be now tending. To deport them to Hokkaido and give them an opportunity of devoting their superfluous energy to the colonization of that district would not be a bad plan. The *soshi* are patriots in their way; very erring and pestilential patriots, it is true, but yet by no means to be treated as criminals until violent deeds bring them within the pale of the law. Their tendency appears to be conservative on the whole, and when we consider the past history of some of the men who figure prominently among the Constitutional Radicals, and who seem bent upon carrying their country at break-neck speed towards universal suffrage and other unreasonable doctrines, we can easily understand that the hot-headed and hastily judging *soshi* may conceive themselves entrusted with a mission to impede such hasty progress.

VERNACULAR JOURNALS AND CURRENT TOPICS.

ALL the Tokyo papers fill the greater part of their columns with news of, and discussion in reference to, the movements of political parties in the capital, the doings of the Constitutional Liberal Party being very fully reported. A large portion of the remaining space is occupied by matter relating to the sayings and actions of foreign and Japanese merchants in Yokohama relative to Treaty Revision. The *Hochi Shimbun* of the 19th inst. found it necessary to comment on this circumstance and to point out that while the almost exclusive attention given to the Constitutional Liberals might warrant the charge that other vital matters were being overlooked, still the topic is beyond doubt the most engrossing of the time and must be fully treated. Meanwhile numerous political meetings are being held in Tokyo, their proceedings being in not a few cases provocative of disagreeable incidents, as witness the attacks on Messrs. Kawashima and Koike. The great Constitutional Liberal Party was successfully organized on the 15th instant, but the discussions that have taken place since show that the process of amalgamation has been a difficult one. The Yokohama journals similarly devote a large proportion of their space to Treaty Revision matters.

THE MAJERONIS.

WE regret to learn that Signora Majeroni, whose arrival in Japan, with her husband, we mentioned some time ago, is suffering from a serious

affection of the throat, which has so impaired her voice that she is at present under medical treatment. We have heard so much about this celebrated artiste, and her no less talented husband, that it will be a matter for regret if the community of Yokohama is not afforded an opportunity of witnessing their appearance in some of the well-known dramas with which their names are so widely associated. It is not often that artists whose abilities have been recognized in all the great cities of Europe come to this part of the world, and we trust that Signora Majeroni will shortly recover and be enabled to make an appearance in Yokohama. Failing that, however, Signor Majeroni might appear in one or two of his renowned impersonations. The "Old Corporal," for example, in which he has gained so high a reputation would, if produced here, prove a treat long to be remembered by local playgoers. This was the drama in which Signor Majeroni first appeared in English at Sydney in 1876, and with which he made, alone, the tour of the Australian Colonies and North America. The general opinion of press and public stamped his assumption of the character as one of the most artistic performances, both in its fidelity to nature and perfection of art, that had been seen for many years.

SAILING RACES.

A SAILING RACE for 17-raters took place on Saturday under the auspices of the Yokohama Sailing Club. A heavy rain storm came on at two o'clock, the hour fixed for the start, and the gun was not fired till 2.38 when the weather had cleared somewhat, though very little wind, and that of the most shifty character, prevailed. *Sayonara* was first round the Green Lightship, having got there mostly by "rocking," and improved her lead on the run down to Kana-gawa, a light breeze meantime springing up. *La Belle* between the first and second marks lessened the gap between her and *Jessie*, but fell astern on the beat home. *Sayonara* finished first, nearly ten minutes to the good, irrespective of her time allowance of 3m. 52sec., and therefore took the first prize. Mr. A. Owston was officer of the day. The following are the official times:—

Rating.	Green h.m.s.	Kana- gawa. h.m.s.	Finish. h.m.s.	Time allow. h.m.s.	Corrected Time. h.m.s.
<i>Tortoise</i>	16	1.20.45	3.30.30	4.19.35	4.19.35
<i>Des</i>	16	did not start	—	—	—
<i>La Belle</i>	16	3.12.25	3.41.40	4.26.40	4.26.40
<i>Sayonara</i>	13	2.57.20	3.31.00	4.09.05	3.52 4.05.08

On Tuesday being a Japanese national holiday, a sailing race for boats of all classes took place under the auspices of the Yokohama Sailing Club. The course was from a line between the French Hatoba and the bathing barge, across the bay to Myokensan, round a mark placed off that bluff and back, finishing over the same line, the entire distance being 21 knots. As the mark bears about S.E. by E. from the Boat-house and the wind was about N., the boats had a broad reach going and a close reach coming back. There was a goodly array of entries, but *Scow* did not start for want of a sailing master, and the weather looked too heavy for *Jessie*. At two o'clock, the starting gun being fired by Mr. F. H. Hooper, who also took the time, the yachts were got off. *Molly* hurried the time too much, and had to recross the line, but lost little by this operation. *Tortoise* was first across, 12 secs. after the gun went; *Molly* 30 secs. after the signal, *Princess Maud* 58 secs., *Lady Louise* 1m. 15 secs., *Lesbielle* 1m. 32 secs., *Nautilus* 1m. 55 secs., *Trawler* 2m. 47 secs., and *Maid Marion*, last, 2m. 52 secs. after the gun was fired. *Lady Louise* set the example—which the *Maid* and one or two others followed—of reaching down along the hither shore of the bay, her idea no doubt being to avoid the flood tide in the fair-way, till having progressed well down the bay and gained the advantage of any ebb that might be running close in, she could cross the current and thus drop down on the mark. The flood was not flowing as strongly as was expected, but the expedient was not without its advantages, for a villainous sea ran in the middle of the bay, which seemed a little

easier for the craft that had run into the lee-ward berth. Anyhow *Tortoise*, holding a course about midway between the lee and weather divisions, kept the lead that she had obtained, *Molly* close to her, but failing in the short sea to get on equal terms with her. *Maid Marion* had sailed in company with the blue cutter *Yokosuka-wards*, but designing to change her topsail lost her topmast, for which the straining of her flying jib proved too much. This caused delay, and may be said to have pretty well put the *Maid* out of the race. Jib-topsails, it should be said, had been hazarded by most at the outset, but proved too much for *Princess Maud*, which prudently took hers in after carrying it a few minutes. *Tortoise* was first round the mark; *Maid Marion* cutting inside of *Trawler* got round next, *Lesbielle* followed *Trawler*, and then came *Molly*, *Lady Louise*, *Princess Maud*, and *Tomiooka*. During the reach home, *Maid Marion*, proving too powerful for *Tortoise*, overhauled her and finished 20 min. ahead, but not sufficient to keep the old cutter out of first place, which she gained easily on her handicap. *Molly* and the blue cutter came in respectively four and six minutes later than *Tortoise*; *Princess Maud* followed at a dismally long interval sufficiently accounted for by the difficulty of sailing such a tiny craft in so nasty a sea; *Trawler* crawled in half a minute after, and *Nautilus* at 2h. 36m. 30s. in time to take second place by reason of the thumping handicap that she had. *Molly*, therefore, had to be content with third place. General satisfaction was felt with *Tortoise's* victory, for though the heavy sea seemed to bother her less than most of the others, she was undoubtedly well sailed and deserved the "Lesbielle" Cup. And what of *Lesbielle* herself? Well, with a sailing master who had never been on board of her before, and a new crew, the odds were against her from the outset, the handicap and the nature of the course favouring greatly the medium craft. Her last chance went, however, when in luffing to reef, after rounding the mark, she carried away some of her head gear; and after anchoring to refit she limped in at 3h. 47m. under staysail and mainsail reefed down but did not cross the line. The following are the times:—

Rating.	Finish. h.m.s.	Handicap. m.s.	Corrected Time. h.m.s.
<i>Maid Marion</i>	39	1.41.00	1.43.00
<i>Lesbielle</i>	38	3.47.00	3.47.00
<i>Lady Louise</i>	26	2.09.00	2.09.00
<i>Molly</i>	25	2.07.00	2.07.00
<i>Princess Maud</i>	24	2.31.30	2.31.30
<i>Trawler</i>	31	3.32.00	3.32.00
<i>Nautilus</i>	25	3.03.00	3.03.00
<i>Tomiooka</i>	26	3.36.30	3.36.30

PASSPORTS.

We recently mentioned that the number of passports issued by the Foreign Office through Her Britannic Majesty's Legation in Tokyo, for the use of British subjects visiting Japan, was larger this year than last year, an evidence that the stream of tourists is steadily increasing. We have now been kindly furnished with exact figures, from which we learn that the number of passports issued this year to British subjects from January 1st to September 18th was 1,162, against 1,069, for the corresponding period last year. Comparing 1889 with 1888, it seems that the total number of passports issued to British subjects during the former year was 1,415, representing 1,913 persons, whereas the number in the latter year was 1,070, representing 1,366 persons. This year's final returns will evidently show a still further increase. The number of British subjects now visiting Japan each year is probably as large as the total number residing here.

BURGLARY IN THE SETTLEMENT.

A BOLD attempt at burglary, which proved abortive, however, took place last evening at No. 160, the premises of Messrs. Stiebold & Co., undertakers. It seems that during the temporary absence of Mr. Hendlall, four men, about half past nine o'clock succeeded in gaining entrance to one of the front rooms from the verandah by prizing up the bar fastening the venetian shutters, the glass doors being kept open by reason

of the heat. Once inside, the thieves abstracted from a cupboard in the room a considerable quantity of property including valuable window curtains and some bed clothing, having previously opened a door leading into the hall-way, with the object of allowing the light from the other rooms to enter and illuminate the scene of their operations. An attempt to open another cupboard containing a quantity of plated ware failed, and three of the men decamped with their spoil made up in two bundles. The fourth, seizing a large box of cube sugar, essayed to follow their example, but some noise that he made brought out a servant, who at once seized him and called for help. He escaped for the moment, but, being pursued by a number of coolies, ran into the arms of a policeman near the Engine Works. All the property, having been incontinently cast aside by other thieves on hearing the alarm given, was recovered by the police.

MR. GLADSTONE'S CONSTITUTIONAL POINT.

A POINT raised by Mr. Gladstone in the debate on the Bill for the cession of Heligoland to Germany, seems to have puzzled some students of Constitutional law and doubtless has interest for Japanese who have been recently discussing the powers relatively vested in the Crown and the Diet for treaty-making purposes. According to the theory of the British Constitution—which is, after all, the basis of every Constitution, whether German, American, Italian, or what not—the power of making treaties rests absolutely with the Sovereign, and includes, of course, the cession or acquisition of territory. In practice, however, the House of Commons exercises a very efficient control, since, if it disapproves of a treaty it can turn out the Ministry which arranged the terms of the covenant. The House cannot, indeed, prevent the treaty from going into operation. Under ordinary circumstances it would have no cognisance of the document until the ratification of the latter had become an accomplished fact, and the nation had thus been pledged to abide by it. Of course if the enactment of some new law, or a grant of special supplies, be necessary for putting a treaty into operation, the House of Commons can effectually block the way. But that is another matter. What we are considering here is the actual power of the Throne to pledge the country internationally, and that that power is constitutionally absolute admits of no question. The House of Commons, in short, exercises a punitive function: it can turn out a Ministry which has concluded an obnoxious treaty, and with such a Damoclean sword hanging over their heads, Ministers are of course careful to pledge the nation to nothing of which the Commons is not pretty sure to approve. In the case of Heligoland, Lord Salisbury resorted to an unusual course, for he introduced a Bill for the cession of the island, though the cession ought to have been purely a matter of treaty. Of course no one act of a particular ministry can alter the Constitution. It may, however, be an unconstitutional act, and such was the character attributed by Mr. Gladstone to the Conservative Ministry's Bill. He contended, in the first place, that since the cession of territory by treaty is essentially a Royal prerogative, the Bill was unnecessary—an argument of no great importance when we remember what shadowy things Royal prerogatives have practically become in England—and, in the second, that it furnished an inconvenient precedent, inasmuch as it gave the House of Lords co-ordinate authority with the House of Commons in regard to treaty questions. Mr. Gladstone's chief concern was doubtless for the second of these contentions. The House of Lords is always governed by a Conservative majority. Consequently, if its endorsement become an essential preliminary to the ratification of a treaty, no Liberal ministry could set about the business of treaty making with any confidence. The ministry in office has necessarily a majority in the Lower House, and can therefore undertake international negotiations in full reliance on the support of that majority, so long it has to reckon only with the Commons. But when

a third power, the Lords, is added, affairs assume a different complexion. To this subtle and far-seeing contention of Mr. Gladstone's only one serious answer has been made, namely, that extreme cases should not be taken by legislators as a guide. The House of Lords must be trusted to act with common sense in the exercise of any powers vested in it, and not to allow itself to be so far carried away by political prejudice as to wantonly reject a treaty desired by the country and approved by the Commons. We can easily imagine that such a view is calculated to be more comforting to Conservatives than to Liberals.

COUNT INOUE'S ADVICE TO MR. SUYEMATSU.

THE *Choya Shimbun* tells a story the truth of which our readers will easily estimate. When Mr. Yoshikawa, the tale says, became Minister of State for Education, he proposed to have the post of Vice-Minister given to Mr. Suyematsu, who was formerly chief of the Local Government Bureau in the Home Department, a position which he resigned for the purpose of being elected a member of the House of Representatives. Informed privately of Mr. Yoshikawa's intention, Mr. Suyematsu felt that he ought not to refuse without careful consideration. He therefore consulted some of his friends, and then repaired to Count Inouye's house to ask for advice. Count Inouye is represented as having declared that he could see no difference, so far as official position went, between the chiefship of the Bureau of Local Affairs and the Vice-Ministership of Education, and that, if Mr. Suyematsu resigned the former for the purpose of being elected to the Diet, he ought not to accept the latter after election. Mr. Suyematsu accepted this advice, which the *Choya* calls an exceptionally just view. But, although we have no doubt that Count Inouye's answer to such a question would, under any circumstances, be exactly what the *Choya* attributes to him, we have very many doubts as to the probability of Mr. Suyematsu finding it necessary to put the question. The former chief of the Bureau of Local Affairs is the last man in Japan to be puzzled about the way to be consistent.

KOBE.

WHEN Kobe received the news of the doings in Yokohama, some people in the model settlement set themselves to follow suit. An announcement speedily appeared in the local English newspapers, to the effect that the foreign residents were invited to meet at a certain place on a certain day to endorse the action taken by Yokohama. But fortunately Kobe had time to think, and its reflections led to the conclusion that Yokohama had not by any means set an example to be implicitly followed. If the principal resolution passed by the Yokohama meeting meant only what its proposer subsequently explained it to mean, then to place such a resolution on record was quite a work of supererogation. Moreover, the Yokohama meeting had adopted the singular and imprudent course of carefully refraining from any word indicative of its belief in the advisability of revising the Treaties, or its appreciation of the efforts Japan has made to win foreign confidence. From this point of view the meeting might just as well have been held twenty years ago. Had it been convened in 1870 instead of in 1890, it could not have betrayed more complete indifference to Japan's claims. Kobe was not prepared to follow so old-fashioned an example. If the residents came together, there were men among them who declared their intention of correcting Yokohama's singular and injurious omission. There were men, too, who avowed their intention of pointing out that Treaty Revision has become inevitable, and that the fact should be recognised by any meeting of practical, open-eyed persons. Such being the case, it was evident that the meeting would not be unanimous. So far from agreeing without a dissentient voice to endorse what Yokohama had done, Kobe was plainly in danger not only of showing that it could appreciate and profit by Yokohama's mistakes, but also of betraying a liberal and just mood towards

the whole question of Revision. The promoters of the meeting prudently took warning, and the demonstration was postponed *sine die*. It results, therefore, that the second among the foreign settlements cannot agree to support Yokohama's action.

This is very disappointing to the implacables. It has driven them to take refuge in the courteous and magnanimous inferences which they invariably deduce from the actions of their opponents. We cannot refrain from quoting at some length the verdict they have pronounced; it is so elegant as to phraseology, and polished as to conception:—

We have learnt, but without the least surprise, that at Kobe, just as here, there are persons whose action with regard to the anti-treaty revision movement, is controlled or affected by the wish to get Japanese contracts, no matter whether Government or otherwise, but more especially the former, and they have concluded, by not coming conspicuously to the front during the present agitation, and manfully and boldly sustaining their part alongside with their competitors, that they will curry favor with those who have favours to bestow, and so they thus hope to steal a march on their competitors in trade.

We take it to be our duty to expose this miserable and paltry exhibition of cowardice and cunning combined,—and most frankly assure the Japanese, if every foreigner felt himself free to act without regard to any other consideration than that of aiding a useful and necessary public movement, that with the exception of a few eccentrics, such as are to be found in every community, foreigners, if may with truth be said, are almost to a man at heart opposed to treaty revision as submitted by Viscount Aoki in his proposal to the British Government.

This is the old familiar tale. With the writers of such diatribes there is but one efficient motive in life—money. They are incapable of understanding or appreciating any other. If a man rises above their every-day standard, he must have been paid to make the effort. So they proclaim their own baseness and venality, forgetting that the measure which they invariably mete out to others is the only true gauge of their own character. And for the sake of such men a whole nation is to be excluded from the pale of civilization!

INTERVIEWING.

MR. J. H. BROOKE, formerly Editor of the *Japan Herald*, who unfortunately for the reputation of the anti-revision meeting was put up by the promoters to speak to the third resolution, and the memory of whose extremely intemperate and reckless utterances during his period of editorship cannot fail to impart an evil character to any agitation with which he is prominently connected, was subsequently interviewed by a Japanese, and an account of the interview appeared in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* and other vernacular journals. We were ourselves struck with the apparent impartiality of the reporter, for he did not hesitate to put into Mr. Brooke's mouth many of the stock arguments which that gentleman has often laid before the public, nor did he shrink from making Mr. Kobayashi play the secondary part which it now appears that he did actually take. Mr. Brooke, however, has thought it necessary to write a sneering letter in a local English journal, in which he charges Mr. Kobayashi with having drawn considerably more on his imagination than his memory for his account of the interview, and leads the public to suppose that a deliberate attempt has been made to suppress the "home truths" which he, Mr. Brooke, conveyed to his interviewer. What these "home truths" were Mr. Brooke tells us in a few lines, namely, "that the laws dealing with the liberty of the subject are obnoxious, and that in the absence of competent judges, their administration could not be expected to be otherwise than imperfect and objectionable." Now the Japanese version of the interview is before us, and from it we learn that Mr. Brooke told Mr. Kobayashi that to speak of the completeness of Japanese laws was the superficial view of a person having no real respect for the sanctity of life and property; that although the Constitution looks very pretty on paper, it is a doubtful affair from a foreign point of view; that in spite of it the Peace Preservation Regulations are still in force, as well as Press Regulations the operation of which is more

severe than anything of the kind even in Germany; that even the Constitution cannot be said to guarantee freedom of speech or public meeting; that the Japanese would never have been allowed to hold such a meeting as the foreigners in Yokohama held the other day; that all these restrictions are contrary to the spirit of the Constitution; that the Judiciary is not independent of the Executive; that Japanese Ministers of State can manipulate the Judiciary as they please; that political offenders, as a matter of course, and anyone opposed to the Government, cannot obtain a fair trial; that the absence of trial by jury is a source of great uneasiness; that the Code of Criminal Procedure is not carried out in practice at all; that its provisions are liable to be disturbed by Imperial Rescripts or Ordinances; that more than one-half of its spirit is sacrificed; that however good laws may be the possibility of their being changed at any moment by an Ordinance is most disquieting; that in England, if there is any delay about bringing a criminal to justice, his release can be obtained without difficulty; but that in Japan, if a prisoner is an object of dislike to the Government, he is kept in jail awaiting trial for years; that if foreigners fell under the suspicion of the Authorities and were kept in jail for years awaiting trial, their ultimate acquittal would serve them very little; that the reforms to which Japanese laws have been subjected are purely superficial; that according to the accounts of Missionaries, prisoners in Japanese jails are beaten and otherwise ill-treated in a manner unbecoming a civilized country; that Japanese Judges possessing ability and experience are officiating in the lower courts only and are not to be found in the upper courts; that consequently foreign Judges should be employed in the upper courts, as is the case in Turkey and Egypt; and that wealth and strength are, in effect, the real basis of a country's rights. We have doubts whether even Mr. Brooke uttered the whole of this curious tirade, though a great deal of it is familiar to us already from his writings. But he hints that the vernacular press has been afraid to publish the "home truths" which he told Mr. Kobayashi—"home truths," he assures us with the most exquisite conceit, "which, if disseminated among the 37 millions of Mr. Kobayashi's brethren, might serve the useful purpose of showing that there are two sides to the question of foreigners being brought under Japanese jurisdiction." What are these "home truths"? Is not the catalogue yet full enough? Mr. Kobayashi's memory may be defective and his imagination redundant, as Mr. Brooke says, but he has certainly managed to put into that ancient agitator's mouth precisely the sentiments which we should have expected him to ventilate.

THE RICK CROP.

REPORTS from the rice-producing districts concur in estimating the yield of rice this season at something quite out of the common. Thirty-five million *koku* is a good average crop, but this year as much as fifty million *koku* will probably be produced. If this estimate be realized, the quantity of rice available for export will not be far short of fifteen million *koku*, which is more than Europe and America can possibly take, and is about ten times as much as the largest export hitherto made in any one year from Japan. Instead of distress among the consuming class we shall probably hear bitter complaints from the farmers, who will find the returns upon their land reduced to a very low figure, for it is understood that a considerable part of the increase is due to the greater area of land brought under rice cultivation.

JUDGE KABUTO AND THE PROJECTED KYOTO UNIVERSITY.

JUDGE KABUTO, who has just returned from Europe after a sojourn of some years spent in investigating judicial matters, has been appointed judge of the Otsu Court of First Instance. In connection with his appointment, the vernacular papers state that the Government has long entertained the idea of establishing a second university in Kyoto by enlarging the

present Third Higher Middle School in that city. But as the condition of the Treasury does not admit of the immediate establishment of a fully equipped university, the Authorities propose, in the first place, to constitute the department of law as a preliminary step. Mr. Kabuto is said to have received the appointment at Otsu in order that his services may become available as a lecturer in the projected Law Department of the new University.

THE TREATY REVISION MEETING AND THE TOKYO PERIODICAL PRESS.

THE *Keisai Zasshi* of the 20th instant takes a moderate view of the Treaty Revision Meeting at Yokohama. After reproducing the resolutions passed at the Meeting, our contemporary expresses surprise at the ignorance displayed by the foreign residents of Yokohama as to the present condition of Japan. It observes that Japan now possesses Criminal, Civil, and Commercial Codes and Laws of Criminal and Civil Procedure, of approved excellence and of merit at least equal to those of European and American countries, and that the judges charged with the administration of these laws are appointed under a severe system of examination. Our contemporary is, therefore, at a loss to understand why foreigners should consider it unsafe to put their persons and property under the protection of Japanese laws. Japanese might similarly object to being brought under the jurisdiction of the courts of European or American States. Particularly in England, says our contemporary, might a Japanese deem himself insecure, as in that country the judges possess a large measure of discretion in adjudicating a case, being even held competent to exercise legislative power by altering the received interpretation of a statute—and it may, therefore, happen that cases of the same nature result in conflicting judgments. In Japan, on the other hand, the judges have express provisions of law to guide them in deciding any case. Our contemporary thus considers the aversion of foreigners to come under the jurisdiction of Japanese courts as a mere subterfuge to obstruct the revision of the treaties. The Tokyo journal, however, attaches some importance to the resolutions passed, because if they find a favourable reception from people at home, they may undoubtedly influence the policy of the respective Governments. In conclusion, our contemporary advises its nationals to take a sober view of the question, and not to be betrayed into rash actions. The resolutions cannot represent the opinion of the entire body of the foreign residents of Yokohama; there are no doubt many who are in favour of acceding to the Japanese demands. The *Keisai Zasshi* takes special pains to condemn the excited youths in Yokohama who have interviewed foreigners on this subject, and who are said to have in contemplation the holding of a lecture meeting for the denunciation of aliens. The actions of such men are not calculated to benefit the country, but may possibly give rise to accidents which can be turned into new grounds for the objection of foreigners to treaty revision.

The *Nippon-jin* takes a far different tone in its article on the same subject. Its language is, in our opinion, unnecessarily violent and impolitic. It is furiously angry at the audacity of the foreign residents of Yokohama in opposing the just and rightful claims of Japan. It observes that the movement in question seems to have been started by a number of short-sighted and greedy merchants, who are naturally opposed to the abolition of an arrangement by which they can gratify their selfish natures in unjust and improper ways. It thinks the meeting lately held by them was not attended by that section of the Yokohama residents who are in favour of the improvement of the commercial relations of Japan with foreign countries by a just and impartial course of policy. Our contemporary does not stop here, but goes on to describe those who joined the Meeting as sharpers and knaves who, in their greed and viciousness, do not hesitate to grossly misrepresent

Japan and the Japanese in private as well as public correspondence with their nationals and public bodies at home. It laughs at foreigners, apart from Englishmen, who joined the meeting of the 11th instant, and calls them passive victims of Englishmen's intrigues. The opportunity is taken to remind Japanese of their folly in devoting their whole attention to domestic politics, and to point out that the insults which the nation has received from the handful of foreigners in Yokohama are in some respects the natural results of the comparative indifference shown by the bulk of the people to the foreign affairs of the Empire. The Tokyo journal especially appeals to the rising generation to stand forward, and clear the country from the contempt and insults it has received at the hands of Western nations.

We are surprised at the adoption of this tone by the *Nippon-jin*, a journal supposed to represent the views of a portion of the rising generation, and to be edited by a gentleman of attainments and judgment. It is true that in all countries when disputes arise with a foreign nation, journalists are found who forget altogether their responsibilities, and abuse their power by seeking to inflame the minds of their readers. Possibly, therefore, we ought to be prepared for utterances like those of the *Tokyo Koron* and the *Nippon-jin*, especially when we remember that the latter newspaper is the one which made itself notorious two years ago by publishing a libel of quite exceptional virulence and wildness against the management of the Takashima coal mines. But, on the other hand, the Japanese press has generally shown itself remarkably patient and moderate in its treatment of the country's foreign affairs, and the diatribes of the *Koron* and *Nippon-jin* sound strikingly out of tune with the general harmony. Of course it is in the last degree absurd to talk of the foreigners who took part in the Meeting as "sharpers and knaves," the fact being that among them are men of the highest honour and well proved philanthropy. Our own sympathy with Japan's cause cannot be questioned by the *Nippon-jin*, yet we venture to assure that journal that if a body of Japanese were circumstanced in a foreign country as the foreigners in Yokohama are circumstanced, they too would hold meetings and protest against the unconditional surrender of their privileges. At all events what is absolutely certain is that violent language or violent acts on the part of Japanese will only place a weapon in the hands of foreigners who still distrust the country's competence to assume jurisdiction over Occidentals. Every real friend of his country will conduct himself at this juncture with moderation and sobriety, working, indeed, in all legitimate ways for the achievement of the national purpose, but abstaining carefully from everything calculated to discredit the law-abiding character of the Japanese.

MESSEURS. KOBAYASHI AND BROOKE.

MR. KOBAYASHI, having been openly accused by Mr. J. H. Brooke of misrepresenting statements made by the latter at an interview reported in the vernacular press, has written a letter of remonstrance, a copy of which appears in the *Tokyo Shimpō*. In this letter Mr. Kobayashi expresses astonishment that Mr. Brooke has confined himself to vague denials, and says that a more straightforward course might have been expected of a gentleman of Mr. Brooke's attainments. He adds, however, that to discuss what was said or what was not said would be quite idle, and he therefore asks Mr. Brooke to grant him another interview, when Mr. Kobayashi promises to come with a good interpreter and a stenographer, and trusts that his *vis-à-vis* on his side will have an interpreter and a secretary. He also solicits the presence of the editors of the *Japan Herald*, *Japan Gazette*, and *Japan Mail*, as well as that of Messrs. Lowder and Litchfield. We strongly recommend Mr. Kobayashi to abandon this futile performance. No good end can possibly be achieved. The views of the moderate section of the community are not to be learned

ed from Mr. J. H. Brooke. Interviews with that gentleman can only lead to recrimination and bitter feeling. Already at this early stage of the controversy the methods adopted by Mr. J. H. Brooke are exhibited in a paragraph of his last letter, where he writes:—

I can well understand his anger at my *exposé*, but I felt it due to myself to decline responsibility for all the statements he has chosen to attribute to me, though I have no desire, and can have none, to shirk responsibility for views I have expressed either orally to him, or in print, but I shall not condescend to bandy words with one who, having made assertions at variance with truth, now that he finds himself in an awkward dilemma, apparently feels no hesitation in adding to the number of his falsehoods.

Very different is such contemptuous, rude language from the tone of Mr. Kobayashi's letter to Mr. Brooke. We must warn Mr. Kobayashi, however, that if he pursues this business, he will inevitably expose himself to insult, and that, unless he is a man of exceptional patience, he will be ultimately drawn into a mere interchange of angry epithets, in which pastime Mr. Brooke will prove his master. The latter gentleman holds very extreme views about Japan and about Treaty Revision—views which are gradually becoming his own exclusive property, and which, if taken by the Japanese as representing the opinion of Yokohama, would seriously exacerbate the ill-feeling already engendered by the meeting of the 11th. As to the conclave which Mr. Kobayashi desires to assemble for the purpose of listening to a controversy between himself and Mr. J. H. Brooke, he will doubtless gather from what we have said that the proposal is more likely to invite ridicule than approval.

SILVER.

In an essay entitled "The American Silver Bubble," Mr. Robert Giffen speaks thus of the probable effects of the United States' action in raising the gold price of silver:—"How the price will be raised is a different question, which concerns the City and speculators mainly, and which need hardly be discussed here. It involves questions of detail as to future production and demand. Two points, however, seem clear. 1. The rise in silver which has taken place seems likely enough to be temporary only. The increase in the production of silver of late years has been enormous. Dr. Soetbeer's figures on this head are well known; but take only this fact, which I find in the Report of the Director of the United States Mint, already referred to, that in 1873 the annual production of silver was 63,000,000 fine ounces, and in 1889 the amount was 126,000,000 ounces. And this enormous increase of production seems likely to continue. At the same time there is no corresponding increase of what may be called the natural demand. The additional artificial demand for the United States, therefore, only takes up part of an increasing supply, and will not, it is probable, have any greater effect on the market than the purchases under the Bland Act, when they commenced, which were equally great in proportion to the supply of that time. After the present flatter, therefore, silver in all probability will fall back to its former level, unless some new event happens. 2. The present rise may be to some extent nominal, forming part of a general rise of prices in gold incidental to a period of good credit. Silver, in other words, may have risen rather more as measured by gold than as measured by the average of commodities. When credit is again succeeded by discredit and depression succeeds prosperity, silver may also fall back with the average of commodities. If silver were the standard of countries economically as powerful as the countries whose standard is gold, this might not be the case. The influence of credit might in that case affect the two standard substances equally. But at present it is the gold countries which have most credit, and whose standard substance is most affected by fluctuations of credit. Still, silver has risen to some extent as measured even by an average of other commodities, and not merely as measured by gold, and so far the owners of silver, who promoted the bill, have gained. Of course,

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this rise in silver in all countries which have silver money is appreciation and not depreciation, contraction and not inflation—the very opposite, in fact, of what has been aimed at by the soft money party. What owners of silver and silver mines have gained the rest of the world loses. The natural market is also disturbed, which is a loss to everyone in the end. For the present, however, there is no question as to the gainers by the American silver bubble. They are even better off than if they had got unlimited coinage of silver, which was so very near being carried.

MR. MASUJIMA AND CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE.

In a recent issue of the *Keisai Zasshi*, Mr. Masujima continues his articles on the subject of the Commercial Code. This time he calls the attention of Chambers of Commerce throughout the country to the absurdity of the resolution of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce in reference to the postponement of the date of enforcing the Commercial Code. As our readers may remember, the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce passed some time ago a resolution deciding to memorialize the Government for postponement to January 1st, 1893, when the Civil Code is to come in force. Mr. Masujima now declares this resolution to be inconsistent with the known opinions of the men who voted for it. The principal reason why they deem the postponement so absolutely necessary is that time is required for the effective carrying out of the Code, so that irreparable injury may not be done to the existing commercial institutions and customs of the country. Mr. Masujima is therefore at a loss to understand why they fixed the limit of postponement at a date so near at hand. Men of their sagacity cannot, he says, believe it possible to get every thing ready by that date for the operation of the new law. He takes the trouble, he says, to discuss this subject in the columns of a leading economical paper, because delegates of Chambers of Commerce throughout the country are reported to have agreed to assemble in Tokyo in November, in order to consider the question of the postponement of the date of the operation of the Code. If these delegates approve the resolution of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce, they will have spent time and money to meet in Tokyo for nothing, as the opponents of the postponement movement will then be very much strengthened in their position. Now that the mercantile class, which had hitherto been held in contempt, is gradually asserting its importance and power, Mr. Masujima reminds the delegates above mentioned of the gravity of the responsibility they bear in connection with this matter. If they do not act thoughtfully in the present juncture, they will find too late that an opportunity has slipped from their hands for the assertion of their influence in society. From the past writings of Mr. Masujima and his fellow thinkers, it appears that their true object in advocating the postponement of the date of the operation of the Commercial Code is to gain time for a thorough amendment of that law. We shall return to the subject when Mr. Masujima has concluded his articles in the *Keisai Zasshi*.

FIRE AT YOKOSUKA.

An outbreak of fire took place about half-past two o'clock in the morning of the 18th instant, in a bath-house at Otakicho, Yokosuka. A southerly wind was blowing strongly at the time, and the flames spread quickly, threatening destruction at one time to the greater part of the town. The engines of the Yokosuka Naval Division were soon on the spot and aided greatly in keeping the fire under. About 3.40 a.m. the wind changed to the westward, and the flames extended to the Yoshiwara, Otaki, destroying seventeen of the casinos there. Before the fire was got under about 6.10 a.m. one theatre and about a hundred and forty houses were entirely destroyed.

PROJECTILES VERSUS ARMOUR PLATES.

It has been often said that no sooner is a projectile found capable of penetrating the best armour plate for the time being, than a plate is

made to resist the shot possessing the highest degree of penetrating power, and *vice versa*, and so the contest goes on. The latest trial is reported by telegram from the United States to the agents at this port of which the following is a copy:—

Anapolis Proving Ground (U.S.),
September 18th.

A comparative trial took place here to-day between one Cammell's compound (steel and iron) armour plate and two Schneider's all-steel plates. Four first class chromed steel armour piercing projectiles were fired at each plate. The Cammell's plate proved a failure, being run through at each shot, and steel layers being detached on a considerable surface. The fourth projectile went through plate and backing plate, falling some hundred yards behind the target. Schneider's plates withstood the trial most successfully. None of the projectiles could pierce the plates, three of them being broken to pieces and falling in front of the target. After the four rounds no crack was to be found on either plate.

SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING TREATIES ON AN EQUAL FOOTING.

THE Society for promoting treaties on a footing of equality with Western States held a meeting on the 21st instant in the Kaika-tei, Shinsakana-cho, Tokyo. Three delegates from the Yokohama *Domei-kai* attended the meeting. A report was read of an interview between members of the Society and Mr. Ono, President of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce. As this interview has not previously been mentioned in our columns, we may explain here that Mr. Ono strongly opposed the idea of employing commercial pressure to influence the foreign merchants of Yokohama. Indeed, he told his visitors pretty plainly that their project could not possibly be carried out. It would be a veritable case of the Japanese having recourse to the proverbial folly of biting their own noses to hurt their faces, for without the aid of the foreign merchants of Yokohama the country's foreign trade cannot be carried on under existing circumstances. Mr. Ono's emphatic counsel doubtless put a stop to this impractical project, for nothing more seems to have been said about it at the meeting, neither did it make its appearance among the resolutions adopted by the meeting. These were tolerably numerous, and embraced a programme which will make large demands on the society's earnestness. It was resolved, generally, that every endeavour should be made to induce foreigners to consider more carefully the claims of Japan in respect of Treaty Revision, and that, for this purpose, first, the views of the society should be transmitted to the foreign journals at the treaty ports; secondly, the same views should be sent to the leading journals in England, America, Germany, France, and the other principal treaty States; thirdly, they should further be communicated to the Foreign Ministers and influential politicians of the treaty States; fourthly, the Citizens' Committee of the Yokohama residents should be approached and due discussion opened with it; and fifthly, seven members should be chosen to represent the society, namely, Messrs. Kobayashi, Ayai, Inoue, Nakanishi, Morimoto, Yagiwara, and Mayeda. It was further resolved that in order to rouse Japanese public opinion on this subject the following measures should be taken;—first, that the Government officials connected with Revision should be urged to adopt a strong policy; secondly, that the views of the society should be communicated to the principal Japanese newspapers in the two capitals and at the five treaty ports; thirdly, that meetings should be held in Yokohama for the purpose of delivering lectures in opposition to the resolutions passed by the foreign residents of that port; fourthly, that fellow-thinkers should be enlisted in the various prefectures and cities; and, fifthly, that every conceivable step should be taken to bring the whole empire to one way of thinking in this matter.

It is plain, as we have said, that to carry out this programme the Society must put its shoulder to the wheel in real earnest. As to the programme itself, it deserves general approval, since it includes only legitimate

methods of agitation. The columns of the press, the public platform and written appeals to influential persons are all proper devices to further the objects of the Society, and so long as the members confine themselves to these, they will have general sympathy. But the talk originally indulged in about boycotting the merchants who took a leading part in the agitation against Revision was ill-considered and silly. There are, it is true, some foreign merchants in this Settlement—leaders, too, of the movement that culminated in the meeting of the 11th inst.—who resort to every practical means in their power to boycott newspapers opposed to their views. But no rational man could approve of such extravagant and illiberal action, and had a similar course been strongly urged upon the Japanese traders of Yokohama by the *Domei-kai* and the *Taito-joyaku-kai*, the movement would only have excited ridicule.

CURRENT TOPICS.

THE *Ten-soku*, writing on the amalgamation of progressive parties, observes that, at the time of the rupture of the Cabinet on the question of Korean invasion, Count Itagaki attempted, in concert with Yeto and others, to undermine the preponderating influence of the Choshu statesmen by inducing Satsuma men to undertake the subjugation of the peninsular kingdom. Our contemporary thinks that there is some analogy between that Korean affair and the question of the amalgamation of the progressive parties, the evident inference being that Count Itagaki's co-operation with Mr. Kawashima and other gentlemen of Satsuma extraction is to oppose the Choshu statesmen. The Tokyo journal further remarks that Count Itagaki is often capable of framing large plans, but not equally successful in carrying them into practice.

The future prospects of the Central Conservatives (*Hoshu Chusei-ha*), led by Viscount Torio, are also discussed by our contemporary. At present everybody speaks of progress and nothing else, and the surest step to invite the ridicule and contempt of the public is to advocate conservatism. The *Ten-soku* rightly observes that sooner or later a violent reaction will surely follow the present over-progressive tendency of society. Rashly undertaking and as suddenly abandoning schemes is a propensity which Viscount Torio is not quite free from, but judging from the extraordinary ability displayed by him at the time of the Satsuma Rebellion and the Takebashi Mutiny, he is beyond doubt quick to understand the signs of the time. Our contemporary, therefore, is not sure that his party will not one day become powerful.

Alluding to the Treaty Revision meeting of the 11th instant, the *Ten-soku* remarks that as the present British Representative at this Court is reported to be a man of fairness and integrity, there will be little danger of his being influenced by the absurd movement of his nationals at Yokohama. The Tokyo journal then turns to the Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs, and asks him what course of action he will take in respect of the meeting in question. It will be advisable to rouse the public opinion of the country against the action of the foreign residents in Yokohama. But Viscount Aoki, whatever may be his skill in diplomacy, is, in the opinion of the journal we are quoting, far from a good administrator. Our contemporary's meaning seems to be that Viscount Aoki is not likely to allow his nationals to know enough of his treaty programme to make them zealous supporters of his scheme against the opposition of foreign residents.

JAPANESE CHRISTIANS AND TREATY REVISION.

JAPANESE Christians are much perturbed about the ill-feeling which has been engendered among their countrymen by the recent proceedings of a portion of the Yokohama foreign residents in respect of Treaty Revision. They perceive that it is a deep and wide-spread feeling, inimical to the friendly conduct of their country's international relations, and even calcu-

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lated, if left unchecked, to cause serious complications. They have resolved, therefore, to take any steps lying in their power with the object of bringing about a better mood. In pursuance of this purpose they have made arrangements to hold a prayer meeting on three consecutive days, commencing with the 26th instant, in the Union Church, Yokohama. The principal projectors of the affair are Messrs. Iwamoto, Tsuda, Hirai, Honda, Yokoi, Inagaki, and Hayashi—all names well known in Japanese literary circles. The prayers will be partly in English and partly in Japanese, as will also be the addresses. Half-past two in the afternoon is the hour fixed for commencing each day. The meeting will be open to all comers, and the promoters hope that foreigners, by attending the ceremony, will show their sympathy with a movement the purpose of which is to dispel the indignation now prevailing and to promote the growth of a sympathetic and just mood. Japanese Christians perceive very plainly that so long as this Treaty Revision problem remains unsettled, an unfriendly spirit must constantly grow up around it, and they fear that blind anger and an exaggerated sense of unjust treatment may impel some of their country's hottest patriots to the commission of acts which would disgrace the nation, and set up a new barrier to the consummation of its aspirations.

THE "MUSASHI MARU."

FULL particulars of the loss of the Japan Mail Steamship Company steamer *Musashi Maru* have not yet been received. Indeed it is doubtful whether they ever will be received. The quarter-master's account of the affair betrays something of the confusion that would naturally result from so terrible an experience. He says that the ship was in the neighbourhood of Oshima when the catastrophe occurred. The force of the wind was so tremendous that the boats were torn from their fastenings and blown over-board. Subsequently a succession of huge seas broke over the vessel. Under ordinary circumstances scarcely any body of water coming on board could have produced very serious effects, but the boats, which must have been dashed about the deck with great violence, probably worked some mischief which enabled the seas to find their way into the engine-room. The quarter-master does not remember anything very clearly till he found himself in the water. He was fortunate to reach one of the boats which had not been blown far from the ship. In her he found several of his shipmates who had also reached her by swimming. By and by, seeing the land not far off, the quarter-master and another man volunteered to swim ashore with the hope of obtaining assistance. In this enterprise the quarter-master alone succeeded; his companion appears to have been lost. Doubtless the men in the boat perished also. It will be remembered that one of the *Musashi's* boats was afterwards picked up by a steamer, and that the Chief Engineer's clothes and boots were found in her. Probably she was the boat referred to by the quarter-master. It would seem that the other men attempted in their turn to swim ashore, whereas had they remained in the boat they might have been saved.

SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR THE SURVIVORS OF THE "ERTOUROUL."

People in Tokyo are beginning to understand the objections lying in the way of subscribing money for the survivors of the *Ertougroul* disaster. If the ill-fated ship had not been a man-of-war, the occasion would certainly invite charitable effort, but the rules of every military or naval service make due provision to meet emergencies of this nature, and to offer money to the Turks rescued from the *Ertougroul* is likely to cause umbrage rather than to evoke gratitude. This has been explained very fully to the *Hochi Shimbun* by a certain Viscount, whose opinions that journal publishes without comment. Considering that the catastrophe happened on the coast of Japan; that the officers and men of the frigate were virtually the guests of this nation, and that the ship came on a special mission to carry a Turkish decora-

tion to the Emperor, philanthropic Japanese may perhaps find reasons for the kind-hearted course they are pursuing. Other nationalities, however, would not be justified in following their example, and we are strongly disposed to think that even in the case of the Japanese their money will be politely returned. After all, the test is this—would any one have dreamed of putting his hand in his pocket if the wrecked vessel had been a man-of-war flying the colours of any of the Great Western Powers.

CHOLERA RETURNS.

The latest cholera returns derived from official sources are as follow:—

Prefecture or City.	Date.	New Cases.	Deaths.
Osaka	19th	103	215
	20th	103	145
	21st	219	149
	22nd	157	146
	23rd	157	169
	24th	143	130
	25th	138	139
	26th	84	51
	27th	38	41
	28th	74	45
Hyogo	21st	77	53
	22nd	77	53
	23rd	93	57
	24th	59	52
	25th	34	3
	26th	11	9
	27th	1	1
	28th	9	7
	29th	1	1
	30th	1	1
Nagasaki	19th	3	3
	20th	3	3
	21st	3	3
	22nd	3	3
	23rd	3	3
	24th	3	3
	25th	3	3
	26th	3	3
	27th	3	3
	28th	3	3
Ozayama	19th	34	7
	20th	37	7
	21st	34	27
	22nd	47	45
	23rd	30	30
	24th	33	30
	25th	38	36
	26th	42	38
	27th	48	36
	28th	31	32
Hiroshima	19th	19	14
	20th	12	14
	21st	12	13
	22nd	15	11
	23rd	17	7
	24th	21	14
	25th	14	13
	26th	15	6
	27th	28	23
	28th	17	9
Yamaguchi	19th	25	24
	20th	25	28
	21st	25	23
	22nd	25	23
	23rd	38	16
	24th	30	10
	25th	19	13
	26th	13	11
	27th	13	13
	28th	12	6
Fukuoka	19th	10	7
	20th	20	13
	21st	6	10
	22nd	6	3
	23rd	1	2
	24th	4	1
	25th	8	4
	26th	8	10
	27th	8	4
	28th	8	4
Oita	19th	4	8
	20th	4	8
	21st	4	8
	22nd	18	8
	23rd	11	7
	24th	23	19
	25th	38	24
	26th	39	27
	27th	39	27
	28th	39	27
Saga	19th	20	13
	20th	6	10
	21st	6	3
	22nd	6	3
	23rd	1	2
	24th	4	1
	25th	8	4
	26th	8	10
	27th	8	4
	28th	8	4
Kumamoto	19th	4	8
	20th	4	8
	21st	4	8
	22nd	18	8
	23rd	11	7
	24th	23	19
	25th	38	24
	26th	39	27
	27th	39	27
	28th	39	27
Kagawa	19th	20	13
	20th	6	10
	21st	6	3
	22nd	6	3
	23rd	1	2
	24th	4	1
	25th	8	4
	26th	8	10
	27th	8	4
	28th	8	4

The numbers of cases and deaths since the commencement of the epidemic, inclusive of the above figures, appear in the following table:—

Prefecture or City.	Cases.	Deaths.
Osaka	6,380	4,806
Hyogo	1,739	1,103
Nagasaki	3,351	2,194
Okayama	307	131
Yamaguchi	1,216	1,039
Hiroshima	1,193	619
Kagawa	330	170
Fukuoka	2,744	1,739
Oita	890	474
Saga	890	538
Kumamoto	931	544

The total number of cases and deaths in the following Cities and Prefectures not included in the above, from the commencement of the epidemic to the 24th instant, are:—

City or Prefecture	Cases.	Deaths.
Tokyo	1,096	1,531
Kanagawa	1,843	1,301
Gumma	38	18
Ibaraki	21	4
Chiba	719	415
Teikoku	10	78
Tottori	10	78
Shimane	73	39
Nara	82	38
Shizuoka	143	72
Yamanashi	44	15
Shiga	45	30
Fukui	27	15
Tokushima	70	40
Fukushima	223	66
Kochi	265	105

CHEMICALS IN JAPAN.

Drugs and chemicals are gradually forming a more important feature in the Japanese import

trade. Large quantities of chemicals are being imported for manufacturing purposes, such as paper and match making, glass works, and other industries. They come chiefly from Great Britain, but a considerable portion is of German origin. The Japanese Government are themselves manufacturers of caustic and other sodas, and of sulphuric acid. Medicines for pharmaceutical purposes are also made in Japan on a large scale. Some importers complain of the great difficulties raised in regard to the sale of foreign drugs and medicines, these being constantly rejected by the Government analysts as not being up to the standard of the Japanese pharmacopoeia, which is higher than the British. —Industries.

THE YOKOHAMA JAPANESE AND THE ANTI-REVISION MEETING.

We read in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*—which journal is particularly well informed about everything relating to the steps taken by the Japanese in connection with the Anti-revision Meeting—that Mr. Fraser, chairman of the Citizens Committee, has consented to the proposal made by Mr. Yenomoto and others, acting on behalf of the Domei-kai of Yokohama, and that a written discussion is likely to take place between the Committee and the representatives of the Domei-Kai. Inasmuch, however, as Mr. Yenomoto and his fellow-delegates were only authorized to carry on a verbal discussion, another general meeting of the Domei-Kai is to be called in order to consider the situation.

KOREA AND CHINA.

ACCORDING to the *Hochi Shimbun*, a citizen of the United States has been doing his best for some time to procure for Korea a loan from America capitalists. His action has evoked from the Chinese Legation at Washington the declaration that Korea being tributary to China cannot raise a national loan, as her resources are very small and she has not yet been able to repay the money that she borrowed from China. The latter, therefore, cannot permit her to deal with her customs duties and other revenue for the purpose of incurring fresh obligations.

THE JAPANESE PLENIPOTENTIARIES.

THERE appears to be little doubt that His Majesty the Emperor has nominated Count Saigo and Count Goto to act in conjunction with Viscount Aoki as Plenipotentiaries for Japan in the Treaty Revision Conference. The metropolitan press unanimously approves the nomination and suggests various reasons for it, the most plausible being that in a matter of such great national importance, more than one prominent statesman should represent Japan.

THE "KASHI-YA FUDA."

A PERIODICAL publication of a novel character, but likely to prove of very great convenience to the public, has just been started in Tokyo. It is called the *Kashi-ya Fuda* (Notice of houses to let). It describes the situation, the style of building, the extent, the number of rooms, and other particulars, of all houses which are at the time ready to be let, so that henceforward the expenditure of a few *sen* will enable every one in search of houses to save much time and labour.

RAILWAYS.

We read in the *Official Gazette* that the section of the Japan Railway Company's line from Kuroiso to Shirakawa is now open for traffic. There appears to be still very little prospect of the speedy opening of the Kurihashi-Kuki section, which is now the only break between Nikko and Tokyo. So far as we can learn, steps are being taken to raise the road above the water under which it still continues submerged.

SAN FRANCISCO CONSULATE.

MR. S. CHINDA, hitherto Chief of the Bureau of Telegraphs in the Foreign Department, is to become Japanese Consul at San Francisco, *vice* Mr. Kawakita. Mr. Chinda will be succeeded in his post in the Foreign Office by Viscount Torii, hitherto Japanese Vice-Consul in Honolulu.

THE TREATY REVISION MEETING.

THE discussion provoked by the Treaty Revision Meeting of Foreign Residents has now cleared the air sufficiently to justify us in considering broadly what the demonstration signified, and how far it is to be regarded as opposing a barrier to the consummation of Treaty Revision. It ought apparently to have been possible to treat the question on a broad basis from the outset, without pausing to examine the exact wording of the resolutions passed or to inquire into other seemingly minor details. But the language of the first resolution, read literally, embodied a declaration of absolute hostility to Treaty Revision on any terms, inasmuch as the only basis on which Treaty Revision is negotiable was rejected by the resolution. We have already explained this point at length, but it may be well to repeat succinctly here that all negotiations for Treaty Revision have hitherto proceeded, and all negotiations must hereafter proceed, upon the assumption that a period for the unconditional relinquishment of Consular Jurisdiction can be definitely fixed, whereas the first resolution voted by the meeting declares that the time has not come when an estimate of such period can be safely formed. Evidently if the meeting intended to commit itself to an assertion so radical and conclusive, that intention became the most striking feature of the whole affair, for while it was easy to conceive that the great majority of the foreign residents would, at any moment, have responded favourably to an invitation to protest against the unconditional surrender of their extraterritorial privileges, it was correspondingly difficult to imagine that they would assert the necessity of postponing Treaty Revision indefinitely. Subsequent discussion has to a certain extent explained the situation, and removed the seemingly glaring contradiction between the actual terms of the resolution and the views which a large number, if not the whole, of those voting it must, as rational men, be supposed to entertain. We know that the proposer and framer of the resolution intended it to convey, not any radical protest against the revision of the Treaties, but merely a declaration that Consular Jurisdiction ought not to be abolished without safeguards. How far it is justifiable to assume that the meeting, instead of being guided by the actual wording of the resolution, divined its proposer's intentions and voted in their sense, we cannot positively determine. Two considerations may, however, be allowed to guide us. The first is that the great bulk of the foreigners residing in Japan must be quite convinced that Treaty Revision is inevitable. There are undoubtedly some whose aversion to Japanese jurisdiction is so bitter that they cannot persuade themselves to admit the necessity of submitting to it at any time.

But these are the implacable minority: they need not be seriously considered. The majority appreciate the situation better, and so appreciating it, would scarcely have voted that the only practicable basis of negotiation may not yet be entertained. The second consideration is that the meeting was not convened for the purpose of recording any such radical opinion. The advertised summons, which, to a certain extent, may be taken as preamble to the resolution, spoke of remonstrating against the transfer of British subjects to Japanese jurisdiction "without any of the safeguards hitherto considered necessary for their protection." People coming together for the purpose expressed in the summons would not have adopted without question a resolution of incomparably more radical scope. These two considerations are not, of course, sufficient to outweigh the actual language of the resolution. But since it is now explained that the resolution was only intended as a limited protest, we may conclude that the meeting, guided by the summons, and by the common sense of the situation, voted not in favour of the indefinite maintenance of Consular Jurisdiction, but only against its unconditional surrender.

Such being the case, we are in a position to estimate how much importance attaches to the meeting. It has been greeted with a paean of triumph by the implacables. They call it a bolt from the blue, and amuse themselves conjecturing the consternation caused by it in the camp of the advocates of Revision. But it is not in any sense a bolt from the blue, neither has it produced any consternation. A number of Occidentals called together in an Oriental country to decide whether or no they will surrender privileges which they have enjoyed for years, and whether or no they are prepared to submit to Oriental jurisdiction without safeguards, could only vote in the negative. The very notion of surrender or submission is always distasteful to the Anglo-Saxon mind, and when the act becomes unconditional, there are happily few Englishmen whose first impulse does not prompt rebellion against it. Thus the mood of the meeting might have been predicted beforehand on general grounds. But with respect to the particular question of the moment, there was the still more obvious consideration that however firmly convinced reasonable people may be of the necessity of revising the Treaties as speedily as possible, probably not one foreign resident could be found to vote for surrendering Consular Jurisdiction unconditionally. Now the principal resolution adopted, if we accept the interpretation given by its proposer, meant nothing more than that the meeting protested against unconditional surrender of extraterritorial privileges and unconditional submission to Japanese Jurisdiction. Such a protest was superfluous. There was no occasion to elicit it by the aid of a

public meeting. Everybody knew, the Japanese Government knew, the Foreign Representatives knew, that Yokohama, where its opinion sought at any time, would vote in the sense of the resolution. It could not vote otherwise without casting its traditions to the winds and suddenly substituting, for long-entertained and by no means unreasonable distrust, a mood of absolute confidence. All that the meeting did, then, was to place on record a fact perfectly well understood before, namely, that the foreign residents of Yokohama are opposed to the unconditional abolition of Consular Jurisdiction. Considerable significance naturally attaches to the mere assembling of a large body of foreign residents to publish a protest: the plain inference is that the course of Revision is keenly scrutinized by the inhabitants of the principal treaty port, and that they are not at all prepared to endorse terms which exclude reasonable provisions for safeguarding their rights and interests. In this sense the meeting itself and its resolution will doubtless be taken into due consideration, but that a protest reflecting the inevitable verdict of every prudent foreigner under the circumstances, reiterating the view which Yokohama was well known to hold and which, indeed, it could not choose but hold, and conveying nothing more than an intimation of unwillingness to surrender unconditionally privileges now enjoyed and not lightly valued—that such a protest is in any sense astonishing, or that it alters the situation as to Treaty Revision, we fail absolutely to perceive.

TARDY BUT NOT INEFFICACIOUS
REPENTANCE.

WE are sincerely glad to see that the most active promoter of the Meeting of the 11th instant and the proposer of the principal resolution has, even at this late period, come forward publicly and asked that his own proceedings and those of the Meeting should be construed in a sense very different from that attaching to the actual language of the resolutions voted and of the speeches delivered. Protesting against the term "anti-revision" as applied to the Meeting, Mr. J. F. LOWDER now says:—

So far from being opposed to revision, there is not an intelligent man in the community who does not admit that Japan is entitled to demand a relaxation of the terms of the present Treaties. We recognize, with sincerity and admiration, the progress she has made, and we sympathise with her aspirations; but we say that she has not yet proved her right to claim unconditionally the promise of unrestricted judicial control over us, and we believe that outside the *soshi* there are few Japanese who do not admit that we are right. The term "anti-revision" is, therefore, unwarranted, and discerning men will in future avoid its use.

We have here a statement which, however tardily made, deserves to be welcomed and applauded, since it conveys to the Japanese a just idea of the sense of the respectable portion of the British residents, and since, above all, it

rescues the Yokohama community from the deplorable situation into which it allowed itself to be betrayed by the rash and ungarded proceedings of its leaders on the unfortunate 11th instant. Our first comment on the minutes of the Treaty-revision Meeting was that "when the Yokohama community came to consider the action to which it had pledged itself, there would be some surprise and even disgust." The prediction is fulfilled to-day. Yokohama, with unreasoning docility seldom found in a body of shrewd business folks, blindly followed leaders who had not duly considered what they were doing, and who now discover that it is necessary to throw themselves on the mercy of the public and to ask that their language be construed in a sense not deducible from the words they actually employed.

Unfortunately the matter does not end here. To build a golden bridge for retreating opponents is a good old maxim which we would fain follow in the present instance. But charity has limits, and Mr. J. F. LOWDER places himself beyond their extreme reach. Did the question lie between him and us, his attacks would pass unnoticed, being, as they are, directly opposed to the views he formerly held of our action, and being also, as we believe, dictated by anger, that last refuge of the beaten controversialist. Since, however, a majority of the foreign community is concerned, we are reluctantly compelled to take up the gauntlet so violently thrown at our feet by Mr. LOWDER. Writing to the *Japan Gazette* of the 20th instant, that gentleman says:—

SIR,—I wish to protest against the use of the term "anti-revision" to express the object of the meeting held on the 11th inst., or the attitude of those who supported it. Of the 438 persons who were either present on that occasion or who have since signified their adhesion to the resolutions by signing them, there are few, if any, who are animated by the sentiments attributed to them by one who, isolating himself from his fellows, nevertheless undertakes to pose as the expositor of their views, and as the only true friend of Japan. Japanese and foreigners would understand each other better but for the writings of the *Japan Mail*. To advocate the cause of Japan is one thing; to do so by holding up the members of this community to obloquy, by misrepresenting them, and by extolling the Japanese at the expense of the foreign residents of Yokohama, both here and in the columns of *The Times*, may be a congenial occupation for the editor of the *Mail*, but it is a vicious and perilous proceeding. Take the case in point. British subjects, having reason to apprehend that their interests are about to be sacrificed, call a meeting to protest against the unconditional abandonment of extra-territoriality. What happens? Their avowed object is ignored; perverted motives are attributed to them; the vilest abuse is showered upon them; the Japanese are told they have ample reason for indignation; that they are justified in thinking they have been bitterly insulted; and, finally, they are warned that they cannot afford to be impatient "unless, indeed, they are already resigned to the end towards which the acts of men like the promoters of the anti-revision meeting would inevitably drive them." The intention of such inflammatory writing is obvious, and the suggestion, I am sorry to say, has already borne promise of fruit. The Japanese Government have indeed reason to regret their choice of an advocate, but they have nobody to blame but themselves if they are identified with his utterances.

We pass with very brief allusion the tortuous and undignified course adopted by Mr. LOWDER in attacking the editor of this

journal in the correspondence columns of a contemporary. To emphasise this incident of the part he has played during the past fortnight, would be to betray a very imperfect sense of comparison. We proceed, then, at once to his assertions that few if any of the persons attending the meeting of the 11th and subsequently signing the resolutions "are animated by the sentiments attributed to them" by the *Japan Mail*. The *Japan Mail* has attributed no objectionable sentiments of any kind to the 438 signatories of the resolutions. The *Japan Mail* has most carefully confined its comments to the promoters of the agitation, and even to them it has attributed no sentiments, but has merely noted the construction which must inevitably be placed by the Japanese on their words and conduct. Stripped of Mr. LOWDER's strange perversions of fact, what is the situation? A meeting was convened for the purpose of protesting against the unconditional surrender of Consular Jurisdiction. At the meeting Mr. LOWDER proposed a resolution, the first part of which was in strict accord with the advertised object of the meeting. Concerning the announcement contained in that first part we wrote that "it was precisely what any body of Englishmen might have been expected to formulate." But there was a second part pledging the Meeting to a plain declaration that the only possible basis of Treaty Revision could not yet be accepted. No attempt has since been made to defend the wording of that second part: so hopeless a task has been carefully avoided. The public is simply asked to believe now that the resolution was not intentionally framed in the sense distinctly conveyed by its terms. So be it. Everybody accepts the disclaimer with pleasure, and is glad to think that the promoters of the agitation were actuated by liberal sentiments though couched in illiberal and misleading language. None the less, previously to the explanation now given, Mr. LOWDER and his fellow-agitators could only claim to be judged by their acts, and those acts were that they had betrayed the Yokohama residents into an attitude of apparently absolute hostility to Treaty Revision; that from their set speeches they had omitted all admission of the advisability of revising the Treaties as well as all allusion to what Japan has done to deserve international consideration, and that by thus divesting the proceedings of every sympathetic aspect and investing them with a character of radical antagonism to Japan's claims, they had taken a course justly calculated to stir the anger and indignation of every patriotic Japanese. If Mr. LOWDER seeks now to lighten the blame attaching to such errors of judgment and blunders of phraseology by distributing it equally among the 438 signatories of the resolutions, he must accept the sole

responsibility of the evasion, for nothing written in these columns justifies it.

Passing from particular to general charges, Mr. LOWDER says that we "hold up the members of this community to obloquy, misrepresent them, and extol the Japanese at the expense of the foreign residents of Yokohama." It has not apparently cost Mr. LOWDER much effort to descend from the plane of honesty and fairness to the lowest level of the literary traducers whose perversions of truth disfigure all controversy in this settlement. He knows perfectly well that not one of the false accusations here preferred by him can be supported by evidence. He knows perfectly well that, a few months ago, no one would have denied their truth more emphatically than himself. He knows perfectly well that in the very article of ours from which he subsequently quotes, we justified the action of the majority of the foreign residents, and said that "if educated Japanese did not and could not appreciate British reluctance to submit to an alien jurisdiction, we should regard the fact as a strong evidence that Japan is not yet fit to discharge the functions with which she seeks to be entrusted." He knows very well that we claimed "full credit for the honest and conscientious motives" of the promoters of the agitation, and that, referring to the "lead taken by Englishmen," we said it "properly belonged to the preponderance of their interests and to their preëminent sense of the sacredness of personal rights and personal freedom." Yet he ventures to say that we "hold up the members of this community to obloquy, misrepresent them, and extol the Japanese at the expense of the foreign residents of Yokohama." Such are Mr. LOWDER's weapons; weapons, we are forced to confess, not unworthy of a man who has turned upon his old friends and employers and placed himself at the head of a movement designed to inflict injury on a cause in the interests of which he was once a conspicuous worker.

It is idle to pursue such a writer through his labyrinth of wild assertions, prompted, let us hope, by an access of blinding anger. His preposterous accusation that "the vilest abuse has been showered" by us on the British subjects who called a meeting to protest against the unconditional abandonment of extraterritoriality, does not even deserve to be ridiculed. If there is anything "vile" in this business, it is the conduct of a man who recklessly traduces those he once applauded and encouraged, and who converts the dictates of hot resentment into data for framing cruel and injurious charges. Here, then, we would leave Mr. LOWDER—not, indeed, without keen regret that the task of replying to him in such terms should have been forced upon us—did we not think it wise to refer to one more sentence which he quotes from our writing. After warning

the Japanese that "every angry expression uttered by them would surely be construed as an evidence of anti-foreign feeling," we went on to say that they "could not afford to be impatient unless, indeed, they were already resigned to the end towards which the acts of men like the promoters of the anti-revision meeting would inevitably drive them." Mr. LOWDER asserts that "the intention of such inflammatory writing is obvious." It is hard to treat seriously any utterances in the sequence of those noted above, and even with our present knowledge of Mr. LOWDER'S spirit we can scarcely suppose him capable of pretending that our writing is designed to push the Japanese to acts of violence. On the other hand, it is equally difficult to imagine that he can have been deceived by the sentence he quotes. No one understands better than he that if the Foreign Powers, accepting the simple *non possumus* conveyed in the second part of the resolution of the 11th—as literally interpreted—and conveyed also by the strangely unsympathetic attitude of the promoters of the agitation, were to postpone the discussion of Treaty Revision *sine die*; or if acts of violence and lawlessness perpetrated by Japanese towards foreigners were to bring about a similar postponement, the inevitable result would be renoucement of the Treaties by Japan. That is the "end" alluded to by us; an end which we hope to see deferred as long as possible. Mr. LOWDER affects to misunderstand us. But it is evident that he takes no trouble to understand. His attacks upon the *Japan Mail* and its editor are, however, of small moment compared with the avowal which our comments have elicited and which we recommend to the earnest perusal of all Japanese, namely:—"So far from being opposed to revision, there is not an intelligent man in the community who does not admit that Japan is entitled to demand a relaxation of the terms of the present Treaties. We recognise, with sincerity and admiration, the progress she has made, and we sympathise with her aspirations; but we say that she has not yet proved her right to claim unconditionally the promise of unrestricted judicial control over us." We believe that the true feeling of the Yokohama community is conveyed in this statement, every word of which we ourselves heartily endorse.

FOREIGN AND JAPANESE MERCHANTS.

ONE of the most remarkable of the utterances published on the subject of the commercial dealings between Japanese and foreigners seems to us to be the following:—

The greatest difficulty in the question is the keen and cut-throat competition of foreign importers amongst themselves. A Japanese may repudiate contracts, disown obligations, discard the most palpable promises,

even refuse to pay money owing to one of several foreign firms, and yet, on application to a competitor, he can do business easily, be supplied with goods, place new contracts, and be received with open arms, *even with affection*, and no questions asked. Even when his past misconduct and shuffling are known, a foreigner, fully cognisant of all his tripping, often takes him to his desk and to his heart, and what is still more useful to the Japanese client, supplies him freely with goods thus establishing him as triumphant master of the situation.

If this be true, and there is nothing to make us doubt its accuracy, the situation is about as hopeless as can be conceived, and additional force is given to what we have ourselves repeatedly asserted, namely, that the conditions existing in Yokohama are such as to put a premium upon dishonesty on the part of Japanese traders. What is a Japanese to think of the standard of commercial morality among men who receive with open arms a dealer known to have played the part of a knave? What can he think except that roguery and knavery are very lightly regarded, and that, provided business be transacted, the manner of transacting it, and the men who transact it, are quite secondary considerations? We have suggested that the best hope of inaugurating a wholesomer state of things lies in partnerships between foreigners and Japanese—a suggestion which drew forth the indignant rejoinder that foreigners would not dream of demeaning themselves by commercial association with rascals of the type familiar to them in Yokohama. Assuredly we never imagined that they would. Our suggestion referred expressly to the far better class of merchants who undoubtedly exist outside the Settlements, and our idea was that by combinations between these and foreigners, the import trade might be taken out of the groove where it is surrounded by such evil influences. But now a British merchant himself tells us that whatever knavery or double dealing the Japanese trader may have been guilty of, he can always be sure of a hearty welcome and of ready confidence at the hands of other foreigners, although they well know how he has sinned against their competitors. Is it not the veriest chimera to look for commercial probity under such circumstances in Japan? Would it not be the veriest chimera to look for it anywhere? The upshot of the interesting correspondence elicited in connection with this topic is to confirm our analysis, first made five years ago and repeated on the present occasion, namely, that the Japanese dealer in Yokohama is absolutely free from all restraint. He need not fear the law; he need not fear the loss of foreign custom or confidence; he is placed at no disadvantage as compared with a conscientious competitor; and he runs no risk of losing caste among his own countrymen, who know only so much as he chooses to tell them of his doings. It would be little short of a marvel were he honest under such circumstances. Indeed honesty and success would be incompatible; for where all difficulties may be avoided and

risks averted by recourse to improbity and chicanery, and where no advantage whatsoever attends honest dealing, roguery and evasion become weapons essential to victory. Must things remain thus? Is it really a fact that foreigners are incapable of combining to ostracise the men who prey on them so shamelessly? We cannot believe it. Twice within the past nine years foreign merchants of all nationalities combined to resist particular attempts on the part of Japanese traders, and on both occasions the combination succeeded. Surely combination to correct such flagrant abuses as those now exposed ought not to be impossible. There is no gainsaying the fact, we fear, that foreigners themselves are chiefly responsible for the ills from which they suffer, and that they are also responsible for permitting the existence of a state of affairs which must inevitably produce a demoralizing effect anywhere. We cannot conceive a high standard of commercial morality observed among any people where all the most effectual restraints upon dishonesty are absent. In the interests not of the foreign merchants alone, but also of Japan, it is most desirable that a stricter system should be introduced. Japan's good name is suffering all the time. People at large do not discriminate, they cannot be expected to discriminate, the special and exceptional causes which lie at the root of the trouble in Yokohama. They only know that the Japanese trader is a slippery, untrustworthy customer, and they view his nationals through the spectacles of his depravity. This evil, too, is responsible for the greater part of the distrust evinced by foreign residents towards Japanese institutions, and for nearly the whole of the contempt which they entertain for the people of the country. A man is bound to derive his conceptions from the events of his every-day life. The merchant virtually exists in his business: its prosperous conduct brings him content; its failure, chagrin and unhappiness. If he is perpetually thwarted by Japanese insincerity: if he can place no confidence in the fulfilment of engagements or the implementing of contracts, let him be ever so genial and forgiving, he must inevitably lapse into a mood of umbrage and exasperation. This is what happens in Yokohama. Thus in the cause of all interests nothing is more desirable than some drastic measure to correct the abuses so fully set forth in the recent correspondence. Are the foreign merchants really so helpless that they cannot take the matter seriously in hand, with the view of expelling finally from the trade the dishonest parasites which interfere so seriously with its health?

THE CONSTITUTIONAL LIBERAL PARTY.

THE *Kokumin no-Tomo*, in its last issue, reviews the train of events that finally resulted, some days ago, in the formation of the Constitutional Liberal Party, and considers the present position of that party. According to our contemporary, the question of the amalgamation of progressive parties was first brought forward as early as 1883. In that year a number of politicians of Kyushu made a tour throughout the north-eastern provinces and discussed with their friends the desirability of consolidating all the existing parties of progressive principles under one banner. The *Kaishin-to* and the old *Jiyu-to* were then waging bitter party warfare in Tokyo and its vicinity. But the provinces of the North-East and of the South-West being beyond the sphere of combat, politicians in those localities stood aloof from the strife and were in a position to mediate between the hostile camps. The question of amalgamation was, however, evidently premature at that time, and it seems that no practical steps were taken to carry out the proposition. During several subsequent years things were more and more unfavourable to combination, until the climax was reached last year, when the question of Treaty Revision made the gulf between the *Kaishin-to* and the other progressive parties almost impassable. The agitation produced by this question led to a temporary combination among a number of parties otherwise widely different in political tendency. But such a state of things could not last long without producing a reaction. It was Count ITAGAKI who first recognised the spirit of the time, and endeavoured to bring together the scattered elements of his former party. The result of the famous meeting at Osaka at the end of last year disclosed a singular state of affairs in a party which was formerly distinguished for its power of combination. Personal ill-feeling among the leaders, and conflicting ambition among the young and aspiring rank and file, led to the splitting of the party into three sections, the *Aikokukoto*, the resuscitated *Jiyu-to*, and the *Daido Club*. Count ITAGAKI alone was indefatigable in mustering his former followers into one political organization. About this time the amalgamation of all the progressive parties agitated the minds of a few far-sighted politicians in the south-west corner of the Empire. Men of progressive opinions in the island of Kyushu held a meeting on the 15th of April last, at which they gave full consideration to the question, and decided to despatch a number of delegates to Tokyo to induce the progressive parties to come to an agreement as to alliance on certain general questions. The delegates at once came up to the capital, and found that the subject of their mission had al-

ready been receiving the attention of leading men there. Among the papers, the *Hochi Shimbun*, the *Choya Shimbun*, the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, and the *Kokumin Shimbun* took up the question with particular zeal, and declared the importance of alliance. Count ITAGAKI and other distinguished statesmen in the capital, belonging to the different progressive parties, declared themselves in favour of combination on a broad basis, and at first the members of the *Kaishin-to* took a leading part in the movement. Such was the state of things in May last. The time for the general election then drew near, and, the delegates from Kyushu returning to their localities, public attention became engrossed with excitement about the approaching elections. Accordingly, the question of alliance remained for a time in abeyance. Towards the end of July, the delegates from Kyushu again appeared in Tokyo, and things were progressing smoothly, when a new turn was given to the movement by the promulgation of the Law of Political Associations, and the enforcement of its provision prohibiting any alliance or correspondence between different political parties. The effect of this official measure was simply to make the political parties concerned go a step further and unite themselves into one party instead of forming an alliance. With this object in view, the resuscitated *Jiyu-to* and the party represented by the Kyushu delegates (*Kyushu Doshi-kai*) were at once dissolved. As to the *Aikokukoto*, it was not necessary to dissolve it, its organization not having yet been formally completed. Men thought that, so far as these three parties and the *Kaishin-to* were concerned, there was little doubt of their amalgamation, but that the section of the *Daido-ha* under the direct control of Count GOTO might refuse to unite. In point of fact, however, things took an unexpected course. The *Daido-ha*, which had been from the outset rather lukewarm and suspicious, suddenly decided, on the 17th of August, to dissolve its organization; and taking up the question of amalgamation with more than ordinary zeal, at once assumed the leading position in the movement. The *Kaishin-to*, which had been specially enthusiastic at the outset, now lagged behind the rest, and deferred its general meeting to the end of September. Meanwhile, the opponents of amalgamation and bitter enemies of the *Kaishin-to* were indefatigable in throwing obstacles in the path of the latter party. A meeting in commemoration of the opposition against treaty revision was one of the contrivances to revive feelings of ill-will between the *Kaishin-to* and the *Daido-ha*. The politicians of the *Daido-ha*, now becoming masters of the situation, insisted on the organization of the new party previous to the general meeting of the *Kaishin-to*, and persisted also in demanding the use of the term *jiyu* instead of *kaishin* to denote

the principle of the party. Now these two words are both equivalent to the English term "liberal," but the history of the bitter struggle between the two parties designated by the different terms had given to the ideographs a significance quite apart from their original meaning. The *Kaishin-to* declined to be absorbed into the new party unless the obnoxious name was either entirely dispensed with or used side by side with the word *kaishin*. The final separation between the *Kaishin-to* and the other progressive parties took place on the 23rd of last month. Our contemporary regrets that the *Kaishin-to*, instead of anticipating the *Daido-ha's* move, displayed a singular want of foresight and energy by deferring its general meeting till September. Thus the proposal for the amalgamation of the progressive parties has had partial success. The *Rikken Jiyu-to* has since been joined by the *Kōmin-kwai* of Kyoto and the *Kōgi-kwai* of the Prefecture of Gumma, and it is asserted that the party is represented in the Diet by upwards of 130 members. In conclusion the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* observes on the one hand that there are some elements in the new party which must be eliminated, while, on the other, it hopes and believes that the *Kaishin-to* will yet reconsider its decision and join the amalgamated party.

THE TENDENCY OF JAPANESE CHRISTIANITY.

SOME time ago we reproduced and commented on a remarkable article in the *Rikugo Zasshi* (a Christian periodical) on the Future Christianity of Japan, by the editor of that journal, Mr. T. YOKOI. His views having elicited various comments from Japanese and foreign sources, he has further expounded them in a recent issue of his journal, under the heading "The Tendency of Japanese Christianity."

In the first place, he observes that the Christianity which is to be preached to the Japanese must be simple and unalloyed. He regrets to notice that even those who pretend to preach the so-called simple gospel, attach undue importance to abstruse and, in many instances, exploded doctrines of theology, which are little connected with the fundamental facts of Christianity. "Some persons," he says, "stick to the old theological tenet, which holds up the Bible not only as an unerring picture of the life of CHRIST, the ways of GOD, and the method of salvation, but also as an infallible authority on science, history, chronology, and so forth. Others there are who, not content with preaching that CHRIST has atoned for human sin by his life on earth and by his death on the cross, and that all believers in and followers of CHRIST shall not perish, but receive everlasting life, go on to assert that GOD is love, but justice likewise; that man, though returning to the path of righteousness,

must be punished for his previous sins to satisfy GOD's justice, and that, therefore, CHRIST, though himself innocent, underwent punishment for the sake of humanity. These people are not satisfied with preaching the facts of religion; they must also preach its theories. There is indeed no objection to their preaching such theories, but it is a grievous mistake to maintain that theories form an essential part of the simple gospel. What we mean by simple Christianity is this, that men must follow CHRIST as his original disciples followed him. We beseech the preachers of Christianity not to worry us with formidable articles of faith, with difficult dogmas of theology, and with complicated ceremonies of worship. . . . Do not initiate us into the secrets of sectarian strife. . . . The disciples when they followed CHRIST, did not know anything about the doctrine of the Trinity or that of Redemption; they did not observe the ceremony of the Lord's Supper, and some of them do not even seem to have received baptism. But they believed in CHRIST, they loved him, and they were with him, and their hearts were regenerated by the character and life of their Master." Mr. YOKOI thus considers that the first condition of Japanese Christianity should be freedom from all the dogmatic theology that has gradually grown up around religion during these nineteen centuries, and that it should be presented to the people in all the simplicity of the apostolic age.

In the second place, the writer remarks that the presence of so many merely nominal believers in the Japanese Church is to be accounted for by the circumstance that too much importance has hitherto been attached to the mere number of converts. "The improvement of life and character," he says, "ought to be the sole aim of evangelization. To remedy this evil in our Church [the evil of giving undue importance to the accidents of religion], we must not look to any system either of theology or Church Government. If we wish to see our believers filled with the spirit of CHRIST, and to make them walk the path trodden by CHRIST, we must replace belief founded on reason by belief centered in CHRIST."

In the third place, Mr. YOKOI explains more fully his attitude towards theology. He does not maintain that theology is in itself bad, or that religious ceremonies are useless. But he does maintain that it is pernicious to introduce into Japan, and to fetter the Japanese mind with, theology, customs, and sects that owe their origin and development to the particular histories and character of different foreign nations. Whenever he sees foreign missionaries telling their flocks to follow this form of belief, to observe that custom or rite, he is reminded of the Jewish Christians who, in the age of PAUL, went about in the footsteps of that great apostle and taught

the simple-minded gentiles to observe the Jewish customs and ceremonies. But, while protesting against the indiscriminate introduction of foreign theology, customs, and sects, our author at the same time admits that the introduction of Christianity cannot but lead to the growth of a theology, and customs of some kind, in Japan. "What we desire is," he writes, "that such theology and such customs should be in their growth free and natural, that, in short, they should be genuine products of the Japanese mind. We do not hesitate to foretell that Japanese theology, ceremonies, and customs, when brought to maturity, will be more or less different from those of the West." He thus considers that, with a view to the growth of such theology, it will be necessary in the first stage to study the facts of the faith—facts bearing on the teaching of CHRIST, on his personality, on his resurrection, on the nature of the Gospels, on the teaching of PAUL and JOHN, and so forth. In the next place, enquiry should be directed to the more recondite parts of the faith—the existence of GOD, the relation between CHRIST and GOD, the nature of sin, the atonement of CHRIST, and so forth. "The Japanese theology," he states, "will take a long time to develop, for we must await the rise of Japanese theologians competent to handle the profound problems of religion. But we do not regret the tardiness of the growth of doctrines; what we regret is the circumstance that the facts of religion are not clearly settled."

In the fourth place, Mr. YOKOI calls attention to the fact that Japan is at present struggling to strike out a new career for herself; that she is endeavouring to find her place among the nations of the world. The form of patriotism partaking of the nature of the *jōi* spirit cannot be countenanced by any one believing in the religion of JESUS. But our author maintains that successful preachers of Christianity in Japan must, before every thing else, sincerely love their country, sympathize with the aspirations of the new Japan, and entirely identify themselves with the honour and dignity of the nation. He approves the wisdom of foreign missionaries, when they systematically avoid all interference with political, educational, and literary questions. But at the present crisis of the country's history, he considers it especially important that teachers of the Christian religion should not only devote themselves to propagandism, but should also endeavour to fill every department of the national life with the spirit of their religion. "Among foreign missionaries," Mr. YOKOI observes, "there are men of wide information and genuine loyalty, who are capable of assuming any responsibility of whatever gravity. If they cannot take the leading position in the work of evangelization in Japan, if they cannot stand in the van of the struggle, it is because they are not Japanese, and are con-

sequently incapable of being genuine lovers of Japan. We thank them for their past assistance and sincerely look to their coöperation in future. But at the same time we now propose to take upon ourselves the leading position in the conversion of the nation, always hoping however, that foreign missionaries will consent to give us their assistance. We have taken this resolve, because we are forced to it by the tendency of the times. Our unique aim is to work out the salvation of the country and the spreading of Gospel truth."

Such are Mr. YOKOI's views. Deeming that Christianity has reached a most interesting epoch of its history in Japan, we lay before our readers his analysis of its position.

THE CORRECTION OF JUDGES.

LAW No. 68.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Law for the Correction of Judges, and order the same to be duly promulgated.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.)
(Great Seal.)

Dated August 20th, 1890.

(Countersigned.)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.

COUNT YAMADA AKIYOSHI,
Minister of State for Justice.

CHAPTER I.—GENERAL RULES.

Article 1.—The correction of judges shall be executed by the judgments of the Correctional Court in the following cases:—

- (1.) When judges commit any breach of or neglect their official duties.
- (2.) When judges conduct themselves in a way which shall lower their official dignity or damage their credit.

CHAPTER 2.—PUNISHMENTS.

Article 2.—Punishments shall be as follow:—

- (1.) Reprimand.
- (2.) Reduction of salary.
- (3.) Transfer to another Court.
- (4.) Suspension from office.
- (5.) Dismissal.

Article 3.—The punishments mentioned in the last article shall be applied according to the discretion of the Court of Correction, but in accordance with the degree of the offence.

The Court of Correction may consider the general conduct of the person before it, in cases where punishment shall follow an offence.

Article 4.—In punishment by reduction of salary, one third or a smaller fraction of the monthly proportion of the yearly salary shall be deducted during not less than one month and not more than one year.

Article 5.—In punishment by transfer to another Court, the judge shall be removed to a Court other than that to which he was appointed. Reduction of salary may, however, be inflicted in addition to transfer, according to the circumstances.

Article 6.—In punishment by suspension from office, the judge shall be suspended from the duties of his office for not less than three months and not more than one year.

No salary shall be paid during suspension.

Article 7.—Judges who are punished by dismissal shall, in addition to the loss of office, be deprived of the right to claim a pension.

CHAPTER 3.—COURT OF CORRECTION.

Article 8.—A Court of Correction shall be established in each Court of Appeal and in the Court of Cassation.

Article 9.—Courts of Correction at Courts of Appeal shall be constituted from the five judges of the Court, and shall include the Chief Judge, who shall also be the Chief Judge in the Court of Correction.

The Court of Correction in the Court of Cassation shall be constituted from the seven judges of that Court, and the President of the Court of Cassation shall act in that capacity in the Court of Correction.

Article 10.—The Chief Judges of Courts of Appeal and the President of the Court of Cassation shall decide annually beforehand upon the judges who shall constitute Courts of Correction, after consulting with the chiefs of sections of the Court or Courts; and shall decide upon the order of the cases where the business of the judges shall have been interrupted.

Article 11.—The Regulations of the Code of Civil Procedure shall be observed as to challenging judges constituting the Court of Correction.

Article 12.—The duties of public procurators of the Courts of Correction in Courts of Appeal shall be executed under the direction of the chief public procurators; the duties of public procurators of the Courts of Correction at the Court of Cassation shall be executed under the direction of the Public Procurator-General.

Article 13.—The Chief Judge of the Courts of Correction in Courts of Appeal shall appoint clerks of the Court of Correction from the Court Clerks of the Appeal Courts; the Chief Judge of the Court of Correction in the Court of Cassation shall appoint clerks of the Court of Correction from the Court Clerks of the Court of Cassation.

Article 14.—Courts of Correction in Courts of Appeal shall have jurisdiction in cases of correction against judges of those Courts, except in the cases of their chiefs and chiefs of sections and chief judges of all the lower Courts within the jurisdiction of the Court.

Article 15.—Courts of Correction in the Court of Cassation shall have jurisdiction in the following cases:—

- (1.) Cases of correction against judges of the Court of Cassation, Chiefs of Courts of Appeal, and chiefs of sections of the Courts of Appeal, as first and final examination.
- (2.) Complaints and appeals against the judgment of the Courts of Correction in Courts of Appeal.

Article 16.—The jurisdiction of the Court of Correction shall be decided according to the Court where the judge was in office when its proceedings were opened, without reference to the place where the offence was committed.

CHAPTER 4.—PROCEDURE.

Article 17.—The Court of Correction shall decide whether a trial for correction shall be opened by its initiative through the Public Procurator. The Public Procurator shall, however, be consulted in the cases where the trial is opened by the Court's initiative.

Article 18.—A Public Procurator may raise an objection (within seven days) against the decision of a Court of Correction, in cases where the procedure for correction has been objected to at the commencement.

Article 19.—A Court for Complaints shall adjudicate upon complaints, after having heard the opinion of the Public Procurator. Should the Court consider the complaint to be well founded, it shall order a rehearing, and such subsequent proceedings shall be heard by the Court of Correction which has jurisdiction in the case.

Article 20.—Charges against judges for punishable offences shall be made in open court, and evidence relating to the same taken in like manner.

Article 21.—Notice of trial shall be sent to the Public Procurator and also to the defendant.

Article 22.—Should the Court of Correction deem it necessary to hold a preliminary examination, the Chief Judge of the Court of Correction shall order the judge of the Court where the trial is to take place, or the judge of a local Court within the limit of his jurisdiction, to hold the preliminary examination.

Article 23.—The judge so ordered to hold the preliminary examination shall obtain the necessary evidence.

The judge holding the preliminary examination may summon the defendant and examine him upon the facts of the case. The defendant may be represented by counsel. Witnesses shall be examined in accordance with the regulations of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Article 24.—The judge so ordered may entrust the examination of witnesses and gathering of further evidence to the judge of another court.

Article 25.—The judge shall transmit a written statement of the examination and evidence to the chief of the Court of Correction after the preliminary examination has been concluded, and shall serve the Public Procurator with a copy of the same within 24 hours.

Article 26.—The Public Procurator shall record his opinion upon the documents and return the same to the Chief Judge of the Court of Correction within three days.

Article 27.—Should the Court of Correction consider the preliminary examinations to be sufficient for the purpose, it may issue an order to proceed with the pleadings, or shall give judgment for the defendant.

Should it be found impossible to proceed with the pleadings at once, an order to suspend proceedings shall be issued.

Article 28.—Judgment when given as provided in the last article shall be communicated both to the Public Procurator and to the defendant.

Article 29.—The Chief Judge of the Court of Correction shall determine the date upon which the pleadings shall take place, and shall summon the defendant to appear.

Article 30.—The pleadings shall be heard *in camera*.

Article 31.—The hearing shall begin with the reading by the court clerk of the Judge's decision as to the date of opening the case. The Chief Judge shall first examine the defendant, next take evidence, then hear the Public Procurator, then order the defendant to plead, and lastly call upon the defendant for his defence.

Article 32.—Should the Court of Correction deem it necessary to hear fresh evidence offered by the defendant, or the Public Procurator, or *ex officio*, it may issue an order to postpone the pleading for another day.

Article 33.—The defendant may have the assistance of counsel, or be otherwise represented in Court.

Article 34.—Should the Court of Correction consider that the evidence and pleading in a case is sufficient for the purpose, it shall conclude the case, and, after consultation, proceed to deliver judgment.

Article 35.—Judgment shall, if possible, be given at once; if, however, judgment be reserved, the defendant and the Public Procurator shall within seven days receive a copy of the judgment.

Article 36.—Judgment may be delivered even though defendant or his counsel or representative may not be in attendance on the day of its delivery.

Article 37.—The Regulations of the Law for the Constitution of Law Courts shall be observed as to consultations and judgments, and the Regulations of the Code of Criminal Procedure as to the hearing of evidence.

Article 38.—Either the defendant or the Public Procurator may give notice of appeal within a period of 14 days, to be reckoned from the day on which judgment was pronounced, or from the day on which judgment was served on the defendant during his absence from court, as the case may be.

Article 39.—Notice of appeal shall be given to the Court of Correction which delivered judgment.

A statement of grounds of appeal shall be filed with a period of 14 days from the day on which notice of appeal is given.

Article 40.—The Court of Correction shall serve copies of the notice of appeal and of the statement of the grounds of appeal on the party concerned.

The respondent shall file his statement within 14 days from the day on which he was served with the notice of appeal.

Article 41.—The Court of Correction shall transmit its documents to the Court of Appeal at the expiration of the period mentioned in the last article. The Chief Judge of the Court of Appeal shall summon the defendant and inform him of the date of pleading.

Article 42.—The Court of Appeal may take evidence which was not produced at the first hearing, if it is forthcoming. The re-examination of witnesses examined at the first hearing shall only be permitted when there is a full presumption that a witness's statement may differ on some important point, or that some new or important fact is intended to be proved.

Examination *ex officio* may take place at any time.

Article 43.—The Regulation of Articles 30-37 shall apply to the proceedings at a second hearing.

Article 44.—Should an appeal be deemed to be frivolous or without good grounds it shall be dismissed, and the costs shall be borne by the appellant.

Should an appeal be deemed to be on good grounds, it shall be upheld, and the judgment of the Court below shall be quashed, and a new judgment shall be delivered by the Court of Appeal; costs to go with the judgment.

The documents shall be returned to the original Court, together with a certified copy of the judgment, after the appeal is concluded.

Article 45.—The Regulations of the Code of Criminal Procedure shall be observed as to the compilation of written notes, the reckoning of periods, and the service of documents.

The Regulations relating to Costs of Judgment in Criminal Cases shall be observed as to costs of proceedings for judgment in Courts of Correction.

Article 46.—No judgment of the Court of Correction may be executed unless it is conclusive.

Article 47.—When judgment in a case of correction has been delivered, the Chief Judge of the Court of Correction shall report the case to the

Minister of State for Justice, and forward a copy of the judgment.

Article 48.—Should a Court of Correction deliver a judgment which entails a reduction of salary, removal to another Court, or suspension from office, the Minister of State for Justice shall execute the same.

CHAPTER 5.—SUSPENSION FROM OFFICE.

Article 49.—Judges shall be suspended from office in the following cases:—

- (1.) When under detention (*koryu*) or criminal process.
- (2.) When sentenced to punishment involving loss of office under criminal judgment.
- (3.) When sentenced to dismissal from office by correctional judgment.

Article 50.—In cases where a judge has undergone fixed judgment of punishment by detention under criminal judgment, his office shall, as a matter of course, be suspended till the expiry of his term of punishment.

Article 51.—A Court of Correction may suspend a defendant from office until the conclusion of the procedure of a correctional judgment, *ex officio* or according to the statements of the Public Procurator at any time, if it appears that a case of correction before it involves correction, change of place, suspension of or dismissal from office. The opinion of the Public Procurator must be taken when the decision is given *ex officio*.

A Court of Correction may decide on suspending a defendant from office at any time during the procedure of a criminal judgment, up to conclusion of such criminal process.

Article 52.—Official acts of a judge after he has been suspended from office by the decision of a Correctional Court shall as a matter of course be void.

Article 53.—No defendant may appeal against a decision of suspension from office.

CHAPTER 6.—RELATION BETWEEN PROCESSES OF CORRECTIONAL AND CRIMINAL JUDGMENTS.

Article 54.—No process of correctional judgment can be opened against a defendant during the trial of a criminal judgment regarding the same matter.

In cases where a criminal process has been begun against a defendant regarding the same cases before judgment is given by a Correctional Court, the process of correctional judgment shall be suspended till the day on which the other judgment in the case is given.

Article 55.—The process of a correctional judgment may be begun or continued even if a suit in a Criminal Court regarding the same acts has been dismissed or sentence of not guilty passed.

Should a defendant undergo sentence of punishment which does not involve loss of office, by criminal judgment, he may be tried again by a Correctional Court.

CHAPTER 7.—SUPPLEMENTARY RULES.

Article 56.—Acts involving liability to correction shall be tried in accordance with this law, even if they have been committed before the carrying into practice of the same.

Article 57.—This law shall come into force on and after the 1st day of the 11th month of the 23rd year of Meiji.

PORT REGULATIONS.

LAW No. 83.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Regulations relating to the punishment of offenders against the Rules as to Naval and other Important Ports, and order the same to be duly promulgated.

[His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.]

[Great Seal.]

Dated September 12th, 1890.

(Countersigned.)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State,
VISCOUNT KABAYAMA SUKENORI,
Minister of State for the Navy.

Persons who contravene the Rules as to Naval and other Important Ports, decided by the Minister of State for the Navy in accordance with Law No. 2, promulgated in the 23rd year of Meiji, shall be punished with major imprisonment for not less than 11 days and not more than 1 year, or with fines of not less than *yen* 5 and not more than *yen* 50.

HORSFORD'S ACID PHOSPHATE.
III Effects of Tobacco relieved by its use.

VOLUNTEER ACCOUNTANTS AND VETERINARY CADETS.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 195.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Regulations relating to the appointment of Volunteer Accountant and Veterinary Cadets as commissioned officers in reserve of the Accountant and Veterinary Departments of the Army, and order the same to be promulgated.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign-Manual.)
(Great Seal.)

Dated September 3rd, 1890.
(Countersigned)

COUNT OYAMA IWAO,
Minister of State for War.

(1.) When a volunteer accountant cadet has passed a practical examination in accordance with Article 6 of the Regulations as to commissioned officers of the first and second reserves, the Paymaster-General shall cause the paymaster of the corps to which he is attached to produce a certificate guaranteeing his fitness to become a commissioned officer of the accountant department, being industrious, of good conduct, and sound education, and if these are satisfactory, shall propose to the Chief of the Finance Bureau his appointment as a paymaster of the 3rd rank; the latter shall submit the matter to the Minister of State for War with his opinion. If the Paymaster General object to the certificate, he shall state such fact to the Chief of the Financial Bureau with his reasons; and the latter shall lay the matter before the Minister of State for War with such reasons. The Minister may decide to refuse to the candidate the status of a probationary commissioned officer. Candidates who are thus disposed of shall be appointed clerks of first rank and ordered to serve in the reserve.

(2.) The appointment of volunteer veterinary cadets who have successfully passed a practical examination in accordance with Article 6 of the Regulations as to commissioned officers in the first and second reserves, as commissioned officers in reserve of the veterinary department shall be in accordance with Article 15 of the Regulations as to commissioned officers serving with the colours in the Veterinary Department of the Army. If a candidate is deemed to be without capacity to become a commissioned officer of the veterinary department, the Surgeon-General shall report the matter to the Chief of the Veterinary Section of the Bureau of Military Affairs, who shall memorialize the Chief of the Bureau, by whom the fact shall be intimated to the Minister of State for War. The latter may then decide to refuse to the candidate the status of a probationary commissioned officer. A candidate thus treated may be appointed chief shoeing-smith and be ordered to serve in the reserve.

COLONIAL MILITIA.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 181.

We hereby give our sanction to the present amendment of the Regulations relating to Colonial Militia, and order the same to be duly promulgated.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign-Manual.)
(Great Seal.)

Dated August 29th, 1890.
(Countersigned)

COUNT OYAMA IWAO,
Minister of State for War.

Article 1.—Colonial Militia shall be composed of colonial infantry, colonial cavalry, colonial artillery, and colonial military engineers, and shall be set apart for the defence of Hokkaido, where they shall be stationed.

Article 2.—Colonial Militia shall be organized as soldiers (in addition to their ordinary occupation of farmers), shall live in military houses which shall be provided for them, and shall take part in military drill, in cultivation, and in farming.

Article 3.—Colonial Militia shall also be composed of volunteers from cities and prefectures who shall change their registered residence (*honseki*) to Hokkaido and live there with their families.

Article 4.—The term of service of Colonial Militia shall be 20 years, the service with the colours being 3 years, in the first reserve 4 years, and in the second reserve 13 years. Should a colonial militiaman be released from service during his term, owing to his attainment of the full age of forty years, or through death, or some other cause, a suitable male of the family shall be ordered to fulfil the remaining term of service. Such service may be remitted if there be no suitable male.

Article 5.—Colonial Militia shall fulfil supplementary military service during ten years after the end of service in the second reserve, and shall be mobilized in time of war or other emergency.

Article 6.—The term for each stage of military service under Articles 4 and 5 shall be counted from April 1st of the year in which the soldier enters the militia.

Article 7.—The terms may be prolonged even though the period for each stage has fully elapsed, should war or other emergency or the requirements of military discipline or the inspection of soldiers (*Kwampeishiiki*) demand the same, or should the soldier be then in transit from or to, or be located in, a foreign country.

SUPPLEMENTARY RULES.

Article 8.—Colonial Militia enlisted before the carrying out of these regulations shall be treated according to the following distinctions:—

(1.) Those enlisted between the 8th year of Meiji and the 16th year of Meiji shall serve in the first reserve during 4 years and in the second reserve during 9 years.

(2.) Those who were enlisted between the 17th year of Meiji and the 20th year of Meiji shall serve in the first reserve during 4 years from the 24th year of Meiji, and in the second reserve, after the lapse of the above period, during 20 years, reckoned from the year in which they were enlisted.

(3.) Those who were enlisted in the 21st year of Meiji shall serve in the first reserve during 4 years from the 25th year of Meiji, and in the second reserve, after the lapse of the above period, during 20 years, reckoned from the year in which they were enlisted.

(4.) Those who were enlisted in and after the 22nd year of Meiji shall be treated in accordance with these regulations.

Article 9.—The mode of reckoning the terms of service of Colonial Militia levied before the 21st year of Meiji shall be in accordance with Article 6 of these regulations.

The term of service with the colours of these levied in the 22nd and 23rd years of Meiji shall be counted from the day on which they were included in the Colonial Militia, and their term of service in the first and second reserves from the day next to the lapse of the full term of the former service.

Article 10.—These regulations shall come into force on and after the 1st day of the 4th month of the 24th year of Meiji.

CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE.

LAW No. 81.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Regulations relating to Chambers of Commerce, and order the same to be duly promulgated.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign-Manual.)
(Great Seal.)

Dated September 11th, 1890.

(Countersigned)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.

MUTSU MUNEMITSU,
Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

Article 1.—"Commercial men" in these Regulations shall mean merchants and persons who are included in the classes of commercial occupations mentioned in Article 4 of the Commercial Code.

Article 2.—Where the establishment of a Chamber of Commerce is intended, commercial men of the locality who may be members in accordance with these Regulations, shall become projectors and obtain the permission of the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce through the chief official of the locality. The number of projectors shall, however, be more than half of the number of members as settled by the bye laws of the Chamber. The chief official of a locality who has received notice as provided in the last paragraph, shall seek the opinion of the municipal or rural district assembly and shall submit the matter to the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce with his opinion thereon.

Article 3.—The boundaries of the locality of a Chamber of Commerce shall be the same as the limits of the municipality, town, or village. One Chamber may, however, be established in a district formed by the union of several municipalities, towns, or villages, in accordance with the commercial circumstances of the locality.

Article 4.—The business and powers of Chambers of Commerce shall be as follow:—

(1.) To decide necessary means for the development of commerce, and the prevention of its decline.

(2.) To convey to offices or boards its opinion as to the enactment, amendment, abolition and mode of carrying into practice laws and regulations relating to commerce, and other matters of commercial interest.

(3.) To report to offices or boards on the actual condition of commerce and statistics thereof.

(4.) To answer questions put by offices or boards relating to commercial matters.

(5.) To supervise public buildings in which occupations are carried on, firms of commission merchants, and all other buildings relating to commerce in the locality.

(6.) To take cognizance of the capacity, numbers, and fees of commission merchants.

(7.) To arbitrate in disputes relating to the commerce of the locality at the request of the parties concerned.

Article 5.—Commercial men of any locality where a Chamber is established, who pay income tax, shall have the right of electing members.

Article 6.—Commercial men who pay income tax in the locality where a Chamber is established, and who are above 30 years of age, or commercial companies, shall have the right of being elected as members.

Each company shall be represented by one person legally entitled to represent it.

Article 7.—In regard to the property qualification for election and the right to be elected members, as provided for in Articles 5 and 6, the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce may decide the amount of income tax or may specially include national taxes in such qualification by an ordinance of the Department, in accordance with the circumstances of the locality.

Article 8.—The following persons shall not have the right to elect or be elected members:—

(1.) Idiots and lunatics.

(2.) Those who have been punished with major imprisonment for not less than one year, or have been punished for offences calculated to injure commerce, agriculture or industries, offences against property, offences against morals, or offences against credit, and in whose cases three years have not yet elapsed since the expiry of their full term of punishment or the date of their pardon.

(3.) Those whose public rights have been withdrawn or suspended.

Article 9.—The number of members shall be decided by the bye-laws of each Chamber, but shall not be less than 15 or more than 50.

Article 10.—Members shall not receive any salary; their term of office shall be four years, half of their number being subject to re-election every 2 years, and the members to resign office for the first re-election shall be decided by drawing lots.

Article 11.—Members who are elected may not object to take office or resign during their term of office, without obtaining the decision of the Chamber except in the following cases:—

(1.) Those who prove that they cannot discharge the duties of their office owing to sickness or old age.

(2.) Those who prove that they cannot reside constantly in the locality of the Chamber, owing to the nature of their occupations.

Article 12.—Those who resign office in contravention of the provisions of the last article may be punished by a penalty of not more than yen 200, according to the decision of the Chamber.

Article 13.—The election of members shall be conducted by committees appointed by the headmen of rural districts or municipalities, who shall decide the date and place; and the expense of such elections shall be borne by the Chambers.

Article 14.—Meetings of a Chamber under paragraphs, 2, 4, and 7 of Article 4 shall not be open to the public.

Open meetings not mentioned in the last paragraph may be prohibited by order of the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, or by decision of the Chamber.

Article 15.—A Chamber may assess reasonable fees to be paid by the parties concerned, in the cases mentioned in paragraph 7, Article 4.

Article 16.—A Chamber shall hold property in the same way as a person of legal status.

Article 17.—A Chamber may elect special members to the number of not more than one-fifth of the settled number of members, and permit them to attend its meetings. Special members can not, however, take part in its decisions. Special members shall be elected in respect of their experience in sciences, arts, or commerce.

Article 18.—The financial estimates of the expenditures of a Chamber must be sanctioned by the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, through the local chief. The settled accounts of the financial estimates shall be reported to the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, through the local chief.

Article 19.—The expenditure of each Chamber

shall be levied from persons who have the right of election, and the mode of assessment shall be decided by the Chamber and receive the sanction of the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, through the local chief.

Should any one fail to pay the amount assessed at the proper time, it may be collected by the collector of local taxes for the locality.

Persons who fail to pay the amounts assessed when required by the collector, shall be deprived of the right to elect or be elected members during not less than four years and not more than eight years, and be liable to fines of not more than *yen* 200.

Article 20.—The bye-laws of each Chamber shall regulate the following matters under the decision of the Chamber, and must be sanctioned by the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, through the local chief:—

- (1.) Rules for the election of members.
- (2.) Rules of debate.
- (3.) Rules for the conduct of miscellaneous affairs.
- (4.) The offices and rights of officials.
- (5.) Rules of Arbitration.
- (6.) Rules of Finance.
- (7.) Rules for the supervision of public buildings and places of occupation.

Article 21.—If the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce deems that a Chamber has exceeded its powers or caused injury to commerce, he may suspend its meetings, and order the re-election of a part or the whole of the officials or members in accordance with the circumstances.

Article 22.—The Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce shall be responsible for the carrying out of these regulations, and shall issue the necessary orders relative thereto.

THE PARCELS POST.

LAW No. 82.

We hereby give our sanction to this Regulation relating to the release from Customs Duty of goods exported to foreign countries by Parcels Post and order the same to be duly promulgated.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.)
(Great Seal.)

Dated September 12th, 1890.
(Counter-signed)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.
COUNT MATSUOKA MASATOSHI,
Minister of State for Finance.
COUNT GOTO SHOJIRO,
Minister of State for Communica-
tions.

Goods exported to foreign countries by parcels post shall be free from customs duty.

CORRESPONDENCE.

TREATY REVISION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—It seems to me that your correspondent, "Anxious Warner of 1886," has given some excellent advice to the incorrigibles who oppose treaty revision. He recommends them, if they cannot trust Japanese law, imperfect though it may be, to "put their houses in order," "close all accounts," and "shake the dust of Japan from their feet." Inasmuch as many of the objectors are narrow-minded enough to look only after their own selfish interests, they might naturally be expected to disregard the advantages accruing from treaty revision to other nations in respect to international and commercial relations. Moreover, as treaty revision is a simple act of justice toward Japan, "let justice be done, though the heavens fall," and the incorrigibles also! If they cannot trust the Japanese people, let them leave, and their places be filled by those who can trust. I have an idea that if a man acts honestly and treats kindly the Japanese people, he will be treated kindly.

Yours, &c.,

CLEM.

Mito, September 19th, 1890.

"AUDI ALTERAM PARTEM."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—It stands well to reason that in all contentions and business disputes between the Japanese and foreigners, the fault is not *all* on the side of the former; and amongst multitudinous letters that have recently found their way into print it has somewhat astonished me that only one word,

though a very emphatic one, has been contributed in their defence. Business disputes occur all over the world; a wise and fair man, before too readily pronouncing an opinion, or giving a verdict, should carefully examine those two sides that belong to every question. It would be ridiculous and ungenerous to say that foreigners are *never* in the wrong in their transactions with Japanese. In some instances they bring out imperfect goods, not quite up to sample; either too light, too flimsy, off shade, or in some other way not really equal to slips from which contracts were made, and the majority of disputes arise on that account. This is not the result of any wish on the part of the foreigner to do anything unfair; in fact he is scrupulously trying to be exact in all these items; but some irregularity in the manufacture, or in some piece of machinery at home, causes certain defects in goods to be apparent on their arrival, and although makers in England may have taken the greatest pains, and gone most carefully to work with an honest wish that goods should be quite up to the muster, they have not succeeded. Then the dispute begins at this end, the Japanese wanting an allowance, and it is the question of the account of this reduction in price which causes many contentions. Whilst freely admitting that the Japanese often bleed us with some profusion on such occasions, it cannot be said that they alone are in fault, as the blame or misfortune attaches to the importer's friends. The latter has his opinions as to what allowance should be sufficient; the Japanese dealer has also his view. We all know that the opinion of a seller is often leagues asunder from that of the buyer, but the fault is not entirely with the Japanese. Disputes of this nature are sometimes allowed to widen into great difficulties, and whilst one side has his opinion that he is being hardly treated, his client holds quite another view, the justice of the case being probably between the two.

Japanese do not repudiate contracts so often as find themselves *unable* to carry them out. In bad times, not being in a position to get the wherewithal, they dawdle, prolong their term for delivery, keep making fresh excuses, no doubt some of them knowing perfectly well they cannot redeem their goods, but many more *trying their utmost* in the meantime to get the dollars together, but failing through sheer inability to do so; and having no credit granted, cannot take delivery. If firms received no credit in England, the same or a greater difficulty would be experienced. Of course some Japanese dealers are less conscientious than others, and fairly come under the category of being the reverse of straightforward; others, the majority, deserve much gentler designations.

There are some native merchants so straight and upright in their dealing that if any one of them were guilty of any trickery he could be unable to carry on his business in Yokohama at all. Especially is this true amongst the metal dealers, who, although when goods are rusty or late in arrival, or in any other way out of the line of contract, they insist upon reductions at times that seem unfair and in excess of the difference and damages appraised by a foreigner, nevertheless *much prefer* giving contract price, and observing contract conditions if they can have goods perfect and in time. When a foreigner orders an article anywhere and receives it damaged or deteriorated in any way, does he calmly accept it at original price without any demur? It is always a matter of opinion as to the money value of the depreciation of any item of merchandise, a light damage making it often no more valuable than a second-hand article. The native merchants are so trustworthy, that many of us have done good and honest business with them into the tens of years, and longer. The large purchasers of yarn, Italians, shittings, etc.—all standard imports—are men to have confidence in, or why are they in a position to get their contracts accepted year after year? Hard times produce business difficulties, and render many contractors unable to take their goods at stipulated time, and were the Japanese more inclined to meet us as to paying bank interest on extra time the goods remain in our godowns, and to pay our actual extra outlay in insurance and godowns rent—the Japanese are very hard and unfair in these particulars—they would have a much better character than is given to them by foreigners generally.

Competition in all countries interferes with individual firms. Each merchant thinks that by extra care and watching, and prudence, he can prevent Japanese who may have wronged others from being able to injure him. Or one firm has a large stock which it wishes to turn into money, and considering all disputes between natives and other foreigners as *their affair*—does not interfere, not being quite certain that the Japanese were the only party in the wrong. Referring,

lastly, to the fact that native merchants are unjust when, having bought goods at a fixed price, they want a reduction because exchange has gone up, and even urge the still paltrier pretext that they would lose money, it should be noted that although their action is manifestly unfair, they behave thus, as a general rule, only when the difference is very great, and the small dealers are the chief delinquents. It must not be forgotten, either, that the present crisis of exchange calls for exceptional manipulation on the part alike of natives, foreigners, and banking institutions. Some years ago, having made a contract for some goods, and exchange falling considerably, one large native dealer willingly paid me the difference. I have had pleasant intercourse, without disputes, with native merchants for very many years, and trust the word of my clients as I would do that of almost any foreign firm.

Yours obediently,

HEAR BOTH SIDES.

Yokohama, September 19th, 1890.

THE POLICE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I should like to say a good word for the Japanese Police, as I see in your paper that they have been roughly handled of late in some of the Settlement papers. I fancy the editors of those papers have little idea what police duty is like. As I have done Provost duty in garrison towns in England, India, and Egypt, I speak from experience, and can sympathize with the Settlement police, knowing that the handling of mad drunk men is far from a pleasant task, or one calculated to improve the temper, especially when the prisoner tries his best to disable one. In such a case the Police in self-defence must use force, and if the prisoner gets the worst of the argument I cannot see why he is to be commiserated with for that which he has brought on himself. I have nothing official to do with the force, but I meet some of them every day, and I will say that nowhere have I met with greater civility than from the Japanese Police. I think the gist of the whole affair is that those who run them down do not know them.

Yours, &c.,

N.

Tokyo, September 20th, 1890.

"STEADFAST."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I have read in one of your local contemporaries a communication on 'Treaty Revision, signed "Steadfast." Steadfast is filled with fearful notions of what would transpire if foreigners were to come under the jurisdiction of Japanese Courts. He assumes, and perhaps believes, that the administration of the Courts would be defective for want of legal ability in the judges, even if the laws were honestly administered by them. He also believes that if opportunity was given the Government there would be oppressive laws passed discriminating against foreigners, just for the lust of the thing. He objects to any advance in the tariff rates as now established. Luxuries, such as the foreigner uses, are, he fears, to be taxed much higher than now. Possibly "Steadfast" might have done better than advance that idea, as he must know that with the present rate of exchange—and it is likely to go higher and stay there—he will have to pay for his luxuries fewer dollars than he has paid for many a year. Even if the tariff should be doubled, his Ireland brew of whisky, and his Plymouth gin will not cost him any more than formerly. Neither will any other luxury. I suppose "Steadfast" must be an Englishman: an Englishman of as stout a heart as even a Lowder or a Brooke, even more of a defender of British rights than they both bunched together. I like a man of his kind, because one knows where to find him. Evidently he has been against treaty revision from away back, and is now consistent with himself. Of his reasons wherewith he fortifies himself in his position I do not think much. His fear of the multitudinous taxes and rates that will be imposed by the Government if treaty revision goes through might have real foundation, and yet as an Englishman, delighted with English modes, English law, and of course with taxes, an income tax especially, as levied by the English Government, I cannot for my life see why he should fear the most that Japanese statesmen could devise in that direction. But Japanese imposition of taxes would not be English, you know. It is curious that the "Steadfast" man did not remember that the Englishman at home is taxed almost out of his boots, in one way or another; exemption for so long in Japan has perhaps clouded his memory

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about home taxes, and no doubt he was of that dignity at home that he was called upon by the tything man and collector of taxes. The man who does not pay taxes to his heart's content in England must be pretty low down in the world, so low that he cannot fall any lower in the social scale. If treaty revision goes through on the lines protested against, the condition of most of the residents in Japan would not be altered in a degree large enough probably for them to perceive the difference. Law-abiding men have no fear of inadequate laws or of incompetent judges; they never get into Court. Mr. Lowder, the front of the present agitators of treaty revision, probably has no fear regarding himself and his interests personally. A pet of the Government for many years, and in the receipt of a munificent salary for those many years, the recipient of two decorations, and now when no longer actually in the Japanese service, a pensioner of the Government, he need not fear molestation. Probably, "Steadfast," would find that he was let alone about as much as he desired to be, and in no danger of oppression. Brooke of the *Herald* stands in danger of wholesome restraint, there is no doubt; every one appears to know it, and evidently he has a satisfying sense of it himself. That he should fear that the tone of his abuse of all things Japanese will have to be modified is natural. Unrestrained he has poured out his venom without stint; no doubt he fears a day may come when he will be compelled to attempt to be courteous and decent in his place. The merchants who complain of Japanese traders and Japanese Courts, from their own showing have nothing to fear from treaty revision. If there is no way by which they can compel their customers to keep their contracts and be honest, the evil cannot be augmented in that regard. As "Anxious Warner of 1886," puts it, five years notice, five years of preparation, five years of probation of the Japanese Court, five years of waiting and watching should be long enough for the most lagard to be ready to act in his own interest. Probably all the Consular corps would vote for an indefinite extension of time. Yokohama is a pleasant place. If five years is not long enough for Mr. Lowder and Mr. Brooke and their following, can they tell us how many years are necessary for us to cling to Consular jurisdiction. If they are not all at sea, they must have arrived at some definite conclusion as to the term of years the Japanese must continue to listen to their contumely and abuse. Really I think it is here that the shoe pinches. No Consular jurisdiction, and mud slinging will be at a discount; exemption from control begets undue contempt for wholesome restraint. A few of the residents of Yokohama have need for some controlling influence under some laws that will compel them to respect the feelings of the Japanese people.

Yours, &c., A FIVE-YEARS MAN.
Yokohama, September 24th, 1890.

LETTER FROM SAN FRANCISCO.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

San Francisco, Sept. 4th.

The Senate continues to devote its time to the Tariff Bill, sections of which pass daily by strictly party votes. The majority in the Senate does not affect to listen to argument, but blindly votes for the bill as reported by the Committee. It was shown that the provision increasing the duty on glazed granite ware was in the interest of a monopoly which had grown enormously rich under the duty as it stood; the Republicans did not answer the charge, but voted stolidly in favour of the increase. It was shown that this country exports nails even to Great Britain, and that the proposed increase in the duty could not be justified even on protectionist grounds; it was voted without debate. Senator Paddock, Republican, pleaded for a reduction in the duty on wire nails, which is a naked tax on the farmer; the majority made no reply, but voted the provision as it stood. When the clause increasing the duty on hand-saws was reached, it was shown that all the hand-saw factories in the country had been bought up by one firm, Henry Disson and Sons of Philadelphia, who had raised prices from 25 to 125 per cent. within three months; there was a laugh, but the clause passed without debate by the usual majority.

Meanwhile, it is currently believed that an understanding has been reached between Mr. Blaine and Mr. McKinley, by which the repeal of the sugar duties shall be made conditional upon the repeal by sugar-growing countries of duties now levied on American produce. This Mr. Blaine calls reciprocity. If Brazil, for instance, repeals her duty on American flour and provisions,

we are to admit Brazilian sugar, where there is any, free. It does not seem to occur to the Secretary or to his friends in Congress that if we are going to adopt free trade with countries which agree to follow our example, consistency would require us to begin with England, which admits all our products except whisky and tobacco free of duty.

The true secret of the new appetite for reciprocity is probably Mr. Blaine's willingness to lead his rivals into a hole. They will all commit *harakiri* in endeavouring to reconcile the principles of protection with the practical working of free trade in spots, and when the country turns on them, and reviles them, Mr. Blaine will be able to say that matters would have eventuated differently if he had been at the helm. He let the secret out the other day, when he said that though he was as ardent a protectionist as ever, he believed the time had come when the farming interest required the extension of our foreign markets. His idea is to ride the storm, other men—Mirabeau for one—tried that, but, if I remember correctly, they were generally rolled over by the waves.

Honest protectionists see every question of political economy through a medium which distorts. There is a bill before Congress to impose a heavy tax on the manufacture of "compound lard." This is an article which is made of cotton seed oil, and answers the purpose of lard for many uses. As it can be produced more cheaply than lard, its introduction into the market has interfered with the profits of the great pork-packers of Chicago and Cincinnati; it is they who have demanded that Congress shall protect genuine lard, in the interest of the honest farmer. Another bill, which is demanded by the friends of morality, proposes to make time bargains in products of the soil illegal. The farmers are told that the Republican party, in its jealous concern for their welfare, proposes to put a stop to the gambling that is going on among the bulls and bears in wheat and pork. Both commodities, it is said, would sell for more money if there was no speculation in them. When a man once gets inoculated with the views of protection, he can see nothing clearly.

An awkward accident threatens to complicate matters in Central America. A political exile from Guatemala, named General Barrundia, entered the Guatemalan port of San Jose, on board of an American vessel. She was boarded by the captain of the port, at the head of an armed guard, and the surrender of the exile was demanded. The American captain refused to allow him to be taken from the shelter of the American flag. The port captain returned to shore, and presently reappeared with an order from Minister Mizner, directing the captain to surrender Barrundia. Instead of tearing the order in pieces, and sending the Guatemalans back into their boat, the captain weakened, and pointed the way to the state-room where Barrundia was sitting reading. The door was broken open, and when the unfortunate exile appeared, he was shot dead by the guard. Some days have passed since the news of the outrage reached this country, but public opinion is only suspended in the hope that further intelligence may modify the story. Not many days will elapse before Mr. Blaine will have to take a position on one side or the other. A furious outburst of indignation is one of the possibilities of the future.

Madame Barrundia has addressed a pathetic appeal to the President, charging Mizner with having been the cause of her husband's death. Mr. Harrison replies that he has no official information on the subject, but that it will receive his most careful attention.

Bulletins which are periodically issued from the census bureau shed some light on the work which has been accomplished by Mr. Porter and his assistants. It appears that the population of the country will foot up about 64,000,000 as against something less than 50,000,000 in 1880. This growth ought to be satisfactory to every one, but in part it is not. We have bragged so lustily during the past ten years that it would have been hard to please us. The fifteen odd millions of new inhabitants appear to have been distributed between New York, Illinois, Dakota, California, and the Southern States, the largest gain being in New York, which, however, complains that the census has not done it justice. Three States show a decline in population. Iowa, Vermont, and Nevada. The decline in the two latter was expected. Nevada is shrinking in consequence of the reduced output of the mines. Vermont has been stagnant for a couple of generations: as one of her most gifted sons—Stephen A. Douglas, said—"It is a good State to be born in, provided you leave it as soon as possible afterward." In the East, the decline of Iowa is ascribed to the pernicious effects of prohibitionism, which has checked immigration, and driven out of the State

people who object to the supervision of their private lives by state officials; but the gradual reduction in the yield of the wheat lands bordering on the river has likewise held. The census returns indicate that the grain states of the central valleys of the continent, which were filled up with people between 1850 and 1880, and whose rapid growth was the phenomenon of those days, have reached the limit of their development for the present. There is not much profit in raising wheat—at the rate of 15 bushels to the acre—to sell on the farm at 50 cents a bushel; and corn, worth not over 25 cents a bushel on the farm, is even a less profitable crop.

The Secretary of the Treasury continues to buy silver at 1.19 or 1.20 per ounce. His purchases have not yet been so large as to deplete the stock which speculators had laid in at 10 cents or 15 cents an ounce below these figures to sell to the Government. When their supply is exhausted, as it soon must be, it will be safe to look for a further advance to 1.25 or over. At 1.29, silver reaches its old parity with gold, and the law does not permit the Secretary to pay more than that figure. But he announces that he will buy his 4,500,000 ounces per month regularly, if he has to pay 1.29 for the whole. Operators have thus a pretty safe thing in buying silver at present rates or anything like them. Silver plate has gone up; spoons, forks, and other silver goods are quoted at an advance of 15 per cent. over the prices of June last.

The *San Francisco* cruiser has done better than her contract required; she steamed 19.5 knots on a stretch, and the builders are entitled to a bonus of something like \$200,000 from Government. Considering that we have neither iron nor coal on this coast it seems queer that we should beat the eastern shipyards in steel ships.

The Knights of Labour have been beaten, horse, foot, and dragons, in their warfare with the New York Central. The locomotive engineers refused to strike, and the Central managers found no difficulty in replacing the other train hands and switchmen. There is plenty of unemployed labour in the East, and some of it is skilled. Our striking iron moulders in this city are supposed to be still on strike, but the work goes on as usual at the foundries, and but for the appeals to the public for aid for the strikers' families, it would not be known that the strike was still on.

Mr. George has returned from Australia, and is preaching his single tax doctrines in the East. His following is not large. There are many who believe that there is something in the single tax theory; but people generally lost faith in George when he fought his duel with Mr. Hewitt, and was so badly worsted.

LETTER FROM NEW YORK.

(FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT.)

New York, August 27th.

Yokohama seems nearer New York than it once did. As we left the shores of Japan the Captain of the *China* remarked, "We'll put you into San Francisco next week." The promise was redeemed. To be in Europe and America the same week was a pleasant experience in 1887. To be in Asia one week and in America the next, is now another pleasant memory. We passed the *Oceanic* one evening at sunset, a few hundred yards distant and afterward learned that her passage was but six miles in distance and two hours in time longer than ours. The calculations of ocean steamers are now so nice that their time tables are almost as exactly kept as are those of railways. Fatalities are fewer.

Atlantic steamers are busy breaking the records. They also break their machinery and occasionally collide with an iceberg, or burn up. Of course there is no racing. That would not do. Just now we are waiting, however, for the arrival at Fastnet Light of two of the record smashers referred to. One was five miles ahead off Sandy Hook. Particular attention had been given to the quality of coal, and to the perfection of the firemen's service below. Each meant to do well. While there is no race, the shortest possible course is taken and there is to be no untutilized motive power. It is only a trial of speed, a question of discipline of stokers, of steam-producing qualities of coal and of certain lines and curves in nautical architecture. Lookers on persist in calling it a race.

There seems to be no lack of money about here, although Wall Street speculators last week got up a small panic that recalled the Black Fridays of long ago. Millions have been put into blocks of residences and public buildings near Prospect Park during my absence of eleven months. One social club only eight months old has put up an elegant edifice which, with its adorn-

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ments, will represent a quarter of a million dollars. It represents a purer club life than ordinary. Genuine Christian men are among its managers. Their wives and daughters will be at home amid the luxurious elegancies of the place. A half dozen millions are promised to tunnel the Narrows and make Brooklyn waterfront the great distributing centre for the commerce of the Atlantic. Then comes another announcement, the scheme of a capitalist who has the "rocks" to put it into execution, a solid man, if he be rightly named, Mr. Rockefeller. Twenty millions for a university in this city. Our friends who carry their freight by water, the Baptists, are the ones who are happy in this magnificent project, a parallel to that big Californian university with a similar sum for a start.

Notwithstanding abounding wealth there is great discontent. Shorter days and higher pay are demanded by those whose wants increase faster than their needs. It would do people here a deal of good to look into a Japanese or Chinese home of the middle class and see how few our actual needs are. The introduction of Western life into the East, with all its advantages is introducing not a few mischievous and disturbing elements. The tyranny of those oath bound bands, whose strikes are getting to be so frequent is felt more and more by the members. In spirit and methods they are wholly alien to our national life. They must go to the wall. God hasten the time! The unwillingness of the United Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers to hold up the recent revolt in this neighbourhood, practically killed the scheme of the Knights of Labour and led them to hint at the abolition of the order if future co-operation was wanting. There are wrongs to be righted, but anarchy is not the remedy. Such lawless action is an assault on the security of society and of national life. The press properly calls on the United States Congress to take the matter in hand and make this obstruction of the United States mails and railway traffic henceforth impossible. Boards of arbitration shall be formed. Every citizen of this country has the right of choosing his own employer or employé and making terms mutually satisfactory. Any threat or ill-treatment in the exercise of his freedom is a blow against the personal liberty of the citizen.

One of the new industries of the day is the Press Cutter. He is the Knight of the Scissors. Journals from all over the land and from across the sea are read by his subordinates. If any name or theme is conspicuous he scents his game. Statesmen, bankers, capitalists, schemers, authors, artists, actors, everybody who has some project about and has stirred up interest friendly or hostile, attract the Press Cutter. Parties are informed by circular, enclosing a sample clipping, that for five dollars in advance 100 clippings will be gathered and sent, or for forty dollars, a thousand as fast as found. Three different bureaux of cutters courteously call my attention to the wide spread comments on the efforts in behalf of the indigent insane of Japan and China. The reading of substantially the same inaccurately reported interviews is not entertaining, even if freely offered. Particularly annoying is it to read pure fabrications or simply forgeries as where one daily of this city writes "I met yesterday on Fulton St. and he said"—an audacious falsehood. The Press Cutter, however, has come to stay. Fiction is swallowed where truth has no showing.

We in the States are promised fifty lectures by Stanley, but unless his health improves even the stimulus of a thousand dollars an evening will be inadequate to keep him up. Dr. Talmage leads all lecturers in industry and pecuniary success. His new church edifice is soon to be occupied. Its lofty tower, the stone from Calvary, the rock from Mar's Hill, etc., will be in due time exhibited. A lady who greatly admires the brilliant preacher was visiting Brooklyn some months ago. At the end of her visit she remarked, "There is one more place to go to. I can't leave town without seeing Talmage's Ruins!" So they took her down to Schermerhorn Street to the remains of the burned Tabernacle, to which she had given such a gruesome and grotesque epithet. Dr. Talmage is well on in the fifties, but not by any means "in ruins." No man walks more erect or does more work in addressing audiences. He tells what a ludicrous diagnosis a doctor out West made, when, feeling ill, Dr. Talmage asked advice of him. The parson was unknown to the leech, who, solemnly said; "You need, sir, to exercise your lungs more! That's what's the trouble." A doctor in this city gave a young man a similar snap judgment without waiting for a history of the case. "You need to walk more in order to regain your health." "Dear me I'm a letter carrier, sir, and have to walk over twenty miles a day."

Latest.—The race no, the trial of speed, is decided in favour of the City of New York over the

Tentonic, by fifteen minutes! Also, it is now whispered that one cipher must be taken off that twenty millions promised for a university, making the sum two hundred thousand; further more that Mr. Rockefeller is not sure, but that the whole thing may be figurative if not fabulous. Such is life. The process of disenchantment is constant. Illusions appear and disappear. Meanwhile journalism, like a mirror, catches the phantasmagoric movements of society. He is wise who, out of the illusory and uncertain even gets a hint of, if not an impulse towards, what is sure and abiding. Before my next reaches you the annual Hegeia will have had its return and materials for a newsy letter will abound.

BRITISH CONSULAR TRADE REPORT FOR HAKODATE FOR 1889.

Consul PLAYFAIR to Mr. FRASER.

Hakodate, April 28th, 1890.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward to you my Report on the Trade and Shipping of the Port of Hakodate for the year 1889, accompanied by the usual tables, as follows:—

- I.—Return of articles of import.
 - II.—Return of articles of export.
 - III.—Table showing the total value of all articles exported from and imported to Hakodate to and from foreign countries during the years 1888-89.
 - IV.—Return of all shipping at the port of Hakodate in 1889.
 - V.—Return of foreign residents and firms.
- Imports during 1889 show an increase over those of 1888 to the extent of nearly 17,516t. This was mainly due to the pipes and other material necessary for the construction of the waterworks here, which material amounted to over 12,296t. In the above calculations I have not included the value of Welsh coal transhipped in the harbour to British war-vessels in 1888, as it did not appear in the customs returns. The amount of coal transhipped in harbour to British men-of-war during 1889 was about 1,200 tons of Australian coal, valued at 2,506t. 11s. 9d., as against 2,127 tons of Welsh coal, valued at 8,625t. 4s. 9d., in 1888. The other imports were of the usual miscellaneous nature. Exports amount in value to 121,694t. 6s. 6d., showing an increase over the previous year of 39,050t. 6s. 8d.

This increase is mainly due to the larger export of sulphur, and the better prices obtained for seaweed.

The total of sulphur during 1889 was 14,421 tons, valued at 34,627t. 9s. 10d., as against 3,609 tons, valued at 8,681t. 11s. 9d., in 1888, an increase of 25,832t. 18s. 1d. Prices show no material changes from those of previous years. Freights in 1888 were not sufficiently high to induce ships to come here to load sulphur, for while in 1888 only three ships carried sulphur from here, during last year, better rates being obtainable, nine vessels took away cargoes, four to New York and five to San Francisco.

I learn that during 1889 the total output at Kushiro was 9,678 tons, of which 9,606 tons were sold. The values given are: for best quality at Hakodate, 15 dol. per ton; inferior, 12 dol. 30 c. per ton, or 21. 6s. 8d. and 11. 5s. 8d. respectively, and the rate of freight from Kushiro to Hakodate was about 2 dol. (6s. 3d.) per ton.

The export of seaweed shows a decrease in the quantity exported, but a large increase in value, the figures being in 1888 15,027½ tons, valued at 53,381t. 6s., and in 1889 14,664 tons, valued at 66,564t., an increase in value of 13,182t. 14s. This is explained by the fact that the take last year was below the average, and the supply being consequently limited, better prices were obtainable both in Shanghai and on the main island of Japan. Shipments realised good profits, prices in Shanghai averaging, all round, about 9s. per picul of 133½ lbs. Six-sevenths of the total export was shipped direct by Japanese, the remainder by Chinese merchants, whereas, till recently, the trade in this article was almost entirely in the hands of the Chinese.

The trade in ico and cuttle-fish shows a slight increase over 1888, and transactions allowed of moderate profits. The figures for 1889 are 7,306t. 16s. 2d. and 7,696t. 4s. respectively.

The total output of coal from the Poronai Mines during 1889 was 87,689 tons, but sales during the same period amounted to 87,775 tons, which fetched 15,252t. 8s. 6d. at the pit mouth; 30,200 tons were taken direct from Otaru to Yokohama in foreign steamers, the value free on board at Otaru being 12,532t. 4s. 10d., and about 30,000 tons were brought to this port. The price per ton in Hakodate averaged about 17s. 4d. during the year.

Freights during 1889 show a marked improve-

ment over those of 1888, the rates being as follows:—To Shanghai, by Japanese mail steamers via Yokohama, for long seaweed, 30 c. per picul; by direct steamers 25 c. To Yokohama, by Japanese mail steamers, fish manure, 30 c. per picul; long seaweed, 18 c.; sulphur, 14 c.; in bags, 18 c.; salmon, in bulk, 30 c.; dried fish, 24 c., and peas and beans, 14 c. per picul. The company also make a certain allowance in weight on most of the above articles.

Freights for sulphur to New York averaged about 6 dol. 50 c., United States gold, per ton, ranging between 8 dol. and 5 dol. 50 c., United States gold, per ton.

To San Francisco the rates were from 4 dol. to 5 dol. gold, thus showing a considerable advance over those of previous years.

Foreign shipping amounted during the past year—including those vessels which went to Otaru direct—to 32 ships, with an aggregate tonnage of 32,162 tons, against 17 vessels, of 12,876 tons in 1888, an increase of 15 vessels and 19,286 tons. One British steamer took machinery for the hemp factory direct to Otaru, and another made 13 trips during the year between Yokohama and Otaru, with Poronai coal, making 14 vessels, of 16,121 tons, visiting Otaru during the year. Of the total of 32 vessels, in 1889, 21 were British, as against 7 in 1888.

Japanese shipping, steamers and foreign rigged vessels shows a considerable decrease, as compared with the previous year, both in sailing vessels and steamers: the figures being 1,576 vessels of 506,585 tons cleared in 1889, against 2,235 vessels of 636,857 tons cleared in 1888.

There was an increase during last year of 19,853 tons in the junk trade at this port as compared with 1888.

Imports to Hakodate from other parts of the Hokkaido during last year amounted to 267,573t., and imports from the mainland to 803,444t., making a total for the native import trade of 1,071,017t., as against 1,016,369t. for the year previous.

These imports include such staples as rice, saké, soy, kerosene oil, and silk and cotton piece-goods. As pointed out in previous reports, the gradual decrease in direct imports is accounted for by the fact that this town is supplied more and more with foreign goods which have already paid duty at other Japanese ports.

The exports from Hakodate to other parts of the Hokkaido during 1889 were 198,552t., and to the mainland 348,218t., making a total of 546,770t.—the amount in 1888 being 477,753t.

The chief exports from Hakodate for native consumption are marine products, such as salmon, seaweeds, fish, manure, herrings, &c. The total native trade, therefore, was 1,617,787t., as against 1,497,122t. in 1888.

The chief improvement effected lately was the completion of the waterworks. These were commenced in 1887, and concluded in September of last year.

The water supply is obtained from the River Aka, about five miles distant, and the filtering beds are some 220 feet above the sea-level. Water is brought into Hakodate in 12½-inch pipes to a reservoir on the hill side, whence it is distributed through the town. There are in the town 235 water posts, whence the inhabitants obtain their supply, and also 242 fire hydrants. The pipes withstood the frost perfectly, although, on occasions, the thermometer showed 16 degrees of frost. The total cost of the waterworks was 240,648 dol., equal, at 3s. 12d., to 37,475t. 18s. 3d.

The hydrants have already proved of great service in extinguishing fires.

The industrial school was burnt down and rebuilt during last year. The marine school was also destroyed by fire late in the winter, and has not yet been rebuilt.

A large tract of land at the head of the harbour is being reclaimed by private enterprise, presumably for building purposes.

During last year the traffic on the Poronai-Otari Railway was as follows:—

Passengers carried	No.	184,222	—
Goods and baggage	Tons	96,014	—
Coal carried	—	115,197	—
Receipts from passengers	—	27,338	19 6
Receipts from goods, &c.	—	10,947	9 4
Receipts from coal	—	15,934	13 0

Gross receipts..... — 542,200 12 10

Besides the above there were 3,280 immigrants carried over the line without charge, while their baggage and certain articles for the use of the Government, amounting together to 2,365 tons, also went free.

The sugar factory at Mombetsu was transferred by Government to a private company in 1887. The crop of beets last year, as compared with that of 1888, was less in quantity, but the percentage of sugar obtained was much larger. The area under cultivation is some 1,160 acres, and the

yield last year was 6,003 tons of beets, which produced 447 tons of sugar. Of this only some 55 tons were sold, averaging 19l. 9s. 2d. per ton, the total sales amounting to 1,070l. 6s. 4d. The chief markets are Tokyo, Hakodate, Kyoto, and Sendai. The stock in hand at the end of the year amounted to over 392 tons, valued at 6,664l.

The sugar factory at Sapporo is not yet in full working order.

The hemp factory at the same place has been erected. The buildings are mostly of brick, and the machinery—imported from France and Belgium—has been put in position, but the business last year was very trifling. There is one foreign employé at this factory.

The population of Hakodate at the end of 1889 was 57,808, showing an increase of 4,772 over the previous year.

At the end of last year there were 69 foreign residents, of whom 33 were Chinese. There were, in addition, living at Sapporo two American, two British subjects, and nine Germans; at Kushiro, one British subject; and at Nemuro, two Americans.

During last year 902,402 letters and newspapers were collected, and 801,945 distributed by the Hakodate post-office, while 2,238,766 went through to other parts of the Hokkaido. During the same period 114,146 telegrams, costing 4,088l. 3s. 8d., were sent from and 114,385 received at the local office.

The aggregate number of days spent here in 1889 by 19 men-of-war, of which 12 were British, four Russian, two French, and one German, was 431, and the number of men on board 4,301.

A factory for cutting match-wood was started here in October last. The supply of wood in the Hokkaido suitable for making matches is abundant. It is said to be a kind of willow.

Since the opening the business done was 670,500 bundles, sold for 731l. The wood is all sent to the Kobe and Osaka match manufacturers, but the freights from here last year were rather high being about 6s. 7d. per 1,000 bundles; consequently, profits were not large. The concern is to be turned into a company, and its future seems very promising.

The Tanko Tetsudo, or Hokkaido Mining and Railway Company, has obtained Government permission to commence operations. The section between Muroran and Sorachi (130 miles) will be begun at once. The line is to start from Muroran and connect with the present Poronai-Otaru line, which latter will then become the property of the company. The probable effect on this part of the above railway will be to attract trade to more distant parts of Hokkaido, and the amount of shipping and commerce here will probably greatly diminish.

The resolve of the Government to found a northern capital at Chibetsu, in the Ishikari Valley, will also, most likely, prove prejudicial to the interests of the port of Hakodate, but the effects will not be felt for some years to come.

The survivors of the terrible floods in Nara and neighbouring prefectures, to the number of 2,446, arrived in Hokkaido during November. They are to be provided by the Government during the first two years with provisions, hospitals, and schools, after which time it is expected they will be self-supporting.

The enlistment of the able-bodied of these immigrants in the Tonden-hei, or farmer-soldier corps, should add greatly to the value of that body of soldiers.

They have been settled at a village in Ishikari district, to which has been given the name of the New Totsukawa, from the place whence they came.

The addition last year to the farmer-soldier population was 522 houses, 1,350 men, and 1,068 women; and the total of immigrants arriving during last year from other parts of Japan was 13,090 persons.

Import values in this report have been calculated at 3s. 1½d. to the dollar.

Export values and the values of local produce, &c., have been calculated at 3s. 1½d. to the dollar.

TABLE I.—RETURN OF ARTICLES OF IMPORT TO HAKODATE DURING THE YEARS 1889-88.

Articles.	1889.*	1888†
Iron, pipes, tubes, &c.	12,566 14 7	691 21 10
Miscellaneous	5,910 17 0	691 21 10
Total	18,507 17 8	691 21 10

Coals transhipped in harbour. 2,506 0 0 Exchange 3s. 1½d. to 1 dol. 8,625 4 9

TABLE II.—RETURN OF ARTICLES OF EXPORT FROM HAKODATE DURING THE YEARS 1889-88.

Articles.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Tons.	£ s. d.	Tons.	£ s. d.
Seaweed	14,684	66,584 0 0	15,027	53,381 6 8
Sulphur	14,121	34,297 9 10	3,500	8,084 11 9
Miscellaneous	—	20,404 10 8	—	20,830 16 1

Total. 29,085 12,694 0 6 18,630 82,643 13 10
* Exchange 3s. 1½d. to 1 dol. † Exchange 3s. 14d. to 1 dol.

TABLE III.—TABLE SHOWING THE VALUE OF ALL ARTICLES EXPORTED FROM AND IMPORTED TO HAKODATE TO AND FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES DURING THE YEARS 1888-89.

Country.	1889.	1888.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
China	87,303 18 6	73,340 18 9
America	34,267 9 10	8,601 11 9
England	—	17,705 9 8
Various countries	153 22 2	621 3 4
Total	121,691 0 6	99,653 13 10

TABLE IV.—RETURN OF ALL SHIPPING ENTERED AND CLEARED AT THE PORT OF HAKODATE DURING THE YEAR 1889.

Nationality.	Sailing.	Steam.	Total.
	Number of Vessels.	Number of Vessels.	Number of Vessels.
British	4	17	21
Japanese (foreign rig)	209	24,185	24,394
Japanese (junk)	—	—	—
American (trade)	7	5,079	5,086
German	—	3	3
Chinese	—	1	1
Total	211	29,268	29,479

Nationality.	No. of Vessels.	No. of Tons.	No. of Vessels.	No. of Tons.
British	4	4,868	17	19,808
Japanese (foreign rig)	172	39,046	1,404	416,530
Japanese (junk)	—	—	—	—
American (trade)	7	29,050	—	—
German	—	—	3	1,572
Chinese	—	—	1	835
Total	183	69,444	1,408	418,216

TABLE V.—RETURN OF FOREIGN RESIDENTS IN HAKODATE ON DECEMBER 31ST, 1889.

NATIONALITY.	RESIDENTS.	FIRMS.
American	8	—
British	18	4
Chinese	33	5
French	9	—
Russian	1	—
Total	49	9
At Sapporo	2	Americans.
At Sapporo	2	British.
At Sapporo	9	Germans.
At Kushiro	1	British.
At Nemuro	2	Americans.

THE LOSS OF THE "ERTOUROUL."

Early this morning (19th) the startling intelligence reached Kobe that the Turkish man-of-war *Ertougroul*, which left Yokohama on Sunday for this port, had been blown to pieces, and that only about a tenth of its large crew had survived. This information was brought to Kobe by two of the men who were saved—or rather who saved themselves. One is the band-master, the other a lieutenant, and they arrived by the *Boji Maru*. Of course they are utterly destitute, but knowing the proprietor of the International Hotel, in Division Street, they went there and were taken in. A representative called upon them this morning and obtained the following particulars of the catastrophe. As the men can only muster about half a dozen words of English between them, conversation would have been somewhat difficult but for the kindness of the proprietor and another gentleman who acted as interpreters.

The *Ertougroul* left Yokohama on Sunday, not on Monday as the Yokohama papers reported, at about eleven o'clock in the morning. All went well until one o'clock on Monday afternoon, when a strong wind commenced to blow, increasing in violence towards night. There was a heavy sea running at ten o'clock; they were off Oshima and the vessel was going at full steam. At that time a terrific noise was heard and all that followed was confusion. A terrible scene ensued. Men and officers were mostly below in their berths. Those who were not killed on the spot rushed upon what remained of the deck to find the vessel foundering. The band-master says that nothing was left of the vessel but little pieces, but that is probably a picturesque exaggeration. The Captain, Ali Bey, appeared on the bridge for a moment, with a lamp in his hand. He was heard to cry out several times "Save yourselves," then he disappeared and was seen no more. The survivors say that he made no effort to save himself. The navigation officer, Nomi Bry, perished in the same way. The Chief Engineer was almost the first to die. He perhaps suspected that something was wrong, for immediately before the explosion he went from his cabin to the engine-room and when the fatal moment arrived

he was literally blown to atoms. A couple of minutes after all that remained of the *Ertougroul* as a vessel had sunk, and the sea was full of men fighting for life, and floating debris. Many, it is said, went mad; they threw up their hands and sank. Osman Pasha, the Admiral, was swimming towards the shore when he was struck on the head by a spar and sank immediately. Those who were saved were the strongest swimmers, for the shore was quite a mile and a half distant and there was a heavy sea running. Only 6 officers and 57 of the crew reached the land and many of those are so fearfully injured that they are not expected to recover. It took the lieutenant and his comrade two hours to swim ashore, which they did without receiving any injury. Then they assisted some of those who were exhausted or injured to land. Out of the six officers who survive one has a broken leg and another a broken arm, while many of the men are badly hurt. We have not been able to ascertain exactly what steps were taken for the comfort of the men, but we understand that they were kindly treated by the Japanese in the neighbourhood, as indeed shipwrecked sailors invariably are. Yesterday the *Boji Maru* passed and was signalled from the shore by the men. Her captain readily agreed to take two of the survivors on to Kobe and kindly provided the lieutenant and the band-master, who were the best physically fitted to make the journey, with the clothes of which they stood so badly in need.

We do not know what has been done in order to bring the remainder of the survivors to Kobe, but as there is no Turkish Minister in Japan and the *Ertougroul* came to this country specially for the purpose of presenting the Emperor with an Order, we presume the Japanese authorities will make it their business to care for the men.

The *Ertougroul*, we may mention, is a very old vessel, formerly used as a training ship. The engines in her were of English make and bore the date 1855. She was, however, considerably older than this, having previously been a sailing vessel. She was thoroughly overhauled before she started on the voyage to Japan, and it was originally intended that most of the journey should be made under sail. In consequence, however, of her getting ashore in the Suez Canal, necessitating her going into dock for repairs, which occupied about three months, the fixed plans were more or less upset. Osman Pasha, who has met his death in this disaster, was the bearer of the decoration to the Emperor. He was an aide de camp to the Sultan, and a grandson of Osman Pasha, the renowned defender of Plevna during the Russo-Turkish War. He was a young and most distinguished naval officer, having received an official intimation of his promotion to the rank of Admiral during his stay in Singapore.

Several reasons have been suggested for the explosion, but the only feasible one is that more steam pressure was being used than the boilers could stand. It is said that the surveyors in Yokohama warned the engineers against using Japanese coal, but we do not know what truth there is in it, or how Japanese coal could possibly cause an explosion. One thing is certain—that the vessel was very much nearer the shore—which is a most fatal one—than she ought to have been, and that if the explosion had not occurred there would have been a danger of her being wrecked.

We hear, on further enquiry, that a secretary of the Oshima Local Government Office accompanied the men to Kobe, and that information of the disaster has been sent from the Hyogo Kencho to the various Departments of State.—*Kobe Herald*.

H.I.G.M.'s gunboat *Wolf* arrived here, says the *Hyogo News* of the 22nd inst., yesterday morning at six o'clock from Oshima, bringing 65 survivors from the wreck of the *Ertougroul*. Her visit confirms the worst news. The estimate of the two survivors first brought here of the number drowned is only too correct. It will be remembered, that, when the bad news was officially communicated by the German Acting Consul to the Captain of the *Wolf* on Friday morning that the *Ertougroul* had foundered, it was at once decided that the commander of the *Wolf* should proceed to render any assistance he could, and on Governor Hayashi calling on him on a previously arranged official visit he informed the Governor of that decision, and the Governor at once expressed his sense of the German officials' kindness. It of course rested solely with the German authorities here whether Captain Credner went or not. Having taken on board coal, provisions, a Turkish interpreter, and a Japanese official in case of any difficulty arising in the matter of landing outside Treaty limits, the *Wolf* started out at ten in the afternoon in order to reach Oshima by daylight next day. The services of a pilot were also requisitioned, as it was just possible survivors might

have been washed up at other places than Oshima, and a search inshore in strange waters without a guide would have been hazardous. The *Wolf* reached Oshima next morning about six o'clock, and the doctor and an officer were at once sent on shore. The survivors numbered sixty-seven, of whom only nine, we hear, were severely wounded, although all were suffering from slight contusions. There were already three Japanese doctors on the spot, but they were insufficiently provided with instruments. The presence of the *Wolf* doctor was a godsend, therefore, and he promptly dressed the worst wounds. The men were being housed in a temple and tea houses, and said they had been very kindly treated by the Japanese, who had furnished them with food, clothes, and lodging. After the men had been looked to they were sent on board, and by eleven a.m. 65 had been embarked, two of the most physically fit being left to bury the bodies as they washed ashore. With the two survivors in Kobe, the two left at Oshima, and the 65 on board the *Wolf*, the total number saved is 69. Some 65 bodies had already been buried by the Japanese, each body being placed in a wooden coffin, and there were about 25 more awaiting burial. The bodies were washing ashore in great numbers, and generally in one spot near the lighthouse. Many of the corpses are headless. Osman Pasha's uniform had been thrown up by the sea, but his body had not yet been seen, although an anxious look-out had been kept for it. Decomposition has already disfigured the countenances of the dead, but his will be known by a special ring he wore. It was the wish of Captain Credner, we hear, to accord naval honours to the dead, and he steamed round to that portion of the island where they lay, but it was too rough for him to land a firing party. The wish does the *Wolf's* commander infinite credit. The *Ertongroul* was crowding on all steam to clear Oshima light on the evening of Tuesday when she suddenly struck, at about half-past nine, and the boilers at once exploded, blowing the vessel literally to pieces: the completeness of the destruction is borne out by the fact that nothing that can be called wreckage has come ashore. Her magazine probably caught fire at the same time, and thus added to the utter destruction of the vessel and the awful loss of life. The *Wolf* left Oshima for Kobe at 2 o'clock on Saturday afternoon and reached here yesterday morning at 6 o'clock. The whole of the Turks were removed by the Japanese, with the consent of the German Acting Consul, to the disinfecting station at Wada.

The account which we gave on Friday last of the disaster which sent the *Ertongroul* and most of her crew to the bottom is confirmed in all its important particulars by the fuller information which the *Wolf* has brought from Oshima. We are glad to find, however, that the number of lives lost is not quite so large as was first reported. Owing to the outbreak of cholera, and to deaths from other causes, there were only 57 persons on board when the *Ertongroul* left Yokohama. Sixty-nine of these have been saved, so that the total loss of life amounts to 502. The narrative told by the two men who first reached Kobe differs somewhat from that of other survivors. The bursting of the boiler was not, it would seem, the primary cause of the destruction of the vessel. As we suspected, the *Ertongroul* was too near to Oshima, and was crowding on all steam to clear it. Her engines apparently were not of sufficient power to cope with the gale and the strong current which sets in there, and she struck on one of the hidden rocks with which the shore abounds. The one engineer who has escaped, and whom we saw yesterday, says that she struck three separate times before the boiler exploded. The chief engineer was in the engine-room at the time and was blown to atoms. The Captain and the navigating officer threw themselves into the sea and perished. All those on board who were not killed or injured by the explosion clung to the three masts, which were still above water. Two of them appear to have succumbed to the weight, for first one and then the other disappeared into the waves and with them the men who had clung to them. The third mast proved the salvation of all those who survive that terrible night. Osman Pasha was on it, and was pulled out of the water three times by his secretary, who was eventually saved. The Pasha, however, was either injured or, like the captain and chief officer, did not wish to live, for on each occasion he slipped from the mast and finally was lost.

By the kindness of the German Acting Consul the *Wolf* started at four o'clock on Friday for the scene of the disaster, taking with her a Turkish interpreter, a Japanese official, and a pilot. She reached Oshima at six o'clock next morning and at once made preparations for succouring the survivors. Their injuries, though

in several cases arms and legs were broken, were not so serious as was at first suspected, and they had been carefully tended by three Japanese doctors. The poor fellows were treated with the greatest kindness by the natives, who had placed a temple and tea houses at their disposal, and furnished them with food and clothing. By eleven o'clock 65 of the 67 who were at Oshima had been got on board, and the *Wolf* left at 2 p.m. for Kobe, which she reached yesterday morning at 6 o'clock. With the exception of the engineer and another man who were not seriously injured and who joined the two who first reached Kobe, at the International Hotel, the men were conveyed in the Governor's steam launch to the hospital at Wada Point. Two men were left at Oshima to superintend the burial of the bodies as they were washed ashore. The Japanese assisted in this sad office with commendable humanity and provided coffins for the purpose. Sixty-five bodies had already been interred when the *Wolf* reached the spot and others were being constantly washed ashore. Osman Pasha's coat has been recovered and is in the possession of his secretary. It hardly looks as if it had been tossed about by the sea for the lace on it is quite bright, but a large piece of cloth has been torn out of one of the arms. The Admiral's remains have not yet been recovered.—*Kobe Herald*.

THE LOSS OF THE "MUSASHI" AND "YORINOBU."

The Japanese quarter-master, the sole survivor of the crew of 66 officers and men who manned the *Musashi-maru*, arrived here, says the *Hyogo News* of the 23rd inst., yesterday morning overland from Tanabe, and left for Tokyo by the *Omi-maru* at noon. His tale is very short. He says they met with fearful weather after leaving the Bungo Nada, during which a large ventilator forward of the bridge was carried away, letting tons of water get below. They did everything in their power to cover the hole up, but the seas breaking over the vessel rendered it impossible for the crew to get near it. He was on the bridge with Captain Frahm, and so fierce was the gale and so high were the seas which swept over the vessel, and sometimes over the bridge, that they were compelled to lie down on their stomachs to avoid being carried overboard. The ship was by this time full of water from end to end. It appeared impossible they could last it out, and the end came when a huge sea took them broadside on and the *Musashi* turned over at right angles and foundered instantly. A couple of the boats were just then carried away, and he, with Mr. Miller, the Chief Engineer, and three of the sailors, reached one and got into her, and he saw Captain Frahm holding on to the other. The latter was, however, washed off and was not seen again. Those in the other boat were also washed out, but the Chief Engineer, who had a life belt on rose to the surface time and again, but he could never reach the boat and was at last drowned. The survivor saved himself by getting hold of a couple of oars and the boat's mast and lashing himself to them. This precaution was probably the sole means of saving him, as he states that the next thing he remembers was finding himself at the bottom of a fishing junk whose crew had picked him up. The *Musashi* sank fifteen miles from land and off Tosa.

The *Sagami-maru*, which left on Saturday afternoon at four o'clock for Yokohama, had received orders to postpone her sailing from noon, her advertised time of departure, until that hour, as several officials from Tokyo who were to arrive in the afternoon by train purposed proceeding in her to Oshima to view the scene of the *Ertongroul* disaster. At four o'clock, however, word was received that the gentlemen in question had changed their minds, and did not intend to avail themselves of the *Sagami's* services. Captain Carrow therefore at once left for Yokohama direct. Among the passengers was one of the survivors from the wreck of the *Yorinobu Maru*, the only cadet saved of the thirteen who were sailing as apprentices. He states that they left Hyogo for Bakan on Sunday; that on the afternoon of Tuesday the weather became threatening and the glass commenced to fall. The Captain thereupon tried to beat back to Hyogo, but was unable to do so, and then tried to beat out from the land, whither he was fast drifting. They tacked and tacked, but to no purpose, and matters reached a climax when they lost their rudder. The Captain then climbed to the mizzen-topmast head, to which he lashed himself and cried out to the others to go below. Matters remained thus until they were close to the rocks, when the Captain called all hands on deck and bade them take to the weather rigging. Just at this time the cabin caught fire by the

upsetting of a lamp, but the seas breaking over the vessel soon extinguished the flames. At one o'clock on Wednesday morning the vessel struck and the Captain was the first man to be drowned, the mast, which went overboard, burying him in the water. The survivor, from whom we have these details, reached shore with the assistance of a hen-coop after being an hour in the water. He states that, having taken off the whole of his clothing he was bitterly cold, and only kept himself warm by folding a couple of the rescued fowls to his breast. By the warmth he received from them he was able to sleep, and he made his bed on the sand.

In addition to the above disasters the square-rigged schooner *Nunobiki Maru*, belonging to Mr. Kawasaki, and bound from Shinagawa to Hyogo, was lost off the Island of Ishima on the same night. She left Shinagawa (Tokyo) on the 14th inst., and on the afternoon of Tuesday she ran into bad weather. When off Cape Hino the crew cut away the masts to ease the vessel, but she struck on Ishima during the night and was ground to pieces on the rocks. Out of a crew of 13 hands, 10 were saved. The Captain, second mate, and a boy were drowned. The body of the Captain was washed ashore in the afternoon at 4 o'clock.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, September 20th.

There is great political excitement in Lisbon, and consequent collisions between the people and the police. The situation became so serious that the troops had to be called out to support the police, and ultimately fired into the mob, with the result that many of the latter were injured.

Osman Digna threatens to attack Suakim.

London, September 20th.

The House of Representatives has rejected the Senate's amendment of McKinley's Tariff Bill.

London, September 24th.

The Cape of Good Hope Bank has suspended payment.

London, September 25th.

The liability of the Cape of Good Hope Bank which recently suspended payment amounts to £3,000,000.

Terrible floods have occurred in France, causing an enormous loss of property.

A fire broke out in Colon which extended to extraordinary dimensions and caused an immense amount of damage and loss.

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

Nagasaki, September 22nd.

The cholera is now extinct in Nagasaki town, and all the local native restrictions have been rescinded.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki & Kobe	per N. Y. K.	Friday, Sept. 26th.
From Hongkong	per C. P. M. Co.	Sunday, Sept. 28th &
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Sept. 29th &
From America	per P. M. Co.	Friday, Oct. 10th &

* Straits of Ball's left Shanghai on September 25th. † *Ancona* left Nagasaki on September 25th. ‡ *City of Rio de Janeiro* left San Francisco on September 23rd.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, via Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Sept. 28th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Sept. 30th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, Sept. 30th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Oct. 4th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Oct. 7th.
For Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd.	Wednesday, Oct. 15th.

IMPERIAL POST OFFICE NOTICES.

MAILS CLOSE AT YOKOHAMA.

For Hongkong, India, Europe, etc., via Shanghai.—Per *Traquand*. To-morrow, the 28th instant, at 7.30 A.M. At 7 A.M. Registry ceases. At 12 Noon To-day, the 27th instant, Money Order Office closes. For Shanghai and Coast Ports.—Per *Saikio Maru*, on Tuesday, the 30th instant, at 11 A.M. At 10 A.M. Registry ceases.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,182, Carrew, 21st September.—Kobe 20th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Daphne, German steamer, 1,394, F. Voss, 21st September.—Hongkong 14th September, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Alliance (6), U.S. gunboat, Captain H. C. Taylor, 22nd September.—Yokosuka 22nd September.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Brown, 22nd September.—Hakodate 20th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Belgie, British steamer, 2,695, W. H. Walker, 22nd September.—Hongkong 16th September, General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Oceanic, British steamer, 3,107, W. M. Smith, 23rd September.—San Francisco 4th September, General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Christensen, 23rd September.—Kobe 22nd September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Swatara (8), U.S. corvette, Capt. John McGowan, 24th September.—Kobe 20th September.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 25th September.—Hakodate 22nd September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 596, Kasuga, 26th September.—Hakodate 24th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 26th September.—Hakodate 24th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, P. Hussey, 26th September.—Kobe 25th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Parthia, British steamer, 2,035, John Pantou, 26th September.—Vancouver, B.C., 11th September, General.—C. P. M. S.S. Co.

Fechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 704, Okuma, 26th September.—Kobe 24th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 20th September.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Carmarthenshire, British steamer, 1,775, Alex. Clark, 21st September.—Kobe, General.—Adams, Bell & Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, P. Hussey, 21st September.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,182, Carrew, 23rd September.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 23rd September.—Shanghai and ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Brown, 24th September.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oceanic, British steamer, 3,107, W. M. Smith, 25th September.—Hongkong, General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Belgie, British steamer, 2,695, W. H. Walker, 25th September.—San Francisco, General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Alliance (8), U.S. gunboat, Captain H. C. Taylor, 25th September.—Otaru.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Wynn, 25th September.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Daphne, German steamer, 1,394, F. Voss, 26th September.—Kobe, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 26th September.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Abergeldie, British steamer, 1,876, J. Murray, 26th September.—Kobe, Oil.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Satsuma Maru*, from Hakodate:—Baron Van Balveren, Messrs. Kaedeker, Kaseg, Haridz, Hayashi, Hirada, Kamemochi, Iwada, Shima, and Chong Ye Chee in cabin; 3 passengers in second class, and 58 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Belgie*, from Hongkong:—Messrs. C. V. Bowen, Howard and son, Benjamin and servant, Lieutenant Woodcock, R.A., Mr. W. H. Ray, Mr. and Mrs. Hermann and 2 children, Mrs. George, Mr. and Mrs. Vernon, Mr. J. Schuldt, and Mr. Geo. R. Stevens in cabin.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, from San Francisco:—Mr. Albert Bailey, Miss M. Bengel, Miss Rowena Bird, Mr. Isaac Cook, Mrs. E. Cook, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. H. Colket, Rev. J. W. Greenwood, Mr. J. Greenwood, Miss D. E.

Hewett, Major J. O. Hutchinson, Miss H. J. Huey, Mrs. C. T. Judson, Miss F. Koka, Dr. W. H. H. King, M.D., Mr. and Mrs. M. Khronshevski, Messrs. Hans Lucké, Allen C. Mason, J. D. McKenzie, Frank Neil, Chas. Reeves, Mrs. E. H. Smith, Miss R. Sherwood, M.D., Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Stone, Mr. N. Tashitaka, Mr. H. Tsubono, Rev. and Mrs. E. G. Tewksbury, Mr. O. F. Von Rhein, Mrs. Adolph Vogel, Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Wells, Dr. and Mrs. J. J. Wedgewood, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Woodman, Professor and Mrs. M. N. Wyckoff, Colonel E. R. Warner, and Mr. Carroll Watson in cabin; 36 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, from Kobe:—Mrs. A. Thompson, Mrs. Buckinger, Messrs. Rickerby, Macdonald, Winter, Fujito, Salmon, Kawagoye, Haraiake, Yoshima, Yamasaki, and Tanaka in cabin; 6 passengers in second class, and 100 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Hakodate:—His Excellency Baron Von Holleben, Dr. Weipert, Miss Archey, Messrs. G. Yasuki, M. Otsuki, T. Yoshida, S. Ito, G. Sano, M. Chidaka, and Asakura in cabin; 37 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. Mathlupis, nurse, and 2 children in cabin; 29 passengers in second class, and 100 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Parthia*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Messrs. Gilroy, M. B. Hill, A. W. Thomson, McLean, Mrs. J. Allan, Mr. Page, Mrs. Wallace, The Misses Wallace (2), Master Wallace, Mr. and Mrs. Hitchcock, Miss Gardner, Miss Grace Gardner, Mr. Charles Gardner, Mrs. S. A. Gardner, and Mr. Thomas Roy in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Messrs. W. K. Post, H. D. Lockwood, Iwata, and Dickenson in cabin; Mrs. Suzuki, Messrs. Yamaguchi, Kinoda, Suzuki, and Hamada in second class, and 44 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, for Hongkong:—Miss Roare, Miss M. A. Nigall, Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Harman and native servant, Miss A. Stacy and native servant, Mr. E. H. Gore Booth, Mrs. Webster, and Mr. C. Mow Keung in cabin.

Per British steamer *Belgie*, for San Francisco:—Mr. J. Stark, Rev. J. K. Hykes, three children and infant, Misses Burroughs (3), Mr. C. W. Collier, Rev. T. C. and Mrs. Williams, Captain T. A. Lake, Mrs. Lake, Mr. T. P. Fallon, Prof. H. Drummond, Mr. J. Patterson, Mrs. Mann, Mrs. George, Mr. de Romy, Mr. E. Gaus, Mr. Delacamp, Mr. H. Geshien, Mr. M. Kato, and Mr. Wm. Ground in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, for Hakodate:—Messrs. G. Sora, T. Wakazuki, and M. Kajima in cabin; Messrs. I. Tatsumi and S. Kuwabara in second class, and 54 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, for Kobe:—Messrs. K. Miyabara and H. Maki in second class, and Messrs. John Collins, Tom Smith, Tom Williams, and 38 passengers in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure \$1,308.00.

Per British steamer *Belgie*, for San Francisco:—

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	65	1,609	1,613	3,287
Hyogo	150	1,123	2,507	3,780
Yokohama	2,873	3,481	2,251	8,605
Hongkong	480	1,753	—	2,233
Total	3,568	7,966	6,371	17,905

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	13	—	13
Hongkong	—	60	—	60
Yokohama	—	250	—	250
Total	—	333	—	333

REPORTS.

The German steamer *Daphne*, Captain Voss, reports:—Left Hongkong the 14th September at 12.3 p.m.; had at the beginning E.N.E. winds which freshened the farther we got along; from Breaker Point up to Chapel Island fresh N.E. winds, stiffening all the time; from latitude 28° N.; long. 127° E. it blew a gale up to 32° N. and 123° E.; had a fearfully high sea from W. and S.W. and it is most likely that we passed a typhoon moving to the N.N.E. with a probable velocity of 5 or 6 miles an hour. The direction of the wind the 17th, 18th, and 19th was as follows:—28° N. 127° E. N.; 29° N. 120° E., N.N.E.; 30° N. 130° E., E.N.E.; 31° N. 132° E., E.; 32° N. 133° E., E.S.E. Arrived at Yokohama the 20th September at 10 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Satsuma Maru*, Captain Brown, reports:—Left Hakodate the 20th Septem-

ber at 8 a.m. Arrived at Oginohama the 21st at 7 a.m. and left at 3.30 p.m. Arrived at Yokohama the 22nd September at 4.15 p.m.; from Hakodate to Oginohama had variable winds with heavy rain squalls and high S.E. sea; thence to port moderate winds with passing showers and decreasing sea.

The British steamer *Belgie*, Captain Walker, reports:—Left Hongkong the 16th September at 4.34 p.m.; had strong N.E. winds and head sea from Hongkong to 200 miles east of Tonnabont; thence to Yokosima strong northerly gale and high sea and strong easterly winds with heavy squalls, wind and rain. Arrived at Yokohama the 22nd September at 5.50 p.m. Time, 5 days, 23 hours, 53 minutes.

The British steamer *Oceanic*, Captain Smith, reports:—Left San Francisco the 4th September at 2.46 p.m.; had moderate to light winds and fine pleasant weather. Arrived at Honolulu the 11th at 0.18 p.m. and left the 12th at 1.33 a.m.; had moderate to light N.E. and S.E. winds with smooth sea and pleasant weather all the way. Arrived at Yokohama the 23rd September at 7.15 p.m. Time: San Francisco to Honolulu, 6 days, 23 hours, 54 minutes; Honolulu to Yokohama, 10 days, 21 hours, 52 minutes; total 17 days, 21 hours, 46 minutes; distance, 5,477 miles; detention at Honolulu, 13 hours 15 minutes. This is the quickest passage from Honolulu to Yokohama ever made.

The Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, Captain Christensen, reports:—Left Kobe the 22nd September at 12.20 p.m.; had light variable winds with heavy rain to Ichijye; thence fresh S.E. to E., with clear weather and light head sea to Rock Island; thence to port strong head wind with passing cloudy weather; passed American man-of-war off Rock Island going same way. Arrived at Yokohama the 23rd September at 6.30 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, Captain Young, reports:—Left Hakodate the 22nd September at 8 a.m.; had moderate south-easterly breeze, dull cloudy weather, and occasional rain to midnight, when it hauled to N.N.E.; same weather from noon the 23rd till passed Inuboye at 7 p.m.; then had big S.E. swell; towards midnight wind freshened from north to a strong breeze accompanied by continuous rain and thick weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 24th September at 7.30 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, Captain Ekstrand, reports:—Left Hakodate the 24th September at 8 a.m.; had fresh easterly winds with head sea and overcast sky and rain showers which lasted to Kinkasan, which was passed on 25th at 6.30 a.m. when wind hauled to the westward with heavy rain squalls weather moderating and clearing. Arrived at Oginohama at 7.50 a.m., weather squally, and left at 11.45 a.m.; had fresh westerly winds and cloudy heavy S.S.E. swell; at 8 p.m. weather clearing and fine with smooth sea. Arrived at Yokohama the 26th September at 0.45 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Captain Hussey, reports:—Left Kobe for Yokohama the 24th September at noon; 00.35 p.m. put back and anchored off Hyogo; left the 25th at 5 a.m.; had fresh wind from the S.W. and dull cloudy weather; passed O-hima at 1.28 p.m., with light wind from N.E. veering round N.N.W. and blowing a strong gale with high sea; at 11 p.m. wind shifting to the eastward and increasing to a strong breeze which continued to port; passed Rock Island at 4 a.m. Arrived at Yokohama the 26th September at 10.45 a.m.

The British steamer *Parthia*, Captain Pantou, reports:—Left Vancouver B.C., the 11th September at 6.15 a.m.; Victoria at 1.5 p.m.; had fresh to strong westerly winds and head sea to 20th. On 18th passed steamer *Sussex* bound east; 20th crossed meridian 49° N.; 20th to 23rd moderate to fresh winds and sea with hazy weather; 24th passed through fierce typhoon ship heave to for 8 hours; lowest reading barometer 28.80; shipped several heavy seas smashing one boat completely and doing various damage, all live stock destroyed and fowl crops swept away; 25th moderate S.W. gale and heavy sea, ship half speed; 26th moderate wind and fine weather; 12.30 p.m. made the land. Arrived at Yokohama at 7.40 p.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The Yarn Market has remained very quiet but firm during the week at unchanged prices for English Spinnings, the downward turn in Exchange favouring the position. Bombays are unchanged. Shintings have also been quiet. Fancies have not had much attention generally, but a few sales of Velvets at low rates are reported. Sales for the week amount to 325 bales English Yarns, 150 bales Bombays, 500 pieces Italians, and 3,000 pieces Velvets.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 yds. 39 inches	\$1.35 to 1.90
Grey Shirtings—9 1/2 yds. 45 inches	1.60 to 2.54
White Shirtings—7 1/2 yds. 32 inches	1.15 to 1.47 1/2
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.20 to 1.60
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.70 to 1.00
Cotton—Italians and Sateen Black, 32 inches	0.07 to 0.14
Turkey Reds—1 1/2 to 2 1/2 yds. 30 inches	0.00 to 1.15 1/2
Turkey Reds—2 1/2 to 3 1/2 yds. 30 inches	0.20 to 1.40
Turkey Reds—3 1/2 to 4 1/2 yds. 30 inches	1.70 to 2.05
Velvets—Black, 55 yards, 22 inches	4.50 to 6.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 1/2 inches	0.50 to 0.65
Laifachlau, 12 yards, 43 inches	1.35 to 2.25

WOOLLENS.

Plain Orleans, 30 yards, 32 inches	\$1.00 to 3.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.24 1/2 to 28
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.20 to 24
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.16 to 20
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.11 1/2 to 0.45 1/2
Cloths—Pilots, 51 1/2 to 56 inches	0.30 to 0.45
Cloths—Presidents, 51 1/2 to 56 inches	0.50 to 0.60
Cloths—Union, 54 1/2 to 56 inches	0.35 to 0.60
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3 1/2 yds. per lb.	0.30 to 0.38

COTTON YARNS.

Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	\$25.00 to 26.00
Nos. 16/24, Medium	26.00 to 27.00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	27.00 to 28.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	29.00 to 30.00
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	27.75 to 28.50
Nos. 28/32, Medium	28.50 to 30.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	30.25 to 31.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	34.00 to 35.00
Nos. 38/42, Two-fold	31.50 to 35.00
Nos. 42/5, Two-fold	35.50 to 36.00
Nos. 208, Bombay	72.00 to 78.00
Nos. 168, Bombay	74.00 to 79.00
Nos. 101/4, Bombay	—

METALS.

Considerable business has been done at quotations, especially in Wire Nails, for which indeed a slight advance in price has been paid. Exchange is easier, and buyers evince some fear that the lower rate has come to stay a while.

Flat Bars, 1/2 inch	\$2.50 to 2.60
Flat Bars, 1 inch	2.60 to 2.70
Round and square up to 1 inch	2.50 to 2.70
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.
Nailrod, small size	Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	2.80 to 3.00
Sheet Iron	3.00 to 3.25
Galvanized iron sheets	5.80 to 6.00
Wire Nails, assorted	4.10 to 4.70
Tin Plates, per box	4.60 to 4.80
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.20 to 1.25

KEROSENE.

Business which was done a week or two ago at quotations has now transpired, and dealers are apparently well supplied for the moment. No fresh arrivals to note; deliveries are fair, and stock 750,000 cases.

QUOTATIONS.

Chester	\$1.72 1/2 to 1.75
Camel	1.70 to 1.72
Devoe	1.68 to 1.70
Russian	1.63 to 1.66

SUGAR.

A very small business has been done in White Refined, but nothing in other sorts. Prices have all declined, and the market is weak at quotations. Sales amount only to 930 piculs as follows:—188 piculs at \$8.10 per picul, 150 piculs at \$7.90 per picul, and 592 piculs at \$7.20 per picul.

White Refined	\$5.60 to 8.10
Manila	3.70 to 4.40
Taiwanfoo	— to —
Pentama	2.80 to 3.25
Namida	2.90 to 3.00
Cake	— to 4.00
Brown Takao	4.27 to 4.30

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 19th instant, since which date settlements in this market are 259 piculs divided thus:—*Filatures* 31; *Re-reels* 162; *Kakeda* 66. Japanese shipments have been 100 piculs, so that the total business for the week is about 360 piculs.

Once again the chief buying has been for Europe, although some little business has been put through for the States, all the Japanese shipments mentioned above being for that destination.

Prices generally have been well maintained and the business done for Europe has been at full rates. Two days ago a sudden drop in Exchange has made holders much more firm, and all quotations must be raised more or less.

News from markets of consumption are not very good, although more business would have been

done for Europe had sellers shown themselves more accommodating. Trade in the States does not seem to improve; perhaps the reduction in the price of silver will assist matters there.

There have been two shipping opportunities since we last wrote, the English Mail and the American Mail both taking Silk. The former steamer, *Verona*, had 91 bales for Europe and the latter, *Belgie*, which left yesterday morning, had 262 bales for the New York trade. These departures bring the present Export to 3,820 against 9,728 last year, and 8,176 on the same date in 1888.

Hanks.—There has been no business during the week, but at time of writing 30 bales *Chichibu* are reported in treaty at \$567 1/2.

Filatures.—These have not been bought to a very large extent; in fine sizes, \$675 has been paid for *Utsu* and \$670 for good *Mino*; *Bishu* has been done at \$655. In coarse sizes *Hakuzuru* has been done at \$650 with *Toyesha* at \$645, but all these coarse sized Silks are now held for a further advance.

Re-reels.—Some business was done for America just as the steamer left, mostly in No. 3 and *Common re-reels* at about \$590 and \$585 per picul. One parcel *Five Girl Chop* was done a week ago at \$627 1/2, but holders now would require \$640 for the same Silk. No. 2 *Re-reels* were purchased for the Steamer at \$610, and are now held for an advance to compensate for the lower exchange.

Kakeda.—There have been some transactions, principally before the recent hardening in values. No. 1 was done at \$630; No. 1 1/2 at \$610; some medium and common were also done, \$590 being paid for *Tiger Chop* and \$580 for *Lily*; holders of these kinds are strong in sympathy with a lower Exchange, and firmness of holders in other classes.

In *Oshu* sorts and *Taysuam* kinds nothing whatever has been done; the home trade continues to pay better prices than exporters can offer.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No. 1	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	Nom.
Hanks—No. 3 (Oshu)	Nom.
Hanks—No. 4 (Shinshu)	Nom.
Hanks—No. 24 (Oshu)	560 to 570
Hanks—No. 24 to 3	550 to 555
Hanks—No. 3	540 to 545
Hanks—No. 34	520 to 530
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	680 to 690
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	670 to 680
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	660 to 670
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	650 to 660
Filatures—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	630 to 640
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	630 to 640
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	620 to 625
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Shinshu and Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	630 to 640
Re-reels—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	620 to 625
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	610 to 615
Re-reels—No. 21, 14/18 deniers	600 to 605
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	590 to 595
Kakeda—Extra	Nom.
Kakeda—No. 1	630 to 635
Kakeda—No. 14	610 to 620
Kakeda—No. 2	600 to 605
Kakeda—No. 24	590 to 595
Kakeda—No. 3	580 to 585
Kakeda—No. 34	570 to 575
Kakeda—No. 4	560 to 565
Oshu Sendai—No. 24	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	540 to 550
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 24	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 26th Sept., 1890:—

	BALES	PICULS	PICULS
Europe	1,272	4,764	3,715
America	2,450	4,845	4,356
Total	3,722	9,609	8,071
		9,728	8,176
Settlements and Direct	3,650	13,300	7,950
Export from 1st July	—	—	—
Stock, 26th September	11,900	4,500	10,400
Available supplies to date	15,550	17,800	18,350

WASTE SILK.

Settlements in this branch have been 1,400 piculs, divided thus:—*Cocoons* 30; *Noshi* 900; *Kibiso* 470.

There has been quite a revival in this market, and prices are firmer with an upward tendency. Buying is not yet general, but the few traders who are at work are taking heavy lines; especially is this the case in *Noshi*, where the staple *Foshu* has been taken in large parcels.

The English Mail steamer *Verona* took 33 bales of *Noshi* for Marseilles and Trieste, and it is a notable fact that all the business of the past week has been for Italy and Switzerland.

Present export to date is 1,578 piculs, against 2,879 last year and 1,913 in 1888.

Cocoons.—Nothing done in *Pierced* this week, but some few lots of *Sakusan* have been done at from \$20 to \$40 according to quality.

Noshi.—The principal business has been in *Fo-*

shu, which has been done in big lines at from \$75 to \$85 according to assortment, the chief purchases being in medium quality at \$75. Some few parcels *Filature* were done at \$122. *Goshu* is marked \$115; *Shinshu* \$112 1/2 with good *Oshu* at \$136 1/2.

Kibiso.—This has also been freely dealt in, all grades being taken from *Filature* at \$115 down to ordinary *Hachioji* at \$35.

In *Mawata*, *Neri* and *Sundries* there have been no sales.

Altogether it has been a busy week, and holders are much encouraged by the sales they have made. This combined with the fall in Exchange makes the Market close very firm.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	\$120 to \$130
Noshi— <i>Filature</i> , Best	140 to 150
Noshi— <i>Filature</i> , Good	130 to 135
Noshi— <i>Filature</i> , Medium	—
Noshi— <i>Oshu</i> , Good to Best	135 to 145
Noshi— <i>Shinshu</i> , Best	—
Noshi— <i>Shinshu</i> , Good	—
Noshi— <i>Shinshu</i> , Medium	—
Noshi— <i>Hushu</i> , Good to Best	—
Noshi— <i>Oshu</i> , Best	—
Noshi— <i>Oshu</i> , Good	80 to 85
Noshi— <i>Oshu</i> , Ordinary	70 to 75
Kibiso— <i>Filature</i> , Best selected	105 to 115
Kibiso— <i>Filature</i> , Seconds	95 to 100
Kibiso— <i>Oshu</i> , Good to Best	70 to 80
Kibiso— <i>Shinshu</i> , Best	—
Kibiso— <i>Shinshu</i> , Seconds	—
Kibiso— <i>Oshu</i> , Good to Best	50 to 60
Kibiso— <i>Oshu</i> , Middling to Common	35 to 40
Kibiso— <i>Hachioji</i> , Good	45 to 40
Kibiso— <i>Hachioji</i> , Medium to Low	35 to 30
Kibiso— <i>Neri</i> , Good to Common	15 to 8
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 26th Sept., 1890:—

	Season 1890-91.	1889-90.	1888-89.
	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Waste Silk	1,355	2,413	1,903
Pierced Cocoons	225	466	10
	1,578	2,879	1,913
Settlements and Direct	3,150	6,000	2,400
Export from 1st July	—	—	—
Stock, 26th September	11,350	9,800	6,600
Available supplies to date	14,500	15,800	12,000

Exchange has dropped suddenly, and although steady at the moment may decline further before long:—LONDON, 4 1/4 p. Credits, 3/8 1/2; Documents 3/8 1/2; 6m/s. Credits, 3/9; Documents 3/9 1/2; New York, 30d/s. U.S. \$90; 4m/s. U.S. \$90 1/2; PARIS, 4m/s., fcs. 4.70; 6m/s. fcs. 4.72.

Estimated Silk Stock, 26th Sept., 1890:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	260	Cocoons	710
Filatures	6,900	Noshi-ito	4,200
Re-reels	3,740	Kibiso	5,840
Kakeda	730	Mawata	360
Oshu	260	Sundries	240
Taysuam Kinds	10		
Total piculs	11,900	Total piculs	11,350

TEA.

Telegraphic information from consuming markets indicates an improvement for Japan Tea, and consequently holders now demand higher prices for their leaf, but owing to the poor assortment on offer only 2,455 piculs have been purchased. Japanese Tea-men still persist that receipts are sure to be small later on, and that prices will yet further advance. Following are the Tea shipments from Japan to date:—11,056,319 lbs. for New York, 14,231,615 lbs. for Chicago, 9,452,779 lbs. for Canada, 2,827,847 lbs. for California; total, 37,658,590 lbs. as compared with 31,317,015 lbs. for the same period in 1889.

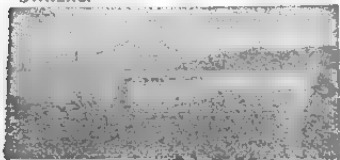
	PER PICUL.
Common	\$14
Good Common	12 to 13
Medium	14 to 15
Good Medium	16 to 17
Fine	18 to 19
Finest	20 to 22
Choice	23 & up'ds
Choicest	—
Extra Choicest	—

EXCHANGE.

The fluctuations during the week have been small, but two successive fractions of decline leave quotations lower than for some time past:—

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/8
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/8 1/2
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/8 1/2
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/9
On Paris—Bank sight	4.62
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4.71
On Hongkong—Bank sight	par.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	4 1/2 dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	7 1/2
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	7 1/2
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	89
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	90
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	89
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	90

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

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No. 14.]

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AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, OCTOBER 4TH, 1890.

通信者認可

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, OCT. 4, 1890.

DEATH.

On the 30th September, after a long and painful illness, the wife of J. L. O. EYTON, aged 40 years.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

HIS IMPERIAL HIGHNESS PRINCE KOMATSU paid a visit to the Emperor on the morning of the 30th ultimo.

AN Imperial Proclamation for the convocation of the Imperial Diet was expected to be issued on the 30th ultimo, but has not yet appeared.

CAPTAIN UCHIDA ZENTARO was ordered on the 25th ultimo to proceed to France, to bring out the *Isukushima Kan*.

COUNT ITO returned to Tokyo on the 25th instant from Osaka and Kyoto, where he had been staying for some time.

THEIR IMPERIAL HIGHNESSES PRINCE AND PRINCESS ARISUGAWA TAKEHIRO left the Western capital on the 29th ultimo for Tokyo.

THE Kyushu Railway Company was permitted by the Government on the 26th instant to open the section between Hakata and Sekigo for traffic.

A TELEGRAM from Kanazawa states that a violent typhoon visited Ishikawa Prefecture on the 24th ultimo. Six boats were lost, twelve persons being drowned.

THE line of the Osaka Railway Company between Oji and Nara, which is now in course of construction, will be opened for traffic on or about the 20th instant.

AN ordinary meeting of the Cabinet was held on the 30th ultimo at which Counts Yanagata, Yamada, Saigo, Oyama, Oki, Viscounts Kaba-

yama and Aoki, and Messrs. Yoshikawa and Mutsu were present, the proceedings being prolonged till a late hour.

THE *Chiyoda Kan*, the order for the construction of which was given in England, has been completed, and will leave that country on the 20th instant for Japan.

THE Chinese Minister, who will leave Japan shortly for home, will give a farewell entertainment on the 22nd instant to about eighty high officials of the Government.

IN consequence of the recent floods in Hyogo Prefecture, 976 houses were destroyed in Akogun, 188 houses in Sayo-gun, 604 houses in Shikito-gun, and 79 houses in Shikisei-gun.

RAILWAY communication between Ashikaga and Kiryu on the Ryomo Railway, which was stopped in consequence of damage to the line by the heavy rains, was reopened on the 28th ult.

COMMUNICATION on the section between Kurikashi and Kuki on the Japan Railway, which had been suspended in consequence of damage caused to the line, was re-opened on the 27th ult.

MR. IWASAKI YANOSUKE was permitted by the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce a few days ago to commence coal mining operation at Usumura, Kama-gun, Fukuoka Prefecture.

A TELEGRAM from Kagoshima announces that a violent gale visited the city on the 24th ultimo, and 774 houses were entirely destroyed, and 860 houses partially destroyed, eight persons being killed.

THE Directors of various bureaux and other high officials of the Finance Department held a meeting on the 29th ult. for the purpose of discussing the estimates of the Department for the 24th fiscal year.

A VIOLENT whirlwind visited Narigawamura, Chita-gun, Aichi Prefecture, on the evening of the 24th ultimo, destroying twenty-two houses and two telegraph posts. Two persons were killed, eight being injured.

THE Naval Department has received the sanction of the Emperor to send home the men saved from the *Ertongroul* catastrophe, on board the *Hiei* and *Kongo Kan*, and these ships will start for Turkey in a few days.

MESSRS. KUMAGAYE NAOAKI, Uda Taro, and Kaji Suyekichi, of the Equal Treaty Association, have presented a memorial to Viscount Aoki, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, relating to the proposed treaty revision scheme.

A REPORT issued by the Sanitary Bureau of the Home Department shows that the number of persons attacked by cholera throughout the Empire from the commencement of the epidemic to the 28th ultimo, was 30,591, of whom 19,830 died.

OWING to the recent stormy weather, various rivers in Tottori Prefecture have overflowed, causing great damage to crops and roads; 41 bridges were carried away, 64 houses were submerged, and 11 persons were drowned.

PROFESSOR SHIDA RINSABURO, of the College of Engineering in the Imperial University, was raised to second class *sonin* rank on the 26th instant. On the same day Professors Shimoyama Junichiro, and Tamba Keizo, of the College of Medicine in the University, and Mr.

Imori Teizo, a teacher of the Fourth Higher Middle School, were raised to third class *sonin* rank.

A NUMBER of private persons and officials, including 27 Senators, are confidently indicated as the Imperial nominees to the House of Peers.

THE opening ceremony of the new buildings of the Fifth Higher Middle School (Kumamoto) will take place on the 10th instant. Mr. Hamano, Director of the Special School Affairs' Bureau, and Mr. Kawakami, a School-Inspector of the Educational Department, will be present.

A POLITICAL lecture meeting was held on the 28th ultimo at the Mantake-tei Theatre, Yokohama, where speeches on the subject of treaty revision were delivered by Messrs. Mogi Torajiro, Kiyama Seichi, Yamada Taizo, Mochida Naoshi, and several other members of the *Rikken Jiyu* party.

PROFESSOR HOZUMI YATSUKA, of the College of Law, was relieved from his additional appointment as a councillor of the Legislative Bureau on the 30th ultimo. On the same day Mr. Morimoto Gocho, a secretary of the Kyoto City Government, received the additional appointment of President of the Kyoto Museum.

ACCORDING to investigations made by the Tokyo City Government, the number of vessels of foreign build registered in Tokyo on the 30th June last was 550, showing an increase of 6 as compared with the 31st December last. The number of vessels of Japanese build above 50 *koku* burden was 494, which shows an increase of 16 as compared with the 31st December last.

MESSRS. SHIOTA MASAZO, Arai Go, Suzuki Manjiro, Uyeiki Emori, Suehiro Shigeyasu, and about forty other Constitutional Liberal members of the House of Representatives held a meeting on the 27th instant at the Yayoi Club, Shiha. The following members were elected a Committee for the investigation of political questions:—Messrs. Kawashima Jun, Suehiro Shigeyasu, Uyeiki Emori, Suzuki Shoji, Kurihara Ryoichi, and Arai Shogo.

BOTH the Import and Export markets continue to be seriously affected by the fluctuations in exchange, and during the week a greater fall (and subsequent rise) has occurred than at any time since the dollar was last at 3s. The Yarn trade has consequently been demoralised, and the principal business done has been in Bombays. A fair quantity of Shirtings has been taken, but in other lines there has been next to nothing done. Holders of Metals were somewhat encouraged in the middle of the week, but buyers were shy, and the rise in silver since reported has left the Metal trade at sixes and sevens. Kerosene has been enquired after, but the inclination to deal has been again damped, and the exchange question is a bar to business. Very little has been done in Sugar. Silk has moved but slightly, buyers chipping in when exchange went down, but the rise took place before many settlements were effected, and holders are again strong and bold. Stocks go on increasing, and are now nearly 13,000 piculs. Waste Silk has been more attended to, and over 2,000 piculs have passed the scales, all for Europe, but business has again been checked. The Tea trade is slack, though several firms are firing small orders. The total settlements for the season, however, have been considerably in excess of those of last year. Exchange has fluctuated, a big drop occurring during the week. This has been largely recovered, but rates are a fraction lower to-day.

Original from

EDITORIAL NOTES.

A SPLIT IN THE CAMP.

There appears to be a split in the camp of the "promoters." Last Saturday, the proposer of the principal resolution which was voted at the meeting on the 11th ult., wrote a letter to the *Japan Gazette* protesting against the use of the term "anti-revision," as applied to the Meeting, and making the following remarkable statement:

"So far from being opposed to revision, there is not an intelligent man in the community who does not admit that Japan is entitled to demand a relaxation of the terms of the present Treaties. We recognize, with sincerity and admiration, the progress she has made, and we sympathize with her aspirations; but we say that she has not yet proved her right to claim unconditionally the promise of unrestricted judicial control over us, and we believe that outside the *sushi* there are few Japanese who do not admit that we are right. The term "anti-revision" is, therefore, unwarranted, and discerning men will in future avoid its use.

This statement, as we have before said, probably embodies the view held by the large majority of foreign residents of Yokohama. It also expresses the view entertained even by those who, like ourselves, see clearly that the Treaty Revision problem must be disposed of in friendly relations are to be observed between Japan and foreign nations, and who consequently advocate a liberal treatment of the question. But on Monday another "promoter" came out in the correspondence columns of the *Japan Herald*, and somewhat angrily declared that "such of those who take a prominent part in opposition to the proposals of the Government for treaty revision, are but paltering with us when they say that because successful efforts have been made of late years to introduce a variety of improvements, the Japanese are entitled to some relaxation of the existing compacts between themselves and foreign nations." The peculiar, slipshod English of this paragraph, even apart from the rest of the letter in which it occurs, would suffice to identify the writer as one who, under various *noms-de-plume*, addresses constant communications to the *Japan Herald*, all couched in a capacious, discontented spirit, and all calculated to increase foreign distrust of Japanese laws and Japanese institutions. However, the point we are at present considering is the divergence between this arch agitator's views and those expressed in the columns of the *Japan Gazette* by the proposer of the first resolution. It is a very marked divergence and the writer in the *Herald* proceeds to emphasize it thus:—

"The display of this sort of disposition to 'run with the hare, and yet side with the hounds,' cannot be permitted to pass without challenge, for with every disposition to admit that very praiseworthy efforts have been made by the Government to introduce and adopt most of the essentials of modern civilization, and with a very fair show of success, yet it is necessary to object to persons who blow both hot and cold,—who join with others to take practical steps to oppose revision, and who yet would have us believe that they are theoretically in favour of it. Under existing circumstances we cannot be other than anti-revisionists; we cannot be more, and we must not be less. It is of no sort of use beating about the bush and declaring we are not against revision; to proposals for reasonable revision we would lend an ear, but they are not before us, and considering the yielding temper of Ministers and Governments, are not likely to be. Anti-revisionists we are, and shall have to continue to be to the end of the chapter.

Which of the two "promoters" really represents intelligent and educated opinion in Yokohama, there cannot be the least doubt. This, however, brings us face to face with the old trouble, namely, that it is the bigoted and implacable agitators who figure chiefly before the public. The writer of the letter in the *Herald* appears day after day over different signatures, and his Protean activity is not confined to the correspondence columns of that journal, for he often ventilates his views in leading articles and editorial notes also. He is a kind of noun of multitude, and the impression he evidently seeks to produce is that he has as many fellow-thinkers as abases. We warn the Japanese against being deceived by this kind of trickery. No respectable journal allows the same writer to appear over different *noms-de-plume* in discussing the same subject, and no honest controversialist descends to such literary chicanery. There are not half-a-dozen Englishmen in Yokohama who approve of it, and there are very few who endorse the extreme position taken by this incorrigible agitator. We trust that the gulf now

established between his ideas and those of the most active among his fellow-promoters, will lead to his expulsion from their camp. He ought to have a wigwag all to himself, where his slovenly English, his queer rhetoric, and his multitudinous metamorphoses would no longer disturb the public.

A SHUFFLER.

We commend the following to the notice of our readers. It is an instructive incident. Some time ago, we stated that, in our opinion, there are in Japan merchants of honour and integrity who would gladly combine with foreigners for purposes of commercial and industrial enterprises. Our assertion elicited a letter from a foreign merchant. He wrote over the signature "Business Chance," and addressed one of our local contemporaries. Here is his letter:—

"The commercial public would be greatly indebted to you if you could induce the Editor of the *Mail* to publish in his paper the names and addresses of Japanese merchants 'of honour and integrity' 'who will be found ready to gladly combine with foreigners for purposes of commercial and industrial enterprises,' with the understanding, of course, that the editor of the *Mail* is to be financially responsible for their honour and integrity. That would be bringing things to a practical issue, whilst vague general assertions have no more value than the papers representing money that the Chinese throw after their dead. I have been on the lookout for such Japanese merchants for the last three years, and made quite a number of drafts of agreements in negotiations with those whom I have approached on the subject of combination, but any clause fixing a hard and fast responsibility on them, or requiring any immediately convertible security for credit to be given, invariably ended all negotiations. Subsequently "Business Chance" explained that he had occasionally been offered by Japanese merchants bonds which foreigners are permitted to hold, but that the quantity offered had not been sufficient. Commenting on this we wrote:—

"The interesting point now made clear by 'Business Chance' is that the difficulty in the way of effecting the combination desired by him has been that the Japanese could not put up sufficient tangible security. In some cases they offered bonds 'but not in amounts sufficient for the credit asked for,' he writes. From his previous letter we were led to suppose that the chief obstacle was absence of 'integrity and honour' on the part of the Japanese. Insufficiency of funds is surely a horse of another colour; a misfortune rather than a fault.

To this "Business Chance" made the following reply:—

"It is quite a new departure in journalism, too, for an editor of a paper to put his own inferences and suppositions in quotation marks, but the editor of the *Mail* apparently is not above such little tricks of trade, by which the public would naturally be led to believe that the quotation is from the letter or article of his opponent.

Challenged by us to prove this serious accusation of bad faith, "Business Chance" first attempted to convict us of an utterly trivial error committed subsequently to his charge, and then in support of his charge wrote thus:—

"But the instance I originally referred to was the quoting of the words 'absence of integrity and honour' in the *Mail* of the 10th inst, in a paragraph referring to my letter."

Now if any one will take the trouble to examine the above extracts, he will see that the phrase "absence of integrity and honour" is not put in quotation marks. The inverted commas enclose only the words "integrity and honour." These words were actually used by "Business Chance," though whether they were used or were not used is absolutely immaterial. No inference was drawn from them; no supposition attached to them. "Business Chance" therefore stands convicted of preferring against us a charge of deliberate deceit without the smallest conceivable justification. Our readers can judge for themselves. The upshot of the controversy is to prove conclusively that this man, "Business Chance," whoever he may be, is himself entirely devoid of integrity and honour. We tell him so in the plainest terms, and we add this, that if he has hitherto failed to effect combinations with Japanese, so much the better for the Japanese.

THE MEETING AT THE MINATO ZA.

As advertised in several newspapers, the meeting of Japanese to protest against the action

taken by a portion of the foreign residents of Yokohama in respect of Treaty Revision, was held on the 24th ultimo in the theatre called Minato-za, Yokohama. More than two thousand persons are said to have been present, and the reports relate that storms of excited applause caused the whole neighbourhood to ring whenever the speakers made a telling point. Unfortunately the vernacular press contains very meagre notices of the proceedings. Only the *Kokumin Shimbun* and the *Nippon* refer to them at any length. From these journals we learn that the organisers of the meeting were the two Societies called the *Domei-Kai* (of Yokohama) and the *Taito-joyaku-Kai* of Tokyo. Mr. Hamano Kusuke appears to have acted as chairman. He explained how the meeting had been organized, and took it for granted that his audience had read all about the foreign resolutions as reported by the press. It would be difficult, he added, for the speakers to make themselves audible to such a large concourse of persons, but he was sure that the earnestness of these present would make them exceptionally good listeners. The first speaker was Mr. Ninomura Kakichi, who took for his subject "our resolution," the word resolution being used in the sense of firmness of purpose. A very brief epitome of his address is given. He told his hearers that he was a student from Tsuguru in Nambu, but that in Tokyo people had given him the name of the Gambetta of the East. In Tsuguru oxen and horses were compelled to turn their noses in whatever direction their drivers wished, but in national affairs the Japanese people did not propose to have their noses turned by foreigners. He bade them remember the history of men like Washington and Franklin, who through suffering and hardship had finally won liberty. Japan, too, after all her difficulties, would surely attain her goal in respect of Treaty Revision. Mr. Yamada Shimakichi followed, his subject being "a treaty of equality." He said that Count Inouye's programme of Treaty Revision had been opposed by both the *Kaishin-to* and the *Yiyu-to*, and that Count Okuma's proposals, though less objectionable than Count Inouye's, had also been rejected by the bulk of the nation. But now that the country had been brought within sight of a treaty of equality by Viscount Aoki's amended scheme, the foreign residents had set themselves to prevent the consummation of Japan's hopes. Under these circumstances the question must not be left to the *Rikken Yiyu-to* or to any other political party. The whole nation must take it up and push it with resolute strength. He concluded by saying that probably the only persons opposed to it would be the *Kaishin-to*. The next speaker was Mr. Katakuchi Yoichi. He said that as in lives of individuals, so also in the life of a nation, there were events of pleasure and of pain, and he illustrated this by referring to the case of the *Eriougrout* which, after a season of quiet enjoyment in Japan, had been dashed to pieces off the coast of Kishiu. For Japan the probable acceptance by Foreign Powers of the amended programme of Treaty Revision was a subject of national rejoicing, but three hundred foreign residents of Yokohama had determined to mar the nation's joy if they could. This speaker was followed by Mr. Uda Taro, who lectured on the necessity of recognising right. Then followed Mr. Hamano Kusaka, with "Information for the people of Yokohama;" Mr. Inouye Kakugoro with the "Rights of Treaty Revision;" Mr. Kobayashi Sentaro with "A discussion of the proceedings of the Anti-revision meeting," and Mr. Yonomoto Keisaburo with "an appeal to public opinion from the decision of the foreign residents." Mr. Yonomoto, in the course of his speech, grew very excited, and declared that death would not be enough for men like Mr. Lowder, whereupon the police interfered and stopped the lecture. Mr. Yonomoto alone seems to have exceeded the bounds of propriety, but his excess was certainly sufficient to make up for the comparative moderation of his fellow-speakers. We do not know whether Mr. Yonomoto's language will bring him within the

grasp of the law for inciting to violence, but it will at all events exclude him from all further recognition at the hands of foreigners with whom he has been seeking interviews. Be this as it may, there can be no question as to the excitement which has been caused among the Japanese by the action of the promoters of the meeting of the 11th instant. If it had only occurred to these gentlemen to embody in their speeches, or still better in their resolutions, some of the sentiments by which one of them has since declared himself and all thinking men actuated, a very different effect would have been produced in Japan, and the decision of the meeting would have carried far more weight abroad. But these bungling resolutions, in one case failing to refer to a vital part of their subject, in another conveying, by accident apparently, a great deal more than they were intended to suggest, and on the whole omitting to say what all moderate and sympathetic men must feel—these bungling resolutions, supplemented by the airily confessed ignorance of the Chairman, the mysterious insufficiency of the chief speaker, and the sheep-like docility of the meeting, combined to make a spectacle not at all creditable to the foreign residents, and decidedly exasperating to the Japanese people.

* * *

So meagre are the reports of the speeches delivered at the Minato-za meeting that it seems scarcely worth while to add anything to the accounts already published in these columns. The *Kokumin Shimbun* is most explicit, but it is plain either that stenographers were not present, or that the vernacular press has not thought it worth while to print verbatim reports. Nevertheless, as the *Kokumin Shimbun's* account has been subjected to the usual distortion in the translation laid before the foreign public by a local contemporary, we render it into English for our readers' information:—"Mr. Ayabe Takenosuke, speaking on the subject of 'a request to Viscount Aoki,' explained the reason why it seemed desirable that the present proposals for Treaty Revision should be made public. Count Inouye's proposals and Count Okuma's proposals had been laid aside, and though the argument sounded reasonable that secrecy in the present case was desirable, as the Cabinet wished to conclude the negotiations before the meeting of the Diet, the eventuality of these proposals also failing had to be considered. Who then could support them, or who fight their battle, unless the means of appealing to public opinion were furnished? Disraeli had been able to show a bold front at the Berlin Conference because he knew that British public opinion was with him. Mr. Uda Taro, speaking on the theme of 'practising courtesy,' said that in 1857 when the existing treaty was signed, Japan was regarded as still a child and uncivilized. Now she was a full-grown person. What reason any longer existed for objecting to the abolition of extraterritorial jurisdiction? Who was the Englishman Lowder? What kind of silliness was it to assert that the jurisdiction of Japan could not be submitted to, while well knowing that her Constitution had been lately promulgated, her civil codes and commercial codes published, and her courts reorganised? What kind of silliness was it to pretend that because English law recognises a right of property after twenty years of possession, therefore the tenure of land for that period by foreigners in Japan made them owners of the land? Had not the Australian Parliament decided that no Australian land should be sold to aliens? Did the meeting think that despite all these things foreigners practised courtesy towards Japan? Mr. Yonomoto Keizaburo, speaking on the subject of 'an appeal from the foreigners' meeting to public opinion,' said that extraterritorial jurisdiction must be abolished, and having then remarked that to kill such a man as Lowder would not be enough, was stopped by the police. Mr. Hamano Kinsuke, speaking on the subject of 'information to the people of Yokohama,' said that he and his fellow-thinkers recommended the Government to publish the amended proposals for revision.

By so doing they would remove all traces of the feeling that existed twenty years ago when the ports were opened. Mr. Inouye Kakigoro, speaking with reference to the rights of treaty revision, said that he and others had last year, and previously, opposed to the utmost of their ability the proposals of Count Okuma and Count Inouye, but now that the amended scheme of Viscount Aoki had been reached, people understood for the first time what had been the labour of the two Counts. He himself had opposed instead of supporting the two Counts, because he felt the immense importance of this national problem. Even now, though there was talk of a treaty on equal terms, he would not readily assent. He recommended his hearers to watch the Governments proceeding's with the closest attention. Even if the course pursued by the Government were not in agreement with their wishes, they must nevertheless with one accord support the Government against foreign opposition, and afterwards attack the Government if necessary. Mr. Kobayashi Kentaro, speaking on the subject of 'information to Yokohama folks about treaty revision,' said that in common with all those present at the meeting, he and his friends desired to thoroughly examine a problem of such national gravity as treaty revision. The affair of the *Normanton* was an example of the results of extraterritoriality. To correct this state of affairs was a task worthy of a Clive or a Hastings. He himself had been the means of furnishing an instance of the evil, for when he waited on Mr. Brooke and transcribed the results of the interview, without concealing any of the points urged against Japan, he had been charged with drawing on his own imagination. What such a charge meant, he could not tell."

ANOTHER TREATY-REVISION MEETING.

THE *Taito-joyaku-kai* held another lecture meeting on the 27th ultimo. The place chosen was the Koseikan, Tokyo, and about thirteen hundred persons are said to have been present. A curious incident occurred. Mr. Kachiku, a member from Hyogo Prefecture, in the course of his lecture drew a sword which he wore in his girdle, and flourishing it over his head, cried, "this is the way to cut them in two with one blow." The police immediately interfered and took away the sword, but when they came to examine it, the formidable weapon proved to be a split bamboo wrapped round with silver paper. The discovery caused much laughter. Mr. Kachiku was followed by Mr. Kaji, who described an interview which he and Messrs. Uda and Kumagaye had had with the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs that morning. They had asked Viscount Aoki to let them see the proposals for Treaty Revision, promising to support him if they found them satisfactory. Viscount Aoki replied that he was unable to comply with their request for two reasons. The first was that as the treaty-making power is reserved to the Emperor by the 17th article of the Constitution, to reveal treaty negotiations would be to disturb the Imperial prerogative; the second, that although it would be very convenient to have their support in the event of their approving of the proposals, there was a possibility that they might disapprove of them, which would be exceedingly unfortunate. Speaking broadly, however, he did not mind saying that as the excitement of last year had caused His Majesty much concern, the present proposals would probably be found less distasteful by the public. His Excellency was then asked whether the report was true that he adopts a strong policy, to which he replied that it certainly was true, but that no mistake should be made about the meaning of a "strong policy." Such paltry matters as the mere restraining of foreigners within treaty limits or preventing them from carrying on business forbidden by treaty, did not constitute a strong policy. The full assertion of the national power could alone be called a strong policy. The Minister subsequently stated that he failed to understand what was meant by a "treaty on equal terms" (*taito-joyaku*). The expression could be used of treaties between countries like England and France, but there were cases where the word

"equal" could scarcely be applied. He instanced Italy and England, a treaty between which Powers he showed his interviewers for their information. These meagre details are all that we find in the vernacular press about the meeting at the Koseikan. Probably the addresses did not seem worth reporting.

THE "KOKUMIN NO-TOMO" AND TREATY REVISION.

THE *Kokumin-no-Tomo*, after reproducing the resolutions of the Treaty Revision Meeting of the 11th ultimo, mentions that "Mr. Brooke, an Englishman, formerly editor of the *Japan Herald*; Mr. Lowder, an Englishman and a barrister; and the Hon. Mr. Napier, First Secretary of the English Legation, took the chief share in organizing the meeting." "The Japanese," our contemporary adds, "ought to remember the names of these gentlemen as benefactors of the country." Where, we wonder, did the vernacular newspapers get this strange notion about Mr. Napier? The *Kokumin-no-Tomo* is not the only journal that has published the rumour, though it is certainly the most important of the prints which have been thus duped by mystery-mongers. How in the name of all common sense do Japanese editors imagine that the First Secretary of the British Legation could take any hand, act, or part, much less a leading part, in a public demonstration, the avowed object of which is to protest against the course which his chief and his Government are pursuing in respect of an important international question. That is not the way English officials behave. If the First Secretary of the British Legation intended to act as the Hon. Mr. Napier is said to have acted, he would have to preface his performance by resigning his post in the service. Thus much premised, we will tell the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* two things. The first is that Mr. Napier was absent in the country at the time of the meeting, and had been absent for many weeks. The second is that Mr. Napier is imbued with the friendliest feelings towards Japan, and that to do what he is charged with doing would be utterly at variance with the sentiments he has always openly expressed. The insult offered to the British Diplomatic Service by the publication of such wild rumours is bad enough, but to traduce a loyal friend, as the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* has done, is far worse. We have too much respect for that journal to doubt that it will lose no time in frankly and fully correcting its error.

CONJECTURES.

THE *Hochi Shimbun*, remarking that the action recently taken by a portion of the foreign residents of Yokohama, has once more concentrated public attention on the subject of Treaty Revision, says that the negotiations have not been carried beyond the stage of submitting Viscount Aoki's proposals to the British Representative, and that no actual conference is in progress. As for the outline of the proposals, our contemporary says that they contemplate a period of twenty-two years for the new treaty; the abolition of Consular Jurisdiction; mixed residence; the opening of several new ports; the withholding of Japan's tariff autonomy for ten years longer, all changes of duties during that interval to be the subject of mutual agreement; and the withholding also of the privilege of land ownership by foreigners. We quote these statements not for the information of our readers, but to show how divergent are the ideas entertained by different writers who undertake to describe the basis of Japan's present proposals. What those proposals are the public will doubtless learn in good time. We are confident that outside H.B.M.'s Legation and the Foreign Offices in London and Japan, no one is in a position to state the proposals with any pretence to accuracy, and we are therefore strongly disposed to suspect that the mysterious information upon which the promoters of the Yokohama meeting acted, is imperfect if not misleading. Nobody appeared to entertain any curiosity about the nature or source of that information. The gentleman who took the

Meeting into his shadowy confidence, was careful to say that the name of his informant must be concealed, but he did not, apparently, think it worth while to give his audience even the most rudimentary sketch of the programme which they were invited to condemn. The more the proceedings of the Meeting are considered, the more astounding seem the childlike trustfulness and philosophic incuriosity of those present.

A COMPARISON.

SOME Japanese journals of the lower class referred to the Revision meeting of the 11th inst. and to its promoters in violent and abusive terms, which elicited loud and indignant rebuke from a section of the Yokohama foreign press. By and by a meeting was organized by Japanese in Yokohama to protest against the resolutions passed at the foreign meeting. Here was a good opportunity for the courteous and moderate foreign newspapers to show their Japanese contemporaries how such meetings and their promoters should be treated; and evidently the journal best qualified to preach this practical sermon to its erring brethren was the one which had made itself most conspicuous in censuring their rudeness. Accordingly, we find the *Japan Gazette* appreciating the situation, and coming forward with a suave and polite analysis of the *Taito-jovaku-kai*, by which party the meeting of Japanese was projected and organized. The analysis might almost have been written of the promoters of the foreign meeting. One leading member of the *Taito-jovaku-kai* is a barrister, we are told; one, an ex-journalist, and the Society has the countenance of men like Count Soyeshima. Then follows a general verdict, the studied moderation and courtesy of which contrast glaringly with the utterances of journals like the *Tokyo Koron* and the *Kokumin Shimbun*. "The rest" of the Society's members, says the *Japan Gazette*, "are probably of the gent (sic) conveniently described as *soshi*—a rather numerous species, by the way, being made to embrace all evildoers and evil sayers." This is the proper and civilized manner of treating people who organise meetings and make speeches. Japanese journals will please copy.

THE "NIPPON."

"TREATY REVISION," says the *Nippon*, "is an affair that concerns the national independence. It differs in this respect from a revision of the laws or of the administration. The entire State is effected by it, and the strength of the entire State must be employed to achieve it. The necessity of revising the old treaties was recognised at the beginning of the *Meiji* era. It led to the mission of Prince Iwakura to Europe and America. More than twenty years have passed since then. Treaty Revision must be effected by the national strength. Verbal discussion is hopeless. The progress of the administrative system, of the fiscal system, of the laws, the development of the national wealth and intelligence, the organization of the military system—all these things are elements of national strength. It is essential that their aid should be enlisted in the cause of Treaty Revision. After the return of Prince Iwakura reliance was no longer placed on mere discussion. Attention was devoted to domestic reforms and to the nurture of the national strength. This was the policy of the late Marquis Okubo. He died, however, without achieving the great work of Treaty Revision. Count Ito succeeded him in the Government, and at once inaugurated the policy of rapid progress. Count Inouye aided him and undertook the work of revision. Considering the policy pursued at that time, we are disposed to think that instead of seeking to develop the nation's real strength and raise its prestige, attention was directed to making a brave show and to revising the mere text of the treaties. The consequence was that, instead of success being achieved, the national power was endangered. The people, both inside and outside official circles, at once took alarm, and the work of revision had to be abandoned. The issue of this failure was the fall of the

Ito-Inouye Cabinet. Count Kuroda succeeded. He was aided by Count Okuma, and once again the task of Treaty Revision was essayed. But the policy of Counts Ito and Inouye was not changed. Reliance was not placed on the nation's strength. The dominant idea was to achieve a political coup. Thus, the new scheme was only a little better than the old: it exposed the national prestige to much the same danger. Once again, therefore, the Government encountered violent opposition, and Treaty Revision had to be stopped. It appears to us that these failures were not owing to any want of ability on the part of the Government: they were due to the fact that instead of having recourse to the strength of the nation, diplomacy and discussion were entirely relied on. In other words, instead of trying to carry through this great work in concert with the people, statesmen depended on their own devices and sought to earn a reputation for themselves. We do not yet know the merits or defects of Viscount Aoki's scheme. Doubtless, taught by the popular excitement of last year, the compilers of the present draft have improved upon the schemes of Counts Inouye and Okuma. But whether the people will be content or not we cannot tell. The foreign residents of Yokohama, alleging that they have news of the British Government's assent to the new proposals, are taking strong measures of opposition. Their view is discountenanced. The nation must understand the mistakes that have been made. A mistake once consummated in a treaty that concerns foreign relations cannot be rectified. The true facts as to Viscount Aoki's proposals should be accurately considered by the people, who must then discharge their duties as a nation.

Reading between the lines of this article, the only conclusion we can form is that the writer advocates submitting the question of Revision to the Diet. We cannot perceive any other way of directly enlisting the strength of the nation in the cause. To submit the question to the Diet, however, would mean final abandonment of all hope of settling it by negotiation. If the six hundred members of the two Houses are to be admitted to the Conference, farewell to all possibility of agreement. Such an impractical notion deserves only derision. Now and then we find a vernacular newspaper complaining that the people are not taken into the Government's confidence in this matter. Some even make a grievance of the idea that foreigners receive information which is withheld from Japanese. In what civilized country is Parliament made a party to covenants between the Government and a foreign State, and in what civilized country are the details of such covenants made public before their conclusion? Universal experience shows that either the former course or the latter would be fatal to every chance of concluding a treaty or convention. Japan does not impress us as being competent to tread successfully a path which all other nations can follow only to failure. Instead of finding fault with statesmen for not having recourse to the strength of the nation, the *Nippon*, as we think, should blame the intriguing politicians whose disloyalty fatally weakens that strength.

TREATY REVISION.

COMMENTING on the meeting of the 11th ult. in Yokohama, the *China Mail* says:—While we sympathise with the feelings of foreigners in Japan, we cannot altogether approve of their opposition. Independence is one of the essentials of progress. The very admittance of Japan into the family of civilised nations will stimulate her to make further progress, and the responsibility she will have to undertake in the administration of justice between foreigners and natives will go far to correct many of the mistakes that have been committed. Knowing that flagrant injustice done to foreigners would lead to the denunciation of the treaty, and perhaps to complications with foreign nations, the Japanese would be even more careful than they are at the present moment to avoid the suspicion of injustice, and the Government would be more than ever anxious to avoid disagreeable incidents. After all, life and property are safer

in Japan than in many of the States of South America, which we treat as civilised nations. With proper guarantees there ought to be no risk in granting the wish of the progressive statesmen of Japan. The exact point at which the negotiations have arrived at this moment we do not yet know. The telegram would lead us to believe that there had been some fresh development, and that the revision was all but an accomplished fact. For the last eight or nine months little has been said about the new treaties, the Japanese themselves being taken up with the elections for their first Parliament. The other day a Yokohama contemporary said that negotiations with Germany were being actively carried on, and that after some arrangement had been come to England would be pressed to come to a decision. We know, however, from a well-informed source that the negotiations with London were far advanced two months ago. A correspondent who is in a position to know wrote us last month as follows:—

Our people are very unwilling that all the time and labor spent over the business should be thrown away and we are anxious for a settlement of some kind. The Japanese came forward with amended proposals. The two principal amendments being, 1st, that they would have no foreign judges at all; and 2nd, that they would not throw open any part of the country until the new system came into full operation and foreign jurisdiction ceased, when it would be opened once and for all. You will remember their first proposal was to open the country to foreign residence so soon as the treaty should be signed, coupled with the condition that the foreigner who availed himself of this privilege would be subject to the native tribunals for everything done outside the concessions—a state of things which would have led to much confusion. I believe we have practically agreed to their proposals, so unless something unforeseen happens in the meantime, I expect to hear any day that a final settlement has been come to. As before, a five or six years' period of probation is to elapse, and we further require that the Courts and Codes shall have been at least one year in satisfactory working order before we withdraw.

KOBE AND TREATY REVISION.

THE following anonymous notice was circulated in Kobe on the 25th instant:—

TREATY REVISION.

An informal private meeting will be held on Friday, the 26th September at 4.15 p.m. in the Chamber of Commerce rooms, kindly lent for the occasion, when the temporary committee elected on the 16th inst. will present their report and offer their suggestions for further proceedings.

On the 27th the *Hyogo News* had the following:—

KOBE ON TREATY REVISION.

The committee appointed at a recent private meeting to ascertain the views of the community upon the subject of Treaty Revision brought up their report yesterday before a second meeting specially convened by private circular, and which was attended by representatives from the leading firms here. It was decided that the following memorial should be addressed to the Foreign Ministers, and that all who are willing to do so should be invited to sign. A special committee was appointed to prepare the memorial and to forward it to the proper quarter when signed. Notice will be given as soon as possible of the place where it can be seen and signed.

TO THEIR EXCELLENCIES THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FOREIGN POWERS HAVING TREATIES WITH JAPAN.

SIRS,—It having been represented that there is a probability of certain proposals of the Japanese Government being accepted by the Treaty Powers, involving the abolition of extra-territoriality without the safeguards that have hitherto been considered necessary for the welfare of foreigners, We, the undersigned subjects and citizens of the Treaty Powers in Kobe, consider it our duty to lay before your Excellencies the views that we entertain upon a subject which so directly affects our position in this country.

Whilst recognizing to the fullest extent the immense progress that Japan has made during the past few years, and whilst sympathizing with her natural desire to obtain complete Sovereign rights, it is our decided opinion, in common with our fellow-countrymen resident in Yokohama, that the time has not yet arrived when questions in regard to rights, whether of property or person, arising between subjects and citizens of Foreign Powers in the Dominions of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, can be unconditionally and safely subjected to the jurisdiction of Japanese Tribunals.

We are also strongly of opinion that it would be premature to attempt to fix a date for the complete and unconditional relinquishment of extra-territorial jurisdiction until the New Criminal and Civil Codes, which it is proposed to put in force, have been in operation for some little time and experience has been gained as to how far they meet the requirements of the changed condition of affairs.

We have the honour to be, Sirs, Your Excellencies' humble and obedient Servants.

(Signatures)

THE "KOKU-HON" ON THE TREATY REVISION MEETING.

THE *Koku-hon*, a periodical of great influence and erudition, is greatly disappointed at the results of the recent Treaty Revision Meeting in Yokohama. It had expected that the discussion at the meeting would furnish useful material both for the Japanese negotiators of treaty revision, and for the Governments of the Powers concerned. But it finds, on the contrary, that the whole proceeding ill becomes a community representing Occidental civilization. The *Koku-hon* expresses surprise at the conspicuous want

of respect shown by foreigners towards the country of their sojourn. It believes that the unreasonable resolutions passed by the meeting will not have much influence on the course of the negotiations. But, as the question has attracted the attention of the whole Japanese nation, our contemporary considers it not altogether unnecessary to discuss the subject. Referring to the 1st resolution, the *Koku-hon* is astonished that, while charging the Japanese judiciary with incompetency, no reason or proof supporting the charge was given. It remarks that, even among the English residents of Yokohama, not a few have refused to sign the memorandum, and that no Austrian, nor Belgian, nor Dane, nor Russian, nor Spaniard, nor Swede, nor Norwegian attended the meeting. The primary object kept in view by the signatories of the resolutions is, in the opinion of our contemporary, simply to secure the continuance of Consular jurisdiction, under which system they can obtain favourable judgments against Japanese plaintiffs, who are virtually cut off from appealing to higher courts by reason of the immense expense and inconvenience involved in the process. The Tokyo journal also thinks that foreigners' objection to be placed under the jurisdiction of Japanese Courts is probably based on their experience of "the evils attending Consular Jurisdiction," and on the inference that similar evils are also prevalent among Japanese judges. Our contemporary, therefore, attributes this resolution to foreigners' ignorance of Japanese laws and Japanese judges. As to the 2nd resolution, the *Koku-hon* observes that the right of possession which foreigners claim to enjoy in virtue of the existing treaties really terminated in 1871. That they have enjoyed it so long after the proper period for revision of the treaties, is owing, in the *Koku-hon's* opinion, to the magnanimous desire of the Japanese Government to attain its object of treaty revision in an amicable manner. Such absurd resolutions proposed and passed by a meeting held at the instigation of a few discontented agitators, and attended by a section of the foreign community, will not, the Tokyo journal believes, influence the views of either the British Premier or the British nation, especially as the Chambers of Commerce in that country are reported to have expressed themselves in favour of revising the Treaty on the basis of the Japanese proposals. Lord Salisbury and the English Chambers of Commerce being far from attaching any importance to the resolutions supported by a handful of short-sighted merchants and petty journalists of Yokohama, our contemporary advises its countrymen not to be perturbed by the present movement in that Settlement.

"PICTURES OF ANCIENT JAPANESE HISTORY."

THE second part of Mr. Asso's work, "Pictures of Japanese History," has been published by Messrs. Maruya and Company. Like the first part, it is in both Japanese and English, the latter revised by Sir Edwin Arnold. This volume contains descriptions of a number of celebrated historical incidents from the days of the Fujiwara to the battle of Dan-no-ura, where the power of the Taira was finally broken and Nino-ama, Kiyomori's wife, jumped into the sea, holding in her arms the young Emperor Antoku, then only eight years of age. Mr. Asso gives only the barest outlines of the various events, but his book will be found very useful by those who desire to make themselves familiar with the land-marks of Japanese history, and to acquire a clue to the better understanding of many subjects employed in the decoration of art objects.

COMPARATIVE CIVILIZATION.

NO one, whether Japanese or foreigner will be found to say a word in extenuation of the conduct of the *soshi* whose lawless proceedings in respect of their country's domestic policy have suggested the possibility of their attempting violence against the promoters of the recent Treaty Revision Meeting in Yokohama. The authorities have adopted vigorous measures to guard the persons of these promoters, rightly

judging that in such a case it is better to exaggerate the danger for purposes of prevention than to minimize it for the sake of the country's reputation. The *soshi* are a pestilence which will be stamped out, sooner or later, we have no doubt, but which, though confined to a very limited circle, gives the enemies of Japan a strong handle to attack her. We cannot, however, see the fairness of asserting that because Japan is so unfortunate as to possess a small band of turbulent politicians who rely on force to further their views, she should therefore be pronounced unfit to be admitted to the comity of Western nations. The justice of such a contention will be better appreciated if we place, side by side, the argument itself, in the words of the newspaper advancing it, and some extracts from the telegraphic news appearing in the same issue of the same journal:—

Meanwhile, we notice that the Government has found it advisable to double the guards exactly told off for the protection of certain foreigners. But what a nice commentary this is on the boasted civilization of the country, so of its right to be placed on the same footing with other nations, that because the foreigners residing here protest against being placed under the Japanese jurisdiction without some adequate reason—the Government is obliged to take special measures for their protection.

London, August 20th.—A dispatch from Rome states that a big socialist conspiracy has been uncovered in that city. It consisted in the houses of working men belonging to secret societies the police have found bombs, charged with powder and dynamite, and correspondence of a dangerous character with foreign socialists. Republican flags intended to be used in case of an outbreak were also found.

Trieste, August 20th.—A bombshell was thrown into the office of the chief of Police yesterday and exploded, smashing the door and windows and severely wounding the secretary.

Another bomb with a fuse attached was found in a railway station in time to prevent a catastrophe.

It is surmised that the outrage is the work of Italian republicans who have headquarters here, and who strenuously and violently advocate the annexation of Trieste to Italy and the proclamation of an Italian republic.

The Austrian Government is generally considered to treat these turbulent agitators with a leniency that amounts to absolute weakness.

Another bomb was exploded today at the threshold of the office of the Editor of the *Adria*. A boy was killed.

A JAPANESE JOURNAL ON ENGLISH SELFISHNESS.

UNDER the heading "Selfishness of Englishmen," the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* writes as follows:—"We have heard that the English are a selfish race, but we never supposed them capable of insulting and belittling Japan as they lately did. We did not imagine that, on the plea of not being able to safely trust the Japanese courts of law, they would seek to sacrifice the aspirations and honour of this Empire on the shrine of their own selfish motives. Surely they know very well that Japan's progress has received the recognition of the world. Surely they know that their countrymen at home recognize her progress and admit the necessity of revising the Treaties. Surely they see with their own eyes the advance of Japanese civilization and the improvement of her legal institutions. Surely they know that the administration of justice in this country is comparatively free from corruption and partiality. Surely they know that the Japanese are a plain, simple, and honest people, with whom they can conclude an equal treaty without any danger to themselves. Surely they know that there is no cause for uneasiness in submitting to Japanese jurisdiction. We now discover that the selfishness of Englishman is without precedent in the Orient. The only impression left on our mind by the meeting of the 11th instant is that the English are capable of going to the extremes of selfishness. The meeting was attended by other nationalities besides the English, but we need not pay attention to them, as they were evidently led into the movement by the example of British subjects. It is Englishmen, the chief actors in and instigators of the movement, who deserve our condemnation. It is Englishmen whom the Japanese ought to censure with the voice of just anger and the pen of patriotism. Great Britain has hitherto been the leading power in Japan, but she has forfeited her place by the recent action of her subjects. Henceforth the word "Englishman" will signify a thing of venom, and English manufactures will be regarded as one regards evil insects. Is

this an advantage to England? The English residents in this country, probably as indifferent to the interests of their own country as they are to those of Japan, may not trouble themselves about such questions. But we should like to know what their countrymen at home think about the matter."

Evidently conscious of the danger of this inflammatory writing, the Tokyo journal, in an editorial note, warns the youth of the country against having recourse to any rash or violent measures. It tells them that such conduct will injure rather than promote the cause of the country. We, in turn, would ask the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* whether it really believes the diatribes it utters about British selfishness and so forth. Its editor, having arrived at years of discretion, must know perfectly well that the first duty of every rational being is to look after his own interests, and that the British residents of Japan, having only a very limited experience of Japanese jurisdiction, behave exactly as shrewd folks would behave anywhere on being asked to give up the protection of laws which they know and tribunals which they trust for that of laws which they do not know and tribunals which they have as yet had no practical reason to believe in. Could they change places with the Japanese, Englishmen would doubtless agitate at least as much as the Japanese for the recovery of their judicial and tariff autonomy. On the other hand, could they change places with the British residents, the Japanese, we venture to assert, would behave just as the latter are behaving. All this talk about selfishness sounds silly in the mouths of grown up people. The very same spirit which makes the Japanese seek to extend the sway of their laws and tribunals to every foreigner within their territories, that very same spirit prompts Englishmen to cling to laws which are the outcome of their national character and hardly earned experience, and to tribunals which the civilized world has learned to regard as standards of impartiality and legal acumen. Granting that there are some Englishmen who oppose treaty revision chiefly because their business interests are in favour of keeping things *in statu quo*, what has the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* to say of the Japanese who opposed it for precisely the same reason last year?

A CRISIS IN THE HISTORY OF CHRISTIANITY IN JAPAN.

SAYS the *Kokumin-no-Tomo*:—"The Christian belief, which has been hardened by the discipline of the past ten or fifteen years, is about to pass through a crisis. There are at present neither men nor books that can be taken as guides in matters of Christian belief, and every believer follows the bent of his own mind. Some have turned Unitarians, some lapsed into atheism; while others have turned sceptics. The present is a period of dead lock in the history of Christian evangelization. But as men of true loyalty can only be known at a time of national disaster, so Christians of firm and genuine belief are to be discovered at a time like the present. This day is, in fact, the vital season of test for Christian believers. On the whole we are glad that such a period has come." The meaning of this somewhat mysterious article may be gathered from what we have written from time to time about the utterances of Mr. Yokoi and others. The intellect of the Japanese is too subtle and their acquaintance with Western philosophical writings too intimate to suffer them to accept without cavi the somewhat chequered Christianity presented to them by the missionaries. To us who have been in the presence of sectarian disputes all our lives, it seldom occurs to observe the intrinsic pettiness of the questions that divide the followers of one faith into so many camps. Possibly if we had lived in the days when these insignificant mole-hills of dogma began to assume the dimensions of mountains, some of us might have been wiser and more liberal than the men of the time. But as it is, we accept all the schisms with traditional complacency, and talk of Christianity as one whole faith, forgetting how many angles

and facets it has developed under the friction of warring intellects and rival conceits. But when we bring this faith and submit it for the inspection of a people like the Japanese, they at once perceive how incomparably better adapted to human needs would be the original creed stripped alike of the theories of Paul and of the corollaries of Cephas. The unsightliness and embarrassment of Sectarianism are speedily appreciated by them, and they conclude that if they are to be Christians at all, their Christianity should be of a purer and more uniform type. They wish, in short, to receive the creed but to reject the excrescences that have grown upon it since the days when it was first preached by Christ and his disciples. Considering that Buddhism too has its sects, more numerous than even those of Christianity, one imagines that the Japanese should not show themselves so exacting. But Buddhist Sectarianism has ever been a very gentle business, a name rather than a reality; and besides, people often condone in an old friend what they will not pardon in a new acquaintance. So this inquisitive and eclectic nation aspires to have a Christianity of its own, and the ambition, happening to suit the temper of the present time exactly, seems on the point of bearing practical fruit. Years ago, the Rev. Dr. Eby, whose clear insight enabled him to see farther ahead than most people, laid down the principle that the Missionaries should aim steadily at self-effacement and at the transfer of their directing and leading functions to Japanese. We doubt whether even he foresaw how soon his precept would have to be carried into practice. Too soon, perhaps; for it is difficult to think that some unwholesomely morbid impulse does not underlie the eagerness of the rising generation of Japanese to assert their independence, and take the reins of everything into their own hands. But they are hard folks to understand. They manage somehow to walk erect in places where, according to foreign views, they ought inevitably to stumble. Perhaps they will keep their feet successfully in the present instance also.

JAPANESE COMBS.

M. THEODORE DURET, writing in the last number of *Artistic Japan*, says that among women the Japanese were the first to transform the comb into an ornamental object and fix it on the head. For the purpose of dressing and cleaning the hair combs were certainly used in very remote times, and it is on record that the Assyrians had combs adorned with lions carved in open work, that the Egyptians also decorated their combs richly, and that under the Carolingians ivory combs—called liturgical because they were used in the services of the church—were covered with elaborate carving representing figures and intricate scenes. All these, however, were after the fashion of the modern tooth-comb; that is to say, they were made with two rows of teeth and a space in the middle for grasping. No one thought of wearing a comb with one row of teeth to confine the hair and at the same time to ornament it. Nor does it appear that the fashion had its origin in Japan before 1700. Such, at least, is the conclusion arrived at by M. Duret, and as he seems to have expended a good deal of research upon this part of the subject, we accept his verdict while regretting that his enquiries did not carry him beyond the preliminary stage of comb-wearing. During the first fifty years after the wearing of combs had come into vogue, one only was used; but by and by another was added, and ultimately the number rose to three. It was not long, however, before the artistic simplicity of the national taste repelled against this abuse. To women of easy virtue was abandoned the privilege of loading the head with ornaments so numerous and heavy that their wearer could not endure them for more than an hour at a time. The refined lady contented herself with one little comb, sometimes elaborately decorated but generally quite plain and made of pure amber tortoise-shell, the paler the colour the better. Immense prices were paid for these combs of *bekko*. Their manufacture

constituted a special art, and to construct one of the usual dimensions—say three and a half inches long and an inch and a half in depth—the purest portions had to be taken from a large quantity of shell. A few years ago gold combs were in fashion. That was the epoch when Western civilization reached the zenith of its vogue; the time when a fine gentleman's three characteristic possessions were an Arabian horse, a gold watch, and *credat Judæus*—a concubine. Why this third chattel should have been deemed an evidence of attachment to the principles of *bunmei kaika*, we cannot tell. Perhaps the gentleman who writes indignant journalistic paragraphs about being called *Ijin*, *Tōjin*, and so forth, will be kind enough to enlighten us. At all events gold combs found favour in that era of extravagant display, and the worker in metals lavished upon them all the resources of his wonderful art. They did not survive, however. The æsthetic charms of the straw-yellow tortoise-shell reasserted themselves and still hold the field. But for girls between thirteen and eighteen there are combs of such variety that volumes might be filled with their designs, shapes, and colours. Some exquisite specimens encrusted with rich lacquer were shown at the recent Exhibition, but their glitter evidently outraged the taste of the time, for the handsomest of them remained unsold. Nowhere, perhaps, are the subtleties of fashion more inexplicable than in Japan. The slightest difference in the curvature or dimensions of a comb catches the eye of the Japanese lady, and either charms or revolts her. The magic words *riuko* and *hayari* have even more significance for her than for her Western sister, though happily they do not lead her into the same excesses and extravagance. M. Duret might have told us much when he set out to talk of combs, but his essay is of the most meagre and disappointing description. He has merely dipped into the *Miyako Fuzoku Keizai-den* and marvelled at Hokusai's two volumes about combs. Hokusai's two volumes! Think what a part the comb must have played in the ladies' life of Hokusai's time when a great artist could choose such an object for two books of paintings!

THE IMPERIAL NOMINEES TO THE HOUSE OF PEERS.

THE Emperor on Tuesday is reported to have nominated the following gentlemen to be members of the House of Peers:—

Mr. Obata Tokujin, President of the Keio Gijuku School.
Mr. Iwasaki Yanosuke, President of the Mitsu Bishi Company.
Mr. Narahara Shigeru, President of the Japan Railway Company.
Mr. Shitohsawa Eiichi, President of the 1st National Bank.
Mr. Kawada Koichiro, President of the Bank of Japan.
Mr. Tomita Tetsunosuke, ex President of the Bank of Japan.
Mr. Fujita Shiro, ex-Prefect of Ehime.
Professor Toyama Masakazu, Director of the College of Literature.
Professor Kikuchi Dairoku, Director of the College of Science.
Professor Funaiichi Kōi, Director of the College of Engineering.
Professor Hozumi Nobushige, Director of the College of Law.
Professor Komakamura Kiyomori, of the College of Literature.
Major General Yamagawa Hiroshi, Director of the Higher Normal School.
Mr. Iwamura Michitoshi, Privy Councillor.
Mr. Nishimura Shogeki, Court Councillor.
Mr. Matsukuri Rinshe, Vice Minister for Justice.
Mr. Miyoshi Tazuo, Chief Public Prosecutor of the Court of Cassation.
Mr. Hori Shingoro, President of the Tokyo Court of First Instance.
Mr. Kuki Ryūichi, President of the Imperial Museum.
Mr. Kawada Gō, Director of the Bureau of Imperial Sanctuaries in the Imperial Household Department.
Mr. Hirata Tōsuke, of the Legislative Bureau.
Mr. Iwamura Wataru, of the Legislative Bureau.
Mr. Kaneko Kentaro, Chief Secretary of the House of Peers.

Mr. Ito Miyoshi, Chief Secretary of the Privy Council.
Mr. Sone Kosuke, Chief Secretary of the House of Representatives.
Mr. Nagayo Sensai, Director of the Sanitary Bureau in the Home Department.
Mr. Kato Hiroyuki, President of the Imperial University.
Mr. Hamano Acata, Director of the Special School Affairs' Bureau in the Educational Department.
Mr. Nakamura Masanori, Senator.
Mr. Nishi Shū, Senator.
Mr. Maruyama Sakura, Senator.
Mr. Hōsokawa Junjiro, Senator.
Mr. Ando Sokumei, Senator.
Mr. Nomura Sosuke, Senator.
Mr. Kanda Kohji, Senator.
Mr. Mima Yasushi, Senator.
Mr. Mayeda Masanao, Senator.
Mr. Tanaka Yoshio, Senator.
Mr. Shigeno Yasutsugu, Senator.
Mr. Osaki Saburo, Senator.
Mr. Ohata Yoshino, Senator.
Mr. Yamaguchi Takayoshi, Senator.
Mr. Murata Tamotsu, Senator.
Mr. Watanabe Ki, Senator.
Mr. Yanagi Yozō, Senator.
Mr. Fukubara Minoru, Senator.
Mr. Hara Ichido, Senator.
Mr. Okanouchi Shigetoshi, Senator.
Mr. Watarai Masamoto, Senator.
Mr. Tsuda Idzumi, Senator.
Mr. Ōki Motikata, Senator.
Mr. Irami Shigekata, Senator.
Mr. Kunishi Nobumasa, Senator.
Mr. Nakai Hiromu, Senator.
Mr. Kinashi Seichiro, Senator.

ALLIANCE BETWEEN UNITARIANISM AND BUDDHISM.

IN a recent number of the *Rikugo Zasshi*, Mr. Takahashi Goro invites the attention of the Rev. Mr. Knapp to the shortsightedness of his alleged wish to ally himself with the Buddhists. Mr. Takahashi premises that he entertains no ill-feeling towards Unitarianism itself, but being convinced of the folly of the views of its representative in Japan as to Buddhism, he cannot but give utterance once more to the opinions he expressed at the Unitarian banquet at the Rokumeikan some time ago. Though his ideas as then expressed called forth various comments, he maintained uniform silence, because, in the first place, he was too busily occupied to take notice of his critics; and, in the second, because he considered their criticisms to be of a nature requiring no formal answer. Since then, he observes, the Buddhist press throughout the country had more and more distinctly shown a tendency to utilize Unitarianism as an instrument for attacking Christianity. Mr. Takahashi, however, believed Mr. Knapp to be too sagacious to become a tool of Buddhists. What, then, was his surprise to learn that the Unitarian missionary is still bent on cultivating the friendship of the Buddhists, as is shown by his article in the fifth number of the *Unitarian* on the similarities and dissimilarities of Unitarianism and Buddhism. Mr. Takahashi even goes so far as to say that Mr. Knapp's attitude towards Buddhism is that of one who flatters, prays, and solicits a favour. Does Mr. Knapp know, he asks, what Buddhism is really like? Buddhism is essentially an atheistic religion. This proposition can be proved by quotations from the Buddhist sacred writings; but Mr. Takahashi is too busy to do so, nor does he think it worth while to take so much trouble. He recommends Mr. Knapp to procure Viscount Torio's treatise called "*Shinsei Tetsugaku Mushin Ron*." He thinks Mr. Knapp does not know what he is about when he states that Buddhism arrived at the conception of God through the old philosophical ideas (*Bukkyō wa kodai no tetsugaku-teki shisō ni yotte jōtei ni kwan-suru shisō ni tasseru*). He then proceeds to refute another statement of Mr. Knapp, that on the fundamental ideas of creation Unitarianism and Buddhism are directly opposed to orthodox Christianity. Mr. Knapp is represented to have stated further that creation is not an event, but a perpetual progress which has neither commencement nor end. Now, in the first place, it is an abuse of a philosophical term to speak of "creation" in connection with Buddhism, for

how can there be any idea of creation, properly so called, in a religion that does not recognize God. For is it correct to say that creation is a perpetual progress without either commencement or end, because man, as maintained by no less an evolutionist than Virchow, does not seem to have made any progress during the first five or six thousand years. There is no reason, he goes on to observe, why there should not be any idea of progress in atheistic creation. If Mr. Knapp means to adopt the theory of atheistic evolution, Mr. Takahashi thinks he had better leave the Unitarian camp and join the atheistic Buddhists. Our author, however, believes that these apparently atheistic opinions have been expressed by Mr. Knapp for the purpose of obtaining the goodwill of Buddhists, for from other utterances of his it is evident that he recognizes the existence of God. Mr. Knapp is said to have observed, further, that Buddhism is, next to orthodox Christianity, a representative of the pessimistic religions but that Unitarianism represents the optimistic religions. Mr. Takahashi does not attach much importance to the fact that Christianity is included among the pessimistic religions of the world, for he thinks that this is merely a device of Mr. Knapp's to please his Buddhist friends. From the above statement Mr. Knapp ought to know that the religion he represents and the religion which he is so anxious to praise, are in their origin diametrically opposed to each other. Mr. Takahashi then refers Mr. Knapp to Hartman and Schopenhauer, remarking that these authors will no doubt enlighten him as to the nature of Buddhism. Mr. Takahashi goes on to observe that in thus criticizing Mr. Knapp's paper, he does not in any way intend to criticize Unitarianism itself. But he warns Unitarians against being utilized by Buddhists, and advises them to cultivate the friendship of their natural allies. What ideas Buddhists entertain about Unitarianism may be seen from the following passage in Mr. Maeda Unkei's tract "Shinshu Mondo":—"Unitarianism will not be productive of any positive benefits, but as it will be negatively useful in neutralizing the evil effects of Christianity, we approve the spread of that religion for the sake of the country; nay, for the sake of our Shin-shu sect." Mr. Takahashi, therefore, advises Unitarians to follow the example of the Rev. Mr. Spinner and his disciples, who, while professing opinions not very different from those of Unitarians, maintain intimate relations with other Christian sects.

A JAPANESE FABIUS.

SENATOR KAYEDA is an official who has made his mark. Men seek his opinion on all occasions of national difficulty, and newspapers quote his words as interesting contributions to public discussions. The *Matsui Shinbun* has accordingly elicited his ideas about Treaty Revision, the question now occupying so large a share of men's thoughts. Senator Kayeda is represented as having delivered a Fabian verdict. "There is no occasion," he said, "to revise the Treaties at present. I do not know the terms upon which it is now proposed to effect revision, but I do know what Professor Stein observed. 'Japan's foreign treaties,' the Professor said, 'were made by the former Government, the Bakufu. They are very imperfect affairs, beyond doubt, but if they are revised now, and if the revised treaties are still imperfect, Japan's prestige will suffer proportionately. Therefore there is no occasion to proceed with the undertaking hastily. All that need be done is to make preparations: to bring the nation to one mind, and develop the country's strength and resources. With national wealth, a powerful military organization, and public unanimity, Japan can be sure of obtaining what she wants whenever she chooses to ask for revision.' I agree with this view," Senator Kayeda said in conclusion. It is a pity that the Senator does not come to Yokohama. He would find several people in the foreign community ready to endorse his Fabian policy. From the side of his own nationals he is more likely to be met by the pertinent question—How is it that Japan's prestige would suffer by

revising her Treaties on lines which, though not absolutely perfect, at any rate secure the re-establishment of her sovereign rights, whereas, by leaving the Treaties unrevived, she continues to be debarr'd from the exercise of those rights, and to be condemned to national semi-isolation on the openly avowed grounds that her civilization is incomplete? As ordinary men, endowed with an ordinary sense of comparative values, we fail to follow the reasoning of Professor Stein and Senator Kayeda.

CAPTAIN LANG.

We take the following from the *Chinese Times* :—

The *Japan Mail*, in an article on "Foreign employees of China and Japan," makes the very true observation that the conduct of each of those countries towards foreigners appears to be the greatest advantage when viewed from a distance. It also penetrates to the marrow of the relationship between the Chinese and Japanese Governments and their foreign employees. Apropos of Captain Lang's resignation of the Chinese service, the *Mail* lays it down that neither China nor Japan ever has or ever can place a foreigner in actual command of their militant forces. This was also declared to be the case, so far as China is concerned, in the article we wrote on the occasion of Captain Lang's resignation. In claiming the position of joint-commander-in-chief, therefore, Captain Lang must have laboured under a serious misunderstanding. The question is who is responsible for the misunderstanding? and it is not answered by the flippant, and so far as the manipulation of facts goes—audacious letter which was recently sent from Tientsin to our Shanghai contemporary. In responding a second time to the request of China to take service as organizer of the fleet Captain Lang made his conditions perfectly clear that without full authority he would not undertake, as he certainly could not fulfil, the task. This was the subject of long protracted negotiations at Tientsin, and Captain Lang's terms were ultimately agreed to by H.E. the Viceroy, or he would never have entered the service. How the position of a foreign Admiral in the Chinese Navy was reconciled with the fundamental principle which forbade any such thing is best known to His Excellency and his literary staff; it is a resource of Chinese dexterity in the use of verbal illusions were probably taxed to the utmost on the occasion. But the fact remains that Captain Lang was given equal rank with Admiral Heng, with whom he acted as joint-commander, all official correspondence and all orders to the fleet being carried on in their joint names; and Captain Lang, with the full knowledge and approval of the H.E. Government, assumed the rank and title of "Admiral." In that capacity he proceeded to England and brought out the new ships, receiving at every port of call the full recognition of his rank; while on board he carried on all the duties of command without question. It was all the time under a delusion, which was carefully nursed by the Chinese authorities, until the fulness of time came when they could drop the mask. Whether the incident of the flag was brought on for the purpose of effecting the breach which had been long plotted for by the junior officers, matters little, as whether accidental or not it was the first revelation to Captain Lang of the position in which the Chinese regarded him, and when Li Hung-chang did not reply to his telegrams direct but through those whom Captain Lang considered his own insubordinate subordinates the whole deception was finally exposed. Captain Lang or his advisers may indeed have been too easily deceived, but it is not an imputation which lies gracefully in the mouth of any of those who were parties to the deceit. Captain Lang would have been quite willing to serve without rank, as naval adviser, but as organizer of the fleet both rank and authority were necessary to efficiency.

RATIONALISTIC TENDENCIES AMONG JAPANESE CHRISTIANS.

In reviewing a newly published treatise called "Kirisuto" (Christ), by Mr. Kato Satoru, who recently renounced the orthodox belief in favour of Unitarian doctrines, Mr. Takahashi Goro writes as follows:—"The Japanese Christian community has been seized by a sort of panic. Encountering the persistent attacks of the Buddhists, who, being now armed with sharp weapons imported from the Occident, have changed their attitude of defence into one of aggression, the Christian warriors—especially the pastors—who had until lately been the aggressors, have fallen back with timidity and precipitation from their outposts, and are now devoting themselves to the defence of their original position. The two sides have thus completely exchanged tactics. There are some even whose religious belief has been shaken by a perusal of "Robert Elsmere," and who, not knowing what to do, have made a headlong rush into the inner part of the citadel called Christ, and there stationed themselves as in a last place of refuge. Their example is being imitated by an increasing number of weak-minded Christians. These persons, instead of defending themselves on legitimate grounds (though in this case even to go on the defensive is a sign of defeat), have abandoned to the enemy their outer fortifications in every direction. If they sur-

render themselves or desert their positions in this manner, while thousands of fine recruits still flock to their standards, these Christian pastors are simply so many religious General Bazaïnes. We are afraid that such men, shallow in learning, weak in judgment, and unable to understand the works of profound scholars, may imitate the folly of that army of old, which was frightened into a wild stampede by the cries of water fowl.* Christianity, in the sense in which it is now generally understood, must stand or fall on its general merits. To forsake the outer fortifications and take refuge in the inner part of the citadel, is therefore neither more nor less than a desertion of Christianity. Such pastors ought to resign their positions, and, if they like, to originate a sect of their own. Otherwise they may inflict no small injury on the religion which they nominally profess. If Christianity be really unworthy of belief, its fall is only natural. But nothing can be more deplorable than that it should be lowered in public esteem by the conduct of incompetent pastors. Important as this question is, it is at the same time a large topic, and cannot be very well handled in a limited space. Further the present reviewer, being, so to speak, an outsider, will not here try to deal with the subject in a comprehensive manner. When we see that men, not competent to rightly understand the Bible, set about the hopeless task of criticising the sacred writings, we are inclined to admire the wisdom of the Catholic fathers in withholding the Holy Scriptures from their flock as dangerous weapons in the hands of children. * * * Must we also apply these observations to the author of the work now before us? No; yet, though he is bold, he is not in some respects a man of matured opinions being still a youth. He is, therefore, sometimes exceedingly enthusiastic and at other times exceedingly cold. Only recently he started a periodical called *Kyōgi* (Doctrine) for the purpose of expounding the theology of Calvin, and while the ink was as yet hardly dry on his journal he adopted the doctrines of Unitarianism. In entering the Unitarian camp, however, he has not done so as a conquered soldier, but as a general. He convened a general meeting of the congregation to which he belonged, and frankly avowed the reasons for his change of opinion. His frank and straightforward conduct ought to make double dealing pastors blush. . . . "Kirisuto" is an attempt to elucidate the teachings of Christ, principally from the human side of his nature, and, if the author permits us to take such a liberty with him, his book is, if not an imitation of a similar one by Strauss, a reproduction of that by Reuau. But as he has written avowedly from the standpoint of a Unitarian, his work is naturally preferable in some respects to the writings of the ambiguous pastors above alluded to."

THE RELIEF OF THE "ERTONGROUL'S" CREW.

THE *Choya Shinbun*, in an article dealing with the intention manifested in several quarters to subscribe money for the relief of those who have suffered by the loss of the Turkish man-of-war *Ertongroul*, says:—"No individual should accept the smallest iota unless its acceptance were sanctioned by reason and common-sense, and the proposition has even greater force in the case of a nation. There is no question of the wealth or poverty of either the giver or the receiver. Since the loss of the *Ertongroul* several benevolent people have intimated their wish to subscribe towards a relief fund. The desire shows a most charitable motive, which would almost seem to warrant the justice of the action. But international law and courtesy decree that a man-of-war may not be treated like a merchant vessel. The loss of the *Ertongroul* is the loss of the Ottoman empire, and our conduct in respect to the event must be governed by considerations of national etiquette, and not of individual desire. The money which it has been proposed to collect for the relief of those who suffered by the wreck of the *Ertongroul* might, in our opinion, be far more

* Allusion is here made to the flight of an army, said to have been fifty thousand strong, which was posted under Taira-no-Koremori on the western bank of the Fushikawa to check the progress of Yoritomo's arms.

fittings employed in succouring the families of the many Japanese who lost their lives in the gale that sent the *Erlongroul* to the bottom. There are no doubt many Japanese without pausing to weigh these considerations, allow themselves to be actuated simply by their benevolent instincts. In this category we must class Count Goto, Minister of State for Communications and also one of the plenipotentiaries appointed to represent this country in the negotiations for revision of the treaties. We would ask Count Goto whether, if he were entrusted with control of the foreign relations of the Ottoman Empire, he would accept donations from the people of Japan for a purpose which is peculiarly within the official province of the Government of the Sultan.

NIKKO.

MR. KATO SHOICHIRO, the manager of the Nikko Hotel, writes to one of the hotel's Yokohama patrons as follows:—"The unparalleled scenery of the Nikko mountains is made still more beautiful at the commencement of October, as it is then that the maples commence to put on their autumnal tints. About the 15th, the adjacent mountains are rich in polychromatic foliage, and as one gazes on the scene the maples standing out against the blue firmament appear to the imagination of the enraptured visitor as some vast brocade curtain woven of rich silks glorious in colour, kaleidoscopic in its blendings of light and shade, and suspended by an unseen but potent force from the ethereal canopy of heaven above. Nikko with its grand mountains, its leaping cascades, its streams and lakes, is year in and year out the most famous spot for beautiful landscapes in all Japan, but, when the deep crimson blush of autumn tinges the maples, words fail to adequately describe the exquisite and surpassing loveliness of the scenery. It is for this reason that a large number of visitors come here every year, and as now the railroad is open it may be confidently expected that the number will be considerably augmented. I need hardly add that we shall do all in our power to make our guests as comfortable as possible, and to that end we are endeavouring to improve our arrangements in every way."

CREUSOT.

EVERYBODY knows the great part played by the Creusot Works in the industrial competition which, during the past thirty years, has given the world such terrible engines of attack and defence. It is natural that such huge and nationally important works should be adequately described, and this has now been done by Lieut.-Colonel Hennebert, in a profusely illustrated volume of 212 pages. People interested in the story of one considerable branch of modern artillery progress will find it recorded in this book with considerable minuteness. We shall content ourselves here, however, with noting some facts, not generally known, among them the statement of Colonel Hennebert that 108 years have passed since Creusot first became a place of manufacture for artillery. Soon after that time (1782), arrangements were made, under the superintendence of an English engineer, Mr. W. Wilkinson, for the manufacture of the steam engine shortly before invented by Watt. Then followed the Revolution and the series of wars to which it led, during which period the activity of the Creusot Works never flagged. From 1815, however, till 1836, was a time of comparative idleness and embarrassment, and it was only when (1836) the establishment came into the hands of the Schneider Brothers and Company that it began to recover its importance. The first French locomotive was made there in 1838, and thenceforth all the locomotives used on the line of Saint-Etienne, Saint-Germain, and Versailles, as well as all the engines for the steamers navigating the Saône and the Rhône, were turned out at the works. Of course the war of 1870 kept Creusot pretty busy, but it is really since then that the works have acquired their world-wide reputation for the forging of steel ordinance. From 1875

to the present time they have supplied to the French Government 5,165 pieces of artillery for land service; and 500 big guns for the Navy, in addition to much other material of war. "At this moment," says Colonel Hennebert, "Creusot is engaged in the manufacture of a quantity of barrels for revolver-cannon and rapid firing guns of the Hotchkiss system; two steel guns of 303 centimètres to the order of the United States; four guns of 24 centimètres and 36 calibres, and 4 carriages, to the order of the Chinese Government; and a quantity of steel material for the Imperial Arsenal at Osaka, Japan."

THE CEREMONY OF OPENING THE DIET.

THE *Hochi Shimbun* publishes what professes to be, and very probably is, the official programme for the opening ceremony of the Imperial Diet (*Teikoku Gikai Kai-in-shiki*) on the 3rd of November. The following is the programme:—

1. The members of each House to assemble at their respective Houses at 9 a.m.; members holding patents of nobility and civil and military officials to be in full dress; the rest in frock coats. Orders to be worn. Persons taking part in the ceremony *ex officio* to be in full dress.
2. By "persons taking part *ex officio*" are meant Princes of the Blood holders of the Great Order of Merit, the Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal, the Ministers of State, the President and Vice-President of the Privy Council, the Minister of the Imperial Household, the Privy Councillors, the Chief Chamberlain and the Commandant of the Body Guards.
3. At half-past ten His Majesty will leave the Palace and proceed to the House of Lords. Imperial Procession National Ceremony. The *Sansetsu-in* will form His Majesty's suite.
4. The Presidents, Vice-Presidents, Chief Secretaries and Secretaries of the two Houses will assemble within the gates to receive His Majesty.
5. The President of the House of Peers will conduct His Majesty to the *Benden* (Imperial Waiting Room).
6. After His Majesty has reached the Waiting Room, the members of the two Houses, in accordance with the instructions of the residents and the plan of the ceremonial, will take their places.
7. The Master of the Ceremonies will pray His Majesty to come to the Diet.
8. The Emperor will follow the Master of Ceremonies to the House. The Gait seal will be handed to His Majesty by the Chamberlains. The Princes of the Blood and the suite will form up in their places.
9. The Emperor will mount the Throne. All the members with salute. The Minister President of State will present to His Majesty the Imperial Message. The Emperor will read the Message. At its conclusion all present will make an obeisance. The President of the House of Peers, advancing to the Throne, will receive the Imperial Message and carry it to his place.
10. Guided by the Chief Chamberlain, His Majesty will withdraw. The Princes of the Blood and the Imperial Suite will retire.
11. His Majesty will return to the Palace. The Presidents, Vice-Presidents, Chief Secretaries and Secretaries of the two Houses will bow His Majesty out of the gates.
12. The members of the two Houses will withdraw.

A REMARKABLE FEAT OF SEAMANSHIP.

ON her last voyage from Shanghai the Japan Mail Steamship Company's steamer *Saikyo Maru*, which is under the command of the universally popular Captain George Conner, was the means of saving a Chinaman's life under very remarkable circumstances. After leaving the Shanghai river the ship encountered a heavy gale, increasing by and by to almost typhoon force. As she battled her way against the big seas, a junk was descried evidently in a helpless condition. Steering towards her, it was seen that she had one man on board, lashed to the mast, and that the chances of her remaining afloat much longer were infinitesimal. To launch a boat was out of the question in so heavy a sea. Captain Conner, however, was not the man to leave a fellow-creature to his fate. He headed the *Saikyo Maru* right for the disabled Chinese craft, and by remarkably skilful steering, managed to get the junk under the lee bow of the steamer, and in contact with her. In a very short time, of course, the two vessels drifted apart, but before the junk passed to the stern of the *Saikyo*, ropes had been thrown to the Chinaman and he was successfully hauled on board. A rescue under such circumstances speaks highly for the seamanship and humanity of Captain Conner.

A CURIOUS STATEMENT.

WE translate the following from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*:—"With regard to the origin of the Anti-revision meeting held by British subjects in Yokohama, and to the various steps taken

* The term used in *Sansetsu-in* is those entitled to rank with the members.

by them, one rumour says that they acted on news received from the London Chamber of Commerce; another, that Mr. Thomas, who is now in England, furnished the intelligence. But recent information makes it quite clear that the revelation was made by a certain foreign Minister. The country which he represents has always hitherto been particularly friendly to Japan, and has treated her well in every respect. It was therefore not to be supposed that its Representative would encourage the foreign residents to oppose Treaty Revision. It does not appear, however, that the adoption of such a course by the Minister in question on this occasion only, is attributable to any exceptionally strong reason. One night, at a dinner where Englishmen and Americans were present, he is reported to have told the convives that they must not any longer rely on the continued enjoyment of commercial power and special conditions of land tenure hitherto prized so much, and that they had better make up their minds to a change. The Englishmen who heard these words were greatly perturbed, and proceeded at once to start an agitation."

* * *

The mystery affected by the promoters of the Treaty revision Meeting of the 11th ultimo, has led to the circulation of numerous rumours and is evidently responsible for the above. Having avowedly convened the Meeting in consequence of information that Her Majesty's Government contemplated the unconditional surrender of extraterritorial jurisdiction, the promoters of the Meeting took great care to afford their audience no manner of clue as to the source of that information. Mystery always begets conjecture, and when conjecture becomes sufficiently explicit it may take the shape of a mischievous libel. That is what has happened in the present case. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* report, though names are excluded, can only be read as indicating that the information obtained by the promoters of the Meeting came from the American Representative in Tokyo. In one respect the publication of such a rumour must be called fortunate, for it is incomparably better that a grave falsehood should assume sufficiently tangible form to be openly contradicted, than that it should be left to circulate without rebuttal. We need scarcely say that the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* rumour implicating the United States Minister is absolutely without foundation. From whatever source the promoters of the Yokohama Meeting obtained their intelligence, the American Legation was not concerned in the matter, either directly or indirectly. A violation of diplomatic confidence is bad enough, but in this case such an act would have involved a radical departure from the eminently friendly principles by which the dealings of the United States Legation with Japan have been for many years guided.

AMERICAN NAVAL OFFICER DROWNED AT HOMOKU.

ON Friday afternoon about half-past five o'clock one of the officers of the U.S. ship *Swa-tara*, now in this port, lost his life by drowning while bathing at the Homoku beach. It appears that two of the Ensigns of the *Swa-tara*, Messrs. H. E. Rumsey and V. O. Chase proceeded in the afternoon to Homoku, where Mr. Rumsey decided to have a bath, his companion, however, declining to go in. Mr. Rumsey, having entered the water, swam about for a little, but suddenly sank in very little over his depth. As soon as the occurrence was observed attempts were made to render him assistance, but in the approaching dusk these efforts were a good deal delayed, and twenty minutes elapsed before the body of the unfortunate young gentleman could be recovered. Among those who were attracted to the spot were several who were familiar with the methods prescribed for the resuscitation of persons recovered from the water, and these used every endeavour to restore animation, but unhappily without avail, for when Drs. Eldridge and Micheaux, who had been sent for,

arrived, life was extinct. The body was conveyed to the Naval Hospital, where it now lies. The deceased was an accomplished swimmer, but is supposed to have been seized by cramp. This fatality, coming so soon after other melancholy occurrences of late has cast quite a gloom over circles in which the unfortunate officer moved.

The remains of Ensign H. E. Rumsey of the U.S.S. *Swatara* were interred on Saturday afternoon in the Yokohama Cemetery. Detachments were landed from the *Omaha* and the *Swatara*, with the band of the former vessel, to pay the last honours to the deceased officer. A short service was performed at the American Naval Hospital, whither the body when found had been conveyed, and the coffin on which were placed wreaths from friends and comrades, was then carried to the grave. Owing to uncertainty as to the hour when the interment was to take place not many of the public were present. Ensign Rumsey was about twenty-six years of age, had entered the U.S. naval service in 1882 and joined the *Swatara* in 1888. An enquiry into the circumstances attending the death of the deceased officer takes place this afternoon at the U.S. Consulate-General.

THE GERMAN PRESS AND THE JAPANESE.

SOMEbody recently asserted that the Japanese press is in far worse plight than the German press ever was. For purposes of comparison it will be interesting to peruse the following extract which we take from an essay entitled "The change of Government in Germany, in the last number of the *Fortnightly Review*—

The legal restrictions to which the German Press is subjected are contained in the Penal Law, the Law against Social Democracy, and the Press Law of May 7, 1874. Art. 1 of the Act of 1874 declares that the liberty of the Press is subject to no other restrictions than those laid down in the Act itself. Every editor of a periodical is bound to furnish the police with a copy of each number as soon as it appears; and the police can at once suppress it (1) if it does not give the name and address of the editor and of the printer; (2) if in time of war it publishes forbidden news on military operations; (3) if it contains indecent matter, provocation to high treason, or incitement to violence between one class and another, or to offences against the Sovereign or resistance to the Government; but in the case of provocation to public violence or disobedience to law (sections 110 and 120 of the Penal Code) the Act only applies if there is imminent danger of the incitement leading immediately to the commission of a crime or misdemeanour. In addition, the law against Social Democracy (October 20, 1878, section 12) provides that all prints in which Social Democratic, or Communist views are proclaimed in a manner tending to the overthrow of the existing political and social order, or the endangering of the public peace, especially as between the various classes of the population, are to be suppressed; an Act which sufficed to exterminate the entire Socialistic Press.

Where the case does not admit of simple suppression by the police, press offences are supposed to be dealt with by the courts of justice according to the law. Everybody admits that a newspaper can be guilty of treason, calumny, &c., and these offences are punishable in all civilized countries; but the German law gives a much stronger hold on the Press than that of other States, and its provisions are stretched to the full by the ingenious interpretations of the public prosecutors. As an instance we may quote that given recently to section 360, No. 5, of the Penal Code, which deals with those who cause a disturbance or are guilty of gross disorder. Hitherto the clause had been understood, according to the obvious meaning of the words, to apply to rioting, disturbing the public peace, breaking windows, &c.; but suddenly some prosecutor found out that "gross disorder" might also be caused by disrespectful attacks on the Government in the daily papers, even when no offence could be proved against any definite person; and docile tribunals accepted this reading, and passed a series of condemnations accordingly.

Another fruitful source of proceedings against the press is the law relating to personal offences (Art. 184 of the Penal Code), a law very different from the English law of libel. An offence is considered to be committed if anyone asserts or propagates a fact which is calculated to degrade another person in the public opinion, provided the truth of the alleged fact cannot be proved.

It was generally the Chancellor himself who prosecuted Opposition papers for having offended him. He kept a printed form by him for the purpose; and rarely indeed were those papers acquitted. The public prosecutors knew that there was no surer way to promotion than to hunt up offences against Bismarck and secure the condemnation of the offending papers. In the trial of Count Hermann Arnim (a relative of the unfortunate ambassador), the public

prosecutor argued that it was an offence against Prince Bismarck to deny him the virtue of generosity. And again, in the case of Baron Loe, who had commended the Chancellor's modesty in granting himself a pension of only 4,000 marks on his resignation of the sinecure post of Lauenburg Minister, the accused was condemned for damning the Chancellor with faint—or ironical—praise.

M. Th. de Bismarck, in an essay published April 18th, 1890, in the *Revue Internationale*, "Le Liberalisme en Allemagne," calculates that summing up the several condemnations, more than a hundred years of imprisonment have been inflicted on the opponents of the Chancellor on this account.

A WANT.

The *Maru Maru Chimbun* has this quaintly worded note:—

IN WANT OF A DICTIONARY.

"I think," said a young scholar, "that a good dictionary is very necessary for the success of Treaty Revision—at least for the goodwill of the foreigners."

"What a curious notice you give," replied another student. "What is the relation between the Dictionary and Treaty Revision? I don't understand."

"It can be easily explained. Have you seen the translations of the Japanese into the English which appeared in the *Gazette* and the *Herald*? Almost all of the translated words were exaggerated in the meaning. Think! The good dictionary is necessary."

The incriminated journals might flippantly reply that the *Maru Maru Chimbun* stands in as much need of a work on syntax as they do of a dictionary. But speaking soberly, we must say that the translations referred to often astonish us. In a majority of cases the renderings given convey a far harsher meaning than any one would gather from reading the original Japanese. Frequently, indeed, an English word is employed the inaccuracy of which must shock any ordinarily well informed scholar. If the translations sometimes, however rarely, err in the direction of softening asperities, we should be enabled to believe that error or ignorance was only to blame. But there is never anything of that kind. Invariably the translator more or less exaggerates the worst features of his text. Is it not a pity that this needless addition should be made to the width of the gulf already dividing foreigners and Japanese?

AN ILLUSTRATION.

Japan Mail, 27th September.

Mr. Yenamoto, in the course of his speech, grew very excited, and declared that death would not be enough for men like Mr. Lawder, whereupon the police interfered and stopped the lecture. Mr. Yenamoto alone seems to have exceeded the bounds of propriety, but his excess was certainly sufficient to make up for the comparative moderation of his fellow-speakers. We do not know whether Mr. Yenamoto's language will bring him within the grasp of the law for inciting to violence, but it will at all events exclude him from all further recognition at the hands of foreigners with whom he has been seeking interviews.

Japan Gazette, 27th September

In words of studied insolence our contemporary this morning practically tells foreigners that the policy they have pursued has been such as to provoke the ruinously sentiment *Enomoto* uttered.

THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ORIENTALISTS.

SOME of our readers no doubt are interested in the affairs of the International Congress of Orientalists, and perhaps may have heard of the serious difficulties in that body arising out of certain proceedings at the Stockholm meeting last year. The most important official for the time being at these Congresses is the local secretary; he is the real working man at each meeting, and the comfort of the members and the success of the gathering are to a large extent dependent upon him. Besides, the statutes impose on him certain duties in regard to the arrangements for the next meeting. These matters are chiefly formal, but like many other formalities, they help to grease the wheels, and unless that is properly done everything comes to a standstill. Now at the Stockholm Meeting the local secretary was Count Landberg, the Swedish Consul-General at Cairo, who began life as a dragonian at Constantinople, and who is said to possess a wonderful colloquial knowledge of Levantine languages. He was fortunate in securing the favour of the King of Sweden, who appointed him to his present post in Egypt. Whether learned men are peculiarly sensitive, or whether want of tact on the part of Count Landberg was to blame, certain it is that the Count gave dire offence to several well-known scholars, and especially to those of English nationality. All

this, however, would probably have blown away and been forgotten, but the Count, it is said, broke the statutes in regard to the summoning of the next Congress. These, we believe, provide that a small representative committee is to be summoned at each meeting with a view to selecting a place or places for the next meeting, the selection being laid before the general meeting of the Congress for approval. Count Landberg, however, did not take the prescribed course, but evolved an arrangement from his own inner consciousness: he appointed four ex-presidents of the Congress to select absolutely and without reference to the general body of the members the next place of meeting. Amid the gaieties of Stockholm and the pleasures provided by the king for the members, this proceeding passed unnoticed, or at any rate without serious notice, but when the members returned to their homes and had time to consider the matter, especially those who had taken offence, it was seen that the Secretary's proceeding, however suitable under other circumstances, was absolutely illegal. But this left the Congress in a curious dilemma, for the statutes provide that the place of meeting must always be settled at the previous Congress and make no provision for a case such as had arisen. After sundry conferences of discontented members it was determined, we understand, on legal advice, that the Congress must go back to its original founders, namely the French scholars, in order to repair the error. This was soon done by the appointment of half a dozen or more English scholars—England being the country which was on the list for the next place of meeting—under the presidency of Sir Henry Rawlinson, to take the place of the Committee which ought to have met at Stockholm, and—as a general meeting is now impossible—to select absolutely where the Congress shall hold its next session. Thus at one time there were two Committees sitting to consider the same question, one under Sir Henry Rawlinson in London, and the other somewhere on the Continent, and having for members the ex-presidents nominated by Count Landberg. After a little negotiation the latter Committee sent in its adhesion to the former, and in this way the difficulty has been bridged over. The meeting will, we learn, be held partly in London and partly in Oxford in September next year. In the meantime another hitch has arisen: the French founders nominated as their representative on the London Committee Dr. Leitner, formerly of Lahore, a sort of modern mezzofanti and a man of some resolution and force of character. He regards himself as being to a large extent independent of Sir Henry Rawlinson and his Committee, and is reported to be unable to agree with some of their conclusions. How this new difficulty is going to be met at the present moment is a problem. Learned men are sometimes very intractable in business matters, and the less important the point at issue the more intractable they are. Probably they are so constantly engaged in the pursuit of the exact in science that they know nothing of the sweet reasonableness of compromise. However, there the matter stands now, and during the past nine months the Orientalists have been "slating" each other in fine style in various periodicals.

THE "JIJI SHIMPO'S" MEDALS.

WE referred recently to the fact that the *Jiji Shimpō* had invited a plebiscite of its readers to decide the merits of the articles exhibited at the recent Industrial Exhibition. This step was taken owing to the discontent expressed in many quarters by exhibitors who thought that they had not been fairly treated by the Judges at the Exhibition. The *Jiji Shimpō* advertised that a hundred medals would be awarded to the best exhibits in as many classes. The medals were called *Kimpai* (gold medals), but of course it was understood that this was only a *façon de parler*. The material employed seems to have been silver gilt. The medals, however, were massive and handsome and their recipients are understood to attach no small value to them. The proposal to vote was responded to by 6,620 persons, but only ninety-nine medals were

awarded, it being decided that nothing worthy of a prize had been shown in the section of paper-making machines. Our readers will probably be interested in learning the results of the competition. We quote the articles which seem to possess most claim to foreign attention:—

ARTICLE.	MANUFACTURER.	PLACE OF MANUFACTURE.
Matches	The Kogyo-Sha	Tokyo.
Tooth-powder	Saito Kichiro	Tokyo.
Cake-plates	Kawara Tokutsumi	Tokyo.
Kutani Flower-vase	Watano Kichiji	Ishikawa Pref.
Bricks	Su Miyama Shotoku	Tokyo.
Mirrors	Dou Shigezo	Tokyo.
Clocks	Atai Tameshichi	Tokyo.
Muskey safes	Takemouchi Zenjiru	Tokyo.
Umbrellas	Kawasaki Motokichi	Nagasaki.
Chairs	Miyazawa Heisuke	Osaka.
Lead pencils	The Seikin-sha	Tokyo.
Gas and electric lamps.	The Dento-kaisha	Tokyo.
Kerosene lamps	Kihara Mohel	Osaka.
Woven Window-curtains	The Nishijimmonori-kaisha	Kyoto.
Wines	The Seishi-kaisha	Tokyo.
Photographs	Ogura Iashin	Tokyo.
Painting (Japanese school)	Hashimoto Gahlo (Autumn scene)	Tokyo.
Painting (Foreign school)	Ando Nakitaro (Ladies going to see flowers)	Tokyo.
Ivory carving	Kanada Kanejuro (Ivory figure)	Tokyo.
Wood carving	Takemouchi Kanegoro (wooden figure of the Emperor Jimmu)	Tokyo.
Bronze casting	Haashi Kubei (bronze doors with dragons in relief)	Tokyo.
Enamel	Namikawa Zosuke (green with enamel panels)	Tokyo.
Print (picture)	Okamura Takeshiro (Girls playing musical instruments)	Tokyo.
Rice	N. Kano Kichichi	Shiga Pref.
Tea	Kinoshita Kizayemon	Kyoto.
Beer	Isono Kei (Kirin Beer)	Yokohama.
Shoyu (soy)	Mogi Saheiji (Kikkoman mark)	Chiba Pref.
Sugar	Okei Tomitaro	Awa.
Silk (raw)	Itô Goratemon	Mye Pref.
Fishing implements	Hanabusa Yasayemon	Kagoshima.
Surgical instruments	Mugi Kubei	Tokyo.
Tea table	Tanaka Sudo Kaisha	Hokkaido.

This list contains some surprises. Most astonishing of all is the verdict in favour of Mr. Takenouchi's wooden figure of the Emperor Jimmu. Judged by Western art canons, this piece of sculpture had very little indeed to recommend it, and so far as our acquaintance with Japanese art goes, we should have been disposed to pronounce it equally meritless. Certainly it could not bear comparison with Mr. Ogura's bronze casting of the same subject. Two things, however, probably gave the figure a popularity which, from an artistic point of view, it did not deserve. One was the striking likeness which the face bore to the reigning Emperor of Japan. The other was the fact that the editors of the *Kokka* gave a prominent place in their pages to the figure, virtually including it in the same art category as Mr. Hashimoto's remarkable painting which attracted so much attention. Scarcely more unexpected is the popular vote in favour of Mr. Ando's oil-painting. Visitors to the Exhibition will remember a large picture hung about the middle of the end wall of the Fine Arts Gallery. The subject was a group of ladies, dressed in Japanese costume, walking among cherry trees. We confess that the merits which secured for this picture a majority of votes in the *Fiji Shimpō's* plebiscite were not apparent to us. Neither should we have thought of awarding a gold medal to the huge ivory eagle which attracted so much notice and so little admiration. However, tastes differ. Perhaps the impressions that influenced the *Fiji Shimpō's* voters were not formed, in many instances, with a view to critical judgment. Had the plebiscite been held while the exhibits were still on view the results might have been different.

THE "KAISHIN-TO."

The leaders of the *Kaishin-to* have agreed upon a revised programme. We translate it from the vernacular press:—

PLATFORM.

1. Our Party shall be called the *Rikken Kaishin-to*.
2. Our Party shall include all subjects of the Empire holding the following principles:—
 - (a) Preservation of the prestige and power of the Throne, and consummation of the people's happiness.
 - (b) The preëminent necessity of domestic reform, and the development of the national power.
 - (c) Abolition of the policy of interference on the part of the Central Government, and esta-

blishment of local government as the basis of administration.

- (d) Extension of the franchise in due proportion to social progress.
- (e) The utmost possible diminution of political relations with foreign States, and the increase of commercial relations with them.
- (f) The preservation of hard-money payments in the national finance.

REGULATIONS.

1. Our Party shall have thirty councillors who will decide all its business.
2. On exceptional occasions, or in emergencies, the councillors may hold meetings as representatives of the Party, and may exercise all the power pertaining to a general meeting. For the purposes of such meetings two-thirds of the councillors shall form a quorum. There shall be selected from among the councillors 7 executive officers, one of whom shall attend daily at the Party office to transact the business of the Party. According to business convenience, however, and by vote of the councillors in session, the number of councillors transacting such business may be increased.
3. The period of service for a councillor shall be one year, and they shall be elected at the annual general meeting of the party.
4. The executive officers shall be chosen by the councillors.
5. For the better conduct of the Party's business, members may be occasionally appointed in the various cities and prefectures to manage affairs there.
6. Local executive officers shall not be less than two and more than sixty in any city or prefecture, and their election and period of service shall be in accordance with local convenience.
7. The Party meetings shall be of five kinds:—the regular general meeting; emergency general meetings; representative general meetings; councillors' meetings; and monthly meetings. The regular general meeting shall be in August of every year; the monthly meetings on the 15th of each month; the representative and emergency meetings shall depend upon circumstances, and be determined by the councillors in session.
8. Written opinions sent by absent councillors in relation to Party business, shall be transmitted to the councillors in session by the executive officers, and with the consent of the councillors present may be made a subject of debate.
9. Persons desiring to become members of the Party must be introduced by members.
10. Members desiring to withdraw from the Party should state the fact to the executive officials.
11. Members acting contrary to the spirit of the Party or in such a way as to disgrace it, may be expelled by decision of the local executive officers, confirmed by the councillors.
12. These regulations may not be altered except by vote of half of those present at a general meeting. In case of emergency, however, they may be altered by an emergency general meeting, or a representative meeting of councillors.
13. Expenses incurred in transacting the affairs of the Party shall be met by subscriptions from the members or by donations. The manner of collecting such monies shall be decided by a representative assembly.

APPENDIX.

The executive officials shall keep accounts of the income and expenditure of the Party, and shall lay them before the monthly meetings. These officials shall also report to each yearly general meeting the main features of the business and the state of the accounts. This appendix shall not be altered except by a vote of half of those present at a meeting of councillors.

THE "MUSASHI MARU."

The circumstances of the loss of the Japan Mail Steamship Company's steamer *Musashi Maru* have now been ascertained, with probably as much accuracy as is possible, from the evidence of the sole survivor. By the kindness of the Directors we are enabled to place the report before our readers:—

The *Musashi Maru* sailed from Shimonoseki at 7 a.m. on the 15th September, and passing between Hima Shima and Kishin, steered from the Inland Sea by the Bungo Channel at a speed of between 8.5 and 9 knots, with a light N.E. wind and barometer steady at 29.95. At 11 p.m. ship cleared the Bungo Channel and shaped a compass course N.E. by E. for Mirotaki, weather getting worse and wind increasing, with heavy squalls and rain, barometer falling slowly and speed reduced to 5 knots. At 4 a.m. very heavy sea, decks con-

stantly flooded with water. All hands employed securing gear, speed 3 knots. At 8 a.m. wind and sea increasing, shipping big seas. At noon ship evidently in typhoon; about this time the pig was carried away from the davits, and at 1 p.m. the wheel chain carried away and the ship fell off in the trough, and the seas made a clear breach over her, carrying away captain's cabin. A hold ventilator at the starboard side of the foremast was carried away close to deck, and a great quantity of water finding its way below, it was found impossible to repair the ventilator; the ship was brought under control of hand steering gear about 1.30 p.m. and kept off the wind, going half speed till 4 p.m., when the steam gear being in order she was brought head to wind and full speed. At 5 p.m. the starboard lifeboat was lifted by a heavy sea from the chocks and landed on the engine room skylight. The force of the wind and sea was now terrific, the ship's course S.E. by S., the sea on the port broadside. Ship's deck flooded with water, ship labouring and rolling fearfully. Boats and all movables dashing about the decks. Captain, 3rd officer, and 3 men on the bridge, chief and 2nd officers, and seamen clinging to bulwarks. Engines half speed; engineers and firemen in the engine-room at their stations. Dens Ootkichi says that about 6 p.m. he was at the wheel; the Captain ordered the helm hard-a-weather; the ship paid off about 2 points. Captain asked "Does the ship pay off?" The 3rd officer answered "Yes." At that moment a tremendous sea struck the vessel on the port side and hove her on her beam ends; she righted with her decks full of water, when a second sea struck her and threw her on her beam ends; she only partially righted, when a third sea struck her; she then heeled right over and sank. On rising to the surface Dens Ootkichi found one of the steel life boats floating, and climbed into her together with 17 others of the crew. At the same time he saw Captain Rahm and one or two others clinging to another boat which was immediately rolled over and over and the Captain disappeared. During the night the boat capsized several times. At daylight the following morning (17th) the occupants of the boat were the chief engineer, 2 quartermasters, 2 firemen, 2 sailors, the carpenter, and Dens Ootkichi, all very much exhausted. About noon Dens Ootkichi, seeing the life-boat could not float much longer, constructed a raft with the boat's gear, and in company with another man took to the water. At this time the chief engineer was washed out of the boat, and although provided with a life belt, was so much exhausted that he was drowned alongside. About 11 hours after quitting the boat the second man lost consciousness, dropped off and sank. During the night Dens Ootkichi saw lights on shore; became afterwards unconscious, but managed to retain his hold on the frail raft, and was finally rescued from his perilous position about 4 p.m. on the 18th September by a fishing boat and landed at Tanabe. Dens Ootkichi is convinced that he is the sole survivor.

THE "YORINOBU MARU."

The following particulars of the loss of the Japan Mail Steamship Company's ship *Yorinobu Maru* have been kindly furnished to us by the Directors:—

The *Yorinobu Maru* was a barque-rigged wooden vessel of 517²/₁₀ tons gross, built at Hyogo in February, 1884. In November, 1889, she was dismantled in a typhoon, and was subsequently remasted and refitted with new rigging and new sails throughout. The *Yorinobu Maru* loaded coal at Shimonoseki taking in 650 tons, being 15 tons less than usual, the Captain taking this precaution on account of the typhoon season. She sailed from Shimonoseki, at 9 a.m. on the 28th August bound to Yokohama, and passed through the Inland Sea and anchored at Hyogo on the 2nd September, where she remained till the 14th waiting moderate weather. She sailed from Hyogo on the 14th at 8 a.m. with light N.E. winds, making 2 to 3 knots under all plain sail, passing Tomaga Shima at 2 p.m. and arrived off Ichiye Saki about noon on the 15th. From that time the barometer fell slowly, wind changing to East, freshening, with heavy S.E. swell, light sails taken in. Midnight, wind strong and sea very heavy; reduced sail to lower topsails; at 2 a.m. Shiwo Misaki bore E. and N. 15 miles; ship making no progress. Captain decided to bear up for shelter in the Kii Channel, there being every sign of an approaching typhoon. At 7 p.m. Himo Misaki bore N.E. 2 miles, when the wind shifted to north and the ship steered south. At 9 p.m. wind shifted to S.E.; hauled upon starboard tack. The weather had now got very bad, wind typhoon force, and very heavy sea, the decks constantly flooded with water. At about 9 p.m. the fore lower topsail and fore topmast-staysail were blown away, and the steering gear carried

away, and the ship became unmanageable heading to the N.E. but drifting to N.W. Terrible typhoon, decks full of water, torrents of rain, and nothing visible. About 2.30 a.m. the rocks were suddenly seen towering up alongside the vessel, and she was carried broadside on the rocks, between two small islets on the south side of Ii-sima. The Captain ordered all hands to the rigging but endeavored to enter the cabin himself, when a heavy sea swept him overboard and he was seen no more. The chief officer escaped to the fore rigging. The vessel soon began to break up and by daylight was a total wreck. Out of a crew of 31 all told, including 14 apprentices, we regret to say only 7 were saved, viz., chief officer, boatswain, 2 seamen, 1 apprentice, steward, and boy.

CUSTOMS RETURNS.

The following is a summary of the Customs Returns for August, showing the foreign trade of Japan for the month:—

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS.		1890.	SILVER YEN.
Exports	6,161,264,710	4,057,231,430	
Imports	5,408,075,540	8,511,056,580	
Total exports and imports	12,569,340,250		
Excess of imports	4454,425,150		
CUSTOMS DUTIES.		1890.	SILVER YEN.
Exports	110,803,481		
Imports	218,854,160		
Miscellaneous	12,414,692		
Total	341,102,636		

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS TO AND IMPORTS FROM VARIOUS FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.
Great Britain	481,730,020	2,471,910,070	2,953,640,090
United States of America	1,471,294,360	453,806,030	1,925,100,390
Hongkong	271,040,310	83,007,030	354,047,340
British India	11,470,310	1,535,371,030	1,546,841,340
China	387,700,410	934,354,130	1,322,054,540
France	324,083,710	358,944,270	683,027,980
Germany	42,093,210	530,035,370	572,128,580
Korea	103,398,110	417,014,470	520,412,580
Canada & other British America	124,716,970	53,360	124,770,330
Belgium	20,072,000	82,023,710	102,095,710
Australia	78,010,510	14,077,300	92,087,810
Switzerland	28,000	84,405,710	84,433,710
Russia	19,521,410	1,211,110	20,732,520
Philippine Islands	187,000	17,030,350	17,217,350
Italy	7,052,500	5,077,440	12,129,940
Siam	858,800	6,721,000	7,579,800
Denmark	4,155,000	5,814,000	9,969,000
Austria	1,270,750	1,270,230	2,540,980
Holland	—	1,777,460	1,777,460
Spain	1,703,030	—	1,703,030
Hawaii	423,000	401,030	824,030
Portugal	—	683,530	683,530
Persia	—	674,710	674,710
Norway & Sweden	180,000	55,260	235,260
Turkey	83,311,600	1,390,321,000	1,473,632,600
Other Countries	3,015,030,170	8,511,056,580	11,526,086,750
Total	12,569,340,250	12,569,340,250	

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS FROM AND TO EACH PORT.

	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.
Yokohama	1,549,745,010	4,553,016,800	6,102,761,810
Kobe	1,300,035,710	3,040,150,260	4,340,185,970
Osaka	27,108,000	306,318,300	333,426,300
Nagasaki	20,124,470	291,351,350	311,475,820
Hakodate	70,000,000	70,380,500	140,380,500
Shimonoseki	55,806,610	210,908,990	266,715,600
Moji	25,700,000	—	25,700,000
Hakata	—	925,860	925,860
Kanetsu	6,000,000	—	6,000,000
Kuchino	100,151,000	—	100,151,000
Niimi	9,007,500	—	9,007,500
Idzumi	1,635,000	12,495,940	14,130,940
Shimoda	2,150,500	5,153,300	7,303,800
Sasura	1,570,000	3,040,630	4,610,630
Osaka	5,007,500	—	5,007,500
Specie and Bullion { Exports	2,971,601,800		
{ Imports	—	28,106,900	
Total	3,000,008,700		
Excess of exports	2,943,194,900		

VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS BY JAPANESE MERCHANTS AND GOVERNMENT.

	Exports.	Imports.
	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.
By Japanese Merchants { Exports	506,180,270	
{ Imports	1,828,325,150	
Imported by Government	—	71,511,000

A WONDERFUL ESCAPE.

ANOTHER member of the crew of the Japan Mail Steamship Company's sailing vessel *Fort-nobu Maru* has been saved. He was a sailor on board the ill-fated vessel, and when she went down he, like the rest, obeyed the captain's orders and mounted the rigging. The following morning (17th), however, he floated off on some wreckage and was carried across the Kii Channel, a distance of twenty miles, by the force of the wind and the current prevailing in those waters. At 1 p.m. on the 18th, after having been in the sea for over thirty hours, he was picked up near Osaka by a junk, and carried to Okasaki in Awa, whence he was transferred to Kobe. It is needless to say that his long immersion, following on the hardship of battling with the storm while the ship remained afloat and clinging to the rigging for some hours

while she was on the rocks, produced terrible exhaustion, but happily he is reported to be fast recovering.

CHOLERA RETURNS.

The latest cholera returns derived from official sources are as follow:—

Prefecture or City.	Date.	New Cases.	Deaths.
Osaka	26th	125	148
	27th	124	103
	28th	123	124
	29th	110	109
	30th	110	50
Hyogo	26th	70	71
	27th	100	71
	28th	90	63
	29th	75	67
	30th	81	75
Nagasaki	26th	14	31
	27th	14	31
	28th	14	31
	29th	14	31
	30th	14	31
Okayama	26th	49	40
	27th	49	40
	28th	49	40
	29th	49	40
	30th	49	40
Hiroshima	26th	42	35
	27th	42	35
	28th	42	35
	29th	42	35
	30th	42	35
Yamaguchi	26th	14	15
	27th	14	15
	28th	14	15
	29th	14	15
	30th	14	15
Kagawa	26th	35	23
	27th	35	23
	28th	35	23
	29th	35	23
	30th	35	23
Fukuoka	26th	17	8
	27th	17	8
	28th	17	8
	29th	17	8
	30th	17	8
Oita	26th	32	27
	27th	32	27
	28th	32	27
	29th	32	27
	30th	32	27
Saga	26th	3	3
	27th	3	3
	28th	3	3
	29th	3	3
	30th	3	3
Kumamoto	26th	16	6
	27th	16	6
	28th	16	6
	29th	16	6
	30th	16	6

The numbers of cases and deaths since the commencement of the epidemic, inclusive of the above figures, appear in the following table:—

Prefecture or City.	Cases.	Deaths.
Osaka	7,001	5,453
Hyogo	3,373	3,585
Nagasaki	3,454	2,280
Okayama	608	346
Hiroshima	1,433	828
Yamaguchi	1,790	1,119
Kagawa	637	373
Fukuoka	2,001	1,843
Oita	964	505
Saga	818	570
Kumamoto	908	583

The total number of cases and deaths in the following Cities and Prefectures not included in the above, from the commencement of the epidemic to the 1st instant, are:—

City or Prefecture.	Cases.	Deaths.
Tokyo	3,213	2,087
Kyoto	644	504
Kanagawa	1,000	418
Ibura	33	9
Shimizu	70	50
Chiba	903	547
Tsukuba	149	90
Yamanashi	102	57
Shimane	63	43
Shiga	10	42
Shimane	316	100
Kochi	336	223
Kagoshima	241	149
Nara	175	121

THE NAGOYA MEMORIAL.

SEVERAL of the Tokyo journals seem likely to get into trouble for having published the text of two memorials addressed by politicians of Nagoya to the Cabinet and the Minister President. Translations of these memorials have appeared

in our columns. Their contents are not of such a character as to suggest the infliction of a penalty, but the Press Regulations are very distinct as to the veto they impose upon the publication of any such documents without official permission. The newspapers have therefore violated the Regulations, and it becomes a question whether their offence should be condoned or punished. Apparently the latter course has been decided upon, for we read in the *Yiji Shimo* that the Public Prosecutor of the Tokyo Court for Minor Offences has instituted proceedings against the offending journals. They will doubtless have to pay a fine, but inasmuch as they must have anticipated that inconvenience, it will not greatly disturb them.

A PETITION TO VISCOUNT AOKI.

THE members of the *Taisho-jyaku-kai* have addressed to Viscount Aoki, through their committee, Messrs. Uda, Kaji, and Kumagaya, a petition which we translate from the columns of the *Kokumin Shimbun*:—

EXCELLENCY.—We perceive that Treaty Revision is a great and difficult problem, affecting the national administration as well as our country's intercourse with other States. Sincerely do we regret the several failures that have been made to solve this problem during the past twenty years. Your Excellency, by the grace of His Majesty the Emperor, has been appointed to take up the task which Count Inouye and Count Okuma could not succeed in accomplishing, and it is our earnest hope by day and by night that by your ability you may earn the high merit of achieving this great undertaking. By a portion of the foreign residents of Yokohama steps were recently taken in opposition to the proposals for revision, and with the object of maintaining the present Treaty. This is because the system pursued with regard to the treaty ports is too lenient, and the privilege of travel in the interior is freely enjoyed. Consular Jurisdiction has encouraged the growth of an arbitrary mood. We pray your Excellency to adopt a resolute policy and to follow a strict system of control. It gives us the deepest satisfaction to learn that your Excellency's proposals for Revision include the complete abolition of Consular Jurisdiction and the re-establishment of the Empire's sovereignty. Our only subject of regret is that the country's tariff autonomy is not to be entirely restored. We pray that your Excellency will take steps to include in your proposals the full recovery of tariff autonomy. If tariff autonomy be not recovered before the concession of mixed residence, it can scarcely be recovered afterwards, which would be a most serious matter. We submit those humble opinions for your Excellency's enlightened consideration.

THE BANK OF JAPAN.

THE amounts of convertible notes and reserves in the Bank of Japan for the week ended the 27th ultimo were as follows:—

CONVERTIBLE NOTES.		RESERVES AND SECURITIES.	
Yen.		Yen.	
Notes issued	74,801,463	Gold coin and bullion	24,095,247
		Silver coin and bullion	19,366,803
		Public Loan Bonds	13,476,450
		Treasury Bills	—
		Government Bonds	—
		Other securities	4,737,182
		Commercial Bills	12,230,721
		Total	74,801,463

Of the above total issue of notes, the sum of yen 6,398,280 is in the treasury of the Bank, and yen 68,403,183 in actual circulation, the latter showing a decrease of yen 202,282 as compared with yen 68,605,465 at the end of the previous week.

A VISITATION.

ANGRY storms of vulgar personalities and virulent abuse sweep over the columns of a portion of the Yokohama foreign press from time to time. At such seasons moderate, self-respecting folks can only stop their ears and hope that the turbulent wind will soon sink into silence, leaving some shreds of the Settlement's moral reputation still intact. Just now the air is thick with mud, and the whole spectacle painfully parodies civilization. We shall have a serene time by and by, no doubt.

ACCURATE QUOTATION.

WE observe that one of our local contemporaries constantly quotes sentences and expressions written by us last year, and pretends that they were applied to "demands which Viscount Aoki has recognised in his present proposals." Considering that the journal resorting to this ingenious device does not even know what Viscount Aoki's proposals are, the justice of its methods is fully established.

RICE AND BREAD.

WHEN the price of rice was at its highest point this year, many foreigners talked of bread as a substitute, and remarked that, if Japan fed herself with wheat instead of rice, she would be exposed to fewer risks of starvation. In a certain sense this is true, for, whereas a bread-eating nation can procure flour from various parts of the world in the event of its own wheat crop failing, a rice-consuming nation is not always situated so favourably. Rice, like wheat, is grown in many countries, but, on the other hand, rice varies more than wheat according to the place of its production. There is only one rice grown outside of Japan which a Japanese will eat with contentment, namely, the rice of Hawaii, and that happens to be practically unprocurable. If a Japanese cannot get Japanese rice, his daily food loses much of its relish. When, as happened this year, he has to pay more than double the usual price for his favourite article of diet, imported rice of course finds a market. But no one will touch it who can procure a grain of the home-grown article, and the obvious consequence is that the latter is sometimes forced up to prices which embarrass householders and react upon the whole economy of the nation, by throwing labour out of employment and forcing people to curtail their expenses in every direction. Nothing so inconvenient can happen to a bread-eating people, for, if the home supply of flour fails, there are half a dozen countries abroad whence an equally palatable substitute can be drawn. Add to this that the labour of rice cultivation is the most severe and most degrading of all agricultural duties. The rice-farmer in Japan endures toil and hardship—not the men alone, but also the women, the girls, and the boys—such as his European or American representative has little conception of. Then again, there is the question whether a rice diet is as wholesome and as muscle-making as a diet of beef and bread. Dr. BAELZ, perhaps our most trustworthy authority on this subject, says that for a man taking strong and regular exercise, nothing can be better than rice, but that for a man leading a sedentary life it is a dyspeasiating, unsatisfactory staple of food. Certainly the rice-fed Japanese labourer is capable of extraordinary feats of strength and endurance, though in weight of bone and power of thew he is markedly inferior to the Anglo-Saxon or the Teuton; whereas the rice-fed Japanese gentleman is a delicate and by no means robust specimen of humanity. Passing by these larger questions, however, let us examine with which crop, wheat or rice, the advantage lies in an economical sense. In making the comparison, we are confronted at the outset by the difficulty of estimating the wheat-producing capacity of Japanese soil. It will not be extravagant, however, to as-

sume, that if the amount of labour required for rice culture were expended upon wheat, a crop of 35 bushels per acre might be obtained. Taking the weight of the bushel at 55 lbs., we have, therefore, 1,925 lbs. of wheat per acre, which gives 1,787 lbs. of flour, according to the rule that 14 lbs. of grain make 13 lbs. of flour. Now observing that, according to English law, 280 lbs. of flour make 80 quartern loaves, and that the price of a quartern loaf is 5½d. at present in London, we find that each acre of land devoted to wheat culture in Japan would give 510 quartern loaves, and would feed 1,020 people for a day, at an average allowance of 2 lbs. 2½ oz. of bread (half of a quartern loaf) per head, and an average cost, at the present London rate, of 2½ pence, or 6½ *sen*, taking the sterling value of the *yen* at 3s. 8d. We may observe, *en passant*, that in this calculation we take no account of the price actually charged for bread by foreign bakers in Japan. In London a loaf weighing more than 4½ lbs. can be bought for 5½d., that is to say, 12½ *sen*, assuming the silver dollar to be worth 3s. 8d. In Japan 4½ lbs. of bread, by no means as good, cost 26 *sen*, or more than double the London price. This by the way. Turning now to the question of rice, we have the following data:—According to the regulation observed in feudal times, 5 *go* of rice were counted a grown man's daily ration. Some men would eat a great deal more; some would be puzzled to eat nearly as much. We may, however, take 5 *go* as a fair equivalent for about 2 lbs. of bread. A *koku* contains 1,000 *go*, and thus represents a day's ration for 200 men. Now, the average production of good rice land is 2 *koku* per *tan* (one-fourth of an acre), and thus we arrive at the fact that an acre of rice will supply 1,600 men for a day. Recently the price of hulled rice per *koku* was about 10 *yen*, but in ordinary years it does not exceed 7 *yen*. In order to compare it with bread, however, we must add the cost of polishing and cooking, so that, even in cheap seasons, the *koku* of boiled rice may be estimated to cost fully 10 *yen*. Thus our final result is that an acre of rice will serve 1,600 men for a day, at a cost of 80 *yen*, whereas an acre of wheat will only serve 1,020 men for the same time, at a cost of 63.75 *yen*. In other words, the cost of the day's ration of rice is 5 *sen*; while the cost of the day's ration of bread is 6½ *sen*; and the ratio of the food-supplying capacity of an acre of rice to the food-supplying capacity of an acre of wheat is as 80 to 51, or as 8 to 5 approximately. It is certain, moreover, that, if a Japanese were offered his choice between 5 *go* of rice and 2 lbs. of bread, he would pronounce unhesitatingly in favour of the former. If, further, the ordinary adjuncts of a rice diet and a meat diet be taken into account—cheap vegetables and fish in the former case; beef, mutton, or bacon,

and vegetables in the latter—the balance sways still more to the side of rice, so far at least, as cheapness and food-giving capacity of the soil are concerned. When the market price of rice was at its highest—during June and July—considerable quantities of so-called “bread” were sold in Tokyo, and eagerly bought by the working classes. Wholesome stuff enough, doubtless, and unquestionably very “tilling at the price,” this bread seems to have become a recognised institution, as is also the case with the buns now sold at nearly all the railway stations. But bread as a substitute for rice is still a thing of the very distant future, and arithmetic, it will be perceived, is not likely to hasten the change.

THE KOBE RESOLUTION.

WE published in our issue of Monday the Resolution which now lies awaiting signature in Kobe. Private information says that some of the leading residents have declined, or expressed their intention of declining, to sign any protest of the kind. Still the Resolution will doubtless obtain many signatures. The moderation of its tone will commend it even to persons who are not prepared to completely endorse the views embodied, and others will affix their names for the sake of making a broad stand against the danger of abolishing Consular jurisdiction unconditionally. We should probably be doing the Kobe residents an injustice if we assumed that the experience of Yokohama had alone deterred them from framing resolutions in a similarly sweeping and unsympathetic spirit. The southern settlement has always adopted a more moderate attitude towards Japan than the northern, and would doubtless have adhered to its traditions in this instance also, whether the duty of framing a Resolution had been undertaken before or after Yokohama's action. Moreover, it does not seem that any good purpose could be served by considering to what extent Kobe's distinctly different method of procedure may be taken as a vote of censure on Yokohama's. We believe that the vast majority of thoughtful persons in the latter settlement have already perceived, or will soon perceive, that their radical and uncompromising protest has in reality hastened the end they seek to defer, since it has roused among the people of Japan a spirit which immensely strengthens the hands of her negotiators. The experience of last year showed that many, if not all, of the Great Powers are willing to treat Japan liberally, but that the strong sentiment of the rising generation, supplemented by political intrigues and jealousies on her own side, makes it very difficult for her statesmen to obtain national endorsement of any revised treaty which stops short of securing the fullest recognition of her claims. Yokohama's

action has materially lessened this difficulty by uniting all parties in support of the Government. A very slight exercise of tact on the part of the framers of the Resolutions would have avoided this completely. The Kobe Resolution, for example, though signed by every foreign resident in Japan, would not have excited any mood of indignation among the Japanese. Presented to them now, when they are already much incensed, it will probably evoke criticism. But had the Yokohama protest embodied any frank recognition of Japan's progress and claims, or any expression of sympathy with her aspirations, such as the second paragraph of the Kobe Resolution contains, and had it been made without the demonstration of a public meeting, all the unfortunate friction now prevailing would have been avoided.

Turning to the language of the Resolution, we find some points worthy of comment. Prominent among them is the fact that Kobe has adopted the first clause of the first Yokohama Resolution verbatim, without correcting an omission noticed by many critics. "The time has not yet arrived," says the Resolution, "when questions in regard to rights, whether of property or person, arising between subjects and citizens of Foreign Powers in the Dominions of His Majesty the EMPEROR of Japan, can be unconditionally and safely subjected to the jurisdiction of Japanese Tribunals." If the framers of this Resolution intended to protest against unconditionally submitting to Japanese tribunals questions which now come before Consular Courts, the language employed is plainly insufficient. For mention is made of rights of property or person arising between subjects and citizens of Foreign Powers only, and nothing is said of such rights as between foreigners and Japanese. The system now prevailing, as everyone knows, is that all questions relating to the persons of foreigners are reserved for adjudication by Consular Courts, whereas one half of all questions relating to property are left to be decided by Japanese tribunals. In other words, all criminal charges against foreigners are brought into foreign courts, while of civil cases one half are tried by Japanese courts and one half by foreign. But Kobe's Resolution, like Yokohama's, implies readiness to surrender to Japanese jurisdiction all questions, whether of person or property, in which a Japanese subject is concerned. We cannot think that this is intentional; and yet when we remember how obvious the omission is, and how plainly it was pointed out in respect of the Yokohama Resolution, it becomes difficult to suppose that the Kobe people have fallen into a similar error. Be this as it may, the Resolutions of Yokohama and Kobe alike, as they stand, declare by implication that their signatories are willing at once and unconditionally to transfer

to the jurisdiction of Japanese courts the great majority of the criminal cases now reserved to Consular tribunals, as well as civil suits by Japanese against foreigners, which are now tried in a court of the defendant's nationality.

The framing of the last clause of the Kobe Resolution probably involved some thought and trouble. To a limited extent it endorses the idea conveyed in the latter part of the principal Yokohama Resolution. Let us place the two side by side:—

<p>KOBE. We are also strongly of opinion that it would be premature to attempt to fix a date for the complete and unconditional relinquishment of extra-territorial jurisdiction until the new Criminal and Civil Codes, which it is proposed to put in force, have been in operation for some little time and experience has been gained as to how far they meet the requirements of the changed condition of affairs.</p>	<p>YOKOHAMA. The time has not arrived when an estimate can be formed of the period within which the unconditional relinquishment of extra-territorial jurisdiction in Japan can be safely promised.</p>
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One of the principal objections urged against the Yokohama Resolution was that it demanded nothing less than the total abandonment of Treaty Revision negotiations for an indefinite period, since it denied the possibility of yet forming an estimate which has constituted the basis of all proposals for Treaty Revision hitherto, and must constitute the basis of all proposals hereafter. We were very roundly taken to task for showing that the Resolution could only bear this interpretation. Yet Kobe has evidently interpreted it in that sense, and has endorsed the interpretation so far as to say that negotiations contemplating the surrender of Consular Jurisdiction ought to be postponed until some little experience has been gained of the working of the new Codes. "The new Criminal and Civil Codes" are the words actually employed, but inasmuch as the new Criminal Codes have been in operation since January 1st, 1882, we presume that the reference is to Civil Codes only. Kobe thus endorses Yokohama, but there is this great difference that whereas the latter confines itself to a broad declaration of the impossibility of yet estimating the period which must elapse before fixing a date for the abolition of Consular Jurisdiction, the former considers that the question of fixing such a date may be entertained some little time after the new Codes shall have gone into operation. Yokohama, in fact, cannot discern the end at all: Kobe declares that it is clearly in sight. Probably this difference in Yokohama's case is chiefly an affair of careless phraseology. Explanations subsequently furnished show that the sentiments of Yokohama are by no means so uncompromising as the language of its Resolutions imply. The difference is there, however, for all the purposes of the Resolutions.

We thoroughly sympathise with the suggestion that some little experience of the working of the new Civil Codes should be acquired before conceding their efficacy.

That is the weak point in Japan's case: she asks us to come under Codes which, though promulgated, are not yet in operation, and which, for the rest, contain much that is not in apparent touch with her habits and customs. To be entirely prudent, the practical success of the Codes should be assured previously to their acceptance as a substitute for the laws administered by Consular Tribunals. But in order to act in strict conformity with this suggestion, it is plain that all negotiations for Treaty Revision would have to be postponed *sine die*, and even supposing—a very extravagant hypothesis—that Foreign Governments could be persuaded to draw back so incontinently at this eleventh hour, there can be no doubt about the effect of such a course upon Japan: the treaties would be renounced without much delay, and no terms of any kind could thereafter be imposed by foreign Powers unless they decided to have recourse to armed compulsion. Without any such sudden change of front, however, there is a method of virtually achieving the end contemplated by the Kobe Resolution; a method which we believe will be adopted by the negotiators of the new Treaty. For despite the information said to be possessed by the promoters of the Yokohama Meeting, we venture to assert that the unconditional surrender of Consular Jurisdiction is not contemplated by any party to the negotiations. The Judge guarantee is quite dead and buried, as we fully explained in past articles. But there are other means of securing the subjects and citizens of foreign Powers against the perils of a leap in the dark, and all moderate persons must hope to see those means adopted.

DOMESTIC POLITICS.

THE demands made upon our space by Treaty Revision questions have compelled us to postpone until now the publication of an important document, the original of which appeared some days ago in the vernacular press. It is the revised manifesto of the *Kaishin-to*. There appears to be little doubt that an amalgamation will not be effected, for the present at all events, between the *Kaishin-to* and the new *Rikken Jiyu-to*. The obstinate indifference shown by the latter to the traditions and feelings of the former, supplemented by an intentional or accidental want of adaptability on the part of the *Kaishin-to*, has kept the two parties asunder, and there is no visible prospect of the gulf between them being bridged over. It may be remarked, *en passant*, that the much abused regulations for the control of political parties do not seem to have caused serious practical inconvenience to any one. That celebrated article which the critics denounced so roundly, has evidently relapsed into its old condition,

and become in effect a dead letter. The Government's declared intention of putting it into active operation was only justifiable on the hypothesis that all temporary combinations of political parties, for the purpose of overthrowing the Cabinet, were seditious. Whether they really deserved to be viewed in that light, the Authorities must be admitted to have been the best judges. There are indeed journalists to whom these problems of administration look as clear as crystal, and who have no difficulty whatsoever in measuring the merits or defects of the Japanese Government's proceedings by means of an invariable gauge, made to fit all sorts and conditions of men under all conceivable circumstances. We are not gifted with such happy insight; neither do we possess any such universally applicable standard. When statesmen whom we believe to be actuated by motives of at least moderate purity and patriotism, have recourse to measures manifestly opposed to the spirit of their general administration and plainly destined to invite hostile criticism and unpopularity, we are moved to think that the springs of their action lie a little beyond the ken of every passing critic. So, when the Metropolitan Police, in obedience to instructions issued by their Chief and obviously conveyed to him by the Cabinet, began to enforce the provisions of a re-enacted regulation, previously in existence but not previously operative, we were disposed to suspect that this act was not perpetrated in pure lust of arbitrariness, but that some consideration of sound statesmanship lay behind it. The event does not impugn our faith. Had not the obnoxious regulation been invested with practical force, there is every probability that we should now see a congeries of political parties, temporarily cemented by the passion of opposition to the Cabinet, and ready to be disintegrated at any moment after the achievement of their destructive purpose. Such a coalition would not form a trustworthy or efficient part of the body politic. Instead of lending its strength to legislate for the good of the country, its proceedings would be guided by the one idea of ousting the Administration; while, on the other hand, the jealousies and ambitions holding its units asunder would incapacitate it for assuming the constructive functions from which it had expelled others. Instead of a result so little desirable, the operation of the laws has contributed to effect a complete fusion of the various rival sections into which the Radicals were divided. Their union may or may not be permanent, but it is at all events a union, not a mere coalition to overthrow a common enemy without any care for the consequences of his fall. And this has been brought about without any serious friction between the Government and the opposition. At first there was a loud outcry against the tyranny of a regulation interdicting communication

between parties, or their combination. But it was evident from the outset that the law need not cause any inconvenience to earnest politicians. If men's purpose was sufficiently genuine to make them subserve the ends of personal ambition to the cause of political principle, they could easily remove themselves beyond the reach of the law by dissolving the factions against which it was aimed. The event has proved this. Inefficient and seditious-breeding groups of agitators fell to pieces, and were rejoined into a party possessing the dimensions at least of a capable limb of the body politic. We have not heard of any prosecutions under the obnoxious regulation, or observed that it impeded the steps taken by the elements of the *Rikken Jiyu-to* to effect a union. Not a few of those steps seemed to violate the letter of the law, but since they were evidently prompted by an honest desire for party re-organization, the police seem to have refrained from interference. In short, the purpose of the regulation having been accomplished by a mere announcement of its enforcement, the vetoes it embodied have ceased to have any practical effect.

The present position, then, is that the *Kaishin-to* stands alone and in opposition, whether permanent or temporary, to the newly organized Constitutional Radicals. It was always difficult to imagine these two parties occupying the same camp, so bitter had been their mutual hostility from the outset. The opposition of the members of the old *Jiyu-to* to the Government was even less violent and demonstrative than their opposition to the *Kaishin-to*, and the seeds of hostility thus sown have not yet ceased to bear fruit. But in respect of political principles the division between the two parties is hard to comprehend. The *Kaishin-to's* revised platform, as will be seen from the translation published elsewhere, is nothing more than a very guarded and general declaration of liberal principles. There is not a single plank in it which the *Rikken Jiyu-to* could object to accept. Neither is there a single plank which the Government would decline to endorse. It is conceivable that the *Rikken Jiyu-to* might hesitate to reduce their radicalism to the dimensions of the *Kaishin-to's* very moderate programme; but the difficulty does not lie there, for the *Kaishin-to*, up to a recent date, were certainly willing to subscribe the largely expanded articles of the *Jiyu-to* creed. We cannot believe that political principles hold the two parties asunder. Still less can we imagine that the *Kaishin-to* obeyed political principles when, a few weeks ago, it signified its willingness to descend to a radical platform for the purpose of entering a combination organized to overthrow the Cabinet of which the Party's leader was last year a principal member. Something more than varying views of the theory of administration constitute the real limits of

political camps at present, and that something is, in our opinion, clan influence. There is one combination against which neither the *Kaishin-to* nor the *Rikken Jiyu-to* can hope to contend successfully, namely, the Satsuma-Choshu combination. To divide these great clans and to crush them when divided, must be the first aim of any political party seeking to get the administrative power into its own grasp. Last year the division was nearly effected when Count KURODA threw in his lot with the ex-leader of the *Kaishin-to*, then Minister of State for Foreign Affairs. This year, both Count KURODA and Count OKUMA are out of office, and while the latter remains the real, though not the nominal, leader of the *Kaishin-to*, the former, strange to say, has become so identified with the *Rikken Jiyu-to* that men openly speak of him as that party's candidate for the chief post in the Government. The presence of these statesmen in the camps of the two parties is a fact full of significance. They stand one at either end of the Liberal line, and their influence is steadily exerted to bring the whole into a compact phalanx. Satsuma will probably go with Count KURODA, for the men of that clan are remarkable for nothing more than their tendency to unite in the face of opposition. In that event, Choshu would probably fall, but whether the subtle politicians who planned its overthrow could then turn their arms with equal success against Satsuma, is a question hard to answer. At all events, we regard as equally unimportant the publication of political platforms and the doings of men like Count ITAGAKI, Messrs. OYE TAKU, KAWASHIMA JUN, and so forth. Legislative and administrative issues are secondary considerations at present, and so are the movements of agitators whose figures look Lilliputian in comparison with men like Counts OKUMA and KURODA, and whose theoretical politics count for nothing in the context of those tacticians' large projects.

CUSTOM HOUSE DISTRICTS.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 204.

We hereby give our sanction to the Regulations relating to Custom House districts, and order the same to be duly promulgated. We also order that these regulations shall come into force on and after November 1st, 1890.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.)
(Great Seal.)

Dated September 6th, 1890.

(Countersigned)

COUNT MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of State for Finance.

The boundaries of Custom House districts shall be decided as follow:—

YOKOHAMA CUSTOM HOUSE.

The sea coasts of 11 provinces, Rikuzen, Iwaki, Hidachi, Shimosa, Kadosa, Awa, Musashi, Sagami, Idsu, Suruga and Totomi, and the Bonin Islands.

OSAKA CUSTOM HOUSE.

The sea coasts of 7 provinces, Mikawa, Owari, Ise, Shima, Kii, Idsumi and Settsu (eastward of Nishinari-gun).

Kobe Custom House.

The sea coasts of 20 provinces, Settsu (westward of Kawabe-gun), Harima, Bizen, Bitchu, Bingo, Aki, Suwo, Nagato, Iwami, Idzumo, Hoki, Inaba, Tajima, Tango, Oki, Iyo, Tosa, Awa, Sanuki, and Awaiki.

NAGASAKI CUSTOM HOUSE.

The sea coasts of 12 provinces, Hizen, Higo, Chikuzen, Chikugo, Buzen, Bungo, Huga, Osumi, Satsuma, Iki, Tsushima, and Rinkiu.

NIIGATA CUSTOM HOUSE.

The sea coasts of 9 provinces, Wakasa, Yechizen, Kaga, Noto, Yechu, Yechigo, Uzen, Ugo, and Sado.

HAKODATE CUSTOM HOUSE.

The sea coasts of 13 provinces, Mutsu, Rikuchu, Oshima, Shuibeshi, Ishigari, Teshio, Kitami, Nemuro, Chishima, Kushiro, Tokachi, Hidaka, and Iburi.

ADDITIONS TO THE BUDGET.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Regulations relating to additions to the General Budget of Revenue and Expenditure, and withdrawals from the budget of expenditure for the 23rd fiscal year of Meiji, and order the same to be duly promulgated.

[His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.]
[Great Seal.]

Dated September 12th, 1890.

(Countersigned)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.
COUNT MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of State for Finance.

The amount of additional revenue for the 23rd fiscal year of Meiji shall be yen 324,473.126, and of expenditure yen 363,605.258, and the amount to be withdrawn from the expenditure for the year, yen 39,397.039. Under articles and paragraphs these sums fall as follow:—

ADDITIONS TO THE GENERAL BUDGET OF EXPENDITURE AND REVENUE OF THE 23RD FISCAL YEAR OF MEIJI.

REVENUE.

ORDINARY.

Article 3.—Licences and fees 193,343.000

EXTRAORDINARY.

Article 3.—Miscellaneous receipts... 131,130.126
Sum total of Revenue Yen 324,473.126

EXPENDITURE.

ORDINARY.

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT:—

Article 1.—The Department proper 506.583
Article 2.—Legations 1,100.000

Sum total Yen 1,606.585

HOME DEPARTMENT:—

Article 1.—The Department proper 4,230.000
Article 2.—Offices of districts for supervising works 224.000
Article 3.—Penitentiaries 160.000
Article 4.—Metropolitan Police Board 5,095.950
Article 6.—Cities and Prefectures... 28,832.000
Article 12.—Hokkaido Administration Board 770.000
Article 13.—Sapporo Agricultural College 64.000
Article 14.—Prisons in Hokkaido... 96.000
Article 15.—Local expenses of Hokkaido 6,451.077
Article 16.—Railways 43.000

Sum total 45,966.027

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT:—

Article 1.—The Department proper 1,422.000
Article 4.—Cabinet 637.000
Article 5.—Privy Council 403.000
Article 6.—House of Peers 102.000
Article 7.—House of Representatives 102.000
Article 8.—Senate 36,014.598
Article 9.—Board for Examination of Accounts 395.000
Article 10.—Bureau of the Official Gazette 63.000
Article 11.—Custom Houses 362.000
Article 12.—Cost of collecting excise duties 3,677.000
Article 21.—Administrative Court... 47,101.000
Sum total Yen 90,278.598

WAR DEPARTMENT:—

Article 1.—The Department proper 90.000
Article 2.—Military Expenses 1,132.500

Sum total Yen 1,222.500

NAVAL DEPARTMENT:—

Article 1.—The Department proper 504.000

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT:—

Article 1.—The Department proper 343.211
Article 2.—Courts of Law 56,253.452

Sum total Yen 56,596.663

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT:—

Article 1.—The Department proper 367.980
Article 2.—Expenditure on schools and libraries 1,120.000

Sum total Yen 1,487.980

AGRICULTURAL & COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT:—

Article 1.—The Department proper 14,157.318
Article 2.—Expenses of forestry offices 86.795

Sum total Yen 14,244.113

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS:—

Article 1.—The Department proper 1,484.998
Article 3.—Expenses of Communications 1,920.299

Sum total Yen 3,405.292

Sum total of ordinary Expenditure Yen 205,311.758

EXTRAORDINARY.

HOME DEPARTMENT:—

Article 7.—Board for building shrines 20.000
Article 8.—Expenses of building offices and Houses of the Diet 128.000
Article 10.—Cost of new edifices 2,830.000
Article 11.—Cost of railways 68.000
Sum total Yen 3,046.000

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT:—

Article 3.—Expense of new buildings 78,747.500

AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT:—

Article 1.—Third Domestic Exhibition 66,500.000

Sum Total of Extraordinary Expenditure Yen 148,293.500

Grand sum total of Expenditure Yen 363,605.258

WITHDRAWALS FROM THE GENERAL BUDGET OF EXPENDITURE AND REVENUE OF THE 23RD FISCAL YEAR OF MEIJI.

EXPENDITURE.

HOME DEPARTMENT:—

Article 3.—The Department proper 1,120.000

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT:—

Article 3.—Pensions as Rewards ... 38,277.039

Sum total of Ordinary Expenditure Yen 39,397.039

THE "PARTHIA" IN A TYPHOON.

FROM THE "PARTHIA" REPORT IN THE SHIPPING COLUMN IT WILL BE SEEN THAT THE VESSEL ON HER VOYAGE TO YOKOHAMA PASSED THROUGH A TYPHOON. THE PASSENGERS IN APPRECIATION OF THE CONDUCT OF CAPTAIN PANTON PRESENTED THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS:—

The C. P. S. Co.'s *Parthia*,
26th September, 1890.

TO CAPTAIN PANTON AND THE OFFICERS OF THE "PARTHIA."

GENTLEMEN.—We, the passengers on board the *Parthia* from Vancouver to Yokohama cannot leave without expressing to you our great admiration of your conduct during the terrific typhoon of the 24th and 25th instant, and our grateful thanks for the able and successful manner in which you brought your vessel through it.

With every good wish for each and all of you in the future, we remain, yours most gratefully,

ROBT. A. McLEAN,
KOURYAN HITCHCOCK,
A. W. THOMSON,
SARAH A. GARDNER,
CHARLES GARDNER,
EMILY WALLACE,
GRACE GARDNER,
ELLEN GARDNER,
EMMA LOUISE HITCHCOCK,
M. B. HOLT,
THOS. ROY,
M. GILROY,
VICTOR FAGA,
MADRELINE WALLACE,
GLADYS WALLACE,
MRS. J. ALLEN.

CORRESPONDENCE.

MUNICIPAL RIGHTS AND JAPAN'S WRONGS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—A foreign merchant, a resident, riding in a *inrikisha*, approaches the Kobe Concession. The driver, for being improperly clothed, or for some other reason, is ordered by a native policeman to stop. The vehicle, before its inertia is overcome, has glided on to or just over the boundary line dividing the Concession from Japan. The foreigner now defies the policeman to interfere with the *inrikishi*; indeed the policeman may have been shoved for all that is known to the contrary, as the press is silent on the subject. It is strange for what trumpery reasons some men will be, figuratively speaking, keel-hauled in a series of three column leaders of double-headed pica,—but this is a digression.

Those wishing to obtain full particulars of the case alluded to above can do so by searching the archives of H.B.M. Consulate at this port.

Yours, &c.,

RESIDENT.

Kobe, September 24th, 1890.

CHRISTIAN METHODS OF CONTROVERSY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—If calling names be argument, some of the missionaries resident in Japan should take high rank as controversialists. Not long since Dr. Marshall Law and Mr. Isaac Dooman gave a very pretty exhibition of this sort in the columns of the *Japan Mail*, in which such choice phrases abounded as "cheap infidel ribaldry," "ancestors who are in the Zoological Gardens," "fool," "blasphemy and rallery," and so on. Now it appears Mr. Brunson is going to follow in the same delightful style. In my letter on "Christianity and Persecution" I accused Mr. Brunson of ignorance of matters upon which he had expressed a very confident opinion, and furthermore supported my accusation by the quotation of authorities and cases. This exposure seems to have made Mr. Brunson very angry, and in reply, with practical Christian humility, he likens me to a Gadarene "excited by the loss of a little pork," says that I tacitly arrogate to myself a monopoly of learning, hate Christianity with all the venom of my soul, am "wanting in integrity of soul and honesty of purpose" or "inexcusably ignorant and shallow," accuses me of "disgusting braggadocio" and of "false and impious charges," says I am a "ranting infidel," and winds up by praying "God be merciful to him," which, I suppose, is a polite Christian euphemism for telling me to "go and be hanged." Such language is worthy only of contempt. It is probably used by Christian missionaries in Japan with the design of driving their opponents off the field of controversy in sheer disgust; but it may interest Mr. Brunson to know that I have had too much experience of the methods of Christian apologists to be frightened by Christian bluster.

The disadvantage a Christian minister always seems to labour under in debating any matter is that he cannot divest himself of his pulpit style. In that refuge for the intellectually indigent, where neither question nor argument is allowed, he is never called upon to weigh his words or to substantiate his accusations; he speaks, as a rule, to people who agree with him, and resents criticism, even of the mildest order, as downright impudence.

As Mr. Brunson says that I arrogate to myself a monopoly of learning, I have carefully re-read my letter to find what possible justification there is for such a charge, and fail entirely to find therein anything approaching any assumption of the sort. Indeed, to answer Mr. Brunson, the display of learning was quite unnecessary; it would be like employing a steam hammer to break an egg. A moderate amount of information and a little commonsense are quite equal to disposing of all the arguments which that gentleman has yet brought to bear on the subject. But, interested as I always am in discovering on how slight a basis a mind trained on Christian lines can erect an edifice of falsehood, a further examination of my last letter inclines me to think that the charge is made because I parodied in my closing remarks the pompous Sunday-school style of parts of Mr. Brunson's first letter, where, perfectly oblivious of impertinence, he prayed that my heart might be "touched by the power of God" and my eyes "opened to the truth"; and, if my surmise is correct, it is a somewhat amusing example of how strongly the professors of Christianity

object to Christian methods when employed against themselves.

After Mr. Brunson's fulminations against his wicked opponent, it is refreshing to turn to the pretty picture he draws of himself as "actuated by the love of truth and the good of his fellow-men, and guided by a spirit of honesty and fairness." It really is kind of him to tell us this, for no one could have gathered it from his latest letter; and it may be interesting to those who have followed this discussion to examine how far Mr. Brunson is entitled to rank as an honest controversialist.

First, then, after a quarter-column of what is little else but personal abuse, he returns to the meaning attached to the word "infidelity" in this discussion. This word, he says, was originally used by Bishop Newman "in the sense in which it is generally used by Christian apologists, viz., the sense in which I used it," after which extremely lucid definition he complains that "Secularian" should have clearly defined what he meant by the use of the word. What authorities he has for saying that Bishop Newman used the word in the same sense that he did himself, I do not know; but if he will turn to the lecture on "The March of Christian Civilisation," out of which this controversy arose, he will find that Bishop Newman opposed two definitions of civilisation to each other—one by Guizot and the other by Buckle; and as the Bishop appeared to have Buckle in view throughout his lecture, I quoted in answer to the charges against infidelity, and (after protesting against the word) used as my definition of it, Buckle's well-known apostrophe to scepticism, where, among other claims, he points out that religion had become less intolerant in consequence of the growth of scepticism or unbelief for the two preceding centuries. Buckle was clearly referring in this passage not to any system of organised scepticism, but to the spirit of inquiry which within the two previous centuries had begun to have influence everywhere. To any one capable of following an argument my definition was clear enough; but seeing that Mr. Brunson was apparently not one of these, I was careful in my second letter to explain for his benefit my use of the term, asking him at the same time to refer to my previous letter for proof that I had so used it. Now, after quoting my words that infidelity is "fairly descriptive of those who, on any particular point—slavery, or witchcraft, or persecution for example—laboured in direct antagonism to the teachings of their creed," he says (of course without the production of a scintilla of evidence) that such a definition would include Wycliff, Tyndale, Luther, Calvin, &c., &c.; so that, according to Mr. Brunson, any good these men did was, as I have agreed all along, "in direct antagonism to the teachings of their creed"! A curious argument in support of Christianity truly. One can only wonder if this is simple incapacity for argument, or if Mr. Brunson really means what his words imply.

"Lucidity" is apparently very difficult for Mr. Brunson, and accuracy of statement seems to be equally so. He says I practically admit "that the fires of persecution were extinguished by Christians themselves"—a statement which, if I were dealing with a person attacking the ordinary meanings to words I should call a deliberate falsehood, but which under the circumstances I will merely describe as an excellent specimen of Christian truthfulness. Not only have I said nothing which could by any honest controversialist be so twisted, but in answer to Mr. Brunson's contention that "in the middle of the last century the great battle for religious freedom was practically ended," pointed out that Christians go as far as they dare in the way of persecution to-day, quoted the laws against "blasphemy" in England, and went on to show that Mr. Brunson's sneer that "infidelity has not that in it which makes martyrs" must be the outcome of sheer ignorance, citing many cases of most bitter and intolerant persecution of "infidels" the latest that of a gentleman in Sweden who was then undergoing imprisonment for writing and lecturing against Christianity. It is interesting to note how Mr. Brunson shuffles in dealing with these charges against his creed. Without a word of condemnation of those who to-day use this weapon of persecution—without admitting, "honest controversialist" as he is, that he was mistaken when he wrote that the "great battle for religious freedom was practically ended" in the middle of last century—he says that those who were so persecuted did not derive from infidelity their courage and endurance, because infidelity is not a "mysterious, vital, transforming influence by which a man is regenerated," &c.; and he goes on to use the word "infidelity" as if it connoted simply "unfaithfulness"—which is as if one should say that the Quakers could never have been

martyrs because the act of "Quaking" was not a "mysterious, vital," &c. There is the less excuse for his use of the word in this sense seeing that, not being without experience of the methods of Christian apologists, I happened to have taken the trouble to carefully define what I meant by "infidels who suffered for their opinions," my actual words being "using the word now as descriptive of those who objected to Christian dogma and teaching on moral grounds." But there is scarcely necessity to refer to my own definition, for in this matter, as in so much else of Mr. Brunson's argument, he confutes himself. In his first letter he says that "the very meaning of the term [infidelity] as popularly employed implies freedom of belief." Now he asserts of the cases of endurance I have quoted that the strength to suffer came not from infidelity, but from "the truth that liberty of conscience and freedom of thought . . . are the inalienable right of every man." "Infidelity," therefore, in his first letter, implied "freedom of belief," while in his second letter infidels who endured persecution suffered not for infidelity but for "freedom of thought." If it were worth while pursuing this point, Mr. Brunson might be asked, if he did not mean that infidels had not courage to endure persecution for their opinions, why he instanced the retraction of Galileo as an example of the "behaviour of a freethinker when confronted by a narrow, bigoted, ecclesiastical hierarchy." The truth is that in raising a cloud of dust to cover his retreat Mr. Brunson has got into a hopeless muddle, which he does not improve by his further remark that I claim these "cases of persecution . . . to be the legitimate outcome of infidelity"—an observation which is either another proof of his incapacity to say what he means or of his hopeless untruthfulness; certainly no such absurd statement was made by me. If Mr. Brunson considers such quibbling as this to be straightforward argument, he must have a curious idea of what is meant by "honest controversy."

One thing at least appears clear in this discussion—that after all his denunciation of me for pointing out that Christianity teaches persecution, it now appears that Mr. Brunson is himself not opposed to persecution in the abstract. He says that my major premiss is that "whatever system of doctrine teaches and enforces the persecution of its dissenters is an unmitigated evil," but, he adds, the "truthfulness" of this "needs to be established." Again, in answer to my quotation of the shocking commandment in Deut. xiii, 6, 9, after admitting that it is "revolting to us and causes the most hardened nature to recoil," he goes on to justify it as a "dire necessity" because the chosen people "had unmistakable idolatrous tendencies." Had the laws against idolatry been less severe, he argues, the Jewish God (all powerful, all seeing, all wise) would, it appears, have had to helplessly look on while "His truth" was buried beneath "heaps of ignorance, superstition, and degradation;" and therefore the enforcement of these laws, which to-day are "revolting to us," but do not seem to have been revolting at that time to God, who is "the same yesterday, to-day, and for ever," was the "wisest and most humane course possible." So that, if Mr. Brunson's words have any meaning, he is not opposed to persecution so long as the power to persecute is on the right side; for if the "revolting" law was the "outgrowth of the stress of existing circumstances," and the stress happens to occur again, it would be necessary, I suppose, to re-enact similar legislation—legislation that would necessitate "brother taking the life of brother, parent the life of child, and husband the life of the wife of his bosom." But Mr. Brunson has private information that this blessed revelation was purely national and temporary. (He uses the word "temporal," but as this word has no relevance to the subject under discussion, I presume he means "temporary.") If he does believe this, I am afraid I must again charge him with ignorance of his own sacred literature. Surely he is aware that the Pentateuch over and over again chronicles the promise made by Jehovah, that the land of Canaan was to be the "everlasting possession" of the children of Abraham (Gen. xiii, 15; xvii, 8; Ex. xxiii, 13), showing that the inspired writer of those books, whoever he was, had no conception of a state of things when the laws laid down in such detail would be unnecessary. But there are still more emphatic proofs of these laws being intended for all time. In the fourth chapter of Deuteronomy, before the recapitulation of the laws to be observed by the Israelites, there occurs this preface:—"Thou shalt keep therefore his statutes, and his commandments, which I command thee this day, that it may go well with thee, and with thy children after thee, and that thou mayest prolong thy days upon the earth, which the Lord thy God giveth thee, for ever" (Deut. iv, 40). The laws which are to be observed "for ever" then follow, and among them, in the thir-

teenth chapter, occurs that "revolting" law which enjoins the most pitiless persecution. Again, in the twenty-ninth chapter of Deuteronomy, after special reference to the disasters which shall fall upon the nation if the people worship other gods, the chapter concludes with these words, "The secret things belong unto the Lord our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us, and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law." Finally we have in the New Testament the words of Christ which I quoted in my former letter, that he "came not to destroy, but to fulfil," that "one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law till all be fulfilled." Now what has Mr. Brunson to say to this? Is the continual reiteration of "for ever" in the Pentateuch another way of saying that the laws referred to were only "temporary?" Do "all the words of this law" mean "some only" and "for ever" a "limited time?" I am afraid that Mr. Brunson would not regard any one else as an "honest controversialist" who should so argue in support of a religion in which Mr. Brunson did not happen to believe.

I had marked several other passages in Mr. Brunson's letter for comment (especially the audacious denial, after the evidence I had adduced, that Christianity still retained its persecuting character); but I think I have quoted enough to show how hopeless is argument with the retained defenders of Christianity. Their training wholly unfits them for it, and their faculties are so warped by prejudice that the constant assertion that black is white causes them possibly to come to believe that it actually is so. Not being a missionary, my leisure is limited, and I must therefore draw this review of Mr. Brunson's methods of controversy to a conclusion. His arguments (if they can be dignified by that name) go limping on, without cohesion and full of contradiction; substituting abuse for argument, assertion for proof, and quibbles for straightforward reasoning. In considering the writings of Christian apologists of the present day, I sometimes wonder whether Christianity is going to exhibit in its decay the phenomena that characterised its growth, when, as Mosheim points out in his "Ecclesiastical History," "it was an established maxim with many Christians, that it was pardonable in an advocate for religion to avail himself of fraud and deception, if it were likely they might conduce towards the attainment of any considerable good." It ought to make Christians pause to note the meaning already attached to one half of the name of the founder of Christianity, "Jesuitism" in popular usage having already come to connote "crafty deceit," and they should seriously consider whether, if their present methods of controversy are continued, the word "Christian" will not in time come to bear a similar meaning. At present it certainly seems as if it would. Straightforward argument seems impossible to the Christian apologist. If you point him to the words of the Bible, he says you are a "literalist;" if you point out obvious teachings from Biblical texts, he says you are "wanting in integrity of soul and honesty of purpose;" if you appeal to history for proof of the evil wrought by Christianity, he accuses you of being a "slandering infidel." And then, with sweet humility he will assure the world that he is a "Christian apologist, actuated by the love of truth and the good of his fellow-men, and guided by a spirit of honesty and fairness!"

Yours, &c.,

SECULARIAN.

Kobe, September 21st, 1890.

UNITARIANISM AND BUDDHISM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—It is a curious experience often enjoyed by English writers in Japan to see the transformation which one's thought may undergo after translation into Japanese, and retranslation into his own tongue.

In your recent editorial note upon Mr. Takahashi Goro's review of an article of mine with the above caption it is exceedingly difficult to recognize any trace of the purpose, tone, or sentiments of the original. No such absurdity as an "alliance" between Unitarianism and Buddhism has ever been dreamed of. The errand of Unitarianism to Japan is based upon the now familiar idea of the "Sympathy of Religions." It is the idea expressed by Mr. Yokoi as, quoted by you in a recent editorial, when he says that "the Christianity which is about to spring up in the East must stand on the pedestal formed out of the religion of Buddha and the Confucian philosophy." From this point of view, for an article stating the points of intellectual sympathy and at the same time emphasizing the intellectual differences between Unitarianism and Buddhism

to be construed as "begging and praying" for an "alliance" between the two religions, is a misapprehension so palpable that it needs only to be stated to be dispelled.

Nor has Unitarianism, as Mr. Takahashi Goro seems to insist, any controversy with Christianity. It is radically and vehemently opposed to Orthodoxy, but even in this antagonism it is not, as Mr. Takahashi complains, showing an unfilial spirit in attacking its mother, for Unitarianism, being far older than Orthodoxy, can of course acknowledge no such relationship. Unitarianism stands for that older simpler undogmatic Christianity which Mr. Yokoi describes when, as quoted by you in your editorial of the 22nd inst., he says:—"The disciples when they followed Christ knew nothing about the doctrine of the Trinity or that of Redemption: they did not observe the ceremony of the Lord's Supper, and some of them do not even seem to have received baptism. But they believed, and loved him, and their hearts were regenerated by his character and life."

Unitarianism is precisely this original, simple Christianity, plus the larger intellectual conception of the universe and of life which is given to our day, and which Christ and his disciples could not have had.

Unitarianism has no controversy with aught except the irrational dogmas of Orthodoxy, and even that antagonism must soon cease if we may judge by the general revolt from such doctrines which is now going on in the ranks of Orthodoxy itself.

Yours truly,

ARTHUR MAY KNAPP.

Tokyo, September 28th, 1890.

TREATY REVISION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—It is impossible to hold that in so large a number of British residents as attended the recent meeting on Treaty Revision in Yokohama, there are not very many who would welcome a solution of the question in any way which fairly secured the interests which they have at heart. Also they will be the more ready to fall in with any reasonable suggestion, as their recent action has in all probability rendered some decision in the matter inevitable. If history may be trusted, it is an invariable law that there comes a point in all practical questions, when they no longer admit of being shelved.

Probably more than this may be said. It is all but certain that by this time a large number of those who attended the meeting regret the form of the resolutions which were passed, and still more the tone of at least one of the speeches which were delivered. English sense of fairness, which is never long at fault, has told them before now that guests in an alien land have no right either to parade the failings of their hosts in public or to ignore their virtues; and that such a course is particularly to be avoided in a country like Japan, where sensitiveness and self-regard are characteristic of the people.

But if these points may be taken for granted, the time has plainly arrived for wiser and more moderate counsels to claim a hearing.

The present writer some years since found himself at a dinner table by the side of the most brilliant jurist who has advised the Government of India, at least since Macaulay. For a time the conversation ran on Latin verses, and I led my companion to tell something of his achievements in the days when he carried off the blue ribbon of a senior classic. But the agitation on the Libert Bill was at its height, and to an old resident in India talking to a member of Council, the opportunity was too good to be lost. "What is the reason," I enquired, "of the disproportionateness of the present excitement? The bill does not make any very great alteration in the existing law." "It is a little difficult to say," was the reply. "I myself a few years ago carried through a bill which affected British interests far more largely, without any difficulty." "How," I asked, "did you manage it?" "The leading British merchants," was the reply, "in Calcutta met me privately before the bill was brought in and explained their views, and I told them the reason which in my judgment rendered the change necessary."

Now, sir, the conditions under which foreign residents live in India and in Japan are in some respects remarkably similar, at least sufficiently so to make it safe to state that if the best way of securing influence on public measures in India is for a few practical and moderate men to state in definite terms what they think necessary under the circumstances of the community, a similar method will not be out of place in this country. On the other hand, the general resolutions of a public

meeting may only perplex a question which would be by no means incapable of successful management in "a dry light."

To drop circumlocution. The present writer has read the discussion on this subject most attentively. More especially he has noted with deep interest that the able mover of the first resolution at the meeting, has since distinctly professed himself a "revisionist," and yet he is compelled to confess that he is entirely ignorant as to what guarantees other than those already existing would satisfy the Yokohama community. His ignorance is probably not unique. Under these subjects it is too much to ask that a few leading British residents, who are agreed in regarding Treaty Revision as under the circumstances desirable or at least inevitable, would formulate their opinions?

But meanwhile it may be permissible, even for a layman on such subjects, to enquire "what is the most reasonable form of guarantee which can be asked of an Oriental nation by foreigners, when the land in which they reside has reached the stage of development which is now exhibited by Japan?"

Two points may be kept in view:—

(1.) The Consular jurisdiction is the *crux* of the present question. All other points such as land tenure, import duties, &c., would quickly be got out of the way if it were settled.

(2. a.) No settlement can be satisfactory to the Japanese, and therefore no settlement can be permanent, which involves interference with the sovereign rights of their Crown in its own territories. (b.) Any settlement ought to be satisfactory to the foreign community, which secures that they shall be treated with substantial justice. We have no claim to favours.

Are these conditions capable of practical reconciliation?

From many years' observation of Oriental people I venture to say that from my own point of view the one thing which I should be anxious to secure, if a case in which I was interested were before the courts, would be *superiority*, or if the word be preferred, *publicity*. If, for instance, my judge were a Japanese, I should be content, if the case were watched from first to last by a legal assessor of my own nationality, acquainted with the Japanese language, with power of immediate remonstrance and an official right to make a report to his own Government, if he considered it necessary, when the case was concluded. I should make no doubt that this would secure me fair treatment. All danger, real or imaginary, of my case being "scamped" or hurried or misunderstood would be at an end. Indeed, it might rather be feared that for some years to come so anxious is Japan to show herself the peer of the West in methods and aims—the law would be strained in my interests rather than to my detriment. On the other hand, by this concession being granted me there would have been no interference with the sovereign rights of the Japanese Crown. Indeed, if it were desired, there would probably be no difficulty in granting perfect reciprocity under such a system to Japanese residents in Europe. I offer this then as one suggestion. It may possibly draw out others.

But it is said: "We know where we stand now. We have no experience of another system." No doubt. But is this dilatory plea defensible under our circumstances? Where a nation has made large strides in advance since certain legal stipulations were laid down, is it right for the other party to the conditions to refuse to modify them? Are treaties of permanent as well as binding obligation? May not insistence on terms of law be a violation of substantive right? If not, what is the meaning of equity? Are there not larger interests at stake even than those of trade: interests of justice and amity and widening influence? Does not the hope that the country where we reside may be the first in the East to be welcomed to the comity of Christian nations suggest a generous treatment? With these questions, Sir, I beg to subscribe myself,

Your faithful servant,

PACIFICUS.

Kobe, October 1st, 1890.

FOR IMPAIRED MENTAL POWER USE HORSFORD'S ACID PHOSPHATE.

Dr. GEO. SHERRER, L.R.C.S., Liverpool, says: "I prescribed it in a case of chorea of several years standing, and the most inveterate type, with the happiest result. It was in the case of a boy, aged 14, whose memory and mental powers were beginning to suffer, and in whom the involuntary movements were almost maniacal. His is quite cured."

OPENING OF THE NEW CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & MASONIC HALL.

On Thursday a large company assembled, on the invitation of Mr. O. Keil, in the new Chamber of Commerce and Masonic Hall, to commemorate the opening of what may well be termed the finest structure in Yokohama. To those even who have seen day by day the walls of what early manifested itself as a most imposing building, rising from the compound on No. 60, or those others who in addition have been aware from the outset of Mr. Keil's plans, and could realize how thoroughly he would carry them out, it has been a pleasant surprise to view the graceful and substantial proportions of the new edifice. To strangers the work will no doubt appear as a powerful evidence of Yokohama enterprise and architectural skill, and its beauty and convenience will further afford a satisfactory and gratifying index of the prosperity and strength of the Masonic and Oddfellows Orders, to the purposes of which one whole floor of the building will be exclusively devoted. Situated exactly opposite the German Consulate, this truly ornate addition to the architectural features of the Settlement can hardly be viewed to proper advantage from the street immediately in front of its elevation, although in deciding on its design regard was very closely had to its situation. Enough, however, can be seen to enable one to realise the immense labour and skill which have been expended on the structure, as evidenced in the harmonious proportions of the slender Doric pillars, the beauty of the carved Corinthian capitals, and the light and elegant lines of the pediment which surmounts the front, and on the face and base of which are shown in gold relief the square and compasses of Freemasonry and the three-linked chain of the Oddfellows. The front walls, which are 40 feet in height from the pavement, and 84 feet in length along the street (the building being 64 feet in depth), are of brick, resting on stone bases, and faced with stone and composition, chiefly in the form of pillars and carved capitals supporting plain mouldings.

As we have already indicated, the structure is Italian in design with a mixture of modern details, rendered necessary for convenience sake, the Queen Anne style being chiefly drawn upon for this purpose. In the front elevation there are three doorways, but entrance to the main part of the building is gained by the central opening, which like the others is 12 feet high and 7 feet wide. The main entrance hall is 20 feet by 13 feet, and leads between two fine *keyaki* columns into a longitudinal central hall 12 feet wide, with a spacious staircase at the western end. On each side of the entrance hall is an office, the two thus occupying the whole front of the lower floor. These are large rooms, 32 feet by 22 feet and have each an entrance from the street. At the back of the building is a suite of rooms consisting of a committee or reading room (at the western end), the secretary's room (at the eastern end) both 20 feet by 18 feet, and, between, the Chamber of Commerce Board Room, 34 feet by 25. A smaller corridor gives access to the lavatories, which are in a semi-detached wing of one story at the back of the building. A very handsome staircase of *keyaki* leads to the upper floor, the whole front of which is occupied by two lofty and spacious halls. Of these one is 45 feet by 27 feet and the other is 33 feet by 22 feet. They are connected by folding doors flanked by very beautiful pillars of *keyaki*, with slender Italian shafts and Queen Anne cornices or brackets. Along the centre of the building, from west to east, runs a hall 12 feet wide—corresponding in fact with the one below, and at the back is a suite of apartments of varying dimensions. At the head of the staircase is a gentlemen's cloak room (so used last evening) 20 feet by 18 feet; next to it a card room 27 feet by 20 feet, intended for use as a small lodge room, and having movable pillars, curtain runners, &c. Adjoining this is a ladies' private room, to be employed as a regalia room, and in the most easterly part of the building a cloak room 20 feet by 18 feet, also intended for employment in connection with lodge meetings.

No one who has from the outside noted the height of the doorways and windows need be surprised to find that the interior is most lofty and well proportioned. As a matter of plain fact the apartments and halls on the lower floor are 15 feet high and on the upper floor the height all over is 18 feet; so that our readers will be enabled to realize the proportions of the apartments upon which the architect has had to employ his powers of decorative design. Of the various rooms, however, the only one in which internal adornment finds full display is the large hall, the ceilings of which are panelled; a panel of Vancouver pine

running round the lower part of the walls. Canadian pine, indeed, has entered very largely into the construction of the building, for while the entrance doors and pillars are of *keyaki* and the outer shutters and other fittings exposed to the weather, of *hinoki*, the floors, which are first class specimens of carpentry, and other works are of pine. In the large hall the floor is stained dark in several lines, forming a border all round close to the walls, these latter being strikingly relieved by frequent Corinthian pillars. With three exceptions the grates and chimney pieces have been made in Japan and were supplied by Messrs. Carroll and Co., while the bronze work (such as locks and other fittings) which is of the most substantial character, and yet highly ornamental, has been furnished by Messrs. Sargent and Co. of New York. Attention will be attracted by the mantelpieces, which are of enamelled slate and are very artistically ornamented, the hearth in each case being formed of vari-coloured encaustic tiles from Stoke-upon-Trent. The pieces in the large hall specially are very fine works, each bearing on it in beautiful design the square and compasses of Freemasonry.

The building is amply furnished with windows, the large hall having, for example, four and the small hall three, while the other rooms are not less conveniently provided. The shutters in the upper story are so divided that while the lower parts are closed light and air may be admitted from above in ample degree. The windows are wide and lofty, their height being about 11 feet.

The design is the joint production of Mr. Keil and Mr. Diack, the latter of whom is to be warmly congratulated on the success with which he has carried out the views of his client.

Next to its decided architectural beauty, that feature of the new building which most powerfully impressed visitors—especially those who were privileged to see it last evening—was the system of electric lighting. The duty of carrying out this work has been most efficiently performed by Messrs. Fiazar & Co., to whom the contract was entrusted, and who have been represented in the new building by Mr. A. Churhill. Plainly no measure has been omitted that might tend to enhance the beauty of the various rooms by night, or to add to the comfort or aid the labours of their occupants, for not merely in the lofty and well proportioned apartments, but in the hallways and corridors and at various points and in different corners where their use might reasonably be anticipated, the plain little pear shaped glasses of the system are to be seen. It is hardly necessary to say that in such a case as the present no condition has been permitted to exist that might involve danger to person or property while the lights are burning. It may be remarked, however, that all the wires inside the building are very highly insulated. Indeed they belong to the class known as Edison's "grades," which means that no wires of higher insulation are procurable for general use. Danger from the main wires, that is those outside the building—is slight—consisting only of the risk always attaching to overhead wires—unless in the event of contact with telephone wires, to obviate which of course proper measures are taken. For the first case we believe it is the intention of the Union Electric Light Company, from whose works the current will be supplied to Mr. Keil's lights, to lay the chief electric mains in Yokohama underground, and in the latter case danger to life or property from the electric lighting wires is a most remote contingency. Means, however, are provided for protection in the event of the current on any wire being increased to a dangerous degree, for at two points, first at the junction with the main, and again before the wires are distributed to the various rooms are "cut-outs" provided. These consist of small plugs, each containing a piece of soft metal, which on the current increasing in power fuses long ere a dangerous temperature is reached and cuts off the electric contact. The first "cut-outs" are on the ground floor close to the meter; the "cut-out" station for the ground floor is in the wall of the upper hallway, and that of the first floor lights is situated in the attic of the building. The lights are distributed throughout the premises on the following plan:—Ground floor: (all lights of 16 candle power) front offices, 6 lights each; library and reading room, 4 lights; Chamber of Commerce Board Room 11 lights; secretary's office, 5 lights; lavatories, 4 lights; entrance hall, group of 3 lights; corridor and stairway 3 groups of 3 lights each; back corridor two lights, in safe, banto's office (night light), and other necessary places single lights; first floor: large hall 30 16 c lights (6 light cluster in centre); small hall 20 16 c lights; cloak room 4 16 c lights; small lodge room 3 16 c lights in centre and one 32 c light at each corner; regalia room 4 16 c lights; and eastern room 5 16 c lights, main corridor 4 groups of 3 16 c lights each. The remainder of the hundred and fifty lights which

comprise the system of the building consist of isolated lights at various spots. Numerous places have been provided where portable lights for desk work may be attached. The system, it should be said, is Edison's Three Light System, which ensures against complete cessation of the current by one dynamo stopping or breaking down. All wires, switches, (of which there are three for the large hall, and two each for nearly all the remaining rooms) and "cut outs" are from the Edison factory, while the fixtures have been made by Japanese from designs by Messrs. Bergmann & Co. of New York. It may be mentioned that the slender filament whence the light is emitted, which may be seen as a mere thread within the glass lamps, is carbonised bamboo fibre, the bamboo being shipped from Japan to the United States, and returning in this unique form.

Dancing began last evening shortly after nine o'clock, to the strains of the Tokyo Marine Band, which was stationed at the head of the stair-case. The electric lighting was perfect, not one of the lamps in the building failing to act, and the ventilation being also all that could be desired, and Mr. Keil's arrangements for the comfort of his guests, even to the merest details, entirely dictated by forethought and consideration, it goes without saying that all enjoyed themselves without stint. Supper, to which about two hundred and twenty guests sat down, was laid in one of the front rooms on the ground floor (the corresponding apartment being devoted to refreshment and smoking purposes) and in the Chamber of Commerce Room, where soon after midnight Mr. Keil's health was proposed by Mr. Brooke, who took occasion at the same time to remark that the event bore a double significance, as the day on which they met was the birthday of their host. The toast was most cordially drunk, and Mr. Keil briefly replied expressing the pleasure it gave him to see so many present, and his thanks for the kind wishes conveyed to him. "For he's a jolly good fellow" was given with proper vigour and spirit by the company. On the upper floor dancing was meanwhile continued with scarcely any intermission. Mr. Keil had arranged to have a special train run to Tokyo, starting from Yokohama about one p.m., but the enjoyment continued for some time after the departure of the contingent from the capital. No attempt at decoration was made either inside or outside the building, the only special provision being the erection of a temporary arch to protect guests while crossing the pavement to or from their carriages. Under the electric light the fine proportions of the chief rooms, and the beauty of the decorative details were plainly apparent, very general admiration of the building and its fittings being expressed. From no apprehension of danger, but chiefly in consequence of an absurd story that had been set in circulation by some foolish person, Mr. Keil had deemed it advisable to procure the attendance of police constables without the building so that not even the most timid should entertain any fear of disorder.

The following was the menu of the Supper:—

BEEF TEA.	
CAVIARE SANDWICHES.	GALANTINE OF CAPON.
GAME PIE.	
ROAST HAUNCH OF MUTTON.	
ROAST BEEF.	ROAST TURKEY.
ROAST CHICKEN.	
ROAST TRUFFLED TURKEY.	
CORNED TONGUE.	CORNED BEEF.
YORK HAM.	SALAD.
JELLIES.	
ASSORTED PASTRY.	ICE CREAM.
COFFEE.	TEA.

The list of the dances was as follows:—

1.—Waltz.	7.—Polka.	13.—Schottische.
2.—Waltz.	8.—Lancers.	14.—Waltz.
3.—Lancers.	9.—Waltz.	15.—Polka.
4.—Waltz.	10.—Waltz.	16.—Waltz.
5.—Galop.	11.—Lancers.	17.—Waltz.
6.—Waltz.	12.—Waltz.	

CHRISTIANS UNDER IMPERIAL RULE.

A SERMON PREACHED IN St. Andrew's, Suiba, TOKYO, ON SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 23RD, 1890, BY EDW. HIRAKAWA, D.D., BISHOP OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN JAPAN.

"Let every soul be in subjection to the higher powers; for there is no power but of God, and the powers that be are ordained of God."—Romans xiii. 1.

I. If for a moment we regard the New Testament as a book among the books of the world, it is simply a selection from the literature which was produced in the first century by a small religious society whose members were widely scattered amid the teeming population of a great empire. For reasons into which it is not now necessary to enter, we Christians hold that this literature en-

shrines a divine revelation, which for the purposes of our present life is alike final and sufficient. But what I am now concerned to notice is that the circumstances of its production enable us to take account of the relationship which obtained between the early Christians and the institutions and systems among which they lived, and to note what estimate they formed of the duties which this relationship involved.

From a variety of causes of which the chief was the bitter opposition of the Jewish colonies, which before the Christian era had been planted in every great city, the life of a Christian in the first age was beset with troubles and dangers. On the other hand, as a rule throughout the earliest period he was able to rely on the protection of the Roman law. That vast system of jurisprudence already embodied principles which since, mainly through it, have become the possession of the civilized peoples of Europe and America and lately of this land. And allowing for exceptional periods of excitement, as after the conflagration of Rome, the early Christian could on the whole count on a fair, perhaps even a favourable, hearing before the Roman tribunals. "It was to Roman justice and Roman Magistrates that St. Paul had recourse to shield him from the enmity of the Jews and to check their violence. At Philippi his Roman citizenship extorted an ample apology for ill treatment. At Thessalonica Roman law secured him fair play. At Corinth a Roman pro-consul acquitted him of frivolous charges." A Roman officer saved him from violence at the hands of his own people in Jerusalem. A little later his appeal to the judgment of Augustus is allowed without demur. His biographer does not fail to note the courtesy which during his voyage allowed him access to his friends at Sidon, and freedom, during the many months that elapsed before his trial, to carry on his apostolic work in Rome. There is good evidence that on his first trial he was honourably acquitted.

No doubt a generation or so later the case was different, and it is instructive to notice the reason of the change. It was because it had become evident to the rulers of the day that the propagation of the new and extraordinarily expansive faith of which the earlier years of the century had seen the birth, conflicted with principles and practices which they held to be essential to the stability of the Empire. This was so especially in two regards.

1. It was a principle of Roman jurisprudence to afford an impartial protection to all national worship alike, but at the same time to demand that they should not interfere one with another. You might worship as you liked; you might not tell another that truth or duty required him to adore the same God as yourself. From the point of view of the Roman statesman there was much to be said for the regulation. For the maintenance of a world wide empire it might well be argued that division was equally important whether of political areas or of religious cults. Large combinations were the one danger to be avoided. And on the other hand for no immediate advantage—and the continuance of legal protection might have seemed a very substantial advantage indeed—could the Church afford to conceal or lay aside her claim of Catholicity, her right to a universal spiritual empire. Her aim was to absorb all other creeds into her own and to silence all other worships but that which she herself offered. It could not but be so, but the claim inevitably involved after a while a conflict between the faith and the civil law. "I had no doubt," wrote the Governor of Bithynia, when asking for instructions from his imperial master for the treatment of Christians, who had been brought before his tribunal, "that willfulness and inflexible obstinacy ought to be punished."

2. This was one cause of the systematic persecution with which after a while the Church was confronted. Another was the position attained during the same period by the practice of paying divine honours to emperors. At an earlier time one of the reasons alleged to justify the murder of Julius Cæsar was that he had claimed prerogatives of the Gods. Augustus would allow no temple to be erected to himself alone. But afterwards all such restrictions were cancelled, and in the next century after the death of Marcus Aurelius it is said to have been counted sacrilege not to have his statue in the house. But "the Christian could not acknowledge in the Emperor the centre of that larger being which he had found in all its fulness in Christ. Only resting on that which is outward seemed to him necessarily to be partial and worthless. He looked forward to another order for the resolution of all the discords of life,"* and on this ac-

* See an essay "The Church and the World," by the Bishop of Durham, for a collection of authorities and facts bearing on this point.

count too after a while his faith involved him in danger of suffering and death.

Now the point on which I am anxious to fix your attention is the prevailing attitude maintained by the first Christians towards the Roman State, both during the earlier period in which on the whole its authority was exercised on their side, and later when it aimed at their extirpation. It is not too much to say that they never lost the sense of the reverence which is due to civil authority as a thing of divine origin. They never forgot, what the Christian theology teaches, that Christ is the light of every man, and that the powers of conscience and reason which find one of their noblest fields in human law and administration, are divine endowments. A Nero, though he had not yet exhibited his worst depravities, was on the throne of the Cæsars when S. Paul wrote the words which I have already quoted. "Let every one be in subjection to the higher powers; for there is no power but of God, and the powers that be are ordained of God." In the succeeding verses he twice calls the magistrate 'a minister of God' by virtue of his office, and he concludes: "Render therefore to all their dues; tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour." S. Peter has been thought to exhibit quite another phase of Christian thought to S. Paul, but he writes from Rome, probably during the worst days of the Neronian terror, "Be subject to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake; whether it be to the King as supreme or unto governors as sent by him for vengeance on evil doers and praise to them that do well." And this estimate of the reverence due to civil power became permanent and characteristic in the Church. In the next era after the apostolic there arose a series of apologists who wrote in defence of their persecuted co-religionists. Their treatises were commonly addressed to the reigning Emperor himself, and appealed without hesitation to a standard of right and justice, which they assume will be recognized, though it had been violated. "We render honour to the Emperor," says one of the latest of them "in such a way as is lawful for us and expedient for him as to a man who stands next to God and who has obtained whatever he is from God, and is less than God only." Such phrases are exaggerated, but they are good evidence that respect for civil authority as a religious obligation is part of the best Christian tradition.

II. I should keep you too long if I was to pursue this subject in detail, but shall venture to insist for a short space on its application to ourselves.

We too are a small body of Christians amid a vast population of unbelievers. No doubt in most other respects our position and that of the first Christians is sufficiently dissimilar. The subjects of a mighty nation, protected by its name its influence and its power, their faith no despised superstition but the world's dominant creed, are very differently circumstanced from the members of the first Christian societies.

It is but fair to add that our own past history has not fulfilled the earliest promise. The primitive Christian, however lacking might be the body to which he belonged in point of rank or influence, could appeal without fear of contradiction or denial to the unsullied benevolence, the unselfishness, the usefulness of his co-religionists' lives. But Christendom has not always been the home of Christian principles. A black list might be written out of instances in which the Christian standards of right and wrong have been violated for long periods together. Toleration, for instance, is inherent in the Christian faith and was counted a virtue long after the establishment of Christianity by the civil power, indeed by men like S. Bernard far down into the middle ages,† but still long centuries passed in which it had no advocates, and yet more before they could obtain a hearing. "Peace on earth" is the first message of the Gospel, but war is still the arbiter of the disputes of Christian nations. They still live who can remember when slavery found its apologists in the lower house of our Legislature, and laws of unreasoning severity disgraced our statute book. Our own day has seen in the supposed interests of trade—thank God that the protest is growing indignant and loud—strong indigenous races being killed out by the sale of our spirits and our fire-arms. Failures and wrongs like these are not indeed the whole truth. It were it for us if they were. The history of England's work among the many millions of India, to take an instance on the other side, is on the whole one for which we may be thankful. But the fact is that the story of the life and action in the world alike of the Church as a whole and of our own nation is part dark and only partly light, and

we do not mend matters because, if we will, we may ignore the contrast.

And again, if we compare the attitude towards the Christian Church of the old empire and of Oriental countries in our own day, once more there are conspicuous differences, but in important respects the superiority is with the present. To confine our view to this country. The Roman law, we have seen, despite its general tolerance made an exception of Christianity on account of the catholicity of its claims. Since then the claims of the Faith have suffered no abatement in purport or range; yet here this has proved no bar to its recognition as a system which may do all that it can to win the religious allegiance of the people. We saw that of old the worship of the Emperor became part of the contemporary creed, both religious and political. Here within a few years the old mythical faith on which the throne of this country was thought to rest, has faded from the mind of every educated youth. Yes, even as on the Indian plains after the desiccating drought of summer, days yet before the showers fall and the parched land leaps into sudden verdure, already there is felt from afar the influence of the coming rain; the blast of the hot wind has ceased and the air is tempered; so in the higher sphere of the moral and the spiritual, signs are to be noted in these Eastern lands such as were without explanation, but for the sure approach of the day when the Faith and Church of Christ shall obtain in them full possession. Here at all events there is a greater recognition of spiritual needs, an expectation of the revelation of higher truth, an insistence on the necessity of manifold social reforms, a struggle against moral evil, which it may not be doubted are due to the unrecognized but real influences of Christian faith and practice borne in upon them from afar.

And now if we bear in mind these points of likeness and contrast, let us ask in conclusion what are the obligations which alike our position and our faith involves towards the people of this country. We have seen that early Christianity on the one hand paid high respect, as to creations of God Himself, to the institutions and laws of the countries in which it obtained a footing, and appealed to moral standards which were common to it and them, and on the other hand fearlessly and unswervingly claimed the religious allegiance of the people.

Let us its latest descendants and representatives not do otherwise.

1. Let us accord to this people, whose guests we are, the fullest and most generous recognition of their good qualities and endowments, their receptivity, their Grecian versatility of disposition, their appreciation of beauty, their ordeliness, their love of children and reverence of age. Let us look with generous eye on their political system and social institutions. It is not right because it is not true to speak as if men, who are not Christians, did not often know and act upon the claims of the moral law, as if they are not often honourable citizens, fair traders, upright judges. Our faith obliges us to no such conclusion. Nay, rather it founds its own more lofty claims to acceptance on the very dictates of that unwritten ethical code which it assumes, notwithstanding all human wanderings, still finds a recognition in the hearts of all men alike, and still exercises a constraining force on conscience and purpose and action.

2. And lastly, brethren, it is our duty, a duty imperative and inalienable, to use the opportunities which our residence in this land affords us in the interests of our Faith. Not all by their words, but all by good example, by kindly deed, by generous almsgiving, in a word by showing forth in practice what we hold in principle, can promote the extension among this people of the Kingdom of God. To do so is a duty inherent in our religious profession; it is no less an obligation of charity. For the claims of the moral law, it need scarcely be said, are sustained, as no otherwise so surely, by the truths of revelation, and religion has also "the promise of the life to come." To recognize this last is this people's greatest need, and he has done much for them who by whatever means has helped them to transcend in heart and mind the narrow limits within which their philosophies have bound them, of the earthly and the temporal, and has led them by example or precept to submit thought and life to the principles which draw their sanction from revealed realities of an eternal world.

The Lives which promote these ends will one day be found not to have been lived in vain. Other and more immediate purposes need not be decried. The acquisition of wealth for instance, and with it such collateral aims as the promotion of refinement and culture and the development of art or literature, are well within what is permitted to Christians as to others. The real difference is that the nation and the individual

which has accepted the canons of Christian faith and action, cannot count aims like these as the last or most important in its comparative estimate of duty. Since Christ lived and died, the service of God in the unselfish promotion of interests which are not our own must always have the first place in the judgment of all his followers. "Look not every man on his own things, but every man on the things of others also." "Even Christ pleased not himself." These are the formative elements of the Christian morality, which have gone far to make all that is best and noblest in the Europe of to-day. We may not forget them when we cross the seas.

May God grant that when the record has been written up of the dealings of the English nation and Church with the people of these islands, it may be a page of our history which shall commend itself to the best judgment of men, enlightened by the principles of Christ.

REVIEW.

More Grammar Lessons. For Japanese Students.

By J. N. SEYMOUR, B.A., Tokyo.

DR. J. N. SEYMOUR, Instructor in English at the Higher Normal School, Tokyo, has published a second volume of grammar lessons for Japanese students. Dr. Seymour's writings have already proved him to be possessed of three admirable qualities, terseness, lucidity and simplicity, all of which are well displayed in the little book now before us. Grammar is a study to which few people take kindly, and grammarians, convinced apparently that they cannot hope to make their writing attractive, too often fall into the other extreme and became conspicuously dry and deterrent. To sit down deliberately for three or four hours' study of the ponderous volumes of Bain or Fowler, demands such an exercise of moral courage that men are usually content to regard these masterpieces of care and research as mere books of reference, and to borrow their rules of syntax and construction from desultory reading and everyday conversation. Dr. Seymour has done what he could to correct this fortuitous mood by compiling small and easy books which cannot alarm even the least earnest student, though they introduce him very thoroughly to all the important rules of grammar. One of the features of Japan's assimilation of Western civilization is that she is coming into gradual possession of a literature of her own, specially designed to aid her youths in acquiring foreign languages and sciences. It is most interesting and stirring to read, year by year, the catalogue published by the great Tokyo booksellers, Messrs. Maruya and Company, and to observe how rapidly the list is swelling of books prepared by the Japanese themselves, or by foreigners in their service, with the view of lightening the heavy task imposed on this busy and resolute nation by its ambition to recover lost ground. Dr. Seymour's new work makes a useful contribution to the growing library. Not only does it contain the chief rules of grammar clearly stated, aptly illustrated, and accompanied by remarks which, no less than the examples chosen, show thoughtful insight into the special difficulties that beset Japanese students, but it also derives additional value from a quantity of original matter which will certainly be highly appreciated. We must confess to a feeling of regret that Dr. Seymour should assist to induct Japanese students into the pernicious tendency now becoming prevalent to substitute the loose usage of conversational language for the recognised rules of grammar. There are to be found highly educated men who claim that such phrases as "it's me," "it was him," must be pronounced correct because they are gradually ceasing to be colloquial solecisms. But is this reason consistent with facts? We should hope that English speakers are still few and far between who have become reconciled to the substitution of an objective case for a nominative in phrases where grammatical rules, strictly observed by past generations, prescribe the use of the latter only. Dr. Seymour, indeed, says nothing of this new license in respect of personal pronouns, but he tells us of the relative pronoun that the nominative "who" is often used as the objective case, and that "in conversation 'whom' is comparatively rare." Evidently he is a doubtful convert to modern license, for he spares his readers the shock of such examples as "the man who I was speaking to" or "the woman who you told to come;" but he nevertheless makes the mischievous admission, instead of protesting against it *in toto*. Apart from this concession to the tenets of the new school, we notice a few points to which the author's attention may be drawn for the purposes of a second edition. To his notice of "Pronouns used indefinitely," it would be advantageous to add a warning against

† The revolt against Puritanism in the latter half of the 17th century is the real epoch of the recovery of the earlier and true opinion. The Cambridge Platonists were its most successful advocates.

the too common error of mixing personal and indefinite pronouns in the same sentence, as when people wrongly write:—"One does not feel anything when he is insensible;" or, "It is hard for one to be patient when he is abused so." In the section on "References of 'It,'" also, we are disposed to think that a needless and perplexing distinction is introduced. Why should the student be told that "it" refers to the infinitive mood in such a sentence as "It is wrong to waste time," but that "it" refers to a clause in such a sentence as "It is true that Mr. X. is going to marry Miss Y."? Surely in both cases alike the reference of the indefinite pronoun is to a clause. We do not find, again, that the difference, puzzling to a Japanese, between "few" and "a few," "little" and "a little," is explained with sufficient clearness. It may, indeed, be gathered from the examples, but the value of the article in such a case is decidedly obscure to a Japanese student. Dr. Seymour has also omitted to tell his readers anything about "none," though the use and number of this pronoun have provoked some controversy among grammarians. We think, further, that he should enter more fully into the distinctive force of "that" as compared with "who" or "which." Punctuation furnishes a commonly employed means of obtaining the same distinction, but grammar and punctuation being separate subjects, students should be taught the difference of meaning between phrases of which "Englishmen who love the sea" and "Englishmen that love the sea" are types. Is it not also slightly misleading to say that there is only "a shade of difference" between "the same as" and "the same that"? Actual identity and generic identity differ by more than a shade. Further, in his chapter on "The Present Perfect" the author scarcely gives sufficient assistance to Japanese students. The proper use of the tense puzzles Japanese speakers and writers of English immensely, and experience has taught us that no rule assists them more than one which Dr. Seymour omits, namely, that the present perfect should never be employed when the verb is qualified by an adverb of past time. It is quite incorrect to say, for example, "We have heard recently," or "I have met Mr. so and so this morning." More important, however, than any of these points is an error into which Dr. Seymour falls in his exposition of indirect narration. He not only fails to note that the ordinary rule as to the use of "shall" and "will" (and their past tenses) in oblique narration is reversed when the subject of the verb in the principal clause is also the subject of the verb in the dependent clause, but he gives an example which, without explanation, is worse than misleading. It is not correct to say "He said he would stay at home," unless we desire to specially emphasize the speaker's expression of volition. The ordinary form, according to grammar, is "he said he should stay at home." This part of the subject of indirect narration requires amplification. Dr. Seymour is conferring a boon on Japanese students by the compilation of these manuals, and we trust that he will persevere in an undertaking so successful up to the present.

HOW I OPENED UP KOREA.

It happened during the memorable summer of 1882. A crisis had just passed in the Hermit Kingdom; a short conflict between the old and new—between progress and ignorance. The Japanese Minister had been driven from Seoul, and had to take refuge on an English gunboat, and he was now returning with a formidable force at his back to re-enter the capital in triumph. The Chinese had also taken a hand in the game—brought a small army into the country; had taken the Tai Won Kun prisoner, and deported him to China in one of their own vessels. Things were said to be at a standstill—"everything quiet on the Potomac,"—when we arrived there, but the mutterings of the eruption could still be heard.

I held the position at the time of a junior officer on one of the Mitsu Bishi Company's floating palaces. We had brought a company of soldiers with their stores and equipments to Chemulpo, and after these had been landed our time was at our own disposal and hung rather heavily on our hands, lying as we were anchored off the place awaiting orders from head-quarters. So many stories were told about this strange country that they excited quite a fascination for me, and a strong desire to penetrate into it took position of me as I gazed at the blue tint of the distant mountains where Seoul was supposed to be situated. No European, so I was told, except in disguise, had yet been inside its walls, and the glory of being the first was a strong incentive to make the attempt; besides I might perhaps be able to obtain a glance at the Court, just

now under a cloud, but said to be still carried on in real Oriental splendour. For a spell fate was against me; the Japanese authorities on shore, on discovering any intention, frustrated my plans. Both sleep and appetite forsook me, and I began to waste away perceptibly as I saw day after day pass and I still no nearer to the starting point. Saint Joseph, our noble skipper, used to ask me if my stomach was out of order, as he like the Chinese appeared to think that a man's heart was in his belly; and he could not understand my unconquerable desire, he said, to go and be murdered by a lot of savages.

Several steamers had arrived in the meantime, and one day I was agreeably surprised by Tom —, an engineer from another floating palace, offering to accompany me on my proposed trip to the capital. This infused new hope, and with renewed vigour I increased my efforts to elude the vigilance of the Japanese officials, and I succeeded! Be hold us then early one morning starting off on foot—the distance was stated to be somewhere between 30 and 50 miles. Evading the Japanese troops when we landed, and pressing a Korean coolie into our service to act as guide, we started. The sun was just rising as we commenced our journey, and we tramped gaily along the dusty road. Through smiling fields, over low green hills, past solitary houses surrounded with mud walls and clustering among umbrageous trees, was the road over which we travelled, our coolie with his jingling strings of cash trudging ahead. No sign of pursuit,—but unmolested and in peace we proceeded on our quest for adventure. About 9 a.m. we arrived at a small town, Ninsun, nestling between the hills, and we were there received by several unarmed Korean soldiers, who escorted us to the Governor's house. The Governor, a white-bearded old gentleman, received us with great politeness and placed us by his side on the raised dais in his reception hall, where shortly quite a number of the inhabitants assembled to see the distinguished visitors we were supposed to be. Our guide answered the questions put to him, but as he did not know anything about us, I doubt if our host was much the wiser. A bounteous repast was placed before us, consisting of a dozen different dishes served on a large lacquered tray, with bottles of native liquor, most abominable tippie; and as fifteen or twenty pairs of curious eyes were watching our movements, I felt no inclination to eat or drink, but Tom emptied all the dishes, which amused the spectators highly. We resumed our journey after having tarried for an hour in the Governor's hospitable mansion—not a very imposing structure, by the way—now on ox back. Payment offered for our refreshment was declined, but for the use of the oxen we had to pay 300 cash each in advance. I would not recommend ox-back travelling. For an hour or so to break the monotony of a long day it is well enough, but for any longer time, beware; the confounded sliding, jolting, and up and down motion is indescribable, and the slow, creeping gait—terrible! After having ascended and descended a high hill we found ourselves in a valley stretching away for twenty miles or more, under high cultivation, and dotted here and there with groups of houses, each enclosed by its own mud wall and surrounded by trees; the country presenting a peaceful aspect. We met several natives who just gave us a glance as they passed, but showed no undue curiosity, and also a number of Japanese officers who said nothing to us, not even answering our friendly *konnichi wa*, though they looked at us askance. The dusk of evening had fallen when we reached a large river where hundreds of junks were moored on both sides, over which we were ferried. The road so far had been tolerably good, but now we began to ascend a mountain path piled up with boulders, between which we had to pick our way in the dark. We let our animals have their own way, ceasing all attempts to guide them. If the natives had intended to do us any harm they had now an opportunity, but not the slightest mark of hostility was shown towards us. It was midnight before we arrived before the gates of Seoul, which we, to our dismay, found shut, and guarded on the inside by Chinese soldiers who were deaf to all our entreaties for admission. The gates would be opened at daylight, they said. For an hour we paced up and down outside the gates. "Paul Jones," as we had named our pilot, then beckoned us to follow him. He took us to a neighbouring hut, which turned out to be the Korean guard-house, and introduced us to two half naked, sleepy looking natives, who pointed out a place where we could rest; but neither sleep nor rest followed, for millions of flies took possession of us at once; and we were soon compelled to leave the hut, and, seating ourselves on the steps outside the door, remained there till morning. Crowds of country-people were continually coming with produce for the

market, and gathered outside the gates, ready to enter when they were opened. They eyed us apparently with some misgiving, until our faithful henchman vouched for our good behaviour.

At last the gates were thrown open. "Paul Jones" wanted us to straddle our steeds, as we had still some distance to go, but we declined and made our *entrée* on foot, to the great surprise of the Chinese soldiers who evidently did not know how to act, but before they had collected their wits we were a long distance away from them. We had impressed on the obtuse mind of "Paul Jones," as far as we were able, that we wished to go to an hotel on our arrival, and when we entered the narrow and awfully filthy streets, and ultimately stopped in front of the gates of a large building we thought our troubles were over, but we were somewhat astonished when "Paul Jones" begged us to wait a moment outside while he went in to announce our arrival. After waiting for 10 minutes he returned in company with a Japanese who asked us in good English what we wanted. Naturally surprised at such a question, Tom said we wanted a room, a bath, and something to eat! "Excuse me, you make a mistake, I think," said the Japanese, "this is not an hotel." "Not an hotel; then what is it?" Said the Japanese, "This is the Japanese Legation, and I am the secretary." To augment our troubles, the secretary told us that we had to return to Chemulpo immediately, but to this we demurred saying that we had reached Seoul after a long and tiresome journey, and we wanted to rest. The secretary then asked us to follow him into the compound which was full of Japanese soldiers, coolies, and Koreans. To our amazement we saw a European mounting a horse as we approached the building. After a good ablution and breakfast we were introduced to the Minister, who in a few well expressed sentences, in fluent English, told us that we must keep within the Japanese limits during the 24 hours he could permit us to stay and recruit our strength. Several Japanese were present, correspondents of Japanese papers. Both the Minister and the secretary soon left us to be entertained by the newspaper men. They pointed out the King's Palace some distance away among a grove of trees, and the principal buildings in the city, but after a desultory and halting conversation they strolled away one by one, and I found myself at last alone, when I stretched myself on the green turf, and felt inclined for a nap. I did not sleep, however, but throwing a hurried glance around to see that I was not observed, I moved away to the nearest declivity, down which I slid and reached the bottom in safety, ultimately gaining the long, broad streets which divided the city in two parts. I had suddenly determined to have a nearer look at the King's palace. People looked at me with wonder, but nobody troubled me, although the streets were crowded with pedestrians. In a few minutes I arrived at the gates, which were open; on each side a Korean soldier was stationed. A thick grove of splendid trees surrounded the palace, which looked somewhat like a Buddhist temple. I sauntered slowly through the gates, but though the soldiers watched me they made no attempt to stop me. This made me bolder. A broad avenue led up to the main entrance of the palace, and as none but the soldiers were in sight I walked on without hindrance right up to the very portals. My idea that I was unobserved was soon dispelled. Suddenly a crowd of white-robed figures rushed out and surrounded me, and I was literally hustled along to the back of the building by sheer force of numbers, while innumerable questions were asked me in Korean, to which I replied in English. What was done was in perfect good humour and no violence whatever was offered. They took me to a side gate, and into a small apartment, where I was invited to sit down. In a few minutes two aged officials entered, and taking me between their arms marched me through several large, empty rooms and into a spacious hall, where they were joined by several more officers, evidently of high rank. The floor of this hall was made of a dark wood, lacquered I believe. At one end a dais was raised a foot above the floor and about 12 feet wide; two large and beautifully painted screens were standing on the dais concealing the back of the hall. There was no other furniture of any description. Where was the expected pomp and splendour of this court? The Koreans were grouped about me in respectful attitudes as I stood in the centre of the room wondering what next would happen. The soft tinkling of cymbals was heard from the inside, at which sound everybody prostrated himself on the floor, while a young Korean of prepossessing appearance and dressed in a tight fitting green silk tunic emerged from behind the screens and stepped to the edge of the dais where he stopped. Surmising that this was the King, I made him a polite bow. He then

beckoned me to draw nearer. Saying a few words to the attendants, they all withdrew from the hall; only the two old gentlemen who had escorted me squatted down in the farthest corners. The King was a slight, tall young man with the usual Korean features, but more refined and delicate looking, and lighter in colour than any I had yet seen, and his hands were remarkably small. Being at a loss what to do, I stood watching the King, waiting for him to break the silence. I was not long kept in suspense: "How are you, old man?" were his first words, uttered in excellent English. I was fairly thunderstruck. He perceived my consternation, and probably guessed the reason, for laughing heartily he said, "Oh, I speak English!" "You speak good English," said I flatteringly, "where did you learn it?" "Oh, an American ship was taken by my people when I was a boy; one sailor was given to me, and he learned me to speak English." "And what became of him?" said I. "Oh, he vexed me one day and I killed him," was his answer. "I hope I shall not vex you," thought I. We had up to this remained standing; but the King now clapped his hands; a youthful attendant appeared from behind the screens and at a word from the King brought in two Chinese bamboo stools. The King seated himself on one and motioned me to take the other. He then entered in a long and interesting conversation on different subjects; question following question with rapidity, which I answered to the best of my knowledge, and I am sure that never before nor since has such good advice been given to him by any one, native or foreigner. When the audience was concluded he turned towards me and, grasping my hand, said with emotion, "If you will stay with me I will make you a general or a mandarin of high rank." But, incredible as it may appear, I refused his brilliant offers and preferred to remain in my ignoble obscurity. Taking a valuable ring from one of his fingers he placed it on one of mine, and asked me to keep it in remembrance of him, for which I thanked him. Ordering one of his high officers to accompany me back to the Japanese Legation, he bade me fare well.

I returned to the Legation and seeking out the spot I had occupied before I started out, I laid myself down on the grass, and immediately sank in a deep slumber. I was soon rudely disturbed by Tom, however, who shaking me by the shoulder sung out, "Are you coming down to chow or are you going to stay up here all day?" Not seeing any of the newspaper men near I whispered to Tom, "I have been to the King's Palace and I have just returned!" Tom looked at me doubtfully. "It is a fact," said I, "and I had a long interview with the King, who presented me with this ring when I left;" I held out my hand to show him the ring, but fancy my consternation when I found the jewel gone. I searched all about where I had been sleeping, but to my dismay the ring had vanished. Tom meanwhile laughed immoderately, and advised me to go back and get another ring. He insisted that I had never left the grass plot where he found me, which is absurd. But I begged him not to mention it to the Japanese. In the afternoon the Minister entertained us, and next morning at daylight we were off for Chemulpo, on horseback this time. We arrived late in the afternoon, and got on board without further adventure, to the intense chagrin of Saint Joseph, who had predicted the total collapse of our expedition.

THE BATHING FATALITY AT HONMOKU.

An inquest was held on Monday afternoon in the U.S. Consulate-General Court in connection with the death of Eusign Harry E. Rumsey of the U.S. steamer *Suwarra*. Mr. G. H. Seidmore, Vice and Deputy Consul General, presided, and Messrs. R. Meiklejohn and H. M. Roberts acted as Associates. B. O. Chase deposed—I was acquainted with the deceased. He was an American naval officer, and a citizen of the United States. On the afternoon of the 26th, Mr. Rumsey and I drove to Honmoku. We stopped at the tea-house usually patronised by people wishing to take sea baths. On arrival there Mr. Rumsey expressed a desire to go in the water, but, as I declined, he seemed to have given up the idea and said nothing further on the subject. Some time later he rose, said something in Japanese to one of the attendants, and went into another room. Some ten minutes after this one of the attendants came in and spoke excitedly in Japanese, and all the occupants of the room ran out, I with the rest. On passing out I noticed Mr. Rumsey's clothes hanging up, but did not see any one in the water. I endeavoured to find out what had become of him, but

it was some time before I ascertained that he had gone in the water and disappeared. I ascertained this through a gentleman named Blum, who interpreted what the Japanese said in answer to my enquiries. A passing sampan was hailed, and Mr. Blum and myself got on board and commenced to search for the body. In the course of 10 or 15 minutes we discovered the body lying near the bottom face downwards in 6 or 7 feet of water. Other sampans had joined us by this time. Previous to this I had not observed any one near that locality. With the assistance of the boatmen the body was recovered, taken ashore, and every means used that we knew of to resuscitate it. On discovering the body, I sang out to send for a doctor immediately. Dr. Mécère's assistant arrived in a half or three quarters of an hour. We meanwhile were at work on the body. We turned the body over a barrel to allow the water to drain out, and then, laying it on the back, worked the arms, at the same time pressing the stomach. Another foreigner, whose name I do not know, assisted me in my efforts. When we first began operations to resuscitate the body there was not, as far as I could find, any movement of the heart or of the pulse, though some one said he detected a slight pulsation. The body was perfectly warm and relaxed. On the doctor's arrival he immediately pronounced that life was extinct, and no further attempts at resuscitation were made. He spoke in French. He did not direct me to cease, but on his saying a second time that life was extinct I desisted. Operations lasted about 15 minutes. I should estimate that the body was in the water 15 or 20 minutes. I should say the place was perfectly safe for bathing. When last seen, the deceased was swimming out. I was told so by an elderly German gentleman whose name I forget. After the doctor arrived the body was conveyed to the hospital, and Mr. Blum kindly placed his carriage at my disposal to report the matter. I first met the deceased in 1882. He has bathed on several occasions from the gangway of the ship, and seemed to be at home in the water. I cannot say that he was particularly reckless. I cannot account for the drowning unless it was accidental.

Dr. William Henry Jones deposed—I formed one of a naval inquest on the 27th, and identified the body of the deceased. I made a superficial examination. From the appearance of the body I judged the cause of death to be drowning. I discovered no evidence of violence. There were no scars or abrasions, but the neck and shoulders were slightly discoloured. There was no indication of violence whatever. Previous to death I never knew of anything wrong with his heart. The vital organs were in good condition. I did not know of his having signs of cramp while swimming. I know about methods of resuscitation; and those used on this occasion were perfectly right. He has had cramps in the stomach about three months to my knowledge, since we left Singapore. If he had such cramp in the water he would in all probability sink and drown even in shallow water.

Levi Lichtenstein deposed—I was at Honmoku on the 26th inst. I saw a gentleman go into the water about a quarter-past five. He entered the water, and I think in four or five minutes my attention was called away for a minute or two. On looking back, I could not see him any longer. For a few minutes I continued looking, thinking he was sitting on the steps, but learned from the woman of the house that he had not returned. He was alone when he entered the water, and no one was near him till he disappeared. The woman went in to the room in which a friend of the deceased's was, and he immediately came out and got a boat to search. The deceased walked along the plank, and entered the water by the steps at the end in the usual way. I saw him swimming for about a minute. From the time my attention was called away till the time he was recovered was about 25 minutes. I did not see him dive from the pier; he dipped himself first and then swam. We turned the body and some water ran out, and then we moved the arms. I thought at one time he was all right because the body was warm. The first who came was the French doctor, who pronounced him dead. Dr. Eldridge came next, but by that time we had ceased our efforts. I had never before assisted in efforts to resuscitate bodies, but I have seen such efforts.

Dr. Jones, recalled—I have seen cases of drowning. How long might a man, in a case like this, be immersed and yet live?—Three minutes,—not more than 7 minutes.

Assuming that Mr. Rumsey had been in the water say fifteen minutes, at the outside, would it be possible to restore him?—In my opinion it would not. It is my opinion, from the testimony I have heard, that every reasonable and proper measure was taken for the recovery of the deceased. I

think he must have been dead before taken out of the water.

The Court returned a verdict of death by accidental drowning.

CRICKET.

BLUFF V. SETTLEMENT.

Capital cricketing weather enabled two Club teams to try conclusions on Saturday, when Bluff met Settlement. On paper it was ten to one on the former. Edwards won the toss, and elected to go in first, two wickets going down for one run. Edwards, E., made 18, the captain himself being run out for 8, and after that no stand was made, only 7 runs more being scored, the total amounting to 37. Walford and Sutter bowled, and seemed from the first to have well taken the measure of their opponents—Walford 63 balls, 19 runs, 3 maiden overs, 5 wickets; Sutter 60 balls, 15 runs, 2 maiden overs, 4 wickets. There were 12 on each side, and one absentee from Edwards' team.

Walkinshaw and Crawford opened the ball for their side, the former being sent back when he had notched 2. Crawford, however, had sweet revenge for his captain's retirement, and played a splendid innings. Edwards major could do nothing with him, though he bowled 6 maiden overs and took 8 wickets, and Crawford, carrying his bat right through, made a total of 71 not out, in which were 3 fours and 11 threes. For so strong a team the total, 124, was a small one, but several good men were put out for next to nothing, Walkinshaw, Walford, Wheeler, and Sutter only scoring 10 between them.

A second innings was started by Edwards' side, in which Shepherd made 19 and was bowled by Walford, Philip was run out before scoring. Grant and Edwards, E., made four each, and the stumps were then drawn. Following are the scores:—

SETTLEMENT.		BLUFF.	
Mr. Grant, b. Sutter	0	Mr. Walkinshaw, b. Edwards, W.	8
Mr. Adams, b. Walford	1	Mr. Crawford, not out	71
Mr. E. Edwards, b. Walford	18	Mr. Watson, c. Shepherd, b. Grant	10
Mr. W. Edwards, run out	8	Mr. Sutter, c. Grant, b. Edwards, W.	7
Mr. Balfour, b. Sutter	1	Mr. Read, b. Edwards, W.	7
Mr. Shepherd, b. Sutter	5	Dr. Wheeler, b. Edwards, W.	1
Mr. Howard, c. Harris, b. Walford	0	Mr. Harris, b. Edwards, W.	0
Mr. Philip, not out	0	Mr. Walford, c. Edwards, W.	0
Mr. Robinson, b. Sutter	0	Mr. Macdonald (absent)	0
Mr. Chalmers, b. Walford	1	Mr. W. b. Grant	0
Mr. Merriam, b. Walford	0	Mr. Gillett, c. Grant, b. Edwards, W.	3
b. 3	3	Mr. Moss, b. Edwards, W.	5
		Mr. Chope, b. Edwards, W.	0
		Mr. Nash, b. Philip	16
		b. 5, l.b. 1	9
			124

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, September 27th.

The United States Treasury on Wednesday last bought silver at 113½.

The damage by the floods in France is estimated at two millions.

London, September 28th.

The Czarevich has been betrothed to the Princess Maria of Greece.

London, September 30th.

The House of Representatives has passed an amended Tariff Bill which comes into operation on the 6th of October.

London, October 1st.

The United States new Tariff Bill admits sugar below the standard of sixteen free, above the standard of sixteen at half a cent per pound.

(FROM THE "SINGAPORE FREE PRESS.")

London, September 8th.

The floods at Prague have ceased, and His Majesty the Emperor has authorised an outlay of two millions of florins for the relief of the unfortunate inhabitants.

London, September 9th.

His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Germany will visit Vienna on the second of October.

Nine thousand employes at the Broken Hill Mines have struck.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki, &c. per N. Y. K.	Friday, Oct. 3rd.
From America, per P. M. Co.	Friday, Oct. 10th.*
From Europe, via Hongkong, per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 5th†
From Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 12th‡
From Hongkong, per P. M. Co.	Thursday, Oct. 3rd.§
From Hongkong, per C. P. M. Co.	Saturday, Oct. 11th||
From America, per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Oct. 18th.¶
From Hongkong, per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 12th.**

* City of Rio de Janeiro left San Francisco on September 23rd. † California left Kobe on October 4th. ‡ Suiwa left Vancouver on September 25th. § City of Yokohama left Hongkong on September 28th. ¶ Aburatsubo left Hongkong on September 29th. ** Pacific left San Francisco on October 1st. ** Felona left Hongkong on October 3rd.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For America, per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Oct. 7th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki, per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, Oct. 7th.
For Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co.	Friday, Oct. 10th.
For Europe, via Shanghai, per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 12th.
For Europe, via Hongkong, per N. D. Lloyd.	Wednesday, Oct. 15th.
For America, per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Oct. 18th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 386, Watanabe, 27th September.—Handa 26th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Arai, 27th September.—Yokkaichi 26th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 28th September.—Shanghai and ports, 21st September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Brown, 28th September.—Kobe 27th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,878, W. D. Mudie, 29th September.—Hongkong 19th, Nagasaki 25th, and Kobe 28th September, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,182, Carrow, 29th September.—Hakodate 27th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Placer (6), gunboat, Captain Ernest G. Rason, 29th September.—Hakodate 27th September.

Telemachus, British steamer, 1,380, Jones, 30th September.—Hongkong 22nd September, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 384, Watanabe, 30th September.—Handa 29th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Arai, 30th September.—Yokkaichi 29th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, Speigalthal, 30th September.—Yokosuka Dock, 30th September.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Meiji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,010, Captain Allen, 30th September.—Hakodate 28th September, General.—Lighthouse Department.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 30th September.—Kobe 29th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Christensen, 1st October.—Hakodate 19th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 704, Okuma, 1st October.—Kobe 29th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oopack, British steamer, 1,729, H. Keniss, 2nd October.—Kobe 30th September, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Straits of Belle Isle, British steamer, 1,586, Grigs, 2nd October.—Hongkong 18th, Shanghai 25th, and Kobe 30th September, General.—C. P. M. S.S. Co.

Fuyo, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 2nd October.—Nagasaki 29th September, General.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,357, Drummond, 2nd October.—Kobe 1st October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Occidental, American ship, 1,534, Taylor, 27th September.—Port Townsend, Ballast.—China & Japan Trading Co.

Thorndale, British steamer, 1,970, Elherington, 27th September.—Kobe, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, P.

Hussey, 27th September.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 704, Okuma, 27th September.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 386, Watanabe, 27th September.—Handa, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Arai, 27th September.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Drummond, 27th September.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Iraonaddy, French steamer, 3,400, Flaudin, 28th September.—Shanghai via Kobe, General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Parthia, British steamer, 2,035, John Pantou, 28th September.—Hongkong, General.—C. P. M. S.S. Co.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Suru, 29th September.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 30th September.—Shanghai and ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Brown, 30th September.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 596, Kasuga, 30th September.—Oginohama, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 386, Watanabe, 1st October.—Handa, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Arai, 1st October.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 2nd October.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, C. Young, 2nd October.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 704, Okuma, 2nd October.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Straits of Belle Isle, British steamer, 2,484, Grigs, 3rd October.—Vancouver, B.C., General.—C. P. M. S.S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. C. R. Greathouse (U.S. Consul-General), Mr. C. W. Ure, Dr. G. P. Smith, Mr. Dorinther, Mr. Oldmans and family, Mr. Sim, and Mr. Dimok in cabin; Messrs. Champion, Morris, Nakamichi, Sonzu, and Omoto in second class, and 41 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, from Hongkong via ports:—Sergeant Major Williamson, Messrs. T. Hutchings, Wm. Mathieson and native servant, and F. Sangster in cabin; 2 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Sagami Maru*, from Hakodate:—Dr. Fischer, Mr. Y. Kikuchi, and Mr. Y. Tanaka in cabin; 38 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Telemachus*, from Hongkong:—Mr. Reid in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. T. and Mrs. Kodama in cabin; 1 passenger in second class, and 48 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, from Hakodate:—Messrs. Takeda, Midzuno, Tanaka, Chutii Chuck, and Mochiyama in cabin; 7 passengers in second class, and 58 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Straits of Belle Isle*, from Hongkong via ports:—59 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. F. C. Vignoli, Kawaoka Hikoza, and Tanaka Tashio in cabin; 1 passenger in second class, and 30 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, for Hakodate:—Mr. S. Asaba in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. Kamozawa and Mr. Matsuda in second class, and 23 passengers in steerage.

Per French steamer *Iraonaddy*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Miss Wagner, Miss Wagner, Messrs. Wagner, Raoul Wagner, L. Rowe, J. Wilkowski, Miss Gurdin, Mr. and Mrs. C. Theppelman, Mr. G. L. Burton, Mrs. Clark and infant, Miss Clark, Mr. Trenche, Mrs. D. R. Churchill, Dr. C. Begg, Messrs. L. Nettland, O. S. Noestiyard, C. F. Luther, Dr. Baedeker, Mr. Kargel, Miss Rosa Billspacher, Mr. Vasiliou, N. Kojipis, Major Colclough, Mr. A. E. Waterston, Captain Dunn, Miss Rowe, Mr. Youmaid, Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Dayouing, Messrs. Ventura, K. M. Shuff, Girud, and Mrs. Sarah Cedelman in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai

and ports:—Rev. and Mrs. Brown, Mrs. McK, Mr. and Mrs. Hitchcock, Mr. and Mrs. Tewkesbury, Mr. and Mrs. Stoddart, Mr. and Mrs. Fujii, Mrs. Ichinose, Miss Cook, Mrs. Takenouchi, Mrs. Williams and infant, Dr. and Mrs. McCarthy, Misses Lautemann, Smith, Bird, Helvelt, Messrs. Ichinose, Saito, Nakamura, Hisiki, Sim, McKenzie, Neill, Hill, Hoarse, Uchida, Keeling, Richardson, Wheeler, Lucas, Bishop Bickerteth, and Dr. Campbell in cabin; Mrs. Ting, Miss Ishida, Messrs. Champion, Morris, Robin, Caffenheper, Yoshimura, Kaneke, Obata, and Mr. and Mrs. Okunoye in second class, and 62 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Satsuma Maru*, for Hakodate:—Messrs. K. Nakamura, T. Yoshiyuki, K. Saito, Yoshimi, and F. Yamao in cabin; Messrs. Wada, Kobayashi, and M. Kawashima in second class, and 46 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, for Kobe:—Mr. Fukuba in cabin; 24 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, for Hakodate:—Messrs. Sawano, Oku, and Asakusa in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. Chigusa, Messrs. Matsumoto and Tanaka in second class, and 70 passengers in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Iraonaddy*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Silk for France 121 bales, for Italy 24 bales; Waste Silk for France 84 bales. Treasure for Shanghai \$2,200.

Per British steamer *Straits of Belle Isle*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—

	TEA.				TOTAL
	CANADA.	CHICAGO.	NEW YORK.	PACIFIC.	
Shanghai	1,134	4,353	5,805	314	11,422
Amoy	—	100	2,121	—	2,221
Hyogo	1,359	4,711	841	—	6,911
Yokohama	3,270	1,437	1,638	90	6,435
Hongkong	174	—	3	47	224
Fuochow	2,084	364	538	315	3,301
Total	8,021	10,967	10,995	583	30,566

	SILK.				TOTAL
	CANADA.	CHICAGO.	NEW YORK.	PACIFIC.	
Shanghai	—	—	167	—	167
Hongkong	—	—	90	—	90
Yokohama	—	—	162	—	162
Canton	—	—	65	—	65
Total	—	—	484	—	484

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, Captain Conner, reports:—Left Shanghai the 21st September at 2 p.m.; had fresh northerly wind and fine; 22nd gradually increased to a gale with threatening weather and all appearances of a typhoon to the southward. Arrived at Nagasaki the 23rd at 4.43 p.m. and left 24th at 5 p.m.; had fresh N.E. winds and squally. Arrived at Shimonoeki the 25th at 6.4 a.m. and left at 7.43 a.m.; had fresh N.E. winds and fine weather. Arrived at Kobe the 26th at 3 a.m. and left at 12 p.m.; had fresh N.E. winds and fine weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 28th September at 5 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Satsuma Maru*, Captain Brown, reports:—Left Kobe the 27th September at noon; experienced light variable winds with fine weather down to Oshima; thence to port strong N.E. winds and clear sky. Arrived at Yokohama the 28th September at 7 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Sagami Maru*, Captain Carrow, reports:—Left Hakodate the 27th September at 8 a.m.; had light variable winds and fine weather with easterly swell throughout the passage. Arrived at Oginohama the 28th at 7 a.m. and left at 4 p.m.; had same weather and easterly swell throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 29th September at 7 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, Captain Young, reports:—Left Kobe the 29th September at noon; had fresh to moderate easterly and southerly winds; passed Oshima at 9 p.m.; thence fresh easterly winds and fine weather to Rock Island which was passed the 30th at noon. Arrived at Yokohama at 6.30 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, Captain Christensen, reports:—Left Hakodate the 29th September at 8 a.m.; had moderate southerly winds, clear weather, and easterly sea from Tsugaru Straits to Inuboye; thence fresh S.W. winds with heavy rain at times to Mela Head; thence to port variable airs and misty weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 1st October at 8 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, Captain Drummond, reports:—Left Kobe the 1st October at noon; passed Oshima at 8.42 p.m.; rounded Rock Island the 2nd at 11 a.m. and Sagami at 3 p.m. Arrived at Yokohama at 4.45 p.m.; had light and moderate S. and S.W. winds with fine clear weather throughout the passage.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The Import Market generally has been more or less demoralized by the sudden great fluctuations in Exchange, and business is almost at a standstill and quotations nominal. Sales for the week amount to 50 bales English Yarns, 260 bales Bombays, 12,750 pieces Shirtings, and 750 pieces Italians.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ yds, 39 inches	\$1.35	to	1.90
Grey Shirtings—9½ lb, 38½ yds, 45 inches	1.60	to	2.54
1. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.15	to	1.47
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.20	to	1.60
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.70	to	2.00
Cotton—Italian and Sateen Black, 32 inches	0.07	to	0.14
Turkey Reds—¾ to 1 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.00	to	1.15
Turkey Reds—¾ to 1 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.20	to	1.40
Turkey Reds—¾ to 1 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.70	to	2.05
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	4.50	to	6.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42½ inches	0.50	to	0.65
Paffachelas, 12 yards, 43 inches	1.35	to	2.25

WOODS.

Plain Orleans, 10-12 yards, 32 inches	\$1.00	to	1.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.24	to	2.30
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.20	to	2.4
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.16	to	30
Mousseline de laine—Crape, 24 yards, 34 inches	0.14	to	1.53
Cloths—Filots, 51 @ 56 inches	0.30	to	0.45
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 56 inches	0.50	to	0.60
Cloths—Union, 51 @ 56 inches	0.35	to	0.60
Ribbons—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3½ lb, per lb	0.30	to	0.38

COTTON YARNS.

Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	\$25.00	to	26.00
Nos. 16/24, Medium	26.00	to	27.00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	27.00	to	28.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	29.00	to	30.00
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	27.75	to	28.50
Nos. 28/32, Medium	28.50	to	30.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	30.25	to	31.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	14.00	to	30.00
No. 32, Two-fold	31.50	to	35.00
No. 42, Two-fold	35.50	to	36.00
No. 20s, Bombay	72.00	to	78.00
No. 16s, Bombay	74.00	to	79.00
Nos. 10/14, Bombay	—		—

METALS.

Holders are somewhat encouraged by the drop in exchange rates, but it has the effect of making buyers very shy. They seem inclined to wait until silver rises again before committing themselves to many fresh purchases.

Flat Bars, 4 inch	\$2.50	to	2.60
Flat Bars, 4 inch	2.60	to	2.70
Round and square up to 2 inch	2.50	to	2.70
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.		
Nailrod, small size	Nom.		
Iron Plates, assorted	2.80	to	3.00
Sheet Iron	3.00	to	3.25
Galvanized Iron sheets	5.80	to	6.00
Wire Nails, assorted	4.10	to	4.70
Tin Plates, per box	4.60	to	4.80
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.20	to	1.25

KEROSENE.

No great amount of business passing in this market. Quotations unchanged, although sellers would like to get some little advance now that sterling exchange is so much lower.

QUOTATIONS.

Chester	\$1.72½	to	1.75
Comet	1.70	to	1.72
Revoe	1.68	to	1.70
Russian	1.63	to	1.66

SUGAR.

There is no improvement in the Sugar market, and none can be looked for until the near approach of the New Year Holidays when there is always a good demand for White Refined and other brands. Sales for the week ending to-day are 325 piculs at \$8 per picul, and 500 piculs at \$7.15 per picul. Prices are more or less nominal.

White Refined	\$5.60	to	8.10
Manilla	3.70	to	4.40
Taiwanfoo	—		—
Pentama	2.80	to	3.25
Namida	2.90	to	3.00
Cake	—		—
Brown Taken	4.27	to	4.30

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 26th ultimo since which date settlements in this market are 525 divided thus—Hanks, 27; Filatures, 225; Re-reels, 74; Kakeda, 199. There have been no Japanese shipments during the week, so that the total business is 525 piculs as noted above.

A further smart decline in the price of Silver

has produced a corresponding effect in Exchange, and buyers took the opportunity of settling a few hundred boxes before holders advanced their prices. The business done has been both for Europe and America in about equal proportions.

Prices generally have been pushed up by holders, and are very firm and strong at quotations; had they shown themselves current at last week's rates business would have been general, as shippers would have been able to fill many orders at limits which they have in hand.

News from the Markets of consumption are still by no means good. Our settlements to date are less than one-third of what they were to same date last year, and with any ordinary prosperity among manufacturers this would of itself lead to a large business. As matters stand now, we shall have a further long dragging time, unless holders realize the situation and agree to sell currently.

There has only been one shipping opportunity, the French Mail steamer *Iraoudy* on the 28th inst. taking 145 bales for Lyons. The present export is now 3,966 piculs, against 11,327 last year and 8,176 at the same date in 1888.

Hanks.—There have been several purchases at an advance of \$20 in price. The stock is very small, and the demand for this class is good among the native weavers. The purchases made seem to be entirely for Europe.

Filatures.—There has been a fair amount of business done on the basis of last quotations, but at closing holders have stopped the trade by opening their mouths too wide. In fine sizes some business has been done in *Shinsu* at \$675, *Mino* \$670 and \$650, with *Bishu* at \$645. Holders are anxious to secure a further advance, trusting to a low exchange helping them. In full sized silks *Kaimeisha*, *Hakusuru* and equal quality have been done at \$670; holders have stopped the trade by now asking \$685 for the same qualities.

Re-reels.—Business in this class has been small, and consists of medium and common, the third sortings of well-known *Foshu* Chops bringing \$612½. The business done in these would seem to be entirely for the United States, and shows an advance of \$20 or \$25 upon the quotations of a week ago.

Kakeda.—These have received marked attention during the week at prices ranging from \$635 down to \$575. Sellers now ask an advance, but are not so inclined in their demand as are the holders of *Filatures* and *Re-reels*.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No. 14	Nom.		
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinsu)	Nom.		
Hanks—No. 2 (Jushu)	Nom.		
Hanks—No. 24 (Shinsu)	Nom.		
Hanks—No. 24 (Jushu)	580	to	590
Hanks—No. 24 to 3	570	to	575
Hanks—No. 3	560	to	565
Hanks—No. 34	530	to	540
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	Nom.		
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	Nom.		
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	680	to	690
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	680	to	690
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	650	to	660
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	650	to	660
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	635	to	640
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—		
Re-reels—Extra	—		
Re-reels—Shinsu and Oshu! Best No. 1	—		
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	650	to	660
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	640	to	645
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	630	to	635
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	620	to	625
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	610	to	615
Kakeda—Extra	Nom.		
Kakeda—No. 1	640	to	645
Kakeda—No. 1	620	to	630
Kakeda—No. 2	610	to	615
Kakeda—No. 2	600	to	605
Kakeda—No. 3	590	to	595
Kakeda—No. 3	580	to	585
Kakeda—No. 4	570	to	575
Oshu Sendai—No. 24	—		
Hamatsudi—No. 1, 2	Nom.		
Hamatsudi—No. 3, 4	—		
Sudai—No. 24	—		

Export Raw Silk Tables to 3rd Oct., 1890:—

	SEASON 1890-91.	1889-90.	1888-89.
Europe	1,417	5,794	3,715
America	2,450	5,434	4,356
Total	{ Bales 3,867	11,228	8,071
	{ Piculs 3,966	11,327	8,176
Settlements and Direct	{ Piculs 4,200	14,800	8,500
Export from 1st July	—	—	—
Stock, 3rd October	12,800	5,100	11,350
Available supplies to date	17,000	19,900	19,850

WASTE SILK.

Quite a busy week in this branch, settlements reaching 2,189 piculs, divided thus—Cocoons 46; *Noshi* 1,548; *Kibiso* 595. No talk of direct export this season up to the present.

The buying has been entirely for Swiss and French account; buyers for those destinations entering the market very freely. Prices are very firm, and will probably advance a little more with a weakening exchange.

Pierced Cocoons.—The only operation has been in *Koshu* at \$114 per picul for good average quality. The *Cocoon* market rather hangs fire this year, the prices demanded by holders being far beyond the idea of spinners.

Noshi.—A very large business in this department, *Oshu* being freely taken at \$140, while the staple article—*Foshu*—has found very many buyers at prices ranging from \$75 to \$85, according to grading. One parcel of *Shinsu* passed the scales at \$112½, but there has been nothing done in *Filature*.

Kibiso.—There have been some important purchases in this department, *Filatures* bringing from \$110 to \$115, one or two buyers operating freely. In *Hira* sorts nothing has been done during the week.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	\$120	to	\$130
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	140	to	150
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	130	to	135
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	—		—
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	135	to	145
Noshi-ito—Shinsu, Best	—		—
Noshi-ito—Shinsu, Good	110	to	120
Noshi-ito—Shinsu, Medium	—		—
Noshi-ito—Bishu, Good to Best	120	to	130
Noshi-ito—Joshi, Best	—		—
Noshi-ito—Joshi, Good	80	to	85
Noshi-ito—Joshi, Ordinary	70	to	75
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	105	to	115
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	95	to	100
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	70	to	80
Kibiso—Shinsu, Best	—		—
Kibiso—Shinsu, Seconds	—		—
Kibiso—Joshi, Good to Fair	50	to	40
Kibiso—Joshi, Midding to Common	35	to	30
Kibiso—Hachioji, Good	45	to	40
Kibiso—Hachioji, Medium to Low	35	to	30
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	15	to	8
Mawata—Good to Best	—		—

Export Table Waste Silk to 3rd Oct., 1890:—

	SEASON 1890-91.	1889-90.	1888-89.
Waste Silk	1,643	3,719	1,993
Pierced Cocoons	225	256	—
	1,868	4,074	1,993
Settlements and Direct	{ Piculs 5,350	7,100	3,300
Export from 1st July	—	—	—
Stock, 3rd October	10,750	10,400	10,400
Available supplies to date	16,100	17,500	13,700

Exchange has continued its downward course following the price of Silver as called from London. Present quotations are as under:—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits, 3/6½; Documents 3/6½; 6m/s. Credits, 3/7; New York, 30 d/s. U.S. \$86; 4m/s. U.S. \$86½; PARIS, 4m/s. fcs. 4.50; 6m/s. fcs. 4.53.

Estimated Silk Stock, 3rd Oct., 1890:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	285	Cocoons	800
Filatures	7,550	Noshi-ito	3,533
Re-reels	3,980	Kibiso	5,805
Kakeda	675	Mawata	367
Oshu	300	Sundries	245
Taysam Kinds	10		
Total piculs	12,800	Total piculs	19,750

P.S.—Since the above was written our markets have been taken back by a sudden jump of 4 per cent. in exchange rates. Holders are strong and will not reduce quotations from those printed above, consequently business is stopped.

TEA.

The leaf purchased only aggregates 2,190 piculs, divided amongst nine firms, who are executing orders on hand. These figures bring the total settlements to date to 205,215 piculs, or 34,080 piculs in excess of last year at the same period. No change in quotations.

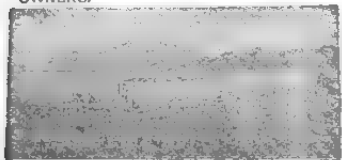
	PER PICUL.
Common	\$11½
Good Common	12 to 13
Medium	14 to 15
Good Medium	16 to 17
Fine	18 to 19
Finest	20 to 22
Choice	23 & up/ds
Choicest	—
Extra Choicest	—

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has again fluctuated, and had a smart drop during the week, but a partial recovery took place later, though a fractional fall is the latest movement to-day.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/4
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/8
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/8½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/8½
On Paris—Bank sight	4.57
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4.67
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1/6 prem.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	1/6 dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	72½
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	88
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	89
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	88
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	89

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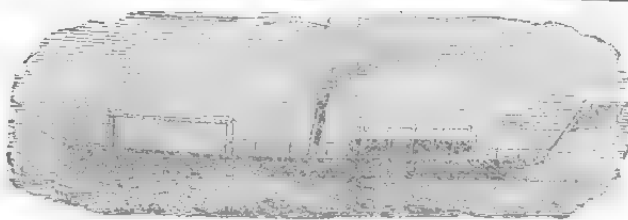
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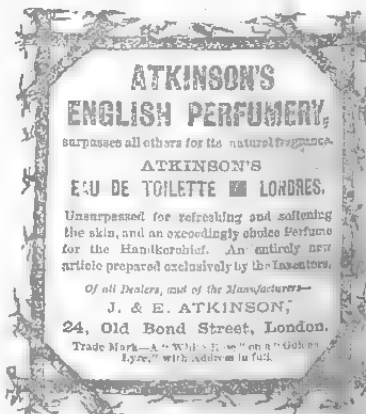
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YOKOHAMA, OCTOBER 11TH, 1890.

運信寄認可 [VOL. XIV.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"VAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, OCT. 11, 1890.

BIRTH.

On the 4th October, at No. 214, Yokohama, the wife of C. WEINBERGER of a Daughter.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

DURING three months ended June last 332 cremations occurred in Kanagawa Prefecture.

MR. HOSHII TORU, one of the leading members of the *Yiyu* Party, has returned from abroad.

THERE were in Hyogo Prefecture on the 30th June last 2,047 junks of above 50 *koku* burden.

MARQUIS MATSUDAIRA will leave Japan on the 12th instant for England to complete his studies.

THE Stanley Opera Company left Yokohama on Tuesday after a successful stay of over thirty days.

MR. O. RUDORFF, a German employé of the Judicial Department, will leave Japan shortly for home.

DURING the month of September last 45 civil and 120 criminal cases were heard in the Court of Cassation.

MR. KONDO, *Chargé d'Affaires* to Korea, will return home shortly and, it is said, be transferred to another position.

THE amount of coin struck in the Osaka Mint during September last was *yen* 57,935 in gold, and *yen* 1,276,869 in silver pieces.

A RELIGIOUS ceremony to the memory of those drowned on the *Ertongroul* took place at Watanomatsuki, Hyogo, on the 2nd instant.

SALES of foreign rice (uncleaned) continue at the Asakusa and Osaka Granaries. For 7,000

bags exposed at Osaka on the 3rd instant the highest price realized was *yen* 4.73 and the lowest *yen* 4.70 per *koku*.

THEIR Majesties the Emperor and Empress will proceed to Ibaraki Prefecture in a few days to view manoeuvres by the Imperial Body Guards.

PROFESSOR SHIRAIISHI NAOHARU, of the College of Engineering in the Imperial University, was relieved from office on the 4th instant at his own request.

THE subscriptions received by the *Jiji Shimpō* up to the 8th instant for the relief of the men saved from the *Ertongroul* catastrophe amounted to *yen* 4,198,626.

COLONEL MURATA TSUNRYOSHI was promoted to the rank of Major-General on the 3rd instant and raised to fourth class, second grade, from fifth class, second grade.

THE Standing Squadron, consisting of the *Takachiho*, *Naniwa*, *Fuso*, *Yamato*, *Takao*, and *Katsuragi Kan*, will visit Chinese ports about the end of the present month.

THE receipts of postal and telegraph offices during the month of September last amounted to *yen* 371,650, showing an increase of *yen* 15,926 as compared with the previous month.

RAILWAY communication between Kiryu and Komatsu on the Ryomo Railway was suspended on the 7th instant in consequence of damage to the line by the recent heavy rains.

THE departure of the Empress-Dowager, who was to leave the capital for Kyoto in a few days, has been postponed in consequence of cholera now prevailing in the Western capital.

A TELEGRAM from Kyoto states that about fifty persons were arrested by the Authorities on the 4th instant in Kyoto on a charge of having infringed the Rice Exchange Regulations.

THE revised Code of Civil Procedure was promulgated on the 6th instant. On the following day revised Regulations as to the organization of the Privy Council were promulgated.

RESIDENTS of the Shitaya district of Tokyo are still agitating in opposition to the opening of the railway between Ueno and Akihabara, which they consider inimical to their interests.

THE total amount of receipts of the Tokyo Tramway Company during September last was *yen* 11,765 96, which shows a decrease of *yen* 3,199 93 as compared with the same period last year.

COUNT ITAGAKI, who returned to Tokyo on the 6th instant from Saitama Prefecture, will leave the capital on the 11th instant for the province of Shikano to meet a number of his political friends.

THE quantity of tea sold by Japanese merchants to foreign firms at Kobe during the period from the commencement of the season to the 4th instant was 14,335,300 *kin* (one *kin* equals 1½ lb.)

A SHOCK of earthquake was experienced in the capital on the 6th instant at 4h. 36m. 50s. p.m. The duration was 2 minutes and 45 seconds, the maximum horizontal motion being 0.7. millimetre in 1.4 second.

It is stated that Mr. Kikuchi, a private secretary of the Minister of State for Justice, will be appointed Judge of the Court of Cassation, being succeeded by Mr. Magaki, Public Prosecutor, while Mr. Kumano, a councillor of the Judicial

Department, will become Judge of the Osaka Court of Appeal.

THE Regulations as to Elementary Schools were promulgated on the 6th instant.

MR. FUJITA SHIRO, a private secretary of the Minister of State for Communications, was permitted by the Decorations Board on the 7th instant to accept and wear a decoration conferred on him by the Emperor of Austria.

RAILWAY communication between Shizuoka and Yaidzu on the Tokaido Railway, which was suspended on the 6th instant in consequence of damage to the Abekawa bridge by the heavy floods, was re-opened on the 7th instant.

A TELEGRAM from Fukui dated the 6th instant states that in consequence of the recent heavy rains the rivers in the province of Echizen have overflowed. About 1,300 houses in the city of Fukui were submerged.

MR. SUGANO MICHICHIKI, who had been under judicial examination in reference to injuries he inflicted on *soshi* who had attacked him, has been released from custody. Four of his assailants have been acquitted for want of evidence.

THE Sanitary Bureau of the Home Department reports that the number of persons attacked by cholera throughout the Empire from the commencement of the epidemic to the 6th instant, was 35,631, resulting in 23,868 deaths.

THE *Rikken Yiyu* party will publish a newspaper on and after the 17th instant at Yamashirocho, Kyobashi. Messrs. Takahashi Kiichi, Nakaye Tokusuke, Kawashima Jun, and Hoshi Toru will become editors of the new journal.

A TELEGRAM from Nagoya dated the 7th instant announces that in consequence of the severe rains of the past few days various rivers in the provinces of Owari and Mikawa have overflowed, causing much damage to embankments and crops. Several bridges were carried away or injured.

PROSECUTIONS have been initiated against several provincial journals for publishing the memorial addressed to the Minister President by the Kansai Political Association. The decision of the Correctional Court inflicting penalties on nine Tokyo papers which had published the same document, has been appealed against.

THE Import market has continued dull and quiet during the week. Nothing doing in English Yarns; Bombays go off slowly; Shirts and Fancies quite neglected. A slight movement has taken place in the Metal market; and Bars have improved somewhat in price. Fifteen thousand cases of Russian oil have been sold at a reduction on former quotations, but otherwise the Kerosene market is dull. No fresh arrivals have taken place this week. A small quantity of White Refined has changed hands, but no other brand of sugar has been enquired for. A fair amount of business has passed in Waste Silk, but in the other branch of this export things have been quiet. Of Raw Silk the total settlements for the week are 300 piculs, of which 111 bales are direct export; European buyers seem to hold off and most of the above business is for the United States. On the Waste Silkside, where the settlements reach 1,753 piculs, the buying has been almost entirely for European account, and prices are firm and holders cheerful. There has been little business in Tea, buyers merely laying in small stocks with which to meet any sudden demand from the consuming markets. Exchange has fluctuated and at the close of the week dropped a point.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE ROADS IN TOKYO.

THE condition of the roads in certain parts of Tokyo, especially the districts of Akasaka and Azabu, does little credit to the administration of the municipality. We believe that, pending the execution of plans formed by the City Improvements Committee, some of the streets do not receive the full measure of attention usually bestowed on them. But this excuse can scarcely apply to broad thoroughfares intersecting important quarters. Doubtless in many cases the prime fault is in the manner of making the roads, but the method of repair is often equally faulty. We have frequently commented on the habit in general vogue of spreading gravel on the surface of the streets, where it remains for weeks the torment of pedestrians and the curse of vehicles. But broken stone is almost unprocureable in Tokyo, so that the gravel nuisance is to be condoned. An example of something much worse is to be seen in the case of a road through Aoyama Cemetery, now undergoing repair. Pebbles and boulders, the majority larger than a man's fist, are first thrown down, and over them cartloads of clay are spread. There is no possibility of such materials binding. The boulders must inevitably work into heaps and the clay be converted into mud filling the holes thus formed. These primitive methods of mending may be permissible in country districts, but we cannot understand how they find favour with the road-engineers of the capital. One painful consequence of the condition of the roads in the Akasaka and Azabu districts is that terrible cruelties are practised upon horses dragging loads of bricks and so forth over ruts and holes in which the cart-wheels sink nearly to their axles. In connection with this we may call attention to the fact that there appear to be no regulations in Japan for controlling the size of cart-wheels. In England the Highways and Locomotives Amendment Act of 1878 empowers local authorities to make by-laws for prohibiting or regulating the use of any waggon, cart, &c., having wheels of which the felloes or tires are not of such width in proportion to the weight carried by, or to the size of, such vehicle as may be specified by such by-laws. There are also regulations forbidding the locking of the wheel of any vehicle descending a hill, unless there is placed at the bottom of the wheel a slipper or shoe to prevent damage to the road from the locking. All these restrictions and precautions seem to be quite neglected in Japan. The felloes of the wheels of carts carrying earth, stones, and so forth are usually not shod at all, and being very narrow, they cut into the roads like knives. The locking of such wheels when descending a hill is fatal to the condition of the roads. So, too, in the case of heavy loads of bamboo, timber, &c. The common practice of coolies dragging such loads is to tilt the cart until the hind ends of the timber or bamboos drag along the road, thus setting up friction sufficient to restrain the vehicle but at the same time tearing the surface of the road. Until regulations are enacted putting an end to these reckless doings it will be impossible to keep the roads in good repair.

THE RELIGIOUS CRISIS IN JAPAN.

THERE is no longer any doubt that a turning point has arrived in the history of Christianity in Japan. For several years past, as we have more than once noted, a tendency has been discernible among a section of the rising generation of Japanese Christians to free what they now call Japanese Christianity from all the sectarian associations and superfluous rites and ceremonies that have grown up around the religion of Christ in the countries of the Occident. But the movement, in common with the national movement in every other department of the popular life, seems now to have assumed dimensions such as ought to receive the full consideration of every person interested in the progress of evangelization in Japan. We have endeavoured to reproduce in these columns the views entertained by one of the principal originators of the movement—Mr. Yokoi, editor

of the *Rikugo Zasshi*. Mr. Kosaki, formerly editor of the *Christian*, but now principal of the *Doshisha* Seminary of Kyoto, discusses the same subject in the last issue of the *Rikugo Zasshi*. There is nothing new in what he says, but considering the great influence exercised by him over the minds of the rising generation of Christians, his opinions on any religious subject cannot be passed unnoticed. His article is entitled "The New Phase of Christianity." He describes at some length the history of the reactionary movement that has set in during the last thirty or forty years in the countries of Europe and America, Protestant and Catholic, against the excessive individualising tendency of Christianity. In conclusion he says:—"Christianity has been too narrow, too selfish, and too monastic. We must return to the Christianity of the earliest period, and endeavour to proclaim its evangelistic, socialistic, and philanthropic principles. In introducing Christianity into this country, every one is desirous of obtaining a simple gospel. What, then, is a simple gospel? We believe that the so-called simple gospel is nothing more nor less than evangelistic, philanthropic, moral, and socialistic Christianity. Such was the teaching of Christ; such was also the principle of his disciples, such, in short, was the distinctive feature of the Christian theology in early ages. The rites and ceremonies of worship, the administrative rules of the Church, and its peculiar theory—these are the obstacles that now lie in the path of our countrymen in accepting Christianity. These things ought not indeed to be considered entirely useless, but they are only the outer garments of Christianity; garments which differ in different countries and at different periods of time, and need not, consequently, be imported with the Gospels. We sincerely regret that the Christian Church in Japan has been prevented by these garments from manifesting its true and original nature, and we are afraid lest these garments may become a stumbling block to those who have attached too much importance to them. What has thus far been observed, I recommend to the notice of those who are anxious to preach a simple Christianity in Japan."

En passant, we may notice that the recent visit of Mr. Drummond of the Glasgow University, seems to have given a new impetus to the nationalist movement among Japanese Christians. He addressed a large audience, principally composed of young Japanese, about 500 in number, at the Yayoi-kwan, Shiba park, Tokyo, on September 21st. In the course of his lecture, he strongly advised his listeners to establish a Japanese Christianity, and condemned the indiscriminate introduction of foreign sects and customs. Commenting on this address, a writer in the *Keizai Zasshi*, under the *nom de plume* of *Chisai Koji*, particularly quotes the above-mentioned passage, and rejoices to have his own opinions confirmed by a foreign scholar of Mr. Drummond's learning and prominence.

THE WONDERFUL RESOLUTION.

By and by we shall know what meaning was really intended to be attached to the wonderful Resolution "voted unanimously by the Yokohama Meeting." The language of the Resolution is plain enough. It says in the clearest possible manner that negotiations for Treaty Revision must be postponed *sine die*, inasmuch as the only practical basis of negotiation cannot yet be entertained. But when we interpreted the Resolution in this, the unequivocal sense of its language, we were taken severely to task and accused roundly of misrepresentation, the drafter and proposer of the Resolution declaring that he had not intended it to bear any such sweeping significance, being himself, in common with "every intelligent man in the community," in favour of Treaty Revision and opposed only to the unconditional surrender of Consular Jurisdiction. By and by the Kobe residents had to reflect upon the meaning of the Resolution, and their conclusion about it was identical with ours. Not prepared, however, to vote anything

so radical, they drafted a modified resolution urging the postponement of negotiations until some little time after the new Codes had been in operation. Yokohama, if it endorsed the disclaimer publicly and emphatically uttered by the chief promoter of the Meeting, ought now to have protested that Kobe had misunderstood its intention. Did it do so? Not a bit of it. On the contrary, a journal claiming to know all about the ideas and intentions of the Yokohama agitators, came out with the following comparison, avowedly intended to prove the identity of the Yokohama and Kobe Resolutions:—"The Yokohama Resolution says that the time to form an estimate as to when the change should take place has not yet arrived; the Kobe Resolution says that it would be premature to fix the date of the change until certain things still looming in the future shall have taken place." Precisely; Yokohama voted to postpone negotiations for Treaty Revision *sine die*; Kobe voted to postpone them until the new Codes had been some little time in operation. But the drafter and proposer of the Yokohama Resolution avers that he never intended it to convey any such meaning. It is a charming muddle.

Talking of drafting, we should like to hear from some of the gentlemen who voted at the Yokohama meeting an explanation of what they intended to say when they spoke of "rights of property or person arising between subjects and citizens of Foreign Powers in Japan." We do not refer to the fact that all mention is omitted of rights of person and property arising between foreigners and Japanese. It is evident that the Resolution was intended to cover this all important branch of the subject, and that the ellipsis is simply a blunder. But considering only the words "rights of person or property arising between subjects and citizens," what do they signify. In the first place, to an ordinary reader they signify rights in which subjects are concerned on one side and citizens on the other. They are of course intended to signify rights between subject and subject, or between citizen and citizen, or between subject and citizen. But the phrase, as it stands, conveys no such meaning. Then again, it does not appear to have occurred to the drafter of the Resolution that rights of person and property arising between subjects, or between citizens, or between subjects and citizens, can only be civil rights. When criminal cases are in question the right becomes one between the Sovereign and the subject or the State and the citizen. Every one knows what the Resolution is intended to mean, but if Yokohama's ideas are to be gathered from the actual language of the Resolution, it appears that the foreign residents are willing to surrender at once and unconditionally jurisdiction in all criminal cases without exception and jurisdiction in all civil cases where Japanese subjects are concerned. Is not this also a pretty muddle?

We do not desire to suggest that the faulty drafting of the clause about rights of person and property is a matter of any consequence. All practical purposes are served so soon as the intended meaning of the clause is apprehended, and that, of course, both the Foreign Representatives and the Japanese Government understand very well. But it does not redound much to the credit of the Settlement that it could not express itself clearly about points to which it attaches so much importance. What adds to the muddle of the whole affair is that the mysteriously conveyed information on the strength of which the meeting acted was both partial and erroneous. The information was "that outside what are known as Treaty Limits foreigners shall immediately become subject to the jurisdiction of the Japanese tribunals, and that after a period of five years all foreigners, whether within what are known as the Concessions, or whether in the interior, shall become subject to Japanese jurisdiction, and that without any conditions at all." Now this information is exceedingly incorrect—so incorrect that either the source from which it came was quite untrustworthy, or else the facts were purposely

misrepresented. Further, it is only a very partial statement. Well informed people say that if the true story had been completely told, the Yokohama residents would never have held a meeting at all. However that may be, it is certain that only a bit of the story was related and that the bit was erroneous. Acting on the strength of incorrect and fragmentary information, and unanimously passing Resolutions which in part were not intended to mean nearly as much as they say, and in part were intended to mean a great deal more than they say, the meeting seems likely to become in the end more notorious than celebrated.

THE PRAYING MANTIS ON PORCELAIN.

MEAGRE as are the details that have been transmitted by Chinese writers about the decorative styles and technical excellences of their great potters, they thought it worth while in one case to depart from this rule of reticence. The exception relates to the Hsuan-tih era (1426-1435) of the Ming dynasty when there flourished, we are told, a potter named Lo and two lady ceramists, the sisters Shu, whose specialty was the ornamentation of pieces with designs representing fighting grasshoppers. It appears that in those mediaeval times, a favourite amusement of aristocratic Chinamen was to pit grasshoppers against one another, the insects being kept in cages, fed, and, for aught we know to the contrary, specially trained for the purpose. Doubtless the Praying-Mantis was the "grillon" concerning which this tradition is translated by M. Julien. In "Notes from the Zoo" in a recent number of the *Saturday Review*, we find an interesting description of the manners and customs of this most quaint and evil minded insect. "The mantidæ," says the writer, "are noticeable, not only for their structural peculiarities, but also for the fact that they are living and walking exponents of the truth that the world is governed by appearances, as from very ancient times wherever they are found—that is, throughout the warmer regions of the world—they have been credited with piety, meekness, and all good qualities, whereas in truth they are the most bloodthirsty creatures imaginable. This extremely mistaken estimate of their character has arisen from the fact that, especially as they move slowly about, the thorax is raised, as we have said, at an angle to the body, and the large raptorial legs are carried extended and raised—thus fancifully imitating, or rather caricaturing, the position of a person whose hands are clasped in prayer. In many parts of the world they are still regarded with superstitious reverence, and extraordinary stories are told of them—for example, they are believed to be able to indicate coming events, whence their names of 'soothsayers' or 'prophets,' and in the South of Europe the Praying-mantis is supposed to direct any lost wayfarer, especially a child, into the right way; as Rondelet puts it:—'Puero interroganti de viâ altero pede extento rectam monstrat, atque rare vel nunquam fallit.' Another legend is to the effect that 'St. Francis Xavier, on seeing a mantis moving slowly along with its fore-legs raised as if in devotion, desired it to sing the praises of God, which it immediately did in a very beautiful canticle.' Again, we are told that among the Hottentots 'the individual upon whom one happens to alight is supposed to have a peculiar degree of sanctity imparted to him, and to be a special favourite of heaven.' As we before remarked, however, all this reverence is sorely misplaced, the whole of the creature's life being spent in murder and rapine; for, being 'fierce, cruel, gormandizing wretches, so far from indulging, as has been fondly supposed, in a state of religious abstraction, they are continually seeking what they may devour,' and the very position which has given them a reputation for sanctity is only assumed to enable them the more readily to seize any unfortunate insect that may come within their reach; and they are by no means particular what that insect may be, as they will with the greatest readiness seize and devour one of their own species particularly if smaller and weaker than themselves. It is therefore, not

surprising that they are most pugnacious, and indulge in the fiercest encounters on the least possible provocation—or, indeed, without any apparent provocation at all—when 'their manoeuvres very much resemble those of hussars fighting with sabres, and sometimes one cleaves the other through at a single stroke, or severs the head from the body. During these engagements the wings are generally expanded, and when the battle is over the conqueror devours his antagonist.' The performance is curious and amusing, the peculiar shape and carriage of the insects giving them the appearance of dancing with one another. In China and the East we are told that they are fought like game-cocks, for wagers. The following extract from the work of an American authority says much for their power of endurance:—'We have seen a female decapitated, and with her body partly eaten, slip away from another that was devouring her and for over an hour afterwards fight as tenaciously and with a much nonchalance as though nothing had happened.' It is perhaps, needless to say, the character of the Mantidæ being such as it is, that the two specimens at the Zoo are not confined in the same case, as were they placed together the Society would in all probability very shortly possess but one only. They are of different ages, one having arrived at the perfect winged state of maturity, while the other is much more youthful, and it is interesting to compare the two examples. Like all the Orthoptera, the young Mantidæ come into the world fully equipped with six legs, and except that they are much smaller, differ very little in shape and general appearance from their parents; their wings, however, are entirely wanting. The changes in their development from the larval stage to that of the perfect insect are gradual, being carried out by a series of moults, during which the wings which first appear under the skin behind the prothorax, increase in size with each successive moult until they attain their full development in the perfect insect. And their wings have this peculiarity, that the upper pair, the tegmina, are hard, and form a covering for the under pair, which latter are so constructed that when the insect is at rest they fall together like a fan. Both tegmina and wings are longer than the abdomen, upon which they rest horizontally, the tegmina being placed one over the other. Though not possessing wings, the young Mantidæ are blessed with voracious appetites, and are full as fierce and bloodthirsty as their elders—qualities which they soon display by attacking one another. They are produced from eggs, which are laid by the parent insect in clusters, inclosed in an envelope which, soft when produced, becomes hard by exposure to the air, and are attached to the twigs and stalks of plants. A Mantid, notwithstanding its evil habits, or rather, perhaps on account of them, is a charming pet, if the expression is allowable in reference to an insect, its 'tricks and its manners' being most amusing. No doubt, to be seen in perfection, it must be kept in its native country—as, indeed, is the case with all inhabitants of the globe; but even here, if carefully brought over and so received in good health, and kept warm and well supplied with food, we know no animal of its size from which so much amusement can be derived.

THE MINING REGULATIONS.

THE *Chōwa Shinbun*, commenting on the Mining Regulations promulgated by Law No. 87, remarks that doubts have been expressed in certain quarters as to the propriety of issuing the regulations without submitting them to the consideration of the House of Parliament, inasmuch as two sessions of the Diet will have been convoked before they come into force—June 1st, 1892. Their chief points of difference from the Mining Law of Japan (*Nippon Kō-hō*) consist first in the provision for payment of a tax equal to a hundredth part of the value of minerals produced; secondly, in the establishment of a Mining Superintendence Office; thirdly, in the definition of cases in which actions may be raised in the Administrative Court; fourthly, in fixing the maximum area of a mining district at 600,000

tsubo; fifthly, in investing the authorities with power to enact rules for the regulation of miners and of the periods and methods of operation; and, sixthly, in reducing the tax on land occupied for mining purposes to *sen* 30 per annum per thousand *tsubo*.

HEROISM REWARDED.

WE gave an account last year of an extraordinary act of heroism performed by a man named John Smith at the ironworks of Messrs. Firth and Co., of Sheffield. We now observe that Smith has been rewarded for his bravery on that occasion:—'At Marlborough House, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales presented to John Smith, aged 26, a member of the Manchester Fire Brigade, a special silver medal of the Grand Priory of the Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England, for distinguished bravery on the 18th May, 1889. At that time, Smith, who had formerly been a sailor, was employed in the ironworks of Messrs. Firth and Sons, Sheffield. An explosion of molten metal occurred in the works, and one of the workmen fell against an ingot. All but Smith sought safety in flight. Smith, at imminent personal peril, descended by means of a ladder to where the workman had fallen, and carried him to a place of safety, not in time to save his life, however. Smith was severely injured internally by breathing the heated air from the surface of the metal, and was an in-patient of the local hospital for a considerable period afterwards. His heroic act was brought before the notice of the Queen, who has been graciously pleased to bestow upon him the Albert Medal, and this was followed by the presentation of the silver medal by the Prince of Wales. Smith is a married man with two children, and has been a member of the Manchester Fire Brigade several months.'

ROBBERIES IN TOKYO.

DURING the course of this summer quite a feature of life in Tokyo has been the successful perpetration of burglaries indicating that the thieves possessed an accurate knowledge not only of the houses robbed but also of their inmates' habits. Strange to say the time generally chosen was the night of the victim's return from a trip in the country. Perhaps the burglars thought that the weariness resulting from a journey would make the householder particularly sleepy; perhaps they expected him to carry home a considerable remnant of the funds provided for his tour. At all events they achieved several robberies of foreigners' houses at that particular time, sometimes carrying off a tolerably rich booty, but on the whole being poorly rewarded for their craftiness. In one case they entered the study of a resident in Nagatacho, opened all the drawers of the desks in search of money, and then, making their way upstairs, examined several wardrobes, finally decamping without any spoil except the study clock, a combined time-piece and barometer in a leather case. In this instance the police immediately recognised that they had to do with professional thieves, for in several places where the burglars had needed light, there were to be seen little heaps of white dust, resembling cigar-ash, but well known to experts as the ash of a peculiar fuse-like taper frequently used by practised burglars in Japan. A month passed without any further clue, and the police were much perplexed, for many of the articles stolen were of such a nature that any attempt to dispose of them by the usual channels must have led to speedy discovery. Indeed the regulations for the control and supervision of dealers in second-hand goods are so effective that thieves can scarcely venture to get rid of their booty in any of the cities. Purloined articles must either be handed over to foreign receivers or sold privately. What then had become of numerous watches, clocks, and other chattels carried off from houses where the burglars had failed to find the first object of their search, ready money? The mystery has now been solved, in part at any rate. Living in a hired house of some size and respectability, behind the shrine of Tenjin in Hirakawacho, was a certain Yamada Susumu, formerly a

shitoku of Aomori Prefecture. He appears to have been about four years in Tokyo, and so far as our present information goes, his chief occupation during the whole period was burglary. He never trusted any one to share his operations, but conducted them all himself, and to judge from what we have heard, he must have effected a robbery about once a week. He took anything that came handy, money, of course, being his chief aim, but clothes also receiving a due share of attention. The latter he could not dispose of without so far changing them as to render identification difficult, and with that object it was his custom to employ tailors for the purpose of making the necessary alterations. This accomplished, he used to send the articles to Sapporo for sale, an operation in which he was greatly helped by the fact that he belonged to a drug company (the *Seiyaku Kaisha*), and was thus enabled to ship parcels which would otherwise have attracted attention and probably excited suspicion. Rumour says, also, that he made use of Chinese aid to spirit away the stolen goods, and the statement is very credible. Japanese residents of Shanghai know that a perpetual trade is carried on there in articles of Japanese dress, head-gear, and so forth, which are sold at prices explicable only on the hypothesis of theft. Yamada may have been a contributor to the stock of these goods, but that part of his story is obscure. Suspicion was first directed to him by his large commissions to tailors for alterations of wearing apparel. Some of the tailors talked and their talk reached the ears of the police. At the same time it was ascertained that squabbles often took place between Yamada and his wife—who also appears to have been constantly employed in the business of re-making clothes. In the course of these altercations the woman occasionally called her husband a "gallows bird" (*Kyōshu*) in accents so shrill as to reach the neighbours' ears. By such means and by the revelations of a *geisha* whose company Yamada affected, the man's real character was ultimately discovered. Before he had any suspicion of what was impending, a warrant was obtained for searching his house, and in a room which had apparently served the purpose of a repository of stolen articles, quite a collection of other people's property was found, including some sixty or seventy watches and clocks, among them the study clock spoken of above. Yamada was a clever fellow. He is said to have been found possessed of several thousand dollars, the proceeds of his lusily plied profession.

A CURIOUSLY FALSE RUMOUR.

MANY strange statements have appeared in the vernacular press in connection with the Yokohama Treaty Revision meeting, but perhaps the strangest of all is the attitude attributed to the Rev. Dr. Eby. We are told by Tokyo papers that Dr. Eby helped at the Yokohama meeting, and that he published a circular declaring the present scheme of negotiations to be wrong, since Japan ought first to treat with China and then proceed step by step until she reached England. If such tales had been told of any one else they might have sounded less ludicrous and ungrateful, but that Dr. Eby should be thus misrepresented is indeed astonishing. About six years ago Dr. Eby published a valuable pamphlet in which the Treaty Revision question was fully explained and Japan's claims were strongly advocated. Subsequently he delivered in Canada and the United States more than a hundred lectures in which, directly or indirectly, the necessity of a just revision was ably urged. We have his authority to say that he had nothing whatsoever to do with the Yokohama meeting; that he has published no circular with reference to Revision; that the ideas which he is supposed to have embodied in this imaginary circular are, in his opinion, worthy only of ridicule, since he believes that England should be the first to join hands with Japan; and that no other missionary has taken any part in the Yokohama agitation. Do the Japanese newspapers forget that in 1884 the missionaries drew up and presented to their Representatives a memorial declaring their confidence in Japan and advocating her right

to be liberally treated by foreign Powers in the matter of Revision? There ought to be no failure of memory about such an act, neither ought vernacular newspapers to fall into the lamentable error of classing as an opponent one of their country's staunchest and ablest allies, the Rev. Dr. Eby. We invite our Tokyo contemporaries to translate and reproduce this note, in order to undo the wrong they have done.

A GERMAN "GOLIATH."

H. SANDOW, the strongest man in the world, according to his own account, while touring through Westphalia, fell in with an individual whom he calls the Goliath of the Fatherland. This prodigy he found at work near a quarry lifting huge stones on to railway trucks. Professor Virchow on inspecting him, testifies that he is the biggest man ever seen in Germany, and that is also the opinion of all the leading professors of anatomy in Cologne. There have been, and are now, taller men in the Fatherland, but none so remarkably developed. Goliath is only 6 feet 2½ inches high, but he weighs 27st. His chest measurement is 65 inches, with head and hands abnormally large, his head being 33 inches in circumference. His forefinger laid flat on a five-shilling piece entirely covers it. Sandow's next performance will include lifting this giant with one hand over his head, and carrying him about; also, raising his new play-fellow with one finger off the ground. Sandow likewise promises further unheard-of, and as yet unseen, feats of strength of a novel and extraordinary character.

A VETERAN OF THE SEA.

A VERITABLE veteran of the sea, Captain T. A. Christensen, left Japan on the 4th inst. by the P. & O. Co.'s steamer *Ancona*. Captain Christensen is now in his seventieth year. Fifty-three and a half years of his life were devoted to service at sea, and for thirty-eight years he was a Master Mariner, during the whole of which long period of command he never lost a ship or a spar; never lost a man overboard, and never had a vessel touch the ground, a wonderful record truly. He came to the East twenty-six years ago (1864) in command of the Peninsular and Oriental steamer *Corea*, but he resigned in Hongkong and returned to England. Four years later (1868) he brought out the steamer *Courier* for Messrs. Walsh, Hall & Co., and commanded her on the Chinese and Siberian Coasts for a year and a half, for the purposes of the fur trade. In 1869 he commanded the *Vulcan*, a German steamer belonging to Messrs. Kniffler & Co., and in 1870, having returned to Europe, he took command of the *Princess Royal*, an English steamer chartered by the French Government to run between Marseilles and Algeria. He next commanded the *Crusader*, plying between Glasgow and the Black Sea—the *Crusader*, by the way, is still running and was recently in Yokohama—after which he came (1874) to Japan and, entering the Mitsu Bishi service, commanded several ships in succession, the last (*Wakawoura Maru*) for 12½ years. Captain Christensen then passed into the service of the Japan Mail Steamship Company, and lately commanded the *Omi Maru*. Universally popular and highly esteemed by his employers as an officer of exceptional ability, he leaves a record of which any seaman might well be proud. We believe that his present purpose is to settle in Scotland, where we trust that he may enjoy many years of comfort and happiness.

THE FIVE POLITICAL PARTIES IN THE DIET.

Discussing the relative strength of the five political parties in the diet, the *Koku-Hon* states that the *Rikken Jiyu-to* possesses 130 or 140 seats, the *Taisei Kwaï* about 90, the *Kaishin-to* about 50, the *Hoshu-to* about 20, and the *Jichi-to* not more than 10. But our contemporary justly observes that the number of seats possessed by a party is not always a true test of its strength. As to the *Rikken Jiyu-to*, the Tokyo journal considers that though its numerical strength is very great, its power of combination is far from complete, and that, though it contains a number of distinguished statesmen, it

does not possess any personage of commanding influence. The *Taisei Kwaï*, being composed of various different elements, cannot, in our contemporary's opinion, be regarded as a cohesive party. With regard to the *Kaishin-to*, the *Koku-Hon* remarks that, after successive defeats in recent years, the party has regained something of its old power of combination—and that, consequently, its effective strength will be out of proportion to its numerical strength. The *Jichi-to* does not now-a-days possess the influence it once exercised, but as it maintains a peculiar connection with some statesmen in power, it may perhaps be capable of wielding unexpected influence. Next to the last named party, the *Hoshu-to* possesses the smallest number of seats in the Diet. But its cohesion is firm, and it will probably be able to maintain a respectable position among the parties in the Diet.

As to the *Kaishin-to*, the *Nippon-Hyoron*, which maintains a neutral position in politics, recommends the members of that party not to be disappointed at the smallness of the number of their representatives in the Diet, and at their inability to accomplish their recent object of amalgamation. "Bide your time"—is in effect the advice of our contemporary. "By and by you will be able to occupy a commanding position in the Diet as third party."

It is plain that at last a popular reaction has set in in favour of the long persecuted *Kaishin-to*. That party is now animated by new germs of life, and, as the *Nippon Hyoron* observes, it may perhaps hold the balance of power in its own hands. The scheme of amalgamation, in its original and general sense, has failed, at least for the present. But it is a remarkable fact that a powerful section of the newly organized *Jiyu-to* is anxious to cultivate the friendship of the *Kaishin-to*, and it is possible and even highly probable that the extravagant conduct of the extreme Radicals, under the influence of men like Mr. Endo and Mr. Oi, may drive the soberer section into the camp of the *Kaishin-to*. At any rate the *Kaishin-to* will probably present a very different appearance in the second session of the Diet.

A SPEECH DELIVERED BY DR. KATO, PRESIDENT OF THE IMPERIAL UNIVERSITY.

ON the twenty-eighth ultimo, the third meeting of the Philosophical Society was held in the Hall of the Society at Komagome Hongo, Tokyo. Dr. Kato, President of the Imperial University, delivered a speech on "Next November." The gist of what he said is as follows:—To prophesy what will happen in the course of next November would be idle. It is not so easy generally, to talk of future occurrences as to discuss past events. Next November is a month of momentous consequence to our people. Yet it may well be that our present anxiety about the month will prove groundless. In November next the Constitution will become an accomplished fact. The route that has here been adopted to a representative form of government is far different from that followed by European nations to attain the same goal. Their condition is the natural outcome of various changes wrought out from generation to generation; ours is a state prepared artificially and perhaps prematurely, and consequently there is a chance of its not proving good in practice. In England the representative form of government was reached at an early date. But among the rest of the European nations government forms have but lately been perfected, and therefore their political affairs are far inferior to those of England, where the present polity is the natural result of long experience. The systems of the countries of continental Europe are perfect and splendid in appearance, yet their practical working is still unsatisfactory. Even in England and other European countries where racial identity virtually exists and customs and natures do not differ much, marked degrees of superiority and inferiority are discernible in respect of the organization and utility of political parties. In Japan, thirty years ago, the

people were utterly ignorant of the very name of Constitutional Government. Yet they are now on the eve of adopting that form of government. It must be remembered, too, that the proceeding is not the result of natural evolution as in Europe, but is rather of an artificial character. Consider the Turkish Empire. Ten years ago Turkey was pressed to establish a Constitutional Government during a time of domestic commotion. But she proved unable to carry out the project, and the law issued with that object became a dead letter. Except Turkey, which actually attempted, though unsuccessfully, to establish a Constitutional polity, we are the first nation in all Asia that has adopted such a form of Government. May we not repeat Turkey's unhappy experience! November is close at hand. Though we cannot predict what will happen in the Diet, we know at least that unpleasant results have occasionally attended national assemblies in Europe where the government is sustained by a political party. We have to be very careful in making arrangements for a Diet which is to be opened for the first time. The Diet should not be a place for political fighting among different parties. If the representatives are interested for their own constituents only, but indifferent to the national welfare, serious results may ensue for the nation. Properly speaking, representatives represent not only the persons by whom they were elected, but also their country, and they should not be ambitious for their own glory, or self-conceit, but should be of good morals, to offer a good example to others. Yet at the same time they should not be luxurious and ostentatious in habits, but should observe strict simplicity of life. Those who know nothing of genuine principles and are yet determined to oppose the proposals of the government, and those who have no knowledge of the causes of the government expenditure but yet insist upon the reduction of such expenditure, cannot be said to possess the proper qualifications of representatives. As for the public, it should direct special attention to finding means for suppressing the so-called *soshi*. At present *soshi* and *violence* have almost become synonymous terms. In case the *soshi* become more violent in their methods the representatives will be obliged to confine themselves within narrow limits. Such accidents are apt to occur more frequently in a country where representative government has been reached artificially, than in countries where it is the outcome of natural evolution. It is desirable that arbitrary exercise of power by representatives of the people and physical violence of the *soshi* should not go together. Considered from every point of view, next November is the most critical month in our annals. We should be very careful not to invite such a failure as that made by the Turks. It is for us to set a good example of representative government to the rest of the Asiatic nations. I hope that nothing will happen to make Europeans and Americans pronounce representative government impracticable in Asia after all. I hope further that even though no very satisfactory result be attained by our Diet, we shall at least not become a laughing stock to the juriconsults of Europe and America.

A STRANGE STORY.

THE Sochow correspondent of the *North China Daily News* tells this story:—"Not long ago four young men, sons of men in high places, went in a boat to some point outside of the city. When they came back, about ten o'clock at night, they found the water gate shut, and the guard rightly refused to open it. Two hundred copper cash would have been of more weight than the names of their fathers on which they relied, but the young men were rude and insolent. When they saw that the guard stood upon his orders to close the gate at nine o'clock, and could not be brow-beaten, they abused him and even struck him, and passing on foot through the land gate went to their homes in the city. The guard went next day and told the whole case to the provincial judge. This officer bade the magistrate look into the matter and punish the young men. He said 'I am afraid

to do it.' The judge then told the city prefect to take up the case. He sent for the young men. They came at once in sedan chairs to call upon the prefect. One, however, the son of a provincial literary chancellor said, 'I am hurt and cannot leave home.' When the three young men came before the prefect, he merely told them that he would settle the matter with the judge and they retired. He then reported to the judge that he had arrested the guilty men and had given each forty blows on the hand. The judge said no more about the young men, but the poor boatman was beaten and his boat was sawn in two. This is a fair specimen of the way in which the literary class treat the people and even the officials. A magistrate, ruling a million of people, one third of the city and adjacent country, is afraid to touch the sons of high officers; and the head of the Sochow prefecture, who rules one of the eleven grand divisions of Kiangsu province, is forced by fear to do rank injustice. It is hard to say which is worse, his cringing to the young men or his cruelty to the boatman. These officers are not specially bad men. They may safely be taken as representatives of the official class. Whatever citizens of Western nations living in Japan may do in the matter of putting themselves under the jurisdiction of native rulers, sojourners in China, who know what the Chinese officials are, will never willingly come under their control."

THE MEMORIAL OF THE BRITISH MISSIONARIES.

It will of course have been understood that the memorial, of which we published a copy yesterday, addressed by the British Missionaries to Her Majesty's Representative, was signed only by the Missionaries in Tokyo. To send it all through the country for signature would have involved long delay, and as the great bulk of the missionaries are in Tokyo, their signatures were deemed sufficient.

Only one of the leading vernacular journals has referred to the memorial thus far, though several published it in their issues of yesterday. That one is the *Fiji Shimpō*. It writes as follows:—"We have often said that the foreign missionaries in this country are men of the greatest enlightenment, who instruct and convert our countrymen, and whose brightness, extending also to their own nationals in Japan, guides them in the right way. In general foreigners coming to Japan are impelled hither by love of gain only. Some of them are men who, in a strange country, do things which they would never do at home. Above all, there is no toil or pain which they will not undergo for the sake of gain. To restrain such natures is beyond the power of laws or covenants. Only by the moral tenets of religion can their better instincts be evoked. To this end the Christian missionaries labour, and we believe the results of their efforts to be worthy of all praise. They are the torches that lead the steps of foreigners along the path of right; the medicine that weans their hearts from the blind pursuit of gain. During the thirty and odd years of our country's foreign intercourse, had there been no missionaries here, and had things been left to follow the dictates of the merchants' (*byōki shonin*), convenience, this country's amicable relations with foreign States would have been brought into a very questionable condition ere now. It is true that problems of international intercourse do not fall within the sphere of a missionary's regular duties, but in actual practice the missionaries have much to do with such intercourse. Treaty Revision recently became a current topic of discussion. The British residents of Yokohama and other nationals assumed an attitude of opposition, and finally addressed to the proper quarters a memorial embodying their objections. From a superficial point of view it seems not unreasonable that men should disregard great problems of international intercourse, and direct their attention solely to the interests which immediately concern them. Such a memorial, however, not only is unjust to Japan, but also reflects little credit on foreigners themselves. We learn now that the British mis-

sionaries, taking an independent line, prepared a memorial advocating a proper settlement of Treaty Revision, and submitted the document publicly to the British Minister on the 3rd instant. For many years the British missionaries have interested themselves in the question of Treaty Revision. On a previous occasion they conveyed to all the Foreign Representatives their opinion that steps should be taken to restore to Japan the rights which she is prevented by Western States from exercising, and they have now presented a memorial in the same sense, without concern for the Yokohama resolutions. It cannot be doubted that when this memorial is forwarded by the British Minister to his Government, it will throw much discredit on the anti-revision resolutions of the Yokohama merchants. The resolutions of the Yokohama merchants are dictated by considerations of personal interest: the memorial of the missionaries is based upon the dictates of morality, and the British Government will know how to distinguish the evil from the good. The Yokohama resolutions could not, under any circumstances, have carried much weight, but they might have produced a very false impression. Uneasy, on the one hand, as to the effect of the Yokohama resolutions on the disposition of the British Government, and deeply uneasy, on the other, lest these unjust resolutions should create umbrage among our people and be the means of bringing about estrangement between them and foreigners, we are sincerely relieved to feel that many evil contingencies have been averted by this publicly taken action of the missionaries. We shall not easily forget that the British missionaries, though generally standing aloof from politics, have concerned themselves about this question of the amity of international relations, and have contributed very materially, as we believe, to a happy solution."

THE RATS THAT GNAW THE COLUMN.

ONE thing is quite certain, namely, that if a portion of the residents of this Settlement desire to preserve the privilege of exemption from Japanese jurisdiction, the newspapers claiming to represent them lose no opportunity of rendering the continuance of the present system obnoxious and exasperating to the Japanese nation. These journals are like the silly rats which gnawed the base of the column in which their nest was built. The recent press prosecution furnished an opportunity for their wonted intemperance, and it has been thoroughly utilized. When the news was published that several newspapers had been punished, the *Japan Herald*, under a wholly false impression of the act by which the offending journals had incurred the displeasure of the law, hastily wrote a severe criticism of the authorities, ridiculed their procedure, and expressed the hope that the story would be transmitted by the Foreign Representatives to their respective Governments. The next day the same paper learned that it had entirely mis-stated the facts; that it had, in short, described the offence of the newspapers as the publication of a memorial which had not been judicially noticed at all. Having committed so serious a blunder, and written half a paragraph deriding the Authorities for doing something which they had not done, the commonest principles of honesty required that the *Japan Herald* should acknowledge its mistake. It did nothing of the kind. Without a word of confession or explanation it proceeded to discuss what it had now discovered to be the true count. And this is how it discussed the matter. The Government, it declared, had "instituted preposterous prosecutions;" had "conclusively proved how little disposed it is to keep in abeyance the despotic powers with which it has armed itself, to make sure of being able to worry, or to crush outright, every newspaper and every antagonist it may wish to hold in check or whose power it may desire to annihilate;" had been guilty of "uncalled for and impolitic action," and had proved, "if proof were wanting, that notwithstanding the granting of a new Constitution conferring upon a portion of the people rights superior to what they before were in possession of, the Author-

ities incline unmistakably towards despotism, quite as much as before." Of the offence committed by the newspapers it spoke in the most trivial strain; called it the publication of "a moderately worded memorial addressed to the Cabinet, mildly criticising a clause in the Constitution," and doubted whether "it could be considered to be an offence, for certainly it would not be so construed elsewhere." As for the Court which had passed the sentence, the *Japan Herald* said that it had "objectionably and unnecessarily applied indefensible and insufferably bad laws;" accused it of a "laughable exhibition of malevolence" because it had extended the penalty to the type of the incriminated newspapers—a form of a punishment recognised by press laws everywhere—and compared its conduct to "the spiteful petulance of a child striking any object by which it has accidentally hurt itself." Concerning such writing as this there can be no second opinion. If the *Japan Herald* dared to apply to an English Court the language of contumely and contempt applied by it to the Tokyo Court of Minor Crimes, its law-despising words would be immediately and severely punished. No Western tribunal would suffer such criticism for a moment, and if Japanese tribunals are without redress against gross insult at the hands of a foreign journal published in Japan, the system which deprives them of inability to protect themselves cannot but strike them as intolerable and painfully inconsistent with national independence. The terms used with reference to the Government and the laws are equally bad. They are distinctly seditious. Uttered in England, they would only provoke a smile; but in Japan the publication of such language is still considered dangerous and calculated to interfere with the preservation of good order. A foreign journal published in Japan violates every principle of decency when it thus parades its glaring defiance of laws which Japanese newspapers are compelled to respect, and when it thus makes open exhibition of seditious licence which, if indulged in by a Japanese, would involve a heavy penalty. Extrajurisdictional was never designed to be thus abused; and if these abuses render the continuance of the system unendurable, who can be surprised? Only one thing is to be said, namely, that all respectable foreigners, whether opposed or favourable to Japan's Treaty Revision claims, heartily condemn this criminal recklessness. There are very few persons in this settlement who would be guilty of it, and preëminent among them stands the writer of the article in the *Japan Herald*, a man who for the past twenty years, by speech and by pen, has lost no chance of rendering the system for which he contends hateful in Japanese eyes, and of parodying Western justice, Western honesty, and Western courtesy.

THE OFFENDING NEWSPAPERS.

There ought not to be so much difficulty in understanding the nature of the offence committed by the recently punished newspapers. Some critics appear to think that the law is violated solely by the nature of the matter published. That is a misconception. It is forbidden to publish, without official permission, memorials addressed to the Government. Thus whatever might have been the contents of the Kansei memorial, its unsanctioned insertion by the newspapers constituted a breach of the law. But extenuating circumstances may be evidently deduced from the nature of a document. People addressing a memorial to the Prime Minister know perfectly well that its simultaneous publication in newspaper columns deprives it of the real character of a memorial, and converts it into a direct appeal to public opinion. If, then, they forward a copy of the memorial to an editor, the latter, especially should he find the contents of the document plainly innocuous, may not unnaturally conclude that it comes to him after official sanction has been obtained. But a memorial such as that addressed to Count Yamagata by the Kansei politicians could admit of no misconception. Any editor must at once perceive that he incurs a grave responsibility by

giving publicity to a document which attacks an article of the Constitution, and declares its terms to be a violation of the Imperial Prerogative. The memorialists, merely by forwarding their views to the Minister President, may not have disregarded the veto contained in the Preamble to the Constitution. We were disposed at first to think that they had, but we admit the force of the arguments advanced by a writer in the *Japan Gazette*. Again, there is no law, so far as we know, forbidding a memorialist to show his memorial to the editor of a newspaper. On this count too, the Kansei folks must probably be acquitted. The whole responsibility, in short, devolves on the newspaper. In the case we are considering each journal receiving a copy of the memorial had nothing to do but to adopt the simple course of enquiring whether its publication would be officially sanctioned. To insert it without taking that precaution was to become technically guilty at once. For the rest, the Court evidently considered that the publication of such a document was an attack upon the Constitution, and that the offending newspapers must be taught to take a stricter view of the responsibility devolving on them, and of their obligation to obey the law. We think, ourselves, that the sentence was needlessly severe, but our purpose is to discuss not the judgment but the nature of the offence.

NEW MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF PEERS.

THE Constitution provides that one member of the House of Peers shall be elected in each City and Prefecture from among and by the fifteen male inhabitants paying the highest amount of direct national taxes on land, industry or trade. The member thus elected receives his nomination from the Emperor. In accordance with this rule the following have been gazetted members of the Upper House:—

TOKYO CITY.—Watanabe Jiyemon, age 42 (tax yen 1,184), President of a bank and a heimin, Nishi-bashi District.
MIYE PREFECTURE.—Hayashi Soyemon, age 45 (tax yen 614), Merchant, a heimin, Arita-gori.
KANAGAWA PREFECTURE.—Umeshima Shobei, age 52 (tax yen 438), Agriculturist and Merchant, a heimin, Osomi-gori.
ISHIKAWA PREFECTURE.—Okano Koreyasu, age 36 (tax yen 890), Agriculturist, a heimin, Itakui-gori.
AKITA PREFECTURE.—Ikeda Jimnosu e, age 44 (tax yen 4,963), Agriculturist, a heimin, Senpaku-gori.
SHIZUOKA PREFECTURE.—Miyasaka Sogo, age 61 (tax yen 1,728), Agriculturist, a heimin, Udo-gori.
MIYAGI PREFECTURE.—Kama-matsuburo, age 46 (tax yen 697), Agriculturist, a heimin, Sendai Municipality.
AOMORI PREFECTURE.—Nomura Jisaburo, age 61 (tax yen 1,887), Merchant, a heimin, Kami Kira-gori.
HYOGO PREFECTURE.—Kawasaki Seizo, age 52 (tax yen 1,157), Manufacturer, a heimin, Kobe Municipality.
FUKUSHIMA PREFECTURE.—Taneda Rubei, age 34 (tax yen 620), Merchant, a heimin, Date-gori.
NAGANO PREFECTURE.—Yamada Sozayemon, age 38 (tax yen 1,092), Agriculturist, a heimin, Shimo Takai-gori.
GUMMA PREFECTURE.—Sakurai Dori, age 35 (tax yen 1,299), Merchant, a heimin, Nishi Gumma-gori.
SHIGA PREFECTURE.—Shimizu Dompai, age 47 (tax yen 1,129), Merchant and Manufacturer, Sakurai-gori.
KYOTO CITY.—Yoshida San'yemon, age 42 (tax yen 463), merchant, a heimin, Ameyasu-gori.
TOTTORI PREFECTURE.—Kawada Tojoan, age 37 (tax yen 1,899), Merchant, a heimin, Kume-gori.
OSAKA CITY.—Kubota Shingo, age 49 (tax yen 1,093), merchant, a heimin, Takayama-gori.
TOCHIGI PREFECTURE.—Kikuchi Saburo, age 37 (tax yen 624), Agriculturist, a heimin, Kawauchi-gori.
YAMAGATA PREFECTURE.—Hasegawa Naomori, age 55 (tax yen 4,035), merchant, a heimin, Yamagata Municipality.
KAGOSHIMA PREFECTURE.—Bunon Shinadzu Chingen, age 45 (tax yen 262), President of "Zushikwan" (a school), Kagoshima Municipality.
YAMANASHI PREFECTURE.—Wakao Ippai, age

69 (tax yen 3,897), merchant, a heimin, Kofu Municipality.
TOKUSHIMA PREFECTURE.—Miki Yokichiro, age 53 (tax yen 2,131), Merchant, a shizoku, Itano-gori.
FUKUI PREFECTURE.—Yamada Jo, age 57 (tax yen 813), Agriculturist, a shizoku, Sakai-gori.
AICHI PREFECTURE.—Kamei Shiro, age 62 (tax yen 849), Agriculturist, a shizoku, Kaito-gori.
WAKAYAMA PREFECTURE.—Mayeda Kenyu, age 53 (tax yen 511), Agriculturist, a heimin, Naka-gori.
VEHIME PREFECTURE.—Mura-kami Keisaku, age 38 (tax yen 772), Agriculturist, a heimin, Nii-gori.
OKAYAMA PREFECTURE.—Nosaki Takekichiro, age 41 (tax yen 5,865), Agriculturist, a heimin, Kojima-gori.
SAITAMA PREFECTURE.—Sekiguchi Tago, age 41 (tax yen 1,329), Nakakatsushika-gori.
TOYAMA PREFECTURE.—Baba Michihisa, age 43 (tax yen 1,981), Kammarai-gori.
GIFFU PREFECTURE.—Watanabe Jirokichi, age 33 (tax yen 1,110), Merchant, a heimin, Gifu Municipality.
SHIMANE PREFECTURE.—Tanabe Chosayemon, age 39 (tax yen 3,126), Mine owner, a heimin, Iishi-gori.
KAGAWA PREFECTURE.—Suzuki Dangoro, age 32 (tax yen 1,301), Merchant, a heimin, Takamatsu Municipality.
KUMAMOTO PREFECTURE.—Izumi Jenta, age 38 (tax yen 1,461), Merchant, a shizoku, Yatsu-shiro-gori.
YAMAGUCHI PREFECTURE.—Takigochi Kichiro, age 67 (tax yen 400), Agriculturist, a heimin, Aburatsubo-gori.
NARA PREFECTURE.—Nakamura Kashin, age 35 (tax yen 477), Miscellaneous occupations, a heimin, Sonokami-gori.
IBARAKI PREFECTURE.—Yamazaki Shinzo, age 35 (tax yen 608), Agriculturist, a heimin, Kawachi-gori.
KOCHI PREFECTURE.—Shimanchi Takeshige, age 35 (tax yen 947), a shizoku, Kamigori.
MIYASAKI PREFECTURE.—Ota Seibei, age 30 (tax yen 633), Merchant, a heimin, Higashi-usube-gori.
NAGASAKI PREFECTURE.—Isahaya Isisaku, age 62 (tax yen 459), Agriculturist, a heimin, Kikuchi-gori.
NIIGATA PREFECTURE.—Ichishima Tokojiro, age 42 (tax yen 11,282), Agriculturist, a heimin, Kikakubara-gori.
CHIBA PREFECTURE.—Igashiki Keishi, age 33 (tax yen 607), Agriculturist, a heimin, Katoh-gori.
IWATE PREFECTURE.—Kudo Kantoku, age 41 (tax yen 1,186), Agriculturist, a heimin, Kuwatate-gori.
HIROSHIMA PREFECTURE.—Sawahara Tamiemon, Agriculturist, a heimin, Akigori.
SAGA PREFECTURE.—Hara Chujun, Agriculturist, a shizoku, Fujisagori.
FUKUOKA PREFECTURE.—Kagezaki Taro, Agriculturist, a shizoku, Mitogori.
OITA PREFECTURE.—Mizunoye Ko, Agriculturist, a heimin, Usagori.

IMPERIAL NOMINEES.

THE names of Imperial Nominees to the House of Peers, published in these columns some days ago, were not taken from an official announcement, but from the vernacular press. The true list has appeared in the *Official Gazette*. It differs slightly from the newspaper list, and we therefore reproduce it in full:—Mr. Iwamura Michitoshi, Mr. Yamaguchi Naoyoshi, Mr. Tsuda Idsuro, Mr. Hosokawa Junjuro, Mr. Kanda Kohei, Mr. Mitsukuri Rinsho, Mr. Nishi Shu, Mr. Iami Shigekata, Mr. Kuki Rumi, Mr. Obata Buo, Baron Osawa Takeo, Mr. Nomura Motonuke, Mr. Miura Yasu, Mr. Kato Hiroyuki, Mr. Watanabe Ki, Mr. Yanagi Yuretsu, Mr. Osaki Saburo, Mr. Fukuhara Jisun, Mr. Harada Katsunichi, Mr. Okouchi Shigetoshi, Mr. Nakai Hiromu, Mr. Matsumoto Jun, Mr. Kamishi Junsei, Mr. Tanaka Yoshio, Mr. Nishimura Shigeki, Mr. Wataru Masamoto, Mr. Ando Sokumei, Mr. Murata Tamiuo, Mr. Hashimoto Tsunatsune, Mr. Miyoshi Taizo, Mr. Nakamura Masanao, Mr. Nagayo Sensai, Mr. Yamakawa Ko, Mr. Oki Shuko, Mr. Narahara Han, Mr. Shigeno Anyeki, Mr. Ito Miyoji, Mr. Kawada Go, Mr. Hamano Shin, Mr. Kinashi Seichiro, Mr. Mayeda Masana, Mr. Kaneko Kentaro, Mr. Maruyama Sakura, Mr. Hirata Tasuke, Mr. Iwanuma Waro, Mr. Iwasaki Yonosuke, Mr. Fujimura Shiro, Mr. Morioka Shojun, Mr. Shibusawa Yeichi, Mr. Tomita Tetsuno-

suke, Mr. Kawada Koichiro, Mr. Murata Tsuneyoshi, Mr. Toyama Shoichi, Mr. Kikuchi Dai-riku, Mr. Hotsumi Chicho, Mr. Furuchi Koi, Mr. Hori Shingoro, Mr. Konakamura Seiku, Mr. Obata Tokujiro, Mr. Sufu Kohel. All these gentlemen except Mr. Sufu Kohel, who was nominated on the 1st inst., were nominated on the 29th ult. according to paragraph 4, Article 1 of the Ordinance of the House of Peers.

THE "KOKUMIN-NO TOMO" AND ENGLISHMEN.

IN its latest issue the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* mentions a rumour that the English residents of Yokohama applied to their Minister to obtain the protection of guards of their own nationality. Our contemporary bids the English residents be at ease about their safety. "It might perhaps be expedient" says that journal "to demand the protection of red bearded guards, if it were intended by that means to create a good excuse for asserting that the Japanese are as turbulent as they were thirty years ago. But there is as yet no real need of the protection of red bearded men. Even supposing that an emergency should arise, there are thousands of law-abiding police constables, and if Englishmen do not think themselves secured by the protection of these police, there are a hundred thousand well-disciplined soldiers to protect them. Englishmen, therefore, need be in no anxiety about their safety." We can assure the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* that the British residents are not at all concerned about themselves. A farcical picture of the settlement's perturbation has been drawn by a youthful journalist who takes his facts from his thesaurus; but in truth there is no alarm, nor has there been, so far as we know, any proposal to obtain the services of British troops. The Local Authorities have thought it advisable to detach constables for the protection of the promoters of the anti-revision agitation, and these gentlemen are consequently subjected to the great inconvenience of being guarded wherever they go. They do not, we should imagine, think of questioning the necessity of such a precaution, for they know that fanatics are to be found in every country, and that if even a solitary attempt were made to injure a foreigner in Yokohama the result would be most serious for Japan's reputation. They understand, therefore, that their protection is a matter of at least as much solicitude to the Government as to themselves, and that the presence of British troops could add nothing to their security. On the other hand, it is not to be disguised that the writing of the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* will not help to assuage the bitter feelings which now prevail. The language of this generally sober and cleverly written periodical has an unmistakably angry ring that cannot but assist to stir echoes of resentment. Knowing how discreditable to Japan is the existence of that little band of physical-force politicians called *soshi*, we should like, even in this context, to see all journals and periodicals of the *Kokumin-no-Tomo's* standing assist in discrediting these gentry and in removing every excuse for the exercise of their uncivilized muscles. We could almost wish, indeed, that a few of the *soshi* should pay a visit to Yokohama. They would leave the settlement, if they left it at all, in a condition eminently calculated to cool the ardour of their genus. A sound thrashing, or the shooting of half a dozen of these hot-blooded simpletons, would probably assist materially to eradicate the nuisance of the *Miji* era. The notion of asking for military protection against a handful of youths who, in the great majority of cases, are known to be mere hirelings without real pluck or principle, is not at all likely to be entertained by Englishmen. It is a pity that such stories should be circulated, and the same remark applies to an absurd tale recently ventilated by a Japanese journal, to the effect that the President of the celebrated meeting had mistaken his police-guards for *soshi*, and run away from them at the top of his speed. The tale had its origin among laughter-loving foreigners in Yokohama, and the point of it is that a more unlikely man than Mr. J. A. Fraser to run away from a *soshi* could not easily be found. That most unfortunate Tsukiji incident of last

spring, the wild folly written by a verdant journalist in Yokohama, and these recent canards may betray the *soshi* into the error of supposing that the British residents fear them. If they act upon that mistake their eyes will soon be opened. The British residents, whose whole interest lies in seeing Japan prosperous and respected, share the contempt felt by every respectable Japanese for these unhappy waifs who, by recourse to the methods of savages, would fain avenge their failure to attain civilized success.

In another note, our contemporary recommends that Englishmen and other foreigners who are in favour of treaty revision should give expression to their views. If they remain silent, while those who differ from them are making open demonstration of their opposition to the present scheme of revision, their countrymen at home may be led to conclude that the whole body of foreign residents are opposed to Japan's claims. The Tokyo periodical, therefore, asks such of the foreign residents as may be favourably disposed towards the Japanese proposals, to make their opinions known to the public. But there is a difficulty here which the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* does not appear to apprehend, namely, that in order to express an intelligent opinion about a scheme, people must first know what the scheme is. A little band of busy agitators have succeeded in betraying a large section of the Yokohama residents into the ridiculous position of holding a public meeting and passing wholesale resolutions on the strength of information mysteriously obtained from a source "which left no doubt of its accuracy," but which was, unfortunately, quite untrustworthy, for the information proves to have been at once incorrect and partial. That blunder is not likely to be repeated. The public does not know what Japan's proposals are or what Great Britain's counter-proposals may be. Without such knowledge it is evidently out of the question that the measure recommended by the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* can be taken. The British Missionaries, however, have addressed to their Representative a memorial couched in general terms, urging the advisability of Treaty Revision, and it has, moreover, been made abundantly clear that although many of the Yokohama residents were betrayed into voting for a resolution which advocated the postponement of Revision *sine die*, no such uncompromising attitude is really taken by them. Even the proposer and framer of the resolution has since addressed to the press a declaration over his own signature that "so far from being opposed to Treaty Revision, there is not an intelligent man in the community who does not admit that Japan is entitled to demand a relaxation of the terms of the present Treaties." The judgment and heart of the foreign community are sound enough in this matter, though through the unfortunate blundering of a few injudicious agitators a very different impression has been conveyed to the Japanese. The simple fact is that both sides are fighting for the best terms procurable, and both are equally convinced of the necessity of coming to terms of some sort. If the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* looked a little deeper, it would perceive that no event which has occurred since the opening of the country has contributed so materially to secure the achievement of Treaty Revision, nor could any other conceivable event have contributed so materially, as the Yokohama Meeting of September 11th, 1890.

CHINA AND TREATY REVISION.

It is singular to find how persistently and repeatedly certain errors appear in the writings of journalists who discuss Treaty Revision. The latest example is furnished by the *Mainichi Shinbun*. We there read that China is the great stumbling block in the path of Treaty Revision, since it will be impossible to restrict her people to settlements when the latter shall have been swept away, and the country completely opened in respect of all other foreigners. Why should it be impossible to restrict the Chinese to settlements? On the contrary, the task is essentially easy. To so restrict Ger-

mans, Frenchmen, or some European nationals while allowing other Western folks to live, travel, and trade where they please, would be virtually impossible. But to differentiate Europeans and Americans from Chinese is perfectly simple. A Chinaman might possibly disguise himself with success so as to pass for a Western, but a few such cases would be a matter of no consequence whatever. The object is not to keep aliens out of the interior, but to provide that they shall be amenable to territorial laws and justiciable by territorial courts while in the interior, instead of remaining under a system which would necessitate their being conducted to some remote spot on the sea-coast to receive judgment from a foreign tribunal in criminal cases or misdemeanours, and would oblige Japanese having cause of civil complaint against them to carry their pleas and witnesses to distant courts at serious cost of time and money. If ten, twenty, or even a thousand Chinese found their way into the interior disguised as Occidentals, there would be an additional guarantee for their good behaviour, since the first offence they committed or the first dispute they engaged in must inevitably lead to their discovery. Meanwhile, the great bulk of the Chinese residents would perforce remain in the settlements, their physical characteristics furnishing a more efficient barrier for their restraint than any system of police supervision.

Japan would not think of submitting her own subjects to Chinese laws and Chinese tribunals so long as the former remain unaltered and the latter unreformed. She is, therefore, perfectly justified in excluding China from arrangements depending primarily on the unrestricted recognition of one another's judicial autonomy by the covenanting parties. Apart from this consideration, however, the world would probably hold her excused if she made an exception in China's case, for undoubtedly the danger against which the United States and Australia have legislated so strongly stares Japan in the face much more vividly. The *Chinese Times*, in one of those thoughtful and well-written articles which distinguish that excellent journal, speaks thus of the state of affairs in China:—

The population has overtaken the means of subsistence, with the result that a large proportion of the people are half-starved their whole life long, and so far from the nation in its collective capacity attempting either prevention or cure of this ghastly evil, it is doubtful whether there is so much as the recognition that the matter comes within the range of practical politics at all; or that any duty lies on the Government beyond the hand-to-mouth one of giving rice to those who are on the point of starving, thereby enabling them to continue the process of unrestricted multiplication of beings to inherit this perpetual legacy of starvation. There seems no doubt that matters in China have long ago reached this. The laws and customs, and especially the religious beliefs ingrained in the hearts of the people, so imperiously call for offspring that nature, early and late, is urged out of measure to supply the demand. The prudential checks that we hear of in the West have perhaps no place in the thoughts of either rich or poor in this country; only the eternal stimulus is operative. The broad result is a natural increase, estimated on fairly good data, of over 3 millions annually. How are these additional mouths to be filled when the previously existing ones had not enough?

Japan, were her territories thrown open freely to Chinese immigration, would furnish an immediate means of answering the question put by our Tientsin contemporary. Multitudes of the lowest classes of Chinese would inevitably flock to her shores, and if the inundation did not ultimately overwhelm her, it would certainly produce results of the gravest inconvenience. A State is bound by the first law of its being to provide against such dangerous contingencies. China understands this just as well as Japan, and if amicably approached, would doubtless be content to give practical acknowledgment to her perception of the truth. But there is no occasion to seek such acknowledgment at present. The extraterritorial question furnishes a safe barrier. Until China is in a position to do what Japan offers to do for Occidental nations, and to claim what Japan claims at their hands, she cannot rebel against being excluded from the general agreement. It is not here that the

which China must be persuaded to become a party before they can be satisfactorily put into force.

Referring to tariff, we observe that new perplexities are presenting themselves to some minds. A writer in the *Choya Shinbun* quotes an eminent Japanese as asserting that the chief difficulties in the way of Treaty Revision do not come from without but from within. There is much truth, we believe, in this assertion, but we notice at the same time that the person making it proceeds at once to exemplify his statement by raising an objection which proves how very superficial is his own acquaintance with the problem. He avers that his country's negotiators seem to devote their attention exclusively to the extraterritorial question, and take no care for that other very important point, the recovery of the Empire's tariff autonomy. Strange that such misconceptions should be ventilated at this eleventh hour. The problem of tariff autonomy was solved long ago. From the moment that Japan signs her new treaty she will recover her tariff autonomy. She will not, indeed, be immediately free to regulate her customs dues as she pleases, but none the less she will be in possession of tariff autonomy just as much as Great Britain is when she concludes an agreement to admit French wines at fixed customs' rates for a fixed term of years. The mere fact of concluding a tariff convention with foreign States for a limited term is conclusive evidence that a country possesses tariff autonomy, and that its autonomy is recognised. If people would only take a little trouble to study these questions before venturing to pronounce opinions on them in public, what an amount of misconception and complication would be avoided!

A MEMORIAL FROM THE BRITISH CLERGY.

THE following memorial, signed by all the British missionaries in Japan with one exception, has been presented to Her Majesty's Minister in Tokyo:—

To His Excellency HUGH FRASER, Esq., H.B.M.'s Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Japan.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY.—We, the undersigned British Subjects resident in Tokyo and engaged in Christian mission work, under a sense of the many evils resulting from the postponement of the revision of the Treaties between H.I.M. Japanese Government and the Foreign Powers, desire to approach Your Excellency in the following memorial.

We desire to express to Your Excellency our sense of the great and successful efforts which have been made in recent years by the Government of Japan, especially in the compilation of her code of criminal and civil law, and in the organization of her legal tribunals, to bring her methods of legal procedure into a position similar to that enjoyed by the most enlightened nations of the West.

We venture, therefore, to express the hope that such a revision of the Treaties may speedily be brought about as will, while sufficiently safeguarding the rights and interests of H.B.M.'s subjects, satisfy the legitimate demands of H.I.M. Japanese Government in the matter of Extraterritoriality.

We remain Your Excellency's obedient servants,
Tokyo, October 3rd, 1890.

CONFUCIUS AND THE JAPANESE NATION.

IN a recent number of the *Ten-soku*, Mr. Kato, President of the Imperial University, strongly protests against the ingratitude of his countrymen towards a philosopher to whom they are indebted in a large measure for the degree of progress they have thus far attained. Formerly the Japanese all revered the very name of Confucius; they adored him almost as much as the Occidentals adore Christ. Now, however, so far from adoring him, they condemn incessantly as old-fashioned and stupid whatever is associated with his name. Mr. Kato admits that the teaching of Confucius is far from being complete; its tendency is to give too much authority to the old and to those in power. But such a theory of morality was at one time as beneficial, nay necessary, as it is at present pernicious and unattractive. To feel no respect for the sage who prepared the national mind for the reception of better seeds from the West, is as

though a man should feel no piety toward his parents who nursed him and taught him in his childhood. The present indifferent attitude of the nation towards Confucius is therefore to be condemned as unnatural. Mr. Kato farther considers that such a state of things bespeaks a deplorable absence of historical spirit among the present generation of Japanese. He invites all who are of the same mind with him on this subject to join him in reviving in the breast of every intelligent Japanese a due spirit of respect for the immortal Chinese philosopher. As to the method of manifesting such respect, he thinks it advisable to erect either a monument or a statue, or to celebrate a festival. In conclusion he begs the Chinese scholars of the old type not to imagine that he advocates a revival of the moral system of Confucius, his object being merely to show proper respect to the great Chinese sage and to impress on the minds of the Japanese nation the importance of maintaining historical continuity.

AN ORIENTAL EXHIBITION IN VIENNA.

LOVERS of Oriental art were afforded an exceptionally good opportunity of gratifying their taste in Vienna last March, when, in connection with the Museum of Commerce, the large collection of pictures and other objects of art made by Count Karl Lanckorowski, the Curator of the Museum, during his travels in India, China, and Japan, were for the first time exhibited to the public. As some of our readers will remember, Count Lanckorowski was accompanied as far as India by Ludwig Haus Fischer, the celebrated painter. The exhibits at Vienna furnished by Count Lanckorowski include the principal paintings executed by Fischer during his five months' stay in India. We are indebted to two Vienna papers, the *Fremden-blatt* and the *Neues Wiener Abend-blatt*, for a tolerably full account of the exhibition. An epitome of this account runs thus:—Count Lanckorowski has exercised great judgment in his choice of objects exhibited in the museum. He must have had exceptional opportunities for collecting, or he never could have brought together so many rare works of art. Some of the objects it would be difficult to match in any of the museums of Europe. An ornamented copy of the Buddhist scriptures, the antiquity of which is not known, which may have been made any time between the third century B.C. and the fifth century of our era, well repays inspection. The pictures with which it is adorned bear unmistakable evidence of the influence of Greek and Roman art on Indian painting. This feature of Indian art is engaging the attention of students just now. The exhibits as a whole are of a character to impress one with the idea that Indian painting is entitled to rank high when compared with that of other nations. Some old miniature pictures from Delhi are very well executed; and a collection of water-colour copies of the frescoes of a Buddhist temple (the rock-temple in Jutta) are particularly good. This is the first copy of these frescoes that has reached Europe. The scenes represented are mostly from the life of Buddha. The manner of their execution reminds one of the frescoes of Pompei, and hence furnishes most interesting material for comparison to the student of Oriental art. "Among the paintings collected by the Count in China and Japan are some of great merit,"* says our Vienna contemporary. When they speak of "Pictures from India" the papers we are quoting are careful to point out that they refer principally to the oil paintings and water-colours (about 70 in number) executed by Mr. Ludwig Haus Fischer. The scenes chosen by Mr. Fischer for representation extend from Ceylon (which furnishes scenes for 17 pictures) to the Khyber Pass on the Afghan boundary. Mr. Fischer was fortunate enough to obtain a clear view of the Himalayas from Darjeeling, a very rare occurrence. He has perhaps never been surpassed as a painter of eastern landscape scenery. In some of his coloring he produces fairy-like effects. He also shows wonder-

* No names of subjects or painters are given—hence we are unable to verify this assertion.

ful power when engaged in representing very intricate and delicate arabesque work. His representation of the richness and variety of tropical vegetation, and of the imposing forms of towering mountains, too, are those of a master hand. As instances we may mention the picture of the Ceylon mountains as seen from Kandy, and of Adam's Peak, rising out of orchards and ascending higher and higher till it ends in the strange stone column that crowns its summit, on which a shower bath of sunbeams are made to pour down from dark clouds. His "Lotus flowers in a pond in Colombo" and the "Forest scene in Ceylon" show that he has a minute acquaintance with botany. Some of his pictures are designed to illustrate geological details, and are traced with great accuracy and effect. His "View of Benares," with the smoothly flowing Ganges covered with boats and its banks lined with bathing-tents and natives in various picturesque costumes is a great success. Fischer is like an adept in the use of the duldest and most brilliant of colours. In his picture of the Temple of Elephanta, by means of a few shades of dusky brown he represents the crumbling weather-beaten condition of the stone of which the temple is built. On the other hand, in the "Golden temple of Amrizar and the Fort of Gwalior" he uses the brightest Indian colours with great effect. These pictures are of themselves sufficient to insure the success of the Vienna Museum of Commerce. But it is enriched with other interesting objects of art. For instance, in one of the two doorways of the Indian room hangs a Tibetan flag of prayer. It is made of thin white muslin, on which are inscribed in blue certain prayers. When this flag is moved by the wind the prayers are, according to the Tibetan belief, wafted on high. Thus the motion produced by the wind corresponds to the revolution of the wheel of the praying machine. In the same room are numerous specimens of Indian art and industry, also documents on the history of religion and customs, the footmark of some saint preserved in metal, and the picture of a full sized Afghan woman. The Vienna papers describe some objects brought from Japan by Count Lanckorowski, but to residents here there is nothing of special interest in the comments they make on this subject. The Museum of Commerce is a private enterprise, dependent on the support given to it by the public for its continuance. But after such a successful debut the future usefulness of the new institution is, we should say, more than certain.

THE "SOSHI."

THE *Kokumin-no-Tomo* deplores the development of the *soshi*. It roundly condemns the leaders of the *Rikken Jiyu-to* who have employed *soshi* as weapons of defence and offence, and regrets that politicians thus behaving have not looked to Peel and Bright for models of constitutional statesmen, instead of imitating the actions of the heroes of olden times. According to our contemporary, there are two kinds of *soshi*; those who, though misguided and narrow minded, are nevertheless actuated by a certain kind of disinterested patriotism and public spirit; and those who, degraded and mercenary, represent the very dregs of humanity. As to the *soshi* of the latter class, the *Kokumin* does not think it worth while to give any advice, but it recommends those of the former class to reflect on the position in which they now find themselves. Whatever may be their connection with a certain group of political adventurers, society in general is disgusted with the very word *soshi*; every good citizen shudders at the mention of the name, and the press describes them simply as a lawless mob. It is true—our contemporary goes on to observe—that the *soshi* of the better class affect the title of *seigi no soshi* (*soshi* of justice) to distinguish themselves from the unprincipled section of their fraternity. But the public does not admit such a distinction, and whatever disreputable action a *soshi* may commit is sure to be laid to the charge of the whole body. The Tokyo periodical admits

that the *soshi* are not alone to blame; their existence is owing, on the one hand, to the lingering customs of feudal times, when knightly fraternities were found in every community; and, on the other hand, to the encouragement given them by their leaders and elders. But these leaders are now beginning to discover the unpleasant and embarrassing fact that they have become the slaves of youths whom they originally intended to employ as their tools, and our contemporary thinks it high time for the *soshi* to divert the course of their life into other and more productive channels. It recommends them to return to their original occupations, or if they do not possess any sober occupation, to seek out a new field, each for himself. The group of *soshi* who have turned actors are far more honourable members of society than those who make it their business to escort political leaders through the streets, and to undertake every lawless task entrusted to them. "Get an honest livelihood, for thus and thus alone you can become useful members of society," is the wholesome counsel of the *Kokumin-no-Tomo*.

ABSENCE OF MIND.

THE *Indian Planter's Gazette*, reproduced by the *North China Daily Herald*, gives the following remarkable instance of absence of mind:—We have all frequently heard of, and most of us have been amused at, the ridiculous spectacle of a man driven to desperation in search of his eye-glasses, when in fact they were actually at the time only a couple of inches out of their natural position on the face. Equally ludicrous is it to see a carpenter searching the benches of his workshop for his two-foot rule when he has actually got it between his teeth! But of all the remarkable instances of absence of mind of this kind that I have ever heard of is that of a man going to a Police station to report the loss of a horse on which he was actually mounted at the time! Don't laugh, it's downright fact. This is how it occurred. An Australian horsedealer had landed a cargo of horses at Prinsep's Ghat, Calcutta, consigned to Messrs. Cook & Co. The consignment consisted of 125 fresh Waters all told. Part of the batch were sent to the Dhurumtollah stables and the remainder to Garden Reach. Some thirty or forty of the horses broke away from the syces after landing and were galloping all over the *maidan*. As the animals were frightened of the natives, the owner had one of the remounts of the batch saddled, with which he followed the fugitives. He succeeded in the course of the afternoon in capturing all the runaways, as he thought, but one. The missing horse was searched for all over Calcutta and the suburbs, but no trace of the animal could be found. Inquiry had been made at all the public pounds and every Police station in and around the city, but without success. As a last resource the importer rode up to the head office, and reported the loss to the Superintendent. "Come," said the officer, taking up pencil and paper, "let us understand each other. You say a batch of 125 horses were landed. How many were sent to the Dhurumtollah stables?" "Eighty," was the prompt reply. "How many are now in the stables at Garden Reach?" was the detective's next question. "Forty-four" was the answer. "You are still one short of the total number, you say?" "Yes, sir." "Then what is that horse you are now mounted on? From the appearance of its coat it looks uncommonly like an animal just landed." The man sat for some time speechless, before he was able to reply. It was the horse he had been looking for all over the town and suburbs!

THE CHIEF SECRETARIES OF THE HOUSES.

THE reported nomination by His Majesty the Emperor to the House of Peers of Messrs. Kaneko and Sone, respectively Chief Secretaries of the House of Peers and the House of Representatives, is commented on by the *Mainichi Shinbun*. The *Mainichi* is glad to hear that in Mr. Sone's case the report of his nomination is incorrect, for it is difficult to see how that gentleman could, while a member of the Upper

House, efficiently discharge his duties in the Lower House. Mr. Kaneko's nomination, however, still remains. Some say he was nominated because of his learning; but in that respect there are many gentlemen whose claims are as good as those of Mr. Kaneko. Others say that his merit obtained for him the honour; but there are a million others as meritorious as he. On the whole, the *Mainichi* doubts his ability to perform the dual functions. Suppose he was to commit some fault which should bring his conduct under the cognizance of the House. He would then be at one and the same time accused and accuser. But we (*Japan Mail*) may point out that this last objection is baseless. As well say that a member of the House of Commons who offends against the rules of the House, or otherwise misconducts himself, cannot be punished by the House because he would thus become one of the judges as well as the judged.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

ANOTHER mare's nest has been discovered, and another opportunity eagerly utilized to throw dust into the eyes of the public. Several years ago, the press service and political telegrams of Messrs. Reuter & Company were supplied to the Yokohama newspapers, the Chamber of Commerce, the Club and certain leading mercantile firms, under an arrangement by which all the recipients contributed an assessed amount to the cost of the service. It was ultimately found that this arrangement did not work satisfactorily, and, the service being discontinued, Yokohama remained for a time in utter darkness so far as telegraphic news was concerned. It seemed to us that such a state of affairs was a serious reflection on the journalistic enterprise of the Settlement. We therefore determined to renew the service on our own sole account, paying the whole cost of transmitting the telegrams from Shanghai to Yokohama as well as other expenses. Such an outlay was altogether out of proportion to the circumstances of newspapers in Yokohama. We would gladly have shared it with one or both of our local contemporaries but for two reasons, of which it is sufficient to state the first, namely, that such a service cannot be satisfactorily shared by newspapers published at an interval of from 14 to 15 hours. The *Japan Mail* is published in the morning; the *Japan Gazette* and *Japan Herald* appear in the evening. This consideration was conclusive. We continued for a long time—two years, if we remember rightly—to pay a large sum monthly for the service of telegrams. Our evening contemporaries copied them regularly from our columns, with our consent in the case of the *Japan Gazette*; without it in the case of the *Japan Herald*. Subsequently, by an arrangement to which we were not parties, and of which we had no knowledge whatever until after it had been effected by Messrs. Reuter and Company's Agent, the *Official Gazette* became a recipient of the telegrams. We avoid detailed reference to this incident. The upshot of it was an agreement between Messrs. Reuter and Company's Agent and the *Japan Mail*, by which we promised to pay the same monthly sum as that charged to the *Official Gazette*, less a small special charge made to the latter by the Agent for expanding and transmitting telegrams. This reduced our outlay by about thirty per cent., while, on the other hand, Messrs. Reuter and Company received some fifty per cent. more than the sum for which they had previously performed the service on our account alone. The agreement further provided that the telegrams must not be given to any other newspaper without our consent, it being understood that the object of this provision was to secure for us a proportionate reduction in the event of another journal becoming a subscriber. Under no circumstances, however, were our evening local contemporaries to be admitted to co-operation, as the time of their publication would deprive the telegrams of all value for us. This agreement was between Messrs. Reuter and Company's Agent and the *Japan Mail*. The *Official Gazette* had nothing whatever to do with it. So far as we are concerned, we

have never communicated, either directly or indirectly, with the *Official Gazette* on the subject of telegrams, nor do we know anything about its arrangements except what Messrs. Reuter and Company's Agent was good enough to tell us. Such being the facts of the case, the *Japan Gazette*, in its issue of the 6th instant, publishes the following:—

REUTER "CORNERED" BY THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT.

We have long been aware that it was a matter of absolute impossibility for any journal save the *Japan Mail* and the *Official Gazette* to obtain Reuter's telegrams. However, with the object of proving to our readers that our second-hand publication of Reuter's telegrams is not a mark of lack of enterprise on our part, we addressed the following letter to Reuter's agent at this port and received the response given below. Readers will please note the parties to the agreement, and we doubt not they will draw their own conclusion—one strengthening something more than a long held suspicion.

THE AGENT OF REUTER'S TELEGRAM CO.,
Yokohama.

Dear Sir,—A general desire having been expressed by the numerous subscribers to this journal that Reuter's telegrams should be regularly published; and it being my earnest wish to meet, to the utmost of my power, the desires of the patrons of the *Japan Gazette*, I shall feel much obliged if you will kindly inform me the latest terms at which you can supply all Reuter's telegrams.

I beg to point out that at present the telegrams are copied from the *Official Gazette*, and that any subscription from this office will be a clear gain to your company.

Yours faithfully, J. R. ANGLIN, Proprietor.

Yokohama, 3rd October, 1890.

J. R. ANGLIN, Esq.,

Proprietor of the *Japan Gazette*.

Dear Sir,—In reply to your favour of the 3rd inst. I regret very much that by the arrangement now in force between the *Japan Mail*, *Official Gazette* and this company, I am unable to supply the Company's Press Service and Political Telegrams to any other newspaper. Perhaps later on something may be done; if so I shall at once communicate with you.

I am, Dear Sir, Yours faithfully, JNO. W. HALL, Agent.

Yokohama, 6th October, 1890.

Observe the heading of our contemporary's article:—"Reuter 'cornered' by the Japanese Government." For years we alone of the newspapers published in Yokohama have had the enterprise to pay for a service of telegrams. The *Official Gazette* was made a party to the service in a manner against which we strongly protested at the time. We had no choice, however, but to consent. In doing so we took care to protect ourselves against future contingencies of a similar nature. It was an ordinary business precaution, with which the Japanese Government had no more to do than it had with the writing of the *Japan Gazette's* silly article. The dishonest subterfuge resorted to by our contemporary to excuse the want of enterprise which has reduced it to the ignoble rôle of copying all its telegraphic news from other journals; its characteristic attempt to misrepresent the conduct of the Japanese Government, and the wretched trickery by which it seeks to injure us in connection with a service the benefits of which it enjoyed gratis for several years with our consent, are worthy of it.

THE FIRST JAPANESE PETITION TO PARLIAMENT.

To four public-spirited men of Chiba Prefecture appears to belong the honour of having prepared the first petition for presentation to the Japanese Diet. The subjects of the petition are that people proposing to start journals should no longer be required to furnish security; that heads of families and heirs should be included in the exemptions from conscription; that postal savings banks should be abolished; and that registrar's duties should be discharged by Headmen of wards and villages in addition to their other duties. The names of these pioneer petitioners, who will doubtless become historical, are Fujii Kyogen, Takahashi Kanji, Sekiya Kojiro, and Itakura Rihel, and they have entrusted their petition to the representative of the first electoral district of Chiba.

ADMIRAL LANG.

THE *North China Daily News* has been the means of throwing further light on an interesting point connected with Admiral Lang's retirement from the Chinese service. It will be remembered that the proximate cause of that distinguished officer's resignation was the hauling down of his flag by the Chinese, and the offer of an inferior flag in response to his telegraphic complaint to Viceroy Li. It will also be remembered that this flag incident occurred in Hongkong during the absence of Admiral Ting. Had Admiral Ting been present, his flag would, of course,

have been flown as commanding the squadron, but in his absence Admiral Lang, the next senior, naturally hoisted his pennant. Criticising the incident, some foreign writers expressed doubts as to Admiral Lang's right to assume the title of Admiral for executive purposes, and suggested that it was merely an honorary distinction conferred on him in connection with his duties as instructor. By way of reply to these critics the *North China Daily News* publishes the following document, a despatch sent to Captain Lang, R.N., on the 13th of June, 1886, by Mr. N. R. O'Connor, then British Chargé d'Affaires in Peking:—

The Prince and Ministers of the Tsung-li Yamen to Mr. O'Connor.

12th June, 1886.

The Prince and Ministers of the Tsung-li Yamen have the honour to inform H.B.M.'s Chargé d'Affaires that on the 7th of June, 1886, they received a despatch from the Admiralty Office to the effect that the Prince and high Ministers of that Department had submitted a Memorial to the Throne upon the 2nd of June containing a report upon the naval and military reviews of the forces of the Northern Division and applying for the bestowal of decorations upon foreigners. Upon the same day His Highness and their Excellencies were honoured with the receipt of a Decree from Her Majesty the Empress in the following words:—
"The foreign officers who have acted as naval and military instructors, and have been most successful in their work, should in like manner receive due reward."
"Decorations of different grades will be distributed amongst them, and, as an additional mark of favour, the rank of Admiral is hereby granted to William Lang, who has especially exerted himself in instructing and exercising the fleet. A button of the third class is further bestowed upon von Hanneken in recognition of the admirable manner in which the forts built under his superintendence have been constructed."

It becomes the duty of the Prince and Ministers to communicate a copy of this Decree, transcribed with all reverence, to H.B.M. Chargé d'Affaires, with a request that he will in turn communicate it to Admiral Lang that he may respectfully conform thereto.

[Translated by W. C. Hillier.]

On the strength of this despatch our Shanghai contemporary severely criticises Viceroy Li, and even goes so far as to apply the epithet "mutinous" to the Chinese captain who hauled down Admiral Lang's flag. Here are the concluding paragraphs of a strong article:—

We gather from this that the Viceroy Li carries his independence so far, that when it suits him to do a discourtesy to a foreign employé, he does not care the least for an Imperial decree. The Empress—for this occurred before the Emperor's assumption of the government—makes Captain Lang an Admiral, and Li virtually says, "Your Imperial decree is nothing to me. I don't want Captain Lang any more, and I refuse to consider him an Admiral any longer." It has been said often that the Peiyang squadron is not a national fleet, but is Li's property, and that the appointments to it are simply at his pleasure. It appears now that this is absolutely true, and that the Throne is merely allowed to amuse itself with the idea that it has a navy; otherwise the Viceroy would surely not dare to ignore the Imperial decree as he has done. Captain Lang must naturally feel some regret at seeing a work to which he has devoted so much care and some of the best years of his life go to ruin; but otherwise we do not imagine that he loses much by being edged out of the Chinese service. It is known who pulled the strings that moved the Viceroy—for the Bismarck of China is himself a good deal of a puppet now—and Admiral Ting will probably be the next to discover how the strings work. We recur to the matter, then, partly to set Captain Lang right before foreigners—really a work of supererogation—and partly to draw attention to the warning which the affair should convey to all foreigners in Chinese employ, from the highest down. They will learn from it that they may hold their positions by Imperial decree, they may do their work faithfully, they may seem to themselves and to other foreigners indispensable to the proper working of the system of which they are a prominent part; but they are always liable to be undermined by Chinese, often their own subordinates, who think that things can now go on without them and that their places and emoluments are worth going through any amount of moral dirt to secure; and they will find that Imperial decrees are no security; they are not wanted any more and they can go.

Now is all this justified? We greatly doubt it. The whole question hinges upon a simple point—was Admiral Lang's rank of Admiral substantive or merely honorary? If the former, then unquestionably it was his right to assume executive command of any Chinese squadron with which he might happen to find himself present as senior naval officer. But if the latter, then it is equally beyond question that he possessed no such right. The despatch from the Prince and Ministers of

the Tsung-li-yamen by no means solves the problem. It certainly "grants the rank of Admiral" to Captain Lang, but such a grant does not necessarily constitute him an executive officer of the Chinese Fleet. An officer of Control in the British Army attains the relative rank of "Colonel" or even "General" after reaching certain grades in his Department, but under no circumstances would such an officer be qualified to take command of a regiment or brigade in the field or on parade: a subaltern of a month's standing would precede him for the purposes of such service. The cases are not quite analogous, it is true, for Captain Lang belongs to the executive branch, and whatever rank he holds may be supposed to confer corresponding executive competence. But does any one seriously imagine that when the Ministers of the Tsung-li-yamen penned the above despatch, they intended to delegate executive functions in the Chinese Navy to an alien who had not taken any oath of allegiance to the Emperor of China, and who, even in the discharge of such functions, must always remain absolutely exempt from the disciplinary rules of the Chinese service? We find it hard to entertain any such hypothesis. No Western Government would dream of conferring substantive rank in its military service on an alien not subject to its laws or jurisdiction, and not bound by any pledge of loyalty to the sovereign of the country. Why should China be supposed to have done anything of the kind? She certainly conferred the title of "Admiral" on Captain Lang, but that she intended to invest him with competence to take command of her ships by virtue of that title, we cannot believe. The one thing that puzzles us in the matter is Captain Lang's action. He is too good an officer to make a mistake under the circumstances described, and we can only suppose that the whole story has not been told.

A CHINESE STORY.

EXPERIENCE has taught us, in the case of Japanese affairs, to place so little faith in the stories ventilated from time to time by ill-informed foreigners who substitute fantastic inferences for facts whenever the latter are wanting, that we regard tales from China also with considerable scepticism. Nevertheless the following account—which we take from the columns of the *North China Daily News*—incredible as it sounds, appears to be based on good authority:—

An instructive illustration of some of the observations already made with regard to the relation between contiguous villages, in time of trouble, has been furnished, by a friend of the writer, who is a native of one of the villages concerned, and who was one of the middlemen through whom the difficulty was adjusted. The two villages in question are situated about a mile apart in Shantung, and are wholly surrounded by the floods. The larger village had thrown up a dyke at some distance from the terrace on which the houses comprising the village stand. The other village had no dyke. The area enclosed by the dyke of the larger village was but a few hundred (Chinese) acres, but it was important to the village to stave off the flooding of this land as long as possible. Some young fellows belonging to the smaller village resolved to make an attack on the dyke of the larger one, apparently on the ground that as the smaller village had no dyke, the larger one had no right to have one either. A considerable force went to cut the dyke, and was met by a very small force of the other village. A quarrel ensued, in which the people of the larger village sent forth reinforcements from the other parts of their dyke, where there were several hundred men at work. These at once flung over, and a battle began, in which the small village was quickly worsted, and two of their men were captured, but not until some of the people of the larger village had been wounded severely. One man had two fingers almost chopped off, another had a nick cut in his heel an inch deep with a hoe, severing the *tendon Achilles*. The two captured men were tied with ropes, hung up and beaten severely with clubs, till they were half dead, and unable to move. Uncontrollable excitement now ruled, and each village prepared for war on a large scale. About three hundred men rallied on one side, and half as many on the other. Some men of the small village rushed off to secure "middlemen" from a third village, and one such was found who proved to be a tower of strength. He is a professional gambler, well acquainted at the same time, and able to put through a law-suit without expense—a qualification of as much value in China, as the "hood of a city" in the Middle Ages. This man appeared upon the scene, and his words were few but weighty. He sided with the small village, with which he is connected by marriage, and adopted the view that "water must take its course." Dykes are contrary to nature, and not to be tolerated. The small village should not have cut your dyke as they did, but you should not have made the dyke at all. He therefore proposed that neither village should touch the dyke, that the larger village should be given a respite of two days in which to throw up a dyke close to the village (of no value toward saving the crops), and that when it was completed, the middlemen should come and themselves cut the dyke and let the water in upon the land of the

larger village. Were they prepared to "compromise" on this basis? After a short deliberation, they accepted the terms, and men are at work on the dyke. To-morrow the "peace-talkers" will cut the old dyke, and ruin the land of the large village.

But how could the words of any one man, supported though they were by six other men, bring about the acceptance of a result so unjust, and so ruinous to the larger village. Because the man who did the principal talking is a head bully, and able to conduct a law-suit. He had promised to see the smaller village through with this matter. If it had not been settled in this way at that time, a general battle would have broken out, as hundreds of men were already standing with weapons, ready to begin the fight. If the fight had once begun, very many lives would have been lost. This would have resulted in a lawsuit of portentous proportions, which would have been taken to the district city, thence in time to the capital of the province, and perhaps eventually to Peking, costing thousands (or tens of thousands) of stems of cash, and possibly many more lives. By these terms, hard as they were, the face of the larger village was saved. They are allowed a dyke, and the old one is cut by "peace-makers," not by the enemy. And what about those wounded? Oh they were injured in a general row, and "nobody is to blame." The two wounded captives were found to be alive, though in a sad condition. They also are to get nothing for their trouble, unless they should manage to die within five days, when the "peace-talkers" reserve the right to re-open the whole question! The small village has gained absolutely nothing by all this tumult, except to get many wounds and to breed an ill-will which will last for a generation, and in future years will break out anew in other rows and law-suits. The large village has also its harvest of wounds, and its ranking animosities of defeat and ruin. These two villages are connected by hundreds of marriages, and have been generally regarded as substantially one village. Now all this is altered by the impetuosity of a few hot-headed youths who insisted that no one should be better off than themselves. Whoever will peruse with care that chapter of the Sacred Edict which exhorts to peace and against law suits, will be able, in the light of such occurrences as these (which, under appropriate conditions are to be found anywhere) to obtain much light on the relation of the people of China to one another.

COMMERCIAL RELATIONS BETWEEN JAPAN AND TURKEY.

THE *Yiji Shimo* says the present is a fitting time for Japanese merchants to make an attempt to open trade relations with the Ottoman Empire. Turkey, with a population of over thirty millions, had in 1889 an export trade amounting in value to over sixty million yen, and imported goods valued at eighty-six millions. Trade with such a country might well be productive of profit to the Japanese, and the mission to Turkey of the *Kongo* and *Hiei Kan* should be availed of to send commercial representatives from this country. The *Yiji* does not doubt that if application is made to the authorities the necessary permission will be given, and representatives of Japanese firms will be accorded passage in those vessels. Our contemporary regrets to observe that no one has as yet chosen to avail himself of the opportunity now offered.

PECULIAR CLAIMS.

To English ears it sounds an attractive argument that foreigners cannot possibly consent to submit to the jurisdiction of a country where freedom of speech, pen, and public meeting is not fully guaranteed. But every thoughtful person must see that there is involved in such an argument the wholly untenable assumption that a foreigner who visits a country for commercial purposes, or indeed for any purpose except to represent his Sovereign, is entitled to claim privileges which are not enjoyed by the people of the country. If the contention is admissible that because Japan does not yet allow her subjects to write and say exactly what they please, within the limits of decency, therefore the exercise of judicial autonomy must be forbidden to her, by what possible process of reasoning can it be pretended that the same rule does not apply to Germany, to Russia, and even to Great Britain, within certain parts of whose dominions liberty of the subject in respect of public speech and public meeting is at present seriously curtailed? It is surely extravagant to suppose that we have any sort of right to carry our own institutions everywhere and force them upon the countries we choose to visit for our personal profit or pleasure. Surely, also, it is not reasonable to expect that at this comparatively early stage of her journalistic career Japan ought to have reached a point which England took nearly a century to attain, and which several great Western nations have not yet attained. We have an undeniable right to protest against laws and tribunals which do not provide efficient protection for person and property. But we have not

a shadow of right to insist that every privilege which we enjoy at home must be guaranteed to us abroad also. If the Government of Japan does not think that absolute freedom of speech can be granted consistently with the preservation of public peace and good order among thirty-eight millions of Japanese, to insist that it must be granted for the sake of a few hundred foreigners carrying on commerce and industry in Japan, is a very wonderful contention.

The practical question is whether for all the legitimate purposes of foreigners living in Japan the freedom of speech already enjoyable is not quite sufficient. We think that it is. Newspapers are at perfect liberty to expose abuses of every kind and to demand their redress, provided that the exposure and demand be not couched in language calculated to disturb public tranquillity. Respectable and self-respecting journals do not employ inflammatory or seditious language, and such journals may be carried on without any restraint in Japan. Newspapers of the type of the *London Times*, the *Standard*, the *St. James's Budget*, the *Spectator*, the *Daily Telegraph*, the *Daily News*, the *Manchester Guardian*, the *Irish Times* and many another, might be published in Japan from year's end to year's end without coming into collision of any kind with the law. What more do we want? What more have we any title to ask for? If this question were soberly and dispassionately considered, the extravagance of the commotion made about it would be at once appreciated. But the fact is that every penalty inflicted on a newspaper by the strong arm of the law throws certain agitators into a fever of unreasoning excitement. They cannot conceive the notion that the law may possibly be right and the newspaper wrong. Their one dominant idea is:—

I must have liberty
Withal, as large a charter as the wind,
To blow on whom I please.

They do not observe the lesson constantly inculcated by their own conduct, that intemperance is the worst of all tyrannies, nor are they capable of appreciating Burke's immortal dictum:—"What is liberty without wisdom and without virtue? It is the greatest of all possible evils; for it is folly, vice, and madness, without tuition or restraint." It has been often remarked, and in truth the observation is beyond cavil, that while a portion of the foreign local press of this settlement perpetually inveighs against the Japanese press laws, the example of gross licence set by itself is eminently qualified to make freedom of the press abhorred by all moderate Japanese.

GIFTS OF ART OBJECTS TO THE NATION IN ENGLAND.

THE extraordinary munificence which prompts men in England to present splendid collections and great sums of money to the nation for the furnishing or buildings of galleries of art, finds no parallel, we believe, in any country save America. Last year we had the case of an anonymous donor who gave a quarter of a million sterling for the building of a new picture gallery, and now we have Mr. H. Tate offering to the nation a collection of pictures probably worth not less money. Mr. Tate's letter to the Chancellor of the Exchequer offering the pictures, reads as follows:—

To the Right Honourable G. J. Goschen, M.P., Chancellor of the Exchequer, &c.

Sir,—The offer of my pictures to the National Gallery having been declined for want of space, many of the suggestions which have been made from time to time respecting the establishment of a national gallery exclusively confined to works by British artists lead me to the consideration of the special and particular lines on which such an institution should be founded, and the functions it should be established to perform, whether the work is to be effected by Government or by private action and enterprise, or by a judicious combination of both.

If the Lords of the Treasury, acting for the Government, sanction the establishment of such an institution on the lines indicated and laid down in the schedule attached, and the Lords of the Treasury agree to render reasonable pecuniary assistance by means of annual grants for the purpose of enabling the administration to assist provincial museums by loans

of paintings, water-colours, drawings, sculpture, &c., on a system similar to that adopted with so much usefulness and success with objects of industrial and decorative art by the circulation department of the South Kensington Museum, or if the Government will grant sufficient aid for the maintenance of the gallery and its administration alone, leaving to the future the sending of some portion of the collection on loan to provincial museums:—

Upon these conditions I am prepared to present to the nation a selection of pictures out of my collection, as specified in the annexed list, numbering 57, and further to allow the committee of selection to take any of the others which I possess, and which they may think it desirable to have included in my gift.

It is, however, to be understood that I will only consent to a few of these pictures to be taken out of my possession when a suitable and separate gallery shall have been erected, or an existing one prepared for their reception, the structure and situation of which shall have previously met with my approval, and the Lords of the Treasury having undertaken to complete the same at the latest by June 30, 1892.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,

HENRY TATE.

Park Hill, Streatham Common, S. W., June 17.

SELECTED PICTURES FROM HENRY TATE'S COLLECTION.	
1—"The Vale of Rest".....	Sir John E. Mills, R.A.
2—"The Knight Knight".....	Sir John E. Mills, R.A.
3—"The North-West Passage".....	Sir John E. Mills, R.A.
4—"Merry: The Morning of the Massacre of St. Bartholomew".....	Sir John E. Mills, R.A.
5—"Her First Dance".....	W. Q. Orchardson, R.A.
6—"Her Mother's Voice".....	W. Q. Orchardson, R.A.
7—"The First Chord".....	W. Q. Orchardson, R.A.
8—"House with the Tide".....	J. C. Hook, R.A.
9—"Love's Young Dream".....	J. C. Hook, R.A.
10—"The Sea-weed Gatherer".....	J. C. Hook, R.A.
11—"The Possessed Swine".....	Briton Riviere, R.A.
12—"Ghosts at Play".....	Briton Riviere, R.A.
13—"Running the Blockade".....	Frank Holl, R.A.
14—"Hush".....	Frank Holl, R.A.
15—"Hush".....	Frank Holl, R.A.
16—"We and the Pavement".....	G. H. Roughton, R.A.
17—"And ye shall walk in Silk Attire".....	John Ead, R.A.
18—"Faith on both Sides".....	Peter Graham, R.A.
19—"A Rainy Day".....	Edwin Long, R.A.
20—"A Nubian Girl".....	L. Alma Tadema
21—"A Sesta".....	John Philip, R.A.
22—"The Promenade".....	John Linnell
23—"The Noonday Rest".....	John Linnell
24—"Contemplation of the Sea".....	Erskine Nicol
25—"Way-side Prayer".....	Erskine Nicol
26—"The Emigrants".....	A. C. How, A.R.A.
27—"The Light of James II. after the Battle of the Boyne".....	A. C. How, A.R.A.
28—"The Boat in the Life of Chopin".....	J. W. Waterhouse, A.R.A.
29—"Consulting the Oracle".....	J. W. Waterhouse, A.R.A.
30—"St. Barbara's Conversion".....	J. W. Waterhouse, A.R.A.
31—"The Lady of Shalott".....	Henry Moore, A.R.A.
32—"The Launch of the Lifeboat".....	Henry Moore, A.R.A.
33—"Blossoms".....	Henry Moore, A.R.A.
34—"Unpold Spell".....	Miss Thompson
35—"The Remnant of an Army".....	S. E. Waller
36—"Success".....	Keely Halswelle
37—"Langbourne".....	H. B. W. Davis, R.A.
38—"Mother and Son".....	E. Douglas
39—"Mother and Daughter".....	Albert Goodwin
40—"Sund of the Sailor".....	Stanhope Forbes
41—"The Death of the Bride".....	Denly Sadler
42—"Thursday".....	Denly Sadler
43—"A Good Story".....	T. R. Kenington
44—"The Orphans".....	J. Haynes Williams
45—"Dying Artist".....	John Syer
46—"Wells Cathedral".....	Water G. y.
47—"The Armour's Shop".....	F. D. Millet
48—"The Love Letter".....	B. W. Leader
49—"The Valley of the Loryway".....	E. Landseer, R.A.
50—"Uncle Tom and his Wife for Sale".....	E. Landseer, R.A.
51—"Abbotsford".....	R. Ansell, R.A.
52—"A Setter and Partridge".....	Constable
53—"Wildland Lock".....	Old Cruise
54—"Landscape".....	Etty
55—"The Bather".....	Etty
56—"Picture by Luke Fildes, R.A., now being painted."	
57—"Picture by Sir Frederic Leighton, R.A., now being painted."	

MORALITY.

No conceivable excuse could be urged by the *Japan Gazette* for the false slander which it uttered against this journal in its issue of September 30th. We thought it worth while to expose that slander, not because we were at all concerned to be thus maligned, but because a certain measure of good may be accomplished by laying bare the true character of the unscrupulous traducers who claim to represent public opinion in Yokohama. We understood that the process of exposure must hurt our contemporary, and were prepared to find it resort to a few of the general amenities which do duty for argument with it and its local congener. But we did not anticipate that it would seek to hide its dishonoured head under a falsehood so palpable as to be almost funny. To expose the new subterfuge it is only necessary to place the original statement and the subsequent one, side by side. Here they are:—

Japan Gazette, 10th Sept. Thereupon it was discovered that a bitter insult had been offered to Japan, and the Japanese were advised that they would do well to resent it. The advice was couched in so risqué a language that it was calculated to provoke their anger; it was translated into Japanese, and it has had its effect.

Japan Gazette, 6th Oct. We never said that its article of that date was the origin of the inimical feeling between Japanese and foreigners—that article was merely a continuation of a long series of years of similar diatribes written for the education of the Japanese Press.

We are familiar with the marvellous dexterity of

the *Japan Gazette's* conceptions. We know that its imagination can even embrace such phenomena as the "eagle-eye of obsequious officialdom" performing the operation of "smelling." But surely it cannot be suffering from such complete mental confusion as to imagine that the words "it was translated into Japanese" and "it has had its effect," can be construed as applying to "a long series of years of diatribes." It is a curious fact, never yet satisfactorily explained so far as we know, that public exhibitions of absolute indifference to the dictates of truth and honesty are condoned in the case of a newspaper, whereas any suspicion of such moral depravity on the part of a private individual would entail immediate social ostracism.

ANOTHER EXAMPLE.

It seems a pity that some useful occupation cannot be found for the ingenious persons in this Settlement who devote so much time and energy to attacking the *Japan Mail*. Their antics are really quite diverting, as soon as it is understood that the shame of such proceedings has ceased to be felt by the performers. To reach the *ultima Thule* in any line is an achievement, and truly we think that in respect of journalistic knavery this Settlement "beats the record." A very pretty estimate of public intelligence and public morality must be formed by men who day after day fabricate and utter airy falsehoods, confident that exposure is not probable, or that even if exposed their pretty trade will not be interrupted or their own honourable selves discredited. They add much eclat, do these chivalrous and conscientious champions, to the cause which they espouse, and their scrupulous truthfulness and impartiality in every-day matters confirm their title to sit in judgment between nation and nation. Examples of their fine methods abound in profusion. The latest is before us now. The *Japan Herald* avers that this journal published a "baseless slander" of the United States Minister "without a syllable of comment," and that we afterwards "apologised to the *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* for crediting it with the slander," but that "to the Minister whom the slanderous report was meant to injure, we did not tender 'a word of apology.'" The one grain of truth in this crafty fable is that our translator wrote *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* instead of *Hochi Shinbun*. All the rest is pure invention. On Saturday, September 27th, we inserted a translation of a paragraph from a vernacular journal. The United States Minister was not mentioned, though the paragraph seemed to point to him very plainly. After the translation we added the word:—"We give this rumour for what it is worth. The reticence of our Tokyo contemporary is well calculated to prevent denial or confirmation." So much for the *Japan Herald's* truthful assertion that we reproduced the report "without a syllable of comment." On the following Tuesday we published, by permission, a full and explicit denial of the rumour. So much for the *Japan Herald's* truthful suggestion that nothing was done by us to correct the false story. Three days afterwards we received a letter from the editor of the *Nichi Nichi Shinbun*, asking us to note that not his journal but the *Hochi Shinbun* had printed the original rumour. Now the story as told by the *Japan Herald*, while all these facts are fresh in the minds of the public, is that we published a "baseless slander" against the United States Minister "without a syllable of comment" and that we never took any step to correct it, whereas in truth we accompanied our translation with a distinct disclaimer of responsibility or credence, and were afterwards the first to publish an explicit contradiction of it. It is not without reluctance that we invite our readers' attention to these wearisome *exposés*. For ourselves, we know that fair men will judge us by what we actually write, not by the wonderful misrepresentations of our enemies. The only advantage, then, of exhibiting the guile of these scrupulous gentry is to gibbet their extremely ludicrous pretensions to represent respectable local opinion or to discuss questions of public interest and interstate policy. Is it really to be supposed that Yokohama's case has been en-

trusted to men who are incapable of even a scintilla of honesty, fairness or courtesy in their treatment of those that differ from them, and whose only weapons are calumny, invective and rudeness?

AN UNCONSCIOUS MERRY ANDREW.

We are brought somewhere into the close vicinity of the acme of absurdity when a journal like the *Japan Gazette* has the supreme insolence to charge the British missionaries of Tokyo with deliberate falsehood. Referring to the memorial recently presented by the British missionaries, our dainty contemporary says:—"We feel compelled to tell the memorialists that they know they have gilded the pill much too thickly, that they have visibly exaggerated." The missionaries spoke of "the successful efforts made by Japan" to bring her laws and law courts "into a position similar to that enjoyed by the most enlightened nations of the West." The *Japan Gazette*, that fine stickler for veracity and accuracy, interprets this as a declaration that "Japan has attained the status of the most enlightened nations of the West." Some flour and rouge, a peaked cap and a pair of wide pantaloons are alone wanting in the *Japan Gazette's* paraphernalia. Its mental equipment is admirably suited to the part for which nature evidently designed it, but printer's ink and a thesaurus do not form an appropriate stock in trade.

THE JAPANESE NAVAL MISSION TO TURKEY.

WRITING of the despatch to Turkey of the Japanese war vessels, *Kongo* and *Hiei Kan*, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* says if the question be properly looked at, many advantages to this country may be expected, as a set-off to the cost of the mission. One consideration is that an opportunity will be gained to show foreigners the progress Japan's navy has made in late years, and the stage of skill and discipline that her seamen have attained. Another advantage will consist in the important additions to the knowledge and experience of Japanese naval officials which such a cruise will afford; and, lastly, the act of thus sending home the survivors of the *Ertugroul* will be appreciated by Turkey as an indication of this country's kindly intentions towards her.

THE SENATE.

THE appears to be some probability that a few more days of life will be accorded to the Senate. The reason of this delay is said to be connected with the revised Criminal Code. The Cabinet has received the revised Code from the Senate, and in four or five days will have concluded its deliberations as to which of the Senate's suggestions should be adopted and which rejected. It is thought desirable that the Code should then pass once more through the hands of the Examining Committee of the Senate, and for that purpose the dissolution of the latter body is to be postponed for a week, or more probably a month. We were premature, therefore, in writing the Senate's obituary notice.

THE ROLL OF THE HOUSE OF PEERS.

THE House of Peers is now made up as follows:—

Imperial Houses	9
Dukes and Marquises	31
Members elected by Counts, Viscounts, and Barons	105
Imperial Nominees	56
Members chosen from among maximum tax payers	45
Total	236

Taking the number of members on the basis of the 7th article of the Law of the House of Peers, it may be said that the number can be increased to 272, so that 25 seats are still left for Imperial nominees.

A QUESTION OF JURISDICTION.

ACCORDING to Tokyo papers some doubt appears to have arisen as to the office having jurisdiction in connection with the wreck of the *Ertugroul*. The Yokohama diver, Masuda Mankichi, who started to begin operations for the recovery of bodies at the scene of the disaster,

first applied to the Wakayama Prefectural Office, but was referred to the Hyogo Prefectural Office, which in turn sent him back to Wakayama. After various essays, applications to the Naval and Military Departments having likewise failed, Masuda learned that the Home Office had invested the Marine Bureau with powers in the matter, and on applying to the Bureau was told finally that the Wakayama Prefectural Office would deal with his application.

CHOLERA RETURNS.

THE latest cholera returns derived from official sources are as follow:—

Prefecture or City.	Date.	New Cases.	Deaths.
Osaka	3rd	80	102
	3rd	73	79
	4th	72	51
	4th	74	53
	5th	55	68
Hyogo	3rd	51	61
	3rd	52	40
	4th	52	43
	4th	68	46
	5th	60	34
Nagasaki	3rd	28	37
	3rd	15	15
	3rd	1	1
	4th	1	1
	4th	8	6
Ozayama	3rd	35	53
	3rd	40	44
	4th	47	29
	4th	51	38
	5th	35	24
Hiroshima	3rd	54	35
	3rd	13	13
	4th	9	13
	4th	22	13
	5th	10	11
Yamaguchi	3rd	13	7
	3rd	13	15
	4th	9	10
	4th	11	6
	5th	13	3
Kagawa	3rd	11	9
	3rd	46	37
	4th	31	30
	4th	30	30
	5th	33	14
Fukuoka	3rd	33	19
	3rd	21	11
	4th	17	13
	4th	21	13
	5th	36	20
Oita	3rd	30	13
	3rd	12	11
	4th	8	3
	4th	8	6
	5th	7	11
Saga	3rd	7	7
	3rd	10	4
	4th	1	1
	4th	4	4
	5th	1	1
Kumamoto	3rd	2	5
	3rd	2	5
	4th	3	5
	4th	3	5
	5th	2	2

The numbers of cases and deaths since the commencement of the epidemic, inclusive of the above figures, appear in the following table:—

Prefecture or City.	Cases.	Deaths.
Osaka	7,577	5,038
Hyogo	2,490	1,930
Osaka	977	601
Hiroshima	1,337	919
Yamaguchi	1,862	1,476
Kagawa	886	473
Fukuoka	5,041	1,927
Oita	1,016	603
Saga	636	377
Kumamoto	1,017	493

The total number of cases and deaths in the following Cities and Prefectures not included in the above, from the commencement of the epidemic to the 8th instant, are:—

City or Prefecture.	Cases.	Deaths.
Tokyo	3,524	2,433
Kanagawa	2,573	1,499
Nagasaki	3,189	1,344
Ibaraki	57	10
Gumma	136	95
Kagoshima	254	159
Nara	271	200
Kyoto	776	532
Wakayama	636	606
Fluine	637	128
Chiba	1,108	727

CONVOCAION OF THE DIET.

Tokyo journals state that the Imperial decree convoking the Houses of Parliament will not be issued till the budget of the 24th fiscal year has been finally settled. The budget has already been amended five times, and other amendments are said to be still in contemplation, the intention of the Cabinet being to lay before the House such estimates as shall be least provocative of opposition.

THE NINE TOKYO NEWSPAPERS.

THE *Choya Shimbun* has appealed against the sentence of minor imprisonment and fine pro-

nounced upon it and eight of its metropolitan colleagues, for publishing a memorial attacking the sixty-seventh article of the Constitution. It has employed Messrs. Oyagi Bichiro and Hirata Joye to conduct the appeal. The law holds a journal blameless in respect of the publication of any matter which can be proved to have been inserted for the public good. We trust that the *Choya* may succeed in establishing that fact.

THE BANK OF JAPAN.

THE amounts of convertible notes and reserves in the Bank of Japan for the week ended the 4th instant were as follows:—

Convertible Notes.	Reserves and Securities.
YEN.	YEN.
Notes issued	Gold coin and bullion, 24,092,247
75,795,093	Silver coin and bullion, 19,424,726
	Public Loan Bonds, 13,476,450
	Treasury Bills
	Government Bills
	Other securities
	Commercial Bills
75,795,093	75,795,093

Of the above total issue of notes, the sum of yen 6,328,224 is in the treasury of the Bank, and yen 69,467,769 in actual circulation, the latter showing an increase of yen 1,064,586 as compared with yen 68,403,183 at the end of the previous week.

THE JAPANESE CONSULATE AT MANILA.

THE *Choya Shimbun*, noting the recent appointment of Mr. U. Yatabe, Consul at Manila, to a post in the Patents Bureau of the Agricultural and Commercial Department, conjectures that this step is preliminary to the abolition of the Consulate. The chief products of the Philippine Islands are sugar, hemp, and tobacco, the exports amounting in value to over yen 5,000,000 and the imports to yen 3,400,000. The trade with Japan is considerable, but the heat is much felt by Japanese.

THE JAPANESE PLENIPOTENTIARIES.

THE *Mainichi Shimbun* denies the rumour that Counts Goto and Saigo have been appointed plenipotentiaries for the new treaties. Our contemporary cites the opinion of "a certain person" who points out that, as the negotiations must take place in Tokyo, Viscount Aoki will always be able to avail himself of the advice of his brother Ministers. Plenipotentiaries therefore are not needed. But the *Mainichi Shimbun* is wrong.

THE IMPERIAL NOMINEES TO THE HOUSE OF PEERS.

COMMENTING on the nominations to the Upper house, the *Fiji Shimpō* says the list of the Imperial nominees has not yet appeared in the *Official Gazette*. The names published in the Tokyo journals do not include all those honoured, consisting only of Tokyo residents. The true list comprises such additional names as those of Mr. Fujita Denzaburo and Mr. Hirose Saitsei of Osaka, and will be issued in a day or two in the *Official Gazette*.

AN OFFICIAL PHENOMENON.

JAPANESE officialdom, as described by the critics who love to assail it, is a very deformed and ugly affair, but we were not quite prepared to learn that its organs had been thrown so entirely out of gear that the functions of one are performed by another. Such appears to be the case, however. "The eagle-eye of obsequious officialdom," says an eloquent local contemporary, "smelt an opportunity for prosecution."

THE PARACHUTIST IN JAPAN.

As will be seen from our advertising columns Mr. Percival Spencer, whose daring parachute feats have been noticed frequently of late in China and other eastern papers, intends to drop from his balloon at the Public Gardens on Sunday next. If fine weather be experienced, Mr. Spencer should have a big crowd of spectators.

SIGNOR MAJERONI.

We are glad to be able to inform our readers that, with the valuable co-operation of our leading lady and gentlemen amateurs, Signor Majeroni will appear at an early date in the successful farcical comedy "Our Italian cousin," the first rehearsal of which took place on Wednesday night.

THE SENATE ("GENRO-IN").

THE Senate came to an end on the last day of September, 1890. It held its final session, says the *Fiji Shimpō*, on that day, concluding such business as was capable of conclusion, abandoning such as demanded any lengthy discussion, and forwarding the whole to the Cabinet. The announcement of its dissolution was then read formally, and the Senators separated, some to become members of the House of Peers, some to fill other offices to which they have been appointed, and some to retire upon the pensions allotted to them. The Senate had been in existence for fifteen years and five months when its death warrant was issued. Looking back to the time when it was created and to the hopes suggested by the fact, we become vividly conscious once more of the small interval that separates constitutional Japan from the days of her early apprenticeship to Western civilization. The Imperial Decree calling the Senate into existence ran as follows:—

(COPY OF IMPERIAL DECREE)

At the time of Our ascension of the Throne, when We became the Head of affairs, We summoned together the whole of Our servants, and on five several points took oath before Heaven:—We determined the welfare of the country, and sought after the means whereby to ensure the peace and tranquillity of the people. By the favour of the spirit of Our ancestors, and also by the exertions of Our servants, We have happily attained the slight degree of tranquillity of the present day. But, upon consideration, We find that Our assumption of power dates from no far distant period, and that, as regards the pacification of the interior of Our country, there are by no means few matters that have to be set on foot, or freshly regulated. Wherefore, We, now extending the spirit of Our oath, do here found the *Genro-in*, and thereby widen out the fountain head of the establishment of laws, and do create the *Dai-shin-in*, and thereby render firm the powers of careful judicial procedure:—We likewise call together the local officials, causing them to state the opinions of the people, plan the public welfare, and, by degrees setting on foot a well founded political fabric for Our country and homes, are desirous that each and every one of you should partake of its benefits.

Do you, then, abstain from becoming habituated to olden customs through adhesion to former ideas, and beware, likewise, of paying little heed to your advancing steps, or of being slow to act. Give, then, due attention to Our words, and use your best endeavours in regard thereto.

The publication of this Decree on April 14th, 1875, was hailed with much satisfaction by the nation. The vernacular press eulogised the wisdom and liberality of the Government, and wrote as though the morning of representative institutions had dawned for Japan. The *Choya Shimbun*, for example, then as now an exceptionally outspoken journal, published the following pæan:—

Rejoice our 30,000,000 of brethren and dance with joy! Give thanksgiving to the kindness of our Emperor for having granted to us, in Imperial Decree of the 14th of April, the means of raising ourselves to the level of enlightenment of European and American peoples.

Japan is situated on the easternmost edge of Asia and is a neighbour of China; therefore all her customs and laws were originally derived from China, and her people are accustomed to an absolute monarchy and to live under a despotic administration. We have been perpetually humbled and have never received freedom of conscience, and such being the case have always proved unequal in power to Europe and America. It seemed, indeed, as if like China, humiliation was

to be our lot. Recently, however, the errors of our administrative system became manifest, and we have introduced such reforms as seemed advisable; but the old forms of despotism still lingered, and Japan was like a convalescent slowly recovering from a tedious illness. There are among us those who alleged that an absolute rule was a good form of Government, and that in seeking to change it our people were unnecessarily anxious. But H. M. the Emperor in his benign wisdom, penetrated with the excellent governmental systems of other peoples, has consulted with his advisers, and by the decree which we now celebrate has conferred happiness and satisfaction upon the people of his Empire.

Henceforth our nation will grow in zealotness, in power and wealth. We shall not be deemed inferior to European peoples and the lineage of our Emperor will be rendered everlasting.

It seems strange to us, guided by our present knowledge, that so much practical importance should have been attached to an event of really small moment in the history of Japanese constitutional development. We cannot but think that, even in those comparatively dark days, experience ought to have furnished materials for a more appreciative view of the situation. The first assembly convoked after the Restoration, not without flourish of official trumpets or voices of popular applause, was exclusively composed of hereditary nobles and their esquires. A more distinctly aristocratic and conservative body of men never came together. Almost immediately they proved themselves entirely out of touch with the spirit of the time, and were incontinently sent home without having accomplished anything beyond the provocation of some ridicule. Neither in the calling nor in the dismissal of this assembly did the faintest whisper of the popular voice make itself audible. Then followed a proposal to hold periodical meetings of the local officials, a measure compared by foreign observers to the assemblies of burgesses of towns in England. It is singular to find, said these observers, that in Japan freedom of the press is followed by the conferring of political power on the people, whereas in England the burgesses of towns were assembled long before the birth of the first principles of liberty of speech, and even so late as the reign of GEORGE III. the laws enacted and the prosecutions directed against the press were of the fiercest kind. Anyone now comparing the Japanese *Chihokan Kaigi* (deliberative meeting of local officials) with the English assemblies of burgesses in mediæval times, would be deservedly ridiculed. The members of the Japanese body were officials holding office from the Government and in no sense representing the people, except in so far as their experience as local governors enabled them to give expression to the needs of the districts they presided over. Their periodical assembly in the capital to advise the Government was nevertheless an evidence of the latter's desire to widen the sphere of counsel, and establish closer touch with the body of the nation. More than this could scarcely have been said of the Senate either. It consisted originally of certain members of the Government who had previously

formed the Councils of the Left and Right (*Sa-in* and *Yu-in*), but by degrees additions were made to its numbers chiefly from the ranks of officials temporarily deprived of executive functions. In fact men soon came to recognise it as a convenient retreat for officials of standing whose retirement from active service was suggested by reasons of State. Called into being, as we have seen, on April 14th, 1885, the ceremony of opening it did not take place until the following July, when the EMPEROR in person delivered a speech to the members, declaring:—"We now establish you as a Legislative Body. Let each one of you act harmoniously with his colleagues and discharge fully the duties of his office, earnestly seeking to promote the welfare of all classes of the people." Naturally this gracious commission augmented the hopes fixed by the nation on the newly constituted body. But when the Senate brought its first session to an end on the 12th of August, and when men observed that of the numerous proclamations and notifications issued during the four months of its deliberations, not one had proceeded from it, they began to understand that its functions were limited to advice or revision, and that it was not to figure openly as a legislative body. Less than a month after the publication of the Decree calling it into existence, the Senate had petitioned that no law should be made without its consent, thus seeking to raise itself to parliamentary rank. What answer, if any, the Government made to this petition we do not know, but it is certain that in practice the Senate's consent was never considered a necessary preliminary to the issue of a law. The great majority of the important laws enacted during the fifteen years of its existence did, as a matter of fact, pass through its hands, and not a few projects of law originated from it, but inasmuch as it was not even consulted in some cases there could be no doubt that it possessed neither the recognised power of veto nor that of sanction. Its nondescript character never underwent any improvement. In the great re-organization of the Government at the commencement of 1886, when Count ITO became Minister President of State, the Senate was not even mentioned. It continued to receive accessions to its ranks in the shape of Prefects, Governors, Vice-Ministers, and other officials for whose services in an executive capacity the Government had no immediate need, and it continued also to restore to active life from time to time such of its members as the Authorities saw reason to employ. Thus, coming soon to be regarded as a species of shelf upon which "men with claims" could be placed and kept for future use, the *Genro-in* naturally ceased to impress the nation with any strong sense of respect. Nevertheless it worked on steadily, often introducing useful amendments into projects of law submitted for its

examination, and sometimes managing to postpone, temporarily or permanently, enactments which would have proved distasteful to the nation. The number of Senators was not fixed, nor did the Government think it necessary to set a publicly determined limit to it. At the time of dissolution the Senate contained 63 members, of whom 27 are understood to have been nominated to the House of Peers, and others may still have that honour. Many conjectures were formed as to the method which would be adopted by the Government in dissolving the Senate, but the question was finally disposed of last June by the issue of an Ordinance containing Pension Regulations, which would evidently apply to the Senators equally with all other officials. According to these Regulations, three classes of persons are eligible for pensions: first, officials retiring by permission after having attained the age of sixty and served at least fifteen years; secondly, officials retiring by permission, after a like minimum of service, owing to injuries incurred or sickness contracted in the discharge of their duties; and thirdly, officials whose office is abolished after they have served fifteen years at least. The amount of the pension varies from $\frac{1}{4}$ th to $\frac{1}{3}$ th of the salary received at the time of retirement, and there is a provision that though pensions cease to be payable should their recipients be re-appointed to office, this rule does not apply to the case of pensioners who become members of lawfully constituted assemblies. Such Senators, therefore, as are nominated to the House of Peers by the EMPEROR, will receive the annual allowance of 800 *yen* attaching to membership of the Diet, in addition to a pension varying from one-fourth to a little more than one-third of their salary as Senators. Thus the Senate disappears from the Japanese body politic after a more or less useful existence of nearly fifteen years and a half. Its history shows that it had several illustrious Presidents and many able members, but on the whole the nation will remember it chiefly on account of the contrast between the hopes inspired by its creation and the disappointment caused by its performance.

A BATCH OF OFFENDING NEWSPAPERS.

A JUDGMENT of unusually wide effect has been pronounced against Tokyo newspapers. Last month a political association called the *Kansei Nijuni-shu-Kai* (Society of Twenty-two provinces of Kansei) prepared two memorials, one addressed to the Cabinet, the other to the Minister President of State. The former was translated in these columns; the latter we hesitated to reproduce, deeming it an obvious breach of the laws of the land. Copies of both memorials seem to have been forwarded by the Kansei Association to a large number of vernacular newspapers, for, almost simultaneously with their re-

ceipt by the Cabinet, they appeared in print in various parts of the Empire. Now, according to the Press Regulations any newspaper publishing, without official permission, a memorial addressed to any branch of the Government exposes itself to punishment. This rule, whether it be in itself wise or unwise, is perfectly easy to obey, and violations of it have always been punished as indicating more or less indifference to the dictates of the law. In the case we are considering, however, the strong probability is that an offence committed by so large a number of newspapers would not have been visited by the imposition of any actual penalty, and that a reprimand would have been held to meet the requirements of the case. This view is borne out by the fact that no official notice whatever has been taken of the publication of the first memorial, which recommended the resignation of the Cabinet.* It was a prettily worded and somewhat romantic document, actuated avowedly by a desire to see the continuity of history preserved, and by solicitude for the fair fame of the members of the Cabinet. The SHOGUN had, of his own free will, surrendered his executive authority into the hands of the EMPEROR at the time of the Restoration, thereby preventing bloodshed and disorder, and earning the gratitude and applause of the nation. The *Daimyo* had, of their own free will, surrendered their fiefs to the EMPEROR at the time of the Centralization of the Government, thereby exciting the admiration and wonder of the world. Moreover, speaking generally, wisdom prescribes that when men have achieved fame, they should retire gracefully on their laurels. Therefore the Cabinet Ministers were urged to complete the record, and to consult their own reputation by tendering their resignations to the EMPEROR on the eve of the institution of parliamentary government. All this was within the bounds of fair criticism, and, as we have said, no official notice was taken of its publication. But the second memorial touched on very different ground. Our readers will doubtless remember the much discussed sixty-seventh article of the Constitution, which says:—"Those already fixed expenditures based by the Constitution on the powers appertaining to the EMPEROR, and such expenditures as may have arisen by the effect of law, or that appertain to the legal obligations of the Government, shall be neither rejected nor reduced by the Imperial Diet, without the concurrence of the Government." With regard to this the Kansei memorialists raised a curious point. After setting forth, with some insistence, the fact that the Government is just as much bound to abide by the Constitution as are the

* Owing to some misunderstanding this memorial has been described as the cause of the journals' punishment, but in truth it had nothing to do with the affair.

governed, the memorialists declared that by this sixty-seventh article the Government is virtually set above the EMPEROR, since its concurrence can enable Parliament to reject or reduce expenditures required for the exercise of the Imperial Prerogatives. The memorialists expressed confidence that the extraordinary power thus vested in the Government ran no risk of being abused by men such as the present Ministers of State, whose "loyalty and executive ability will go down as patterns to a hundred generations." But evil Ministers might at any moment be found at the helm of State, and then national misfortunes might be brought about by violations of the Imperial Prerogative. "The Constitution," they proceeded, "is sacred as the basis of national stability to all ages. It should be equally inviolable by high and by low. But such a provision as this sixty-seventh article makes everything depend on the men in power. The polity stands no longer on a foundation of laws, but on a foundation of persons. To receive from the SOVEREIGN, and to exercise, such independent power does not become subjects. Your Excellencies should restore this power, and make it clear that no such independent authority is vested in the Government by the Constitution. The official occupying the position of Minister President of State, stands between SOVEREIGN and subject. On him devolves the duty of adopting a far-seeing policy. But such an article as this sixty-seventh, which violates the Imperial Prerogative and endangers the welfare of the nation, should be corrected by restoring the independent power it confers. This duty devolves upon all the Ministers in office at the time of the promulgation of the Constitution; on Counts KURODA, ITO, OKUMA, INOUE, YAMADA, MATSUKATA, and OYAMA, and on Viscounts MORI and YENOMOTO. Your Excellencies now know the wrong, and should at once take steps to correct your previous error, so that the nation may be saved from long misfortune." Such was the memorial, remarkable as the first protest publicly uttered by any Japanese subject or subjects against the terms of the Constitution. In the preamble to the Constitution, His Majesty the EMPEROR makes the following declaration:—"When in the future it may become necessary to amend any of the provisions of the present Constitution, We or Our successors shall assume the initiative right and submit a project for the same to the Imperial Diet. The Imperial Diet shall pass its vote upon it, according to the conditions imposed by the present Constitution, and in no otherwise shall our descendants or our subjects be permitted to attempt any alteration thereof." It is evident, therefore, that the Kansei memorialists acted in distinct violation of the terms of the Imperial Decree forming the

Preamble to the Constitution, and that the newspapers publishing the memorial committed a grave offence. After considerable delay and debate their punishment has been decided; namely, a month's confinement without labour for the publishers and editors, together with a fine of 25 *yen*. Another apparent penalty has also been imposed, namely, the dispersion of the type used in the printing of the memorial. The language employed in stating this penalty is obscure, and an idea prevailed at first that the confiscation of the newspapers' type and plant was intended. But further enquiry shows that nothing is contemplated except such steps as will prevent further printing of the offending matter with the same type—namely, the "distribution" of the latter.

Such are the facts of an affair which has brought a criminal sentence on the staff of nine newspapers: the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, *Mainichi Shimbun*, *Nippon Asahi Shimbun*, *Tokyo Shimpō*, *Kokumin Shimbun*, *Ukyo Shimbun*, *Choya Shimbun*, and *Tokyo Koron*. The sentence seems severe, for though minor imprisonment involves nothing more than confinement without labour of any kind, it is still imprisonment. One cannot but think that a heavy fine would have met the requirements of the case. We trust that the day is not far distant when censorship of the press will be altogether dispensed with in Japan. The world does not reason about these matters: it only notices the broad fact that journalists are fined and imprisoned, and infers an arbitrary administration and an imperfectly developed state of public opinion.

RECKLESS SLANDER.

AS far as possible we make it a rule not to waste our readers' time or our own space by replying to the false charges preferred against us by our local contemporaries. Anybody gifted with an ordinary sense of justice must at once perceive the absurdity of these accusations, and to the opinions of people not thus gifted we are naturally indifferent. But there are cases where silence cannot be properly preserved, and such a case has just occurred. In its issue of the 30th ultimo the *Japan Gazette*, after briefly describing the meeting held by the foreign residents to protest against Treaty Revision, proceeds thus:—

Thereupon it was discovered that a bitter insult had been offered to Japan, and the Japanese were advised that they would do well to resent it. The advice was couched in words calculated to provoke their anger; it was translated into Japanese, and it has had its effect. A visitor to Yokohama to-day will see the police doubled throughout the Settlement; nightly meetings, got up by paid agitators sent down from the Capital to promote discord, which the native merchants and gentry of the place, be it said to their credit, abstain from attending; the minds of men and women perturbed by anonymous letters and inflammatory speeches, threatening assassination; the houses and business places of some of the residents guarded night and day by

special constables; men meeting in the streets, and, in lieu of the usual greetings, congratulating one another that they are still alive; anxious women afraid to accept invitations to social gatherings for fear of threatened dynamite explosions, and trembling in their homes all day until the returning footsteps of their husbands reassure them and dispel their apprehensions, only to be reawakened on the following morning. This is no over-drawn sketch; it is the actual state of affairs; and the literary trickster who is responsible for it all looks calmly on, and says the Japanese do well to be exasperated. But for the exasperation of his countrymen he has no concern, he deifies it as a parody of civilization. Let him be under no misapprehension; he will have his deserts. So long as Yokohama exists, his action will never be forgiven or forgotten.

With this wildly exaggerated and painfully humiliating picture of a foreign settlement thrown into a state of terror and social disorganization by the vague threats of two or three *soshi*, we have nothing to do. It is plainly the outcome of a distraught imagination. The points which deserve reference are these:—First, that advice calculated to provoke Japanese anger was given by this journal. Secondly, that the advice was translated into Japanese. Thirdly, that being so translated, it produced grave effects. And, fourthly, that the effects are "nightly meetings in Yokohama got up by paid agitators sent down from the capital to promote discord," the sending of "anonymous letters" and the delivery of "inflammatory speeches, threatening assassination;" the doubling of the police in the Settlement; the posting of guards at the houses and business-places of some of the residents, and in general a reign of terror throughout Yokohama. Now let us see what are the simple facts of the case. The meeting of foreign residents was held on the 11th of September, and the article said to have caused all this commotion appeared in the *Japan Daily Mail* of September 17th, that is to say, on the sixth day after the meeting. There can be no manner of doubt as to the particular article impugned, because it has elsewhere been specifically indicated by the *Japan Gazette*, and because in no other article of ours has any attempt been made to analyse the sentiments of the Japanese people in respect of the Yokohama meeting. It was an article more than one half of which was devoted to vindicating the actions of the British merchants against the attacks of the Japanese press, while the remainder contained an admission that the Japanese, from their point of view, had reason for indignation, an explanation of the causes that justified their indignation, and a warning that to yield to their angry feelings would be to injure the interests they had at heart. We do not, however, pause to discuss the actual language of the article or to show, what must have been patent to every one reading it, that it contained nothing justifying the character assigned to it by the *Japan Gazette*. Our purpose is sufficiently served by directing attention to the date of the article's publication—September 17th. Now in the five days separating the 17th from the day on which the meeting was held,

the Resolutions adopted at the meeting and the general nature of the demonstration had been discussed by nearly the whole vernacular press in terms of greater or less umbrage and indignation. It was, in truth, by way of reply to these utterances that our article was penned, as its opening sentences distinctly stated. Thus the charge that it caused the indignation of the Japanese is disposed of by the fact that it was itself evoked by journalistic expressions of that indignation. Proceeding to further details, there appeared in our issue of the 16th instant—i.e. the day before the publication of the impugned article, the following editorial note:—

The *Choya Shimbun* has the following:—"Great indignation has been caused among thoughtful persons in Tokyo by the meeting held by British subjects opposed to treaty revision. Messrs. Nagao Kageshige and Kobayashi Sentaro, holding that the action of the foreign merchants of Yokohama in opposing treaty revision is an outrage to Japan's national dignity, have sent to the Japanese traders of Yokohama a very strong letter urging them, if they desire to show their patriotism, to adopt the same plan as that pursued on the occasion of the silk dispute, namely, to form a combination among themselves and put a stop to all transactions with men who engage in attempts to injure Japan. If this plan be adopted, the writers think that the association of foreigners will soon be dissolved. Other persons in Tokyo have organized an association called the *Kinkisha*—brocade club, in allusion to the flag of Japan—three members of which, Messrs. Soji Tokusaburo, Inui Rokuro, and Kaneko Ryoichi, are to proceed to Yokohama and interview the leaders of the movement on the British side, at the same time organizing a large lecture meeting with the object of commercially ostracizing Englishmen."

The *Shogyo Shimpō* says:—"In consequence of the decision to put an end to treaty revision, of which movement English residents of Yokohama were the promoters, two gentlemen of Yokohama, Messrs. Sakai and Yenomoto, organized a movement to open communications with foreigners on the subject. Fortunately at the Kodo Club in the same place a meeting of committee-men was opened on the 13th instant, and these, being of the same way of thinking as Messrs. Sakai and Yenomoto, decided to choose representatives and approach the foreign committee. Steps are now being actively taken to arrange preliminaries."

From these extracts it will be seen that great indignation was described as existing in Tokyo before the appearance of our article; that a plan had already been formed to boycott the foreign merchants who had taken part in the anti-revision demonstration; that an association had already been organized to appeal to public opinion against the action of foreigners, and that the lecture meeting which we are accused of having caused, had already been planned. These simple and incontrovertible facts completely dispose of the false accusations preferred against us. But there is one more point to be noted. An article published in an English local paper can obviously exercise little influence on the Japanese unless it is translated into Japanese and reproduced by the vernacular press. Plainly conscious of this, the *Japan Gazette* is careful to say:—"It was translated into Japanese and has had its effect." Now the article was not translated or reproduced by any vernacular newspaper in Tokyo.

So, then, the case stands thus: an article published in reply to the angry utterances of the Japanese press is accused

Original from

of having provoked those utterances; an article published the day after a state of indignation had been declared by the Japanese newspapers as existing in Tokyo, is accused of having caused that indignation; an article published after arrangements for holding a lecture meeting had been publicly announced, is accused of having been the origin of that meeting; an article published four days after constables had been detached for the protection of the promoters of the Yokohama Meeting, is accused of having brought about the state of affairs which resulted in such an exceptional measure of protection; an article which was never translated or reproduced by the vernacular press is said to have been translated into Japanese and, by being thus brought to the notice of Japanese readers, to have produced effects of the gravest and most alarming character.

We need not pursue the subject. A lying slander of the most malicious description has been uttered by the *Japan Gazette*. To be the object of such slanders cannot cause us any concern. To be their utterer is to incur the scorn of all honest men. How far the judgment of persons resorting to these criminal inventions is to be trusted in respect of the important international questions which they habitually undertake to discuss, we leave their patrons to decide.

AN EASY EXPLANATION.

WE observe that persistent efforts are still made to establish the existence of a glaring discrepancy between Count OKUMA'S scheme of Treaty Revision and Viscount AOKI'S. A knowledge of the two schemes ought, one imagines, to precede any honest attempt to compare them. No such knowledge, however, is possessed by the critics. What the Yokohama public were told of Viscount AOKI'S programme by the most active promoters of the Meeting of the 11th ultimo was both fragmentary and erroneous, and that, of course, represents the sum of this community's information. We should obviously be precluded, however, from anything like an accurate comparative analysis of the present scheme of Treaty Revision even though we possessed sufficient acquaintance with its details, which we do not. To the promoters of the Yokohama Meeting and their journalistic supporters, we abandon the pastime of entering the lists of discussion equipped with ignorance.

The single item on which a charge of grave discrepancy is preferred against the schemes and an accusation of gross inconsistency against us—who are assumed to have discussed and advocated Viscount AOKI'S programme, though in truth we have never attempted any such task—the single item is that the guarantee as to employing foreigners in the capacity of Judges was included in Count OKUMA'S programme

and is excluded from Viscount AOKI'S. That much and that much only is known. Now we have not the slightest hesitation in admitting that we pronounced Count OKUMA'S terms to be, in our opinion, the best which Japan was then entitled to claim. We have not the slightest hesitation in admitting that we denounced in very strong language the opposition offered to those terms. We have not the slightest hesitation in admitting that we failed to detect any violation of the Constitution in the granting of such terms by Japan. We have not the slightest hesitation in admitting that we praised the Judges guarantee, not only as furnishing an institution which would stand between Japan and international disputes, but also as providing an excellent adjunct to the educational aids of the Japanese Bench. We have not the slightest hesitation in admitting that we ridiculed the idea of Japan's expecting foreign Governments to abandon their position of vantage unconditionally. All this we admit freely. We go further also. We say that we regard the Judges guarantee as the best solution ever suggested, and that we bitterly regret the short-sighted and unstatesmanlike policy which betrayed the negotiators of 1886 into so elaborating and disfiguring the original basis of Revision that it became wholly incapable of acceptance or practical execution. Then and then only the opportunity existed of carrying through the Judges guarantee in a satisfactory form. But the opportunity was lost irrevocably.

What then is the present position, and where are the tremendous inconsistencies of which we have been guilty? The Judges guarantee has passed hopelessly out of the field of practical politics. No Japanese Cabinet could venture to grant it, and no foreign Government, knowing Japan's condition, would think of demanding it. To insist upon its preservation would be the purest futility. What we or any other foreign journalist may think about the conflict between such a guarantee and the Constitution, is no longer of the smallest consequence. The Japanese nation has decided the question for itself, and unquestionably it has the sole right to decide it. The decision is, we believe, very unfortunate. The Judges guarantee would have satisfied foreigners more fully than any other guarantee can, and would have helped Japan both at home and abroad. But we are not children to cry out for the moon, and the moon is no farther from our grasp than is the Judges guarantee from being tolerated by the Japanese nation. If the pleasant relations between foreigners and Japanese are to continue, the Treaty-Revision problem must be disposed of, and to cling to an obviously impossible method of solution would be to play the part of mere obstructionists.

There is another point which must be noted, namely, the value of the last form

of the Judges guarantee from a foreign standpoint. Judges of foreign origin were to sit in the Supreme Court only. In order to reach that Court the question of an error of law by a lower tribunal would have had to be raised. An error of fact would not have constituted a valid ground of appeal. It is asserted that in practice this limit could generally have been evaded. But HER MAJESTY'S Government did not think so, and not thinking so, came to the conclusion that the Judges guarantee, as proposed last year, was illusory and unworthy of recognition by a Great Power. Yet even in that reduced form the Japanese nation revolted utterly against the guarantee. How are these facts to be dealt with—first, that the British Government declines to attach any value to the presence of a few foreign experts on the Bench of the Supreme Court; secondly, that Japan is finally resolved not to have aliens on her Bench at all? Can anything be more unjust than to accuse us of contradiction because we last year fought for a scheme which we this year recognise to have passed out of the field of practical politics?

There is yet another point; our often repeated statement that Japan cannot reasonably expect Foreign Governments to abandon their position of vantage unconditionally. It is very amusing to see how our traducers treat this attitude of ours. Whenever we have occasion incidentally to express such a view, they cry out with feigned astonishment, "Hulloa! Here is a new position taken by the *Japan Mail*. It has changed its tone." Whenever, on the contrary, they hope to convict us of inconsistency, then they freely quote our former declarations as to the uselessness of Japan's seeking to obtain what she wants gratis. These controversial vagaries are of no importance. The plain fact is that we have never advocated the unconditional surrender of Consular Jurisdiction, and that we do not now advocate it. The course of events has precluded the guarantee which, of all others, we should have liked to see adopted. The course of events has gradually narrowed the circle of possible guarantees until very few are left to choose from. But we have perfect confidence in the ability of the British Government to safeguard the interests of its subjects, and we do not for an instant believe that any reckless sacrifice of those interests is likely to be made by the Foreign Office. What is more, our information as to the present basis of Treaty Revision convinces us that the apprehensions entertained by some foreign residents are illfounded and chimerical.

HORSFORD'S ACID PHOSPHATE MAKES DELICIOUS LEMONADE.

A teaspoonful added to a glass of hot or cold water, and sweetened to the taste, will be found refreshing and invigorating.

INSURANCE SOCIETIES AND CHILD-MURDER IN ENGLAND.

THE Bishop of PETERBOROUGH has carried the second reading in the House of Lords of a Bill to amend the law relating to insurances on the lives of children. The objects of the bill are two: (1) to limit the sum for which a child's life may be insured (from £4-£8), (2) to secure that the money shall not come into the hands of the parents. It is a terrible disgrace to a civilised country that such a law should be necessary. That it is necessary, has been shown by the most incontestable evidence—derived from four or five trustworthy sources. The testimony collected by the Bishop of PETERBOROUGH and presented in the House of Lords went to show that there are English fathers and English mothers who cannot be trusted not to murder their children; who do not possess even the affection of brutes. Judges, doctors, and coroners are unanimous in asserting that child-murder is common in England; and that the chief object in perpetrating the crime is the addition of a few pounds to the weekly earnings of the parents. Mr. Justice DAY describes the societies which insure children's lives as seemingly "instituted for the perpetration of murder." Mr. Justice WILLS "is unable to say how strongly he feels about societies which tempt people to work the destruction of their own children." A medical man in Birmingham says that, to his painful knowledge, "it is absolutely true that hundreds of children are murdered in that town every year." Another declares himself satisfied that "any number of children are murdered for the sake of the insurance money." Coroner after coroner tells the same story. The child-murder which the new bill is designed to prevent is not such as usually forms the subject of a legal inquiry. It is murder by neglect, by wilful exposure to damp and cold, by supplying insufficient or unwholesome food, by allowing incipient diseases to do their cruel work unchecked, or by failure to protect a child from the danger of infection.

This trade in human life is infinitely more ignominious than the infanticide of China of which we have heard so much of late. In the case of the Chinese, the crime is committed with a semi-religious motive. They deem it a disgrace to be born a female, and think death preferable to the prolongation of an ignominious existence. Much as the Chinaman loves money, what we regard as his greatest crime—infanticide—is perpetrated with no sordid motive. But in Europe, side by side with all that is best and most refined, there exist even in this progressive age elements of barbarity for which we can find no parallel in non-Christian records. If the higher types of human nature are developing into gods, the lower ones are rapidly becoming

devils. The struggle for existence in the West is waxing fiercer and fiercer, and there is an ever-growing class of men and women prepared to sacrifice every moral feeling they possess on the shrine of what they deem to be the necessities of the time. The Bishop of PETERBOROUGH'S bill will doubtless prove a powerful check on the crime it is designed to prevent, and hence will meet with the approval of the nation; but the state of mind which renders child-murder for the sake of money a temptation will, we fear, remain unaffected by the new legislation. Baffled in one direction, it will but turn to another. Some new form of fiendishness will be devised. There is no denying that some of the social evils which have developed during the past ten years are too deeply rooted, and too much the outcome of circumstances beyond official control to be remedied by even the wisest legislation. To us the existence of a necessity for such a bill as that brought forward by the Bishop of PETERBOROUGH, suggests questions of the gravest import as to the future of the sadly over-populated places where the perpetrators of these dreadful crimes are condemned to reside. How many of the characteristics of modern crime may be traced to the intensity of the struggle for survival that exists in the West, is a question which forces itself on the attention of moralists and sociologists alike at the present time. That there is much in the social soil of our modern Western life to aid the growth of crime is admitted on all sides. But as yet no effectual remedy has been found. We trust that the Bishop of PETERBOROUGH'S attempt to suppress child-murder will open men's eyes to the fact that in the lower strata of humanity there exist evil powers and tendencies of sufficient strength to shake the whole fabric of society.

CURRENT LITERATURE.

A few of the great English journals, notably the *Spectator*, publish literary supplements once a month or once in six months, and in these supplements are to be found materials for forming a trustworthy judgment of the subjects that agitate the public mind at the moment and the style that finds favour in educated circles. In Japan this interesting innovation has not as yet made much progress. Still, it has been established, and notable among examples of it is the semi-annual supplement of the *Kokumin-no-Tomo*, a periodical which commands some of the best literary talent of the country. The summer supplement is now before us, and we proceed to summarise its lighter portion for the sake of readers interested in the study of modern Japanese literature.

Mr. YODA HYAKUSEN, one of the most popular *literati* of the older generation, contributes a historical sketch well worthy of perusal. About the middle of the fifteenth century, in the reign of the Emperor GO-HANAZONO, there lived a recluse in a suburb of Kyōto. Some five or

six and fifty years of age, he wore the dark dress of a priest, but his mien and a sword scar on the left temple, showed that the stole and the alb had not always been his companions. One autumn evening, a young man of refined appearance presented himself at the hermit's door, and was received by the latter as his nephew. The youth came to inform his uncle of the assassination of the Shogun YOSHINORI by AKAMATSU MAN-YU, and of the latter's suicide on being pursued by the Shogun's troops. This intelligence moved the hermit so deeply that his nephew pressed him for an explanation, and there ensued a long conversation, from which the following story is unravelled:—There lived at Chihaya, in the Province of Kawachi, a great grandson of the renowned loyalist general KUSUNOKI MASASHIGE. His name was MITSUMASA, a soldier of proved courage and eminent ability. On one occasion he displayed rare zeal and capacity in fighting for the cause of the Imperial House but the campaign proved unsuccessful on account of the treacherous conduct of his associate HATAKEYAMA MITSUMASA, who was only too glad to conclude peace with the enemy, the House of ASHIKAGA. From that time KUSUNOKI lived in strict retirement at Chihaya, the original seat of his family. There he divided his time between books and hunting. One day going out hunting, he was urging his horse over a mountain road, when he observed before him a traveller assailed by two highwaymen. He hastened to succour the wayfarer, and speedily put the thieves to flight. The traveller, while thanking his deliverer, regarded him with surprise and asked whether he was not the celebrated KUSUNOKI MITSUMASA. Answered in the affirmative, he proceeded to explain that he himself was one of the surviving followers of NITTA YOSHIMUNE, who had fallen fighting in the cause of the Nancho line of the Imperial House, and that he had come to Chihaya expressly to plan with KUSUNOKI the subjugation of the House of ASHIKAGA, usurpers of the Imperial power. KUSUNOKI welcomed the man—TORIYAMA KUNITOKI—hospitably, led him to his house, and found in him a clever and willing lieutenant. TORIYAMA was indefatigable in endeavouring to persuade KUSUNOKI to raise his standard against the House of ASHIKAGA, but KUSUNOKI invariably declined to move, alleging that he had entirely forsaken the world. The two had lived thus for some years in rustic tranquillity, when one morning they received news that a body of the Shogunate troops was advancing to arrest them. TORIYAMA and two other followers, SHINGUJI MASAMICHI, and TATENO MITSUHIRO, advised KUSUNOKI to muster his people and resist the Shogun's troops. But KUSUNOKI laughed at the idea, and sending his wife and son to the Province of Kii under the escort of SHINGUJI and TATENO, calmly awaited his fate with TORIYAMA. When the troops surrounded his house, he opened a parley and explained that he had done nothing to deserve the wrath of the Shogun. Perceiving, however, that his remonstrances had no effect, he took his bow and arrow and succeeded in driving his assailants out of the enclosure, on which he set fire to his house and managed to escape unnoticed amid the confusion and smoke. He was soon joined by TORIYAMA, and the two fled to the neighbouring province of Yamato, where they took refuge in a farmer's house. While there, TORI-

YAMA coming back one evening from an excursion in the vicinity, told his master that the Shogun YOSHINORI was expected to arrive at Nara next day, and persuaded him to avail himself of this rare opportunity to be avenged on the merciless tyrant. KUSUNOKI, now desperate and enraged, eagerly took the advice. Next day, at the appointed hour, he repaired to a wooded hill, over which lay the Shogun's road to Nara. On the approach of the cortège, he concealed himself behind the trunk of a huge tree by the roadside, fitted an arrow to his strong bow, and having drawn it to the full was on the point of letting the arrow fly, when suddenly the string of the bow was cut from behind and the arrow dropped at his feet. At the same time a man laid hands on him, but grasping his assailant, he dragged him to the ground, to find that he was no other than his supposed friend and retainer TORIYAMA, in reality a spy sent by AKAMATSU MANYU, one of the generals of the ASHIKAGA Shogun. KUSUNOKI was then taken prisoner by the forces of the Shogun and soon afterward beheaded at Kyoto. As for his wife and son, they too were sought for by the partisans of the enemy, but having taken refuge at Tatsukawa in Yamato, they were able to evade the vigilance of the Shogunate spies. Such was the hermit's story. At its conclusion, his nephew enquired about the fate of the two retainers of KUSUNOKI, SHINGUJI, and TATENO. The latter, replied the recluse, is long since dead, but the former is still living and now learns with infinite pleasure that the cruel fate of his ill-starred leader has been avenged by the death of his implacable foe. Terribly suggestive of the fierce, unrelenting fashions of feudal Japan in mediæval times, is this tale of TORIYAMA, the spy's, dogged persistence. For three years he lives in the house of the man whose destruction he is plotting, shares his confidence, wins his friendship, and at last incites him to an act that makes his life forfeit.

The next story carries us from history to fiction. It is from the pen of Mr. KODA ROHAN, one of the most promising novelists of the rising school. Many years ago, in a village not very far from the city of Yedo there lived, we are told, by the roadside at the entrance of a country village, a poor blacksmith. Formerly a distinguished disciple of the first swordsmith in Yedo, he had fallen hopelessly in love with the daughter of a respectable merchant in the neighbourhood of his master's house, had eloped with the girl, and abandoning his prospects of renown as a swordsmith, had retired to his native village. But as his parents angrily refused to admit him into their house, he ultimately drifted to the hamlet where we find him at the time of the story, there earning a scanty living by repairing agricultural implements. His wife O-RAN, is pretty, but voluble and ill-tempered. SHOZO himself is modest and good-natured. Poverty irritates the girl. To her husband's face she constantly laments the sacrifices she has made for the sake of a "block-head lord." One evening she is overtaken by her querulous mood, and SHOZO seeks to console her by declaring his belief that sooner or later a better star will shine upon their fate, for, despite the miserable work to which he is now reduced, he feels that as a swordsmith he has no equal in the country, and that fame and fortune are not yet beyond his reach.

Next morning, the blacksmith and his wife receive an unusual visitor in the person of the *Shōya* (headman of the village). He is the bearer of a surprising message. Orders have come from the factor (*Karō*) of the lord of the fief, summoning the blacksmith SHOZO to his residence in the castle town without delay. Both headman and blacksmith are bewildered by the command, but they hasten to comply. The following day they set out, SHOZO full of doubts and hopes. The castle town is only a few miles away. Before sunset, O-RAN, who has devoted the whole day to a reverie about the past, present, and future, describes at a distance her husband and the *Shōya* returning by a path through the wheat fields. As they approach, the old headman hastens his steps, but the blacksmith hangs back. O-RAN is all impatience and curiosity to know the result of the journey. The *Shōya* takes leave, praising SHOZO and congratulating O-RAN on her happiness in having such a man for her husband. Left alone with SHOZO, O-RAN is astonished at his pale face and dejected mien. Presently he lays before her a purse of gold containing fifty *ryo* (about two hundred *yen*). "When we arrived at the residence of the Factor," he explains, "we were shown into a splendid apartment and had the honour of an audience with the great man. I was astonished, and sincerely wished I could hide myself under the mat I was sitting upon, when the Factor asked me in a gentle voice if I was SHOZO, the first sword-maker of Japan. Not receiving any denial of the high honour he attached to my humble name, for I was dumb, he proceeded to inform me that he had been instructed to bid me make a sword for his lord, who regretted that an artist of my ability should live in poverty and obscurity. He then gave me this purse of gold, saying that I might want money while engaged on my work, and that on the completion of the sword, I might hope for further reward. Before I could compose myself to say something in reply, the *Shōya* accepted the order in my behalf. It is all like a dream." O-RAN is charmed by the glad tidings, but SHOZO grows more and more dejected. He knows well what is signified by the task he has undertaken, and doubts his capacity to justify the confidence reposed in him. After a long mental struggle, he concludes that he cannot honestly undertake the work, and that his only course is to return the money and abscond. This resolve he communicates to his wife, and asks her to leave him, as she must be disgusted with such a worthless husband. O-RAN reproves him for the suggestion of separation, and assures him that she would be happy to follow him to the end of the world. They retire to rest, and the next morning SHOZO is roused by loud knocking at the door. He calls for his wife, but she does not answer, and he then discovers that she has fled, carrying the money with her. SHOZO becomes almost frantic with rage and despair, whereupon the man who has been knocking—the *Shōya* himself—forces his entry into the room. At his sight, the smith rushes into his workshop and attempts to dash his head against the anvil, but the *Shōya* seizes and restrains him. Ultimately the Headman persuades the blacksmith to his reconsider his determination, and offers to advance him fifty *ryo* if he will consent to be guided. By degrees the smith's confidence returns, and he begins his task. Day after day he works,

making and unmaking many a sword, until, after unceasing labour during three whole years, he at last produces a blade to his heart's content. He carries it to the castle town and presents it to the *Daimyo* in the presence of the vassals of the house. The *Daimyo*, taking the sword, unsheathes it, and finds it so admirable that he looks at it for some time in mute admiration. He praises SHOZO and extols the excellence of the blade, but adds regretfully that no opportunity offers to test its cutting powers. Scarcely has the *Daimyo* spoken when SHOZO, who has hitherto been sitting on the ground in the courtyard, springs into the corridor, and baring his broad, stalwart breast, cries—"Here, test the blade here. One blow will show you whether or no my sword can cut a man in two." So the story ends. It is a romance, but like all romances it reflects the spirit of the times in which the plot is laid. We gather from it some idea of what the forging of a sword meant in Japan before feudalism fell. No wonder that men valued these blades above all earthly possessions, and handed them down reverently from generation to generation.

CONTRAVENTIONS OF THE INDIRECT TAXES LAW.

LAW No. 86.

We hereby give our sanction to the present regulations relating to the Punishment of Offences against the Indirect National Taxes Law and order the same to be duly promulgated.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.)
(Great Seal.)

Dated September 20th, 1890.

(Countersigned)

Count YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.
Count MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of State for Finance.
Count YAMADA AKIYOSHI,
Minister of State for Justice.

CHAPTER I.—INVESTIGATION OF OFFENCES.

Article 1.—Any indirect tax official who suspects that an offence against the law has been committed may enter any house, godown, or other place for the purpose of collecting evidence.

When an offender is suspected to have concealed the goods in reference to which the law has been contravened in the house, godown, or other place of another person, indirect tax officials may enter such places for the purpose of collecting evidence.

When indirect tax officials desire to collect evidence as above they shall carry a ticket proving their official character.

Article 2.—When offenders, or goods forming the ground of an offence, are beyond the jurisdiction of an indirect tax office in the case of the last article, the duty of collecting evidence may be entrusted to an indirect tax office having jurisdiction.

Article 3.—Indirect tax officials may require the assistance of the police should it be considered necessary in the collection of evidence.

Article 4.—Indirect tax officials shall require an offender, or his relatives or servants, or should these not be present, a police officer or a municipality, town or villages official, or not less than two neighbours, to be in attendance when they collect evidence.

Article 5.—Indirect tax officials shall conduct the examination of interiors of houses or the attachment of goods between day-break and sunset. Cases involving the actual commission of an offence, or in which a store is opened or articles are arranged and sold only at special times, shall be excepted.

Articles 6.—Indirect tax officials may examine offenders or witnesses if such be necessary.

Article 7.—If indirect tax officials find the goods forming the ground of offence while engaged in the collection of evidence, they shall seize the same, put their seal on them, prepare a list of attachment, and deposit them in the hands of the officials of the municipality, town or village, or of the neighbours, or of the offender, who shall give a

receipt for the same; a receipt shall be obtained from the indirect tax office or branch indirect tax office if the goods be deposited in such office.

If the goods seized are deposited in the hands of the officials of a municipality, town, or village, or of the neighbors, or in the indirect tax office or branch indirect tax office, a copy of the list of attachment shall be delivered to the offender.

Article 8.—Indirect tax officials may prohibit the egress and ingress of any person from or to any place during the proceedings mentioned in the preceding articles.

Article 9.—When indirect tax officials finish the collection of evidence they shall draw up a statement of the same, and with the offender shall sign and seal it, after reading and making it known to the latter. If the offender will not or cannot sign or affix his seal, they shall note that fact.

The following matters shall be included in the statement of evidence:—

- (1.) Names, ages, status (*mibun*), occupation and residence of offenders.
- (2.) The method, date, and place of disclosure of the offence.
- (3.) Examination and statements if any are made.
- (4.) Articles seized, and their kind and number, as well as any statements of an offender with regard to such articles.

Chapter 2.—PUNISHMENT OF OFFENCES.

Article 10.—When indirect tax officials have finished their examination of offences they shall draw up applications requiring the infliction of punishment, and lay the same before the chief of an indirect tax office or branch office which has jurisdiction, with all the necessary documents and articles.

Article 11.—The chief of such indirect tax office or branch tax office shall inspect the document of examination and other documents, and shall, if he considers that the law was contravened, send to the offender a letter requiring him to pay any fine that may be assessed, or to bring any articles that may be forfeited, as well as costs under Article 16, accompanying such letter with a statement of his reason for considering that the law was contravened.

The chiefs of branch indirect tax offices shall inflict punishment under the last paragraph only when the value of the forfeited goods and the fines do not exceed *yen* 30, all other cases being dealt with by chiefs of indirect tax offices.

Article 12.—Offenders shall within 7 days obey the letter of intimation mentioned in the last article, if they decide to do so; if not, the chief of an indirect tax office or direct tax office shall proceed against them in any court of law which has jurisdiction.

Article 13.—If an offender obeys the order in the letter of intimation, no civil or criminal suit can be raised against him in regard to the same case.

Article 14.—Where the residence of an offender is not known, or where the offence is punishable with imprisonment or confinement, or where the offender is unable to pay the fines or taxes, then if an indirect tax official has obtained knowledge of the offence, it shall be laid before any court of law which has jurisdiction.

If an offender absconds, but does not carry off the goods forming the ground of offence, the indirect tax officials shall seize such goods, draw up a document of examination, and commence process for a suit.

Article 15.—Indirect tax officials shall bring offenders in the following cases before the court of law which has jurisdiction:—

- (1.) Where an offender is suspected of intention to abscond.
- (2.) Where it is anticipated that evidence may cease to be available.

Chapter 3.—MISCELLANEOUS RULES.

Article 16.—The cost of transmitting documents, or of the custody or preservation of goods seized which have to be sent back, shall be borne by the offender.

Article 17.—If goods which have been seized are likely to deteriorate, the chief of an indirect tax office may sell the same publicly, after obtaining the consent of the offender, and shall set aside the price of the same.

Should goods seized be ordered to be returned, in the case of the last paragraph the price shall be refunded.

Article 18.—Indirect tax officials in this law mean officials whose duty it is to examine and collect indirect national taxes.

Article 19.—Indirect tax officials are not permitted to purchase goods forfeited or seized, whether directly or indirectly.

Article 20.—This law shall come in force on and after the 1st day of the 1st month of the 24th year of Meiji. For the present, however, it shall not be applied in Hokkaido, Okinawa Ken, Ogasawara-jima or the seven islands of Idzu, which are under the Tokyo City Office.

THE LEVYING OF CITY AND PREFECTURAL TAXES.

LAW No. 88.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Law relating to the levying of City and Prefectural Taxes, and order the same to be duly promulgated.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.)
(Great Seal.)

Dated September 30th, 1890.

(Countersigned.)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.

COUNT SAIGO TSUKUMICHI,
Minister of State for Home Affairs.

COUNT MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of State for Finance.

Article 1.—Municipalities, towns and villages shall be responsible for the collection of city and prefectural taxes within their jurisdiction, and for payment of the same to cities or prefectures.

In the case of city and prefectural taxes which are not included in the land tax, four-hundredths (*yao*) of the sum levied shall be allowed to municipalities, towns, and villages as the cost of collection. The cities of Tokyo, Kyoto, and Osaka shall, however, be excepted.

Article 2.—Municipalities, towns and villages shall be responsible for the taxes collected, if any loss occurs by their fault or neglect.

Article 3.—Municipalities, towns, and villages may petition or sue governors of cities or prefectures for discharge of their responsibility, if loss of taxes occurs in consequence of unavoidable circumstances.

Article 4.—Governors of cities and prefectures may discharge such responsibility after receiving the sanction of a City or Prefectural Assembly.

Article 5.—Governors of cities or prefectures, or persons similarly entitled to act, shall issue orders of collection to municipalities, towns and villages in the case of city or prefectural taxes; the headmen of the latter shall announce the order of collection and intimate the same to each taxpayer.

Article 6.—Where the headman of a municipality is required to issue an order for collection, he may directly deliver such order to each taxpayer.

Article 7.—Orders of collection may be issued directly to taxpayers by governors of cities and prefectures, or by persons authorised to similarly act, in the case of those city or prefectural taxes which are not collected at a fixed time (*suji*).

Article 8.—Every taxpayer who has received an order of collection shall pay his tax to the officials of the municipality, town, or village authorised to receive it, and shall obtain a receipt bearing the seal of the headman of the municipality, town or village.

Municipalities, towns and villages shall pay the taxes collected to the financial officials of cities and prefectures, and obtain receipts for the same.

Each taxpayer mentioned in Article 7 shall pay his tax to the financial officials of his city or prefecture and obtain a receipt for the same.

Article 9.—If a tax payer should become bankrupt owing to some other debt, the city or prefectural tax shall be levied next to the national tax, according to the example set forth in Articles 14 and 15 of the Law relating to the levying of national taxes.

Article 10.—When the property of an individual who has neglected payment of a national tax, or a municipality, town, or village tax, is sold for that reason, the city and prefectural taxes shall be collected prior to the municipality, town or village taxes.

Article 11.—Release by prescription from the obligation to pay city and prefectural taxes shall be in accordance with national tax procedure.

Article 12.—The duties which under this law should be performed by towns and villages, shall devolve upon headmen (*kacho*) in localities where the Law relating to the Organization of Towns and Villages is not in force.

Article 13.—Bye-laws relating to this law shall be decided by governors of cities and prefectures on the decision of city and prefectural assemblies.

Article 14.—This law shall regulate the levying of local taxes until the Law relating to the Organization of Cities and Prefectures comes into force.

Article 15.—This law shall be in force in connection with and after the collection of the taxes of the 24th financial year of Meiji.

THE ABANDONMENT OF PROPERTY.

LAW No. 94.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Law relating to the Abandonment of Property, and order the same to be duly promulgated. We also direct that the same shall come into force on and after the 1st day of the 1st month of the 26th year of Meiji.

[His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.]

[Great Seal.]

Dated October 3rd, 1890.

(Countersigned)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.

COUNT YAMADA AKIYOSHI,
Minister of State for Justice.

Article 1.—Insolvent debtors of good character may give up all their property, through the law court of the place where they live, to their creditors on stating the circumstances of their misfortune or the fault of management, the cause of their insolvency previous to the time when their movables and immovables were seized.

The debtor shall state on his application the names and occupations of all his creditors, as well as the principal and interest of the debt he owes to each creditor.

Article 2.—Any proposal by a debtor to abandon his property must be accepted by the creditor according to the mode and conditions regulated by the provisions of the Commercial Code relating to composition.

Article 3.—The abandonment of property, when accepted by a creditor, must be sanctioned by the relative Court of Law.

Laws relating to bankruptcy may be applied to all other cases of abandonment of property.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THEORIES OF PAUL AND COROLLARIES OF CEPHAS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In regard to a short comment upon an article in the *Kokumin no Tomo* relative to "a crisis in the history of Christianity in Japan," allow me one word; and please deign to give my remarks as wide a circulation as those they criticize. I refer especially to one sentence:—"But when we bring this faith [Christianity] and submit it for the inspection of a people like the Japanese, they at once perceive how incomparably better adapted to human needs would be the original creed stripped alike of the theories of Paul and of the corollaries of Cephas."

Now, sir, if you mean, as your language clearly implies, that the *Predestination* of Presbyterianism, together with *Unitarianism*, *Universalism*, and *sprinkling*, *infant baptism*, *creeds*, etc., of all Pedobaptist churches, have come from theories of Paul and corollaries of Cephas, you ought to be able to give some evidence of this fact. These *isms* are the fruits of seeds which neither Paul's nor Cephas' hand sowed. I believe we ought to go back to the fountain of Christianity, bridging all the muddy streams of human dogma. Into the light of the intellect and heart with which we are endowed we should bring every precept of the divine Book. Certainly the Japanese see the caricature into which the multitude of sects have turned Christianity.—Christians themselves see it; but who is trying to help it? The fullness of time may not yet have come.

But, sir, to charge these things upon two of the truest and wisest of Christians, is making an accusation which needs explanation. It is like making a cowardly insinuation against one's best friend to thus speak of Paul and Cephas. Cannot the Japanese see this also? It is the only escape for the infidel's ignorance to speak in sweeping generalities. What are the theories of Paul and the corollaries of Cephas which should be stripped from the original creed? Answer. The writer of the sentence above quoted seems to have spoken with the knowledge that the theories and corollaries existed. It ought certainly to be considered a serious thing to make such charges against honest and capable men, and especially in the insinuating manner in which this charge is made. In the name of justice and morality, let us here, in the face of our dying fellow men, state the case definitely, and come to an issue. If infidelity loses, it has all to gain; if it gains, it has all to

lose. If not for ourselves, then for others, let us hear the truth of this matter.

I am yours respectfully,

E. SNODGRASS.

No. 41-B, Tsukiji, Tokyo, Sept. 30th, 1890.

[It surprises us that our correspondent's earnestness should have led him to attach such a hard and fast meaning to words which were used in a purely figurative sense. We spoke of Paul and Cephas entirely with reference to that celebrated phrase of St. Paul himself where he utters an emphatic warning against an apparent tendency of the early Christians to distinguish between the doctrine preached by different Apostles. The question of infidelity or fidelity did not enter our minds; still less did we think of laying at the door of Paul or Cephas any of the "isms" that have broken up Christian unity.—Ed. J.M.]

ANTICIPATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Perhaps "anticipation" may be said to be but another word for hope, but it is essentially a word implying work and preparation for some desired result; it is the looking for a joy already near at hand. When the crops planted and well-watered and weeded have risen above the soil and are swaying in their rapid growth to the gentle breeze, we anticipate a fine harvest. When our minds and memories, under careful cultivation and earnest application, begin to expand with the riches of knowledge stored within them, we feel equipped for the exercise of our talents and long to compete with the wise and useful men of our generation. And when, after more than thirty years of national development, of educating the youths of the nation abroad in all the skill and cunning of modern European and Continental law and varied literature; after establishing a national university and calling to its professorial chairs picked scholars from the most learned institutions of other lands and feeling them royally for their instruction; after changing olden customs and making new codes of laws according to the highest models of civilization, and putting them into practice successfully; after foreigners have purchased lands and built upon them and have dwelt in safety as unmolested in their rights as the citizens of the commonwealth; after even in the Press laws freedom has been allowed in all cases save where undue use of liberty would have roused the more slowly developing lower classes into a mistaken use of privilege, for the Sovereign who rules so wisely is not only preparing the people for the administration of a constitutional government, but as they advance toward it orderly and justly, grants them, not like an Autocrat, or a Czar or a Sultan, but like a Father, all that they know how to use; after the universal approbation and astonishment of all civilized countries have been aroused by the peaceful change from a Feudal to a Monarchical government, from isolation to the most widely extended commercial intercourse, from limited knowledge to a thorough educational system, from torture of criminals and barbaric prisons, to trial by evidence, equitable laws, and sanitary and moral prison reforms; after all these, within an average life-time, have become accomplished facts, why should the position of Japan among the powers be beneath that of Peru or Hawaii? Why do the merchants who represent English houses or other nationalities pretend that they fear that their rights so long enjoyed would be invaded when in fact they could be more justly and securely held? Because Japanese land belongs to Japan, and, as in all other countries must be taxed for the privilege of enjoying; why should a scare-crow be hoisted as a warning, suggesting that at the very moment when the Government is seeking for just and honourable recognition among the nations, it intends to use the coveted right in injuring those whose esteem and justice it has so long been striving to obtain? Scare-crows are straws and old rags and broken hats, so this selfish, greedy cry of "thieves" to arouse alarm and sway public opinion, is without substance, a thing of the imagination, a seeming terror without any reality. It is in bad taste. It is intended to call forth the pugnacious side of patriotism, to entrap the unwary and over-enthusiastic—but it is a scare-crow after all, and not worth barking at. And as such it will expose its emptiness to the world. "Steady now!" is the watch-word—calm and steady! To support foreign judges out of the nation's treasury, money so sorely needed for home use, is not justice; to admit foreign judges out of courtesy, if the countries they represent can afford to support them here, is in keeping with the politeness and etiquette of the Japanese nation, and it would be a pleasant sight to witness the cause of justice thus upheld by the legal fraternity. But the anticipations of the Japanese nation are the result of long and careful preparation, of steady growth and advance, of imitation or adoption of the best; of taking the selected seeds of social progress

from all governments and planting them in this rich soil, where patriotism will guard and watch their healthy growth. That Christian countries should forget the Golden Rule under such circumstances, is a bad example. That some selfish merchants and land holders should endeavour to keep the country in thralldom to their almighty dollar system is characteristic of the human heart, denounced by one who knew the hearts of men. Let the facts be sifted and things fairly and honestly spoken out and replied to, and it will be seen that only a scare-crow of huge dimensions has been put up to frighten away the friends and well-wishers of Japan. Americans employed in English merchant houses are the only citizens of that dear Republic who have joined the enemy's ranks. We have nothing to gain or lose by being friend or foe to Japan, therefore we only speak as we believe.

"Live and let live."
Yours, &c.,
October 3rd, 1890.

A.V.R.E.

"PACIFICUS."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The objection to "Pacificus" suggestion that there should be assessors, and a sort of diplomatic supervision of the Courts, is, that in civil cases the Sovereign has no power over the judgments, to alter, revise, or upset them in any way. The remission of the sanction rests with the Sovereign only in criminal cases; in civil cases it is with the party to the suit only.

Your obedient servant,
Tokyo, October 4th, 1890.

S.

THE DEFINITION OF "SOSHI."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The other day I overheard a conversation between a foreigner (who speaks Japanese unusually well, and who understands something of Chinese ideographs), and a native (who speaks English unusually well; that he understands Roman letters, goes without saying). The subject of their conversation was a proper translation of 壯士 (*Soshi*), and notwithstanding their ability to converse in both languages, no satisfactory English equivalent could be agreed up.

In Williams English-Chinese dictionary we find for 壯 a variety of meanings, viz. "stout, healthy; manly; fertile, full and flourishing; abundant;" and for 士, of course, "scholar." But while the Chinese put the two ideographs together for expressing the phrase, "a valiant or strong man," I can hardly think that that is the meaning of the word *Soshi* as used by the Japanese. It would be of service to many of us, and would certainly eliminate much circumlocution, if a concise English equivalent for *Soshi* could be agreed upon.

Your obedient servant,
Yokohama, 4th October, 1890.

X.

(We have never been able to find any single English expression conveying the meaning of *Soshi*. In its present acceptance the term has come to signify "physical-force men," and despite its clumsiness we are disposed to think that the best translation.—Ed. J.M.)

DEGREES OF COMPARISON.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—You have in times past compared the foreigners in the service of the Japanese Government to the leaves of autumn floating down the stream, so soon they pass away and are gone, their place knowing them no more, and the visible record of their work passing with them. These prophets have honour notwithstanding in other countries. The comparison changes from withered leaves to the young and sprightly British groom. This is what I call from the Paris correspondent of the *World*, *apropos* of some Anglicised stables established near Paris:—

The stable-fittings are, of course, all manufactured in England, and all or nearly all the horses have English names; but the general effect is that of a very pretty and expensive toy; an effect which is not removed by the presence of an army of English grooms, who are delighted to have a chat with a visitor from the old country, though not one of them would care to leave France, where they have a position of absolute power and prestige, similar to that of the high functionaries imported from Europe to Japan to establish Western institutions in that country.

Your obedient servant,
October 9th, 1890.

X.

THE JUDICIAL INSTITUTIONS OF JAPAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I ask you to do me the favour of inserting in your estimable paper the present article which I have written in connection with what has been published in the newspapers touching the

meeting of the foreign residents of Yokohama, called by the principal English merchants in order to object to the revision of the Treaties.

I cannot suffer to pass in silence the grave errors concerning the judicial institutions of Japan, which crept into the speeches that prominent Englishmen pronounced on that occasion, by reason of the importance of the matter and of the influence that these errors might exert upon persons ignorant of the actual state of Japan.

It is not astonishing that a question such as that of the revision of the Treaties: one that interests to the highest degree Japan and all the European countries that are in friendly and commercial relations with her,—it is not astonishing I say, that such a question should engage the serious attention of the foreigners residing in Japan, especially of English subjects, who have here great commercial interests.

But it seems to me that such a question should not be decided cursorily, and that it is necessary that one should study it before expressing one's opinion about it. Has assurance been obtained whether the propositions of the Japanese Government on the subject of the revision of the Treaties, which may have been formulated according to new bases of arrangements more favourable to Japan than former drafts, do or do not really hold out guarantees to foreigners when they become amenable to Japan laws? Has certitude also been acquired as to whether the actual condition of Japan would or would not allow the foreign Powers to grant her that restoration of territorial jurisdiction that is common to all independent States?

The opposition of English residents to the revision of the Treaties, to the recovery of the legitimate right that Japan has lost by virtue of existing Treaties, touches immensely our judicial system. These gentlemen declare that they cannot submit themselves to Japanese jurisdiction, as they do not find in our laws sufficient guarantees for person and property; they seem to think that the liberty and the property of individuals are unprotected in Japan. They attach great importance to *habeas corpus*, and are unaware that in the Japanese law there is a provision that resembles it; they look upon the absence of the jury as a lack of guaranty as regards trials; they are distrustful as to whether the principle of the inviolability of the domicile is observed among the Japanese.

In the face of such accusations, which may bring discredit upon Japan in the eyes of Europe, the right to refute them is perfect.

May I be allowed, then, to say in the first place that we have in our Code of Preliminary Criminal Examination, as there is moreover in various European Codes, a provision touching provisional liberty that may be granted to an accused person in consideration of bail furnished, and under pledge of appearing upon summons served upon him.

Another provision, no less important from the standpoint of protection from prolonged arrest, directs that any accused person arrested upon warrant, shall be examined within 48 hours, and set at liberty if there is justification for so doing.

It is scarcely necessary to add that the Code of Preliminary Criminal Examination, as well as the Penal Code, which have been in operation for ten years past, are based upon the French law with improvements introduced by the compiler (M. Boissonade de Fontarabie, well known for his works upon law since his residence in Japan) and have been applied and interpreted by the Japanese Courts without the least difficulty.

In regard to decisions, in both civil and in criminal matters, rendered by the Japanese Courts, the prudence, the impartiality and the zeal of the magistrates, who have an independent position on account of their irremovability, have always been noticed, and although the jury system does not exist in Japan, it is recognized that decisions in criminal matters are in general rendered with moderation and equity, account being taken of extenuating circumstances in favour of the accused. With the collegiate system adopted by the new law upon the organization of the judiciary, greater guaranty will be found.

It has been recognized up till now, that suits instituted before the local courts by foreigners (I speak here specially of the European and American residents of Yokohama) against Japanese, either in civil or in criminal matters, have been investigated and tried with the utmost amount of attention and with the strictest impartiality.

Inviolability of domicile is a right that is assured to the Japanese people, besides being hallowed by the new Constitution, and there is, in the Penal Code, a penalty for the violation of domicile without legitimate reason therefor.

To believe, too, that there has been recourse within a short time to torture to extract a confession from an accused, is an error. For more than 12 years since the entire abolition of this remnant

of ancient feudal laws, there is no trace of such inhuman proceedings: all confession is based solely upon the weight of evidence.

From what precedes, the guarantees that the Japanese laws offer to those amenable to them, both as to their persons and to their property, cannot be gainsaid.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant, N. M.
Tokyo, October 6th, 1890.

[The above letter, from a distinguished Japanese jurist, came to us in French, and has been literally translated.—*Ed. J.M.*]

VACATION RAMBLES IN IBARAKI.

111.

The storms and floods of the latter half of August made travelling so unpleasant and so difficult that these vacation rambles had to be intermitted; but the more settled weather in the early part of September gave an opportunity to go off on short trips. One, in company only with Prof. T., of the High School, was to Ishioka, about 7½ *ri* from here, on the direct road to Tokyo. We, however, did not go by the straight road, but, in the hope of saving time, money and discomfort, went by rail as far as Shishido, from where it is 7½ *ri* to Ishioka.

In the name "Shishido," meaning "flesh-door," the first part is, perhaps, of Aino, at any rate, of very ancient Japanese origin: its appropriateness to this place I cannot tell. The town lies at a little distance from the station; and, although it is not large and flourishing, is by no means "a poverty-stricken place," as the "Hand Book" of Messrs. Satow and Hawes denominates it. On the way from the station to the town, the road cuts right through the *jinya* of Matsudaira Oino kami, who was a kinsman of the Mito family, and lord of Shishido, with a revenue of 10,000 *koku*. The one who was ruling at the time of the Mito Civil War met an unfortunate fate. He was sent as the representative of Prince Yoshiatsu of Mito, to attempt to arbitrate between the two factions; but, becoming necessarily embroiled in the conflict, and happening thus to engage in battle with troops of the Shōgunate, he became technically guilty of treason. Then, through the persuasion of a friend, who hoped to arrange easy terms for him, he entered the enemy's camp, and, being held a prisoner, was finally compelled to commit suicide by *harakiri*. He was, however, honoured with a burial in the cemetery of the Mito princes at Zuiru.

The road from Shishido to Iwama (about 1½ *ri*) was very good; but beyond that point it was very bad, so that we had to make detours through the woods. The inevitable rain-storm came up; we, however, being well protected in the vehicles, escaped wetting; but the poor coolies were soaked through. The rain, however, did not last long; and, when we entered Ishioka about half-past ten o'clock, the sun was shining brightly.

Ishioka is not "a small town" with "no great trade," but a fairly good sized and flourishing place of about 8,000 inhabitants. Among the large towns of Ibaraki *ken*, Mito, of course, takes first rank, Tsuchinra second, and Ishioka third. It is the centre of the brewing industry, *sake* and *shoyu*, in Ibaraki, and ranks as one of the most flourishing in the Empire. It contains about 30 large manufactories, one of which employs a steam rice-cleaner. The yearly product of *sake* is 7,000 *koku* valued at 120,000 *yen*; of *shoyu* (soy) it is 10,000 *koku*, valued at 90,000 *yen*. The products are exported chiefly to Mito and Tokyo, but also to other places. The causes of the rise of these industries in that place are two,—the good quality of the rice and beans of those parts, and the purity of the water.

Ishioka is also a market for rice, other grains, silk and tea. It is possible, that in the future the silk industry will become as flourishing as the brewing industry; for there is abundant capital, and the culture of silk-worms is becoming more and more extensive. The circulation of money is very easy. The town contains a justice's court, a police station, a bank; and it is the meeting place of four large roads,—from Shishido, from Takahama, from Mito and from Tsuchinra. It has an appearance of neatness and gentility; and is, perhaps, comparatively the liveliest and wealthiest place in Ibaraki *ken*.

It has also an interesting history. It was not known as Ishioka till 1869, but was previously called Fuchiu; and it was formerly the capital of Hitachi. It probably became the capital soon after Taikwa (645-650 A.D.), which was the first great period of governmental reformation; and it continued to hold that position till feudal times. From that time the governor of Hitachi usually lived there; although it seems that Taira Kunika lived in Ishida, of Makabe county, and his grand son, Taira Koremoto, in Mizumori. In 1427 the Baba family, a branch of Taira, having lost the Mito castle, which was then called Baba, retired to

Fuchiu, where they remained until Baba Kiyomoto, the last of the line, was overthrown by the army of the Satake family (1590).

From that time it ceased to be an important place; and after the change of several princes it became in 1700 the dominion of Matsudaira Hasima no Kami, younger brother of Mitsukuni, the second and famous Mito prince; and so remained till 1868. But its lord, who had a revenue of 20,000 *koku*, lived in Yedo, and had no castle, only a *jinya*, in Fuchiu. The castle of Fuchiu, although it is said to have been built by Taira Kunika, was probably built by a later descendant, whose date is unknown. It was situated on the verge of the hill on which Ishioka is located; but there are now no traces of it, except the moat and terraces. On the spot where stood the *jinya* of Matsudaira, now are located the Lower and the Higher Primary Schools of Ishioka.

Since "in 737, after an epidemic of smallpox (not previously known in Japan) had almost decimated the population, the reigning sovereign, Shōmu Tenno, decreed that in each province there should be erected a large monastery, to be called Kokubunji," such a temple was constructed in Fuchiu of Hitachi, perhaps, in 743 (?). It is said that it was a splendid building, with grounds measuring 100 *cho*, and with a seven-story pagoda: for, "afterwards, on the occasion of a bad harvest, he [Shōmu Tenno] commanded the construction of seven storied pagodas throughout the country, one to each province." The nunnery was in the western part of the town, which is even now called "Nunnery Plain" (*Niji ga hara*), and where even now old tiles may be found. The monastery was burned in the battle in which Baba Kiyomoto perished, and is said to have been rebuilt; but we cannot tell when it fell to the ground again. There are also two other Buddhist temples (Yakushido and Senjūin), built about the same time and of the same style.

Susha, a Shinto temple, is situated on the left side of the castle, and looks down on the rice-fields. It was formerly in the western part of the town, near the nunnery; but it was removed to its present location by Taira Norikuni, when he built the castle. This temple was built in the eighth or ninth century, perhaps at the time when some Emperor planned to have also a Shinto temple in the capital of each province. At first it was independent and very powerful, but afterwards it seems to have become a tributary of Kashima; for a certain priest of this temple received his rank from the chief priest of Kashima; and there still remains an old programme of a Kashima Boat Festival.

This temple contains many interesting relics and old documents, of which I shall take space to describe only a few. The first is a document which was given to the priest of this temple by the officer of Hojo in Kamakura. This document asks for prayers for the repulsion of the Chinese invasion of the Gen dynasty. The first invasion was repulsed in Konan (1278-1288), but this document is dated Showa (1298-1293). This seems to indicate that there must have been fears of a second invasion, which, however, is not recorded in history as having taken place. Another relic is Satake Yoshinobu's *gumbai*, "a fan used by military officers in giving a command." We find here also the *gumbai* of Iino Narikage, who was a vassal of the Shishido family, and visited the temple in Tensho (1573-1592). On the handle of this *gumbai* are rudely carved the following words, "With this fan I have gained several victories."

But the most famous relic is the *gumbai* of the renowned general, Ota Dōkwan, who laid the foundations of Yedo castle. He was a "wise, brave and learned man," but in his youth was very ignorant. I cannot refrain from turning aside to relate a very interesting story about him. When he went out hunting one day a severe shower suddenly threatened, and a few drops began to fall. Therefore he went hastily into a village, and, knocking at a farmer's door, asked to borrow rain-coats (*mino*). A beautiful girl came out, apparently showing no signs of timidity, and silently falling down on her knees, only stretched out toward him a branch of *Yamabuki* (the Kerria Japonica). He and his servants could not understand her meaning, which was concealed in a punning reference to the following poem:—

Naoaye yaye
Hana wa sakedomo
Yamabuki no mi no
Hitotsu dani
Naki zo kanashiki!—

which translated literally means, "It is sad that, although the yellow rose sends forth seven or eight fold blossoms, it has not a single seed." But by a happy turn of *mi no* to *mino* she tells him; "I am sorry that I have no rain coats!" He was so much astonished at the wit and learning of the peasant girl that he studied Japanese and Chinese literature very diligently, and finally became a

famous poet. It is said that after a few years he sent to that peasant girl the following reply:—

"Itoyazuba
Nurezaramaji wo
Tabibito no
Ato yori haruru
Noji no murazame:—

which may be translated: "If the traveller does not make haste, he may not get wet; for the shower of the rural districts clears off from behind him." If you study deeply all the allusions of this reply, you will recognize that it is very apt and witty.

When in a certain year of Eikyō (1429-1441) he was on his way to Mutsu, he passed through Fuchiu, and worshipped at this temple (Sō-sha). At that time he contributed his *gumbai*, and wrote a poem:—

Akebano no
Teyun wa oku kamo
Kamigaki ya
Sakakida shiroki
Natsu no yo no tsuki.

"The dew of dawn had already settled upon the foliage of the *sabaki* [*Cleyera Japonica*] of the holy fence, and the summer moon shines silvery."

This Shinto temple, though so ancient and once so famous, now ranks only as a village temple; but the present priest, named Ishizaki, is trying to have the rank raised. Recently many old documents have been discovered in the house of a farmer, belonging to an old family, in the village of Nodera, near Ishioka. These documents, it is said, throw great light on the history of Hitachi.

Thanks to the kindness of Messrs. Kaneko, Takeishi and Kurisu, we had seen and heard much of Ishioka, and should have been glad to investigate those new documents; but, as my passport had expired with the month of August, I must be home again that night. Therefore about 3 p.m. we left Ishioka, and in three hours were again in Shishido, with one hour to wait for the last train to Mito. On the road from Ishioka back to Shishido, we heard from one of our coolies an interesting *tengu* (sky-dog) story. It seems that just behind Iwama is an Atago-yama, one of the outlying hills of the Tsukuba range. On that hill formerly there were 12 shrines dedicated to *tengu*; but once upon a time another was added under the following circumstances. In a temple at the front of Mount Tsukuba was a young boy, whose old mother often visited him. On one occasion, as she expressed a wish to see Tsushima, he agreed to take her; and, carrying her on his back, he flew very swiftly to Tsushima and back again. When they had returned to the temple, the boy said that, as he was very tired, he must go to sleep awhile in the next room, but cautioned his mother not to look into the room. After a little his mother, moved by curiosity or anxiety, peeped in, and discovered a *tengu*, which at once flew away. At the next festival on Atago-yama, when the people of Iwama were preparing a tray of food for each of the 12 *tengu* shrines, they received orders from the priest to prepare 13 trays, as a new *tengu* (presumably this boy) had just come. The neighbourhood of Iwama is said to abound in *tengu* and tales of *tengu*.

When we reached Shishido, we called upon Mr. Tamochi Shishido, a lineal descendant from the family which founded the place. He had been reported to be in the possession of some very ancient relics of the family, and also, of course, to be the best posted man upon the history of the place. We found him a courteous and polished old gentleman, who would have been pleased to show us the relics, but for the fact that they were not all in his house at the time. We agreed, therefore, to visit him again, but the other day he very kindly came to Mito with many relics, and related to us a very interesting history.

The founder of his family was Shido Tomoye, the tenth son of the celebrated Yoshitomo by a concubine, named Hatta no Taubone. In 1159, when his father was overthrown by Taira, he was young, and took refuge in Kumano of Kii, under the protection of his maternal grandfather Hatta Munetsuna, Prince of Shimotsuke. It seems that he was then adopted by his grandfather, and hence took the name, Hatta Tomoye. When Yoritomo raised his banner against the tyrannical Heiji, Hatta Tomoye joined him, and served in battles in the west, under his brothers, Yoshitsune and Noriyori. Afterwards, when Yoritomo attacked Fujiwara Yatsulira, the Prince of Mutsu who protected Yoshitsune when the latter fell under the displeasure of Yoritomo, Tomoye became one of the generals of the Tokaido army and gained many victories. He received a dominion of nominally about 67,000 *koku*, of really about 150,000 *koku*, in Hitachi, and the same amount in Aki. He lived in Shishido, where he also died, and lies buried in the grounds of a temple, which he founded, but which is now in total ruin. He was a great favourite of Yoritomo, and received from him a very fine sword, which is

now in the possession of Mr. Shishido. This sword, about two *shaku* and eight *sun* in length, is called *Roku-suhama no katana*, because on one side of the blade appears that emblem of the family. The character *roku* is said to have been derived from the name of Rokusongō Tsunemoto, the first ancestor of Genji.

Tomoye's first son, named Tomoshige, became the ancestor of the Oda family, and lived in Hojo (at the foot of Mount Tsukuba), where for several centuries his descendants were very powerful. The fifth son, Tomohisa, was very brave and loyal, and in the contest of Shokyu(?) between the ex-Emperor Gotoh and the Hojo family, he sided with the former, and, being defeated, committed suicide. The fourth son, Iyemasa, became the heir of the main family; and his son, Iyeyoshi, was also brave. Once when hunting on horse back, he killed with a single arrow a wild boar which came rushing towards him. From this time he always used a banner on which were inscribed the figures of a wild boar and the sun. This relic is in the possession of Mr. Shogoro Maiye, a remote descendant of the Shishido family, and now a member of the Ibaraki Legislature. The horse which Iyeyoshi used to ride was a very fine and strong animal, which is said to have gone from Shishido to Kamakura and back in one day. But as that distance is more than 200 miles, we must be a little sceptical about the truth of the story! At any rate, the horse, named Gyokuren, fell dead by the roadside at Iwama on its way back from Kamakura; and its tomb may now be seen on that spot.

After the tenth generation a prince, named Iyemoto, removed to Aki, where he built a castle for permanent residence. Thus the family became divided into two branches—the Aki branch and the Hitachi branch. It is said that the descendants of the former branch still live in Aki; and a letter sent from Aki to Hitachi about 1700 to inquire into the genealogical connection between the descendants of the two branches, is still possessed by Mr. Shishido.

After two or three generations the Hitachi family began to decline; and finally in 1590, when the sixteenth prince, Yoshinaga, was in power, the castle of Shishido was destroyed by Satake Yoshinobu, who, however, was liberal enough to give Yoshinaga a domain of 6,700 *koku* at Ehigashima, in Makabe county, whither the Shishido family removed. The document which gives the assessed value of each village in that domain is now in the possession of Mr. Shishido.

When Yoshinaga's son, Yoshimasa, was the master, the Satake family were removed by Iyeyasu to Ugo, and wanted Yoshimasa to go with them. But he declined, and, becoming a *rōnin*, ended a gloomy life in the vicinity of Shishido. His son, Yoshio, died without an heir, so that the male line became extinct; but a daughter of Yoshinaga had married a *samurai*, named Sugimoto Yoshizumi, who was born in Echizen and afterwards became a vassal of the Izumo Prince, Matsudaira Dewa no Kami, a grandson of Iyeyasu. After the death of Yoshio, all the vassals of the Hotta [Shishido] family consulted together, recognized Yoshizumi as the legal heir of the family, and sent all the relics to him.

The descendants of Yoshizumi lived in Yedo, and served as common vassals of the Prince of Hirose, a branch of the Dewa family. After the Revolution the present master of the family, that is, Mr. Tamochi Shishido, the twenty-eighth generation from Tomoye, went down to the town of Hirose, in Izumo, where he lived four years, and then came back to "the old homestead," Shishido. Mr. Shishido says that he returned to the old home under promise from Mr. Maiye and other vassals of the family to support; but that, after he had received such support for three years, he declined any further aid. In Shishido and vicinity there are now about 200 families, who were subjects of this family. Mr. Shishido, though now far advanced in years, lives as a merchant in Shishido.

The first ancestor of the Maiye family was Hotta Iyehida, younger brother of Mochitomo, the ninth prince of the main family. The Maiye branch used to live in a castle of the same name in Makabe (?) county; but, after the fall of Shishido castle, they went to Ehigashima with Yoshinaga, and then removed to Dewa. In 1614 they came back, 18 vassals in all, to the place of the old castle, and became farmers, and afterwards *daikwan* (agents). From Iyehida to Shogoro are nineteen generations.

There are many other documents which Mr. Shishido and Mr. Maiye kindly exhibited to us, and, which, if carefully studied, might throw considerable light on local and national history; but lack of time prevented further investigations.

Mito, October 1st, 1890. CLEM.

THE CASE OF MR. A. R. COLQUHOUN.

Mr. A. R. Colquhoun is well-known by name at least to most people in the East, and to many of our readers he is probably known personally, for he acted as correspondent of *The Times* in China during the war between France and China. He is also known for his explorations in Southern China, and for his advocacy of the scheme for a railway from the coast of Burma through the Shan States to the China frontier. Originally an engineer in the Indian Public Works Department, in 1885, on the annexation of Upper Burma, he was, on account of the active interest which he had long taken in the region, invited to join the service being formed to administer the new province, and he received a very high post in that service. Last spring it came like a thunderclap on many to learn that this gentleman, one of the most distinguished men in the Indian Civil Service, had been dismissed, for this was what the course taken by the Authorities practically came to, although it was nominally a re-transfer from Burma to the Public Works Department. The surprise was still greater when it became known that this strong step was due to a private letter having fallen into official hands. Mr. Colquhoun immediately took leave of absence home, and laid the case before the Secretary of State by way of appeal. While he was awaiting the result, which came only recently, he was offered a high appointment by the South African Company in Mashonaland, and there he is at the present moment. The decision of the Indian Government on the appeal is adverse to Mr. Colquhoun, and although Lord Cross may revise or modify this, Mr. Colquhoun's official Indian career is closed. From the mass of correspondence on the subject which is under our hands, we propose giving our readers letters which will form a clear narrative of this curious episode. But one other word by way of introduction is necessary. Mr. Moylan, to whom the letter which led to all the trouble is addressed, is a barrister at Rangoon and correspondent of *The Times* there. For five years his letters and telegrams to that journal have been hostile to the local Government, sometimes indeed violently so. We pass no opinion on this, but merely record the fact. The local officials, being but men, have retorted whenever the opportunity appeared favourable, and there has been a kind of intestine war in which, so far, the correspondent has not come off worst. Now it was to this gentleman, the incarnation of all that is hateful to the official world, that the first letter was addressed, and this was the letter that fell into the hands of Sir Charles Crosthwaite, the Chief Commissioner. On the same day Mr. Colquhoun wrote two letters, one to Sir Charles, one to Mr. Moylan. How it came about does not greatly matter, but Sir Charles received both. Here is the first letter, the cause of all the woe, dated from Mogok, the capital of the Ruby Mines District, of which Mr. Colquhoun was chief administrative officer:—

"MY DEAR MOYLAN,—I, Yours of 18th to hand, returning letter from Mr. Walter and Macgregor. (*Times* manager and its correspondent in Calcutta.)

"2. I guessed that the reference to A. P. MacDonnell (Home Secretary in Calcutta) should have been as you explain. I am glad that he is likely to come, and that he is an intimate friend of yours.

"3. Daly's management of the Northern Shan States is a scandal. He works direct with the Chief Commissioner. Hildbrand, and the Commissioner, Northern Division (Col. Storer) are quite ignored. Fancy the political change of all the Northern States, with a population of some 2,000,000 people, and relations with Chinese frontier, entrusted to a young lieutenant. They require an experienced man, the best to be had—say Hildbrand or Parrott. When reference is made to this by you or Hannay (proprietor *Rangoon Gazette*) see that information cannot be traced to me.

"4. I write to McDonald (late of *The Times*) to-day, re appointment of Symes, also re Thinkell White's late acting appointment, which doubtless means he is to be soon again acting as a Commissioner. The insurrection in the Yaw district was a bad business, and from what one hears Ryte was badly treated.

"5. Regarding affairs in this part of the world, my telegrams will have kept you fairly well informed regarding the very serious movement which has been stopped by my action in garrisoning Momeit (capital) and in delivering a severe blow to the advance band (300) of Saw Yamine when within eight miles of the capital.

"I wired you for advice as to an article in 22nd issue of *Mandalay Herald*. I enclose you copies of correspondence between myself and C.C.

(Chief Commissioner, Sir Charles Crosthwaite) which will show you how I have been treated in this matter. The military authorities were annoyed because I insisted on holding and maintaining Momeit, and have tried to put down the 'ill-considered enterprise' of Nugent (a young officer who has just been killed) on the 14th to my score. He was expressly forbidden by me to undertake any operations. The successful blow delivered on the 19th to this band shows 'how little of 'enterprise' there was in attacking Mobong. Colonel Storer dropped me in the matter, and I received orders not to send troops or police in future to Momeit (State) without orders. This was unfortunate for him, as Twinnge (in Momeit State, near river) was attacked and burnt on the 22nd, and the C.C. wired me the information, and I had to telegraph to Colonel Storer for his orders instead of acting promptly. I was actually in Momeit (capital) from 29th December to evening of 3rd January, with nine military police (four of them ill) before the detachment called for by me came, and after that the A.A.Q.M.G. recalled it, but I kept them there. You can judge from this the encouragement received by me for acting promptly and successfully. D. has been since last June endeavouring to gain the submission of Khan Heang, Saw Yamine, and Mainlong Nga Naung, with the result that the whole borders are up. He seems to have been fooled to the top of his bent by the Sawbwas of Thilaw and Taungthaing, who were to get these men in. He is the "Sir Oracle" with C.C., Thinkell White, &c. T.W. is a great chum of his. Even with a great man trouble will come; how much more with a green, self-sufficient lad in charge! The whole N.E. frontier should be strengthened; we should meddle as little as possible with Chins, Kachins, and other hill tribes, and not allow ourselves to be led into expeditions into most difficult hill country.

"Yours very truly,

(Signed) "A. R. COLQUHOUN.

"P. S.—The proposed establishment of a post at Lashio, under Daly, with a few hundred raw military police (newly enlisted) is a veritable piece of madness. It would be 12 days beyond our outposts, and no communication kept up.

(Signed) "A. R. C.

"Glad to hear Eddis has joined you. I know his brother, a very good fellow at Calcutta."

This letter was posted, and the next the writer heard of it was a note from the Private Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, dated Mandalay, February 4th, 1890, which ran as follows:—

"I am to say that you enclosed in your letter under reply a letter to Mr. Moylan. As this letter was not in an envelope, Sir Charles Crosthwaite thought it was intended for his perusal, and began to read it before he perceived the nature of its contents. Sir Charles Crosthwaite has no desire to take advantage of an accident, although he considers the disloyalty and treachery evidenced by your letter deserve little consideration. It is, however, a question of public importance that officers should act honestly and loyally towards the Government they are serving, and that the Government should know the character of the new serving under it, and therefore the letter, with a statement of the manner in which it came into his hands, and a copy of this letter, has been submitted to his Excellency the Viceroy, by Sir Charles Crosthwaite."

Mr. Colquhoun, who appears to be a free and easy-going sort of person, took until March 13th to reply, and then this is what he wrote.

Mogok, 18th March, 1892.

In reply to your letter dated 4th February last, I would beg to submit this my protest against the contents of a private letter, addressed to a private friend, accidentally reaching a wrong person, being used against me.

The letter in question when despatched was enclosed in an envelope addressed by me to the addressee.—Yours faithfully,

(Signed) "A. R. COLQUHOUN.

At this point we may drop out the bulk of the correspondence. Mr. Colquhoun, when called upon by the Government of India, made an explanatory, and the result was that he was found guilty of insubordination, was degraded to a minor position in his old branch of the service, and was told that he had barely escaped dismissal. Thereupon, as we have said, came his return to England and the preparation of the following elaborate explanation, which has now proved equally futile. In justice to Mr. Colquhoun we give this in full:—

From A. R. COLQUHOUN, late Deputy Commissioner of the Ruby Mines, Burma.

To the SECRETARY to the Government of India, Home Department, Calcutta.

11, St. Bernard's Crescent,

Edinburgh, 26th November, 1890.

SIR,—With reference to the orders of the

Government of India removing me from my appointment of Deputy-Commissioner in the Burma Commission, and remanding me to the position in the Department of Public Works which I held before 1886, I have the honour to submit the following further facts and explanations, in the hope that the Government will be pleased to reconsider my case.

2. For the convenience of reference I annex copies of all the previous correspondence in my possession connected with the subject. I am placed at a great disadvantage by not having been supplied with copies of the letters addressed by the Chief Commissioner of Burma to the Government of India on my case.

3. I must premise by stating that I am intimately acquainted with Messrs. Walter, McDonald, and Macgregor, who are personal friends of mine. Mr. Hannay of Rangoon I have known for eighteen years. Before my appointment to the Burma Commission I was, while on leave granted by the Secretary of State, employed by *The Times* on a mission in China for two years. On being appointed Deputy-Commissioner in Burma, I promised Sir Charles Bernard that I would in future abstain from acting as a Press correspondent.

I beg that these facts may be kept clearly in view.

4. I desire again to call attention to the fact that I have been condemned for what I wrote in a private letter to a private friend, which letter accidentally fell into the hands of the Chief Commissioner of Burma. I venture respectfully to renew my protest against the contents of such a letter being used against me, and to submit that the fact of its being addressed to Mr. Moylan, who is a barrister in large practice, as well as *The Times* correspondent at Rangoon, in no way deprives it of its character of a private communication. The letter was essentially a private letter to an intimate acquaintance, from whom I was asking legal advice, and, as I shall presently show, was not intended to be used by him in his capacity of a journalist. If the language is somewhat hot and unguarded, I would urge that the peculiar circumstances under which it was written, when (as I explained in my letter to the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of 29th April, 1889) I was smarting under an unjustifiable attack, were exceptional.

5. In his letter No. 569, of 25th March, 1889, the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Burma invited me "to submit any explanation you might like to offer of your conduct in infringing the standing orders contained in the Home Department Circular No. 30 1267-76, dated 16th August, 1884, and in violating the pledge given by you to the Secretary to the Government of India in the Home Department, dated the 23th December, 1887."

No reference was made to the notification dated 30th August, 1843, or the resolution No. 22 A, dated 3rd June, 1885, which have been quoted in the despatch of the Government of India reviewing my case. Of these I had no knowledge whatever. I had never seen even the orders of 16th August, 1884, until a copy reached me with the letter No. 569, dated 25th March, calling upon me for an explanation. My whole knowledge on the subject of officials corresponding with the Press had been confined to the knowledge that officials were bound not to communicate State secrets or to make public matters coming to their knowledge in their official position, which were intended to be confidential and not to be made public.

I submitted such explanation as I considered was required in letter No. 569, on 29th April, 1889, and to this letter I now beg leave to refer, as it is clear that I then wrote under a complete misapprehension of the nature and full extent of the faults attributed to me, which has led Government to act under a complete misapprehension of my case. I considered, and I submit that on the natural construction of Mr. Thirkell White's letter of 25th March, 1889, I was justified in considering that I was not required to do more than offer an explanation of an alleged breach of the Government Orders of 16th August, 1884, by me in communicating with Mr. Moylan, and accordingly I contented myself with stating how the letter came to be written by me, and I did not think it necessary to go into an explanation of the body of the letter itself.

Had I appreciated or anticipated the full extent of the unfavourable impression produced by my letter to Mr. Moylan, I should have submitted a reply of a much more detailed character than that of the 29th April, and should have gone through the letter in question sentence by sentence, in place of confining myself to a general reply to what I conceived to be a general charge. I certainly had no idea of the serious misconceptions entertained by Government respecting the meaning of the references contained in the letter to Mr. Moylan, and there was nothing in Mr. Thirkell White's letter to suggest the extent of the explanations expected from me. These misconceptions and the extreme view taken by Government were not

known to or realised by me until, after my arrival in England, I received and considered the letter dated 3rd August from the Secretary to the Government of India to the Chief Commissioner. It now appears that the Government of India have put an altogether incorrect construction upon the contents of my letter to Mr. Moylan, and without giving me any opportunity of explanation, have come to the conclusion that it proves I "was in constant communication upon official matters with *The Times* correspondent." In order to show that my letter to Mr. Moylan will not bear such construction, it is necessary that I should go through it paragraph by paragraph.

6. In the first paragraph of the letter to Mr. Moylan I refer to letters from Messrs. Walter and Macgregor returned to me by Mr. Moylan, and in the fourth paragraph I state that I had written to Mr. MacDonald "re appointment of Symes," etc. The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, in his letter of 3rd August, appends the remarks in the margin to these names. ("Mr. Walter, the proprietor, Mr. Macgregor, the Calcutta correspondent, and Mr. MacDonald, the sub-manager, of *The Times*, are, it is presumed, the gentlemen referred to.")

These assumptions are correct, but the inference drawn from them, that I was in communication with these gentlemen upon official matters, is gratuitous, and in fact erroneous. The letter from Mr. Walter was a private letter acknowledging the receipt of a Shan gong I had sent him. So far as I know, none of the members of *The Times* staff ever communicate with Mr. Walter on topics connected with that paper, and as far as his name is concerned any inference to my detriment is absolutely unjustified. The letter from Mr. Macgregor was also a purely private one, written to me from Bangkok, where he then was, and has been ever since. I believe moreover as a fact that during his absence from India he has not written or inspired anything in *The Times* or any other newspaper. I sent those two letters to Mr. Moylan as one friend sends to another letters in which the latter is interested. They contained no information on official matters. My letter to Mr. MacDonald was also a private one. It is true that it criticised certain appointments that had recently been made, but these were appointments which had been made public, and on which I venture to submit I had a right to my private opinion, and to express it privately to any friend. Mr. MacDonald is one of my most valued friends. I was writing to him privately, and referring as a matter of gossip to things which were, or might be known to all the world, and certainly were known to everyone in Burma. That this gossip was understood by him to be private, and not intended for any Press purposes is fully proved by the fact that they were never referred to *The Times*, directly or indirectly. It would have caused me extreme surprise and annoyance had there been any public reference of the kind. Mr. MacDonald treated my letter in the spirit in which it was written, viz., as a purely private communication between friends.

7. I now deal with the third paragraph, quoted on margin. This must be taken together with the fifth paragraph. ("Daly's management of the north Shan States is a scandal. He works direct with the Chief Commissioner. Hildebrand and the Commissioner, Northern Division (Colonel Strover), are quite ignored. Fancy the political charge of all the Northern States, with a population of some 2,000,000 people, and relations with Chinese frontier, entrusted to a young lieutenant. They require an experienced man, the best to be had—say Hildebrand or Parrott. When reference is made to this by you or Hannay see that information cannot be traced to me.")

Enclosures (1) and (2) dated 19th and 30th January.

In the *Mandalay Herald* of 22nd January a most unjustifiable and libellous attack had been made upon me with reference to the Momeit incident, charging me with being responsible for the death of Lieut. Nugent under highly disgraceful circumstances. (This incident is referred to in paragraph 5 of my letter of 25th April, and correspondence in connection therewith is annexed, to which I would invite attention.) Upon the article coming to my knowledge I felt the matter very keenly, and at once telegraphed to Mr. Moylan, in his capacity of barrister, for advice as to taking legal proceedings against the *Mandalay Herald*, and at the same time wrote to him on the subject. I also wrote to Mr. Hannay, telling him what I had done, and asking him in my behalf to see and consult Mr. Moylan on the subject. To put Mr. Moylan fully in possession of the facts, so that he might advise me effectually, it was necessary that I should send him the private correspondence on the subject, which had passed between the Chief Commissioner and myself. I submit there was no impropriety in sending him these

confidentially under those peculiar circumstances. It was for the same reason that I gave my private opinion as to the reason of the turbulent state of the adjoining districts, which gave rise to the situation upon which I had taken action to defend Momeit. I warned Mr. Moylan as I did, believing that he and Mr. Hannay would be of my opinion on the subject, and might thoughtlessly, in the course of conversation, support their opinion by referring to mine. It has not been suggested, nor is it a fact, that information based upon the private documents sent to Mr. Moylan, or upon the references in my letter, was published in *The Times* or elsewhere. They were sent to him as, for the moment, my legal adviser, and they were treated by him as strictly private and confidential.

8. Paragraph 5 of my letter to Mr. Moylan begins with the passage quoted on margin. ("Regarding affairs in this part of the world, my telegrams will have kept you fairly well informed regarding the very serious movement which has been stopped by my action in garisoning Momeit (capital) and in delivering a severe blow to the advance band (300) of Saw Yauine when near, within 8 miles of the capital.")

It is evident that these words have produced an unfavourable impression on the Government, and yet they do not in the least bear the construction put on them. It is true that I openly sent occasional telegrams to Mr. Moylan, but these telegrams were in every case mere details of events of public interest and notoriety which had happened in or near my district, such as defeats of dacoits, etc., which would have become known to him a day or two later had I not telegraphed. They in fact simply contain such news of events as is constantly communicated to the press by civil and military officers throughout Burma, and it has never been considered that such communications involve any breach of official rules or obligations. On the contrary, I believed and still believe that they are regarded as useful in preventing the spread of unfounded and alarmist rumours amongst the public, by securing the prompt publication of correct information. If all the telegrams which I sent to Mr. Moylan were inspected they would fully bear out this assertion of their nature. It would be seen that none of them were intended to or in fact did, throw discredit upon members of the Commission or the administration of the Chief Commissioner.

9. As to the concluding sentences of my letter to Mr. Moylan, while again expressing my regret that I should have been led to make use of somewhat intemperate language regarding the gentlemen therein mentioned, I have to submit that the expressions were used in a purely private letter written by one friend to another under the peculiar circumstances already explained, and never intended to be seen by a third party, and that there is nothing in them to prove that I was "in constant communication upon official matters with *The Times* correspondent," or that I was "in the habit," of supplying him with information intended to throw discredit on the local administration, or that anything I ever wrote to him was used for that purpose. I wrote to him with all the freedom of an aggrieved man placing his case fully before his counsel. I submit that there is no rule which prevents an official from entertaining or expressing in private his opinion of his brother officers, and expression of that sort cannot surely be brought within a regulation tending to enforce official secrecy.

10. Having now submitted a complete and detailed explanation of the references in the letter, I would invite particular attention to the passages on margin from the letter of the Secretary to the Government of India dated 3rd August. ("These passages prove beyond question that Mr. Colquhoun was in constant communication upon official matters with *The Times* correspondent; that in one instance, at all events, he had sent to Mr. Moylan certain confidential documents which he had received from you, and that the information which he was in the habit of supplying to Mr. Moylan was intended to throw discredit upon the conduct of members of the Burmese Commission, serving in other parts of the Province, and upon the administration of the Chief Commissioner.")

"If there could be any doubt as to Mr. Colquhoun's consciousness that he was acting in a manner disloyal to his official superiors, and inconsistent with the rules of the service, that doubt is removed by his injunction to Mr. Moylan that in the event of any reference to the subject of his communication being made in *The Times* or the *Rangoon Gazette*, of which Mr. Hannay is editor, care should be taken to prevent the information from being traced to him." These passages do me serious injustice. Whatever other unfavourable conclusions may be drawn from the single letter of 30th Jan., 1889, addressed to Mr. Moylan, I positively assert that I was not, as a matter of fact, in constant, or frequent, communication with *The Times*

correspondent, and it is not the case that I "was in the habit of supplying to Mr. Moylan information intended to throw discredit upon the conduct of members of the Burmese Commission," etc. I may point out that the very extract quoted from the letter in the second of the above paragraphs is in itself evidence, which may be described as conclusive, that the letter was not one of a number or series, but an exceptional one, and that it did not form part of a regular and systematic correspondence. Had the latter been the case, the injunction to secrecy would not have been necessary. This point I would impress on the attention of the Government, because it is manifest, from the passages quoted on margin, that Government believes I was constantly communicating to Mr. Moylan private information of the kind contained in the letter to him, and that I am in a large, or at least in some, degree responsible for the statements and representations hostile to the Local Government of Burma which Mr. Moylan has supplied to *The Times*. I beg in the clearest and most emphatic terms to disclaim any knowledge or privacy of such statements or representations until I saw them in print, and to state that I took no part, direct or indirect, in connection with their preparation or publication. Far from this being the case, it is known (and I believe to Mr. Moylan) that I disapproved of many of the telegrams which he communicated to *The Times*.

The injunction to secrecy is explained in paragraph 7 of this letter. I maintain that it is a very ordinary one in private correspondence, that it was natural under the circumstances, and that it has been misunderstood, as such references in private letters are liable to be misinterpreted by strangers to the parties and the correspondence.

11. I invite reference to Messrs. Walter, MacDonald, Macgregor, Moylan, and Hannay, on the above statement referring to them, and annex copies of correspondence which has passed between Mr. Hannay and myself.

12. I would beg to call attention to the extraordinary severity of the undeserved punishment which has been inflicted upon me—a punishment which falls only one degree short of the extreme official penalty of dismissal from the public service. The Governor-General in Council, while testifying to the fact that during my employment in the Burma Commission I have "on many occasions exhibited energy and courage," has not only branded me with the stigma of disloyalty and insubordination, which is wholly undeserved, but has also directed my removal from the Commission, and has remanded me to the position which I occupied in the Public Works Department four years ago—a step equivalent to the immediate loss of salary to the extent of about Rs. 800 per mensem, not to speak of the loss of future prospects. By my reversion I am practically deprived of about four years' seniority, and am placed below many officers of that department who were previously my juniors. Such a sentence is little, if at all, short of professional ruin. It practically puts an end to all prospect of advancement in the Government service, and, by affixing an undeserved stigma on my name, makes it difficult for me to open a new career for myself in any other direction. By my suspension, and the publicity which it has given to my alleged offence, I have already suffered very seriously.

Until this blow fell upon me I had hoped that my services through many years under the Government of India, some of a special character, for which I have received the approval of the Government of India and Secretary of State, together with the services I have endeavoured to render to British Commerce, and for which the leading mercantile communities at home and in the East have on various occasions invited special recognition at the hands of the Government, would eventually be rewarded by some mark of distinction. Instead of that I find myself suddenly branded with undeserved ignominy, and disgraced in the eyes of my brother officials and of the public.

13. I repeat in the most solemn manner that the Government has totally misapprehended my position in connection with Mr. Moylan. I was never in communication with him, or any one else (except on the one occasion referred to in paragraph 7 of my letter of 20th April, with the direct approval of the Chief Commissioner), of official matters, either knowing or believing or expecting that such communications would be the subjects of statements in the public press. I wrote to him, as I wrote to Mr. Walter, Mr. MacDonald, and Mr. Macgregor, as private friends and no more. The circumstance that these gentlemen happened in one capacity or another to be associated with *The Times* in no way altered the character of these letters. They were intended to be private, and no more. They were regarded and treated as private by those who received them, and never in any other manner. A private letter as I respectfully submit, does not cease to be private because the person to whom it

is addressed happens to be connected with the Press, any more than it would cease to be unofficial because the person to whom it was addressed was an official. I had nothing to do with Mr. Moylan's opinions and comments on affairs in Burma, and I did not approve of many of them. The Government has misjudged my case under a complete misapprehension of some references in the letter to Mr. Moylan—references which were quite clear to him, as they were to me, but which, like most references in other private letters, are liable to be misunderstood when read by those for whose eyes they were never intended.

14. I would therefore most respectfully request that the whole facts of the case may be again taken into consideration in the light of the further explanations now given, and that the Government will be pleased to withdraw the orders contained in Home Department letter No. 1,357 of 3rd August, 1889, and to direct my restitution to the position of Deputy-Commissioner which I held prior to that date. If, however, Government should still be of opinion that I should be punished for having written the letter to Mr. Moylan, then having regard to the circumstances under which it was written, and to the fact that it was not addressed to him as *Times* correspondent, but in his capacity of my legal adviser, and that it does not bear the interpretation which has been put upon it, I would submit that my unintentional breach of official rules would have been sufficiently punished by an official censure, and that the stigma of disloyalty and insubordination may be withdrawn, and that I may be re-gazetted to the rank of Deputy Commissioner, or else be permitted to retire from the Government service on such a special pension as Government may think fit under the special circumstances to grant. I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient Servant.

A. R. COLQUHOUN.

This correspondence is in a sense tragic enough. An element of comedy is lent to it by Mr. Moylan, who did not get his letter, and who thereupon addressed the following lively epistle to the Government of India:—

"SIR,—I have become aware that a private letter, addressed to me by Mr. A. R. Colquhoun, has been intercepted by Sir Charles Crosswaite, and that he has detained it, and kept it in his possession for some months. I do not give detailed evidence of these statements at present because I am informed that the Government of India have evidence of the facts before them. If, however, the Government of India require any evidence of the detention of the letter, I am prepared to furnish ample proof of the fact."

"I thereupon addressed the following letter to Sir Charles Crosswaite:—

"From E. K. Moylan, to H. T. White, Chief Secretary to the Chief Commissioner:—

"SIR,—It has come to my knowledge that the Chief Commissioner has intercepted and detained for some time a letter addressed to me by Mr. A. R. Colquhoun. That letter I have been informed on the best authority was posted by Mr. Colquhoun at Mogok in an envelope addressed to me."

"I have now to call upon the Chief Commissioner to immediately send me the letter in question, which he had no right whatever to detain."

"To avoid confusion and delay, and in case the Chief Commissioner should have intercepted and opened, or have in his possession other letters addressed to me, I beg to state that the letter I asked for is one dated Mogok, 30th January, 1889."

"An early reply will oblige me, as I desire, if the letter is not at once sent me, to take other steps."

"Yours, &c., (Signed) E. K. MOYLAN."

"I believe the Government of India are aware that Mr. Colquhoun has solemnly declared that he posted the letter in question at Mogok in a sealed envelope addressed to me. On the other hand I am informed that Sir Charles Crosswaite asserts that the letter fell into his hands owing to its having been placed by mistake in an envelope addressed to him, and sent to him through the post."

"I submit that whether Mr. Colquhoun's plain and straight forward statement is believed or Sir Charles Crosswaite's apocryphal story be accepted, it makes absolutely no difference as to my right to have the letter given up to me. The question of whether Sir Charles Crosswaite did or did not open a letter addressed to another person can merely affect the question of the nature and extent of the offence which he has committed. Even if Sir Charles Crosswaite's statement is true, it can afford no justification for now detaining my letter."

"On this question I would desire briefly to point out that every person who detains a posted letter is liable to two months' rigorous imprisonment with a fine. Sir Charles Crosswaite has, therefore, rendered himself liable to severe punishment."

"I have, therefore, to ask the Government of India to direct Sir Charles Crosswaite immediately to deliver up to me the letter written to me by Mr. A. R. Colquhoun."

"I should have before now prosecuted Sir Charles Crosswaite in a criminal court but that some legal difficulties might arise."

"I have further to ask the Government of India to grant me sanction to prosecute Sir Charles Crosswaite criminally for the gross and flagrant breach of the law he has committed."

"Yours, (Signed) E. K. MOYLAN."

By way of conclusion to the whole matter we may add that ultimately Mr. Moylan was informed that he could prosecute Sir Charles Crosswaite if he wished (which he has been prudent enough not to do), and that the letter was returned to the writer to South Africa. Mr. Colquhoun has a new and not less distinguished career opened to him there, and we have no doubt he will make the most of it, but obviously he has had a lesson in the caution necessary in conducting his private correspondence. We cannot ourselves pretend to feel any sympathy with him, and it will greatly astonish us to learn that his representations have had the effect of mitigating his punishment.

SAILING RACE.

The first stage of the sailing race for Mr. Whitfield's Farewell Cup and other prizes took place on Saturday last. A strong northerly breeze prevailed when the boats assembled near the starting line and dodged about in the choppy seas which came in. The course was round the North Mark, the Lightship, the Home Mark, the Green Lightship, a flag boat off Kanagawa, and home, finishing between the bailing barge and the French Hatoba. Capt. Efford, who was officer of the day, fired the starting gun at two p.m. precisely, and a few seconds later *Maid Marion* was across, followed promptly by *Sayonara* with *Trawler* thundering along in her wake, the others going over in the following order:—*La Belle*, *Princess Maud*, *Jessie*, *Petrel*, *Tortoise*, *Molly Bawn*, *Lady Louise*, *Scow*, *Box of Curios*, and *Nautilus* (which has been acquired by a new owner) last. The *Maid* fetched the North Mark in two tacks and was soon booming down under spinnaker for the Lightship. The sea and frequent rain squalls bothered the smaller craft badly, however. Shortly after the start *Jessie* bore up and came home with mast sprung; *Box of Curios* carried away some of her head gear and had to return; *Sayonara* got round the North Mark, but could not proceed further and *Petrel* was also compelled to bear up for home. Several of the smaller boats sent down their top sails for the stretch in from the Lightship, but *Princess Maud* kept hers aloft throughout. The stiff breeze favoured *Trawler*; and as moreover, with the exception of the trip to the North Mark and the shorter beat to the Green Lightship, there was no windward work, she was able to maintain a capital position all round. *Maid Marion* continued to draw ahead of everything and finished at 3h. 42m. 39s., having gone round the 17 races' course in 20m. 10s., *Trawler* coming in 20m. 41s. later. *Lady Louise* came in close astern of the big yard, carrying only lower canvas; *Princess Maud* next staggering under ordinary sail with the addition of gaff topsail and big balloon jib; *Molly Bawn* carried spinnaker half way home from the Kanagawa mark; and *Tortoise*, again sailed with remarkable judgment, did the stretch home with spinnaker on bowsprit end. It is of course vain to speculate on the result of a race, of which only half has been sailed, for the times for Saturday's race and those of a week hence must be added together before the handicap can be deducted. It will be seen, however, that, applying one half of *Trawler's* total handicap to Saturday's time she lost first place by 41 sec., and none of the other craft came near the leader on their allowance. The second race is almost certain to upset any conclusions that may be based on the first stage.

The following are the official times:—

	Light-ship.	Home.	Finish.	Handicap on 100 sec.
<i>Maid Marion</i>	2 49.40	3.02.29	3.42.39	0
<i>Sayonara</i>	—	—	—	32
<i>Trawler</i>	3.56.35	3.10.32	4.03.30	47
<i>La Belle</i>	3.10.52	3.27.03	4.40.51	58
<i>Princess Maud</i>	3.59.25	3.14.30	4.06.18	61
<i>Jessie</i>	—	—	—	56
<i>Petrel</i>	—	—	—	53
<i>Tortoise</i>	5.00.23	3.14.54	4.10.43	35
<i>Molly Bawn</i>	3.00.00	3.15.00	4.06.11	26
<i>Lady Louise</i>	2.59.32	3.13.41	4.01.54	14
<i>Scow</i>	—	3.32.20	4.33.11	87
<i>Box of Curios</i>	—	—	—	87
<i>Nautilus</i>	3.19.10	3.47.57	4.35.37	82

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, October 2nd.

The Emperor William has had a remarkably enthusiastic reception at Vienna.

The United States Senate has passed the amended Tariff Bill.

General Lord Wolseley was the recipient of a grand ovation on arriving in Dublin.

London, October 4th.

A great conflagration has occurred in Sydney. The fire broke out in the heart of the business part of the town, the City of Sydney Bank, the Athenæum, and the premises of six of the leading firms being completely gutted. The loss is estimated at £1,500,000.

London, October 8th.

France has concluded peace with Dahomey.

The United States Treasury purchased on Monday 300,000 ounces of silver at 112½.

London, October 9th.

A fresh revolt is feared in Buenos Ayres, and precautionary measures have been taken.

Stanhope denies that there is a famine in Ireland.

London, October 10th.

Signor Crispi, speaking at Florence, stated that it was the firm resolve of the Italian Government to maintain the alliances into which they had entered.

(FROM THE "SINGAPORE FREE PRESS.")

London, September 12th.

The disturbances at Southampton have been quelled and the dockers are returning to their work.

Reports from America give bad accounts of the grain crop there.

London, September 16th.

The Alhambra at Granada has been totally destroyed by fire.

London, September 16th.

At the opening of the Portuguese Session the opposition assaulted Senhor Serpa Pinto and hooted the Minister when reading the African Treaty; the sitting had to be suspended, and on being resumed the Minister submitted an amendment to appease the popular hostility.

London, September 17th.

The Alhambra Palace in Granada is on fire. The Washington Treasury since the 4th inst. has purchased one million three hundred and ninety-six thousand ounces of silver at one hundred and seventeen thirty-six to fifteen sixty.

London, September 18th.

The reported loss of the Austrian frigate *Taurus* turns out to be unfounded.

The Portuguese Ministry have resigned in consequence of a split among the supporters of the African Treaty.

A meeting has taken place at Liegnitz between the Emperors of Germany and Austria.

London, September 20th.

There is intense political excitement at Lisbon in consequence of a collision between the people and police. The troops in supporting the latter fired on the mob, injuring several.

The reported issue of the slavery decree (Zanzibar) by the Germans is denied.

Messrs. Dillon and O'Brien have been arrested for inciting the Irish tenantry to withhold payment of their rents.

IMPERIAL POST OFFICE NOTICES.

MAILS CLOSE AT YOKOHAMA.

For Hongkong, India, Europe, etc., via Shanghai.—Per *Caladonia*. To-morrow, the 12th instant, at 7.30 A.M. At 7 A.M. Registry ceases. At 12 Noon To-day, the 11th instant, Money Order Office closes.

For Vancouver and Beyond.—Per *Abysinia*. To-morrow, the 12th instant, at 8 A.M. At 11 P.M. To-day, the 11th instant, Registry ceases. At 12 Noon Money Order Office closes. Positively no letters received on board.

For Shanghai and Coast Ports.—Per *Yokohama Maru*. On Tuesday, the 14th instant, at 11 A.M. At 10 A.M. Registry ceases.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki, & Kobe	per N. Y. K.	Friday, Oct. 17th.
From America	per P. M. Co.	Friday, Oct. 10th.*
From Canada, &c.	per C. P. M. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 12th.*
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Oct. 18th.*
From Hongkong, per P. & O. Co.		Sunday, Oct. 12th.*
From Europe via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd.	Sunday, Oct. 12th.†
From Europe via Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, Oct. 18th.†
From Hongkong, per O. & O. Co.		Saturday Oct. 18th.*

* City of Rio & Tanis left San Francisco on September 23rd. † Since left Vancouver on September 23th. ‡ Since left San Francisco on October 1st. § Since left Nagasaki on October 9th. ¶ General Hinder left Hongkong on October 6th. ¶ Since left Hongkong on October 9th. ** Oceanic (with French mail) left Hongkong on October 9th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Canada, &c.	per C. P. M. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 12th.
For Europe, via Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 12th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, Oct. 14th.
For Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd.	Wedn'day, Oct. 15th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Friday, Oct. 17th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Oct. 18th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Thursday, Oct. 30th.

TIME TABLES AND STEAMERS.

TOKYO-YOKOHAMA RAILWAY.

DOWN TRAINS LEAVE SHIMBASHI Station at 6.05*, 6.40, 8.35, 9.30*, 10.25, and 11.45 a.m., and 1.25, 2.30, 3.55, 4.45, 5.50, 6.50, 8.30, 9.55, and 11.55 p.m.

UP TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 6.30, 7.20, 8.10, 9.15, 10.22, and 11.30 a.m., and 12.45, 2.3, 4.25, 5.30, 6.35, 7.50, 9.10, 10.05, and 11.05 p.m.

FARES—First-class, *sen* 60; second-class, *sen* 40; third-class, *sen* 20.

Trains marked * run through without stopping at Omori, Kawasaki, Isurumi, and Kuriyama Stations. Those marked † run through without stopping at Omori, Kawasaki, and Tsurumi Stations.

TOKAIDO RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA (down) at 6.50, 9.10, 10.20, 11.25 a.m., and 12.40, 3.25, 4.55, 5.35, and 7.45 p.m.; and Kozu (up) at 6.35, 8.40, 9.40, and 11.07 a.m., and 1.17, 2.45, 4.58, 7.25, and 9.45 p.m.

FARES—To Hiojogaya, first-class *sen* 6, second-class *sen* 4, third-class *sen* 2; to Totsukawa, *sen* 18, *sen* 12, *sen* 6; to Ofuna *sen* 36, *sen* 24, *sen* 12; to Fujiwara, *sen* 42, *sen* 28, *sen* 14; to Hiratsuka, *sen* 66, *sen* 44, *sen* 22; to Oiso, *sen* 75, *sen* 50, *sen* 25; and to Kozu, *sen* 93, *sen* 62, *sen* 31.

Down trains at 6.50 a.m. run no further than Kyoto arriving there at 11.30 p.m.; at 10.20 a.m. no further than Nagoya, arriving at 10.10 p.m.; at 12.40 p.m. no further than Shizuoka, arriving there at 6.50 p.m.; at 3.25 p.m. no further than Shizuoka, arriving at 8.45 p.m.; and the train at 5.35 p.m. runs to Kobe, arriving at 12.45 p.m. next day.

A tramway runs between Kozu and Yumoto (distance 4 mi.) Jinrikisha may be hired between Yumoto and MIYANOSHITA (distance 13 mi.)

OFUNA-YOKOSUKA RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE OFUNA (down) at 7.30 and 9.40 a.m., and 12.05, 1.30, 4.03, 6.14, and 8.30 p.m.; KAMAKURA (down) at 7.41 and 9.51 a.m., and 12.16, 1.41, 4.14, 6.25, and 8.41 p.m.; and ZUSHIMURA (down) at 7.50 and 10 a.m., and 12.25, 1.50, 4.23, 6.34, and 8.50 p.m.; YOKOSUKA (up) at 6.45, 8.55, and 11.20 a.m., and 12.50, 3.10, and 7.45 p.m.; ZUSHIMURA (up) at 7.01, 9.12, and 11.36 a.m., and 1.05, 3.16, 5.26, and 8.01 p.m.; and KAMAKURA (up) at 7.11, 9.22, and 11.46 a.m., and 1.15, 3.26, 5.36 and 8.10 p.m.

FARES—To Kamakura, first-class *sen* 9, second-class *sen* 6, third-class *sen* 3; to Zushimura *sen* 15, *sen* 10, *sen* 5; and to Yokosuka *sen* 30, *sen* 20, *sen* 10.

SHINJIKU-HACHIOJI RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE SHINJIKU, TOKYO, (down) at 6.55 and 9.55 a.m. and 12.52, 4, and 7 p.m.; and HACHIOJI (up) at 5.25, 8.25, and 11.25 a.m. and 2.20 and 5.30 p.m. FARES—First-class *sen* 90; second-class *sen* 60; third-class *sen* 30.

OYAMA-MAEBASHI RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE OYAMA (down) at 7.15 and 9.45 a.m., and 2.15 and 5.20 p.m.; KIRIU (down) at 5.11, and 11.40 a.m., and 4.10 p.m.; MAEBASHI (up) at 6.12 and 10.35 a.m., and 1.55 and 6.35 p.m.; and KIRIU (up) at 5.10, 7.13, and 11.37 a.m. and 2.57 p.m.

FARES—Oyama to Kiriu, first-class *sen* 97, second-class *sen* 66, third-class *sen* 33; to Maebashi, first-class *sen* 1.51, second-class *sen* 1.2, third-class *sen* 51.

OYAMA-MITO RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE OYAMA (down) at 6.50 and 9.25 a.m., and 2.20 and 5.15 p.m.; and MITO (up) at 6.25 and 10.10 a.m., and 2.05 and 4.55 p.m.

FARES—First-class, *yen* 1.26; second-class, *sen* 84; third-class, *sen* 42.

KOZU-KOBE RAILWAY.

DOWN TRAINS LEAVE KOZU at 8.30 a.m., and 12.50, 2.13, 4.57, and 7.10 p.m.; GOTEMBA at 9.52 a.m., and 1.32, 3.35, 6.18, and 8.32 p.m.; NUMAZU at 5.20 and 10.40 a.m., and 2.30, 4.27, 7.09, and 9.24 p.m.; SHIZUOKA at 7.20 a.m., and 12.19, 4.12, 6.50, and 10.59 p.m.; HAMAMATSU at 6 and 10 a.m., and 2.40 and 6.45 p.m., and 1.16 a.m.; TOYOHASHI at 7.10 and 11.10 a.m., and 3.39 and 7.45 p.m., and 2.14 a.m.; OFU at 8.59 a.m., and 1.06, 5.22, and 9.28 p.m., and 4.02 a.m.; NAGOYA at 9.45 and 11.50 a.m., and 2. and 6.08 p.m., and 5.44 a.m.; GIFU at 10.53 a.m., and 1.3.06, and 7.09 p.m., and 6 a.m.; OKAZU at 11.24 a.m., and 1.28, 3.33, and 7.38 p.m., and 6.28 a.m.; MAIBARA at 9.45 a.m., and 1.24.9, 5.07, and 8.55 p.m., and 7.45 a.m.; HIKONE at 10.05 a.m., and 1.18, 3.02, 5.25, and 9.06 p.m., and 7.58 a.m.; BABA (Ofu) at 12.3.15, 4.40, 7.10, and 10.43 p.m., and 9.34 a.m.; KYOTO at 12.45, 4.05, 5.35, and 8 p.m., and 10.14 a.m.; and OKAZU at 2.25, 5.35, 7.20, and 9.50 p.m., and 11.42 a.m.

UP TRAINS LEAVE KOBE at 5.55 and 9.55 a.m. and 1.55, 3.45, and 5.30 p.m.; OKAZU at 7.06 and 11.06 a.m., and 3.06, 5, and 6.36 p.m.; KYOTO at 5.55 and 8.40 a.m., and 12.40, 4.36, 6.40, and 8.05 p.m.; BABA (Ofu) at 6.18, and 9.31 a.m., and 1.30, 5.25, 7.31, and 8.50 p.m.; HIKONE at 7.56, and 11.05 a.m., and 3.03, 7.02, 9.08, and 10.25 p.m.; MAIBARA at 8.13, and 11.20 a.m., and 3.19, 7.20, and 10.42 p.m.; OKAZU at 9.30 a.m., and 12.36, 4.37, 8.46, and 11.54 p.m.; GIFU at 9.57 a.m., and 1.02, 5.04, and 9.15 p.m., and 12.17 a.m.; NAGOYA at 6, and 11 a.m., and 2.10 and 6.20 p.m., and 1.09 a.m.; OFU at 6.43 and 11.44 a.m., and 2.56 and 7.04 p.m., and 1.41 a.m.; TOYOHASHI at 8.30 a.m., and 1.30, 4.42, and 8.52 p.m., and 3.17 a.m.; HAMAMATSU at 6.30 and 9.45 a.m., and 2.45 and 6 p.m., and 4.25 a.m.; SHIZUOKA at 5.15 and 9.07 a.m., and 12.45, 5.20, and 9.45 p.m., and 7.08 a.m.; NUMAZU at 7.03 and 10.40 a.m., and 2.24 and 7.14 p.m., and 8.43 a.m.; GOTEMBA at 8.15 and 11.58 a.m., and 3.35 and 8.28 p.m., and 9.53 a.m.; and Kozu at 9.40 a.m., and 1.17, 4.54, and 9.45 p.m., and 11.07 a.m.

FARES—Kozu to Gotemba: first-class, *sen* 66, second-class *sen* 44, third-class *sen* 22; to Numazu *sen* 1.11, *sen* 74, *sen* 37; to Shizuoka *sen* 2.13, *sen* 1.42, *sen* 71; to Hamamatsu *sen* 3.57, *sen* 2.38, *sen* 1.19; to Toyohashi *sen* 4.23, *sen* 2.82, *sen* 1.41; to Ofu *sen* 5.22, *sen* 3.48, *sen* 1.74; to Nagoya *sen* 5.58, *sen* 3.72, *sen* 1.81; to Gifu *sen* 6.15, *sen* 4.10, *sen* 2.05; to Okazaki *sen* 6.42, *sen* 4.28, *sen* 2.14; to Maibara *sen* 7.05, *sen* 4.70, *sen* 2.35; to Hikone *sen* 7.17, *sen* 4.78, *sen* 2.39; to Baba *sen* 8.10, *sen* 5.40, *sen* 2.70; to Kyoto *sen* 8.40, *sen* 5.60, *sen* 2.80; to Osaka *sen* 9.21, *sen* 6.14, *sen* 3.07; and to Kobe *sen* 9.81, *sen* 6.54, *sen* 3.27.

The down train at 8.30 a.m. runs no further than Kyoto, arriving there at 11.30 p.m.; at 12.40 p.m. no further than Nagoya, arriving at 10.10 p.m.; at 3.25 p.m. no further than Shizuoka, arriving at 9 p.m.; and the train at 5.30 p.m. runs to Kobe, arriving at 12.50 p.m. next day. The up train at 5.55 a.m. runs no further than Shizuoka, arriving there at 8.40 p.m.; at 9.55 a.m. and 1.55 p.m. no further than Nagoya, arriving respectively at 10.05 and 10.15 p.m.; and the train at 5.30 p.m. runs to Shimabashi arriving at 1.40 p.m. next day.

TOKYO-MAEBASHI RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE TOKYO (Ueno) (down) at 6.40, 8.50, and 11.40 a.m., and 2.40 and 5.40 p.m.; and MAEBASHI (up) at 6.45, 8.55, and 11.50 a.m., and 2.50 and 5.50 p.m.

TOKYO-SHIOGAMA RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE UENO (down) at 6.40, 8.50, and 11.40 a.m., and 2.40 and 5.40 p.m.; UTSUNOMIYA (down) at 10 a.m. and 3.03 and 5.59 p.m.; SHIRAKAWA (down) at 8 a.m. and 12.36 and 5.41 p.m.; KORIYAMA (down) at 9.25 a.m. and 1.54 and 6.58 p.m.; FUKUSHIMA (down) at 7.35 and 11.33 a.m. and 3.45 p.m.; SENDAI (down) at 6.15, 10.25, and 10.40 a.m. and 2.30, 6.35, and 6.50 p.m.

TRAINS LEAVE ICHINOSUKI (up) at 6.40 a.m., and 2.50 p.m.; SHIOGAMA (up) at 7 and 11.05 a.m., and 3.10 and 7.15 p.m.; SENDAI (up) at 7.35 and 11.40 a.m., and 3.45 p.m.; FUKUSHIMA (up) at 6.40 and 10.26 a.m. and 2.36 p.m.; KORIYAMA (up) at 8.29 a.m., and 12.22 and 4.28 p.m.; SHIRAKAWA (up) at 6.35 and 9.47 a.m., and 1.40 p.m.; UTSUNOMIYA (up) at 6.20 and 9.05 a.m., and 12.18, 4.14, and 6.33 p.m.

FARES.—Ueno to Utsunomiya, first-class *sen* 2, second-class *sen* 1.32, third-class *sen* 66; to Koriyama *sen* 4.10, *sen* 2.74, *sen* 1.37; to Fukushima *sen* 5, *sen* 3.32, *sen* 1.66; to Sendai *sen* 6.45, *sen* 4.30, *sen* 2.15; to Shiohama *sen* 6.75, *sen* 4.50, *sen* 2.25.

TAKETOYO-OFU RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE TAKETOYO (up) at 5.40 and 10.40 a.m., and OFU (down) at 3.55 and 8.55 p.m.

FARES—Second-class, 26 *sen*, third-class, 13 *sen*.

UTSUNOMIYA-NIKKO RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE UTSUNOMIYA (down) at 5.25 and 10.05 a.m., and 12.25* and 3.05 p.m.; and NIKKO (up) at 7.20 and 11.55 a.m., and 2.25 and 4.55* p.m.

* Through Trains to and from Ueno.

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

STEAMERS LEAVE THE NIPPON HATOBAS daily at 7.50 and 10.30 a.m., and 1.45 and 4.00 p.m.; and LEAVE YOKOSUKA at 7.10 and 10.30 a.m., and 1.30 and 4.50 p.m.—Fare, *sen* 20.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 3rd October.—Shanghai and ports 27th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Polyhymnia, German steamer, 1,052, Schaefer, 4th October.—Hongkong 26th September, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, P. Hussey, 4th October.—Hakodate 1st October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. M. Cavarly, 4th October.—Hongkong 28th September, General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Calédonien, French steamer, 2,500, Maulenge, 5th October.—Hongkong 27th September, Shanghai 1st, and Kobe 4th October, General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Alacrity (4), despatch vessel, Commander Robt. B. Macdonochie, 6th October.—Hakodate 4th October.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 6th October.—Kobe 4th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kara, British steamer, 1,508, De Ath, 7th October.—Kobe 5th October, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Brown, 7th October.—Hakodate 4th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Caroline (14), cruiser, Sir Wm. Wiseman, 7th October.—Hakodate 4th October.

Hyacinth (8), cruiser, Captain R. W. Craigie, 7th October.—Hakodate 4th October.

Imperieuse (10), flagship, Captain W. H. May, 7th October.—Hakodate 4th October.

Leander (10), cruiser, Captain B. Watson, 7th October.—Hakodate 4th October.

Mercury (13), cruiser, Captain C. J. Balfour, 7th October.—Hakodate 4th October.

Mutine (10), screw-sloop, Captain John H. Martin, 7th October.—Hakodate 4th October.

Pigmy (6), gunboat, Commander H. Hewett, 7th October.—Hakodate 4th October.

Rattler (6), gunboat, Captain W. Maitland, 7th October.—Hakodate 4th October.

Severn (12), cruiser, Captain W. H. Hall, 7th October.—Hakodate 4th October.

Villars (15), French cruiser, Commander J. C. H. Mayet, 7th October.—Hakodate 5th October.

Wanderer (4), composite-sloop, Commander G. A. Giffard, 7th October.—Hakodate 4th October.

Daiichi Maru, Japanese steamer, 985, Georgsen, 8th October.—Hakodate 1st October, General.—Nippon Kisen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 8th October.—Hakodate 6th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Wynn, 8th October.—Kobe 7th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, Speigallthal, 3rd October.—Akashi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,878, W. D. Mudie, 4th October.—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Omaha (12), U.S. flag-ship, Captain Cromwell, 4th October.—Kobe.

Telemachus, British steamer, 1,380, Jones, 4th October.—Kobe, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Wynn, 4th October.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Drummond, 4th October.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, P. Hussey, 5th October.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 6th October.—Nagasaki, General.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 7th October.—Shanghai and ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 7th October.—Nagasaki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,182, Walter, 7th October.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Arai, 7th October.—Yokohama, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,129, J. M. Cavarly, 8th October.—San Francisco, General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Brown, 8th October.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oopack, British steamer, 1,729, H. Kemp, 9th October.—Kobe, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, John Wynn, 10th October.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Caroline (14), cruiser, Captain Sir Wm. Wiseman, 10th October.—Singapore.

Mercury (13), cruiser, Captain C. J. Balfour, 10th October.—Hongkong.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer **Kobe Maru**, from Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. O. W. Willet and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. Pionkoff and 4 children, Mr. and Mrs. Kuster, Miss Kuster, Master Kuster, Lient. and Mrs. Perkins, Messrs. Hitomi, Matsumaga, M. Schlessler, and D. Meyerdirk in cabin; Mrs. Yamada, Mrs. Matsumaga, Mr. Furugaki, Mr. Yanagishita, Miss Kasai, Mr. Ah Shi Do, Mrs. Yashiro, Mr. S. Kato, and Mr. Kon Chai in second class, and 62 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer **Wakanoura Maru**, from Hakodate:—Mr. A. H. Anson in cabin; 2 passengers in second class, and 21 passengers in steerage.

Per American steamer **City of Peking**, from Hongkong:—Mr. D. Nowrojee and servant, Mr. H. B. Roper, Mr. M. M. Kuhn and servant, Mrs. Portusa and infant, Mr. Percival Spencer, Mr. B. Ruttonjee, and Mr. H. H. Lightwood in cabin.

Per French steamer **Calédonien**, from Hongkong via ports:—Messrs. T. Hoshi, Tokijuro Kato, K. Nozawa, K. Ito, Izrienka, H. G. Herron, Laconture, Mallet, I. Plugger, Miss A. Werner, Mr. Capelle, and Baron de Gouzhung and boy in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer **Nagato Maru**, from Kobe:—Dr. Max Pesca and Mr. John Crosby in cabin; 41 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer **Yamashiro Maru**, from Hakodate:—Mrs. Smithers in cabin; 5 passengers in second class, and 42 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer **Omi Maru**, from Kobe:—Mrs. Williams, child, and amah, Messrs. Powers and Asakuma in cabin; 46 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer **Ancona**, for Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. S. Cash, Mr. and Mrs. Hill, Mr. and Mrs. Pievost, Captain and Mrs. Christensen, Mr. and Mrs. Cohen, Major and Mrs. Wedgwood, Rev. and Mrs. Ashmore, Lieutenant Woodcock, R.A., Miss Oliva Blunt, Mrs. G. W. Miller, Miss Russell, Miss E. Russell, Miss A. R. Whitley, Mr. Wallace and 2 children, Mrs. J. A. Clunch and child, Mr. and Mrs. Upton, nurse, child, and infant, Miss Ozaki, Mrs. Wong, Mrs. Wong Yick Tong and amah, Miss Wymark, Messrs. A. M. Chalmers, F. Collins, H. F. Green, H. F. Arthur, R. Daniel, B. H. Pearson, J. Hutchings, Newman Cash, and Sergeant-Major Williamson in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer **Omi Maru**, for Kobe:—Miss Dr. Steinwood and Miss Bengel in cabin; 69 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer **Tokio Maru**, for Hakodate:—Mr. and Mrs. Sone and Mr. Maida in cabin; Messrs. Murasawa, Harada, and Ando in second class, and 30 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer **Kobe Maru**, for Shanghai and ports:—Rev. and Mrs. Taft and child, Rev. and Mrs. Headland, Dr. and Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Shandland, Dr. Ida Stevenson, Dr. R. R. Benn, Dr. C. P. Smith, Captain Carrow, Messrs. Strauss, W. Kerr, Hayashi, Ichifuji, Nagasato, Mahie, Takeda, Waterman, Tei, and Captain Steedman in cabin; Stanley's Opera Troupe (33), and Mr. Yoshimura in second class, and 52 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer **Sagami Maru**, for Hakodate:—Mr. and Mrs. Saito, Mr. Ishiguro, and Mr. Okada in second class, and 15 passengers in steerage.

Per American steamer **City of Peking**, for San Francisco:—Mr. I. Kuster, Mrs. Kuster, Miss Kuster, Master Kuster, Miss E. L. Rollman, Mr. J. F. Gouhan, and Mr. N. Schlessler in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer **Satsuma Maru**, for Kobe:—Mr. Yamauchi in cabin; and 27 passengers in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer **Ancona**, for Hongkong via ports:—Silk for France 105 bales.

Per American steamer **City of Peking**, for San Francisco:—

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	OTHER PORTS.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	1,051	1,036	162	2,249
Nagasaki	—	—	435	435
Hyogo	—	2,019	175	2,194

Yokohama	3,593	1,033	2,263	6,889
Hongkong	66	—	201	267
Total	4,710	4,088	3,236	12,034

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	OTHER PORTS.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	63	—	63
Hongkong	—	125	—	125
Yokohama	—	313	—	313
Total	—	501	—	501

REPORTS.

The German steamer **Polyhymnia**, Captain Beltrius, reports:—Left Hongkong the 20th September; had during the first days stormy weather from N.E.; during the last days fresh wind with rain and heavy swell from S.E. by E. Arrived at Yokohama the 4th October.

The Japanese steamer **Wakanoura Maru**, Captain Hussey, reports:—Left Hakodate the 1st October at 8 a.m.; had strong winds from the S.E. and rain; passed Shiriya-saki at 2 p.m.; 10 p.m. a heavy gale from the eastward with heavy sea and heavy rain; hove the ship to; at 11:30 on the 2nd kept on ship her course; gale decreasing; passed Kinkasan at midnight with moderate wind from the N.W. and cloudy weather. Arrived at Oginohama the 3rd at 1:30 a.m. and left the 4th at 11:45 a.m.; had light winds from N.W. and fine weather; at midnight fresh wind from N.E. with rain; passed Inboeye at 3:20 a.m.; Noshiro at 10 a.m. had fresh wind from N. with rain, continuing to port. Arrived at Yokohama the 4th October at 2:20 p.m.

The American steamer **City of Peking**, Captain Cavarly, reports:—Left Hongkong the 28th September at 3:04 p.m.; had fresh to strong N.E. winds with moderate sea the entire passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 4th October at 7:23 p.m. Passed German bark off Kuro Island, evidently going through Van Diemen Strait.

The Japanese steamer **Kobe Maru**, Captain Haswell, reports:—Left Shanghai the 27th September at 10:15 a.m.; had weather bright and clear with moderate E. wind. Arrived at Nagasaki the 29th at 0:45 a.m. and left at 5:8 p.m.; had light N.E. winds with fine clear weather. Arrived at Shimonoeki the 30th at 4:40 a.m. and left at 6:54 a.m.; had dull and overcast weather throughout the passage, with rain from midnight. Arrived at Kobe the 1st October at 3:37 a.m. and left the 2nd at noon; had overcast weather with moderate to fresh easterly winds and heavy S.E. swell. Arrived at Yokohama the 3rd October at 3 a.m.

The Japanese steamer **Nagato Maru**, Captain Ekstrand, reports:—Left Kobe the 4th October at 1 p.m.; had fresh N.E. breeze and overcast sky; at 4 p.m. weather threatening, barometer falling; put into Yure-no-ike; strong N.E. breeze with heavy rain squalls; on the 5th at 8 a.m. weather moderate, barometer going up; left Yure-no-ike at 8:45 a.m.; met at 9 a.m. P. & O. steamer and Nippon Yusen Kaisha steamer **Omi Maru**; at 4 p.m. U.S.S. **Omaha** steering about S.W.; fresh southerly breeze and rain; at 6 p.m. wind hauled round to N.W. with hard rain squalls and heavy S.S.W. sea running; ship rolling heavily; midnight rain decreasing; rain continuing at 4 a.m.; wind hauled to east, blowing hard with heavy rain; at 8 a.m. rounded Rock Island; wind hauled round to N.E. with constant rain continuing till arrival at Yokohama the 6th October at 4 p.m.

The Japanese steamer **Yamashiro Maru**, Captain Young, reports:—Left Hakodate the 6th October at 6:20 p.m.; had fresh N.E. winds and heavy rain with following sea to Kinkasan, which was passed at 10 a.m. on the 7th; had cloudy and fine weather from thence to port. Arrived at Yokohama the 8th October at 10 a.m.

The Japanese steamer **Omi Maru**, Captain Wynn, reports:—Left Kobe the 7th October at noon; had fresh N.E. breeze and clear weather to Cape Hino; thence fresh to strong easterly winds with high head sea and overcast weather with rain to Rock Island; thence to port strong N.E. winds and overcast weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 8th October at 11:15 p.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The Import Market has continued very quiet during the week. In English Yarns there is nothing doing. Bombays are saleable in small lots at unaltered prices. Shirtings are entirely neglected, and Fancies are without demand. Sales for the week amount to 50 bales English Spinnings, 150 sales Bombays, and 1,500 pieces Italians.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

Grey Shirtings—41 lb, 34 yds, 36 inches	\$1.35	to	1.90
Grey Shirtings—41 lb, 34 yds, 36 inches	1.60	to	2.54
1. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yards, 36 inches	1.15	to	1.47
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 41 inches	2.30	to	1.60
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 36 inches	1.70	to	2.00
Cotton—Italians and Saltines Black, 32 inches	0.07	to	0.14
Turkey Reds—24 to 31 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.00	to	1.15
Turkey Reds—24 to 31 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.20	to	1.40
Turkey Reds—24 to 31 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.70	to	2.05
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 24 inches	4.50	to	6.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.50	to	0.65
Lauchelans, 12 yards, 43 inches	0.35	to	0.25

WOOLLENS.

Plain Orleanes, 10 to 12 yards, 32 inches	\$4.00	to	4.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.24	to	28
Medium	0.20	to	24
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.16	to	20
Common	0.14	to	18
Montecline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.14	to	0.15
Cloths—Filata, 54 to 56 inches	0.30	to	0.45
Cloths—Pile, 54 to 56 inches	0.50	to	0.60
Cloths—Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.35	to	0.60
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 34 lb, per lb	0.30	to	0.38

COTTON YARNS.

No. 16/24, Ordinary	\$25.00	to	26.00
No. 16/24, Medium	26.00	to	27.00
No. 16/24, Good to Best	27.00	to	28.00
No. 16/24, Reverse	29.00	to	30.00
No. 28/32, Ordinary	27.75	to	28.50
No. 28/32, Medium	28.50	to	30.00
No. 28/32, Good to Best	30.25	to	31.50
No. 38/42, Medium to Best	31.00	to	32.00
No. 32, Two-fold	31.50	to	35.00
No. 428, Two-fold	35.50	to	36.00
No. 205, Bombay	72.00	to	78.00
No. 165, Bombay	74.00	to	79.00
No. 101, Bombay	—		—

METALS.

Some little business has been done, and prices for Bars have improved to the quotations given below. Other sorts dull, but with a lower exchange holders should have no difficulty in maintaining present values.

Flat Bars, 1 inch	\$2.50	to	2.70
Flat Bars, 1 inch	2.70	to	2.80
Round and square up to 2 inch	2.60	to	2.80
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.		—
Nailrod, small size	Nom.		—
Iron Plates, assorted	2.80	to	3.00
Sheet Iron	3.00	to	3.25
Galvanized iron sheets	5.80	to	6.00
Wire Nails, assorted	4.10	to	4.70
Pig Iron, per box	4.60	to	4.80
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.20	to	1.35

KEROSENE.

Market remains dull at quotations. Buyers are not hungry, and only nibble at some reduction in price which at present holders do not submit to. No fresh arrivals this week. Deliveries keep up fairly well, and it is probable that dealers will have to enter the market soon. There has been a sale of 15,000 cases Russian Oil at \$1.56.

QUOTATIONS.

Chester	\$1.72	to	1.75
Comet	1.70	to	1.72
Devoe	1.68	to	1.70
Russian	1.63	to	1.66

SUGAR.

A very limited business has been done in Sugar: only 842 piculs of White Refined, of which 76 piculs fetched \$8 per picul, 695 piculs \$7.10 per picul, and 71 piculs \$5.50 per picul. No enquiry for other brands.

White Refined	\$5.60	to	8.10
Manila	3.70	to	4.40
Taiwan	—		—
Pentam	2.80	to	3.25
Nanilla	2.90	to	3.00
Cake	—		—
Brown Takao	4.27	to	4.30

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last report was issued on the 3rd inst. since which date settlements in this Market are 180 piculs, divided thus:—Hanks, 3; Filatures, 72; Re-reels, 89; Kakeda, 16. Japanese shipments have amounted to 111 bales, bringing the total business for the week up to 300 piculs.

As mentioned in our postscript to last circular, business was stopped by a sudden rise in Exchange rates; they soon began to decline again until we got them down to something under last quotations. The price of Silver has, however, again risen in London, and these daily violent fluctuations prevent all steady business.

The settlements noted above would seem to be nearly all for the United States trade, European

buyers holding off entirely. The business of the week has really been very small, a good portion of the settlements noted above having been contracted for some days earlier.

Telegraphic intelligence from abroad still remains of the most dispiriting character, and it is hard to tell when the trade will revive; there seems no chance of any immediate revival and holders here show no disposition to meet buyers.

Prices have been held firm by holders at the quotations given below; they profess themselves alarmed by the smart rise in Exchange, but at the same time are of opinion that it will decline again and that they will some day reap the benefit of their patient waiting.

There have been three shipping opportunities during the interval, the Canadian Mail, English Mail and American Mail. The first, named *Straits of Belle Isle*, on the 4th inst. had 162 bales for New York; the P. & O. steamer *Ancona*, also on the 4th instant, took 105 bales for Lyons and Marseilles; the *City of Peking* on the 8th instant took 313 bales for the United States. These shipments bring the present export up to 4,577 against 14,361 last year and 9,405 at same date in 1888.

Hanks.—Some of the purchases advised last week have been rejected, and new purchases have been made only to a very small extent, \$525 being paid for a few bales of ordinary *Hachioji* Hanks.

Filatures.—Business done has been small, and apparently confined to a few piculs, which it was necessary to ship in the last American Mail. Prices paid are as follows:—*Hakunaru* \$675; *Kameisha* \$670; *Hiranosha* \$660; in fine sizes *Mino* sorts have brought \$690, \$680 and \$655 according to grade.

Re-reels.—These have been dealt in to some extent, purchases being entirely for America; the best chops and marks have been entirely neglected, trade being confined to sorts for price, seconds and thirds being freely taken at \$625, \$620, \$615 and \$610. Holders are very strong and there is no current business.

Kakeda.—Very little doing in these. One parcel *Tiger Chop* was booked at \$610 and nothing has been done since.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No. 14	Nom.		—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	Nom.		—
Hanks—No. 2 (Oshu)	Nom.		—
Hanks—No. 24 (Shinshu)	Nom.		—
Hanks—No. 24 (Oshu)	570	to	580
Hanks—No. 24 to 3	560	to	565
Hanks—No. 3	550	to	555
Hanks—No. 34	540	to	550
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	Nom.		—
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	Nom.		—
Filatures—No. 1, 10/12 deniers	680	to	690
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	670	to	680
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	650	to	660
Filatures—No. 2, 10/12 deniers	650	to	660
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	635	to	640
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—		—
Re-reels—Extra	—		—
Re-reels—(Shinshu and Oshu) Best No. 1	—		—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	645	to	655
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	635	to	640
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	625	to	630
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	615	to	620
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	600	to	610
Kakeda—Extra	Nom.		—
Kakeda—No. 1	640	to	645
Kakeda—No. 14	620	to	630
Kakeda—No. 2	610	to	615
Kakeda—No. 24	600	to	605
Kakeda—No. 34	590	to	595
Kakeda—No. 34	580	to	585
Oshu Sendai—No. 24	570	to	575
Hamatsuki—No. 24	Nom.		—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	Nom.		—
Solai—No. 24	Nom.		—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 10th Oct., 1890:—

	1889-90.	1890-91.	1888-89.
Europe	1,524	7,496	4,218
America	2,923	6,714	5,042
Total	4,447	14,210	9,260
Settlements and Direct	4,577	14,361	9,405
Export from 1st July	4,500	15,500	9,300
Stock, 10th October	13,700	6,800	12,300
Available supplies to date	18,200	22,300	21,600

WASTE SILK.

The business continues on a fair scale, settlements reaching 1,053 piculs, divided thus:—*Cocoons*, 155; *Noshi*, 366; *Kibiso*, 532.

The buying has again been for European account, shippers for the States holding off; prices are strong and holders cheerful.

The *Ancona* on the 4th inst. carried 288 bales Sundry Wastes for Marseilles and Trieste, and the present export is 2,732 against 5,312 last year and 2,709 on the 10th October, 1888.

Pierced Cocoons.—There have been some further purchases of *Shinshu* at \$16 per bu, or say \$120 per picul for good quality, a few bales of *Oshu* have also been done at \$15½ per bu or \$116½ per picul. The *Cocoon* Market does not work very freely this year; holders require too much and the trade is by no means current.

Noshi.—A fair amount of business has been done in this department, best *Filature* touching \$155, *Oshu* \$145, *Bushu* \$138, *Josha* \$88. There has been nothing done in the lower grades.

Kibiso.—Buyers have operated freely in this class, best *Filatures* have touched \$120, best *Sendai* \$105, good *Shinshu* \$84 and ordinary *Hachioji* \$37½.

In *Mawata* and *Sundries* there has been no business.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	\$120	to	\$130
Noshi-to—Filature, Best	150	to	155
Noshi-to—Filature, Good	140	to	145
Noshi-to—Filature, Medium	130	to	135
Noshi-to—Oshu, Good to Best	135	to	145
Noshi-to—Shinshu, Best	—		—
Noshi-to—Shinshu, Good	110	to	120
Noshi-to—Shinshu, Medium	—		—
Noshi-to—Bushu, Good to Best	130	to	140
Noshi-to—Joshi, Best	80	to	90
Noshi-to—Joshi, Good	80	to	85
Noshi-to—Joshi, Ordinary	70	to	75
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	110	to	120
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	100	to	105
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	80	to	90
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	80	to	90
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	70	to	75
Kibiso—Joshi, Good to Fair	50	to	40
Kibiso—Joshi, Middling to Common	35	to	30
Kibiso—Hachioji, Good	45	to	40
Kibiso—Hachioji, Medium to Low	35	to	30
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	15	to	8
Mawata—Good to Best	—		—

Export Table Waste Silk to 10th Oct., 1890:—

	1889-90.	1890-91.	1888-89.
Waste Silk	2,507	3,314	2,699
Pierced Cocoons	225	1,498	10
Total	2,732	5,312	2,709
Settlements and Direct	2,732	5,312	2,709
Export from 1st July	6,400	7,700	4,900
Stock, 10th October	11,500	11,200	10,800
Available supplies to date	17,900	18,900	15,700

Exchange has fluctuated continually, being alike on two days together during the week. Closing rates are as under:—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits, 3/7; Documents, 3/7½; 6m/s. Credits, 3/7½; Documents, 3/7½; NEW YORK, 30 d/s. U.S. \$86½; 4m/s. U.S. \$87½; PARIS, 4m/s. fcs. 4 5/16; 6m/s. fcs. 4 5/16.

Estimated Silk Stock, 10th Oct., 1890:—

RAW.	PIGULS.	WASTE.	PIGULS.
Hanks	320	Cocoons	800
Filatures	8,185	Noshi-to	4,160
Re-reels	4,191	Kibiso	5,000
Kakeda	714	Mawata	390
Oshu	283	Sundries	250
Laysam Kinds	7		—
Total piculs	13,700	Total piculs	11,500

TEA.

There has been less doing in Tea during the week, with no alteration in prices. The total purchases are 1,915 piculs, and ninety per cent. represent Common to Good Common. The season is going to end earlier than usual this season; and at Kobe there are only about 1,000 piculs in stock for sale. We have fully six months more to run before the next season opens. The majority of buyers are simply laying in lots in their godowns to prepare for any sudden demand from the consuming markets.

	PER PICUL.
Common	\$11
Good Common	12 to 13
Medium	14 to 15
Good Medium	16 to 17
Fine	18 to 19
Finest	20 to 22
Choice	23 & up/ds
Choicest	—
Extra Choicest	—

EXCHANGE.

Exchange is unsteady at quotations.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/5½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/5½
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/6
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/6½
On Paris—Bank sight	4/8
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4/9
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1/2 prem.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	1/2 dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	78
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	78
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	84
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	84
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	84
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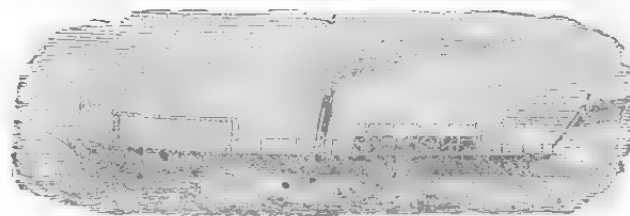
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No. 17.]

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AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, OCTOBER 25TH, 1890.

通信者認可

[VOL. XIV.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

“FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!”

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the “JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL” must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Chances be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, OCT. 25, 1890

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

PRINCE SANJO left the capital on the 19th inst. for the province of Sagami.

BARON IWAKURA TOMOTSUNE, Privy Court Councillor, expired on the 17th instant.

H.I.H. PRINCE KITASHIRAKAWA left the capital on the 18th instant for Takasaki.

HIS IMPERIAL HIGHNESS PRINCE KOMATSU left Tokyo on the 18th instant for Numazu.

COUNT ITO proceeded to the Imperial Palace on the 21st instant to pay his respects to the Emperor.

HER IMPERIAL HIGHNESS PRINCESS KOMATSU left the capital on the 21st instant for Ibaraki Prefecture.

An earthquake was felt in the capital on the 17th instant at 8h. 35m. 6s. p.m., the duration of which was 36 seconds.

THE publication of the *Fuyu Shimbu*, the organ of Count Itagaki, commenced on the 20th instant at Kyobashi, Tokyo.

HIS IMPERIAL HIGHNESS PRINCE KUNI, who had been in the province of Ise for some time, returned to Kyoto on the 19th instant.

PRINCES SHIMADZU AND MORI, and Marquis ASANO were decorated with the Grand Order of the Rising Sun on the 21st instant.

THE marriage of Marquis Ikeda and Her Imperial Highness Princess Akiko (second daughter of Prince Kuni) will take place in a few days.

MR. HIRANUMA SENZO, a wealthy merchant of Yokohama, has applied to the Authorities for

permission to establish a private bank under the name of the Hiranuma Ginko, with a capital of yen 2,000,000, at Yokohama.

COMMANDER HASHIMOTO MASAOKI has been ordered by the Minister of State for the Navy to bring out the *Itsukushima Kan* from France.

THE Senate has been abolished, some of the members receiving honoraria varying from 800 to 1,500 yen, and some being appointed Lords in Waiting.

RAILWAY communication between Kamenose and Sanjo on the Osaka Railway Company will be opened about the beginning of November next.

THE laying of the line between Akihabara and Ueno of the Japan Railway Company, which is now going on, will be completed about the end of this month.

COLONEL TSUCHIYA KANARU was promoted to the rank of Major-General on the 16th instant and raised to fourth class, second grade from fifth class, first grade.

HIS IMPERIAL HIGHNESS PRINCE KITASHIRAKAWA returned to Tokyo on the 21st instant from Takasaki, where His Highness had been staying for a few days.

THE line of the Japan Railway Company between Ichinoseki and Morioka having been completed will, it is expected, be opened for traffic on the 1st proximo.

A MEETING of the Tokyo City Improvements Committee was held on the 21st instant at the Home Department, when matters in connection with the water-works were under discussion.

THE ceremony of presenting diplomas to graduates of the Tokyo Hogakuin (Law Institute) will take place on the 2nd proximo in presence of various high officials of the Educational Department.

HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR has granted the sum of yen 1,500 to the family of the late Baron Iwakura, while Their Majesties the Empress and Empress-Dowager have granted the sum of yen 500.

An extraordinary meeting of the Cabinet was held on the 18th instant at which Counts Yamagata, Yamada, Saigo, Oyama, Matsukata, and Goto, and Mr. Mutsu were present, the proceedings closing at 4 p.m.

THE laying of the line between Shiraishi and Okawa on the Japan Railway Company, which is now going on, will be completed shortly and the section will be opened for traffic about the beginning of November next.

VISCOUNT AOKI, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, will give an entertainment at the Rokumeikan on the 3rd prox. to Ministers of State, the Foreign Representatives, and high officials of the various Departments.

ACCORDING to a report by the Ibaraki Prefectural Government the quantity of coal produced in the Prefecture during last year was 8,378,150 *kin* (one *kin* = 13½ *lb*) of which 7,435,300 *kin* valued at yen 22,205.90 were sold.

THE Law as to Diplomatic Officials and Consuls was promulgated on the 21st instant over the signatures of Count Yamagata and Viscount Aoki, by Imperial Ordinance No. 257. The law consists of eleven articles.

IT is stated that Mr. Hori Shingoro, who has been nominated by the Emperor a member of

the Upper House, having resigned his position as President of the Tokyo Court of First Instance, Mr. Oshima Sadatoshi, President of the Osaka Court of First Instance, will succeed him.

RAILWAY communication between Shiraishi and Okawa on the Japan Railway Company's line, which has been suspended for some time in consequence of damage caused by heavy rain, was re-opened on the 20th instant.

A REPORT issued by the Sanitary Bureau of the Home Department shows that the number of persons attacked by cholera throughout the Empire from the commencement of the epidemic to the 21st instant, was 41,240, resulting in 28,046 deaths.

MR. MINAMI SEIICHI, a member of the Oita Local Assembly, was sentenced in the Nakatsu Correctional Court on the 21st instant to minor imprisonment for a month, and to pay a fine of yen 10, on a charge of having given bribes to electors.

DURING three months ended June last the number of passengers who arrived in Kobe by steamer was 37,532, while 34,462 passengers departed. During the same period 15,073 passengers arrived at and 14,601 passengers left Hyogo by steamer.

AN outbreak of fire took place early in the afternoon of the 30th instant in a house at Kawatanamura, Toyoura-gun, Yamaguchi Prefecture, and thirty-two houses, three godowns and one shrine were entirely destroyed before the flames could be got under control. Early in the morning of the 16th instant about two hundred and fifty dwellings were burned to the ground by a conflagration at Tanabemura, Shimokita-gun, Aomori Prefecture.

RETURNS compiled by the Customs Bureau in the Finance Department show that during the month of September last exports amounted to yen 4,276,949.040 in value and imports to yen 7,385,697.200, the latter exceeding the former by yen 3,108,748.160. The following are the amounts of Customs duties collected at various ports during the month:—Yokohama, yen 211,724.305; Kobe, yen 139,834.007; Osaka, yen 7,702.211; Nagasaki, yen 12,048.128; Hakodate, yen 3,074.942; various other ports, yen 1,920.492.

THE interport cricket matches, Kobe v. Yokohama, came off this week on the ground of the latter club. On the first day Kobe made 68, and Yokohama 188, when the innings of the latter was declared closed, one not out and five men did not bat. In the return match next day, Kobe was in somewhat better form, the game becoming quite exciting at the close. Kobe went in first and made 171. At seven minutes to “time” Yokohama had 14 runs to get, with several wickets to fall. At three minutes to “time” two runs only were required to win, and the match resulted in favour of Yokohama by 3 runs and 3 wickets.

GENERAL depression is the principal feature of the Import trade, and only small quantities of Yarn have been taken, other lines being almost entirely neglected. Little business has been done in Metals, there is nothing to report in Kerosene, and Sugar is not in request. The Silk trade has revived somewhat, though transactions have not yet become extensive. Prices vary with exchange, and stocks are heavy. Waste Silk continues in fair demand, and prices are well maintained. The Tea trade is small, but full rates have been paid for the leaf taken. Exchange has been unsteady, and silver has dropped 1d. to-day.

Original from

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE HOUSE OF PEERS.

THE *Kokumin-no-Tomo* of the 13th instant contains an interesting article on the House of Peers. After noting that, with the recent Imperial nomination of Members of the House of Peers, that branch of the Legislature has become fully equipped, our contemporary proceeds to remark that the public at large does not pay to the Upper House the amount of attention it deserves, the word Diet being generally used in the sense of the House of Representatives alone. Such a state of public feeling towards the Upper House is not, in the opinion of the Tokyo journal, altogether unreasonable, seeing that that House has little, if any, direct connection with the people. But it is a great mistake, the *Kokumin* urges, to disregard the Upper House, for it occupies a unique position in the present political stage of the country. It possesses an amount of power, constitutional as well as actual, which can never be passed over in any political calculation. The *Kokumin-no-Tomo* even goes so far as to state that there is no assurance that it may not one day obtain an ascendancy over the popular branch of the Diet. Our contemporary then cites various articles of the Constitution and of the Law of the Houses to substantiate its assertion that the Upper House possesses equal constitutional powers with the Lower, the only difference in the legislative capacity of the two being that the Budget is first laid before the House of Representatives. According to Article 39 of the Constitution, no bill that has been lost in either of the Houses can be brought forward again during the same session. Thus the House of Representatives would be absolutely incapable of accomplishing any of its reforms—the reduction of the land tax, the amendment of the Press Law, and so forth—without the co-operation of the Peers. Of course our contemporary does not think that the House of Peers will oppose every resolution of the House of Representatives. But the fact that the Peers possess vast powers in matters of legislation must be borne in mind by every statesman. The *Kokumin-no-Tomo* then passes on to consider the nature of the elements composing the Upper House. There are Princes of the Blood, men with high titles, gray-headed servants of the State, young men of bright intellect, and lastly wealthy farmers and their sons—a body of men apparently void of any cohesion between themselves. The most conspicuous feature in the composition of the House is—we are still quoting our contemporary—that its members are, in the majority of cases, very intimately connected with the present Government. To begin with, three Ministers of State, Counts Matsukata and Yamada, and Viscount Aoki, are found among its members. Another member occupying a conspicuous position is Count Ito, the most powerful supporter of the Government outside strictly official circles. "The influence," says our contemporary, "which Count Ito exercises over the nobility in general is deep and great, and, if anything, exceeds the influence exercised by Count Itagaki over the untitled classes. If Count Ito only raises his whip, the wildest horses among the *Kwazoku* will obey his will." There are, however, noblemen—observes the Tokyo periodical—who are by no means tame supporters of the Government. Such men are Marquis Asano, Count Yanagiwara, and Viscounts Miura, Tani, and Torio. These persons may, in some cases, even go farther in their opposition to the Cabinet than the Opposition in the House of Representatives. But their opposition is individual rather than systematic, personal rather than general. If they have enemies in the Government, they have also friends and allies. So they are, after all, in the opinion of the *Kokumin-no-Tomo*, opponents of a portion and not of the whole of the Government. Among other titled members of the House, there may be some not at all favourably disposed towards those in power, but considering how much they owe to the munificence of the present Government, it is extremely doubtful whether they will be courageous enough to turn round upon their old

patrons and benefactors. As to those members of the Upper House who have been nominated from among the Senators, our contemporary observes that some of them, in spite of their advanced age, are noted for a certain amount of activity and intelligence, and they might perhaps join, in certain cases, Viscounts Tani, Torio and Miura in opposition to the Government. But they are old and cannot be expected to hold their ground against a group of young members loyal to the Government. Such young members are Messrs. Ito Miyoji, Su Kohei, Kaneko Kentaro, Hirata Tosuke, Imamura Waro, and a few others. These men are the most brilliant officers in the service of the Government. "They are," says the Tokyo journal, "to the present Government what Generals Kato and Fukushima were to Hideyoshi. Who knows that the object of the Government in nominating these men to the House of Peers, is not to make them fight the battle of another *Shisu-ga-take*?" With regard to the members nominated from among men of business, they are either officers of companies under the special protection of the Government, or men who owe their fortune to the patronage of high dignitaries of State. They will, therefore, be friendly to the Government. The members representing the maximum taxpayers in each locality are in general comparatively ignorant and indifferent in political matters. Lastly those who represent erudition are mere scholars, and can exercise little influence over practical politics. Such being the nature of the different elements composing the House of Peers, our contemporary concludes that there is little probability of any serious opposition to the proposals of the Government in that House. The Tokyo journal suspects that it may be the Government's plan to counteract the opposition of the Representatives by means of the Peers. Thus while the members of the Lower House have been absorbed in petty political intrigues, the Government has constructed—says the *Kokumin-no-Tomo*—a formidable fortress in the shape of the Upper House. Such being the case, our contemporary thinks it vitally important for the members of the Lower House to obtain allies in the Upper House. At present no political party is represented in the Upper House, and consequently the *Kokumin* advises the principal parties in the country to exert themselves for the conversion of the Peers to their political creeds, so that the two Houses may work together harmoniously. While the members of the Lower House have made a serious mistake in paying no proper attention to the House of Peers, the members of the latter, especially hereditary nobles, entertain, in the opinion of the Tokyo journal, most erroneous notions about their position in the State. They think that, being the bulwarks of the Imperial House, it is their bounden duty not to identify themselves with any of the political parties. Individual independence is so marked that there is no cohesion among them as a body. Our contemporary cites the example of noblemen in England, and exhorts the Japanese Peers to do away with their old exclusive and conservative notions.

TRADE MARKS AND PATENTS.

IT is just as well that the question of protection to foreign trade-marks and patents in Japan should be fully understood. We therefore refer again to the subject, for the purpose of clearing up a doubt expressed by a local contemporary. The difficulty, as we explained in a previous issue, of concluding any arrangement for the protection of foreign trade-marks and patents in Japan, is that complete reciprocity could not be secured without special enabling legislation on the part of Western Powers. Japanese patents and trade-marks would be open to violation by foreigners residing in Japan, unless laws were enacted by foreign States to guard against such a contingency. To this our contemporary replies that the difficulty has no existence in fact. The reason assigned for this contradicting us is that "British subjects in Japan are just as much under the Common and Statute Law of England as they are if resident in London itself,"

and that, consequently, if a Japanese registered his trade-mark or patent in England, protection would thereby be secured to him against infringement of his rights by British subjects in Japan. It is amusing to find our argument thus traversed and confirmed in the same breath. Our contemporary itself admits that "it would be necessary that the patent should be issued or the trade-mark be registered in England," and yet fails to see that this is the very crux of the situation. If a Japanese desires to obtain protection for his trade-mark or patent within the British dominions, it might be proper to require that he should take special steps to secure English recognition for such patent or trade-mark. But the case assumes a wholly different complexion when a Japanese is asked to register his trade-mark or take out his patent in Europe in order to secure protection for it in Japan. Consider the converse of the proposition and its unreason will be at once apparent. Conceive the idea of requiring an Englishman residing in London to register his trade-mark or take out his patent in Tokyo in order to secure it against violation by Japanese subjects settled at Gravesend. No one should have any difficulty in apprehending this difference. Our local contemporary treats with airy nonchalance the extraordinary proposition that in order to guarantee a Japanese trade-mark or patent against violation within Japanese territory, its owner should be required to register it in England, France, Germany, Italy, Belgium, the United States and so forth. But the statesmen who have to deal with these questions examine them somewhat more accurately. The only practical way of meeting the situation is to provide that all Japanese trade-marks and patents duly registered in Japan according to Japanese law shall be respected by all foreigners residing or trading within Japanese territory; in other words, that the mere fact of recognition by Japanese law shall secure a patent or trade-mark against violation by everybody and anybody, without distinction of nationality, within Japanese territory. To effect this, each of the Treaty Powers would have to pass a special law, for although Great Britain, to take an example, may be able to restrain her own subjects in respect of a trade-mark or patent registered in London, she cannot at present compel her subjects living in Japan to respect Japanese patents and trade-marks registered in Tokyo only. Thus, in a word, the situation is reduced to this obvious absurdity, that in order to secure his trade-mark or patent against violation in his own country, a Japanese would have to register it in ten or twelve foreign countries. It will be seen, therefore, that in spite of sweeping declarations to the contrary, extraterritoriality is at the root of the difficulty, and that until Japanese laws become applicable to foreigners in Japan, the question of patents and trade-marks must remain *in statu quo*.

CURRENT TOPICS.

THE lately promulgated Regulations for Primary Schools and Regulations for Pensions of Teachers have given universal satisfaction to the public, with a few exceptions. It is a matter of sincere congratulation that the hitherto neglected teachers of primary schools have at last obtained from legislators the attention they deserve. We shall speak of these Regulations more at length in a future issue.

An event which we have more than once predicted as highly probable is, according to an apparently trustworthy report, about to take place. We refer to the estrangement of the extreme section of the Constitutional Liberals from the main body. Mr. Endo, head of the *Eishin-sha*, a political association composed of determined *soshu* in the Province of Kaga, and Mr. Tōyama, head of the *Genyō-sha*, an equally noted political association of *soshu* in Fukuoka—both gentlemen being members of the Constitutional Liberal party—are reported to have come to an agreement for the formation of a new party, in conjunction with a local association at Kumamoto under Messrs. Sassa and Furushō, and in conjunction also

with the Nationalists of Tosa, who are said to maintain a close connection with General Tani. It is not, however, known whether General Tani will countenance such an amalgamation or not. The name proposed for the new party is National Liberals. We are glad to hear of this project, because the secession of the unruly elements under Messrs. Edo and Tôvama from the ranks of the Constitutional Liberal party practically means the removal of the chief obstacle hitherto lying in the path of a coalition between that party and the *Kaishin-to*. As to the contemplated programme of the seceders, it is, one must confess, a curious spectacle to see the extreme section of the Radicals coalesce with a party which has hitherto been regarded as the no less extreme section of the Conservatives. But on closer observation, the spectacle loses something of its perplexing elements. In point of fact, one of the anomalies hitherto existing in Japanese politics has been the presence in the Radical camp of a group of politicians essentially conservative in their methods and sentiments. Men of ardent temperament, simple in mind, and possessing but scant education, these enthusiasts were enchanted by the glamour of such names as those of Counts Itagaki and Goto, and were led to cast in their lot thoughtlessly with the Liberals. It is, we think, a sign of the healthy development of Japanese politics that such persons have begun to think of returning to the camp of their natural allies. That they are not yet sensible of the nature of the transition they are about to effect, is apparent from the name which they propose to apply to their new party—National Liberals.

The contemplated secession of the above mentioned section of the Constitutional Liberal party, and the project of amalgamating the Conservative parties, seem to have revived the hope of uniting the *Rikken Jiyu-to* with the *Kaishin-to*. Such a contingency is now in the highest degree probable. If rumour can be trusted, Count Itagaki seems to be on exceptionally good terms with some of the leading members of the *Kaishin-to*. Some people even assert that the Count is indebted to the good offices of Mr. Shimada, editor of the *Mainichi Shimbun*, for the raising of funds to defray the expense of his new organ, the *Jiyu Shimbun*, which will make its first appearance on the 20th instant under his personal direction.

There is, it is said, much discussion in the Department of Justice as to the style of robes to be worn by judges and barristers. Count Yamada, Minister of Justice, is reported to be in favour of the adoption of an old national style somewhat similar to that at present worn by the instructors of the Art School. Mr. Mitsuoki, Vice-Minister of Justice, advocates frock-coats on ordinary occasions, and robes of state when judgment is given. Mr. Mitsuoki's opinion was reported to have more support than that of his chief, but now some papers state that Count Yamada has hopes of seeing his advice adopted by the Cabinet.

GOLD MINING IN SOUTH AFRICA.

THE extraordinary development of the gold mining industry in South Africa is well described in a lecture delivered to the Associated Chambers of Commerce in England by Mr. W. Y. Campbell, Vice-President of the Chamber of Mines at Witwatersrand, in the Transvaal. Mr. Campbell chiefly addressed himself to speaking of the gold mines at Johannesburg, on the Witwatersrand. The mines were opened in 1887, during which year their output was 34,000 oz. In 1888 the yield increased to 231,000 oz., and during the present year the production has been at the rate of 500,000 oz. The Witwatersrand district thus becomes practically the third in the world in respect of gold mines. The continent of America at present heads the list with 1½ million ounces; Victoria comes next with 600,000 ounces, and Russia next with 500,000 ounces. The Transvaal thus ranks already with Russia,

and Mr. Campbell declared his conviction that, in a few years, it would "challenge the world for first place as a gold-producing country." The great obstacle to its development at present is the fact that Johannesburg, where the mines lie, is situated in the wilds of Africa, 400 miles from a sea-port. Everything has to be carried to the coast by ox teams at extravagant rates. Every 100 lbs. weight of goods costs thirty shillings for transport, and in this way no less a sum than twenty-five million dollars was expended in 1889. A railway from the coast to Johannesburg would have saved eighteen million dollars on this item alone. It appears also that labour, whether white or black, is enormously dear, and that whereas in America improved methods of extraction enable the miner to get 75 per cent. of the gold in the ore, the means available at Johannesburg give only 45 per cent. If all this be correct, there is evidently a great future for South Africa. Mr. Campbell concluded his lecture with a political survey. He said that "despite the fact that it was divided into what were apparently many contending States inimical to each other, yet the tendency to those who could read beneath the surface was absolutely on the line of consolidation or a confederacy of States, with absolute freedom of self-government in all internal relationships and questions of domestic policy, but flying the Union Jack. The tie of Empire would be as strong and as loyal there as it was in Canada or Australia. A new nation as strong as either of these would grow up as South Africa, and in a far shorter space of time."

AFRICA—THE PARTITION.

THE most succinct and comprehensible analysis we have yet seen as to the partition of Africa resulting from the recently concluded treaties, is given in the pages of the *Economist*. Here is the pith of it:—

Roughly, it may be said that, including Egypt, Great Britain owns or her influence is supreme over an area of 1,650,000 square miles, while there is the entire basin of the Nile from Egypt southward to the British East African territory, which Gordon was sacrificed to save, and which has opened for the present to us, and where we should certainly object to see a foreign Power located. Here there are, including Darfur, nearly 1,000,000 square miles, of additional territory, which during the Egyptian occupation was estimated to contain 11,000,000 of people.

The following is a summary, which must only be regarded as a rough approximation, so long as our information is so incomplete and crude:—

BRITISH DOMINIONS AND SPHERE OF INFLUENCE.			
	Area.	Square Miles.	Population.
Cape and Basutoland	250,000	1,800,000	
Natal, with Zululand and Swaziland	40,000	650,000	
Bechuanaland, Kei	190,000	200,000	
British South Africa Co. and lands across the Zambesi up to the German and Congo States	400,000	3,000,000	
Total in South Africa	880,000	5,650,000	
Gold Coast and West African Settlements	35,000	1,000,000	
WHITEN SPHERE OF BRITISH INFLUENCE.			
Orange Free State	120,000	150,000	
Transvaal	110,000	400,000	
British E. Africa (a minimum)	300,000	(?)	
Socotra and Singali Coast	(?)	(?)	
Zanzibar Protectorate	1,000	200,000	
Royal Niger Co. and Sokoto	250,000	10,000,000	
Egypt to Wady Halfa (British occupation)	400,000	7,000,000	
Present total (say)	1,650,000	30,000,000	

The agreement with the French Government practically assigns to France a larger area than the entire area recorded in the above table. The Sahara from the West coast to a line drawn northward from Lake Tchad, contains roughly 1,700,000 square miles, but it is only on the South that fertile territory is reached in the watershed of the Upper Niger and lake already referred to. The French Congo, claimed under the curious De Brazza treaties, is also another larger slice of territory about which even the French themselves know very little. The French are also aiming at the subjection of Morocco. However, here is an estimate of the territory claimed by France with the supposed population thereon. She is now discussing the construction of a line of railway across the Sahara, although probably she is likely to gain more renown from such a work as an engineering feat than profit upon the capital required:—

FRENCH DOMINIONS AND SPHERE OF INFLUENCE.			
	Area.	Square Miles.	Population.
Algeria and Tunis	400,000	6,000,000	
Sahara with Timbuctoo to Lake Tchad	1,700,000 (say)	7,000,000	
Senegal, &c.	135,000	500,000	
French Congo	360,000	(?)	
Madagascar	230,000	3,500,000	
Total	3,725,000	17,000,000	

As compared with the area laid claim to by France, the German acquisitions are moderate enough. The

East African territory is the most valuable of these acquisitions; Namaqualand and Damaraaland being poor country, and the Cameroons very unhealthy.

GERMAN DOMINIONS AND SPHERE OF INFLUENCE.			
	Area.	Square Miles.	Population.
German East Africa Company	500,000	(?)	
Namaqualand and Damaraaland	200,000	250,000	
Cameroons	150,000	(?)	
Total	850,000	21	

Another vast area under Belgian influence is the Congo Free State, which Stanley once estimated at 800,000 square miles, and to contain 40,000,000 people, the Portuguese and Italian protectorates are smaller areas, and the former has not yet been exactly defined.

Is it possible to say anything as to the trade and financial prospects of these vast territories? The trade of South Africa is in our hands and is considerable. The trade of the lower Niger is also in our hands. But, apart from these, Algeria, Tunis, and Egypt are alone the countries of which the trade and finance are not really infinitesimal. There may be mining surprises in store. But the lands of tropical Africa are not usually suitable for a European population, and the present inhabitants are races which it must take a far longer time to civilise than those who look for big immediate results appear to think of. We do not, apart from surprises, look for any rapid development of either trade or financial success from these territories, British, French, or German; and the probabilities are that it will be uphill work with all of them to the northward of the Tropic of Capricorn for many years to come. Of course, such enormous areas are likely to produce a certain amount of trade. But the profits of such trade must be exceptionally good to render it worth the effort in the absence of roads and proper carriage. As to the fashion in which these lands have been acquired, that certainly is not at all a bright page in contemporary history. A traveller is equipped, with or without the assistance of the State, and departs for the interior of Africa. He distributes a few flags, of which the natives do not know the significance, and induces a chief here and there to place his mark to a treaty about which he and his people really know nothing. Such was the way in which a number of African territories were acquired. Can we wonder at the resistance offered by natives to any occupation resulting from such documents? In the end European guidance will doubtless be to the benefit and enlightenment of Central Africa; but Europe has proceeded in a clumsy fashion, and neither firearms, spirits nor clothing are much to the benefit of these savage races. Then the method of procedure, both by Germany and this country, of creating companies under charter to do the dirty work, companies which must be supported in case of need, yet which, nevertheless, enable Downing Street to plead ignorance when asked inconvenient questions, is one which we have dwelt upon on previous occasions. Probably immediate trouble is saved to the public official; but it is a system which in the long run will be costly, and may involve serious trouble hereafter. If it be to our advantage to annex these territories, then annex them openly; these go-between companies only defer responsibilities at added risk.

A MISSIONARY.

READING a letter addressed by "A Missionary" to one of our local contemporaries, we appreciate the fact that the stole does not make the saint. Here is a so-called "missionary," a supposed representative of truth and fairness, who by his own admission seldom sees a copy of the *Japan Mail*, yet who does not hesitate to speak of it in terms of malicious slander. This careful practitioner of the doctrines he preaches further declares himself entirely at variance with the British missionaries who signed the recent memorial to H.B.M.'s Minister, and even has courage to assert that "the mass of the missionaries wish to have it distinctly understood that they are in no wise identified with the English missionaries' action." It is amusing to observe how conspicuously men of such a stamp exemplify the old saw that we detect most readily in others the evil with which our own practice familiarises us. "A Missionary" takes an article published in these columns with express reference to the memorial of his British colleagues, pretends to think that its language is intended to apply to all missionaries, asks "who authorized the *Mail* to act as mouth-piece for the missionaries in Japan," and then proceeds to constitute himself mouth-piece for "the mass of the missionaries." Is he indeed their "mouth-piece?" Since when have "the mass" of the missionaries in Japan so completely changed their views that they are prepared to repudiate the Memorial signed by them in 1884? Since when have they become such violent anti-revisionists that they scorn all connection with their British colleagues' recent memorial, the sentiments of which were so impar-

tial that even the Yokohama agitators themselves might, according to the showing of their organ, have signed it without hesitation? Are the missionaries who attended the uncommonly full meeting of the Kobe and Osaka conference last Tuesday, and who voted for even more substantial concessions to Japan than those contemplated by the Memorialists of 1884—are these missionaries also to be excluded from "the mass" represented by our local contemporary's scurrilous correspondent? Lying before us as we write is a letter just received from one of the best known and most highly respected missionaries in Japan. He writes "my acquaintance with missionaries is very large, but I do not happen to know of any single one who is not in favour of granting to Japan substantially all that her statesmen care to ask." Are all the missionaries of this gentleman's "large acquaintance" to be excluded from "the mass" represented by our local contemporary's unscrupulous correspondent? For his own sake we should not devote a line to the task of contradicting a man of such calibre and temper, but it is always an interesting study to analyse the kind of persons who array themselves on the side of the implacables, and in this particular case the task is more than commonly easy, for nothing could possibly injure the cause he advocates more effectually than the letter of our local contemporary's virulent correspondent. We reproduce it, in order that our readers may judge for themselves whether such an exhibition of prejudice, falsehood, slander, and ill-temper can possibly be associated with a reasonable and reasoning attitude on the subject of Treaty Revision or of anything else:—

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN GAZETTE."

Dear Sir.—Accidentally I came across a copy of the Japanese paper—printed in English, in which a leader is devoted to the Missionaries. That this sheet should approve the course taken by some of the English Missionaries is not at all surprising, but to make it appear as though these English Missionaries represented the general sense and sentiment of the mass of the Missionaries in Japan, is decidedly misrepresenting the facts in the case under consideration, viz.: The Treaty problem. In the above said leader it is said: "What the Missionaries see is that much ill feeling has resulted from the Yokohama meeting. * * * and that, unless something be done to efface this evil impression, a crop of lasting umbrage is likely to spring from those seeds of discord." Who authorized the *Mail* to act as mouth-piece for the Missionaries in Japan? I assure you, Mr. Editor, your correspondent is but one out of many who would most emphatically object to be classed among the few English Missionaries who are willing to sit under the shadow of the *Mail*. No, Sir, we wish to be free from all suspicion in this respect. Moreover, we are quite able to speak for ourselves when the proper time comes. In the above quotation it is said that the "Missionaries (what Missionaries?) see that much ill feeling has resulted from the Yokohama meeting." I think it would have been nearer to the truth to say: "The Missionaries see that much ill feeling has resulted from the petition of the English Missionaries, and that the mass of the Missionaries wish to have it distinctly understood that they are in no wise identified with the English Missionaries' action." Nor is it easy to understand why the English Missionaries took the course they did. Could they so soon forget what happened to Rev. Mr. Large? And afterwards to Rev. Mr. Summers?

Respectfully yours, &c.,

A MISSIONARY.

October 16th, 1890.

BAMBOO MATCHES.

We read in the *Shogyo Shimpō* that a certain Mr. Tanchi Suteroku has perfected a process for manufacturing matches from bamboo, and has obtained a patent. Matches made of this kind of wood are said to be particularly cheap, and much stronger than the ordinary article, but in what the process consists we have no information.

Speaking of matches, we translate the following from the *Tokyo Shimpō*:—"Matches of Japanese manufacture have, of late years, acquired a high reputation abroad, especially in China and India, where the demand for them increases constantly. The machine now employed in making them is, however, by no means satisfactory or equal to the work thrown upon it. We learn that Mr. Tanabe Shigeto, of

Yenoguchi in Tosagori, Kochi Prefecture, has invented a machine which is said to be a marked improvement upon the one hitherto in use. It can be driven by either steam or water power, and its capacity of production is put at two hundred million matches per diem. Four or five of such machines would suffice to supply all the factories in Japan. In point of cheapness and efficiency, therefore, the machine is something remarkable. The inventor has applied for a patent." A very wonderful machine truly, if these figures be even approximately correct.

MESSRS. DILLON AND O'BRIEN.

We confess to a feeling of sincere satisfaction at the news of the arrest of Messrs. John Dillon and William O'Brien. These gentlemen have ceased to deserve the smallest spark of sympathy. They deserve to occupy a felon's cell unless all the principles hitherto considered essential in the every-day dealings of honest men are to be disregarded. At a recent demonstration against the Roman Catholic Bishop of Limerick, Mr. Dillon said that in his opinion any Irish Bishop ought to have been ashamed to approve of the eviction of Irish tenants "no matter what the merits of the case might be." Such a monstrous doctrine is scarcely compatible with the hypothesis of its utterer's sanity. And now Mr. O'Brien is reported to have told a meeting of ignorant peasants that should tenants absolutely refuse to pay a penny of rent until every family that tilled the soil was placed beyond the reach of starvation, "then if the Government evicted the starving population, it would be swept out of existence by a torrent of English indignation, and the whole civilized world would send money and assistance." If such attempts to betray unfortunate peasants into acts of deliberate dishonesty are not criminal sedition, the time-honoured principles of right and wrong have been completely altered.

* * *

Mr. O'Brien, by the way, is opposed to politics being drawn into the sphere of religion. He was very angry with the Bishop of Limerick for interfering to protect a man against being boycotted, and he was of course very angry with the Pope for protesting against the plan of campaign. It is a pity that he is not here to give us one of his characteristic harangues against the missionaries who have memorialized about Treaty Revision.

MISTAKEN IDENTITY.

The *Nichi Nicht Shimbun*, generally so accurate in its comments, has an editorial note evidently emanating from the pen of a writer remarkably blind to the true facts of the situation which he undertakes to discuss. This is what our Tokyo contemporary says:—"There are three English newspapers in Yokohama. Of these the *Mail* is favourable to Japan; the *Herald* maintains a neutral attitude, and the *Gazette* makes it a rule at every possible opportunity to oppose our country. On the occasion of the holding of the anti-revision meeting, the British residents, appreciating the importance of journalistic organs, but not being able to get the three newspapers on their side, determined that the support of two of them at least must be secured. Unable, however, to induce the *Herald* to abandon its neutral attitude, they set about solving the dilemma by purchasing that paper. They offered twenty thousand dollars, but the proprietor asked thirty thousand, and an arrangement has not yet been effected. The probability is, however, that a bargain will be struck, in which event the anti-revisionists will have an organ, and will use it with the utmost vigour." This is truly delightful. Nothing could be more supremely comical than to call the *Japan Herald* a neutral paper. The *Japan Gazette*, indeed, is occasionally visited by spasms of conscience: it has its purring moods, though in truth they are generally compensated by subsequent accessions of clawing and biting. But the *Japan Herald* never once while the sway of its Protean proprietor remained effective—never once was

known to desist from growling and snarling. For a season, indeed, while the man of many aliases enjoyed the pleasures of a trip homeward under interesting circumstances, the *Herald's* pages reflected the kindly instincts of its popular and sound hearted manager. But the noun of multitude returned from his *offium cum pecunia*, and once more the shadow of his evil genius crept over the pages of his paper. Dust at first—an occasional pulverulent puff, not without taint of low places—was by and by followed by a steady pour of mud, up to master in respect of old-time consistency, but no longer saved by stray particles of grit from the semblance of mere slime. This is the neutrality which the projectors of a new journal are supposed to be about to convert into good solid partisanship. They will be diverted by the *Nichi Nicht's* account of their motives. The fact is, we believe, that they desire to establish a journal which shall not be disfigured by partisanship, and, above all, which shall be free from the virulent abuse and gross personalities that have made local journalism in this Settlement so notorious. The prime mover in this project was also, it is true, the prime mover in bringing about the agitation of last month; but he afterwards declared himself most emphatically not an anti-revisionist, being only opposed to revision without guarantees. That, indeed, is the position of all moderate men in the Settlement: they recognise that revision is either necessary or inevitable, but they want to have it effected on the safest and most favourable terms from their own point of view.

TAXES IN TOKYO AND THE NEW WATER-WORKS.

THERE has been some anxiety among the poorer classes in Tokyo lest new taxes should be imposed to meet the service of the loan of ten million yen projected by the City Improvements Committee for the construction of water-works and other purposes. To dispel all doubts as to this question, a number of Senators and other residents of the capital, some eighty in all, met on the 15th instant at the Koyokan, Shiba, and invited Mr. Kusumoto Masataka to explain the financial scheme of the Committee. According to the *Tokyo Koron* the gist of what Mr. Kusumoto said was as follows:—In August of the present year the City Improvements Committee came to the decision that Tokyo should be supplied with proper water-works, and that other improvements should be undertaken—a decision upon which the citizens are to be heartily congratulated. Some people appear to be anxious about the question of the ten million yen loan that is to be raised, but in a great city like Tokyo such a sum presents no difficulties whatever. Looking at the matter, however, purely from the side of profit and loss, it has to be noted, in the first place, that the inhabitants of the level parts of the capital number about one million, while those living on the higher grounds aggregate about three hundred thousand. The wells in use by these people amount to forty-four thousand, the great majority of which are contaminated. In addition, there are 7,078 wells supplied with aqueduct water. According to the scheme of the new water-works there are to be three great reservoirs, together with fifteen hundred conduits, the length of the pipes being over 120 ri (280 miles). There will also be 3,500 hydrants (*funsui-guchi*) for use in case of fire. Hitherto the inhabitants of the Honjo and Fukagawa districts have been paying sixty thousand yen annually for drinking water, and the citizens generally are taxed to the extent of five hundred and twenty thousand yen yearly on account of the aqueduct. These two accounts may be regarded as available for the service of the debt, and there will be an additional sum of two hundred and fifty thousand yen annually from the City Improvements Committee, as well as a sum of one hundred and fifty thousand yen from the Government during a period of seven years. Some fifty or sixty thousand yen will also accrue from the rent of public lands. Thus, in one way or another, there will be over a million yen to devote to the annual service of the loan, and no necessity whatever exists for new taxes. Mr. Kusumoto also explained that

the expenditure of ten million yen ought not to frighten the citizens of the capital when they have in hand a scheme of city improvements expected to cost altogether 140 million yen, which will be spread over a period of 280 years.

LOSS OF A BRITISH SAILING SHIP.

TELEGRAPHIC information (says the *Hyogo News* of the 17th) has been received at the Kencho stating that a British sailing ship—supposed to be the *Lizzie C. Troop*—was lost on the 22nd ult., on the island of Yerabeyima, one of the Loochoo group. The crew arrived at Kago-shima on Wednesday, but the information in the possession of the Kencho does not give the number saved; the *Asahi Shimbun*, however, as will be seen by our translations, places the number at 10. The telegram being in Japanese, the name is anything but clear, but seeing that the *Troop* left Nagasaki in ballast for Puget Sound on the 15th ult., and that there is no other vessel of that name at present in these waters, the probabilities are, we fear, that she is the British ship referred to. Added to this we already know that the 22nd was the date of the very violent typhoon which swept over that portion of the country, and the date of the *Troop's* departure and the date of her supposed wreck would place her somewhere in that quarter. Captain Fownes had his wife and family on board. The same journal has the following on the 18th instant:—The report of the total loss of the British ship *Lizzie C. Troop* off the Loochoo Islands, with the major portion of her crew, appears to be only too true. The survivors, seven foreigners and three Japanese, are due this morning from Kumamoto, Kagoshima, per Nippon Yusen Kaisha steamer *Mutsu Maru*, which left that place at ten o'clock on Thursday morning. Those drowned number thirteen, and include one Japanese. Nothing further is known, and, until the arrival of the survivors here, no list of those who perished will be available. The Captain's family included his wife and two children. Preparations have been made at the Sailors' Home for the reception of the survivors. The news of the disaster appears to have taken more than three weeks to travel up here, due, of course, to the ungetatableness of the locality where the wreck occurred. The vessel being an English ship, there will be the usual Court of Inquiry at H.B.M.'s Consulate into the circumstances attending her loss. * * * * The *Mutsu Maru* arrived this morning. Among the survivors are Mrs. Fownes, the Captain's wife, and the first mate. The vessel was driven on to the rocks during a typhoon, striking at 6 o'clock in the morning. The survivors stood by her and came ashore when the weather moderated. Those who jumped overboard were drowned. The Captain brought his wife and eldest son ashore, but lost the latter in the surf. He returned to find him, if possible, but was frightfully hurt among the rocks, and was washed back by the sea. He died on shore an hour later from the effect of his wounds.

PATENTS AND TRADE MARKS.

THE question of protection for foreign patents and trade-marks in Japan is running the usual gauntlet of misrepresentation and equivocation. Nothing could be simpler than the point at issue. Foreigners residing in Japan are held to be exempt from the control of Japanese laws. Consular Courts are not competent to enforce those laws as against their own nationals. Therefore a foreign subject or citizen living in one of the Settlements may infringe a Japanese patent or appropriate a Japanese trade-mark without running any risk of being cited before his Consul, who could not take any cognisance of the offence. It results, therefore, that in order to secure his right in a patent or trade-mark against infringement within the limits of his own country, a Japanese subject would have to register the patent or trade-mark in every one of the foreign States whose nationals carry on business in Japan. This difficulty has been thoroughly recognised in official quarters. It stands fatally in the way of any arrangement for reciprocal protection. Special enabling legislation on the part of each of the Treaty Powers

would be necessary in order that Consular Courts might be competent to restrain their nationals in Japan from infringing the rights of Japanese subjects in respect of Japanese patents or trade-marks.

Such being the case, observe how the question is treated by a local English journal. Here are two extracts from its pages, with italics of our own:—

Japan Herald, Oct. 15th.

British subjects in Japan are as much under British law, as they would be were they actually in England. It follows therefore, that if a Japanese were to take out a patent in London, or were to register a trade-mark, the Court here would punish any infringement of that patent or trade-mark, inasmuch as Englishmen here are subject to the laws of their own country. It is true that it would be necessary that the patent should be issued or the trade-mark be registered in England, but this, we apprehend, is a condition which prevails throughout the world, and we have no doubt but that many foreigners would be willing to register their trade-marks, &c., in Japan could they secure equal protection.

Japan Herald, Oct. 18th.

The *Japan Mail* asserts, as an unquestionable proposition, that a British Subject in Japan may with impunity infringe the right of a Japanese Subject acquired by virtue of the Japanese law of trade-mark, or of patents. The enterprising Britisher who would allow himself to be deluded into acting upon that advice would have no reason to congratulate himself upon following the teaching of the *Mail*.

Thus, on October the 15th the public is informed that in order to secure a Japanese patent or trade-mark against infringement by British subjects in Japan, "it would be necessary that the patent should be issued or the trade-mark be registered in England." On October the 18th the public is informed that if an "enterprising Britisher" in Japan attempted to "infringe the right of a Japanese subject acquired by virtue of the Japanese law of trade-marks or of patents," he "would have no reason to congratulate himself" upon doing so. A journal contradicting itself in this flagrant manner during the course of three days either is sensible that nothing could increase its discredit, or entertains the lowest possible idea of its readers' intelligence.

CHANGES OF LANGUAGE.

THE history of a people is reflected in its language. Nowhere has a more conspicuous example of this been furnished than in Japan. Since the country set out upon its extraordinary career of modern progress, commencing less than a quarter of a century ago, its language has undergone almost as much change as its institutions. An educated man of the time of the Restoration, could he be transported to the present era without linguistic preparation, would find his countrymen speaking something very like a strange tongue. Thousands of words not included in the everyday vocabulary of the year 1865 have now come into common use. They are derived, of course, from the Chinese, an inexhaustible source whence expert word-makers can draw materials for the manufacture of almost any conceivable term, abstract or concrete. A list of the additions and changes thus made and effected would be virtually a record of the nation's progress in science, literature, commerce and industry. It might be worth some scholar's while to prepare such a list. The *Yomiuri Shimbun* makes a beginning, though the examples it selects serve chiefly to show how largely the fashion for Chinese equivalents has come to prevail—how much the *on* is preferred to the *kun*. Here are our contemporary's words:—

1865.	1890.
Okami (the Government).....	Seifu.
Shimo jimo (the people).....	Jinmin.
Ofure (a proclamation).....	Chokurei.
Ohite (a law).....	Hokuritu.
Tahiki (message).....	Denshin.
Nengu (tax).....	Chiso.
Yuridai (meeting).....	Yukai.
Unjo (customs duty).....	Ze.
Kuji (a law-suit).....	Soshō.
Negat-nushi (the plaintiff).....	Geikoku.
Aite kata (defendant).....	Hikoku.
Omutsu (defective).....	Tantei.
Sushi gumi (a summons).....	Shōkanjo.
Chōji (suspension, as of newspaper).....	Teishi.
Oku-in (public hand).....	Kōshō.

MR. SPENCER'S PARACHUTE DESCENT.

MR. SPENCER made his second balloon ascent and parachute descent on Sunday last. The

day was particularly favourable, the sky being quite clear and the air very still and calm. A considerable crowd assembled in the enclosure, and the streets in the vicinity were packed with sightseers. At 4.50 p.m. Mr. Spencer gave the order to let go, but owing to insufficiency of buoyancy in the gas the balloon would not ascend, and more gas had to be admitted. Mr. Spencer meanwhile explaining the delay and promising that, should a second attempt fail, those who had paid for admission would witness free a successful ascent on a day to be afterwards fixed. At 5.6 p.m. he again started, and the balloon slowly ascended into the air, drifting very slightly to the north-west in obedience to a very mild air current. At a height of 1,000 feet the aeronaut left his seat and dropped suddenly a considerable distance, the parachute only becoming distended about half way down, and descending rapidly. So slightly had the balloon drifted that Mr. Spencer actually alighted in the Public Gardens, and soon reappeared among the spectators. He had deemed it advisable in order to ensure an ascent to dispense with the 10lb. weight usually attached to tilt the balloon on his quitting it and thus empty it of gas, being anxious to have some little risk in recovering the balloon (value £100) rather than disappoint his patrons. The balloon, however, emptied itself rapidly after he had left it, but having been set to the westward by a current of air in the higher region to which it ascended came down in Japanese town. In the course of a speech after his return to the ring Mr. Spencer said these low altitude descents showed that under all circumstances the atmosphere had sufficient supporting power to enable a descent to be made. In the experiments that he was making from day to day it was his aim to invent a flying machine. They saw him supported by a canopy of silk, and it was not beyond the realms of possibility that they should be able to support themselves and move in the air as the birds do. When that invention shall have been achieved it will be proved that these ascents are of great scientific value, and are not the mere foolhardy attempts of persons careless of their lives. Mr. Spencer's ascent occupied 1m. 10s., and his descent 35s.

THE DISTRESS IN CHIHLI.

WE have received from the Secretary of the Committee for the relief of distress caused by floods in Chihli, an appeal which we are requested to lay before our readers. As, however, it was published some days ago in our columns, re-production now is unnecessary. The magnitude of the calamity in Chihli is unquestionably appalling. An area of fully six thousand square miles of the district included in the drainage basin of the Peiho was completely submerged, and enormous numbers of people have been reduced to a state of utter destitution. A rough estimate made by competent observers assigns four millions as the number of persons who will be absolutely dependent on charity until next summer. Such a terrible prospect should command the sympathy of the whole of civilized humanity, and the foreign residents of Tientsin appear to have been thoroughly roused to action. We should not have waited for their appeal to reach us officially before inviting our readers to assist such a deserving cause, did we not feel that certain considerations will probably militate against the readiness of foreigners in Japan to subscribe. The floods by which the districts to the north of Tokyo were visited last August, produced bitter distress among the people, and resulted in a state of affairs fully justifying an appeal to foreign charity. Believing, however, that the provision made by the Central Government as well as by the local officials was adequate to meet the emergency, we refrained from opening a subscription list, as suggested at the time by correspondents. Kōchi Prefecture was subsequently visited by a similar calamity. We learn that great suffering exists there at present, and that the foreign public is likely to be invited to aid in relieving it. More than one appeal for assistance on behalf of Japanese reduced to the verge of starvation by the high price of rice and consequent inactivity of the labour market, are also

now before the public, and the Ladies' Charity Bazaar will soon constitute another call for funds. Under all these circumstances we doubt the success of an invitation to assist distant charities while those at home are so numerous and pressing. At the same time we shall be most happy to receive subscriptions and to forward them to Tientsin on behalf of the unhappy Chinese who may even at this moment be dying of cold or starvation.

THE LATE DR. STEIN'S FRIENDS IN JAPAN.

THE news of Dr. Stein's death was received by many Japanese friends with sincere sorrow and regret. They met on the 13th instant at the Koyo-kwan, Shiba, Tokyo, for the purpose of performing a religious ceremony in behalf of the departed soul of their admired friend and instructor. Count Ito, Viscount Kaido, and Messrs. Maruyama, Ariga, and Magaki were the originators of the meeting, and the invitations issued by them were responded to by over thirty gentlemen, occupying high positions in the Government, in journalism, and in party politics, all being personal friends of the deceased juriconsult. Conspicuous among those present were, besides the above mentioned originators, Count Yamagata, Viscounts Tani and Fujiwara, Messrs. Ito Miyoji, Kawashima Jun, Maeda Masana, Kitabatake Doryu, Seki Naohiko, Tsuzuki Keiroku, and others. The meeting was opened at 3 p.m. From a maple tree in the garden was hung a large portrait, 3 by 2½ feet, of Dr. Stein, which is said to have been painted by his eldest son at the request of Viscount Fujiwara. Beginning with Count Yamagata, all present in turn made an obeisance to the portrait. Then followed prayers and the offer of sacrifices according to the genuine Shinto ceremony, these rites being performed under the superintendence of Mr. Maruyama Sakura. He also addressed a *saion* to the spirit of the deceased. With regard to the employment of the ceremony prescribed by the Shinto cult, the originators are persuaded, it is said, that whatever may have been the religious belief of the late Dr. Stein, he would, were he alive, appreciate the warm and heartfelt sorrow of the Japanese for the removal from this world of a friend so loved and respected. While the ceremony was going on, an interesting incident occurred. A man in the garb of a sub-officer of gendarmerie presented himself at the gate, and asked permission to take part in the service. He said that, though he had not known the deceased personally, he was a most admiring student of the illustrious professor; and that, being deeply grieved at his death, he felt the strongest sympathy with the purpose of the meeting. The evidently sincere sorrow manifested by this official afforded unmistakable evidence of the sentiments with which Dr. Stein was regarded in Japan.

THE "RIKKEN JIYU-TO" AND THE "KAISHINTO." In view of the slow revival of the project of amalgamation between the Constitutional Liberal party and the *Kaishin-to*, it is interesting to hear the views entertained on the subject by the *Kokumin-no-Tomo*, a journal enthusiastically devoted to the consummation of the project of union. Writing in its recent issue about the Constitutional Liberal party, the Tokyo periodical deprecates the timidity and hesitation shown by the *Kaishin-to* in connection with the proposed amalgamation. Our contemporary observes that a vast revolution has taken place during the past ten years in the political opinions of the leaders of most of the progressive parties. Stated in a few words, the revolution of thought spoken of by the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* amounts to this, that while formerly Liberal politicians were purely destructive and radical in tendency, they have now become constructive and moderate. This change was first publicly announced by Count Itagaki in his manifesto about the organization of the *Aikoku-koto*, subsequently absorbed into the lately formed *Rikken Jiyu-to*. He plainly stated in that celebrated document that times had changed and that henceforth a moderate and construc-

tive course of policy must be followed for the perfection of the constitutional form of government to be shortly put into operation. No other statesman so plainly avowed his change of opinion, but the sentiments then expressed by Count Itagaki no doubt echoed,—so at least thinks our Tokyo contemporary—the general sense of leaders of the *Daido-ha*, the *Aikoku-koto*, the revived *Jiyu-to*, the *Kyushu Shimpoto*, and all the other parties professing progressive principles. This change signifies among other things that the leaders of these parties have been drifting more and more to the position always held by the *Kaishin-to*. Thus, notwithstanding its defeat of last year on the question of Treaty Revision, its partial defeat at the general elections of last July, and its procrastinating timidity in connection with the recent organization of the *Rikken Jiyu-to*—notwithstanding such apparently discrediting failures, the *Kaishin-to* may well congratulate itself on the signal triumph of the principles so consistently maintained by its members amid the taunts and insults of antagonistic parties. The appearance of a party like the *Rikken Jiyu-to* is the best proof of the triumph of the *Kaishin-to*'s constructive and moderate principles. But the leaders of the *Rikken Jiyu-to*, unlike those of the *Kaishin-to*, have adopted this policy in a straightforward, active, and cosmopolitan manner. Under these circumstances, our contemporary thinks that the members of the *Kaishin-to* should feel no regret about dissolving their party. If they join the *Rikken Jiyu-to*, they can easily occupy the central and most important position in that party. There may be, says the *Kokumin-no-Tomo*, elements in that party hostile to the admission of the *Kaishin-to*, but these need not be taken into serious consideration. The *Kokumin* cites the examples of the Whig party in England, which, notwithstanding that it contains, on the one hand, men like Labouchere and Graham, and, on the other, agitators like those under Parnell, enjoys the confidence of a large section of the nation because of the sober and respectable elements constituting the central and main portion of the party. Such being the case, the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* considers that these who advise the *Kaishin-to* to maintain a separate existence, are recommending a course of policy directly opposed to the best interests of that party. But we (*Japan Mail*) fail to appreciate this line of reasoning. To ordinary folks taught by tradition and instinct that converts should come into the fold of their teachers rather than that teachers should go over to their converts, it will appear more natural and reasonable that the *Rikken Jiyu-to* should be absorbed into the *Kaishin-to* than that the *Kaishin-to* should sacrifice its identity in order to be merged in the *Rikken Jiyu-to*. If, as the *Kokumin* points out, the policy steadily advocated by the *Kaishin-to*, in the face of much opposition and contumely, has at last finally triumphed, why should self-affacement be urged on the *Kaishin-to*? Rather let its intemperate and erring opponents lower their flag and range themselves under the banner of the politicians whose views they have now adopted.

THE NEW LOCAL NEWSPAPER.

As might have been expected, the curious error made by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* in describing the *Japan Herald* as a neutral organ, and ascribing to that fact the desire of the anti-revisionists to purchase it and make it an exponent of their own opinions, is contradicted by another vernacular journal, the *Tokyo Shimpoto*. Every reader of the local press knows that the *Japan Herald* has always represented the implacables of Yokohama, and that it has never hesitated to employ any weapon, however foul and vulgar, in fighting for the cause which it espouses. The *Tokyo Shimpoto*, therefore, points out with truth that nothing could be more erroneous than to credit the anti-revisionists with the desire of purchasing the *Herald* in order to change its attitude from neutrality to partisanship. Ever since the question of Treaty Revision entered the field of practical politics, the *Japan Herald* has stood at the very extreme of unscrupulous partisanship, and as is commonly the practice

of persons adopting such a rôle, has never ceased to rail against the partisan tendencies of others. To push it further in the same direction would be indeed a Herculean task. But the *Tokyo Shimpoto* is incorrect in the inference which it draws from this false phase of the story. It is deceived when it says that a scheme to purchase the *Herald* is not on the tapis. An advertisement now appearing places the matter beyond all doubt. Messrs. J. F. Lowder, James Walter, and W. Gordon announce themselves as promoters of a company in process of formation for the purpose of purchasing a paper, and it is an open secret that the paper is the *Japan Herald*. We have known for more than a fortnight that this was the case, but have refrained from commenting on the news, being influenced by considerations which it would still be injudicious to explain. Since, however, the vernacular press has begun to discuss the matter, we desire to point out to our Tokyo contemporaries that they will probably be making a flagrant mistake if they predict an anti-revisionist and partisan rôle for the *Japan Herald* under its new proprietorship. It is true that Mr. Lowder, as the chief promoter of the unfortunate Yokohama Meeting—unfortunate from the foreign standpoint, but incalculably beneficial to the Japanese negotiators—is persistently dubbed an anti-revisionist by vernacular newspapers. But, since the meeting, he has emphatically declared himself a revisionist, and has explained that his opposition is directed solely to the insufficiency, in his opinion, of the rumoured guarantees which are to accompany the abolition of Consular jurisdiction. Messrs. J. Walter and W. Gordon are doubtless of the same way of thinking, and under any circumstances these gentlemen represent the sound and honest side of the Fabian policy. Their opinions deserve the utmost respect, and we can be quite sure that any journal controlled by them or reflecting their views will be fair and courteous in its tone. To have such a paper in lieu of the violent and scurrilous sheet to which we have been hitherto accustomed will be indeed a blessing. Report says, further, that a gentleman of very high attainments both as a sinologue and as a man of letters has consented to edit the reformed journal. If this be so, the promoters and the community are alike to be congratulated, and we may all rejoice heartily to think that the reign of mud, malice, and misrepresentation is at length about to terminate.

THE MISSIONARIES AND TREATY REVISION.

WE learn that at an unusually full meeting of the Kobe and Osaka Missionary Conference, held in Osaka last Tuesday (14th instant), the subject of Treaty Revision was discussed. A statement was drawn up re-affirming the position taken in 1884—when, it will be remembered, nearly the whole missionary body in Japan signed a memorial urging liberal treatment of Japan's claims—but pressing more closely for substantial concessions to the Japanese Government. The sentiment of the meeting seems to have been decidedly in favour of the abandonment of extraterritorial privileges. A correspondent informs us that those present were practically unanimous in that view. There can be no question as to the value attaching to the opinion of missionaries on this subject. Their knowledge of the Japanese people and the Japanese language far exceeds that of any other class of foreigners both in accuracy and intimacy, and as their duties constantly take them into the interior and oblige them to live in remote towns and villages, it is evident that they are very keenly concerned as to the nature of the protection likely to be afforded to them by Japanese tribunals and Japanese police. On the other hand, it is not to be denied that in matters of this kind the missionary, who is before everything a student and disciple of principle, will always advocate what he considers right, without, perhaps, pausing to think whether it conduces to his interests or personal comfort. Justice before expediency is his motto. He finds it just that Japan should recover her judicial autonomy and be placed on the footing of other civilized countries. His experience of Japanese

ways and Japanese character leads him to conclude that foreigners have nothing to fear by submitting to Japanese jurisdiction. Therefore he pronounces in favour of relieving her from the international stigma which undoubtedly attaches to her present position. The merchant, however, cannot be blamed if he takes a less liberal view of the situation. He naturally sets his business interests above everything else. If he thinks that his business will be best secured by keeping things in *statu quo*; if, taught by the habits of his calling, he resolves to cling to all the privileges in his possession, or to drive the best possible bargain in negotiating for their surrender, we may preach to him a more magnanimous creed but we cannot pretend to deny that his attitude is natural and eminently practical. The position has now resolved itself simply into this—that a certain problem has to be solved; that the dictates of right and justice, as represented by the missionary body, clearly point to a liberal method of solution; and that the mercantile interest pleads for whatever form of solution will represent the best bargain from the foreign standpoint.

THE "NORTH CHINA HERALD" AND THE "JAPAN MAIL."

THE *North China Herald* has undertaken to criticise the action of this journal in respect of the recent controversy with Mr. J. F. Lowder. In so far as our Shanghai contemporary's criticism is a mere expression of opinion, we are not concerned to dispute it. But we must protest against being charged with "insinuating that Mr. Lowder, having been accorded a pension by the Japanese Government after many years of faithful and valuable service, had no right to take such a prominent part in a meeting called to oppose the Government's wishes." It is singular that, while quoting our very words, the *North China Herald* should thus misrepresent them. What we wrote was:—

Mr. Lowder for a long series of years occupied a position of honour and trust in the Japanese Government's Service, and is now a life pensioner of the same Government. During that protracted period his sympathies were openly and strongly given to the cause of Treaty Revision, and to the efforts made by Japan to obtain international recognition of her rights. Whether with such a record immediately behind him, the part now played by Mr. Lowder is consistent with the dictates of either decorum or friendliness we shall not attempt to decide.

There is a vast difference between denying a man's "right" to do a thing and questioning whether his action is "consistent with the dictates of either decorum or friendliness." The point was purely one of good taste. Mr. Lowder's "right" to organise the meeting admits of no dispute and has never been disputed by us. Men in his position, however, are usually guided by considerations more delicate than the mere dictates of lawful capability.

BURNS.

ONE of the marked changes in surgical methods which modern experience sanctions is the use of cold applications in case of scalds or burns. Not so long ago the current idea was that if one had courage to hold a burned spot before the fire for an appreciable time, this second application of heat would, by some mysterious process, undo the mischief caused by the first. But even though this extreme remedy were not resorted to, the greatest care used to be taken to avoid the contact of cold air or cold water. Now-a-days, however, the practice is to plunge the injured part into cold water, with the confident assurance that if it can be kept there long enough a complete cure will be effected. We ourselves recently witnessed the case of a child whose foot, scalded in the early morning, was immediately put into cold water and kept there until three o'clock in the afternoon, by which time all evil effects had disappeared. The following story related by the Vienna correspondent of the *Daily News* further illustrates the practice:—"About ten years ago all Vienna was enthusiastic over a young actress, Josephine Wessely, who, a tradesman's daughter, had made her way to the leading parts in Shakespeare's drama, and was one of the chief ornaments of the Imperial

Burg Theatre. Notwithstanding her success, she led a modest and retired life, devoting her savings to her family, so that her father was able to establish two large businesses, and was well enough off to invest some money in a house and large wine cellar. Then Josephine Wessely suddenly fell ill, and died at the age of twenty-seven. Her portrait is in the Burg Theatre gallery, and many visitors gaze upon it between the acts. Those who envied the old shoemaker his daughter's success thought he had paid dear enough for his stroke of luck when she died. Imagine the commotion when Vienna learned that he had died a frightful death. He was busy in his cellar the other night with a servant, and as he was moving a cask in which sulphur had been burnt to clean it the man held the candle too near. There was an explosion, and the clothes of both men were on fire in a moment. The cellar was filled with dense smoke. The man found his way to the entrance and called for help, but old Wessely in his maddening pain lost his way, and when at last neighbours came into the burning cellar they found him in agony in a dark corner, burned most terribly. Baron Mundy took him to the hospital in one of his ambulance cars. He was immediately placed in the cold-water bath, where his excruciating pains ceased. His children came to him during the night, and, with the help of the doctors, he wrote a will on a china tablet under the water, and then died. The persons who were present at this scene say that it was a most heartrending moment when the father expired, after having alluded to the untimely end of his darling daughter."

THE SENATE.

THE abolition of the Senate is at last an accomplished fact. The *Official Gazette* of yesterday published an extra containing the following Imperial Rescripts:—

"During the period of ten years which have elapsed since the Senate was organized we have derived assistance from that body in legislative affairs. In consequence of the opening of the Imperial Diet we now order the dissolution of the Senate, acknowledging the services rendered by it.

20th day, tenth month, 25th year of Meiji."
(Communicated through Count Yamagata, Minister President of State.)

"We hereby authorise the abolition of the Senate and order the same to be promulgated."

(Imperial Sign-manual.)
(Great Seal.)

Signatures of Minister President, &c.
ORDINANCE No. 255.

"We hereby authorize the conferring of special rewards on the President, Vice-President, and members of the Senate, and order the same to be promulgated."

(Imperial Sign-manual.)
&c.

ORDINANCE No. 256.

"In connection with the abolition of the Senate, it is hereby ordered that, as a special reward, sums not exceeding fifteen hundred yen shall be granted to the President, Vice-President, and members."

(Imperial Sign-manual.)
&c.

Signatures of Minister President of State and Minister of State for Finance.

JAPANESE LABOUR FOR THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

WRITING about the urgent need of agricultural labour in the Straits Settlements, the *Singapore Free Press* says:—

India has been looked to as a field to secure our labour—which what success most of us have been made aware by the agitation in favour of greater freedom. China supplies an immense number, and yet not enough. The supply is falling off, too, for we have good reason to believe that the immigration returns will show a decrease of *over ten thousand* for the year. Then the Chinaman, industrious as he is, is an unsatisfactory member of the community. Putting aside his personal peculiarities, which are distinctly unpleasant, there is too much conservatism about him. China embodies all the ideas of the Chinaman, and he possesses, but little of the power of adapting himself to new circumstances. What his ancestors were so is he. Then he does not take kindly to a foreign rule and is inclined to be under a system that runs counter to that with which he is familiar, as intractable as he is superstitious and ignorant. Turning our eyes further a field in quest of possible labour supplies, there is that country of the future, Japan. It has never been suggested that the millions of the men that country might find emigration a paying enterprise, yet when one comes to look at the suggestion of attracting Japanese settlers in our Colony, there is not only a charm in prospect but also every chance of its successful realisation. Japan is one of the most highly

cultivated countries in the world. Every plot of ground is tilled, and narrow strips on the hill sides are cut out at a great expenditure of labour, in order to plant therein rice, tea, or the mulberry. If we could only get a tenth of our fertile cultivated as well as the greater part of Japan is, there would be no necessity to appeal to other countries for our food supply. In industry and agricultural skill the Japanese is quite the Chinaman. In disposition, hereditary politeness, language, and tractability there is a comparison to be drawn between the two. The difficulty lies in the problem whether emigration would ever be sanctioned by the Japanese Government, even under the extreme pressure of such general famines as that now causing such distress and suffering in that country. All the factors conducing to the successful establishment of emigration exist in Japan. On the one hand there is a crowded country only able to support its inhabitants with extreme difficulty; on the other hand broad tracts of fertile soil in a climate eminently favourable to cultivation, which would, amply repay the skilled labour which immigrants of the stamp of the ordinary Japanese peasant could bestow upon it. That the difficulties in the way are great and indisputable, but look where we will there is difficulty in getting labour, and the result of getting a few hundred thousand skilled agricultural labourers into the Colony who would at the same time be permanent settlers would abundantly compensate for any trouble in getting them here.

SPED ACROSS THE ATLANTIC.

WE take the following from a home exchange:—The Canadians (says the *Morning Post*) have actually under consideration a project which, they allege, will result in reducing the run from shore to shore of the Atlantic to eighty-four hours. The project is to construct a railway eastward from Quebec to the coast of Labrador, somewhere between Bellefleur Straits and Cape Weebick or Hamilton Inlet, and thence run a service of fast steamers to Milford Haven. The most easterly point of the Labrador coast is about 900 miles nearer to us than Quebec, and Milford Haven is nearer to America by fully 300 miles or thereabouts. The saving effected in mileage, compared with the run as at present performed from Liverpool to Quebec or Portland, would reach, it may be assumed, not less than 1,000 miles, and it is perfectly evident that a voyage of under 2,000 miles could be made well within four days—nearer three and a half, indeed, than four days. The journey by train from the most easterly portion of Labrador to Quebec would hardly take more than eighteen to twenty hours, so that travellers would be enabled to reach the old Canadian capital within four and a half days of stepping on board the boat at Milford Haven; or taking into account the railway journey from London to the Welsh port, it would be possible to reach Quebec within five days of leaving the metropolis, only three and a half of which would be spent on the water. At present the voyage occupies fully nine days, or, allowing for the journey from London to Liverpool, nine and a half to ten days. The choice of the Labrador route would reduce the duration of the voyage by nearly or quite one-half in point of time, to say nothing of the extra comfort travellers would experience from the shorter period spent on the open sea.

THE ORGAN OF THE RADICALS.

THE appearance of the new Radical organ, the *Fuyu Shimbun*, has been looked for with curiosity, not alone because of the interest attaching to a journal supposed to represent a great political party, but also because it was understood that the new publication would be under the direct supervision and control of Count Itagaki. The first number was issued on the 20th instant. The following is a translation of its declaration of policy:—"The *Fuyu Shimbun* is to be the protector of liberty. The manufacture of public opinion will be its function. Political liberalism is still in its childhood in our country. Sometimes it takes the wrong path or errs in its direction. The *Fuyu Shimbun* will act as guide to the wanderer. There are those who seek to lead astray and deceive our beloved children of liberty. The duty of the protector of liberty is to show them the true way, and prevent them from losing it. Of such as standing aloof from the strife of parties and maintaining an independent and impartial attitude, ally themselves with the cause of liberty, we will be the allies. Of such as are hostile to that cause, we will be the enemies. Political parties, too, are manufactures of public opinion, but the products they turn out are often unavoidably crude.

Public opinion is the view of the majority. A political platform may represent the view of the minority. The *Yi-yu Shimbun* embodies the opinions of the minority, but it will at last receive the adherence of the majority and become the organ of public opinion. The Diet is the wholesale warehouse of public opinion. There the value of the empire is fixed. The responsibility is great. If a crude public opinion be manufactured; if the quality of the article be not carefully chosen; if the market be subjected to violent fluctuations day by day, the vital interests of the State will be endangered. To obey public opinion is the virtue of Constitutional Government. To obey public opinion is also the duty of members of the same party, but to express one's own opinion is the right of a free man. Our hope is to forge an iron hammer wherewith to weld a public opinion that shall continue adamant for a hundred years."

There is certainly very little here to indicate the policy of the new journal. The literary style is peculiar. Such short aphoristic sentences are quite foreign to the spirit of the smooth, well rounded, and somewhat redundant phrases of the Japanese language as we knew it twenty years ago. We confess, too, that a feeling of bewilderment is the chief outcome of perusing this collection of sententious utterances. That the *Yi-yu Shimbun* was to be a party organ before everything, nobody doubted. Yet we find it promising to be the ally of those who "stand aloof from the strife of parties and maintain an independent and impartial attitude." Count Itagaki, its proprietor and director, certainly does not stand aloof from the strife of parties. He has been the most prominent figure in Japanese party warfare during the past twelve years, and he remains, in this respect, almost as conspicuous as ever to-day. We do not doubt that the writer of the new journal's manifesto is full of ideas. In fact he seems to be so full of them that like the knowledge packed into Mr. Toots' head at Dr. Blimber's, they won't come out. By and by, doubtless, he will condescend to take the public into his confidence. For the moment we can only welcome him heartily to the field of journalism, and congratulate him on the forcible and unusual fashion of his writing.

THE IMPERIAL HOUSE AND THE SHINTO CULT.
In the last number of the journal of the *Kokkagaku-kai* (Society for the Investigation of the Science of State) there is published a report of the address, delivered before that learned body by President Kato of the Imperial University, on the relations between the Imperial House and Shintoism. At present there being an agitation among the Shinto priests as to the advisability of severing their connections with the Government, Mr. Kato thinks it worth while to consider this question. But before proceeding to speak of the Shinto religion in particular, the lecturer briefly reviews the history of the relationship between religion and the State in European countries, and observes that, though in some Occidental countries certain forms of religious faith have more intimate connection with the state than others, the general opinion at present is that religion and the State ought to be quite independent of each other. In Japan there are at present three systems of religion; Buddhism, Christianity, and Shintoism. Between the two former Mr. Kato seems to profess no preference. But the position of the last in Japan is unique and especial. Mr. Kato observes that Shintoism did not profess formerly to be a religion, its activity in that sense being only of recent date. Indeed, he admits that in its nature it is not a religion, but a system of ceremonies to be observed in worshipping the ancestors of the Imperial House, as well as, in rare instances, the spirits of departed heroes. Thus it has a close relation with the Imperial House, and its preservation or abandonment as a cult directly concerns the dignity of the Sovereign. Mr. Kato, therefore, thinks it unwise to set up Shintoism as a religion and to strive to propagate it side by side with Christianity and

Buddhism. Such a course of policy may have very evil consequences, in order to avoid which he advises those occupying leading positions among the Shinto priests to lay aside all the religious pretensions now asserted by them, and to confine their attentions to the observance of the rites of worship of deified beings. There are, says the lecturer, certain forms of pseudo-Shintoism, such, for instance, as the *Tokami-ko* and the *Oyama-ko*. These in their nature are more of a religion than Shintoism itself, though they are vulgar and superstitious creeds. The Shintoists are advised by Mr. Kato to have nothing to do with these vulgar religions. He hopes that not only the Shintoists but every intelligent person will look at the question in the light in which he views it, so that all inconvenient results to the country and the Imperial House be in good time prevented.

TEMPLES.

We are indebted to the *Official Gazette* for a particularly interesting article upon the Shinto and Buddhist Temples in Nara-ken whose age exceeds four hundred years. The statement cannot fail to prove of service to those of our readers who take interest in the architectural monuments of the past. The data furnished are based on the result of an examination made by the Nara Prefectural Authorities, and may therefore be accepted as trustworthy. It will be seen that there are no less than 32 of these edifices which have stood the stress of time and weather over a thousand years. Considering the material of which the buildings are composed it will scarcely occasion surprise if the ages assigned should be received with a tinge of incredulity. Of the entire number two are said to be 1,297 years old. These are Horyuji, a Buddhist temple belonging to the Hossho sect and situated at Oaza Horyuji, Horyuji-mura, Heguri-gun; and Sesonji, the property of the Sodo Buddhists, situated at Oaza-Iiso, Oyodo-mura, Yoshino-gun. Horyuji was built by Shotoku Taishi of the Imperial House in the first year of the reign of Suiko Tenno. The same prince is credited with having built Sesonji. Next to these, in point of age merely, comes the temple known as Ankyo-in, at Oaza Asuka, Asuka-mura, Takaichi-gun, owned by the Shingon sect. Ankyo-in is pronounced to be 1,294 years old. Shotoku Taishi erected this also. Eleven years later the same prince built Tachibana-dera (now held by the Tendai sect) at Oaza Tachibana, Takaichi-mura, Takaichi-gun. Chofukuji at Oaza Tawaraguchi, Kita Ikome-mura, Heguri-gun, now in the hands of the Shingon Buddhists, was likewise founded by Shotoku Taishi. Chofukuji is 1,274 years old. Next in order stands Gakunaji, the property of the Shingon Buddhists, at Oaza Nukatabe, Hirahata-mura, Heguri-gun, built by Suiko Tenno in the 27th year of his reign; Monju-in at Oaza Abe, Abe-mura, Toichi-gun, erected by Kotoku Tenno in the first year of Taika (the adoption of a distinctive nomenclature for the different eras dates from this time); and Okadera, at Oaza Oka, Takaichi-mura, Takaichi-gun, which was built by the Emperor Tenchi 1,229 years ago. Both Monju-in and Okadera belong to the Shingon sect. Kontaiji, held by the Jodo sect, at Oaza Jurin, Nara-machi, Soyekami-gun, is 1,219 years old, having been built by the Emperor Temmu. Dosho Risshi conducted the opening ceremonies and was the first chief priest to officiate at Kontaiji. Chokoknji, in charge of the Shingon branch, at Oaza Hatusue, Hatusue-mura, Shikikami-gun, was constructed in the 2nd year of Hakuho, and is therefore 1,218 years old. Kotoku Tenno erected Chokokuji, and one Domyo was the first chief priest appointed to it. Kongosanji, also held by the Shingon Buddhists, situated at Oaza Yata, Yata-mura, Soyeshimo-gun, was built two years later. The 9th and 10th years of the Hakuho era saw the erection of Yakushiji (now the property of the Hossho sect) at Oaza Suna, Miyakoji-mura, Soyeshimo-gun—Rempo is the first recorded priest of Yakushiji—Hoshoji, held by the Shingon sect, situated at Oaza muro-oi, Muro-oi-mura, Uda-gun, built by the Emperor; and Tagimaji, occupied by

the Jodo and Shingon branches of Buddhism conjointly, at Oaza Tagima, Tagima-mura, Kuzushimo-gun. Tagimaji was likewise constructed by the Emperor. En-no-Shokaku and Nyoho Biku respectively were the earliest Abbots. It is worthy of note that the latter bore a title indicative of active connection with the Imperial forces. Kofukuji, in the possession of the Hossho sect, at Oaza Nobori-ji, Naramachi, Soyekami-gun, was built by Prince Tanaka in the third year of Wado of Gemmyo Tenno, and is 1,177 years old; whilst Jurin In, at Oaza Jurin, Naramachi, Soyekami-gun, which is held by the Shingon sect, was erected the following year, in the 1st year of Reiki. Jurin-in is believed to have been founded by Gensho Tenno. Matsuoji, at Oaza Yamada, Yata-mura, Soyeshimo-gun, built by Prince Toneri in the first year of Yoro; Minami Hokke-ji, at Oaza Tsubosaka, Takatori-mura, Takaichi-gun, erected the following year; and Yeizanji at Oaza Kojima, Uchi-mura, Uchi-gun, constructed by Fujiwara Takechi-maro, are respectively 1,173, 1,172, and 1,170 years old. These three are in the keeping of the Shingon sect. Shin Yakushiji, at Oaza Takahata, Naramachi, Soyekami-gun, held by the Kego sect, built by Shomu Tenno is 1,167 years old; and Hokeji, at Oaza Hokeji, Saho-mura, Soyekami-gun, also built by Shomu Tenno, dates from six years later. Reizanji at Oaza Naka, Tomio-mura, Soyeshimo-gun, built in the 8th year of Tempyo; Shimonobu, at Oaza Fukuzumi, Fukuzumi-mura, Yamabe-gun, established by Shomu Tenno in the 11th year of Tempyo; and Enseiji, at Oaza Niumiku-zan, Oyagyu-mura, Soyekami-gun, which dates from the 8th year of Tempyo Shoho of Koken Tenno, are believed to be respectively 1,154, 1,152, and 1,135 years old. All of these likewise belong to the Shingon sect. The Shinto edifices known as Tamukezan Jinja, and Kasuga Jinja (the first named a *Kensha* or prefectural temple, the latter a *Kanpei Taisha* or Government temple of the first class), are 1,142 and 1,121 years old. Tamukezan Jinja is said to have been erected by Shomu Tenno in honour of the God Hachimangu. Kasuga Jinja dates back to the 2nd years of Jingu Keiuu. These are the only Shinto Temples in the province over a thousand years old. Shodaiji, at Oaza Gojo, Tsuto-mura, Soyeshimo-gun, is 1,135 years old, having been constructed in the 8th year of Tempyo Shoho. The Chinese priest Kotoku was the first to open the services at this temple. Shodaiji is now in the possession of the Ritsu sect. Saidaiji, at Oaza Saidaiji, Fushimi-mura, Soyeshimo-gun, occupied by the Shingon-Ritsu Buddhists dates back 1,126 years; Anyoji, at Oaza Kitabukuro, Nara-machi, Soyekami-gun, built in the 4th year of Daido by the Emperor Heijo, and now held by the Jodo sect, 1,081 years; Koinji at Oaza Kokuzo, Gokaya-mura, Soyekami-gun, built by Saga Tenno, 1,070 years; Chogakuji, at Oaza Yagimoto, Yagimoto-mura, Shikikami-gun, opened by Kobo Daishi, Chief Priest, in the first year of Tencho of Junna Tenno, 1,067 years; Butsuryuji at Oaza Akahani, Uchimaki-mura, Uda-gun, built in the 3rd year of Kashu during the reign of Nimmei Tenno, 1,042 years; and Kumeji, at Oaza Kume, Shirokashi-mura, Takaichi-gun, erected by Prince Kume Oji somewhat over 1,000 years. All of these are now held by the powerful Shingon sect. The foregoing represent temples whose age exceeds one thousand years. Nyorinji, at Oaza Yoshino-zan, Yoshino-mura, Yoshino-gun, held by the Jodo sect, is believed to be more than 900 years old; Senju In, at Oaza Kangakuji, Takatori-mura, Takaichi-gun, built in the first year of Eikan by the then reigning Emperor, is 908 years old; and Shorekiji at Oaza Bodaizan, Gokaya-mura, Soyekami-gun, built by Ichijo Tenno in the 3rd year of Shoreki, is 899 years old. Both Senju In and Shorekiji are in the possession of the Shingon sect. The Shinto shrine, Takahama Jinja, a prefectural temple at Oaza Kamokami, Katsuragi-mura, Kuzukami-gun; Karakuni Jinja, a village temple (*sonsha*) at Oaza Karakuni, Naramachi, Soyekami-gun, the special shrine of Suiko Tenno; and Kissui Jinja, another village temple or

sonsha at Oaza Yoshino, Yoshino-mura, Yoshino-gun, vary from 550 to 900 years. Takahama Jinja is considerably the oldest. Karakuni Jinja is known to have been rebuilt in the 6th year of Kenkyu, 696 years back. Another Shinto edifice upwards of 400 years old is the Asukaza Jinja (a village temple—*sonsha*) at Oaza Asuka, Asuka-mura, Takaichi-gun. This was reconstructed in the 2nd year of Hotoku. Saiho In, at Oaza Gojo, Tsuto-mura, Soyeshimo-gun, "built in the 9th month of the 2nd year of Katei," and held by the Shingon sect, is 685 years old. Darumaji, at Oaza Oji, Oji-mura, Kuzushimo-gun, built by Ashikaga Yoshimori in the 2nd year of Eikyo, to replace the temple erected on the same site some centuries before by Shotoku Taishi, is 461 years old. Besides these there is only Kofukuji, at Oaza Horen, Saho-mura, Soyekani-gun, now in the control of the Jodo sect of Buddhists. These particulars, if accurate, certainly make a wonderful picture.

THE GOVERNMENT IN THE DIET.

THE *Fiji Shimpō* writing with reference to the duties of the Government as to bills submitted in the Diet, says it is not at all probable that the Ministers will themselves appear and give the necessary explanations. This task will in all likelihood devolve upon delegates appointed by the Government for that purpose. The question is, what officials will be elected thus to represent the Government. Various opinions, according to our contemporary, seem to be held, some people thinking that the delegation should consist of Vice-Ministers of State; others insisting on the necessity of the presence in the Diet of the directors of the respective bureaux; while others again contend that the fittest officials to represent the Cabinet will be the heads of the Bureau of Legislature. In any case those who may be selected to represent the Government in the Diet ought to exercise the utmost caution in their actions and language. In this view the difficulty of selecting officials fitted for the duties will be at once apparent. Such a delegation must be so thoroughly conversant with the subject of debate that they will be able satisfactorily to explain any questions that may be asked. They should at the same time be men of wide experience and sound intelligence, so that they may be able to convince the members of the correctness of the facts which they bring forward. It frequently happens that officials are not men of liberal views and quick understanding; and the spectacle of a timid and unready set of Government officials arrayed against the active and eloquent popular members will not be at all an edifying one. Perhaps the younger generation of officials would be more suited to such a duty than men who have grown old in the Government service; but there is always the danger of their being too hasty to conduct with prudence and care the business entrusted to them. For all these reasons our contemporary thinks the Government ought to exercise special caution in the selection of representatives. If the Ministers of State were in person to take upon themselves the duty of explaining bills, leaving the committee of Government officials to deal with matters of detail, all might go fairly well, but this can hardly be expected in the present condition of the Cabinet. The *Fiji* therefore concludes that only persons of mature experience, who have gained a certain amount of public confidence, should be put forward to represent the Government. Such men may fairly expect to command the respect of the Diet, and in this way the relations between the Government and the popular members may proceed successfully and without friction.

ALUMINIUM.

SIR F. ABEL, in the wonderful address recently delivered by him before the British Association, made the following reference to aluminium compounds which promise to revolutionise many branches of constructive industry:—"Various valuable copper and aluminium alloys are now produced by alloying copper itself with definite

proportions of the copper alloy, very rich in aluminium, which is the product of the electric furnace. The rapid production in large quantities of ferro-aluminium—which presents the aluminium in a form suitable for addition in definite proportions to fluid cast iron and steel—is another useful outcome of the practical development of the electric furnace by Messrs. Cowles. The electric process of producing aluminium alloys has, however, to compete commercially with their manufacture by adding to metals, or alloys, pure aluminium produced by processes based upon the method originally indicated Oersted in 1824, and developed into a practical process by H. St. Claire Deville in 1854—namely, by eliminating aluminium from the double chloride of sodium and aluminium in the presence of a fluoride, through the agency of sodium. An analogous process, indicated in the first instance by H. Rose—namely, the corresponding action of sodium upon the mineral cryolite, a double fluoride of aluminium and sodium—has also been recently developed at Newcastle, where the first of these methods was applied, upon a somewhat considerable scale, in 1860, by Sir Lowthian Bell, but did not then become a commercial success, mainly owing to the costliness of the requisite sodium. As the cost of this metal chiefly determines the price of the aluminium, technical chemists have devoted their best energies to the perfection and simplification of methods for its production, and the success which has culminated in the admirable Castner process constitutes one of the most interesting of recent illustrations of the progress made in technical chemistry, consequent upon the happy blending of chemical with mechanical science, through the labours of the chemical engineer. Those who, like myself, remember how, between 40 and 50 years ago, a few grains of sodium and potassium were treasured up by the chemist, and used with parsimonious care in an occasional lecture-experiment, cannot tire of feasting their eyes on the stores of sodium ingots to be seen at Oldbury as the results of a rapidly and dexterously executed series of chemical and mechanical operations. The reduction which has been effected in the cost of production of aluminium through this and other processes, and which has certainly not yet reached its limit, can scarcely fail to lead to applications of the valuable chemical and physical properties of this metal so widespread as to render it as indispensable in industries and the purposes of daily life as those well-known metals which may be termed domestic, even although, and, indeed, for the very reason that, its association with many of these, in small proportion only, may suffice to enhance their valuable properties or to impart to them novel characteristics."

THE ST. CLAIR TUNNEL.

We take from *Bradstreet's* the following account of the big tunnel just completed under the St. Clair river:—"Canadian engineering skill, enterprise, and capital have just succeeded in constructing a new link between the United States and Canada, a railway tunnel under the St. Clair river from Sarnia to Port Huron. The work marks a distinct advance in engineering science owing to novel and successful methods applied in the construction. The tunnel is 28,000 feet long from the beginning of one approach to the end of the approach on the opposite side, more than five miles. Of this distance only 6,000 feet, a little more than a mile, are wholly underground, and of this only 2,310 feet, less than half mile, are under the river. There are 2,390 feet of tunnel under Michigan soil and 2,160 feet under ground on the opposite side of the river. The following sentences outline fairly the marvelous character of the tunnel: "No brick or stone was used in its construction, and when fully ready for use it will be simply an iron tube made of plates; 6,000 feet long and 20 feet in diameter, perfectly round and water-tight; as dry as a street in summer time, lighted by electric light, ventilated by air engines, and kept at the right temperature with steam pipes." The tunnel was formally opened on August 25th; its cost will be in excess of

\$2,000,000, and although owned by an independent company "it is to all intents and purposes a portion of the railway system of the Grand Trunk Railroad Company, yet no other railroad company," says the *Toronto Empire*, "will be debarrated from its use." A bridge over the St. Clair at that point would have cost an enormous sum if it were not to prove an obstruction to the very heavy lake traffic passing through the St. Clair river daily during the season. The tunnel is certainly a triumph of engineering, and will probably have a marked effect on traffic between the north-west and the Atlantic seaboard. The delays incidental to shipping trains of cars on ferry-boats across the Detroit and St. Clair rivers are too well known to hold them up in contrast with the improvement incidental to the St. Clair tunnel as a means of rapid transit."

OFFICIAL VISIT TO TOBE JAIL.

ON Wednesday forenoon, on the invitation of the Kencho authorities, a visit was paid to the prison at Tobo by the members of the Consular body in Yokohama. The party drove to Noge in carriages provided by the Kencho, and closely examined the whole buildings of the prison to which all Yokohama criminals are consigned. Among the visitors were the Russian, Italian, and British Consuls; the Secretary of the Spanish Legation, the German and Austro-Hungarian Vice-Consul, the United States Vice-Consul General (Mr. G. H. Seidmore) and Deputy Consul-General (Mr. J. McLean); Mr. C. D. Moss, H.B.M. Court for Japan; Mr. Mitsuhashi, Councillor of the Kencho; Marquis Nembrini-Gonzaga, Kencho (Foreign Department); Mr. C. M. Martin, Yokohama Law Courts, and Mr. Takahashi, Chief of Police. The party, under the guidance of the veteran governor, inspected the offices, cells, and factory of the prison (in which there are at present some 1,300 inmates) and saw the different occupations in which they were engaged, the women being occupied, besides other tasks, in weaving and making up the brick-coloured cloth which forms the dress of the convicts. General approval was expressed of the high state of discipline and of the evident care taken to secure the comfort of the prisoners, as shown in the administration of the institution.

JAPAN IN "L'ECONOMISTE FRANCAIS."

WE have often had occasion to comment on the very imperfect and occasionally misleading information published by *L'Economiste français* about Japanese affairs in its brief bulletins of foreign intelligence. It is, therefore, with pleasure that we observe in its columns the appearance of correspondence which promises to be very able and interesting, from the pen of Mr. Urakami. This gentleman's first letter to the *Economiste* occupies 2½ columns. Dated at Tokyo, July 24th, it discusses a variety of topics most of which having now passed out of the field of immediate interest, need not be referred to in detail here. Mr. Urakami's style is clear and concise, and it goes without saying that his French, as published by the *Economiste*, is faultless. This reminds us to mention a letter recently received and translated by us on the subject of Treaty Revision. The writer, a Japanese jurist educated in France, had chosen French as his medium of expression, and his letter, which occupied about three pages of foolscap, was quite beyond criticism from a grammatical or orthographical point of view. We have never received from any of our Japanese correspondents, with one exception, a letter of the same length so well and correctly written.

RUSSIA IN KOREA.

REMOURS about Russian designs upon Korea still continue to agitate a section of the Tokyo press. As a specimen of the views taken by vernacular papers on this subject, we may refer to an article in the current number of the *Nippon-jin*. The canard now circulated in the capital is, as we recently stated, that Korea contemplates renouncing her Chinese relations, and putting herself under the protection of her

powerful neighbour on the north. The *Nippon-jin*, though not vouching for the truth of the report, says that it was not entirely unprepared for such an event. Despite the perpetual anxiety of Russia to extend her dominions on the Pacific, her only post in that quarter—Vladivostok—is closed by ice during the greater part of the cold season, and consequently the only course for her is, we are told, to obtain a naval station on the coast of the Korean peninsula and connect it with the proposed Siberian railway. If the present rumour has any foundation at all, it points, says our contemporary, to an endeavour on the part of Russia to obtain Korea's consent to the extension of the projected railway through the latter kingdom to one of its sea ports. When a rumour was circulated in 1888 as to the conclusion of a secret treaty between these two countries, it turned out that a trading station had been opened on the Russian borders of Korea, and similarly our contemporary thinks that the present report may prove not entirely baseless. The *Nippon-jin* considers that the contemplated Eastern tour of the Russian Crown Prince may have an important bearing on the policy and projects of the Northern Power in the East. Should the Siberian railway be constructed as originally designed, and should its eastern end be brought down to some convenient sea port, another San Francisco or Hongkong will be created on the Pacific. Such being the state of things, the *Nippon-jin* recommends its countrymen to keep a sharp watch over the doings of Russia in the East. We (*Japan Mail*) have so often expressed our ideas on this subject, that we content ourselves here with simply reproducing the gist of our Tokyo contemporary's article.

A DISTANT IMITATOR.

THE Japanese will be interested to learn that their progress has secured an imitator in a very distant part of the world. Madagascar, watching Japan from afar, feels called on to follow her example. The *Madagascar News*, an English journal recently started, has an article on the foreign trade of Japan. It quotes largely from our analysis of the Customs Returns for 1889, and having noted the rapid growth of Japan's trade asks why Madagascar should not emulate a similar record. A correspondent of the same journal, writing from Antananarivo, says:—"It has been interesting to read your different notes about the necessity of having roads in countries like Madagascar, which certainly ought to follow in the footsteps of other countries civilized in the last few decades, and I should think especially the progression of the Japanese ought to be remarked by the Malagasy, not only because that country has done and is doing the quickest progress in civilization ever seen; but also because there seem to be several features in the character of the Malagasy and Japanese which are very much alike, though this may be applied only to the Hova as real Malayan brethren of those people."

QUOT HOMINES.

THE *Fiji Shimpō* tells a story with a moral. A certain English gentleman of Yokohama, desiring to marry a Japanese, applied to the young lady's parents for permission, but these declined on the ground that she was the representative of the house and consequently could not change her name. Thereupon the Englishman determined to become a Japanese subject, and with that object employed legal assistance to settle the preliminaries. The parents of the lady were very willing to make this arrangement, by which the Englishman would have become what is called a "*muko-yoshi*," or adopted bridegroom. But when her Britannic Majesty's Consul was approached on the matter, he intimated that a British subject could not voluntarily remove himself from the jurisdiction of his own country under the extraterritorial system now holding in Japan. The Englishman was much pained by this decision, says the *Fiji Shimpō*, "from which it will be seen that while some Englishmen object even to come under Japanese

jurisdiction, others are disappointed at not being able to become Japanese subjects. *Quot homines tot sententia.*"

MEMORIAL FROM CENTRAL JAPAN MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION.

THE Central Missionary Association of Japan held its annual meeting in Osaka on the 4th instant, when the following memorandum was adopted and signed as below:—

We, the undersigned members of the Missionary Association of Central Japan, feel it incumbent on us to express our high appreciation of the progress made in recent years by the Empire of Japan, and in view of the solemn guarantees for civil and religious liberty given by the new Constitution and of the legal and judicial reforms in which the most enlightened nations of the West are being followed, we hereby reaffirm the position taken in the memorandum adopted by the Association in April, 1884, and desire to further emphasize our belief that every just and legitimate demand of the Japanese Government and people in accordance with the principles of International Law should be conceded in revising the Treaties between Japan and the Foreign Powers concerned.

B. C. HOWARTH, Am. Pres. Mis., Kobe.
J. P. HEARST, Am. Pres. Mis., Kobe.
C. G. BROWN, Am. Pres. Mis., Tokushima.
GEO. ALLCORN, A.B.C.F.M., Osaka.
GEO. E. ALBRECHT, A.B.C.F.M., Kyoto.
DWIGHT W. LEARNED, A.B.C.F.M., Kyoto.
C. M. FISHER, A.P.M., Osaka.
JAS. B. AYRES, A.P.M., Yamaguchi.
J. WALTER DOUGHTY, A.P.M., Yamaguchi.
J. L. ATKINSON, A.B.C.F.M., Kobe.
A. D. HALL, Cumb. Pres. Mission, Osaka.
P. K. Fyson, C.M.S., Osaka.
G. W. VAN HORN, Cumb. Pres. Mis., Osaka.
J. B. HART, Cumb. Pres. Mis., Osaka.
D. A. MURRAY, Cumb. Pres. Mis., Osaka.
G. K. WOODRILL, A.P.M., Osaka.
H. B. PRICE, A.P.M., Tokushima.
R. B. GRINNAN, A.P.M., Kochi.
T. T. ALEXANDER, A.P.M., Osaka.
FRANKLIN H. BASSETT, A.P.M., Osaka.
G. E. HUDSON, C.P.M., Osaka.
OTIS CARY, A.B.C.F.M., Osaka.
G. M. ROWLAND, A.B.C.F.M., Tottori.
JAMES HIND, C.M.S., Osaka.
GEO. CHAPMAN, C.M.S., Osaka.
WALLACE TAYLOR, A.B.C.F.M., Osaka.
W. W. CURTIS, A.B.C.F.M., Sendai.
A. F. CHAFFEL, C.M.S., Gifu.
C. F. WARREN, C.M.S., Osaka.
ISAAC DOONAN, A.P.E.M., Nara.
W. P. BUNCOMBE, C.M.S., Tokushima.
J. B. PORTER, A.P.M., Kyoto.
J. COOPER ROBINSON, Wycliffe College Mission, Nagoya.
J. MACQUEEN BALDWIN, Wycliffe College Mission, Nagoya.
C. K. CUMMING, South. Pres. Mis., Nagoya.
E. H. VAN DYKE, Meth. Prot. Mis., Nagoya.
L. L. ALBRIGHT, Meth. Prot. Mis., Nagoya.
WRIGHT S. WORDEN, A.M.E. Mis., Nagoya.
R. E. McALPINE, South. Pres. Mis., Nagoya.
J. D. DAVIS, A.B.C.F.M., Kyoto.
C. M. CADDY, A.B.C.F.M., Kyoto.
E. BUCKLEY, A.B.C.F.M., Kyoto.
M. L. GORDON, A.B.C.F.M., Kyoto.
ARTHUR W. STANFORD, A.B.C.F.M., Kyoto.
JOHN C. BERRY, A.B.C.F.M., Kyoto.
JAMES H. PETTEE, A.B.C.F.M., Okayama.
J. C. AMBLER, A.P.E.M., Osaka.
JOHN McKIM, A.P.E.M., Osaka.

The memorandum referred to in the above, is the following:—

MEMORANDUM ON TREATY REVISION ADOPTED AT A MEETING OF THE OSAKA AND KOBE MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION HELD IN TOKYO, APRIL 22ND, 1884.

The Osaka and Kobe Missionary Association having discussed the question of extraterritoriality in connexion with the proposed Revision of the Treaties, the undersigned desire to place on record a formal expression of their opinion that the time has arrived when substantial modifications should be made in those provisions of the existing Treaties which give exceptional privileges to the subjects and citizens of Treaty Powers and which are considered by the Japanese Government and people to be an infringement of their just and sovereign rights as an independent nation. The circumstances under which Japan was brought into Treaty relations with Western Powers were clearly exceptional, and in the interests of both Japanese and Foreigners alike exceptional arrangements were undoubtedly necessary. But the lapse of twenty-five years has placed us in such a widely different position as in our opinion to require that at least some of the exceptional provisions of the existing Treaties

should be modified, and that concessions should be made to any just and reasonable demand of the Japanese Government in this direction. The interests created under the existing Treaties certainly demand the most careful consideration of those to whom they are entrusted; but, in our opinion the difficulty of safe guarding those interests ought not to stand in the way of a speedy Revision of the Treaties, such as shall be both just in principle, and a generous acknowledgment on the part of foreign nations of the real progress Japan has made since the present Treaties were framed.

PROFESSOR TERSCHAK.

THE last concert in Yokohama of Professor Terschak and Madame Schuller has been fixed for the 27th inst. The programme will be of unique interest, for it will include a Fantasy on Japanese airs, composed by the Professor for flute and piano, which has already been played before the Emperor. For the first time also there will be played a Sonata, the work of the composer during his stay in Japan, a piece abounding in rare dramatic impressions, and regarded by the Professor as one of his best efforts. It is designed for the flute and piano, and also for the violin and piano. Among the other pieces will be a Rhapsody (Russian Rhapsody No. 2, the first having already been published) for flute and piano, also completed in Japan, and a Meditation for strings and harp (or piano), in the rendering of which several amateurs will lend their assistance. Madame Schuller will play Franz Liszt's transcription of "Tannhauser," a performance which is certain to be well worth bearing.

AH!

Is it possible for blatant folly to look more foolish than it does in the following paragraph:—

For our part, we do not see any valid reason why missionaries should not sip of the harmless pleasures and be surrounded by the comforts to be deduced from this life, so long as propriety is not outraged. We most decidedly stop at the pony and phaeton, however, and say that salaries merit reticement when such a luxury is possible to those whose lives, it is popularly supposed at the seat of revenue, are not cast in pleasant places.

"We must decidedly stop at the pony and phaeton." Dear! dear! must we, indeed. How very fortunate it is to have this distinct limit drawn between unpardonable luxury and frugal enjoyment. None but an "eagle eye" could have thus "smelled" the precise point at which the paths of missionary extravagance and economy diverge.

"KOMBU."

THE export of edible sea-weed (*Kombu*) is now among the most important items of Japan's foreign trade. The *Nippon* gives some interesting statistics about it. During the twenty-two years of the *Meiji* era—ending in 1889—the aggregate value of *Kombu* exported was 12,138,000 yen. The number of persons who make the collecting of the weed a profession is over 4,800, and the number of boats employed in 1887 was 11,504, the men handling them aggregating 25,477. The *Nippon* says nothing about the home consumption of the weed, but this, we presume, is included in the figures given so far as they relate to the number of persons and boats engaged in the trade.

SIGNOR MAJERONI.

THE following is a sketch of the career of the talented artist who appeared on Thursday evening at the Public Hall in "Our Italian Cousin:—His father was an officer of the Great Napoleon, and after Waterloo retired to Bergamo, where the son of whom we are speaking was born, the youngest of 17 children. He was trained for the engineering profession, which he forsook to join the army of Italian patriots in the war with Austria. After the treaty of Villa Franca, having fought with distinction in several engagements during that memorable campaign, he became one of a travelling theatrical company, thus entering a calling for which in his school days he had conceived a passion and shown considerable aptitude. In a marvellously short time he surmounted the

initial difficulties of his profession, and then passed into a company formed by the celebrated Madame Ristori, with whom he remained two years, only quitting her to become "star" of the Teatro del Fondo, Naples. Thus, while still a very young man, he was at the head of his profession. When all Italy rallied to the standard of Garibaldi in 1866, Signor Majeroni was one of the first to volunteer, and came through twenty-three battles unwounded, receiving the Military Cross of Honour for gallantry on the field. We next find him playing the leading parts with Madame Ristori (whose niece he married). At that time to be the leading man in the wonderful company organized by the great tragedienne, which was composed of the greatest actors in Italy, was a position which only the very highest talent could attain. He accompanied her in that famous tour of the world, which, commencing in April 1874, and ending in January, 1876, covered 43,700 miles, playing in all the principal cities of the Continent, throughout North and South America, in England, Scotland, and Ireland, all through Russia, (where the tour was under Signor Majeroni's management), and in the leading cities of Australia. On reaching the latter place he and his wife remained behind, and acting upon the advice given him by Colonel Mapleson in England, Signor Majeroni set himself to learn English. So persevering were his efforts that in four months he was able to play his first part in a language hitherto completely unknown to him. In April, 1876, Signor Majeroni made his first appearance in English at the Theatre Royal, Sydney, in "The Old Corporal." Such a house as then assembled had never been seen in the theatre before, and the enthusiasm with which the popular actor was received was justified in the words of the morning paper, who styled the representation "A performance characterised throughout by the most masterly dramatic power, and one not easily to be effaced from the memory of all who witnessed it." Madame Majeroni having also mastered the intricacies of our language, she and her husband went to America, where they toured in English, everywhere with conspicuous success. On their return to Australia some of the most brilliant seasons ever known were played by them in Melbourne, Sydney, and Adelaide. Signor Majeroni became lessee of the Bijou Theatre, Melbourne, and of the Opera House, Sydney, and under his skillful management some of the leading English artists were introduced to the Australian public. He and his wife during the past year have been visiting India and China, partly for health and partly for pleasure, and have just passed several months in Japan.

IS THIS REALLY WHAT THEY THINK OF US?

We find the following article in the columns of the *North China Daily News*—

If the unprejudiced visitor to Japan were asked whether he thought the country was ripe for the abolition of extraterritoriality, he would probably answer in the affirmative, and be surprised at the practical unanimity with which Yokohama has answered the question in the negative. If the visitor we contemplate had been a long time resident in China, he would certainly say, Yes, for the contrast between the two countries is so striking, that to the man who comes from the varnished barbarism of China, Japan seems to have already attained all that is really desirable in civilisation. Every decency and comfort of life and travel that is absent in China—we of course exclude the foreign settlements—is found wherever the traveller goes in Japan. The steamers that ply between Shanghai and Japan under the Japanese flag are as well appointed as any in the world. When the traveller lands he has no trouble with the custom-house, he finds good hotels, and if he expected any worry about passports, when he wants to go outside treaty limits, he is agreeably surprised to find that the worry is so slight as to be inappreciable. In nothing is the contrast greater between China and Japan than in the facilities of travel. In China, except where the traveller can take his own house-boat, travel with any comfort is impossible. Japan is being rapidly covered with railways, and it is really remarkable how excellently railways are managed, and that entirely by Japanese. The carriages are sufficiently comfortable, and the trains run with great punctuality. The speed is not great, an average of about sixteen miles an hour being maintained on the chief lines; but this includes stoppages, which are very numerous, the Japanese being very fond of travel, and the third-class carriages are nearly always

crowded. To the foreign traveller the first impression given by the railways is that it is a lot of schoolboys playing at running a railway, so young and small are the porters and the train hands and the station-masters, and the inevitable policeman with his sword, who guards the wicket of even the smallest station. The politeness and deference shown to foreigners at all the stations, large and small alike, are very conspicuous. The porter, who, as a rule, will politely refuse any fee, will get the foreigner's ticket for him at once, his luggage is checked first, he is admitted to the platform at once, while the Japanese travellers are kept in the waiting-room until the train is signalled. The foreigner in Japan who behaves with courtesy to the people of the country is everywhere treated by them with the greatest courtesy, as if, in fact, he were the honoured guest of the whole nation. This is, it will be perhaps objected, not the universal experience of foreigners in Japan; but our own belief and experience is that in Japan, more than anywhere else, to the polite every one is polite. The case is very different in China. What a horror, too, is a Chinese inn, even on a route so constantly frequented by foreigners as that between Tientsin and the Great Wall. In Japan the traveller may be certain of finding clean and comfortable quarters and a bath in the remotest village, with good soup, fish, and eggs and of course, rice. So fast, too, is the riding spreading for foreign food, that in all towns of moderate size he will also find bread and milk, if not beef. As to beer and aerated waters they are to be got now all over Japan, while ice has become such a favourite luxury, that it is sold in nearly every railway station. The roads are not good, but they are better than they used to be, and wherever the invaluable jinrikisha can go, it is ready, and the jinrikishaman has generally picked up a few words of English, and will readily act as a guide. Where the roads are better, there are waggons, to be hired, where worse, chairs and *kagos*. So much English is spoken, too, nowadays all over the empire, and all the chief towns have semi-foreign hotels where English is spoken more or less, that it is not really necessary to take a guide with one, the guide being an infliction that is not only expensive in itself but the cause of all other expenses being higher than to the guideless. The Chinese do not care to entertain foreigners or to learn anything of their language, and therefore the traveller in China who is not a sinologue must have an interpreter with him. The Japanese delight in entertaining foreigners and are anxious to pick up English, and they therefore do everything in their power to understand and be understood; and it is specially amusing at the great semi-foreign hotels that are built at all the principal towns served by the railways, to watch the Japanese servants trying to gain from every guest some addition to their stock of English. The cynic will tell you that all this politeness and courtesy to foreigners are assumed for a purpose. That the world has gone forth from Tokyo all over the empire that travelling foreigners are to be treated as well as possible in order that they may surely even if unintentionally influence public opinion in Europe and America in the desired direction; and he will point to Sir Edwin Arnold as a most successful result of this strategy. The cynic will add that there will be a great change when extraterritoriality is once abolished. The Japanese will then show openly what he now keeps hidden, his conviction that he is in every respect the equal at least of the foreigner. There will be no more special privileges to foreigners at hotels, on steamers, or at railway stations; and if the traveller, however innocently or unwittingly, transgresses in the slightest degree some police regulation of which he is entirely ignorant, he will be dragged before a Japanese police magistrate, and subjected to the fullest penalties that this "proud man dressed in a little bit of authority" may choose to inflict. The traveler does not see the seamy side, and there no doubt is one; but when we find almost the whole of Yokohama united in the conviction that guaranties are still required, we must bow to their superior knowledge: they are probably right when they tell us that Japan will not be nearly so delightful a country for travellers when they are subject in all things to Japanese jurisdiction.

Does this in very truth contain the idea which our Shanghai contemporary has formed of the objection entertained by foreigners to the unconditional surrender of Consular jurisdiction? Are the people of Yokohama really supposed to be so unreasonable as to imagine that the politeness and kindly treatment experienced everywhere throughout the Japanese empire by Western travellers or residents is purposely assumed, in deference to official instructions, in order that foreigners may be lulled into a mood of false confidence and thus induced to place themselves under the jurisdiction of people who are "spoiling" for an opportunity to make things hot for them? It would be hard to represent the foreign objectors in a more childish or silly light. Yet there is no denying the fact that the impression to which the *North China Daily News* now gives utterance has been sedulously fostered by a section of the foreign press of this Settlement. Repeatedly

we have been told that the Japanese are craftily making things smooth for us with the sinister hope of getting us quickly into their clutches. They must be a singularly provident, patient, and tenacious people to have pursued such a programme for twenty odd years, commencing it long before Treaty Revision entered the field of practical politics, and continuing it in the face of repeated failures and rebuffs. The fact is that the objectors need some new exponent of their position. They have been made ridiculous by indiscreet partisans in the past, as the estimate gravely given of their views by the leading Shanghai journal plainly shows.

NATIONAL LIBERALS.

The latest number of the *Keizai Zasshi* has an interesting article on the formation of the National Liberal party, of which we have given a brief notice in these columns. According to our contemporary's information, the new party is to be composed of a section of the old *Daido-ha* consisting of politicians of the Prefectures of Niigata, Aichi, Toyama, Kumamoto, Oita, and Miyaki, and of various Conservative associations, as, for instance, the *Eishin-sha* of Ishikawa, the Monday Association of Osaka, the *Genyosha* of Fukuoka, the *Kokken-to* of Kumamoto, the *Kakumai-kai* of Nagasaki, the *Hoshu-kai* of Oita, and the *Setsu-kai* of Hiroshima. The *Keizai Zasshi* regards the contemplated organization of this new party as a sign of the progress of political thought in Japan. In the early days of the liberal movement in this country, the ideas of political leaders were extremely simple, their principal object being to embarrass those in power by publicly advocating theoretical principles of liberty and popular rights. But gradually there have appeared two distinct sections in the liberal camp; one section advocating individual liberty and the other professing national ideas. The former section being the members of the *Rikken Jiyu-to* (Constitutional Liberals), the latter has now decided to form a new party in conjunction with the various conservative factions which more or less sympathize with its nationalistic principles. Thus the *Keizai Zasshi* thinks that the appearance of the new party is the natural result of the tendency of the times. The recent conference of Mr. Inagaki and his fellow thinkers at Toyama, the general meeting of the *Eishin-sha* at Ishikawa, and the meeting of Kyushu politicians at Saga, are said by our contemporary to have been for the purpose of effecting the amalgamation into one party of the various political associations above mentioned. For the present no formal announcement of the organization of the party will be made, the leaders of the new movement preferring to consolidate their association before publishing the fact of its existence. As to the effects of the new party on other political bodies, our contemporary observes that the malcontents of the Constitutional Liberal party will join it *en masse*. But upon the secession of these malcontents, a section of the *Kaishin-to* will most probably join the *Rikken Jiyu-to*, so that in the issue the effective strength of the last named party will, in the Tokyo journal's opinion, remain unchanged. The party most seriously affected by the new organization will be the *Taisei-kai* (Independents). The leaders of the *Taisei-kai* being Conservatives of the nationalist school, our contemporary thinks it likely that several of them will join the new party. With reference to the character of the National Liberals, the *Keizai Zasshi*'s opinion is not very favourable. Sentimental patriotism, extravagant loyalty, combined with headstrong radicalism, will, we are told, constitute the principal motive forces of the new party, or at least of a large section of it. "Men like Nishino and Kurushima"—fanatic assassins—"will in future invariably come from this party." The *Keizai Zasshi* further observes that certain members of the new party having imbibed some of the socialistic notions of the German school, the National Liberals may perhaps obtain the support of the lower orders, and though the term of such a party's effective existence is doubtful, it may for a time make itself notorious throughout the country. In conclusion, the Tokyo journal calls the at-

tention of the leaders of the new party to the extreme violence which has hitherto disfigured the conduct of their followers, and hopes that in future more care will be taken to control such extravagance. Thus much the *Keizai Zasshi*. Various questions of greater interest and importance present themselves for solution in connection with the new party. In what manner will it affect the position of the Government *vis-à-vis* political parties in general? What will be its real attitude towards the *Rikken Jiyu-to* and the *Kaishin-to*? What will be its true position in Japanese politics? Will it become an extreme-Radical or an ultra-Conservative party? These questions can only be answered after the actual organization of the party. At all events, it is pretty certain that the National Liberals will become a formidable power in the State.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

THE *Jiji Shimpō*, commenting on the new regulations as to Elementary Schools, says:—One noticeable point of difference between the old and the new regulations is that while the former rules consisted only of 16 articles, the new law extends to no less than 96 articles. Of course this difference is chiefly one of detail, the newer regulations taking in larger ground than the others. More important than this, however, is the distinction as to the manner of defraying the expenses of education. Formerly each parent had to pay the amount of his child's fees, but under the new rules these outlays are paid by the village, town, or city, the expense of education thus falling on the people generally, and not upon individuals. In other respects also the new regulations are very different from the old statute. To us it appears that one point should be specially brought to the notice of the authorities, and that is the necessity of refraining from frequent and arbitrary alterations of laws relating to education. Such laws from their very nature affect most closely the life of the people; and we are afraid there has in the past been too much alteration and amendment of the educational system of the country. Each Minister of State has thought it his duty to change the provisions introduced by his predecessor, and in this way the regulations affecting education have been exceedingly unsettled. If alterations are necessary they should be introduced gradually, and according to the requirements of particular localities.

STEAM HOPPER DREDGER FOR THE HARBOUR WORKS.

THE *Ayame*, a fine new combination hopper and dredger, built at Renfrew for the Yokohama Harbour Works, arrived in port on Monday evening after a rough passage (as will be seen from our shipping reports). She is a large boat, of 159 tons net register, and 50 horse-power nominal. Altogether she is capable of receiving about 450 tons of dredged matter. Her buckets bring up about 6 cwt. each at a time and pour this into her, and she is filled in the space of two hours. All need for a hopper is thus dispensed with. Further, the *Ayame* can dredge to a depth of 36 feet. The new dredger has been brought out to Japan by Captain Kuhe and a crew of 15. The dredger made about 7 knots an hour all the way.

"The patent hopper dredger *Ayame*, constructed by William Simons and Co., Renfrew, has," says the *London and China Express*, "left Greenock for Yokohama. This vessel is supplied to the Japanese Government, in connection with extensive harbour improvements at that port, and is of the same type as the *St. Patrick*, recently supplied to the British Government, and fitted with the builders' latest improvements. The engines are triple-expansion; and on the measured distance at Gareloch (when the vessel was fully loaded) a mean speed of nearly one and a half knots in excess of the contract was obtained—six runs being taken with and against tide. The dredging and other portions of the machinery were tried, and everything found to work in a most satisfactory manner."

THE SENATORS.

THE *Official Gazette* of on Wednesday announces the following rewards and new offices for Senators: Count Yanagisawa, President of the Senate, is placed on the Retired List and granted a sum of 1,500 *yen* in consideration of specially good service while in office. Mr. Kasumoto, Vice-

President, is also placed on the Retired List and granted 1,200 *yen* in the same terms. Mr. Yamaguchi and 37 other Senators are similarly retired with presents of a thousand *yen* each, and Mr. Kokushi Junsei and 52 others are placed on the retired list with presents of 800 *yen*. Viscount Iwashita and four others are appointed Lords in Waiting of the *Fuko-no-ma*, and Viscount Ito with 64 others are appointed Lords in waiting of the *Kinkai-no-ma*.

CHOLERA RETURNS.

THE latest cholera returns derived from official sources are as follow:—

Prefecture or City.	Date.	New Cases.	Deaths.
Osaka	15th	41	36
	16th	47	32
	17th	38	39
	18th	39	37
	19th	23	34
Hyogo	15th	35	44
	16th	41	33
	17th	45	38
	18th	38	30
	19th	28	9
Oizayama	15th	37	15
	16th	30	22
	17th	33	28
	18th	38	21
	19th	35	30
Kagawa	15th	72	20
	16th	25	15
	17th	16	11
	18th	18	10
	19th	19	18
	15th	57	36
	16th	45	45
	17th	49	27
	18th	44	52
	19th	38	44
	21st	31	50
	22nd	19	29
	23rd	39	38

The numbers of cases and deaths since the commencement of the epidemic, inclusive of the above figures, appear in the following table:—

Prefecture or City.	Cases.	Deaths.
Osaka	8,097	6,454
Hyogo	3,628	2,531
Okayama	1,409	977
Kagawa	1,724	1,045

GOLD AND SILVER RATIOS.

THE *Official Gazette* gives the following table of comparative values of gold and silver coins and of the pound sterling for the week ended the 18th instant, as derived from the returns of the Bank of Japan and the Yokohama Specie Bank:—

Days	Gold Coin. (Per <i>yen</i> 100) Silver <i>Yen</i> .	Pound Sterling (Per £1) Silver <i>Yen</i> .
15th	116.500	A.M. 5.7657
16th	116.500	A.M. 5.7657
17th	116.500	A.M. 5.8000
18th	117.500	A.M. 5.8715
19th	118.500	A.M. 5.8358
Averages	117.100	P.M. 5.8077

The above averages show for gold coin an increase in value of *yen* 2.533, and for the pound sterling an increase in value of *yen* 0.1210 as compared with the previous week.

THE BANK OF JAPAN.

THE amounts of convertible notes and reserves in the Bank of Japan for the week ended the 18th instant were as follows:—

CONVERTIBLE NOTES.		RESERVES AND SECURITIES.	
YEN.		YEN.	
Notes issued	76,224,447	Gold coin and bullion	22,069,247
		Silver coin and bullion	18,869,847
		Public Loan Bonds	13,476,450
		Treasury Bills	—
		Government Bills	—
		Other securities	4,739,182
		Commercial Bills	14,350,711
	76,224,447		76,224,447

Of the above total issue of notes, the sum of *yen* 6,713,873 is in the treasury of the Bank, and *yen* 69,510,574 in actual circulation, the latter showing a decrease of *yen* 362,531 as compared with *yen* 69,873,105 at the end of the previous week.

CONSECRATION OF THE NEW MASONIC TEMPLE.

On Monday the Masonic fraternity of Yokohama, and numerous guests from Tokyo and Kobe, assembled for the first time in the new Masonic Hall, No. 60, Main Street, to dedicate that building for the purposes of Masonry. There were altogether over eighty Masons present, who were comfortably seated in the spacious main hall of the building. The imposing cere-

monies of consecration were performed by the Grand Consistory of the Empire of Japan, and finished in about an hour, after which all present assembled in the banquetting hall downstairs and partook of a fraternal repast. The usual toasts were given, and a very enjoyable evening was spent.

JAPANESE HEADS.

THE interesting series of measurements taken by Dr. E. Baelz of Japanese crania, are supplemented by observations made by Mr. Inouye Yenryo while in the Imperial University, and now published in the columns of the *Tenoku*. Among 713 students then borne on the roll of the University, Mr. Inouye found fifty-nine whose crania measured 21½ inches in circumference; one hundred and eleven with crania of 21 inches; two hundred and fifteen with crania of 20½ inches; fifty-two with crania of 19½ inches; and twelve with crania of 19 inches. The heads of the remainder are not classified, but the average of the whole body of students is given as 20½ inches.

THE MEIJI BIJUTSU-KAI.

THE Meiji Bijutsu-kai, or Meiji Fine Arts Society, which for the information of English readers might be called the Society of Painters of the Foreign School, will hold its second exhibition during a period of twenty days from the 15th of next month, in one of the buildings in Ueno Park. The Society is now under the Presidency of Viscount Enomoto. Its membership has largely increased, and as preparations for the forthcoming exhibition have been in progress for some time, it is fair to expect that pictures representing the best efforts of the modern Japanese school will be shown. The exhibition is also to include examples of glyptic art.

YOKOHAMA ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY.

THE second annual meeting of the members of the Yokohama St. Andrew's Society was held on Wednesday in the Chamber of Commerce Rooms—Mr. J. A. Fraser in the chair. Mr. Fraser was elected President, Mr. W. J. Cruickshank, Vice-President, Mr. C. L. Anderson, honorary treasurer, and Mr. F. H. Grant, honorary secretary, and Messrs. A. Patterson, J. Johnstone, J. A. Jeffrey, T. B. Macpherson, and W. Gordon, members of committee. The report and accounts, which showed a balance of \$128.90, were unanimously adopted, and it was resolved to send out circulars with the view of eliciting opinions as to the manner in which the celebration of St. Andrew's Day should take place. Fourteen new members were admitted.

S. HILDA'S HOSPITAL, TOKYO.

WE publish in this issue the list of subscriptions already received towards the S. Hilda's Hospital, Tokyo. It will be a pleasure to subscribers to know, especially to those who were present at the laying of the foundation stone, that the site is now occupied by a substantial and charmingly designed building, which is fast approaching completion. A house for mission women and nurses is also in course of erection on ground that intervenes between the Hospital and S. Hilda's House. The designs have been generously supplied by Mr. Conder, and the work is being efficiently carried out by Mr. Okuda, under Mr. Conder's supervision. About \$1,000 is still required for furniture and fittings.

A BRAVE MAN.

THE *Yomiuri Shimbun* quotes from the Osaka *Mainichi Shimbun* the following unique advertisement:—"Wanted a wife. If she is pretty, she need not be clever. If she is rich, she need not be pretty. If she is clever, she need not be perfect in form (provided always that she be not conceited). Her station in life is no object; neither is the remoteness of her place of abode, whether in country or town. She ought to be in the neighbourhood of twenty years of age, more or less. The would-be bridegroom is an artist of Osaka, occupying a medium position in society. Ladies desiring a union are requested to attend at the office of the Osaka *Mainichi Shimbun* by the 25th instant where full particulars will be given."

"NON VI SED SÆPE CADENDO."

THE value of persistency, as taught in the *Gradus* of school-boy memories, is thoroughly appreciated by the anti-revision writers of this Settlement. Taken separately, their arguments, in respect of pettiness and imponderability, bear a very close resemblance to the drop of water in the Parnassian proverb. Like the drop, however, they hope to effect something of their purpose not by force but by frequency. "Peg away" is the motto of these gentlemen. "Never mind about facts. Don't stickle at distortion. Be ready with misrepresentation." The *Japan Mail* is the stone which they seek to wear away. Against the *Japan Mail* they dash their little rills of invective and tiny ripples of argument, looking eagerly meanwhile to find fulfilment of the promise written in the pages of the *Gradus*. And when sometimes their faith in the truth of the academical tradition is rudely shaken, when no traces of the promised abrasion are discernible, and the stone is found standing as square and solid as ever, then they lift up their voices, cry out that there is never a stone at all, but only a thing of no consequence or consideration, and forthwith renew the *non-vi-sed-sæpe* process as vigorously and viciously as ever. Regarded in the light of a purely physical display this energy is admirable. Though directed against ourselves, its futility sometimes fills us with pity. Yet we fail to see how the cause which the anti-revisionists have at heart could be much advanced by the elimination of the *Japan Mail*. It is not a question of newspapers but of international policy. Even though our voluble and verdant contemporary, the *Japan Gazette*, could convict the *Japan Mail* of inconsistency, the basis of Treaty Revision would not be appreciably altered. We sympathise with the *Japan Gazette*. Its position is very embarrassing. Last year it strongly supported Count OKUMA's scheme of Treaty Revision. This year it discovers that the leaders of the anti-revision movement in Yokohama were opposed to that scheme all along. How to trim its sails to the newly found breeze without letting the manœuvre be publicly perceived, is a difficult feat. The *Gazette* seeks to effect it under cover of abusing the *Mail*. Could it only establish a charge of inconsistency against the *Mail*, then, on the strength of such a precedent, its own pironette would be treated with leniency. But the task is beyond its ability. Article after article has it published, each a replica of the preceding one, each made up of the same undeniable fact and the same unblushing falsehood. The fact is that the *Japan Mail* declared last year's scheme of Treaty Revision to be as favourable as anything Japan had a right to expect at the time; the falsehood, that the *Japan Mail* this year advocates Treaty Revision without guarantees. We thought

and said last year that Japan was making an excellent bargain. We thought and said last year that if public agitation forced her to withdraw her own proposals, her international credit would suffer seriously. We think that it has suffered. She must think so herself. But, contrary to our expectations, it has not suffered so much that Western States are unwilling to re-open negotiations with her. Above all, Great Britain is not unwilling. Great Britain probably appreciates that had she acceded to last year's scheme within six months of the time when it was submitted to her, the bargain would have been finally clinched and Japan must have stood her ground. Great Britain also understands that it now rests with her alone to find some exit from a situation which has become very painful, and which cannot be left unremedied without danger to international friendship. English Ministers of the Crown are eminently practical men. As negotiators they are not given to drive bad bargains for their country or to sacrifice her interests. But they are also statesmen. Fully alive to the necessity of considering the condition of the Powers with which they treat, and sensible of the imprudence of insisting upon compacts which overtax the strength or the good will of either side, they will not approach Japan at all unless they see their way to effecting a creditable, workable and mutually acceptable arrangement. We believe that such an arrangement will be effected and that it will add materially to British prestige and influence. As to a treaty unconditionally restoring Japan's judicial autonomy, that of course is out of the question. We are as much opposed to anything of the kind as the anti-revision leaders themselves. It is delightfully audacious to find our traducers labouring to persuade themselves and the public that we advocate such a compact, and persistently ignoring our re-iterated statements that we are either conditional revisionists or not revisionists at all. Apart from the obvious advisability, from a foreign point of view, of waiting until the Japanese judiciary has become practically conversant with the new codes before abolishing Consular Jurisdiction, there is the other consideration that, from a Japanese point of view, it would be extremely injudicious to bring foreigners under a system which they are strongly predisposed to rebel against from the outset and which they certainly have not, as yet, sufficient reason to trust. Conditions there must be if the matter is to be settled by negotiation. As to that, all are agreed. The only differences between our opponents and ourselves are that we no longer cling to certain special conditions now proved to be hopelessly unprocurable, and that we are perfectly willing to entrust the settlement of the matter to Her Majesty's Government and its Plenipotentiary. History has not taught us to doubt Great

Britain's will or ability to protect the lives and properties of her subjects in any part of the world. She is not going to depart from her traditions in Japan, we expect. Whatever bargain she makes will leave her sufficient command of the situation to avoid any final step incompatible with the evidence of experience or the dictates of prudence. A display of distrust towards our own Government, supplemented by demonstrations which only inflame Japanese national feeling, cannot improve the position in any way.

A MEMORIAL FROM JAPANESE CHRISTIANS.

IT was rumoured some time ago that the Japanese Christians were about to address a memorial to her Majesty QUEEN VICTORIA on the subject of Treaty Revision. The news of their intention reached us from an undoubted authority. Like the foreign Missionaries, the Japanese Christians had perceived that so long as the problem remained unsolved it must become more and more a source of serious friction between Western peoples and their own nationals, and this disquieting conviction suggested the expediency of petitioning the Sovereign of Great Britain to view Japan's claims with gracious liberality. The prayer meeting held at Yokohama shortly after the demonstration of September the 11th, was in fact designed not only to calm the excitement caused by the action of the foreign agitators, but also to afford an opportunity for arranging the preliminaries of the petition project. That much is certain, but how the project subsequently fared we were without information until two days ago, when the *Tokyo Shimpō* published a strange and somewhat incredible statement to the effect that the petition had been drawn up and was on the point of receiving signature when the fact suddenly transpired that the Methodists were opposed to it. This is hard to believe. The Methodist Mission in Japan is of great importance. The Episcopal Methodists support one of the largest and most efficient scholastic institutions in the empire, and the Canadian Methodists carry on the well known school at Torii-zaka. We do not know exactly what may be the attitude of the former towards Treaty Revision, but as to the latter, of which Drs. COCHRAN and EBY are leading members, there can be no manner of doubt. At all events, the proposed petition was intended to receive the signatures not of foreigners but only of Japanese Christians, and it may be presumed that in such a matter differences of sect could not possibly possess any influence with the latter. The *Tokyo Shimpō*, indeed, alleges that the missionaries also were to have signed, but that, we think, must be a misconception on the part of our contemporary. Our own conviction is that whatever may have happened—if

anything has really happened—to interfere with the consummation of the scheme, the defection of the Japanese Methodists is not the cause. We hope that no obstacle will be allowed to stand finally in the path of the preparation and forwarding of the petition. So far as the QUEEN of England is concerned, we are persuaded that no memorial is needed to inspire a sympathetic mood towards Japan's aspirations. The English nation is distinctly friendly, and would be perfectly pleased to give Japan what she wants, subject always to the approval of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. From this point of view, therefore, a special appeal is not necessary. But the undoubted value of a memorial such as that proposed is that it would embody an expression of intelligent non-official Japanese opinion. When the Diet meets we shall surely hear what the representatives of the enfranchised section of the people think of the present treaties. Then will be dispelled the notion still entertained by some foreign critics, that the agitation about Treaty Revision is confined to a narrow circle of officials and interested foreigners. But in the meanwhile the views of the Christian portion of the population would be an interesting and useful addition to the discussion. The great majority of the leading Japanese Christians are men of excellent education. They possess also a comparatively exceptional knowledge of foreign institutions, and are therefore competent to express an opinion as to their country's fitness, from an Occidental point of view, to discharge the functions which she seeks to have entrusted to her. Finally, it may be assumed that a memorial compiled by Christians and avowedly representing Christian views, would be honest. Above all, the memorial would bring to British notice the progress that Christianity has made in this country, and would remove the last vestiges of an impression still lingering in the minds of some Japanese, that to embrace the Christian faith has the effect of denationalising the convert, and rendering him more solicitous about the propagation of his creed than the honour of his country.

MODERN PHYSIOLOGISTS.

SINCE DARWIN'S theory of the survival of the fittest obtained general credence, many philosophers have questioned whether it holds as truly for the human race under the conditions of our present civilization as for the other animate denizens of the world. DARWIN himself, as his friend and co-worker A. R. WALLACE tells us in the last *Fortnightly Review*, lamented that natural selection has no play in this nineteenth century, since the race for wealth is not won by the best or the most intelligent, nor does the largest increment to the population come from

the highest classes. The stream of human life is chiefly renewed from the lowest orders, and since the Occident has virtually adopted a democratic polity, it follows that the tendency of the age is towards the supremacy of those least competent, from a moral point of view, to exercise it beneficially. Democracy is only tolerable on the hypothesis that the masses improve intellectually and educationally in proportion as they become the repository of political power; in other words, that natural selection governs the development of humanity as it does that of animals or insects. For a time the public mind was not disturbed by this reflection. It was believed that the beneficial influences of modern civilization constituted an environment which would affect the human race, just as the conditions under which they live produce permanent modifications in the faculties of animals. Under this view, education, hygiene, social refinement, and so forth were expected to bring about improvements in individuals which would be transmitted to their progeny, the cumulative result being a continuous advance in physical, moral, and intellectual qualities. But, as WALLACE tells us in the interesting essay from which we quote, recent physiologists are tolerably unanimous in agreeing that qualities acquired by an individual after birth are not transmitted by heredity. WALLACE maintains, in common with GALTON and WEISMANN, that a race of cart-horses can never be converted into racers merely by the influence of food and training exercised through successive generations. The progeny of the cart-horse nourished and trained according to the most approved methods of developing speed, will remain a cart-horse to the end of the chapter. Only by selection can the type be altered; by separating the lighter and more active, and breeding from these through succeeding generations. Thus much granted, it follows that the type of humanity cannot be improved by civilizing influences brought to bear on the individual after birth, and that in some method of selection lies the only hope of improving the race. This conviction has led to the propounding of various schemes more or less startling in character. GALTON, of whom WALLACE says that "he has studied the whole subject of human faculty in the most thorough manner, and has perhaps thrown more light upon it than any other writer," advocates the introduction of a system of marks for family merit. Individuals standing high in respect of health, intellect, and morals would receive numerical credit for these excellencies according to a fixed scale, and would become eligible for a grant of public money enabling them to marry early. The objection to such a scheme, according to WALLACE, is that, though undoubtedly tending to produce a higher standard of perfection in the few, it would not raise the general average.

He regards the elimination of the lowest types as essential to a condition of genuine progress. H. M. STANLEY proposes a more radical measure. He would have marriages regulated by trained specialists, so that the privilege of parentage should be confined to the fittest. Evidently the answer to this is a simple *non possumus*. Human beings could never be brought to submit to such restraint in matters touching their strongest affections. Another project has been formulated by GRANT ALLEN. His idea is to abolish all legal restrictions as to marriage, and to make it a free contract lasting only so long as either party desires. The essence of this scheme is that "girls should be taught both by direct education and by the influence of public opinion, that the duty of all healthy and intellectual women is to be the mothers of as many and as perfect children as possible." For this purpose they would be "recommended to choose as temporary husbands the finest, healthiest, and most intellectual men, thus ensuring a variety of combinations of parental qualities which would lead to the production of offspring of the highest possible character and to the continual advancement of the race." It need scarcely be noted that this scheme involves the sacrifice of the most cherished instincts of civilization on the altar of racial progress. WALLACE himself, in his search for a solution of the great problem, has reached conclusions which qualify him for a leading place in socialistic ranks. He believes that so long as the conditions of the highest and lowest orders are separated by the immense gulf which divides them at present, it is hopeless to think of "dealing successfully with such tremendous social problems as those which involve the marriage tie and the family relation as a means of promoting the physical and moral advancement of the race." While one section of the female population squanders enormous sums to cloth itself daintily and the other is toiling from morn to night for a bare subsistence; while the upper classes spend thousands on a single social entertainment and the lower barely succeed in obtaining bread, such delicate problems as the relations of men and women in respect of individual and racial improvement can only be treated theoretically. WALLACE, therefore, advocates steps to bring about a state of affairs resembling that depicted by BELLAMY in "Looking Backwards." He would convert the whole nation, nay the whole of humanity, into one huge family, every member of which should have equal advantages, equal comforts, and equal enjoyments, the elders, *i.e.* the Government, "determining the general mode of living and working, with the fullest consideration for the convenience and real well-being of the younger members, and with a recognition of their essential independence." Given such a state of affairs, he thinks that several results, not superficially apparent, would follow. In the first

place the length of the period of systematic education would prevent early marriages. Moreover, it should be a part of the educational programme to teach women that "the most careful and deliberate choice of partners is the highest social duty, and that they should look with scorn and loathing on all men who in any way wilfully fail in their duty to society—as idlers and malingers, drunkards and liars, selfish and cruel, or vicious." Being also, under the supposed social conditions, absolutely independent in respect of the necessities and comforts of life, women would be much slower to marry than they are now. Probably few would marry before 25; many would delay until 30. The proportionate fertility of women married at 20 and 29 is as 8 to 5; to which difference must be added the increased interval between successive generations owing to late marriages, and a corresponding diminution in the number of generations alive at the same time. A marked check would thus be given to the increase of population. Another factor operating in the same direction would be the greater development of the intellectual faculties, which means a lessening of the procreative. Further and more elaborate results are explained by WALLACE as likely to ensue from the social conditions which he supposes, but unfortunately he says nothing as to the methods by which those conditions are to be brought about. "When we allow ourselves," he writes, "to be guided by reason, justice, and public spirit in our dealings with our fellow men, and determine to abolish poverty by recognising the equal rights of all the citizens of our common land to an equal share of the wealth which all combine to produce—when we have thus solved the lesser problem of a rational social organization adopted to secure the equal well-being of all, then we may safely leave the far greater and deeper problem of the improvement of the race to the cultivated minds and pure instincts of the women of the future."

What is the impression produced by reading these wonderful schemes? Surely one, and one only; that we are still at an incalculable distance from the time when it will be possible to inaugurate any of the programmes which physiologists now pronounce essential to the general improvement of the human race.

THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 216.

We hereby give our sanction to the present amendment of the organization of the Privy Council and the Rules for conducting the business of that body, according to the advice of the members of the Council, and order the same to be promulgated.

[His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.]
[Great Seal.]

Dated October 7th, 1890.

(Countersigned)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.

The following amendments shall be made on

Articles 2 and 6 of the Organization of the Privy Council, Imperial Ordinance No. 22, promulgated in the 21st year of Meiji, and paragraph 2, Article 10 of the Rules for conducting the business of the Privy Council:—

ORGANIZATION OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

Article 2.—The Privy Council shall consist of 1 President, 1 Vice-President, 25 Councillors, 1 Chief Secretary and 5 Secretaries.

Article 6.—The Privy Council shall hold its meetings for the purpose of advising His Majesty the Emperor, and shall state its opinions with regard to the following matters:—

1. Matters which come under its jurisdiction according to the *Koshitsu Tempan* (Law of the Houses.)
2. Drafts and doubtful points relating to articles of the Constitution and to laws and ordinances dependent to the Constitution.
3. Proclamation of the law of seige provided for in Article 14, and Imperial Ordinances mentioned in Articles 8 and 70 of the Constitution, as well as all other Imperial Ordinances of a restrictive character.
4. International treaties and pledges.
5. Matters relating to the amendment of the Organization of the Privy Council and the Rules for conducting Business in the Privy Council.
6. Matters specially called for, besides those mentioned in the last paragraphs.

RULES FOR CONDUCTING BUSINESS IN THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

Paragraph 2, Article 10.—The President shall cause the Chief Secretary to make explanations and shall afterwards allow the members to discuss matters freely, but no member can speak without obtaining the permission of the President, who may engage in all debates, and shall point out the questions to be decided, and require members to vote with regard to the same.

ADMINISTRATIVE SUITS.

LAW No. 6.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Regulations relating to Administrative Suits against unlawful action on the part of Executive Departments, and order the same to be duly promulgated.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.)
(Great Seal.)

Dated October 9th, 1890.

(Countersigned.)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.

COUNT SAIGO TSUKUMICHI,
Minister of State for Home Affairs.

COUNT YAMADA AKIYOSHI,
Minister of State for Justice.

COUNT MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of State for Finance.

COUNT OYAMA IWAO,
Minister of State for War.

COUNT GOTO SHOJIRO,
Minister of State for Communications.

VISCOUNT AOKI SIUZO,
Minister of State for Foreign Affairs.

VISCOUNT KABAYAMA SUKENORI,
Minister of State for Navy.

YOSHIKAWA AKIMASA,
Minister of State for Education.

MUTSU MUNEITSU,
Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

Persons who think their rights are injured by unlawful action on the part of an executive office with regard to the following cases, except cases for which special regulations are provided in laws and Imperial Ordinances, may raise actions in the Administrative Court:—

1. Matters relating to the assessment of tax, except custom duties and fees.
2. Matters relating to the punishment of defaulting taxpayers.
3. Matters relating to prohibition or withdrawal of permission to engage in business.
4. Matters relating to water rights (*suiri*) and works (*doboku*).
5. Matters relating to the decision of rights as to the official or private ownership of land.

CORRESPONDENCE.

EURASIAN CHILDREN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Will you kindly give me permission to acknowledge, through your columns, the receipt of \$28.57 from an old resident of Yokohama towards the Fund I am raising in the interest of Eurasian girls. He desires the acknowledgment to appear under the initial "T." We have already had the privilege of benefiting one family who were left almost destitute by the father's death. All the children, 4 in number, are now being properly cared for. Anyone interested in children of the Eurasian class, and desirous of benefiting them, is invited to aid us in this endeavour.

Yours truly,

FRANCIS STANILAND.

Yokohama, October 18th, 1890.

THE THEORIES OF PAUL AND COROLLARIES OF CEPHAS AGAIN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—One more word about the above subject. Your appended note to my letter is not at all satisfactory. It is an evasion. You ought to explain in what sense "The Theories of Paul and corollaries of Cephas" is a figure. What do you call the figure? What would be the language without the figure?

Again, you say you "spoke of Paul and Cephas entirely with reference to that celebrated phrase of St. Paul himself where he utters an emphatic warning against an apparent tendency of the early Christians to distinguish between the doctrines preached by different apostles." This language is quite different from your former language. But if you spoke entirely with reference to Paul, why include Cephas? What corollaries among the brethren did Peter condemn? Besides do you know any of the doctrines preached by different apostles? Against what doctrine of different apostles did Paul utter "that celebrated phrase"? If among different apostles there were conflicting doctrines, I should think this would have a good deal to do with infidelity or fidelity.

Respectfully,

F. SNODGRASS.

41-B, Tanjiji, Tokyo, October 15th, 1890.

[If our correspondent turns to Paul's epistle to the Corinthians, he will find these words:—"Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined in the same mind and in the same judgment. For it hath been declared unto me of you, my brethren, by them which are of the house of Chloe, that there are contentions among you. Now this I say, that every one of you saith, I am of Paul; and I of Apollos; and I of Cephas." Our original metaphor was taken from this text. Mr. Snodgrass has not been careful to read us accurately. We have not said that we "spoke entirely of Paul." We have said that we spoke entirely of Paul's warning where he puts his own name together with those of Apollos and Cephas as the heads of sects which the early Christians were disposed to form. There is no question of "doctrines among different apostles." There is only question of different interpretations of the same doctrine by persons who claim to be of Paul, or of Apollos, or of Cephas.—Ed. J.M.]

THE FOOD SUPPLY OF JAPAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I was very much interested in your article on "Rice and Bread," not only because of the interest I have taken in the deplorable condition of many of the poor, and the general distressed state of the country, but because the question of the food supply of any country is always interesting. I have therefore taken trouble to inquire as to the amount of wheat actually grown on an acre of land, and I find that you put the wheat crop much too low. The farmers say that land which will produce 2 *koku* per *tan* of rice will produce more than that amount of wheat and with much less labour. So that the lowest estimate which should be put on the wheat crop should not be less than 40 bushels per acre. Another mistake which has a good deal to do with your arithmetic is the weight of a bushel of wheat, which is 60 lbs. instead of 55.

There is no doubt but that the prices of both flour and bread in Japan are simply exorbitant, probably owing to the lack of facilities for producing either. But at the present price of wheat in Kobe, *yen* 5.40 per *koku*, and calculating 40 bushels to the acre, allowing one eighth of the price of the wheat for the grinding and the baking, according to American usage where labour is much higher than it is here, we find that one acre will feed 1,270 men one day at a total cost of *yen* 48.60 or an average of a little less than four *sen* as the price of one day's ration.

There is another source of food supply in this country that the people do not seem to appreciate, the great quantity of mountain land which might readily be used for pasturage, in view of the op-

portunity for the production of cattle. Beef ought not to be any more expensive here than it is in Texas, and in many places where cattle could not be used to advantage, goats might possibly be made useful for both milk and meat.

Yours, &c.,

FOOD SUPPLY.

Kobe, October 15th, 1890.

[The quantity of wheat likely to be produced per acre, on the average, in Japan is very difficult to determine. Exports consigned by us before writing the article referred to, agreed that 35 bushels would be a fair average. As to the weight of the bushel our correspondent seems to regard it as a fixed quantity, but in truth it varies greatly. In the Isle of Shypp (Kent) wheat has been known to weigh as much as 54 lbs. per bushel, but the average bushel of good English wheat is calculated to weigh 56 lbs. We put it at 52 lbs. so as not to err on the side of a too favourable estimate. Nevertheless "Food Supply's" figures are very interesting, and we are glad to learn that the case for bread may be stated even more favourably than we supposed.—Ed. J. M.]

CRICKET.

THE FLEET V. THE CLUB.

A second match between a team of the Yokohama C. and A.C. and one representing the Fleet took place on Saturday. The weather was fine, and as before the wicket was fairly good. The Fleet went in first putting forward Garde and Byrne, but the latter was sent back without scoring having given a chance in Sutter's second over. Byrne compiled a pretty record of 30 (including half a dozen three's), but of the rest of the team six were discharged without contributing to the score at all. Walford, Sutter, E. Edwards, and Watson, had the bowling in hand, and were very deadly in their attack. Sutter bowled four overs, of which three were maidens, and took one wicket at a cost of one run. Watson was hardly less successful, taking 3 wickets for 7 runs, while Edwards got 4 for 12 runs. Walford and Morris batted first for the Club but the latter was soon disposed of, and the former was bowled by Hunter after scoring 5, with the score at 19. Watson, who had succeeded Morris, soon settled down and, playing very carefully with Grant, raised the figure to 37, where the latter dropped out. Sutter took his place and the score mounted to 71, when Watson was unfortunate enough to give a chance off the third ball in Adair's second over. E. Edwards succeeded him, and soon by brilliant play, his score including a hit for six, rattled up 25, but collapsed before a ball from Pakenham—five for 108. Gillett and Philip made no long stand. They were followed by Edwards, but the promising partnership now developed was broken up by Sutter, who hit his wicket, and retired for 25—eight for 115. Crawford now joined Edwards, but succumbed to Pakenham almost immediately, leaving the innings in the hands of Edwards and Walkinshaw. The score thenceforward mounted steadily till the latest arrival, bowled by Hunter, went out at 28, the telegraph standing at 196, and Edwards having an unfinished "break" of 53 compiled by very wary and careful batting. The most successful bowler on the Fleet side was Pakenham, who out of 21 overs bowled 5 maidens, and took 4 wickets for 40 runs. The following are the scores:—

THE FLEET.	
Mr. R. B. Garde, c. Watson,	0
b. Sutter	0
Capt. Byrne, R.M.L., l.b.w.,	30
b. Watson	30
Mr. G. C. Polkenham, not out	3
Capt. Adair, b. E. Edwards	5
Mr. H. B. Pearson, b. Walford	0
Mr. G. N. Billard, st. Walford	0
Kinshaw, b. E. Edwards	0
Mr. H. Cooper, thrown out	0
Lieut. A. G. Barton, R.M.A.,	0
c. W. Edwards, b. Walford	1
Mr. F. W. Hill, b. Watson	0
Mr. F. O. Lewis, b. E. Edwards	0
Lieut. H. Smith, b. E. Edwards	0
Pte. Hunter, R.M.L., c. Morris	3
b. Watson	3
Extras	7
	48

THE CLUB.	
Mr. A. B. Walford, b. Hunter	5
Mr. E. R. Morris, c. Pakenham	0
b. Hunter	0
Mr. G. Watson, c. Robertson	0
b. Adair	39
Mr. F. H. Grant, c. Byrne, b. Hunter	0
Mr. W. Sutter, hit wicket, b. Lewis	20
Mr. E. Edwards, b. Pakenham	23
Mr. F. Gillett, c. Adair, b. Lewis	1
Mr. G. Philip, c. Byrne, b. Pakenham	1
Mr. W. Edwards, not out	33
Mr. R. F. Crawford, c. Lewis, b. Pakenham	5
Mr. F. Walkinshaw, b. Hunter	28
Extras	5
	156

"YOKOHAMA" V. "KOBE."

The interport match began on Monday at 10.30 a.m. under most favourable conditions of weather and with a brisk and lively wicket. Kobe went in first, sending Stephens and Lias to bat, Walford and E. Edwards taking the bowling for Yokohama. Lias soon retired, being caught out by Edwards after making a "pair" and Bremner, who succeeded him, was bowled by Edwards after compiling 13—two wickets for 18. W. Edwards now took the bowling at the Pavilion end. Stephens cut his first ball past point for four, and immediately followed up with another four of the same sort. This prosperous state of things was changed in the next over of Edwards', jun., his first ball coming in from leg and scattering Paken-

ham's sticks. Three for 26. The next couple of overs produced little. Wood slipped the younger Edwards for a single; and a couple of maidens were then bowled; Sutter took Edwards' (W.D.S.) place at the Pavilion end, the first extra, a bye, coming in his over. Edwards' next over proved disastrous for Stephens, whose wicket fell to the former, his score stading at 13—four for 31. Baggallay took his place, and for some time singles came; Wood, however, drove Sutter for three, but was bowled by Edwards in the next over. Five for 36. Gordon Brown was next man. Baggallay drove Sutter to leg for two, a couple of byes (one a three) followed; and Baggallay then retired clean bowled by Edwards jun. Six for 55. Hellyer now joined Brown, and Edwards' first succeeding ball produced four, Brown slipped the same bowler for 4 (to the boundary) and cut him for a single. The half century was reached at ten minutes to twelve. A chance was given on a ball from Edwards cut by Gordon past point, but by throwing in to the wrong end Gordon escaped, only to be given out in the same over, leg before wicket. Seven for 54. Boyle took his place, but after gaining a single came back bowled by Edwards—eight for 60. D. S. Brown then joined Hellyer, and the latter cut Sutter for three, while Brown drove him to the boundary for four. Walford now took the leather from Edwards and his first ball rattled off Brown's bails—nine for 68. Melhuish now joined Hellyer, but Walford's next ball took his sticks also, and the innings closed at 12.10 for 68.

The Home team now went in, Walkinshaw and Crawford taking the bat. Walkinshaw at once began hitting, eight runs coming in the first over off Stephens. Lias handled the ball at the Pavilion end. Singles came fast, and in five minutes ten appeared on the board. Walkinshaw slipped Stephens for four. By singles the score now mounted, and the first ball of the fifth over produced 20 on the telegraph. Walkinshaw hit Lias to the boundary twice, but the fourth ball of the seventh over was fatal to Crawford who was out l.b.w. with 8 to his credit—one for 30. Watson succeeded him. Walkinshaw drove Lias for another four to the boundary, and Watson got lost off Stephens in the next over, another four being made by Walkinshaw, who hit Lias to the boundary again. A few singles followed and the score was brought to the half century at 12.55 by Walkinshaw cutting Stephens for a couple. Lias, who had been hit about a good deal, now gave up the leather to D. S. Brown. Adjourned for tiffin, the score standing at 57.

Play was resumed a few minutes after two o'clock; and ten minutes later Watson succumbed, clean bowled by Brown (D.S.), having put together 12. Two for 73. E. Edwards joined Walkinshaw, who having now settled down to his work hit both bowlers about rather freely, and the scoring included a multitude of "two's" and a three here and there. Pakenham now took Gordon Brown's place at the bowling, and his first over resulted in Edwards' downfall, the second ball being returned into the bowler's hands. Three for 94. W. D. S. Edwards took his brother's place and drove D. S. Brown for three; and another single off the same bowler brought out the century on the telegraph. The captain got D. S. Brown to leg for four; and Walkinshaw at 63 hit a skyer off D. S. Brown, which was missed, as none of the field could get there in time. After a few more singles Walkinshaw drove D. S. Brown to the boundary, and sent one from Pakenham the same way in the succeeding over, Edwards taking a couple of pairs off D. S. Brown and then driving him to the pavilion steps, a rather expensive over. A change now took place in the bowling, Baggallay coming on in D. S. Brown's room, but giving place soon to Lias whose first over resulted in 13, Walkinshaw getting a couple of "four's" out of him. A few more runs, however, finished Walkinshaw's career, a ball from Lias being returned to the bowler. Walkinshaw's score stood at 117, including over a dozen boundary hits, and was a very brilliant performance. Four for 187. Sutter now went in, but the partnership was soon severed, for, skying a ball from Pakenham, it was held by Baggallay at long off, and Sutter retired without adding to the score. Five for 188. The Yokohama innings was now declared closed, and after a brief interval Kobe went in again.

Bremner and Wood opened the ball for the visitors, the bowling being in the hands of Walford and E. Edwards, the former of whom Bremner cut to the boundary for four; cutting off Edwards for a couple and later getting another four off Walford. Sutter now relieved Edwards in the bowling, and in Walford's next over he took Wood's bails—one for 27. Hellyer followed Wood, and Bremner took a series of "four's" off Sutter, the fourth and fifth in one over; but revenge for this came in Walford's second ball of the next

over, which played havoc with Wood's stumps, Melhuish followed in Wood's place, and Bremner continued to punish Sutter till at length the latter was relieved by Watson. Melhuish now began his score with a "four" off Watson. For a quarter of an hour runs came slowly, Grant relieving Walford at the bowling, his first over yielding a boundary hit to Bremner; Melhuish cut Watson for two, but skied the next ball, which was held by Philip. Three for 74. Pakenham succeeded him, but at five o'clock the stumps were drawn, the Kobe score then standing at 76.

The match was watched by a considerable number of spectators, and the band of the *Imperieuse* played during the afternoon.

The following are the scores:—

KOBE.—1ST INNINGS.	
Mr. Stephens, b. E. Edwards	13
Mr. Lias, c. E. Edwards, b. Walford	3
Mr. Bremner, b. E. Edwards	13
Mr. Pakenham, b. E. Edwards	0
Mr. Wood, b. E. Edwards	5
Mr. Baggallay, b. E. Edwards	6
Extras	4
	48

BOWLING ANALYSIS.	
Balls.	Runs.
Mr. Walford	17
Mr. E. Edwards	70
Mr. W. D. S. Edwards	15
Mr. Sutter	45

YOKOHAMA.—1ST INNINGS.	
Mr. F. Walkinshaw, c. and b. Lias	117
Mr. K. F. Crawford, l.b.w.	8
Mr. G. W. B. Watson, b. D. S. Brown	12
Mr. E. R. S. Edwards, c. and b. Pakenham	4
Mr. W. D. S. Edwards, not out	36
Extras	11
	178

BOWLING ANALYSIS.	
Balls.	Runs.
Mr. Stephens	60
Mr. Lias	60
Mr. Pakenham	28
Mr. Baggallay	15

KOBE.—2ND INNINGS.	
Mr. Bremner, not out	53
Mr. Wood, b. Walford	8
Mr. Hellyer, b. Walford	0
Mr. Melhuish, c. Philip, b. Watson	11
Mr. Pakenham, not out	2
Extras	4
	78

BOWLING ANALYSIS.	
Balls.	Runs.
Mr. Walford	65
Mr. E. Edwards	15
Mr. Sutter	30
Mr. Watson	35
Mr. Grant	15

The second of the interport matches took place on Tuesday. The weather was again all that could be wished, and the ground in excellent condition.

The visitors went in first, and Bremner and Stephens handled the bat, Walford bowling from the Pavilion end. Off this bowler Stephens got a single in the first over and the first of the extras, a leg-bye, also came. Edwards handled the leather at the other end and his first over was a maiden. Stephens drove Walford to long-off, a boundary hit, and a bye gave five for this over. The next over produced three and the first ball of its successor Bremner hit to leg for four; Stephens drove Walford close to the boundary for three, and cut Edwards (E.) beautifully for three; and Bremner gave long-slip (Sutter) a rather difficult chance off Edwards, which did not come off. The seventh introduced Watson, who took the ball from Walford, and from whom Bremner got a four off his second ball. The third ball Bremner skied to leg, but the ball was not held by Crawford. Bremner hit Watson to leg for four; and cut him in the same over for a single, which was returned smartly enough to imperil the partnership. Sutter here relieved Edwards at the bowling, and Stephens hit him to leg for a single, the ball being again briskly fielded by Walford, who, however, failed at a high ball hit to leg by Bremner a moment later. Stephens now cut Watson prettily for four, and drove him again for a couple. Sutter's next over was unproductive of runs, and Watson bowled his first maiden, Sutter following with another. Stephens now drove Watson to the boundary and the half century went up at 11.25. Another four came off the same bowler, 8 runs from one over. Bremner followed up this good work by driving Sutter to the boundary and slipping him for another four in pretty style, but his next ball took the batsman's wicket and Bremner retired for 32, very pretty cricket, in which, however, he had given three chances. One for 65. Wood took his place, Walford resuming the bowling at this stage. Stephens drove the latter to the fence in the first succeeding over, and Wood hit Sutter to leg for a single in the next. Stephens sent a moderate skyer to long-off, but Morris missed it, failing to quite get up in time. W. Edwards now

took the leather at the Settlement end, Stephens getting a single off his first over, and another off Walford in the next. Wood drove Walford to long-off, but the leather was handled smartly this time, and the batsmen found themselves together at one end, Wood thus going out with only one run to his credit. Two for 74. Pakenham went in next, and the partnership began by Stephens driving Walford for a couple, again for four, hitting up the last ball of the over for four, and then slipping Edwards for a couple. Grant took Walford's place, and Pakenham drove him to on for a single, Stephens following with a two, neatly fielded by Morris at long-off. The younger Edwards resumed bowling at the Settlement end; his first ball took Stephens's bats, and he went back with 51. Three for 90. Lias now went in and, playing carefully for a couple of overs, slogged Grant to the fence in fine style, while Pakenham hit him to square leg for a couple, and cut him for the same number, the century now coming out on the telegraph at 12.20. Lias, feeling settled, now hit Edwards boldly to leg for four; Pakenham drove Grant to long-on for a couple; but in the next over Grant clean bowled Lias, who with his two fours and a single had to retire. Four for 109. Hellyer joined Pakenham, who took a couple of pairs off Edwards in the next over, Grant's next being a maiden—his first—and the last ball of Edwards' next produced a four for Pakenham. Morris took the ball at the Pavilion end and was promptly driven twice to the boundary and hit briskly to leg by Pakenham for three—twelve runs from the first over—Pakenham sending Edwards (E) to leg for four a few seconds later. W. Edwards again took the ball from Morris and in his first over bowled Hellyer, who came back with a single to his name. Five for 133. Baggallay joined Pakenham, and Pakenham passed the younger Edwards' second ball to the boundary; but the left hander in the next over lowered Baggallay's sticks, and he retired with a "duck." Six for 137. Pakenham now received Melhuish as partner, and after an over another change of bowling took place, Sutter bowling from the Settlement end. Pakenham hit him strongly to square leg for four; Melhuish got a single—his first—off him, but the fourth ball of Edwards' next over, grazing Pakenham's leg stump, sent him back and closed a very carefully played career for 42. Seven for 142. Boyle took his place, but the pair were soon parted Sutter's fourth ball downing Melhuish's bats—eight for 142. Gordon Brown joined Boyle, who slipped Edwards to the boundary, and soon after drove Sutter to mid-on for a couple. With the score at 150, the teams adjourned for tiffin.

Play was resumed at two o'clock. Sutter bowled a couple of overs and then retired in favour of Edwards (E.), and Boyle after eight more runs had been added was bowled by the younger Edwards—nine for 158. D. S. Brown took Boyle's place, and for a few minutes runs came singly, some wild throwing in off a hit by Gordon Brown resulting in an addition of 4 to the score, and a change of bowling occurring, D. S. Brown was immediately bowled by Walford in the first ball of his over. This closed Kobe's innings, the score standing at 171.

Yokohama sent forward Walkinshaw and Crawford to represent them, Stephens and Pakenham conducting the attack for the visitors. Crawford began well by slipping Pakenham for three. The next three overs were uneventful, but the third ball of Pakenham's succeeding over Crawford cut smartly to the boundary, and took a single off him to leg which was missed by the fieldsmen, though a high hit to leg by Walkinshaw off Pakenham was very neatly fielded from the same quarter; Crawford cut Stephens twice for two, and a couple of maiden overs were followed by Walkinshaw's downfall, as he was declared out caught at wicket on a ball of Pakenham's—one for 26. Watson joined Crawford, hit Pakenham to leg for four, and got three off Stephens, and followed this with two off the same bowler, Crawford hitting Pakenham to leg for four, and again for two. Crawford cut Pakenham very nicely for three, but the next ball in the same over brought down Watson's wicket—two for 44. E. Edwards took his place, but with 127 to make in an hour and a half the game looked gloomy for the home team. Runs came slowly till Edwards cut Stephens to the boundary, and Crawford similarly punished Pakenham, who was soon after relieved by D. S. Brown, whom Edwards sent to square leg for four, while Crawford cut Stephens for the same number and again for two. In Brown's second over Edwards was put out leg before wicket for 12. Three for 73. W. Edwards followed his brother. Crawford cut Stephens for three—perilously near the fence—Edwards followed suit off the same bowler, and a few moments later Crawford cut him again to the boundary. But the next ball from Stephens was caught by D. S. Brown in the slips and Crawford

retired with a capably played 54 to his credit—four for 91. Sutter now joined Edwards and at 4.10 the century went upon the board. The two batsmen after a time seemed fairly settled together, the score mounting up slowly with an occasional three and four, though the play was steady and cautious. Edwards hit Stephens to square leg for four. Lias then took the ball from D. S. Brown, and Edwards again had Stephens this time for three; retribution, however, coming in the form of the bowler's next attack which laid Sutter's wicket low—five for 127. Walford now took up the defence for the home team. The next four overs were productive only of singles, but Lias in the first ball of his third over took Walford's stumps—six for 132. Grant filled his place, and, after a short space of single run-getting, hit Stephens to leg for four and Edwards cut Lias to the fence for the same number. Seven minutes only remained now in which to get 14 runs. Edwards hit Lias to leg for two (score now 159). Pakenham relieved Stephens at the bowling and was cut by Grant for a single off the third ball of his first over; Edwards drove him to long-off for three, and amid great excitement cut Lias close to the fence, slipped him to leg for a single, and cut Pakenham for the same value. Edwards cut the same bowler for a single, and Grant put another ball to point off Pakenham. There now only wanted three minutes of five—two runs to win—and, as well may be imagined, suspense lay heavy on the partisans of both teams. D. S. Brown took over the ball from Lias at the Settlement end, but brought the home team nearer victory by bowling a wide which made the match a tie. Grant cut his next ball forcefully, but it was stopped in the slips and cleverly returned. The end came, however, with his succeeding ball, which Grant snicked to long slip and got a single off. The last ball of Brown's over Edwards drove to mid-off for two, and the innings closed with Yokohama winner of the day's match by 3 runs and three wickets to fall.

The match was exciting towards the close, but for some time before runs came very slowly. The Kobe team fielded much better than on the previous day, and as will be seen did much more with the willow. Stephens bowled all through the afternoon till within a few overs of the finish.

At the close hearty cheers were given for both teams.

The Imperial Marine Band attended during the afternoon and played a number of selections. The play was witnessed by a large crowd.

The teams dined together in the evening in the Club Hotel.

Following are the scores:—

KOBÉ.—1ST INNINGS.			
Mr. A. G. Bremer, b. Sutter	32	Mr. G. J. Melhuish, b. Sutter	1
Mr. C. E. Stephens, b. E. Edwards	51	Mr. G. W. Boyle, b. E. Edwards	1
Mr. W. H. Wood, ran out	1	Mr. A. Gordon Brown, not out	7
Mr. G. C. Pakenham, b. W. Edwards	42	Mr. D. S. Brown, b. Walford	9
Mr. F. J. Lias, b. Grant	9	Extras	9
Mr. T. W. Hellyer, b. W. Edwards	1		
Mr. M. Baggallay, b. W. Edwards	0		
	0		173

BOWLING ANALYSIS.			
Balls.	Runs.	Maidens.	Wickets.
Mr. Walford	41	30	1
Mr. E. Edwards	95	43	6
Mr. Watson	30	27	1
Mr. Sutter	50	19	4
Mr. W. Edwards	70	15	4
Mr. Grant	30	16	1
Mr. Morris	5	12	1

YOKOHAMA.—1ST INNINGS.			
Mr. Walkinshaw, c. Bremer, b. Pakenham	0	Mr. W. Edwards, not out	55
Mr. Crawford, c. D. S. Brown	0	Mr. Walford, b. Lias	2
Mr. Stephens	54	Mr. Grant, not out	14
Mr. Watson, b. Pakenham	6	Mr. Gillitt, did not bat	
Mr. Edwards, l.b.w., b. D. S. Brown	13	Extras	9
Mr. Sutter, b. Stephens	13		74

BOWLING ANALYSIS.			
Balls.	Runs.	Maidens.	Wickets.
Mr. Stephens	150	78	8
Mr. Pakenham	75	40	6
Mr. D. S. Brown	55	33	3
Mr. Lias	40	18	2

SAILING RACE.

The concluding race of the two fixed to decide the ownership of Mr. Whitfield's "Fairwell Cup" and other prizes took place on Saturday over the same course as before, once round the Club Course and once round the 17 rater course.

Mr. Beart, who officiated as officer of the day, sent the boats off at 1.30, *La Belle* being first across the line. With the wind a little to the westward of S. spinnakers were used to the North Mark which was rounded first by *Molly Bawn*, followed by *Princess Maud*, *Tortoise*, *Maid Marion*, and *La*

Belle, *Trawler* last. Sheets were pinned in for the trip to the Lightship, and the leading boats came thence most of the distance to the Home Mark close-hauled. Here the wind dropped and suddenly sprang up from E., bringing in at a great rate the laggards from the Lightship. The run out to the Green Lightship was on a wind, and down to Kanagawa balloon jibs were carried by the leaders, *La Belle* and *Trawler* sporting their spinnakers. Thence the line was crossed in one reach, *Maid Marion* arriving a long distance ahead of *Molly*. The *Maid* was disqualified for having fouled the North Mark; and *Molly* lost first place to the *Princess* on handicap, *La Belle* made a capital race of it round the whole course with *Tortoise*. Following are the times:—

Mail	Home Mark.	Finish.	Total.	allows	Total.
<i>Maid Marion</i>	1:38.10	3:20.43	7:03.21	m.	7:03.21
<i>Princess Maud</i>	3:51.10	3:36.35	7:42.53	32	7:10.53
<i>Molly Bawn</i>	4:46.25	3:31.08	7:16.10	27	7:13.10
<i>La Belle</i>	3:00.30	3:58.30	8:11.21	60	7:13.21
<i>Trawler</i>	1:06.15	3:59.25	8:02.45	40	7:33.45
<i>Tortoise</i>	2:59.40	3:52.38	8:03.41	35	7:28.41

1—*Princess Maud*. 2—*Molly Bawn*. 3—*La Belle*. 4—*Trawler*. 5—*Tortoise*.

S. HILDA'S HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY, AZABU, TOKYO.

On behalf of the Bishop of the Church of England in Japan, the undersigned begs to acknowledge with thanks the following subscriptions towards the erection of the S. Hilda's Hospital and Dispensary. The offerings presented to H.R.H. the Duchess of Connaught, to be laid on the foundation stone, are included in the list.

L. B. CHOLMONDELEY,
Chaplain to the Bishop.

Further subscriptions will be thankfully acknowledged.

DISPENSARY.	
Bickersteth, Bishop	\$100.00
Brinkley, R. A., Captain	25.00
Fallot, per Mrs. Von	75.00
Ingles, R. N. Capt.	10.00
Kirkwood, M.	25.00
Piggott, F.	10.00
Sannomiya, Mrs.	5.00
Satow, F.	5.00
	Total \$813.43

HOSPITAL.	
H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught	\$50.00
Abbegg, Mrs.	5.00
Aitchison, W.	5.00
Anonymous	50.00
Anonymous	20.00
Bazaar at Yokohama, part proceeds of	250.00
Bickersteth, Bishop	900.00
Boag, J.	25.00
Bonar, H. A.	10.00
Chamberlain, B. H.	15.00
Cholmondeley, per Rev. L. B.	19.76
Couder, J.	11.79
Daniels, F.	5.00
Downshire, Marquis of	10.00
Dun, Y.	10.00
Duff, C. M.	7.00
Dumelin, A.	5.00
Efford, Mrs.	5.00
Eldridge, Mrs.	5.00
Eustace, F. O.	5.00
Forshaw, R. P.	50.00
Fors, Rev. H. J.	5.00
Fraser, Hugh	50.00
Fraser, J.	10.00
Freese, per Rev. F. E.	9.00
Hall, J. S.	6.00
Haenen, N.	10.00
Hearne, Mrs.	5.00
Hobart Hampden, E.	10.00
Ingles, Captain	15.00
Irwin, R. W.	25.00
James, J. M.	10.00
	Total \$2,179.84

S. Andrew's House,
Tokyo, October 22nd, 1890.

HORSFORD'S ACID PHOSPHATE
Imparts New Energy to the Brain, giving the feeling and sense of increased intellectual power.

"OUR ITALIAN COUSIN"

The high expectations fostered by Signor Majeroni's established reputation and by the fact that on his first appearance here he would be assisted by ladies and gentlemen, most of whom have already distinguished themselves on the amateur stage, were assuredly fulfilled by Thursday night's performance. The deterrent effect of a most unpleasant evening, the weather rainy, and the atmosphere raw and cold, while the roads were in a very muddy condition, no doubt caused not a few empty seats, but the house notwithstanding was well filled. The play "Our Italian Cousin" went smoothly to the end, and though the first act seemed to fall a trifle flat while the audience were essaying to grasp the plot and realise the interests involved, the other two acts enabled the leading actors to hold the full attention of, and win rounds of applause from the house. We have already shortly indicated the leading idea of the comedy, but may now with a view to distinguishing between the various players of last evening rapidly go over the plot again. Briefly then, the whole story hinges upon a letter which some young sparks by way of joke write to "Our Italian Cousin," *Charles Valeri*. The letter expresses the warmest affection for *Charles* and makes an appointment to meet him at midnight at a masked ball, describing the costume which for purposes of recognition is to be worn. *Charles*, who is a well-meaning good-natured, *mal-a-propos* fellow, with an exceedingly susceptible heart, is transported by the receipt of this precious epistle, and cannot refrain from showing it to *Fred Somers* who is engaged to marry *Charles'* cousin, *Laura Valeri*. *Fred* reads the note absentmindedly and puts it in his pocket. Meantime one of the concoctors of the letter, *Lee*, a veritable busybody, calls at the house of the *Armstrongs* (*Julia Armstrong* is the cousin of *Laura* and *Charles'*) and where *Laura* lives, and unconsciously arouses some suspicion as to *Fred* in the mind of *Laura*. While things are in this state *Fred* arrives, and is rather coolly received by his fiancée. Matters are smoothed over, however, and all would go well if *Fred* did not unhappily by accident draw from his pocket and drop on the floor the letter which had so delighted *Charles*. It bears no address, and *Laura*, on reading it, sees in its impassioned language the destruction of all her hopes. From her hands the note passes easily and naturally to the possession of *Armstrong* (who, though gifted with a temper of almost preternatural placidity has also had a misunderstanding with his wife *Julia*) and thence of course it finds its evil way to *Julia*. Another misunderstanding on a pretty serious scale now takes place in the *Armstrong* household, and at length *Mrs. Armstrong* and *Laura* decide, unknown to each other, to keep the appointment made in the letter, each prepared to mete out condign punishment to the gentleman whose disgraceful conduct has thus lacerated her feelings. *Charles*, on his side, goes to the ball to fulfil the original engagement which, as the first recipient of the letter, he believes himself to have entered into with some charming person or other. There, of course, after a good deal of amusing incident, *Charles* greatly to his surprise being addressed in quite familiar terms, but accorded somewhat cavalier treatment by the two ladies whom he finds at the appointed place—each lady naturally being interested in the movements of another gentleman—and after both *Armstrong* and *Somers* have challenged *Charles* to fight a duel, the mystery is cleared up, and *Charles* challenges all present—to supper.

The title rôle was taken by Signor Majeroni, and his conception of the hero of all these blunders proved a most artistic one. His imperturbable good nature, his innocent vanity, and a hundred other qualities and traits were most admirably combined by the Signor in what must have been to all present a truly delightful character. *Mrs. G. E. Rice* as *Laura Armstrong* appeared in a part which it seems to us must henceforward be regarded as one of the best efforts of her histrionic genius. From the moment in the second act, when the ladies come on the stage, to the very close she shared with Signor Majeroni the interest and sympathies of the house. Her scenes with her husband, in which almost beside herself with jealousy and anger, she seemed at one moment about to fling herself upon him and then moved frenziedly about the apartment; her perusal of the letter,—her little exclamations of jealous and suspicious passion—were perfect, each incident in itself, and she fairly surprised the house for a short space into utter silence when, in response to her husband's anxious attempts to make his peace with her, she took up a chair, carried it to the front, and stonily requested him to address his remarks to

that. Mr. Bayne was quite at home in the character of *Armstrong*, *Laura's* husband, who plumes himself a good deal on the calmness of his temper, his fiery gusts of rage and concentrated passion being most effective features in the action of the piece. In other respects, too, which it would be vain to particularise this favourite of local amateurs showed himself in perfect sympathy with the spirit of the comedy as well as with the "star's" conception of the leading character, besides acting throughout with studied care, and yet with the most finished absence of effort. Of Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Read it can only be said that in their joint character of a loving couple, whose movements were not of particularly great prominence in the progress of the play, they acted with all the grace and force which their previous appearances on the amateur stage in Yokohama had led us to expect of them. *Mrs. Read* was perhaps at her best in the outbreak of bitter despair consequent on her reading of the letter, but all through she was as charming and graceful as ever, while Mr. Read only confirmed the estimate long since formed here of his high abilities. Mr. Henson was very well to the front as young *Lee*, the busybody who sets every one by the ears in the first place, and Mr. Kenny (*F. E. Lewis*), Mr. C. W. Arnould (*L. J. Colston*), and Mr. G. W. Burton (*J. B. Price*), as the other young bloods of the play, moved about and spoke their lines with ease, when necessary with spirit, and acted all through with quite natural self-possession. This mention includes all the *dramatis personæ* if we except Messrs. Still and Robson (which latter cognomen disguised Mr. Robinson) who acted as *Thomas* (clerk), and *John* (a domestic) respectively.

It need hardly be said that at the end of both the second and third acts the leading actors were recalled, and very beautiful bouquets were presented to the ladies. The staging of the piece was capital. Selections were played at intervals by Messrs. Griffin and Keil in the form of piano duets, and these were most attentively listened to and heartily applauded.

LETTER FROM SAN FRANCISCO.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

San Francisco, October 1st.

The Conference Committee on the Tariff reported on Friday, and the report has been adopted by both Houses of Congress. It now goes to the President for his signature. There are some who believe that Mr. Blaine will persuade him to veto it, but there is not much prospect of that. Mr. Harrison is not the man to throw down the gauntlet to his party even in a righteous cause. The bill, as it stands is an abominable bill. It raises the average rate of duties on imports from 45 to 60 per cent. It imposes duties on goods which for years have been admitted free with the assent of all parties. In order to compensate for the large increase of taxation, it reduces the tax on tobacco two cents a pound. This will take some six millions out of the Treasury and donate it to the manufacturers; tobacco will be no cheaper to the consumer. In 1883, the same thing was done, in order to retain the duties on hardware and textiles, for the benefit of the manufacturers; the proceeds of the excise on tobacco was reduced by \$20,000,000, but the price of the commodity to the smoker and chewer remained the same.

The sugar duty is in the hands of the President, who is empowered to admit sugar free, or to lay a tax on it as he pleases. He is to be guided by the legislation of South and Central States regarding imports from this country. If they admit our bread stuffs, provisions, and manufactures free, then we are to admit their sugar free; if they tax our goods, we are to tax their sugar. The result will be variegated. In the meantime, the Government is to pay every producer of homemade sugar a bounty of two cents a pound. Thus a sum of about eight millions will be taken out of the pocket of the general tax payer, and handed over to the Sugar Trust and Mr. Speckels. Speckels told Congress he "didn't want no bounty;" all he asked was to be let alone. But when the Treasury forces a million or two into his hand, he will take it like a little man. It will be interesting to watch how long a period will elapse before the producer of potatoes and wheat and corn and cotton and pork, demand that they be placed on the same footing as the sugar planter and rewarded by the public for conducting their industry.

The triumph of the manufacturers is precipitating the formation of trusts and combinations in every branch of industry. There is now but one factory in the country where axes are made; it is the American Axe and Tool Company with head-

quarters at Pittsburg, Pa. It has bought out all its competitors and raised prices \$2 a dozen, which it can safely do under the provision of the new tariff on foreign axes. Four months ago there were a dozen factories where saws were made. Now there are but two, and prices have advanced from 10 to 40 per cent. The lead manufacturers are combining on the strength of the provisions of the tariff shutting out foreign lead, and prices of shot, pipe, pig, and solder are rising. Tin has gone up from 50 cents to \$1 a box; not a pound is made in this country, and there probably never will be. The manufacture of window glass, has passed into the hands of two companies, which have advanced prices since the McKinley Bill was framed about 30 per cent. There is now but one company which makes zinc stove boards—all the others having sold out to it, and the price of these goods has advanced within a year 133 per cent. Gunpowder is now made by one concern only, and is twice the price it was last year. So on throughout the list. Congress has set the example of treating the consumer as a cow to be milked, and the manufacturers are not such fools as to neglect the hint.

It is understood that, having been delivered of this enormity, Congress will adjourn to day. It has failed to pass the steamship subsidy bill, which the country really wanted; but, by way of offset, it has not passed the force bill for the use of federal bayonets at the polls. It will be remembered first, by the worst tariff which has been adopted since 1822, and next by the worst job ever put through by an unprincipled lobby—the Bill requiring the Secretary of the Treasury to buy 4,500,000 ounces of silver each month for purposes of coinage. Now that the bill has passed and its mischievous effects are becoming noticeable, everybody is asking his neighbor how it came to pass. It is a curious story. When Cleveland became President, the East demanded that silver coinage should cease—the difference in bullion value between silver and gold coins being dangerously wide. This the West regarded as an attempt to increase the burden of debts, and to curtail the currency; and, being a debtor community, it was opposed to both. The Western view prevailed, and then the opinion of Congress swung to the other extreme. If no curtailment of silver coinage was possible, a feeling arose that it might be increased with advantage. The silver miners of Nevada, Colorado, California, Montana, and other silver producing States and territories, determined to make a bold stroke for their commodity. They obtained control of the leading newspapers west of the Mississippi, and manufactured a fictitious public opinion in their columns. The West was represented as clamoring for more silver currency. There was no such demand outside of the small circle of silver miners. But when every newspaper published in the far west States reiterated that there was, it was hard for Congress to ascertain the truth.

Then the silver miners formed a coalition with the great New York operators, who were easily shown that there was a glut of money in a law which obliged the Government to buy more silver than the mines produce. They always stand ready to make money, and they "chipped in" with the miners to get the bill through by the usual "moral pressure." It is stated that no member of either house was actually bought outright; but it is also stated that over a dozen Senators, and nearly two dozen Congressmen took an interest in the silver pools which were organized in New York. At the time the bill was introduced, silver was selling in that city at from 90 to 95 cents per ounce in gold. The Secretary was authorized to pay as high as 129 cents per ounce. It was no trick to buy up all the loose silver at the market price and turn it into the Treasury at a suitable advance. This was what the pools did. They are said to have laid in some 30,000,000 oz. of silver at from 90 to 98; last month they kindly let the Treasury have 4,500,000 oz. at 119 to 120. They also obliged some belated speculators who "got on" to the game at that tardy hour, and expected silver to run up to 129 without a break, with all the white metal they wanted; and thus after the Treasury was supplied, the price gradually reacted. To day it is selling at 112, at which or some similar price, the pools will probably take hold again, and run quotations up to 120 against the Secretary's next appearance in the market as a buyer. As a neat and quick scheme for turning an honest penny, this silver job can hardly be surpassed. The pools are said to have netted some six or seven millions already, and they will obviously go on milking the cow indefinitely.

Another curious case sheds light on the customs of the natives of this part of the world. A Jew named Goldberg seduced a girl of the name of Millie Panhorst. It appears that her family were aware of her relations with the young man. She

was in the habit of staying all night at his rooms. He said he would have married her but for his religion, which forbade him to espouse a Christian. One evening last week, he called upon her; angry words passed between him and her father, who insisted on his marrying her; he approached the girl, to argue with her; she drew a pistol and shot him dead. It does not appear that he was armed, or that he proposed to offer violence to any one. Nevertheless the coroner's jury found a verdict of justifiable homicide. The meaning of that is that any one who seduces a girl holds his life at her mercy. Not an unwholesome principle, perhaps.

DEDICATION OF AN ODD FELLOWS HALL.

The large hall of Keil's Buildings, the opening of which, and its subsequent consecration to the purposes of Freemasonry, were reported recently, was last evening formally dedicated to the purposes of Odd Fellowship with a view to the holding there of the meetings of the "Far East" Lodge, No. 1 of Japan. At a very early day in the history of Yokohama—for those early residents who were members of the fraternity soon felt the want of a body to consolidate them and to carry out in this corner of the world the high objects of Freemasonry—a Masonic Lodge was formed in the Settlement. To the Yokohama Lodge, No. 1092 on the roll of the Grand Lodge of England and Wales, belongs the honour of being the premier lodge in Japan, for it was the founders of the Yokohama Lodge that first approached Freemasons Hall from this country with the view of obtaining a charter. The establishment of the Yokohama Lodge was soon followed by the founding of the Orientsama Lodge (1263) and of the Star in the East Lodge (640)—the last mentioned being under the constitution of the Grand Lodge of Scotland—a Royal Arch Chapter and a Lodge of Mark Masons also coming into existence as circumstances or the maturity of time seemed to warrant. Within recent years, however, surprise has often been expressed that the order of Odd Fellows, which has now a large and influential following all over the globe, should not have struck its roots into the soil of Japan. Whatever reasons operated in the past to delay that process, it has now become an accomplished fact. Over a year has elapsed since the "Far East" Lodge was founded, and if the public may judge of the prosperity of that body by the number and character of its members, it is in a most flourishing condition. Under a dispensation dated May 28th last year from the Sovereign Grand Lodge, by which the Deputy Grand Sire (Mr. E. V. Thorn) was authorised to initiate and confer the degrees previous to the installation of the lodge, it was found necessary prior to opening the lodge to initiate ten new members, and these with three Odd Fellows resident in the Settlement, formed the founders of the lodge. From this small membership the roll has been increased to 32 members,—to whom must be added two candidates elected, while about a dozen others await the result of their applications for admission,—and the lodge has a credit balance of \$900. Mr. Keil's new hall, admirably adapted as it is to the purposes of Freemasonry, is no less suited to the uses of Odd Fellowship, and the step now taken in removing the meeting place of the lodge to such premises is one that cannot but work for the continued success of the body.

The ceremony of last evening was fixed to commence at 9.15, at which time a large company had assembled. The ladies were accommodated with seats arranged on the sides of the large hall, the other spaces being taken up by officers of the lodge. A considerable number of guests also occupied seats in the smaller hall.

All having taken their places, the meeting was called to order by Mr. E. A. Sargent, Noble Grand, and thereupon the Grand Herald (Mr. A. C. Stern) announced that the Grand Sire and other officers of the Sovereign Grand Lodge desired to be admitted in the name of Friendship, Love, and Truth, for the purpose of dedicating the hall to the uses of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the diffusion of benevolence and charity. The Grand Officers then entered, being Messrs. E. V. Thorn, Grand Sire; A. T. Watson, Grand Warden; C. R. Greathouse, Grand Secretary; Paymaster McDonald, Grand Treasurer; and Rev. V. Marshall Law, Grand Chaplain. These having taken their seats, the Grand Sire, who assumed the chair in place of the Noble Grand, being supported by Messrs. Greathouse and McDonald, briefly intimated the purpose for which the assembly took place, and extended a welcome to the guests. All present then united in singing an opening ode, Mr. O. Keil presiding at the organ.

The ceremony was opened with prayer by the Grand Chaplain. All having resumed their seats, the Grand Marshal and Heralds entered the hall. These were undoubtedly the most imposing figures in a ceremony of no ordinary impressiveness, all being men of splendid physique, and dressed most richly in robes of Oriental design and of more than Oriental stateliness and dignity. When all these officers had duly saluted the Grand Sire they advanced to their stations. The Grand Marshal (Mr. J. J. Pearson) attired in royal purple, splendidly trimmed with green, and wearing, like the Heralds, turned up eastern shoes or *babooshes*, took up his position in the centre of the floor. The place of each Herald was marked by a tall pedestal in each of the four corners of the entire space; on one there rested a basket of flowers, on another a vessel containing wheat, on the third a vessel of water, and on the fourth a candlestick. Beside each of these pedestals a Herald took his place, the Herald of the North (Mr. R. M. Varnum) dressed in white, the Herald of the South (Mr. J. W. Hall) attired in pink, the Herald of the West (Mr. W. G. Cameron) wearing a scarlet costume, and the Herald of the East (Mr. T. W. Kennaway) dressed in blue.

The Grand Marshal now gave a short address illustrative of that part of the ceremony which was immediately to follow, in the course of which he described and explained the prominence accorded to the altar in this ceremony, and referred to its use in ancient rites. Having then received from the Heralds an assurance that they were ready to discharge their respective duties, the Grand Marshal instructed the Herald of the North to bring forward and place in front of the platform a representation of a white stone having lettered upon it the word "Purity." On this foundation he directed the Herald of the South to deposit a pink stone bearing the word "Friendship." The Herald of the East was then required to bring a blue stone distinguished by the word "Love," and a fourth stone, scarlet, and bearing the word "Truth," was brought by the Herald of the West. These four stones, laid one above another, were described by the Grand Marshal as illustrative of the four degrees of the subordinate lodge. Ascending now to the symbolism of the Encampment, he directed the Heralds of the North and South to bring forward a green stone with the word "Faith," and the Heralds of the East and West to similarly produce a gold coloured stone, the emblem of "Hope," and finally delegated all four Heralds to bring a royal purple stone representing "Charity." These several slabs formed a structure which, with the addition of Charity, the emblem of which was surrounded with a white altar railing and surmounted by a torch, constituted a complete altar.

The Noble Grand (Mr. E. A. Sargent) now stepped forward, and, handing to the Grand Sire the keys of the hall, requested him to dedicate it to the "business and purposes of Odd Fellowship."

The Grand Sire, accepting the keys, proceeded to address the members of the order, congratulating them on the possession of such a hall, so beautiful and so well fitted for the purpose to which they were about to dedicate it, and concluded by requesting them to join with the Grand Chaplain in prayer. After prayer the Grand Sire and Grand Warden read various passages of Scripture appropriate to the occasion, and the former then "by the authority and in the name of the Sovereign Grand Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows" formally dedicated the hall "to the businesses and purposes of Odd Fellowship, to the dissemination of Friendship, Love and Truth, and to the diffusion of Benevolence and Charity in their fullest extent to all its worthy members." This act was duly proclaimed by the Grand Heralds, at the command of the Grand Marshal.

The Herald of the North in the name of "Friendship" as pure, refreshing and life-giving as the water which at this moment he sprinkled from the vessel in his charge, dedicated the hall "to the practice of that noble virtue which unites men as brothers, teaches them to sustain that relation at all times, each in his turn helping and helped, blessing and blessed." A response to this having been made by the Grand Warden, and one verse of a hymn sung, the Herald of the South, lighting the torch on the altar, dedicated the hall to "Love" world wide and ever-enduring, and after responses by the Grand Warden and the singing of other verses, the Heralds of the East and West likewise dedicated the hall, the former to the inculcation and cultivation of Truth (in token of which he scattered wheat) and the latter, strewing flowers, to "Faith, Hope and Charity, which graces like these flowers fill the common air with fragrance, and beautify and adorn all on whom they fall. The practice of these highest virtues is in itself a fulfilment of that law which commands us to visit the sick, relieve the distressed, bury the dead, and educate the orphan."

The Grand Marshal now announced to the Grand Sire that proclamation had gone forth to the four quarters of the globe that all men might hear and know that Odd Fellowship had here a dwelling place. The Grand Chaplain then invoked the blessing of the Almighty on the work in which the assembly had engaged, and on the Order to the purposes of which the hall had been consecrated.

The Grand Sire then, addressing the members, expressed the hope that the solemn ceremonies of the occasion might not be lost upon the hearts of all present. In setting apart that hall for its noble purposes they had renewed their vows to practice conscientiously the lessons of the Order. Let them never forget the imperative commands of their laws, or that in addition to the good works of charity therein enjoined Odd Fellowship had high and important lessons to inculcate, lessons that if attentively listened to and practised by all, would elevate the character of men and hasten the coming of the promised day of universal peace and love. Addressing the members of the lodge present he delivered again into the hands of the Noble Grand the keys of the hall with the prayer that these walls would never echo with the sound of an angry or unkind word, and that all the influences flowing thence would be good and for good. Mr. O. Keil then played an organ solo.

The Grand Sire delivered an oration of which the following is the substance:—The question "Odd Fellowship—what is it?" has doubtless presented itself to many who know nothing of Odd Fellowship, except perchance from common report, or the vague suggestions of a morbid prejudice; hence it is often condemned as an idle organization, characterized, as its name would seem to import, rather by levity than by fidelity to the noble object at which it professes so earnestly and exclusively to aim. To correct so common an error, to remove such unjust prejudices, and to secure for Odd Fellowship the approving sentiment it so well deserves, are the objects of this brief paper. In the confidence of conscious merit, it courts a scrutiny into its principles and practices, with the assurance that an enlightened public opinion will render an impartial judgment on the standard of excellence which pervades the one, and the practical benefits that flow from the other. The name often confuses and perplexes intelligent and liberal minded people. Why, it is asked, assume a designation so singular, if the object be excellent, and such as all good men would commend? The candid inquiry should be, what is the object, what the fruit of the tree claimed to be prolific of good? If the suggestion should be made why Free Masonry is so called, practical masonry forming at this day no part of its work, the reply would doubtless be, that, although such is the fact, it is does not follow that the name is idle or inappropriate, since there may be a fitness in its application of an entirely independent character. The name Free Masonry may, and actually does import, associations significant of and inseparable from the origin of the Order. Having had its beginning centuries ago with the artisans of the masonic craft, for their mutual protection and recognition and the advancement of their noble art, the history of its early struggles to maintain its universality and a thousand other hallowed memories connected with its progress amid the fall of empires and the conflicts of nations, have justly inspired a veneration for its name, notwithstanding that its practical apposition may have ceased to exist. Its name is affectionately cherished by its votaries, because it has lived and moved, and had a prolonged and useful being through the vast past; still lives in the teeming and novel present and gives promise that it will survive through the distant and pregnant future. So with Odd Fellowship; it also had its origin with the sons of toil, and of the same craft, viz., the marble masons of London, at the close of the last century. A wise providence led men, whose daily bread depended upon their daily toil, by association to form a common fund, and thus secure in health the means of support when prostrated by disease. In its experimental outset, like Free Masonry, it encountered a corresponding ordeal; it had no prestige to smooth its uneven and obstructed pathway; reliant only upon its intrinsic worth, it also has survived obloquy and prejudice for more than half a century, and has lived to attain its present meridian height. Can it excite wonder that these memories, which cluster around the name of Odd Fellow, should secure for it a love and veneration that overcome and subdue the merely fastidious taste which would discord or shun it? No one can affirm that this name, though the cause of much prejudice, has not been, in a proportionate degree, an element of success. Concealed in humility it has achieved and become identified with an honourable distinction. Its good deeds have made it familiar to the public ear, and the popular mind. Where then, is the wisdom or the propriety of changing it? Such a change would not now be possible. It

cannot be made. The idea of Odd Fellowship at the beginning, instinctive of a wise providence, was, as has been already stated, mutual relief and protection. It was, it is true, a crudely digested system, if system it could be called. This idea, embodied into substantial form, and disciplined by experience and observation, continues to be a vital, although by no means the predominant element of its organization. It assumes, also, as a cardinal office, an earnest and unintermitting care for the moral health of its membership. Man has a moral as well as a physical nature, and the wants of each being reciprocal, they keep equal pace and move in parallel lines. In truth, there is no appetite of the human body more craving and inexorable, than is the insatiable hunger of the human heart for moral support. Infirmity of body, as well as of mind, is common to humanity; and there exists necessarily, as inseparable from this condition, a corresponding natural desire for sympathy. To supply this ever-recurring want, Odd Fellowship addresses itself, by a combination of efforts, in aid of the moral as well as of the physical man. These two aims, happily blended, comprehend its lever power against penury and vice, by which it labours to mitigate as well "the ills to which all flesh is heir," as to elevate, and ennoble our nature. Odd Fellowship is not a secret society. By far the larger portion of its ritual, or work, is in print, and is known to thousands and hundreds of thousands; all of its general legislation, comprising volumes of matter, is accessible to the public eye, and much of its ceremonial is constantly displayed to the public gaze. True, it possesses an unwritten and unspoken language, intelligible only to the membership. This language is, however, unimportant to the outside world, since it serves simply the purpose of mutual recognition between those to whom it is known. The members of the family have exclusive claims upon the supply which their joint labours and contributions have stored; hence it is fitting that safeguards should be thrown around these claims—how otherwise could a mutual relief society, in the secular sense of the word, be sustained? This is all the secrecy of Odd Fellowship. All objects, the successful attainment of which is hoped for by combination of masses of men, and the consolidation of many minds into a single will, demand a subordination which can only be maintained by a system of law and order. Odd Fellowship, in conformity to this experience, has an organization peculiar to itself. It has a paramount fundamental law, embodied in the form of a written Constitution, emanating from a supreme federal head, styled the Sovereign Grand Lodge. The Subordinate Lodge is the active working theatre of the Order, and membership in good standing in any one Lodge, evidenced by proper authority, is a passport to admission into any other Lodge, wherever situated, and to aid and assistance from it when the brother who desires the one, or needs the other, makes known his character. This system of government has proved so admirably adapted to the great object of the institution that perfect fellowship and subordination have prevailed ever since its formation; each Body adhering to its appropriate sphere, and moving in perfect harmony as a whole. Odd Fellowship is a moral, not a religious organization. The religious world is divided into many sects, each intent upon the promotion of its peculiar plans and interests, and in consequence wanting in that unity of action so essential in every secular institution to the securing of those great results which illustrate the triumph of benevolence and charity. This want is, in a good degree, met by the employment of an agency not amenable to such a disability, and in which men of many sects and creeds may cordially co-operate and labour, upon common ground, for the relief of human suffering. Such an institution is Odd Fellowship. It does not array itself against the Church, nor presume to arrogate its functions, or to supervise its teachings. Its Lodges are not the council rooms of enmity to religious, civil, moral, or social organizations. Far otherwise: all its oracles and instructions in relation to these grave subjects find their warrant and authority in the divine law, under the inspiration of which it preaches the Golden Rule as the sublimest illustration of the law of love. A Subordinate Lodge is the elementary organization of the Order, and, as has already been said, is the active field of its labours. It is there that the initiate receives his first impressions of Odd Fellowship. There the broad foundation upon which the whole superstructure rests is laid bare to him, and the brotherhood of man is taught as the inspiration of Deity and the first law of nature. The lessons and instructions there rehearsed within his hearing, will create in him new impressions, if he be not wholly callous and insensible to the voice of humanity and to the counsels of wisdom. The business of a Subordinate

Lodge is, however, chiefly administrative; its peculiar office is to provide the means to meet the claims of its sick and distressed members; to care for them properly during their illness; to bury the dead; to succour the widow, and to educate the orphan. In the faithful discharge of these duties it is ever watchful that no imposition is practiced by unworthy members, and that exact obedience is yielded to the laws. It is also sedulous in requiring and enforcing a high-toned morality and an upright walk in life. Every Lodge enacts its own by-laws, which regulate the mutual obligation between it and its membership, and possesses exclusive control over its own funds within their legitimate application. The by-laws of a Lodge may be regarded as a contract between the initiate and the Lodge; they define generally the reciprocal duties and obligations of each; they prescribe the amount of the contribution levied upon each member to the common fund, and the amount of his claim upon it when sick or disabled. These By-Laws also provide the amount to be paid in case of the death of a member in good standing as a funeral benefit. This benefit is by no means uniform; each Lodge for itself prescribes the amount payable, subject not unfrequently to the State general law, which fixes a minimum rate. This benefit ranges from thirty dollars to five hundred or more; some Lodges impose a special tax upon each member of twenty-five or fifty cents, or one dollar, as a funeral benefit; in which case, when the membership is large, as it usually is in cities, the benefit is correspondingly liberal. This fund is paid to the widow, if any, if not, to the nearest of kin of the deceased. The education of orphaned children is also enjoined, and is faithfully carried out. Although the by-laws form a contract between the Lodge and its members, the parties are also in their relations to all the laws of the Order; and, in the construction and enforcement of this contract, each must conform to all the duties and injunctions prescribed by the laws at large; each must seek redress for grievance before the appointed tribunals of the Order, according to the forms prescribed, and these must be exhausted before the courts will intervene, if at all, and should jurisdiction be entertained of such grievances by the courts, it is believed it would only be exercised to constrain the tribunals of the Order to a faithful administration of its laws. The general qualification for membership is prescribed in the following words: "No person shall be entitled to admission to the Order except free white males of good moral character, who have arrived at the age of twenty-one years, and who believe in a Supreme Being, the creator and preserver of the universe." To this general qualification there is one special and important addition, viz., health of body and mind. The propriety and absolute necessity of such a provision will be apparent to every considerate mind, as a preventive of the great inequality and injustice which would otherwise result in the distribution of benefits. Every applicant for membership must therefore candidly disclose his sanitary condition, for if concealment should be practiced, it will not only vitiate the contract between him and the Lodge, but, what is more serious and important to the initiate, it will subject him to arraignment, trial, and expulsion, and consequent disgrace. Fidelity on the part of the membership, not only to the laws and obligations of the Order, but to the laws of God, to the laws of the land, and to all the duties of citizenship, is strictly enjoined; good faith toward each other, and fair dealing with their fellowmen, are firmly yet fraternally enforced, and love for truth and honour, as cardinal virtues, is earnestly commended. Mr. Thorn, in conclusion, recited a poem appropriate to the occasion.

The audience then joined in singing the doxology, the Grand Chaplain pronounced the benediction, and the ceremony of dedication was thus brought to a close.

From the foregoing it will be seen that the ceremony was a deeply impressive one. The hall was not decorated in any respect, save that above the dais there was displayed a group of emblematic designs, surmounted by a triple linked chain of flowers. The strikingly beautiful proportions of the fine hall in which the ceremony took place, however, its really graceful accessories, and the splendid light diffused from the electric lamps, combined with the many hued dresses of the ladies and the richly decorated collars of the officers of the ceremony to render the scene a very striking one. The most prominent figures were, of course, the Marshal and Heralds whose fine costumes, the designs of which are from the pencil of Mr. Edward Barclay of Paris (who, being in Japan, most courteously lent his aid to the Committee) served to distinguish them from all others. Nor was the ceremony deprived of the aid that music could lend to such an occasion, for the various odes and incidental accompaniments were well given by Mr. Keil.

After the ceremony the hall was cleared and dancing was commenced to the strains of the Tokyo City Band, and kept up for several hours, a capital supper being provided by the Club Hotel.

The following was the dance programme:—

1.—VALSE	.....MY QUEEN.
2.—VALSE	.....DAWN-DAWN.
3.—QUADRILLE	.....LA MASCOITE.
4.—SCOTTISH	.....SUMMIT DANCE.
5.—VALSE	.....OSKAR.
6.—VALSE	.....THE FIRST KISS.
7.—LANCERS	.....FOGGIA.
8.—VALSE	.....NELLA BOCCA.
9.—POLKA	.....SOUND FROM THE NORTH.
10.—VALSE	.....LA MESSAGIERA.
11.—VALSE	.....WHITE ROSE.
12.—GALOP	.....TARIT.

LOSS OF THE "LIZZIE C. TROOP"

NARRATIVE OF A SURVIVOR.

As we briefly reported on Saturday, says the *Hyogo News* of the 20th inst., the survivors of the British ship *Lizzie C. Troop*, a wooden vessel of 1,391 tons, register, of St. John's, New Brunswick, and built 16 years ago, arrived here from Kumamoto per N.Y.K. steamer *Mutsu Maru*.

Among them is Mr. J. R. Troop, the chief mate, and to him we are indebted for the following particulars of the disaster. He said:—We left Nagasaki on September 15th with 600 tons of stone and dirt ballast on board for Puget Sound. We soon found wind, and at ten o'clock on the night of the 16th it increased to typhoon force; we were, in fact, in the typhoon which we have since heard wrecked the *Ertongroun* and other vessels. For 36 hours the wind shrieked and roared such as I have never heard before, and our lower topsail soon went. We kept all our spars intact, however, but the copper and sheathing began to wash off the ship outside. From that time on to Sunday, noon (21st), it blew a gale continuously, when it again increased, and by the afternoon we were in another typhoon. We had set all our strong, heavy sails, and for seven hours we had managed to keep her off the shore, but with the increased fury of the storm they were blown to pieces. The wind, which was blowing round all the time, blew first from the N.E. to E., then to S.E. and S.S.E. to S., from which quarter it never changed. On the morning of the 22nd ult. at about 9.20 we sighted the tops of hills; we could just see them sufficiently, that is to say, to distinguish there was something there besides sky. We struck almost at once, and after three bumps we were in pieces. The main and fore masts were of iron, and the former broke in the middle. When she had driven close in we saw it was all up with us, and everyone went aft. The Captain was with his wife and their baby, which was only two years and a half old. The second mate sung out, "You will have to swim for it, men." He and some of the crew then went down a rope over the stern and tried to swim for the shore, the first time she struck. He was never seen again. The cook and another man went down on the inshore side, got into the mizen rigging, and were lost. The others who tried to get ashore went, I think, to the off shore side, and went down between the vessel and the rocks and were ground to pieces. I got on the top of a little hatch to be clear of the crowd, but was washed from there, and my arm was caught between the planks of the deck as they opened and closed. I thought I was fixed, and the agony was awful, but the succeeding sea released me and I got clear. I reached some wreckage by the mizen rigging, and as it turned over I jumped for the water and reached the shore. We were in a little bay, with coal reefs on either side of us and a coal bottom. The ship was only about fifteen feet from us, so completely had she been blown on shore aided by the high tide; and I, with two or three other men, pulled the Captain's wife off some wreckage and got her ashore and also the Captain. Both had been jammed. The Captain's wife had had her dress caught in some of the wire rigging, as it appeared, and she had to tear it away. She was terribly hurt and bruised, and received a bad knock on the face. I had last seen the Captain on the top of a deck-house; he then seemed to have his foot jammed. The carpenter was jammed alongside him, his legs being fixed, but a heavy sea loosened both of them. The Japanese were as kind as possible, and we removed the Captain to a little house on the beach and stayed by him until he died half an hour later from his wounds. What became of the child I don't know. The Captain seemed to have all his ribs broken, he had lost an ear, and had an awful gash in his head. We dug a grave for him next morning, assisted by the Japanese, who made him a coffin, and having

held an inquest on him and obtained a certificate from the Japanese of his death, I buried him. I took these measures as he was injured. We then moved up to the village about two or three miles off, where the Japanese gave us hot food and drink and clothes. Those who were saved were in very bad straits. Our feet had been cut so by the coral that it was only ten days ago that I for one was able to walk. We saved nothing but the ship's articles. She broke into kindling-wood. We were on the island 17 days weather bound. We had to make a port 100 miles to the south in a small junk in order to get a steamer, but twice the wind failed us and we had to return. A policeman accompanied us up here, but a cabin-boy whom we had shipped in Nagasaki in place of the Manila-man who tried to poison us there, acted as our chief interpreter.

The following is the list of those who perished:—B. G. Fownes, Captain; Geo. Robinson, 2nd mate, aged 30, native of Wilmington, Delaware; Geo. Kuller, 55, Hamburg, A.B.; J. Patton, 20, England, A.B.; H. Taro, 22, Kagoshima, cook; M. Matsan, 22, Finland, A.B.; C. Smith, 25, Halifax, A.B.; C. Tidman, 21, Russian, A.B.; S. Hofallah, 28, Manila, A.B.; Pedro Beres, 28, Manila, A.B.; Laurence Power, 24, Liverpool, A.B.; and 2 Japanese.

The seamen have been placed at the Seamen's Home; the chief mate has found other quarters, while other accommodation has been provided for Mrs. Fownes. The chief mate is the most badly injured of the survivors. His teeth were driven through his lower lip, his nose broken, and the fingers of his right hand driven into the hand.

NAVAL COURT OF INQUIRY.

A Naval Court of Inquiry was held at H.B.M.'s Consulate yesterday morning (22nd) into the loss of the British ship *Lizzie C. Troop*, Captain B. G. Fownes, off Yerabu, one of the Loochoo group, on the morning of the 22nd, under circumstances which will be fresh in the minds of the public.

The Court was composed of Mr. Longford (H.B.M.'s Acting Consul), President; with Captains J. D. Haswell (British ship *Champion*), and D. Leary (British ship *Honolulu*), as Nautical Assessors.

John Rawlins Troop was the first witness called. He said:—I was first mate of the *Lizzie C. Troop*. I have a Master's Certificate, but I lost it with the ship. The latter was a wooden vessel, ship-rigged, of 1,361 tons. She was strong and sound, with masts, sails, rigging, and four boats all in good order; she was well found in all requisites. Benjamin George Fownes was her Captain; he had been a Master, I think, 17 years. I had been in the ship with him 14 months. The Second Mate had no certificate. We carried a crew of 20 hands all told. We left Nagasaki Sept. 15th with the above crew and the Captain's wife and child. The weather was fine with no threatening appearances. I can't say at what time we passed the outer lighthouse. On getting clear of the harbour we steered to the south, but I cannot give the exact course. We wanted to get clear of the islands. Captain Fownes intended to come out through Van Dieman's Straits and then keep the coast closely up to Yokohama. We were bound for Puget Sound in ballast of 600 tons of stone and dirt. At noon on the 16th our position was 30° 10' N., 140° 30' E. We had had fine weather up to then, with strong N.N.E. winds and clear weather. At 10 p.m. the wind gradually increased to a strong gale, and we put the ship under lower fore and main-topsails. At 11 p.m. we stowed the fore-topsail, which split as we took it in. At midnight set in a typhoon with barometer slowly falling all the time. Main-topsail blew to pieces soon after midnight, ship's position then being 29° 25' N., 130° 10' E. dead reckoning. Ship then lay under bare poles for 18 hours. From when the typhoon first took it revolved left-handed, viz., against the sun round the compass, in 20 hours, from N.N.E. back to N.E., and barometer fell to 28.05. On 19th we bent new lower fore and main-topsails in the afternoon. At 7 p.m. set gossamer of main-topsail. We were on port tack all these days, with the yards checked in a little. From 19th up to Sunday noon 21st the wind was still blowing strong gale from N.E. Judged ship's position by count 27° 30' N., 130° E., wind on 21st going back and forth from E.N.E. to N.E. On Sunday noon after dinner set lower fore and main-topsails, reefed spanker, maintopmast staysail, and fore-topmast staysail, checked in the yards, and ran the ship S. by W. for 28 miles about, judging that she made S.W. by S. course, true. This took us up to 8 p.m., then the wind was from the E. It then set in a typhoon again, blew away fore-topmast staysail, split main-topmast staysail, blew away

lower fore-topmast, and we took in the spanker. At 10 p.m. the main-topsail blew away, and the wind gradually went round from E.S.E. to S.E., S.S.E., S., remained there a little while and then went back to S.E., where it remained until 6.20 a.m. on the 22nd; barometer showing a little below 29.06. At 6.20 we sighted the land close under our lee, although we had previously supposed we must be quite 16 miles to the eastward of the land. On sighting the land we cut the foresail adrift, put the helm up and tried to wear. The ship, however, was too close; she fell off a little and then struck, and in five minutes was in pieces. We had struck on the island of Yerabu, one of the Loochoos. Captain Fownes had been on deck since Sunday noon. We had had everyone standing by since that time; no one went below. A look-out had been kept all the time, but we could not see a quarter of the length of the ship through rain and sea. Last true position we had was at noon of the 16th. We had lost nothing but our sails. The vessel was gone in a minute from the striking, and it was each man for himself. When we struck the Captain said, "We are all gone," and his wife, who had come up with the baby in her arms, said, "Well, am I to die alone?" and the Captain said, "No, I will come with you," and he joined her in the companion way and took the baby. She had been on deck before, but had to go below as she could not hold on against the wind. No orders were given when she struck; it was every man for himself, but the Second Mate sung out, I believe, "Jump and swim." He and some others went over the stern and were drowned. I was knocked down and got jammed in the deck, with the carpenter in the same position three feet from me. When I got loose I jumped on a pile of wreckage, thence into the surf, and so ashore. The ship was only about 15 feet from the shore, against a ledge of rocks against which she had come broadside on. The third time she struck she was beaten into pieces, and the masts came down in a heap. I next saw Mrs. Fownes on some wreckage and the Captain on a deckhouse. Mrs. Fownes's dress had previously been caught and she was tearing it away. I and another man hauled her off some wreckage on to a ledge of rock about 6 feet out of the water. I don't know who got the Captain ashore. The carpenter, who was a very old man, lived five days and then died. The Captain was insensible when brought ashore and never came to. The carpenter, I think, must have died from the shock, as he died between dinner and supper time in his sleep. I never saw the child or knew what became of it. Mrs. Fownes told me the Captain had taken it. I have been at sea 21 years, and in my opinion nothing could possibly have been done to save more life. Life-buoys were no good; I had one, but I threw it away. It was still blowing a typhoon when we struck, and in a case like that it was each man for himself. The people on shore must have seen us before we sighted the land, or struck, as there were quite a hundred of them on the beach when we got ashore. One of them carried me up to a house, another carried Mrs. Fownes. The stones were like knives, we could not walk on them. We slipped at this place until the Captain died, and then went to a village about three or four miles off, where the Governor lived. We were windbound on the island 17 days, during which time the best the people had was given to us. It continued blowing hard for 15 days, and on the 4th inst. another typhoon came and broke up or disabled every junk in harbour with the exception of the one we crossed in, and that took us two days to get ready for sea. We then crossed to Nahu, 100 miles away, and were 30 hours doing it. Counting the native crew, there were 18 of us on board the junk. We waited there for two days and then got a steamer up here *via* Kagoshima. All the time and everywhere we were treated to the best. Beyond a few slops the only thing we saved were the articles which we found ten days afterwards on the beach. All through the bad weather the crew behaved well and obeyed all orders, and I have no fault to find with them. They all did their best down to the very last. The Second Mate, the cook (Japanese), and seven foreign seamen were drowned, and the Captain and carpenter died on shore. We only found one body, and that was five or six days afterwards. We never found the baby.

This concluded witness's evidence.

The Court had no questions to ask.

Gilbert Gilbertsen, called, said he had been an A.B. on board the vessel for more than two years. He could not add anything to what the mate had said. It was correct in every particular. The wind was blowing so heavily that it was impossible to move along the decks. He saw Mrs. Fownes on the poop tearing off her dress. He said to two of the men, Charles Bigging and Henri Johannsen,

"Let's save the Missis." The other two did so, at considerable danger to themselves from the wreckage and the mountainous sea. He himself was thrown back on the shore.

Charles Bigging, called, said he was in the companion way with Mrs. Fownes and the baby. Just before they struck he said to her, "What do you think we are going to do?" and she replied, "Going to die." She then went down into the cabin, and the next thing he heard was a scream from her as the vessel struck. The second time the vessel struck it split amidships and the third time it split all along, and four men who were alongside witness fell right down into it and the wreck closed over them. When Johannsen and he were coming back the second time with the Missis they were nearly all drowned, as Johannsen, who had hold of Mrs. Fownes, was being swept to sea again and caught hold of witness by the ankle, crying out, "Charlie, mate, give us a hand." Witness replied, "All right, mate, hold on to me." Witness had a hook and managed to get them to shore. Johannsen would not let go of Mrs. Fownes at any price, but would have been drowned had he not got hold of witness's leg in time. Johannsen went afterwards to help the Captain, who was brought ashore in an unconscious condition. He was quite broken up; his legs were broken, as were his ribs, his left ear was torn off, he had a hole in his temple the size of half-a-crown. The carpenter must have been injured internally.

This concluded the evidence, and the Court adjourned.

On reassembling the President delivered the judgment of the Court, which contained a recital of the circumstances of the wreck and the following finding:—

That the vessel when leaving Nagasaki was staunch, sufficiently manned, and in every respect well found and fit for her proposed voyage.

That the Master navigated his vessel in a seamanlike and proper manner, and that throughout the series of heavy gales which were experienced from the evening of the 16th September until the final casualty everything that could be done by an able and experienced seaman was done by him.

That proper discipline was maintained on board the ship to the last; that the officers and crew conducted themselves properly, and that all used their utmost exertions in the working of the ship throughout the whole of this period.

That the casualty and loss of life which unhappily accompanied it were both unavoidable, and that no blame in respect to either can be attributed to any one on board.

The Court recommends that a new copy of the Master's Certificate held by the first mate, and lost at the wreck, be issued to him forthwith.

The Court desires to direct the attention of the Board of Trade to the assistance rendered and great kindness shown to the survivors of the shipwrecked crew by all the Japanese with whom they were brought into contact prior to their arrival in Hyogo, and especially by the natives of the island on which the wreck occurred, at a time when these natives were themselves suffering severely by losses from the storms.

The Court further desires to direct the attention of the Board of Trade to the highly courageous conduct of the two seamen Charles Bigging and Henri Johannsen in returning to the wreck and saving the life of the Master's wife at imminent risk to themselves; and still further to the conduct of Henri Johannsen in returning a second time to the assistance of the Captain and aiding in bringing him ashore when seriously injured and in a state of unconsciousness.

(Signed) J. H. LONGFORD, President.
J. D. HASWELL, } Nautical
D. LEARY, } Assessors.

Hyogo, October 22nd, 1896.—*Hyogo News*.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, October 16th.

In the Portuguese Chamber the Premier stated that the Government was unable to recommend the adoption of the African Convention, but was willing to accept it with amendments.

London, October 17th.

The Russian Ministry of Commerce proposes to establish direct trade with Colombo, and introduce Ceylon tea to Russia.

London, October 20th.

Lord Dufferin will resume negotiations in regard to the African boundaries shortly.

London, October 21st.

England has recognised the new Government of Brazil, and has saluted the flag of the Republic. Sir Richard Burton is dead.

London, October 22nd.

The shipping confederation has threatened to lay up all the vessels in the United Kingdom until the situation resulting from the strikes has improved.

[Burton, Sir Richard Francis, son of Lieutenant-Colonel Joseph Rutherford Burton, of Tunst, Salway, was born in 1831. He began life at Oxford, and was destined for the Church, but he yearned so much after military service that his father procured him a commission in the 1st Buffs, and sent him out to India in 1854 at the end of the Afghan War. He was nineteen years in the Bombay Army, eight years in active service, chiefly on the staff of Sir Charles Napier. While in India he became a distinguished linguist, and passed examinations in eight Oriental languages. He made an expedition to Mecca and Medina in 1853. He next explored Harat in Northern Afghanistan, and went to Somali Land, in East Africa. He commanded the expedition, taking with him the gallant Speke and Lieutenant Hume and Strogon. The explorers were attacked in the night by the natives. All fought their way bravely through the enemy. Captain Burton and Captain Speke were both desperately wounded. In the Crimea he was chief of the staff to General Beaumont, and he was the principal organiser of the irregular cavalry. Lord Palmerston was going to send Captain Burton to raise a large body of Kurdish horse, when peace was proclaimed. In 1860 he set out on his great journey to the interior of central Africa, and discovered Tanganyika. The expedition was absent three years. In 1863 Burton went to the United States, visited California and Salt Lake City, and travelled during that expedition 25,000 miles. In 1867, when the Indian Army changed hands, his military career terminated. The same year Earl Russell sent him to Fernando Po on the West Coast of Africa. The height of Bioko, 600 miles in extent, was his jurisdiction, and he spent three years in exploring. Then he was sent on a dangerous mission—a three months' mission to the King of Bahr-el-Atab, with presents, to induce King Gelle to abolish his "customs." Captain Burton was then transferred to Sao Paulo (Brazil), where he was active and useful for four years, both on the coast and in the interior. He then explored his own province, which is larger than France, the cold and diamond mines of Minas Geraes, crossed the great river San Francisco, 1,600 miles, visited the Argentine Republic, the Rivers La Plata and Paraguay, for the purpose of reporting to the Foreign Office the state of the Paraguayan War. He crossed the Pamper and the Andes to Chile and Peru, and visited all the Pacific Coast. Returning by the Straits of Magellan, Buenos Ayres, and Rio de Janeiro, he found himself appointed to Danangus. While holding that position he explored various parts of Siam. In 1871 the consulate of Danangus was reduced to a vice-consulate, and Captain Burton was ordered to resign. He set out for Ireland, and thoroughly studied, and explored it, returning the same year in had himself posted at Trieste. In 1870 Captain Burton visited Mecca, and wrote an account of his travels in that country. At the close of the year 1877 he started again for Mecca, purposing to traverse a new exploration on and partial exploration of the river which he discovered there. The second expedition left Suez, Dec. 10th, 1877, and returned there on April 16th, 1878, bringing home a large collection of geological specimens, &c., besides maps and plans. In 1879 Captain Burton and Commander V. L. Cameron undertook a journey of exploration in the country lying at the back of the Gold Coast Colony. Captain Burton has written some thirty volumes, which describe his travels. Among them are: "The Lake Regions of Central Africa," "A Narrative of an Expedition to the Cameroons, Abundant," 1881; "A Narrative of a Mission to the King of Dahomey," 1881; "Vikram and the Vampire, or Tales of Hindu Devilry," 1880; "Zanzibar, City, Island, and Coast," 2 vols., 1882; "Two Trips to Uganda Land and Cataracts of the Congo," 2 vols., 1885; "Uganda Land, or a Summer in Uganda," 2 vols., 1885; "Ethiopia and the Nile," 2 vols., 1885; "The Gold Mines of Abyssinia and the Ruined Middle Ages. A Fortnight's Tour in North Western Arabia," 1885; a translation of "Cameroons' Land," 1884; "Cameroons' Life and its Land," a commentary, 2 vols., 1884; "To the Gold Coast for Gold, a Personal Narrative," conjointly with Commander Verney Lovett Cameron, 1884. His latest work is a rendering of the Arabian Nights. Captain Burton has received the gold medals of the French and English Geographical Societies.—Men of the Time.]

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki, Kobe, &c.	per N. Y. K.	Friday, Oct. 31st.
From America, &c.	per P. & O. Co.	Tuesday, Oct. 28th.*
From Canada, &c.	per C. P. M. Co.	Monday, Oct. 27th.†
From Hongkong, &c.	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 26th.‡
From America, &c.	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Nov. 8th.‡
From Europe via Hongkong, &c.	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, Nov. 1st.§

* China left San Francisco via Honolulu on October 9th. † Russia left Vancouver on October 10th. ‡ America (with English mail) left Nagasaki on October 22nd. § Europe left San Francisco on October 21st. † Oahu (with French mail) left Hongkong on October 23rd.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, via Shanghai, &c.	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 26th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki, &c.	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, Oct. 28th.
For Hongkong, &c.	per P. & O. Co.	Friday, Oct. 31st.
For America, &c.	per P. M. Co.	Wednesday, Nov. 5th.
For America, &c.	per O. & O. Co.	Wednesday, Nov. 12th.
For Europe, via Hongkong, &c.	per N. D. L. Co.	Wednesday, Nov. 12th.

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

STEAMERS LEAVE THE NIPPON HATOONA daily at 8.30 a.m., and 12.30 and 3.30 p.m.; and LEAVE YOKOSUKA at 8.30 a.m., and 12.30 and 3.30 p.m.—Fare, 50¢.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Cardiganshire, British steamer, 1,657, Dowling, 18th October.—Kobe 16th October, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.
Natal, French steamer, 4,038, Breitel, 18th October.—Hongkong 9th, Shanghai 13th, and Kobe 17th October, General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.
Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, W. G. Pearne, 19th October.—San Francisco 1st October, General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.
Aglaia, German steamer, 1,668, Christiansen, 20th October.—Kobe 19th October, General.—Siman, Evers & Co.
Ching-wo, British steamer, 1,556, Stanton, 20th October.—Kobe 18th October, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.
Sophie Rickmers, German steamer, 2,093, Gennedich, 20th October.—Batoum 2nd September, Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Ayame, steam hopper dredger, Captain Adolph Kuhn, 21st October.—Rensfrew.—Captain.
Sussex, British steamer, 1,019, F. H. Hult, 22nd October.—Vancouver, B.C., 27th September, General.—C. P. M. S. S. Co.
Parthia, British steamer, 2,035, J. Pantou, 23rd October.—Hongkong 12th, Amoy 15th, Shanghai 18th, and Kobe 22nd October, General.—C. P. M. S. S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Oceanic, British steamer, 3,107, W. M. Smith, 17th October.—San Francisco, General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.
Plover (6), gunboat, Captain Ernest G. Rason, 18th October.—Kobe.
Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, G. W. Pearne, 21st October.—Hongkong, General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.
Benvenue, British steamer, 1,500, Thompson, 22nd October.—Kobe, General.—Comes & Co.
Seyern (12), cruiser, Captain W. H. Hall, 23rd October.—Nagasaki.
Villars (15), French cruiser, Commander J. C. H. Mayet, 23rd October.—Hongkong.
Cardiganshire, British steamer, 1,657, Dowling, 24th October.—Kobe, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.
Ching-wo, British steamer, 1,556, Stanton, 24th October.—Kobe, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per French steamer *Natal*, from Hongkong via ports:—Messrs. A. Cocq Port (Consul-General), Sugito Taro, Koraiyama, S. Uyeno, Koto Yasuhisa, T. Shimoda, Kondo, Marao Hirai, Mrs. Jaquesson and family, Messrs. O. Newland, H. Whistler, E. S. Wheeler, Parkerham, child, and infant, Mr. L. and Mrs. Ward, Mr. Kondo, and Mr. Hashimoto in cabin.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from San Francisco:—Mr. R. le Gros, Mr. Paul Oberlander, Mr. S. Kabayama, Miss Clara Louise Brown, Rev. C. M. Severance, Rev. S. S. White, Mr. C. G. Buchanan Dunlap, Mrs. Dunlap, Mr. Frederick Retz, Major and Mrs. Darwin, Mr. Tong Sing Kou, Miss Ida Goeppe, Miss Liza Lovell, Mr. J. P. S. Lawrence, Mr. Y. Hoshikawa, Dr. J. H. de Forest, Miss Caroline M. Telford, Miss Elizabeth Torrey, Rev. Arthur T. and Mrs. Hill, Rev. Wm. L. and Mrs. Curtis, Mr. C. W. and Mrs. Watson, and Mr. J. J. and Mrs. Booty in cabin. For Hongkong: Mr. C. Vivian Ladds, Mr. Pang Yee Ting, Mrs. Ting, Mr. and Mrs. Ly Haung, 3 children, and servant, Mr. Shelton Hooper, Mrs. C. E. Taylor, Mr. J. H. and Mrs. Bray, Miss Lung Ying, and Miss Alice Dryden in cabin. For Shanghai: Mr. H. Munster Schultz, Rev. K. P. and Mrs. Wallen, and Rev. Peter Matson in cabin. For Bangkok: Miss N. Lane in cabin.

Per British steamer *Parthia*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Hammond, R.A., Mrs. Smith, and Mr. Heong and servant in cabin; 5 Chinese in second class, and 64 Chinese in steerage. For Vancouver, B.C.: Messrs. Gracey and Simpson in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. C. Woodman, Mrs. M. E. Cook, Mrs. Clutterbuck, Mrs. C. S. Judson, Major Hutchinson, Dr. W. H. H. King, Dr. Watson, Lieutenant A. H. Anson, Colonel E. R. Warner, Rev. G. W. Greenwood, Messrs. B. H. Pearson, Isaac Cook, J. Greenwood, A. C. Mason, C. S. Reeves, Carroll Watson, Bally, F. Von Rhein, Hans Lucke, G. L. Barton, Wong Poy Chuen, Loo Ching, Ong Ye Lum, Master H. Wauchope, and Master W. Wauchope in cabin.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, for San Francisco:—Mr. and Mrs. Heath, Mr. Dean, Dr. Van, Dr. Remie, Mr. A. J. H. Carill, Mr. R. S. and Mrs. Ogle, Mr. de Menon, Mr. Salomon, Baron von Baiveren, Mr. and Mrs. Allan, Mr. Suteri Chuidu, Mr. F. P. Delafield, Mr. C. B. Bernard, Mr. and Mrs. R. Arai and infant, Messrs. W. Ritchie, A. C. Edwards, Argenti, Paliver, and Miss E. Hubon in cabin.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Wotton, Mrs. Vogel, Mr. Leon Lebarbier, Miss Maud Jackson and native servant, Mrs. L. Jeffries, Lieutenant Vignolles, and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lincoln and child in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Silk for France 20 bales.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, for San Francisco:—

	SHANGHAI	YOKOHAMA	OTHER	TOTAL
Shanghai	913	217	706	1,836
Yokohama	313	1,494	—	1,807
Hyogo	100	1,358	1,359	3,057
Yokohama	816	303	2,438	3,557
Hongkong	561	20	—	581
Amoy	180	6,499	3,412	9,781
Nagasaki	—	—	441	441
Total	2,903	10,101	8,076	21,080

	SHANGHAI	YOKOHAMA	OTHER	TOTAL
Shanghai	10	266	—	276
Hongkong	—	130	—	130
Yokohama	—	323	—	323
Kobe	—	21	—	21
Total	10	742	—	752

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Gaelic*, Captain Pearne, reports:—Left San Francisco the 1st October at 2.47 p.m.; had westerly winds and head sea to the 5th; northerly winds and fine weather to the 8th; variable winds and smooth sea to the 15th; thence to port moderate to strong westerly gales and head sea. Arrived Yokohama the 19th October at 3.13 p.m.

The steam hopper dredger *Ayame*, Captain Kuhn, reports:—On the 30th September in Lat. 15.30 N. and Long. 115.27 E., experienced heavy swell from the N.E. with falling barometer; wind from the N.N.W., increasing in violence from N.N.W. and westward; ship's position therefore according to Law of Storms on the left hand semicircle of the centre or vortex of a cyclone. At noon the 30th barometer 29.66 and falling; wind increasing; ran ship before the gale with the wind on the starboard quarter to escape the centre; at 8 p.m. wind veering a little more westward hauled her to an easterly course; at 4 a.m. the 1st October blowing a terrific gale ship behaving well considering her build; wind S.W.; hauled her up to N.E.; at 4 p.m. a sea broke over her stern and carried away small boat davits and bulwarks engine room ventilators, long-boat covers, and W.C.; started cabin skylight, and smashed some of the panes, filled cabin full of water which destroyed several charts and books; smashed patent taffrail log and strained the decks which caused much leakage in cabins and forecabin. Midnight between 1st and 2nd of October moderating; wind S.S.W.; steered N.E. for Formosa South point; barometer rising; lowest stand 29.36; 4 a.m. 2nd fine with a heavy swell from all quarters; 4 p.m. sighted the land of the Island of Luzon; heavy N.E. swell; 8 p.m. fell in with the N.E. monsoon blowing a moderate gale which continued until made the Japan coast; thence fresh N.E. and Northerly winds and fine weather to arrival at Yokohama at 7 p.m. the October 20th.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The Import Market continues depressed all round. There were indications of an inquiry for English Yarns, but at prices far below holders' ideas, which resulted in nothing. A few sales of Bombays have been made at slightly easier rates. Fancies are without demand. Sales for the week amount to 150 bales English Yarns and 275 bales Bombays.

COTTON PICK GOODS.

Grey Shirtings—84 in., 34 yds., 30 inches	1.35 to 1.90
Grey Shirtings—90 in., 38 yds., 35 inches	1.60 to 2.54
Grey Shirtings—90 in., 38 yds., 32 inches	1.15 to 1.47
Indigo Shirtings—12 yds., 41 inches	1.20 to 1.60
Prints—Associated, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.70 to 2.00
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	0.07 to 0.14

Turkey Reds—12 to 41lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.00 to 1.15
Turkey Reds—24 to 31b, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.20 to 1.40
Turkey Reds—31 to 41b, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.70 to 2.05
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	4.50 to 6.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42.3 inches	0.50 to 0.65
Taffeta-las, 12 yards, 43 inches	1.15 to 2.25

WOOLLENS.

Plain Orleans, 10 42 yards, 32 inches	24.00 to 3.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.24 to 28
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.20 to 24
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.16 to 20
Mousseline de laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.11 to 0.15
Cloths—Pilots, 51 to 56 inches	0.10 to 0.15
Cloths—Presidents, 51 to 56 inches	0.50 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.35 to 0.60
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 34 lb, per lb	0.30 to 0.38

COTTON YARNS.

No. 16/1, Ordinary	25.00 to 26.00
No. 16/1, Medium	26.00 to 27.00
No. 16/1, Good to Best	27.00 to 28.00
No. 16/1, Reverse	29.00 to 30.00
No. 28/12, Ordinary	27.25 to 28.50
No. 28/12, Medium	28.50 to 30.00
No. 28/12, Good to Best	30.25 to 31.50
No. 38/12, Medium to Best	34.00 to 36.00
No. 38/12, Two-fold	31.50 to 35.00
No. 428, Two-fold	15.50 to 30.00
No. 208, Bombay	70.00 to 78.00
No. 108, Bombay	72.00 to 78.00
No. 10/1, Bombay	—

METALS.

Some little doing at late rates, but the market is far from brisk. Prices ought to advance now that exchange is drooping.

Flat Bars, 1 inch	2.65 to 2.75
Flat Bars, 1 inch	2.75 to 2.85
Round and square up to 1 inch	2.65 to 2.85
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.
Nailrod, small size	Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	3.80 to 3.00
Sheet Iron	3.70 to 3.40
Galvanized iron sheets	5.80 to 6.00
Wire Nails, assorted	4.40 to 4.90
Fin Plates, per box	4.60 to 4.80
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.25 to 1.27

KEROSENE.

Nothing fresh to note in this market. Buyers appear to be filled up with recent purchases. Exchange is on the downward path, and holders expect to reap some benefit in prices ere long.

QUOTATIONS.

Chester	1.65 to 1.67
Comel	1.62 to 1.65
Devco	1.60 to 1.62
Russian	4.55 to 1.57

SUGAR.

Nothing doing in Sugar, and there is no immediate prospect of a demand.

White Refined	5.50 to 7.90
Manila	3.50 to 4.30
Taiwanfou	—
Pentains	2.75 to 3.00
Namida	2.80 to 3.00
Cake	3.10 to 3.80
Brown Takan	4.15 to 4.20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last was dated the 17th inst., since then we have seen considerable business in this market; settlements by foreigners being 629 piculs, divided thus:—Hanks, 126; Filatures, 348; Re-reels, 125; Kakedas, 30. Japanese shipments per Oceanic were 88 bales, making the total export business of the week about 720 piculs.

It will be noted that the business increases each week; now, as before, the great proportion of the transactions have been done within the last two days, and it is probable that the Parthia leaving to-morrow will have considerable silk for the United States. Exchange has been fairly steady, on the basis of last week's rates until to-day, when news came from London that silver is down 3d.

Quotations here have given way to some extent, but not sufficient to induce very heavy business, for the news from consuming Markets continue to be very dull and depressed; at the same time holders here will lose money on their Silks at present values, and they hesitate very much as to realizing their loss. They are somewhat encouraged by the fall in Exchange, thinking that buyers will be able to pay a little more in Dollar prices for their Silk; we think, however, that they must ere long become more current in their ideas, although they will not be very anxious so long as they can dispose of over 700 piculs per week.

The Settlements have again been principally for the United States Trade, although the Market intelligence from New York seems to grow more

doleful day by day. Some business has been done for Europe, more especially in Hanks, of which the stock is very small and well held. There have been two shipping opportunities, the Verona, 17th inst., taking 20 bales for Lyons, and the Oceanic 18th inst., 323 Bales for New York. These departures bring the present export up to 5,084 piculs, against 16,779 last year and 11,607 in 1888. It will be noticed what a great contrast present figures give with those of the last two years.

The Parthia leaving to-morrow has on board 439 bales for the New York trade.

Hanks.—There has been considerable business in these, more than one quarter of the stock on hand being taken, presumably for Europe. The Sales comprise Shinshu at \$580, \$577½, and \$560. Shimonita, Tomiyoka, and Chichibu at \$580. Anaka \$570. Nothing done in Hachioji or in the medium grades.

Filatures.—These have been worked down a little in price during the last two or three days, but holders are more strong at the close, having made one or two good sales, including Tokosha, \$660; Koshu Yajima, \$675. Kaimaisha was done early in the week at \$670, and has since been booked at \$660; Toishu \$652½, and some other good No. 1 Silks were bought to advantage at \$645. Purchases for Europe have not been large; one parcel fine Ueen bringing \$680, with various chops of Bishu Silk at from \$640 to \$650. Stock in this class is heavy and contains some large parcels of well known chops of most excellent quality.

Re-reels.—There has been a fair amount of business in these, although Filatures have had the lion's share of attention. The latest prices paid are \$637½ for Tortoise and Five Girl chops. Bushu Kadama has been done at \$615, and Ichimurashu, first choice, at the same price; second choice bringing \$600. The principal demand seems to have been for medium grades, several parcels having been taken for the States principally in Bushu at \$600.

Kakeda.—The demand has fallen off in this class and only 3 parcels have passed the scales, Flower Girl \$620, Kintama \$610, Shika \$590. The stock in this department has not been large and sellers are fairly able to hold their own.

In other classes there has been no business.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No. 14	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	Nom.
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	Nom.
Hanks—No. 24 (Shinshu)	575 to 580
Hanks—No. 24 (Joshu)	570 to 575
Hanks—No. 24 to 3	560 to 565
Hanks—No. 3	550 to 555
Hanks—No. 31	535 to 530
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	Nom.
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	Nom.
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	680 to 690
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	660 to 670
Filatures—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	640 to 650
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	650 to 660
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	630 to 640
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	610 to 620
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—Shinshu and Oshu Best No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	640 to 645
Re-reels—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	620 to 630
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	610 to 615
Re-reels—No. 24, 14/18 deniers	600 to 605
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	590 to 595
Kakedas—Extra	Nom.
Kakedas—No. 1	630 to 635
Kakedas—No. 14	610 to 620
Kakedas—No. 2	600 to 605
Kakedas—No. 24	590 to 595
Kakedas—No. 3	580 to 585
Kakedas—No. 34	570 to 575
Kakedas—No. 4	560 to 565
Oshu Sendai—No. 24	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	Nom.
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 24	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 24th Oct., 1890:—

	Season 1890-91.	1889-90.
Europe	1,577	8,293
America	3,354	8,246
Total	4,931	16,544
	Piculs	5,084
		11,607
Settlements and Direct	5,000	12,350
Export from 1st July	15,400	5,600
Stock, 24th October	25,750	24,550

WASTE SILK.

Trade in this branch has boomed along, settlements for the week being 619 piculs divided thus:—Pierced Cocoons, 108; Noshi, 912; Kibiso, 599.

Prices are well maintained, and with a declining Exchange show a tendency to harden. The business has again been for Europe—more especially for Swiss—account. The better qualities of Noshi and Kibiso receiving a large share of attention. The course of our Market so far shows a strong contrast to that of the Raw Silk Market and the

settlements to date are about on a par with those of last year.

The P. & O. steamer Verona on the 18th carried 242 bales of Noshi and Kibiso for Marseilles and Trieste; also 3 bales Mawata for Bombay. The present export figures are 4,564 piculs, against 6,779 last year and 4,855 at the same date in 1888.

Pierced Cocoons.—Another purchase of about two piculs has been made, good Shinshu quality bringing \$125 per picul, while medium and common were done at \$116 and \$108 respectively.

Noshi.—More than half the week's business has been in this class, European buyers operating freely. A nice parcel of Filatures was done at \$155; Oshu, at \$150; Mino, \$125; Shinshu, \$116½; while long lines of Foshu have been done at prices ranging from \$78 to \$87. Buyers seem fully determined to take advantage of the present time when quality is of the best.

Kibiso.—Fair amount of business also in this class, settlements reaching about 600 piculs; principal trade has been in Filatures, which have been freely bought from \$107 to \$117, according to quality. Besides these there have been purchases of Re-reels, at \$82½, Foshu, \$45; Hachioji, \$35. In Mawata and Sundries there has been no business.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	\$120 to \$130
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	150 to 160
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	140 to 145
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	130 to 135
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	140 to 150
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	110 to 120
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Foshu, Good to Best	130 to 140
Noshi-ito—Foshu, Best	92½ to 95
Noshi-ito—Foshu, Good	85 to 90
Noshi-ito—Foshu, Ordinary	80 to 85
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	110 to 120
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	100 to 105
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	90 to 100
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	80 to 90
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	70 to 75
Kibiso—Foshu, Good to Fair	50 to 60
Kibiso—Foshu, Middling to Common	35 to 40
Kibiso—Hachioji, Good	45 to 50
Kibiso—Hachioji, Medium to Low	35 to 40
Kibiso—Noshi, Good to Common	15 to 8
Mawata—Good to Best	180 to 190

Export Table Waste Silk to 24th Oct., 1890:—

	Season 1890-91.	1889-90.
Waste Silk	4,226	5,037
Pierced Cocoons	339	1,742
	4,564	6,779
	Piculs	4,855
Settlements and Direct	9,100	9,300
Export from 1st July	11,800	11,900
Stock, 24th October	21,200	19,000

Available supplies to date 20,900 21,200 19,000

Exchange has been fairly steady all the week, but has declined to-day on receipt of news from London that silver is down. Present quotations are:—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits, 3/5½; Documents, 3/5½; 6m/s. Credits, 3/6; Documents, 3/6½; New York, 30 d/s. U.S. \$84; 4m/s. U.S. \$84½; PARIS, 4m/s. fcs. 4/38; 6m/s. fcs. 4/41.

Estimated Silk Stock, 24th Oct., 1890:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	300	Cocoons	770
Filatures	9,180	Noshi-ito	4,270
Re-reels	4,630	Kibiso	6,140
Kakeda	940	Mawata	330
Oshu	320	Sundries	290
Taysam Kinds	10		

Total piculs 15,400 Total piculs 11,800

TEA.

Full prices, though without quotable change, have been paid for the 2,000 piculs taken.

	PER PICUL.
Common	\$11½
Good Common	12 to 13
Medium	14 to 15
Good Medium	16 to 17
Fine	18 to 19
Finest	20 to 22
Choice	23 & up'ds
Choicest	—
Extra Choicest	—

EXCHANGE.

Silver is down 1d. since the rates given below, which are now purely nominal, in fact no rates are quoted.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/5
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/5½
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/5½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/6
On Paris—Bank sight	4/30
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4/40
On Hongkong—Bank sight	8 7/8 prem.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	8 7/8 dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72½
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	72½
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	83
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	84
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	83
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	84

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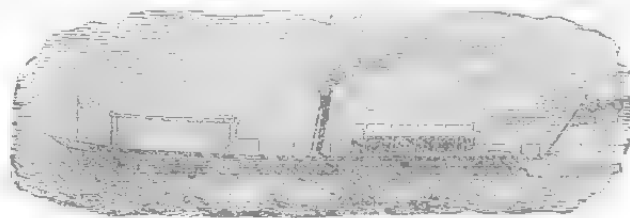
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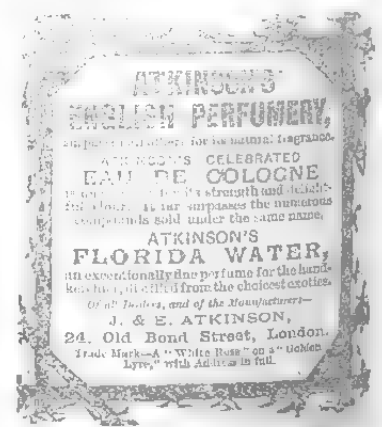
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 18.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, NOVEMBER 1ST, 1890.

通信者認可

[Vol. XIV.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"PAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, NOV. 1, 1890.

BIRTH.

On the 11th October, at 5 in the afternoon, at No. 219-B Bluff, the wife of H. MOSS of a Son.

MARRIAGE.

On the evening of the 20th inst. at No. 67-A, Bluff, by Rev. J. L. Dearing, assisted by Rev. A. A. Bennett, Rev. S. W. HAMPERN, of Sendai, to Miss ALLIE A. ADAMS, of Boston, U.S.A.

DEATH.

At No. 73, Settlement, this morning, CHARLES H. MERRIMAN, aged 26 years.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

COUNT TODA, Japanese Minister to Austria, has started from Europe for home.

It is stated that the Mito Railway and the Japan Railway Companies will be amalgamated shortly.

HIS IMPERIAL HIGHNESS PRINCE ARISUGAWA TAKAHITO proceeded to Yokosuka on the 27th ult.

VISCOUNT TANAKA, Chief of the Metropolitan Police, was present at a special meeting of the Cabinet held on the 27th ult.

It is stated that Shimonoseki, Hakata, Tsunokuchi, and Otaru will be opened for foreign trade when the treaties have been revised.

THE *Hiei Kan* and *Kongo Kan* left Hongkong on the 26th ult. en route for Turkey with the men saved from the wreck of the *Ertongroul*.

THE number of steamers which entered Kobe during August last was 461, 444 steamers sailing from the port. During the same month the numbers of steamers which entered and

sailed from Nagasaki were 182 and 178 respectively.

A SERIES of examinations for shorthand writers in the Imperial Diet has been opened. Ninety-three candidates appeared, but only eighteen were able to pass the trial.

HIS IMPERIAL HIGHNESS THE CROWN PRINCE attended the races at Negishi to-day, and added an item to the programme by presenting a prize to be run for.

THE graduation ceremony of the Tokyo Hogakuin (Law Institution) will take place on the 2nd inst. in presence of various high officials of the Educational Department.

THE receipts of the Kyushu Railway Company during the six months ended the 30th September last were yen 46,487,484. The number of passengers carried during the same period was 224,689.

AN extraordinary meeting of the Cabinet was held on the 27th ult. and was attended by Counts Yamagata and Matsukata, Viscount Aoki and Mr. Yoshikawa, the proceedings closing at 4.30 p.m.

THE Sanitary Bureau in the Home Department reports that the number of persons attacked by cholera throughout the Empire from the commencement of the epidemic to the 28th ult. was 42,541, resulting in 29,259 deaths.

AN ordinary meeting of the Cabinet was held on the 28th ult. at which Counts Yamagata, Yamada, Matsukata, Goto, and Oki, Viscount Aoki, and Messrs. Yoshikawa and Mutsu were present, the proceedings closing at 5 p.m.

AN outbreak of fire took place on the night of the 25th ult. in a house at Ichinoyemura, Minamikatsushika-gun, Tokyo, and two dwellings and one godown were entirely destroyed before the flames could be extinguished.

AN ordinary meeting of the Cabinet was held on the 25th ult. at which Counts Yamagata, Yamada, Saigo, Oyama, and Goto, Viscount Kabayama, and Messrs. Mutsu and Yoshikawa were present, the proceedings lasting till a late hour.

ACCORDING to a report by the Sanitary Bureau of the Home Department, the number of persons attacked by cholera throughout the Empire from the commencement of the epidemic to the 24th ult. was 41,771, resulting in 28,260 deaths.

IN consequence of the recent heavy rains various rivers in Ehime Prefecture have overflowed, causing much damage to crops. Eight bridges were carried away and one person drowned. Five landslips occurred, by which several houses were destroyed.

MR. HONMA, a member of the House of Representatives for the second district of Nara Prefecture, who has recently been under preliminary examination in the Nara Correctional Court on a charge of having given bribes to electors, has been acquitted.

SOME thirteen leading merchants of Tokyo have organized a company under the name of the Japan Iron Works Company with a capital of yen 200,000, which has been raised among the promoters, the office being situated at Nishikonyacho, Kyobashi.

MR. ASADA, Prefect of Kanagawa, will give an entertainment on the 3rd inst., the Emperor's

Birthday, at his official residence, Noge, to the members of the Consular body, officials of the Kanagawa Kencho, and officers of the British and American men-of-war which are now in the port.

THE receipts of the Hokkaido Coal Railway Company during the month of August last were yen 33,213.51, which total shows an increase of yen 1,115.86 as compared with the previous month.

ACCORDING to returns compiled by the Finance Department, the amount of Government paper currency and bank notes in circulation on the 1st ult. was yen 64,105,068.90, of which yen 38,178,197.40 represented Government paper and yen 25,926,871.50 bank notes. As compared with the previous month the above returns show a decrease of yen 920,769.50 in Government paper and yen 115,465 in bank notes.

AN outbreak of fire took place on the 14th ult. in a house at Tanabe-mura, Shimokita-gun, Aomori Prefecture, and a hundred and ninety-six houses, twenty-two godowns, a police station, a hospital, and eight telegraph posts were destroyed before the flames could be subdued. On the night of the 16th instant thirty-five dwellings were burned to the ground at Fukaura-mura, Nishitsuguru-gun, Aomori Prefecture.

THE ordinary half-yearly meeting of shareholders of the Ryomo Railway Company was held recently at Tokyo. The net profits during the first half of the present year were yen 38,327.396, of which yen 100 was set apart towards miscellaneous expenses, yen 383,274 as a reserve fund, and yen 37,500 was appropriated as a dividend to be declared at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, while the remainder was carried forward to the next account.

HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR, accompanied by Marquis Tokudaiji, Grand Chamberlain, Viscount Nishiyotsutsuji, Chamberlain, Dr. Iwasa, an Imperial Physician, and several high officials of the Imperial Household Department, proceeded to Ibaraki Prefecture on the morning of the 26th ult. A sham fight and review was held on the plains some distance from Mito, the Imperial Headquarters, and His Majesty returned to Tokyo on the 29th. The Emperor was accompanied by the Empress.

THE ordinary half-yearly meeting of shareholders of the Sanyo Railway Company was held on the 20th ult. at the Kaiuro, Osaka, being attended by about two hundred and seventy shareholders. The receipts for six months ended September last were yen 119,947,346, of which yen 2,000 was set apart towards a reserve fund, yen 3,000 as miscellaneous expenses and rewards to officers, and yen 114,000 was appropriated as a dividend at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, while the remainder was carried forward to the next account.

FEW signs of improvement are manifested in the Import market and prices are all more or less nominal. In Metals trade is dull, holders are firm, and the market is steady at late rates. The Kerosene market is quiet, but trade in Tokyo is reported better at slightly improved prices. Nothing is doing in the Sugar trade, and the Tea market is quiet. In the Silk market Settlements of raw produce have been principally for the American trade and stocks are large. Business in Waste Silk has been brisker and prices are well maintained. Exchange dropped smartly during the week but has recovered slightly.

Original from

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE "KEIO-GIJIKU" SCHOOL.

THE *Yiji Shimo* reports an address delivered by Mr. Fukuzawa before the pupils of the *Keio-Gijiku* School the other day. Mr. Fukuzawa said:—Our people have of late talked a good deal of self-government. Self-government is the art of governing oneself without the assistance or interference of others. The principle is not only of importance in ruling the nation: it is of vital value in the administration of our school. But the idea of self-government is impracticable in the case of any body of people in whom the intellect and intelligence are but imperfectly developed. In the present age, when the principle of self-government has obtained a hold on the minds of the public at large, it is above all things necessary that its elements should be well inculcated on those who are to take part in the intellectual life of the future. The system of family government cannot now be applied to a school such as ours; as a matter of fact our affairs have really for some time been administered by a committee of the students themselves; and in most respects they are conducted in the same way that those of any public body might be. Its property no longer belongs to any individual; it is rather held by the whole of the members collectively. All who are here present are students, or members who, having been students, have graduated, and thence acquired the right to take part in the affairs of the institution. It is in your power, meantime, to so conduct yourselves as to reflect credit or discredit on your *alma mater*, and for this reason it is my desire that you should all comport yourselves as gentlemen, and make yourselves worthy of our teaching. There are no doubt among you some who, by concealing their debauched and evil tendencies, are able to maintain a semblance of respectability, but these may rest assured that in course of time they will be found out, for the world is quick to detect a spurious note though submitted to it among a hundred honest bills. Still it must be remembered that if among a hundred notes sent forth by this school there are one or two counterfeit, the discovery will tend to awaken suspicion of all our products. It is, therefore, the interest of all to correct the errors and irregularities of their fellows in order to secure that there shall be no blot upon our record. To many my system may appear somewhat severe, but I think you will admit that in the circumstances—keeping in mind your responsibilities—my severity is called for. This, however, is not enough, the mere compliance with our rules will only result in your becoming deceitful and time-serving. It is my wish that you should not only conform to our regulations, but that you should learn to regard yourselves as shareholders in this institution, the welfare and success of which depend on your united efforts and individual behaviour. I hope, therefore, that you will always bear in mind that whatever you do will redound to the credit or discredit of this school, in the progress of which I believe you have all so deep an interest.

"VERDANT SIMPLE'S VIEWS OF JAPAN."

THIS is a satisfactory little book. Perhaps somewhat deficient in that sparkle and finish which Norris and others have taught us to expect in the novelette, it has all sorts of other good qualities. It is fresh, it is interesting, above all it is true. There is a charming sobriety in the author's judgments on Japan and her people. He fatigues us with no unjust grumbling, he nauseates us with no sticky feast of perpetual sugar and superlatives. His personages, both native and foreign, are real men and women, and the situations in which the hero finds himself are such as really might happen to a good-natured young globe-trotter like the hero of this tale. True, not many globe-trotters fall in love with missionary-esses; but then few missionary-esses are as young and pretty as Miss Georgie Makepeace, of the S.P.G. Church at Jotayama. All globe-trotters, we may be sure, fall

desperately in love with some O Shini San* before their first week in the country is over, and all, when they get safely back to Europe or America again, must laugh in their sleeve, as "Grenon" does, at the pompous imbecility of the ideas of the home folk *re* Japan and all that thereunto belongs. We will not do "Grenon" the injustice of selecting the plums of his book for insertion here. To pick holes is more legitimately our task, as critics. Now, we have one hole to pick in our author's Latin, and at least one more in his English. The Latinized form of "Things Japanese," dear young friend, is not "Matters Japonica," but "Matters Japonica," "matter," "materies," being feminine. English grammar is similarly offended by the use of such an expression as "if it hadn't have been." Where on earth could "Grenon" have picked up that phrase? Is it a provincialism that would come as a precious rarity to some Philological Society? It cannot be the fault of the printer's devil, as it occurs again and again. It remains a mystery, and we give it up, at the same time advising "Grenon" to give it up likewise. O Shini San and the S.P.G. clergyman's pretty sister, and Verdant Simple's experiences at the Grand Hotel and in Mr. Shortcrease's Consular Court at Kobe, and as a teacher of English in a remote country town, and the other fare which "Grenon" spreads before his readers, by no means exhaust the capabilities of Anglo-Japanese romance. If Rudyard Kipling has found Anglo-Indian life a treasure-house of character and incident, and has risen by his descriptions of it to a well merited fame, the life of foreigners in Japan offers quite as good a field to one with the will and the ability to dig into it. The odd situations arising from the mixture of nationalities at the open ports; the pitiable and grotesque social struggles of Tokyo; the residents who spend their lives explaining that they are not residents but only temporary exiles from the grandeurs of their aristocratic surroundings at home; the globe-trotters who, scorning the imputation of globe-trotterhood, insist that they are only travelling (a delicate distinction), or have just come to stay with friends; the Japanese one meets in a Society with their foreign clothes and ways; the foreigners who are so very Japanese; or may be, and with equal absurdity, so very anti-Japanese,—surely here are materials for a whole library of novelettes. They are materials which even a Thackeray would not have disdained to utilize, and they are materials which are lying fallow. We have no patience with the little crop of novels of native Japanese life, so-called, that have sprung up during the last few years—"A Muramasa Blade," for instance, and "A Captive of Love," and "Mito Yashiki." The whole *genre* is a false one, because no foreigner can ever truly put himself in the place of the Japanese, and gauge their motives, be in touch with their springs of action, sympathize with their endeavours, or understand their family life, wide as the poles asunder from ours. The novelist's legitimate field is his own people. His great good luck is when he finds his own people surrounded by new and interesting circumstances. That is the case in Japan.

THE YOKOHAMA LABORATORY.

A CORRESPONDENCE of a peculiar character has appeared in the local press of this Settlement. It had its origin in a long communication addressed by Mr. John Hartley to the *Japan Gazette*. Mr. Hartley has for many years laboured under the conviction that he is the victim of a legal injustice. No form of mental torment is more painful. It generally results in producing types like that so admirably portrayed by Dickens in the "Man from Shropshire." Mr. Hartley seems to have been affected in that way, and the public is therefore disposed to treat his utterances leniently. Probably very few people took the trouble to read the two columns of complaint addressed by him to the *Japan Gazette* of September 25th, and those that did read were doubtless more amused than impressed. Stated

* Surely the author means O Shige or some such name. We have never heard O Shini.

in a nut-shell, Mr. Hartley's contention is that the standard of purity established by the Japanese Government and enforced by the Japanese Laboratory for imported drugs is unduly high; that the analyses made by Japanese experts do not agree with those made in England, and that foreign importers are obliged to resort to bribery to get their drugs passed. With regard to the first two charges, it is to be noted that similar complaints having been already advanced more than once by British merchants, Mr. Hartley's contention is probably not without justice. But the accusation of bribery is a horse of another colour. Mr. Hartley's condition of mind appears to have become morbid. He is tormented by that old bugbear of foreigners, the phantasy that the Japanese Government sets spies to investigate the doings of men in whom no Government, however petty, could take the smallest particle of interest. Thus when he arrived here last year, he writes that he was "interviewed by a man, a Government spy he believed, who said he could analyse medicines for sixty dollars per month salary." An assertion so ridiculous is enough to discredit all Mr. Hartley's statements. But his charge of bribery was preferred so circumstantially that there could be no mistake about the identity of the British firm accused of having resorted to this disgraceful method. The officials of the Japanese Laboratory consequently wrote to the firm, and received in reply an explicit denial that bribes had been employed, accompanied by a counter-charge that "during a time when Mr. Hartley was treated with exceptional kindness and confidence by the firm, he gained surreptitious access to its papers and in fact stole his information." Mr. Hartley, however, re-iterates his charge, and the whole correspondence has now been published, presenting a decidedly discreditable appearance. What augments the singular character of the incident, is the grotesquely incorrect English employed by the officials of the Japanese Laboratory in their communications to the *Japan Gazette* and to the incriminated firm. We have here another instance of the recklessness too often displayed by Japanese students in compiling documents in a foreign language. Is it conceit or is it magnificent carelessness that betrays them into these laughable exhibitions? We venture to predict that one impression only will be left by this incident, namely, a memory of the curious English displayed in the letters from the Laboratory. It is little short of a disgrace that such letters should be sent by a Government department. The smallest exercise of trouble would have sufficed to have the letters recast in passable language.

THE PEACE PRESERVATION REGULATIONS AND THE REVISION AGITATORS.

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* publishes a striking note about the Peace Preservation Regulations and the leaders of the Treaty-revision agitation in Yokohama. When the anti-revision agitation, we read, was at its height in Yokohama, apprehensions were entertained by the authorities that hot-headed Japanese patriots might be guilty of some lawless conduct towards the leaders on the foreign side. The question was then raised whether it might not be advisable to enforce once more the celebrated Peace Preservation Regulations originally issued on Christmas Day, 1886. Certain officials were in favour of such a step, but others contended that recourse to extreme measures ought to be avoided as long as possible, and that the better plan would be to trust to the efficiency of the police until there was good reason to think that circumstances called for something more radical. The latter opinion finally prevailed, and was justified by events, for things gradually quieted down and no Japanese was found sufficiently lawless and short-sighted to injure his country's reputation and mar her prospects by perpetrating acts of violence against foreigners. Now, however, a rumour having got abroad that Mr. Lowder and his party are negotiating the purchase of the *Japan Herald* newspaper with the intention of converting it into their organ

and instituting an active campaign, public opinion on the Japanese side has been again roused and the contingencies feared some time ago are again viewed with uneasiness, so that, after all, the Government may be obliged to have recourse once more to the aid of that most unpopular ordinance, the *Hoan Forei*. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* earnestly invites its excited nationals to keep these things in view.

The *Nichi Nichi* might also have added that the Japanese who are exercised about this new move in Yokohama, labour under a great misapprehension. If the *Japan Herald* comes into the hands of the gentlemen who recently opened negotiations for its purchase, its character will be radically changed from extreme partizanship and violence to fairness and moderation. Nothing more conducive to the re-establishment of pleasant relations could occur, and so far from imagining that another blow is to be given to their cause, the Japanese should welcome this movement and hope for its success. Misrepresentation and abuse are weapons with which the better class of Yokohama residents have no manner of sympathy. They desire sincerely to be on friendly terms with the Japanese, and are perfectly willing that whatever is right and liberal should be done within the limits of prudence—limits which by some, perhaps, are unduly stretched, but which, in the main, are natural and reasonable. It is undeniable that a bitter feeling has been engendered by the unceasing streams of intolerant invective, ill-natured exaggeration, and disingenuous misunderstanding which have poured through the columns of a portion of the local press for years. Utterly discreditable to the course which it professed to champion, a journal like the *Japan Herald* could only have the effect of disgusting all moderate men, and filling them with shame to think that such utterances might be construed by the Japanese as examples of English justice and English love of fair-play. Of course the cause of the opposition would gain vastly by being entrusted to the statement of just and scholarly advocates, sensible that no controversialist can descend to mud-throwing without bespattering everything identified with him. But, on the other hand, the whole discussion would be raised to a different level, the atmosphere would be cleared of malicious venom and vulgar recrimination, an immense advance would be made towards a mutual understanding, and the resulting gain to friendliness and dignity would be incalculable. We trust that the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* will make use of its widely circulating columns to bring these facts before the Japanese public, and to instruct unruly spirits that the latest development of the Yokohama agitation is to be welcomed no less by the Japanese themselves than by all decent foreigners.

RELIGIONS IN JAPAN.

We have often said that one of the great ends achieved by the Christian Missionaries in Japan is the vitality which their propagandism imparts to religion in general. Whether the converts they win be many or few, it is certain that they galvanise the creeds of the country into active life and that the good they thus accomplish is very considerable. Confirmation of this view is afforded by the following note which we take from the *Yomiuri Shimbun*:—"The gradual accession of strength which Christianity receives in Japan has roused the Buddhists to resolute efforts of opposition. As a consequence we find that the number of publications devoted to the defence and spread of the Buddhist creed has greatly increased of late. The following list of journals and periodicals devoted to the cause of Buddhism will show this:—*Daido Shimpō* (Tokyo); *Kyōkai* (Tokyo); *Meikyo Shinshi* (Tokyo); *Jodo Kyōko* (Tokyo); *Kenchikai Zasshi* (Tokyo); *Zeshin-shu* (Tokyo); *Shinshi* (Tokyo); *Hōko* (Tokyo); *Fuzen Hōkoku* (Tokyo); *Shingi-kokin-kai-shi* (Tokyo); *Kokoro-no-Kagami* (Tokyo); *Bukkyō* (Tokyo); *Horima-no-tomo* (Tokyo); *Hōha* (Tokyo);

Mitsugenkyōho (Tokyo); *Daichigi* (Tokyo); *Shinseishi* (Tokyo); *Hō-no-ame* (Nagoya); *Michi-no-tomo* (Nagoya); *Seito-no-tomo* (Yokohama); *Kyōkaku Zasshi* (Tokushima); *Kyōyū Zasshi* (Kōfu); *Seinen-no-Gimu* (Hikone); *Bukkyō Shū-undo* (Kyōto); *Shin-no-hikari* (Kobe); *Seimuno Hyōjun* (Yamaguchi); *Bukkyōkai Zasshi* (Nagasaki); *Dogoku* (Koyasan); *Dento* (Kyōto); *Takusenkaï Zasshi* (Miye); *Shimeiyoku* (Ōmi); *Kō-no-michi* (Osaka); *Hō-no-shiori* (Kyōto); *Notan Shimpō* (Nagoya); *Hō-no-sono* (Kyōto); *Dainikyō-no-tomo* (Kyōto); *Gobokai Zasshi* (Kyōto); *Tokai-no-todai* (Ōmiye); *Rempokyo-gaku* (Miyagi); *Bukkyō Sei-nen-kai* (Kyōto); *Hanseikai Zasshi* (Kyōto); *Kyōyū Zasshi* (Yamanashi). The above list comprises only the journals and periodicals known to us. We are assured that a great many others are published."

THE "RYOUN KAKU" AT ASAKUSA.

This is the name given by its constructors to a lofty and not ungraceful tower which has been erected close to the temples at Asakusa, with the chief object of affording visitors to that interesting spot an opportunity of enjoying a view, which it would be hard to rival, of the city and its environs. The *Ryoun-kaku* is the project of a company, the president of which is Mr. S. Fukuhara. Its construction was commenced in January last and it is now fully completed, the elevators by which visitors are to be ascended to its upper floors having been placed in position on Saturday. The tower is over 320 feet in height, being 50 feet in internal diameter at the base, where its brick walls are nearly four feet in thickness. It is octagonal in shape and has twelve floors, the elevators ascending to the eighth. The structure rises as a plain tower, having double windows on each of its eight sides, to the tenth flat, where the double windows are exchanged for large single apertures; round the eleventh runs a gallery from which it is intended to display the electric light, and a small outer gallery on the twelfth flat enables sightseers to feast their eyes at perfect leisure on a scene of rare interest. The ascent is accomplished by means of a double elevator, each box having accommodation for ten people, and in the evening the building will be all lit up by electricity, no fewer than 60 lamps being to that end fitted up on the various floors. From the summit of the tower one looks down on the temples, and the busy antlike crowds that move about in the grounds; the zoological enclosure and its contented, well-fed tiger, its bears and monkeys; on the little lake, and the circular building of the panorama; a little farther off to the northward the Sumida can be traced from the Kanegafuchi mills till near its entrance to the Bay it is lost in the wilderness of houses. The bay itself is easily visible, and altogether the eye, unassisted even by a glass may be employed for hours in noting the numberless features of the view spread out before it. Visitors to the capital will find the tower a most interesting place.

THE LATE QUEEN DOWAGER OF KOREA.

OUR Korean correspondent, referring to the burial of the Dowager Queen of Korea, writes:—"This distinguished person was buried with all the pomp and splendour of royalty on Sunday morning, October 13th. For five months the body remained in the Royal Palace, and it is now resting ten miles east of the city. The preparations for the funeral were very elaborate. Thousands, almost hundreds of thousands, of dollars were spent in preparing the tomb and in the ceremonies. This was but natural, for, the last King dying without male issue, and this Queen being the oldest representative of royalty then living in the Palace, it fell to her lot to name a successor, and she gave the crown to the present King. The city, as had been expected, was full of people from the country. Some apprehension was feared by the authorities lest there should be an outbreak. Once during the review of the ceremonies prior to the burial there was a collision between several factions, those at the East Gate insisting that certain men from the river were not worthy of the honour of

being pall bearers. The conflict was short and sharp, with several deaths among the river men. When the news reached the King, orders were at once issued to arrest and execute any one found quarrelling or brawling on the street. Since then there has been no trouble. The Royal arm is not weak, foreign newspapers to the contrary notwithstanding. For reasons unknown to those not in authority a detachment of marines was ordered up from the U.S. steamer *Omaha*. They remained a few days and then returned."

THE SEVENTH PRINCE.

THE Peking correspondent of the *North China Daily News* writes:—"The Seventh Prince continues to have intervals of apparent recovery, and as sudden relapses. The mysterious character of his long illness, to the Chinese, has given rise to many surmises as to its origin. It is said that the Emperor in constructing a new residence for his father made no provision for the numerous demons and evil spirits which had their abode on the premises. As these evil spirits cannot find entrance to the palace to call the Imperial Ruler's attention to this little oversight of his, they disturb the peace of his father, not only causing him many painful days, but even seizing hold of his attendants and preventing them from assisting him. Many apparitions are seen, and, doubtless, if ever the Prince lives to vacate his present residence, it will forever after be condemned as haunted. It is well-known among foreigners, however, that the Prince is making an honest effort to break loose from the opium habit, and in his enfeebled condition he cannot resist the attacks of disease. The Emperor is most exemplary in the performance of his filial duties, going often to his father in great haste, if there are adverse symptoms, not stopping to have the streets cleared, roads repaired or any of the usual preparations. A crazy Chinaman undertook to force his way into the palace one day last week, and could only be restrained from doing so by the exercise of force. The several guards at that particular gate were not able to manage the madman, and it was not till a large squad of men seized hold of him that he was finally bound and taken to the Hsing Pu. Such incidents show the necessity of having the palace gates well guarded."

A NEW UNIVERSITY.

MR. INOUE ENRYO, one of the most celebrated Buddhist scholars in the capital, announces that he intends to enlarge the Philosophical Institute (*Tetsugaku-kwai*), of which he is Principal, into a University. In his memorandum on the subject, he states that during his recent tour in Europe and America he was struck by the circumstance that the educational institutions, from universities down to common schools, took for their basis of instruction the peculiar sciences and literature of each country. In Japan, on the other hand, he regrets that there is no university which gives the most prominent place in its curriculum to original Japanese science and literature. Japan possesses a literature, a history, and a religious science, peculiar to herself. Mr. Inoue thinks it of vital importance to establish a University where due importance will be given to these national subjects. He also proposes to supplement the instruction in his projected institution by materials drawn from Western sciences, literature, and philosophy. For the purpose of collecting contributions to carry out his scheme, he announces his intention of making a tour through the whole country, extending over a period of no less than twelve months. He will start on his journey toward the close of the present month.

It is really interesting to note the evidences of the national revival which commenced in Japan four years ago, and is at its zenith now. Pessimists always predicted that a reaction would set in sooner or later against Western civilization, and leading Japanese replied with equal assurance that such a reaction was not conceivable and that there could not be deliberate retrogression under any circumstances. Events have, in our opinion,

entirely justified the latter forecast. It is beyond doubt that the mood which overtook the nation in 1886 would have betrayed it into a strong revolt against imported civilization had anything of the kind been possible. When people begin to think that they have been deficient in loyalty towards a particular class of objects, they are very apt to go to the extreme of eschewing everything that weaned them from their allegiance. We should not have been at all surprised if the re-awakened affection of the Japanese for their own traditions and customs, had been accompanied by a corresponding revulsion against everything foreign. Neither should we have regarded this as a permanently dangerous tendency. The exact history of the introduction of Chinese civilization into Japan has yet to be written. We know, however, that the adoption was wholesale at the outset, extending from political institutions and philosophy to etiquette and costume. Nevertheless, by and by, the nation gradually reasserted its individuality, so that in the end, while the best features of Chinese civilization were preserved, they underwent such modification that they lost their essentially alien aspect. So, too, with art. Careful study shows that the elements of Japanese art are almost entirely imported, yet they have been so strongly impressed with the mark of essentially Japanese genius that the world regards them as a wholly new revelation. There is every reason to expect that as it fared with Chinese civilization and Chinese art nine centuries ago, so too it will fare with Western civilization to-day. The impression produced by the latter will be at least as permanent as, and stronger in proportion to its intrinsic superiority than, the impression produced by the former. In other words the history of the Japanese, and their disposition, so far as we are acquainted with it, justify us in thinking that they will remain the disciples of Western civilization until the West itself or their own genius offers something better for their acceptance. Believing this, we should not have felt any serious anxiety about the mood of the past three years even though it had assumed a distinctly reactionary element. But the point is that it has not assumed any such character. There has been no evidence of a disposition to turn away from the sciences and systems of the West. Nothing more can be said than that some of the externals of Western civilization—as female costume, dancing and so forth—have lost their temporary vogue, and that the people are determined to preserve their identity whatever they may borrow from foreign civilization. Perhaps the truest description of the nation's present temper is that it is a strong mood of self-assertion. Awaking to the fact that they were in danger of sacrificing their national individuality on the shrine of an alien civilization, the Japanese seem determined to show that they can assimilate that civilization without completely breaking away from their own traditions and customs. Mr. Inouye Enryō conceives the project of a university based on the study of the national religions, the national history, and the national systems, but he thoroughly comprehends that however welcome the scheme of such a university may be to the *Kokusui-hoson* party, it will have no chance of public support unless its curriculum includes foreign sciences and foreign systems also. Indeed, he knows that even the extremists among the *Kokusui-hoson-to* would scoff at the notion of including the former class of studies and excluding the latter. But we need not dwell on the subject. Speaking broadly, it would appear that foreign critics have appreciated the true significance of the nationalistic revival in Japan.

THE MISSIONARY.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Mainichi Shimbun* raises, with much show of reason, the question whether the correspondent who, over the signature of "Missionary," recently addressed to the *Japan Gazette* a letter displaying in every sentence evidence of a spirit conspicuously unbecoming a missionary, was really written by a Christian propagandist or was only signed by

some one assuming that title for purposes of deception. We cannot be surprised at the *Mainichi Shimbun's* correspondent's perplexity. It is difficult to imagine that any missionary could have composed such a letter, and our own reflection on reading it was that the adherence of men of that type to the cause of those who imagine themselves opposed to us was decidedly a matter to be thankful for. But there are missionaries and missionaries, and it is incredible that the *Japan Gazette* would have lent itself to the deception suggested by the correspondent of the *Mainichi Shimbun*. The amusing feature of the incident is the swiftness with which retribution overtook the unhappy missionary. Scarcely had the ink dried on his declaration that the majority of the missionaries shared his intolerant and uncharitable opinions, when the Central Missionary Association of Japan adopted and published a memorandum embodying views even more favourable to Japan than those formulated by their British colleagues of Tokyo. May we infer the nature of the Yokohama agitators' cause from the character of the missionaries who side with them, as represented by the correspondent of the *Japan Gazette*? And if so, may we not infer the nature of the other side's cause from the character of the men who signed the Tokyo memorial and the Central Association's memorandum?

THE PRESIDENCIES OF THE HOUSE.

ACCORDING to the Japanese Constitution, the President and Vice-President of the House of Peers are nominated by the Emperor from among the members, but in the case of the President and Vice-President of the House of Representatives three candidates are elected by the House for each of these offices, and from among these three the Emperor nominates one. In both cases the duration of the office corresponds with the term of the House's life, viz., seven years for the House of Peers and four years for the House of Representatives. There is, however, a difference here in one respect, namely, that since the House of Representatives may be dissolved by the Emperor, whereas the House of Peers is not subject to such a fate but can only be prorogued, the term of office of the President and Vice-President of the Lower House is four years with the contingency of change in the event of dissolution in the meanwhile, whereas the President and Vice-President of the Upper House hold office for a certain period of seven years. The salaries of these officials are the same in both Houses, namely, four thousand yen per annum for the President and two thousand yen for the Vice-President. The duties of the President are to maintain order in the House, to regulate its debates, to represent it outside its precincts, and to assume the direction of its business during the intervals between sessions.

CAPTAIN INGLES, R.N.

ON Saturday morning at 8 o'clock Captain Ingles, R.N., Naval Adviser to the Japanese Admiralty, left Tokyo en route for England, whither he goes on four months' leave of absence. The popularity enjoyed by Captain Ingles in Japan and the influence he has acquired were attested by the large number of high officials who, despite the early hour and despite the fact that his absence from Tokyo will be but brief, assembled at the railway terminus to bid him farewell. Among those present were H.E. the Minister President of State, Count Yamagata, H.E. the Minister of State for Home Affairs, Count Saigō, H.E. the Minister of State for the Navy, Viscount Kabayama, Admirals Hahashi, Arichi, Y. Ito, and S. Ito, together with about forty Post Captains, Commanders, and Lieutenants. Admiral Y. Ito accompanied Captain Ingles to Yokohama, where carriages had been provided by the Port Admiralty to convey the party to the Hatoba. A more courteous and significant "send off" has seldom been given to any foreigner leaving Japan.

NEWSPAPER COMPANIES.

THE syndicate formed for the purpose of acquiring one of the local newspapers, having

failed to come to terms with the *Japan Herald*, directed its attention to the *Japan Gazette*, and has effected with the proprietor of that journal an arrangement said to be satisfactory to all parties. The movement, though based to a great extent on sentiment, may possibly prove a financial success, and will certainly be a boon to the Settlement, for the *Japan Gazette* under its new editorship is likely to prove a credit to the community. But the sequel of the story is very singular. It is announced that another syndicate has been formed to buy up the *Japan Herald* with the object of changing the editorship. If this simply means, as is probable, that people are tired of the mud-throwing so persistently indulged in hitherto by the two journals in question, the incident is eminently satisfactory. But it may also signify that the moderate views, which are sure to be advanced by the *Japan Gazette* under its new ownership, do not find favour in the sight of a section of the community—a hypothesis which we are unwilling to entertain. At all events the resolution and perseverance displayed in the inception and management of this newspaper scheme are very unlike the usually apathetic attitude of Yokohama towards public matters, and, if they only last, may have many beneficial effects.

POLITICAL AGITATION.

THE *Yiji Shimpō* has a note on the present political fervour and agitation which prevail throughout the country. A general combination against the Government on the part of politicians, who differ widely on other matters, has manifested itself, a movement which the *Yiji* thinks is all the more to be regretted inasmuch as the Government has acted most uprightly and generously towards the people. The agitation, however, seems to be the result of the actions of men who in many cases seek only their own glorification. The recent measures of the Administration by which district self government has been extended to the people at large and a Diet has been established where the popular views may obtain hearing, have only served to heighten the ambition of politicians in opposition. The anxiety to obtain office which these men show is the result no doubt of the old feudal distinction between the rulers and the ruled; and such selfish motives must be looked for so long as officials are widely removed from the private people by virtue of their ranks and the privileges attaching to their offices.

NATIONAL LIBERALS.

WE recently reproduced an article on the above subject from the *Keizai Zasshi*; but considering the importance of the question, it seems worth while to give the gist of another article from the last number of the *Kokumin-no-Tomo*. The National Liberal party, which is about to be organized, has arisen, says our contemporary, not in opposition to either the Government, the *Kaishin-to*, or the *Hoshu Chusei-ha*, but in direct opposition to the Constitutional Liberal party. A section of the would-be members of the new party had joined the Constitutional Liberal party, and had expected, by intrigues and the use of *soshi*, to obtain ascendancy in that party. But in this expectation they were entirely disappointed; the place which they desired to occupy was seized by men more moderate and practical. In other words they have been expelled from the Constitutional Liberal party, partly because they leaned to conservatism, and partly because they were too violent in their notions and methods. At all events, there is no manner of doubt—the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* goes on—that the new party, despite the hybrid character of the various sections composing it, is harmonious in the one fact that it represents the extreme of political opinions. As to the origin of the movement, our contemporary states that, according to some persons, the idea of forming the party originated at the conference recently held at Saga in Kyushu by a number of the politicians of that region, among whom conservative elements greatly preponderated. The Tokyo journal has not much sympathy with the new party,

but still it regards its formation as a very desirable thing from a certain point of view; for it believes that, unruly and violent as are most of its elements, they can do less mischief when organized into a visible and responsible political body than they could if they were entirely free to act separately and according to individual caprice. Our contemporary, however, thinks that it will be an extremely difficult business for them to maintain an efficient party organization. For they have combined not in consequence of the similarity of their political principles and objects, but because of their common antagonism to a certain party of politicians. In every other respect they are essentially an assemblage of men strangers to one another. They have simply met together for a moment as extremes sometimes met—in France, for example, when Monarchists and Republicans not infrequently combine together for a certain special purpose. The *Kokumin*, therefore, thinks it next to impossible for the new party to maintain an effective organization. As to the name of the party, the Tokyo periodical suspects that the words "National Liberal" may have been selected by conservatives to conceal their true character. Our contemporary is also entirely at a loss to understand what good purpose politicians pretending to entertain liberal principles hope to attain by uniting with Conservatives.

In an editorial note in the same issue, the *Kokumin* states that the formal organization of the new party will take place about the 20th of next month, and that such members of the Constitutional Liberal party as come from the Provinces of the Hokurikudo may perhaps join the new National Liberals.

CHANGES IN LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.

The *Yiji Shimpō*, noticing the recent changes in local governments, remarks that the new regulations present few points of difference as compared with those formerly in force. The chief changes noted by our contemporary are the abolition of one of the secretariats and the creation of two counsellorships in each prefectural government. The affairs of such departments have in recent years become exceedingly complicated and the duties of Governors have become correspondingly arduous and delicate. While two secretaries seem to involve the introduction of much unnecessary delay in the transaction of business, matters having thus to pass through the hands of a greater number of persons, there seems some necessity for the appointment of Counsellors who, it is to be expected, will be men of wide experience and sound judgment. Indeed there hardly seems in the circumstances to be any good ground for the continuance of even one secretary. The *Yiji* supposes that a series of changes in the chief prefectural offices is not far distant, and indulges in conjectures as to the nature of those changes. Some people, our contemporary thinks, will be disposed to advocate the claims of age and experience for prefectural governors, but the Tokyo journal strongly combats this suggestion and hopes that, in connection with future changes, able men will not be set aside on account of their youth.

JUDICIAL ROBES IN JAPAN.

The question, long discussed, of the costumes to be worn by Japanese Judges, Public Prosecutors, Clerks of Law-Courts, and Process-Servers was decided by Imperial Ordinance No. 260, issued on the 22nd ultimo. A picture of the prescribed robe is given in the *Official Gazette*. Its outline is that of a cross with the top removed, from which our readers will infer that in this particular instance a return is made to the fashions of old Japan. The sleeves are decidedly capacious, but if the plate in the *Official Gazette* is drawn to scale, it appears that they will not reach much below the elbow. Whether the notion of a wig was ever entertained we do not know, but if so it has been abandoned, for the head-dress is to be a cap, also fashioned more or less after the manner of ancient Japan. Both gown and cap are made of black silk, but they are relieved by coloured embroidery, the colours varying with the rank

of the wearer. We do not gather any very definite idea of the embroidery on the cap, but that on the robe encircles the neck and descends before and behind in the form of a V with rounded angles. The Judge's gown is embellished with purple flowers of the Paulownia Imperialist, the flowers numbering seven in the case of Judges of the Supreme Court, five in that of Judges of the Appeal Court, and three for Judges of Courts of First Instance. The same rule as to the kind and number of embroidered flowers is followed in the case of robes of Public Prosecutors and Clerks of Court, except that the colour of the embroidery is red in the former instance, and green in the latter, with the additional distinction that leaves only, and not flowers, are embroidered on the Clerks' gowns. Finally, Process-servers are directed to wear foreign costume, after the style of a policeman's uniform. A period of grace is granted until the close of the year, during which interval frock coats, or Japanese *haori* and *hakama* may be worn in Court. From the first of January next, however, the new uniforms must go into use. It will be remembered that a certain party among officials advocated the adoption of frock coats in foreign style for Judges when officiating, but their advice has not been followed, and we confess to a feeling of satisfaction that such is the case. The new robe will be Japanese in shape at all events, and we should think that it will be at once neat and becoming.

JINRIKISHA IN CHINA.

In a translation from the *Shih Pao* the *Chinese Times* says:—

"Since the introduction of *jirikishas*, streets are being swamped with them; they are like fishes in a narrow brook, causing great inconvenience to pedestrians. The impediments are greatly increased on account of the narrowness of the thoroughfares. A few days ago, a little below Chia K'ou, a little boy of about ten years old was knocked down and run over by a *jirikisha* fracturing the skull and causing much bleeding; he however recovered from insensibility, and the wound was not dangerous. Ever since the floods, the country people have come out to seek employment, finding none more suitable than to be *jirikisha* coolies; hence the raw hands increase the danger for the riders, because a man must be properly trained before he can become a *jirikisha* coolie.

Anyone who has ever driven through the streets of Tientsin in a *jirikisha*, or who has attempted to find passage through them in other ways, will appreciate the force of this note. Exceedingly narrow, the streets, or lanes as they should more truly be called, are paved, for the most part, with flat slabs of granite which, owing to the perpetual traffic and its nature, present a surface of slimy slipperiness dangerous at times, even to pedestrians. A sedan chair passing through one of these streets well nigh occupies the whole available space, and when a coolie comes along staggering under the weight of one of those enormous wheel-barrows peculiar to China, the streams of traffic going in opposite directions are likely to find themselves at a deadlock. The din and confusion are appalling, for a Tientsin Chinaman becomes voluble and abusive in direct proportion to the difficulties he has to contend against. Add to this that the Chinese coolie will not bear comparison for a moment with his Japanese prototype as a *jirikisha* driver. The difference is very singular. Seated in a *jirikisha* with a Japanese between the shafts, you feel that the man has complete control of the vehicle and are at once delighted by his dexterous and muscular management of it, as well as by the agility which enables him to keep the upper part of his body perfectly steady however violently he exercises the lower. But with a Chinese driver the case is quite different. He never appears to have the *jirikisha* completely in hand, and every step he takes gives his fare a nasty, springless jolt. The impression conveyed is that the *jirikisha* is running with him, not he with the *jirikisha*. Collisions and other accidents depend to a great extent, of course, on the degree of control which the coolie possesses over his *jirikisha*, and it is not at all surprising that mishaps occur much more frequently in China than in Japan.

PARLIAMENTARY TACTICS.

Most of the greater political parties represented

in the Diet have been for some time engaged in the so-called "investigation of political business," the object aimed at being to collect data for suggesting reforms in the various Departments of State. The *Kokumin-no-Tomo* declares that the method hitherto followed has been in every case erroneous and futile. The Committees of Investigation of each party have compiled their reports by means of facts and statistics supplied to them by the Authorities in response to their application. Seeing that officials are sure not to furnish to outsiders facts favourable to the latter's view, the Tokyo periodical ridicules the notion of compiling reports on such a basis. If any politician should be bold enough to attack the Government on the strength of documents containing such materials, he will only make himself ridiculous. Rather than follow a method so unsophisticated our contemporary advises political parties to seek facts and statistics from the Government after the opening of the Diet, in virtue of the powers given to members by the Constitution. Information elicited in the latter manner may also be imperfect, but no other method is equally practical and effective. The Tokyo journal further warns the various political parties as well as the Government not to expect much from the first session of the Diet. A good general always endeavours to concentrate his forces on the weakest point in the enemy's lines. Similarly, the parties in the opposition ought not in the first few sessions to distribute their energy over a wide area of political business. The more extended the area of discussion the more advantage will be possessed by the Government. Consequently the *Kokumin* recommends that the opposition should select a few vital questions, and devote their whole attention to the discussion of them. They will thus be able to bring their effective strength to bear on the Authorities. In order to follow such a course of policy, the parties ought each to fix upon a few suitable members to be their respective spokesmen in the Diet, since it is to be feared that the inexperience of most of the representatives, and their eagerness to speak, may seriously interfere with the success of the line of tactics just mapped out. The next thing that political parties are advised to do, is to open negotiations among themselves with reference to particular bills under discussion; advice supplemented by the corollary that they should be forbearing towards one another and endeavour to moderate the animosity now existing between them. The *Kokumin* writes, in fact, as though the overthrow of the Government were the main purpose to be achieved by the various political parties, and probably that view of the situation is not far mistaken.

DR. AND MRS. HEPBURN.

The golden wedding of two of Japan's oldest and most esteemed foreign residents constituted, as was well pointed out in the address presented to Dr. and Mrs. Hepburn on Monday evening, an occasion of a most unique character. The celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of one's wedding day is permitted to but few in any part of the world, and naturally to a very small number in the Far East. When to the rarity of the event, is added equally rare respect and warm personal esteem based on an experience of upwards of thirty years, the occasion assumes features which compel commemoration and almost necessarily engender enthusiasm. The action of the residents of this port therefore in presenting an address to Dr. and Mrs. Hepburn calls forth no surprise. The address was signed on behalf of the community by Messrs. Wilkin, E. B. Watson, Gay, Jas. Walter, Keil, Grosser, Dumelin, N. F. Smith, Rev. Mr. Loomis, and Rev. Dr. Meacham; and was presented in the evening, at which time the greater number of Yokohama residents at least availed of the opportunity of calling to offer their congratulations and respects. The address ran as follows:—We are here as the Representatives of this Community generally, wishing to honour this occasion as one unique, we believe, in the history of this Settlement, and especially in that this day witnesses the wedding of that golden

band which half a century of love and happiness in wedded life has been daily forging for you. Receive, we beg of you, at our hands, these small tokens of the respect, esteem, and affection which is felt for you by us all. There are thirty years and more to bear their witness to your walk and conversation amongst us, and it is on their testimony that we are bold to declare our high appreciation of your blameless lives, your untiring labours as Christian missionaries, your works and labours of love towards all men. There are, besides, thousands of Japanese, aye, tens of thousands who, Dr. Hepburn, must bear in their hearts a grateful recollection of your skill as a physician, and your kindness as a fellow man; while Japanese and foreigners alike owe to you the first Dictionary of the language of this land; a splendid work, the fruit of years of hard toil, as we know, and the benefits of which cannot be estimated. Of your other incessant labours in a like field, hidden by your modesty from many eyes—we might go on to speak; much more we might say, but, that we be not further burdensome to you, we will conclude, dear friends, with the hearty wish that gentle time may ripen the gold of to-day into the glistening diamonds of an added twenty-five years; and in a happy old age, the good fight finished, the course fulfilled with joy, you may pass to receive that amaranthine crown, which the hand of time can never touch, and where labour shall be rest, and where joy in the presence of the Master you serve shall be your full reward." In presenting it, Mr. Wilkin stated that he had been privileged to act as spokesman for the many friends who desired to mark the occasion by a small presentation, and that being entitled to claim to be among Dr. and Mrs. Hepburn's oldest friends he had not hesitated to accept the honour. Mr. Wilkin regretted that the satisfaction of placing before them that night what the community had to offer was out of the question, the secret of the approach of the happy event having been too well kept. He consequently had to content himself with the bare announcement that some of their friends had desired to secure something lasting, something that might be a memento of the occasion, that might remain as a souvenir, to be handed on as an heirloom. Others had thought to place in Dr. Hepburn's hands a small purse of money to be disposed of by him as he might think best. In conclusion, Mr. Wilkin referred to the very general wish to put on record the sentiments entertained, which wish had found expression in the address. Dr. Hepburn, who was visibly affected by the unmistakable evidences of affection and warm regard, acknowledged with characteristic brevity and in the simplest terms the marked honour paid him and his dear wife, and expressed his gratitude at having, as it appeared, in some degree made the lives of some of their fellow creatures brighter and happier. Disclaiming with customary modesty having done anything more than his simple duty, the venerable Doctor avowed the thankfulness he and Mrs. Hepburn felt to their Heavenly Father for the opportunities afforded them in the course of the many years they had spent in the East. The reception, which was attended by the majority whose engagements permitted them to be present, was in the evening subsequent to the presentation of the address, rendered additionally interesting by the reading of an original poem, composed expressly for the occasion by Mrs. Hepburn's sister, a resident of the capital. When we add that the piece was read by Mrs. Rice, we say that nothing was lacking in its rendition.

NEWSPAPER COMPANIES AND RUMOUR.

It is not to be wondered at, perhaps, that the proceedings of the newspaper syndicates in Yokohama, having caused considerable perplexity to the foreign residents themselves, should have puzzled the Japanese also. The first syndicate formed seems to have been resolutely bent upon one object and one object only, namely, the acquisition of a newspaper. Its members were determined to have a journal of their own. If they could not obtain one of the

papers already in existence, they talked of starting a new one; a contingency which would either have involved its projectors in considerable loss, or led to the disappearance of one of the rival journals. Yokohama, partly from charitable considerations, supports three papers, but would assuredly decline to be burdened with four. Happily, however, the experiment has been avoided; the *Japan Gazette* has come into the possession of the syndicate. They tried with some persistence and a great deal of good nature to purchase the *Japan Herald*, and even went so far, it is said, as to offer a sum far in excess of what that newspaper would bring in the open market. Indeed, they stretched the limits of kindness to the extent of making this offer without being permitted to take stock of the object of traffic or to ascertain its financial condition by the ordinary process of examining the ledgers. Still an arrangement could not be effected, and recourse was accordingly had to the *Japan Gazette*, the proprietor of which proved more amenable to reason and more appreciative of a good offer. It might have been inferred from this that the owner of the *Herald* did not wish to part with his property, but that such was not the case is now proved by public announcement to the effect that another syndicate has been formed for the purchase of the *Herald*, and that the required sum has been nearly subscribed. Such proceedings, being very difficult to reconcile with any ordinary business hypothesis, astonish outsiders and have set the tongue of conjecture wagging busily. The *Koko Shinbun*—the newly appointed organ of the Constitutional Liberals—probably "takes the cake" for inventive genius. It publishes a tale, with all the local colouring required to enlist credence, to the effect that the original scheme of purchasing the *Herald* was nothing more or less than a bit of sharp and shady practice. The real owners of that journal, it says, were Messrs. Pinn and Lowder, but, the *Herald* being the most insignificant of the journals published in Yokohama, the task of supporting it proved very difficult. Accordingly, the syndicate scheme was evolved, the secret object being to induce people to put up money by means of which the newspaper was to be ostensibly purchased by a syndicate as an anti-revision organ, whereas in reality it should be a case of one proprietor buying from the other, thus providing funds to support the impecunious journal without disturbing its ownership or altering its complexion. Messrs. Fraser, Shand, Kingston, and Litchfield and the rest, writes the *Koko Shinbun*, discovering this plot, were much incensed. Where on earth our Tokyo contemporaries heard such a cock-and-bull story we cannot conceive. Of course there is not a syllable of truth in it, but its character is such that it can scarcely be passed over in silence, and we presume that steps will be taken to make the *Koko Shinbun* publish an emphatic contradiction.

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Apart from silly canards, however, there are some features of this movement which invite consideration. In the first place it is abundantly evident that a number of British residents of Yokohama have come to the conclusion that their views are not satisfactorily represented by the local foreign press. We have never ourselves pretended to be entirely in accord with these gentlemen's opinions. It is pretty certain that if the atmosphere of mud hitherto enveloping and obscuring all controversy in Yokohama could be cleared away, the difference between our ideas and those of our so-called opponents would be found to be infinitesimal. But for the present that difference appears to be considerable, and we can fully appreciate their desire to have a journal of their own which shall set forth their case moderately and courteously, without recourse to the suicidal weapons of slander and abuse. Our local contemporaries, however, have always claimed to be the mouthpieces of the conservative side, and their claim is now disavowed in the most practical and emphatic manner. The men whom they pretend to have represented are putting up a substantial sum for the purpose of buying them out, and en-

trusting to other hands the functions they have so ill discharged. The question is not one of dollars and cents. The members of the syndicates must be pretty well aware that as an investment their scheme is decidedly unpromising. They are willing to pay roundly, however, for journals of a different class, and the newspapers concerned must swallow the unsavoury pill, happily well gilded to expedite the process.

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The second interesting feature of the case is that the reconstituted newspapers are to be the property of syndicates. A company-owned journal is, of course, a perfectly possible arrangement from a purely commercial point of view. Provided that the conduct of the journal and the moulding of its policy are left entirely in the hands of one or two members of the Association, the remainder confining themselves to drawing dividends or paying deficits and promoting the circulation of the paper, there need be no difficulty whatever in carrying out the scheme. But is that the programme contemplated by the recently formed syndicates? We scarcely think so. Considering the time and the circumstances of the case, it seems pretty plain that the object of the syndicates is to have organs of their own; vehicles for expressing their political opinions rather than mere pecuniary investments. If every subscriber looks forward to advocacy which shall express and support his particular views, it will be necessary to procure editors of remarkably receptive and versatile ability. However, the Yokohama folks are eminently practical. They will probably appreciate the difficulty of adapting a journal to numerous shades of opinion, and will end by placing their new acquisitions on a purely business footing, which is the only conceivable way of conducting a newspaper with a number of owners, all of whom possess and may claim to exercise equal functions of control and directorship.

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The third feature of the movement is that it seems to establish the existence of a division in the camp of the men who have made themselves most conspicuous for activity and resoluteness of opinion in Yokohama. Originally there was talk of only one syndicate and one newspaper, but now there are two Richmonds in the field. It is hardly conceivable that both can be fighting in the same cause and under the same banner. Indeed, rumours are abroad which suggest that the remodelled journals are likely to commence their career in a mood of considerable mutual hostility. If anyone were in the happy position of a wholly unconcerned spectator, he might derive much amusement from the developments of this episode in Yokohama's history. There were points of an interesting and startling character in the proceedings of the celebrated meeting of September the 11th. Respectable residents were betrayed, on that occasion, into voting by acclaim resolutions which meant what they were not intended to mean and didn't mean what they ought to have meant. Had we no fear of being accused of profanity we should be tempted to call it the Miserere Meeting, for truly its record might be summed up in the frankest phrase of that penitent chant, "we have left undone the things that we ought to have done, and we have done that which we ought not to have done, and there is no health in us." But the meeting appears to have been only the opening scene of the performance. Perhaps the fault was that the proceedings were too well arranged. People were not allowed to speak who had many things to say. Perhaps, again, the distinction acquired by those who did speak fired others to seek similar publicity. At all events, whether repressed energy or fine emulation be the motive cause, the worthy citizens of this usually business-like and sober Settlement have been seized with a mania for acquiring platforms from which to address the public. They have put up some fifty thousand dollars to procure two newspapers, and possibly if the seizure spreads they may seek to gain possession of the columns of the third also. There is a tide in the affairs of journals as in those of individuals, though what lunar influence sets it flowing, we are at a loss to conceive. In

this instance it has cast up some golden drift on the barren shores of our local contemporaries. And as a loyal confidère we should wish them hearty joy did we not observe that this newspaper quest has had the unhappy effect of destroying the harmony that marked the Misere Meeting. The house is divided against itself, and we can only trust that the proverbial sequel of that condition does not await it. Of course it would have been contrary to the fitness of things that concord should have been preserved in connection, however remote, with two journals which, from the opening day of their eminent career, showed that the law of their existence was to tear each other to pieces under pretence of fighting for a common cause. Yet fate dealt unkindly with the Settlement when it decreed that the reign of discord should be inaugurated by an apparent birth of public spirit and unanimity. "Men are the sport of circumstances." Something always comes between them and their happiness. Perhaps it ought to have been foreseen that the continuity of Yokohama's evil genius would have been preserved, and that the two journals which had made the community assist at a spectacle of dirt-throwing and verbal horse-play for twenty years, were destined to extend their baleful influence even at the moment when their radical reform had been generally agreed upon.

A CHINESE CRITIC ON MISSIONARIES.

We take the following from the *Chinese Times*:—"A very remarkable paper has just come into our hands. It is an exceedingly brief essay on 'Missionary Methods' with a letter to Dr. Faber, by a Cantonese named Ho-cheung, who is described by Dr. Chalmers (the translator) as 'a slender young man of thirty, who gained the degree of *h'sin-tsai* at thirteen, and has spent his time subsequently in the pursuit of knowledge.' The paper was written with a view to the Missionary Conference at Shanghai, but the original miscarried and never reached its destination. That now published is a copy. It is a great pity that such an important contribution did not reach the Conference, as it contains the very essence of what the Missionaries are striving after, and offers most valuable suggestions. 'There is no better way of preaching than to attack the things that are obscure, by the way of the things that are clear to the hearers,' says this thoughtful writer, whose tract is divided into four sections. One of these is headed 'Recognising the Root,' and we quote it entire as a specimen of the Author's manner:—Everything has its root and its branches, and the business of propagating Christianity is no exception. The heart and the affections within are the root, which should be of paramount importance. The forms and institutions without are the branches, which may be made light of. The great bane of China is disobedience of the laws of God. Hence greed and corruption thrive together. Hence treachery and lying grow rank. Hence iniquity and ingratitude masquerade hand in hand. In preaching, by all means come down upon these things with the light of God—make them afraid by the words of retribution—send conviction home to them by holding up the facts. Visiting the graves and sacrificing to the wooden representatives of the dead, mean in China feelings of humanity and piety, opposed to iniquity and ingratitude. It is here that the people show, although their hearts are corrupt, the possibility as it were of being brought back unto obedience to God's law. For these things, although in their outward aspect alien to the Christian religion, yet in the spirit of them are an integral part of it. Do not Europeans cherish, and cleanse, and adorn the portraits and tombs of their fathers, by reason of their love and longing for them? They even reverently offer to them fragrant flowers; and only stop short of bowing down and worshipping them. It is only in their outward forms and institutions that they differ here from Chinese. If preachers do not recognise the root of the matter, and waste their breath in railing at the wooden fetiches and sepulchral sacrifices of the Chinese, their hearers, who do not care to

search into the reason of such discourse, naturally conclude that Jesus encourages people to be ingrate and iniquitous, and that His religion should on no account be followed. That humane men should be thus slandered is surely much to be deplored. Therefore I say, 'Would that preachers always recognised the root?'"

TERSCHAK'S CONCERT.

THE farewell concert in Yokohama of Professor Terschak and Madame Schuller took place on Monday in the Public Hall. There was a fairly large audience, indeed the house considerably exceeded expectations remembering the number of public entertainments that have taken place recently. The programme, too, was certainly not of a kind to draw mere idlers. The concert began with the Grand Sonata for flute and piano composed by the Professor in this country, the andante part of which was specially beautiful and evoked the most hearty plaudits. A Reverie of Schumann's, played by a string party consisting of Messrs. Kaufmann (1st violin), Ramseger (2nd violin), Rausch (tenor violin), Enthoven (1st cello) and Crane (2nd cello) came next, and, though all too short, took the fancy of the audience so much, being rendered under the Professor's leadership with infinite taste and expression, that a repeat had to be conceded. A Fantasia on the Japanese songs "Hana Kurabe" and "Sakura" (the latter of which was particularly beautiful) and an Intermezzo, both the composition in this country of the maestro, were then rendered by flute and piano. After the intermezzo, the bright and sparkling notes of which could with difficulty be banished from the ears of the audience, Madame Schuller rendered with her wonted brilliance of execution two pieces of Mendelssohn ("Frühlinglied" and "Spinnelied"), and a *valse de concert* named "Plaisir du Soir," by Terschak. For his "Rhapsodie Russ. No. 2" composed during his stay in this country—a number abounding in passages of the most delicate beauty, the distinguished flautist was recalled. The second part was introduced by a "Meditation" (by Terschak) for strings and harp, in which the party above mentioned re-appeared, with Madame Schuller at the piano in place of the absent string party. This fine number, rendered with rare power and precision, was followed by a piano solo (Liszt's transcription of the "Procession of the Guests to the Wartburg" March from Wagner's "Tannhäuser"), a work replete with grand and massive passages, and offering an ample field for the display of Madame Schuller's unique skill and power. The next number was a composition of the master's—"Concert Allegro (Op. 147)" chiefly marked by the lovely bird-like notes of the flute, and the concert was brought to a close with the Grand Imperial Turkish March (specially composed for the Sultan by the Professor), which, including as it does, the fine National Anthem, the Grand March, and a final hymn, proved as a four hands performance a grand and lofty piece. The concert was in all respects a rare treat to lovers of music.

COUNT ITO AND THE PRESIDENCY OF THE UPPER HOUSE.

It is scarcely necessary to say that Count Ito's consent to return to active political life as President of the House of Peers is heartily welcomed by the vernacular press. The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* is conspicuously emphatic in its approval and congratulations. It pronounces Count Ito to be unquestionably the best qualified statesman of the day to discharge the duties of this important post, since he possesses the essentials of dignity and popularity (*sho*), ability and knowledge (*chishiki*) and wisdom and resolution combined with impartiality (*somei kadan*). Passing from this flattering eulogy of the new President, the *Nichi Nichi* observes that the assembly over which he is called to preside does not consist of effete and incapable nobles but of active men, some young and highly educated according to Western standards, some possessing ripe legislative experience acquired in the Senate and other responsible positions, some eloquent and of tried capacity as

statesmen. The man who directs the debates of such an assembly at a time when the Constitution is to receive its first practical interpretation, and when parliamentary precedents are to be established for the guidance of future Houses, must possess qualifications such as few can boast. Public opinion pointed unmistakably to Count Ito, and is correspondingly gratified by his consent to serve. At the same time, it is understood that the Count has stipulated not to be required to occupy the post for the full term of seven years contemplated by the Constitution. He accepted the office with much reluctance, and the Emperor has graciously consented to release him at the end of the first Diet's life, namely, after four years. Doubts have been expressed in some quarters on the subject of this question of time, since the terms of the Constitution are explicit, but it is plain that the purpose of the Constitution is to fix a superior limit of time for the President's appointment, not to compel him to serve throughout the whole of that period. The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* further thinks that, failing Count Yanagiwara, no better selection could have been made for the Vice-Presidency than Count Higashikuze, for in addition to a record of distinguished service, that nobleman is remarkable for stately courtesy, calmness of judgment, and candour of disposition.

PERSONAL.

THE appointment of Count Higashikuze to the post of Vice-President of the House of Peers was unexpected, Count Yanagiwara having been generally spoken of in connection with that post. In fact it is reported that Count Yanagiwara had been offered the position; but as he declined it, the appointment fell to Count Higashikuze. He is one of the famous *Kuge* who provoked the anger of the Tokugawa Government and fled to Choshu. Since then his name has been inseparably connected with the restoration of power to the Imperial House, and is consequently very popular among the nobles.

Mr. Hoshi Tôru has returned from his recent travels in Europe and America. For a time it was a little doubtful whether he would join the Constitutional Liberal party. But he has at last declared himself for that party, and it is reported that he will contribute articles to its new organs, the *Jiyu Shinbun* and the *Koko Shinbun*.

Mr. Mori Tokinosuke, member of the Diet for a district in the suburbs of the capital, has been acquitted of the principal charge of embezzlement preferred against him, but he has been judged guilty of having unlawfully appropriated for his private use certain articles entrusted to his custody. As the consequence of this judgment of the preliminary court, Messrs. Hatoyama, Tsunoda, and others, who had been privately canvassing in the district to fill the expected vacancy, are reported to have redoubled their efforts to win the good opinion of the voters.

It has been regretted by everybody that an unfortunate episode, which we need not again refer to here, induced Mr. Fukuchi, formerly editor of the *Nichi Nichi Shinbun*, to stand aside from public affairs and lead a retired and private life. There are indications, however, that he is slowly emerging from his temporary obscurity. At the last meeting of the Elocutional Society, he delivered a lecture on the subject of the relation between politics and learning. It would be a loss to the country were a man of his political experience and literary capacity to remain permanently in the inactive obscurity to which he thought it expedient to consign himself after the celebrated investigation of 1889.

CHRISTIANITY AND THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY. THE *Keisai Zasshi* of the 25th ultimo has an interesting article on the dilemma in which the Christians find themselves in relation to the probable alliance between Buddhists and the new Conservative party now in process of organization. The conservative reaction—says our contemporary—which set in some years ago, is about to culminate in the formation of a formidable

able political party embodying the principles of the above movement. It being the rooted opinion of Japanese Conservatives that Christianity is fundamentally opposed to the principles of loyalty and filial piety,—the cardinal principles of the national polity,—the growing power of the Conservatives cannot but tell severely upon the position of the Christians. The danger in which the latter now find themselves is, continues the Tokyo journals, still more increased by the probable alliance between the Buddhists and the new party. Under these circumstances, what course of policy are the Christians to pursue? Will they ally themselves with some of the parties opposed to the *Hoshuto*. Or will they strictly maintain a neutral position in politics, and cope unaided with whatever opposition they may encounter from the new party? Our contemporary puts so much confidence in their practical sense, that it cannot but think that they will follow the latter line of action. The *Keisai Zasshi*, by way of substantiating its prediction as to the future attitude of Christians, refers to an incident that took place some time ago at the residence of a certain Count at Takanawa. The latter—it is scarcely necessary to say that Count Goto is meant—invited to dinner several distinguished Christians, including Messrs. Kimura Kumaji and Uyemura Masahisa. In the course of conversation the Count spoke of the importance of extending Government patronage to Christianity, whereupon his guests, it is said, unanimously deprecated the idea of mixing up religion and politics. At the same time our contemporary, while entertaining no doubt as the course of policy which the majority of leading Christians will pursue, is apprehensive lest among the bulk of the believers some may be scared by the opposition of the Conservatives and Buddhists into an alliance with a political party. The Tokyo journal, therefore, thinks it important that leading Christians should take measures to prevent any such fatal step on the part of their fellow-believers, for should they once combine with any party, they would have to identify themselves and their religion with the fate of that party.

It seems to us a very significant proof of the mood of the Japanese public towards Christianity that advice so excellent as the above should be tendered by a journal like the *Keisai Zasshi*. There is no mistaking the fact that the sympathy of the *Keisai Zasshi* is with the Christians, and that it desires to see them adopt a course conducive to the good of their cause.

"THE JAPAN ECHO."

We have received the prospectus of a new journal, the issue of which commences to-day. It is to be called the *Japan Echo*. The publisher is M. Salabelle, a journalist of experience, and the editor is believed to be Mr. J. Murdock, of the Higher Middle School. The paper is to be illustrated, chiefly by the pencil of M. Bigot, an artist of undoubted talent who is pledged, we understand, to abstain from caricatures, a species of delineation with which the public has learned to associate his name. The *Echo* will appear fortnightly. Here is what the prospectus promises:—

The main object of the publication will be to give a full, fair, and impartial view of every topic of interest handled by the foreign and vernacular press during the fortnight. As every question has two sides, and most have more, it will be the aim of the *Echo* to reproduce the gist of every thing of consequence published during the preceding fourteen days, irrespective of the stand-point assumed by the writers. While especial attention will be devoted to the English Papers of the Treaty Ports and the seven (?) leading dailies of Tokyo, space from time to time will also be found for items of interest cropping up in the smaller vernacular prints, and in the magazines. In short, the *Echo* will aim at being an accurate reflex of all shades of Japanese Public Opinion.

In addition to this it will also contain a large amount of original matter, consisting of Leading Articles, Editorial Notes, Written Sketches, Interviews, Sporting and Society Gossip.

An important feature of the paper will be the appearance of Signed Articles on subjects of contemporary interest by the leaders of thought in Japan.

It is of course our duty to wish success to this new venture, but we feel that the wish must sound rather empty. There is nothing that

we can discover to warrant the addition of another journal to the already over-filled list. If the pictorial side of the *Echo* is developed sufficiently to give it a special interest, the cost of publication must be increased out of all proportion to the field of enterprise. The price of subscription is announced at the very high rate of 75 *sen* per copy. Two hundred subscribers—a very liberal estimate—would therefore signify an income of only three thousand six hundred *yen*, and if this could be increased to six thousand by means of advertisements, the proprietors might congratulate themselves. How are the expenses of printing and paper, as well as the remuneration to editor, manager, artists, and engravers to be defrayed out of a possible income of five hundred *yen* monthly?

THE YOKOHAMA LOCAL PRESS.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* contains a very precise account of the doings now going on in Yokohama with reference to the local press. It seems sufficiently interesting to translate verbatim, with the exception of the opening part, which consists chiefly of compliments to the *Japan Mail* and may therefore be omitted:—"The *Japan Herald* and *Gazette* make it a rule to attack everything Japanese whether it be good or bad, and are in direct opposition to the *Japan Mail*. Recently, when British merchants organised the anti-revision meeting, it came to be recognised that a journalistic organ to express the views of the agitators was necessary. Accordingly steps were taken to purchase the *Herald* and *Gazette*. Men of means among the English merchants, in concert with Mr. Lowder, bought the *Gazette* for fifty thousand *yen*, of which twenty thousand was paid by the shareholders and thirty thousand was held by Mr. Anglin, the previous proprietor. The programme is that Mr. W. Denning is to be engaged as editor with a salary of five hundred *yen* per mensem, and that Mr. Anglin will be Manager with a salary of three hundred. Mr. Anglin was originally a soldier in the English army, after which he became a compositor in the office of the *Japan Times*, and subsequently acquired possession of the *Japan Gazette*. Mr. Denning is well known in connection with lectures delivered by him. He is neither an unfair nor a prejudiced person, and being a man of scholarly attainments, a journal in his hands will not be dishonest or partial, nor will it indiscriminately attack everything Japanese. But as the newspaper is to be an anti-revision organ, we regret to think that it will of necessity be opposed to our country's fair demands. We fear also that Mr. Denning may forfeit the respect hitherto felt for him by the Japanese. There is another party opposed to the fashion of procedure adopted by the *Gazette* syndicate. This party, determined not to be beaten, has resolved to purchase the *Herald* for a sum of twenty-five thousand *yen*. Messrs. ———, ———, and Brooke are the chief promoters and managers of this syndicate, and Mr. Murdock, a teacher in the Upper Middle School, is expected to be editor. The paper will be a rival of the *Gazette*, but like the latter will be an organ of the anti-revisionists. Mr. Murdock is a very vehement controversialist, and a writer who uses exceedingly strong language. It is hard to say what length he may go to in discussion. If he adopted the side of justice and fairness, his writing would carry much weight, but should he lend his pen to partiality and advance unjust views, he will ultimately find society shut against him, and will prove his own evil genius. The event must soon be determined, and we invite our readers to watch the two newspapers carefully."

In the next issue of the same journal the following letter appeared over the signature of Mr. Murdock:—"Sir,—In the miscellaneous articles of your issue of yesterday, under the heading 'Changes in the English local press of Yokohama,' there appears a statement to the effect that Mr. Murdock of the Upper Middle School is to become editor of the *Japan Herald*. This statement is without foundation, and as it greatly concerns the reputation (*meigi ni kaka-*

ru koto itate omoku soro) of the Upper Middle School and of myself, I beg that you will publish this letter and contradict the statement, so far as it relates to me, in your issue of to-morrow. I am, &c., J. Murdock." It is perhaps fortunate for Mr. Murdock that this opportunity has been afforded him to correct a rumour very generally believed by the foreign residents. For several days it has been matter of common talk that Mr. Murdock was likely to be the new editor of the *Japan Herald*, and his denial in the columns of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* will be a surprise to many. We fail, however, to apprehend in what respect such a rumour can reflect upon either Mr. Murdock or the School where he teaches at present. If we are not mistaken Mr. Murdock was connected with Journalism before coming to Japan, and his return to that occupation would be perfectly natural. Further, if this rumour seems to call for emphatic contradiction in the interests of the Upper Middle School, the same regard for his position ought surely to have restrained Mr. Murdock from writing and publishing such a work as "The adventures of Don Juan's Grandson in Japan," which is the title, if we remember rightly, of a volume of doggerel verse, some parts of which so far exceed the limits of propriety as to be a disgrace at once to its author and its publisher.

Speaking of these things, we may mention that according to current rumour the scheme of purchasing and reconstituting the *Japan Herald* has been abandoned. The circumstances under which the project came into existence were of such a nature that we found much difficulty in crediting its consummation, and are not at all surprised to learn that more prudent and business-like counsels have prevailed. The *Japan Gazette*, in the hands of the company which has acquired it, may prove a pecuniary success and will certainly be a journal creditable to the Settlement. But another local newspaper in the possession of a rival company would have been quite in excess of the situation. Probably, if the truth were known, it would be discovered that neither business nor politics had so large an influence in this matter of the *Japan Herald* as charity. It would be difficult to find a community where the dictates of kindness and friendly fellowship count for so much as they do with the people of Yokohama. The *Japan Herald*, after all, has fought, for many years, according to its lights, a battle with which several of the foreign residents believe themselves to be associated. Of its fashion of fighting, the less said the better. People good-naturedly forget the fashion, and, remembering only the fact, are not content that the *Herald* should be entirely passed over by the rain of golden plums which the excitement of the hour has shaken from our little local firmament. The proverbial impartiality of that celestial moisture, which falls alike on the evil and on the good, would be violated by such a one-sided contingency. Charity, however, has a limit, prudence, and Yokohama is primarily a place of business.

There is another point which deserves to be noted. It is the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* conclusion that the *Japan Gazette* under its new management will be an anti-revision organ. We are bound to admit that very good grounds exist for confusion in respect of this matter. To Japanese observers it may well seem that anti-revision and anti-revision only must be the policy of the paper. But there stands in the way of this inference the fact that the principal promoter of the newspaper scheme has distinctly declared himself to be not an anti-revisionist but a pro-revisionist, and has gone so far as to assert that every sensible person must admit Japan's claims to a modification of the terms of the present Treaties. The only issue likely to be raised by the re-constituted *Japan Gazette* will relate to the terms of revision, concerning which there is plenty of room for differences of opinion. We entertain not the smallest doubt that the contemplated change in the control and editorship of the paper will be of the greatest

possible benefit to all parties, the Japanese included. Instead of a species of hoarding for the unbridled exhibition of every kind of slander, venom, and vulgarity, we shall have a moderate, just, and courteous journal, often critical perhaps and sometimes opposed to the projects of the Japanese Government and people, but always fair, honest, and polite. It will be like breathing fresh air after living in an atmosphere of mud and dust, and the effect upon the relations between Japanese and foreigners cannot fail to be most beneficial. We do not think that there is the least danger of Mr. Denig's forfeiting Japanese respect: he is much more likely to establish a new title to Japanese gratitude.

THE NEWSPAPER PROSECUTIONS.

ANOTHER curious feature of the newspaper prosecutions undertaken by the Authorities in consequence of the publication of the Memorial from the Kansei politicians to the Minister President of State, is that the *Osaka Nichi Nichi* has been acquitted. The printer and publisher of that journal were summoned before the Osaka Correctional Court on the 27th ultimo and charged with re-producing the Memorial from the columns of the *Choya Shimbu*. The judge was Mr. Yoshida, the Public Prosecutor Mr. Takano, and the advocate for the accused, Mr. Ogura. It appears that the newspaper was arraigned under Article 32 of the Press Regulations, which interdicts the publication of articles calculated to disturb the institutions of the Government. The Court held that as the matter on which the prosecution based its charge was merely reproduced from another newspaper, it did not come within the scope of the article, which referred only to original articles. We need scarcely say that this judgment, diametrically opposed as it is to the verdicts of the Tokyo and other Courts, has given rise to much comment by the vernacular press. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbu* is conspicuously critical. It avers that, so far from imagining the obnoxious memorial to be at all likely to disturb the Constitution, the Tokyo journals regarded it as fitting matter for ridicule. When, therefore, wholesale prosecutions were instituted, it was feared that the Government had committed a grave mistake, not only because such a step was calculated to alienate public opinion at a time when wise statesmanship would have sought to conciliate it, but also because a weapon was placed in the hands of foreigners who decry Japanese institutions and seek to demonstrate the country's unfitness to be entrusted with judicial autonomy. But at least it was hoped that the various tribunals required to try the offending journals would show unanimity, whereas there have been not only great differences in the nature of the punishments inflicted, but also direct conflicts of findings. So far as varieties of penalty are concerned, the Court of Cassation will no doubt put the matter right, but when we find the Osaka tribunal pronouncing a newspaper not guilty which has committed exactly the same offence that brought upon the head of a Tokyo editor a sentence of a month's imprisonment, it is evident that something is radically wrong somewhere. Of course the independence shown by the Osaka Judge is a matter of congratulation, but the display of that quality comes at an unfortunate time. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbu* further says that an application for bail pending an appeal to the Upper Courts was refused to its editor and publisher after a delay of twelve days, and that, consequently, the appeal was withdrawn and the editor and publisher went to prison, persuaded that they had better take their punishment at once than linger on week after week in jail while the appeal was going forward. It cannot be said that the Authorities have come out of this business with colours flying.

THE METHODISTS AND TREATY REVISION.

The following letter appears in the *Tokyo Shimpo*:—"Sir,—There are four sects of Methodists in Japan, the Protestant Methodists, the Canadian Methodists, the Nambu Methodists, and the Nippon Methodists. I do not know whether, in speaking of Methodist opposition to a

proposed Treaty-Revision Memorial from Japanese Christians, you alluded to one of these divisions or to the whole body of Methodists, but I can answer for the Nippon Methodists that they knew of no such intention on the part of any other Christian Association, whether native or foreign, and could not consequently have either opposed the memorial or signed it. That Christian societies as such should interfere in political matters seems a doubtful proceeding. If the step you refer to was contemplated, we should approve of it provided that its projectors did not act in their capacity of Christians but only as public-spirited men among the Japanese Christians. When Sir Harry Parkes was Minister in Japan, one of our missionaries, the Rev. C. S. Eby, in his capacity of a British subject, took a leading part in inducing the foreign missionaries to urge upon the home Governments the necessity of Treaty Revision. Another member of our Church, when on a visit to Canada, lectured publicly in favour of speedy Revision. May I beg you to publish these facts, and at the same time to correct the statements which appeared in your columns, so far as they concerned the Nippon Methodists. I am, &c. (signed) Ozawa Magotaro, Nippon Methodist Church."

CHOLERA RETURNS.

The latest cholera returns derived from official sources are as follow:—

Prefecture or City.	Date.	New Cases.	Deaths.
Osaka	23rd	19	23
	24th	15	25
	25th	23	25
	26th	9	12
	27th	10	8
Hyogo	23rd	7	10
	24th	5	9
	25th	16	26
	26th	12	11
	27th	24	26
Okayama	23rd	13	13
	24th	11	6
	25th	18	10
	26th	10	9
	27th	10	14
Kagawa	23rd	17	18
	24th	13	22
	25th	15	3
	26th	23	22
	27th	10	12
	28th	3	7
	29th	14	16

The numbers of cases and deaths since the commencement of the epidemic, inclusive of the above figures, appear in the following table:—

Prefecture or City.	Cases.	Deaths.
Osaka	8,183	6,666
Hyogo	5,736	2,612
Okayama	1,454	1,029
Kagawa	1,819	1,123

GOLD AND SILVER RATIOS.

The *Official Gazette* gives the following table of comparative values of gold and silver coins and of the pound sterling for the week ended the 25th ultimo, as derived from the returns of the Bank of Japan and the Yokohama Specie Bank:—

Days	Gold Coin. (Per yen 100)	Pound Sterling (Per £1)
20th	118.000	A.M. 5.8181 P.M. 5.8181
21st	117.700	A.M. 5.8715 P.M. 5.8715
22nd	119.000	A.M. 5.8358 P.M. 5.8358
23rd	119.000	A.M. 5.8895 P.M. 5.8895
24th	118.000	A.M. 5.8330 P.M. 5.8330
25th	119.000	A.M. 6.0377 P.M. 6.0377
Averages	118.453	5.8841

The above averages show for gold coin an increase in value of yen 1.383 per cent., and for the pound sterling an increase in value of yen 0.0767 as compared with the previous week.

CANDIDATES FOR THE PRESIDENCY OF THE LOWER HOUSE.

The time of the meeting of the Diet drawing near, various rumours are circulated about candidates for the posts of President and Vice-President of the House of Representatives. The *Kokumin-no-Tomo* states that, according to a report, the names of gentlemen proposed by the various parties for each of these two posts are, respectively, ex-Senator Teuda and Mr. Yoshino Seikei by the *Taisei-kwai* (Independents);

* The terms used in the Japanese original are not very clear.

Messrs. Nakajima Nobuyuki and Oye Taku or Kōno Hironaka by the Constitutional Liberals; Messrs. Kusumoto, formerly Vice-President of the Senate, and Shimada Saburo of the *Mainichi Shimbu*, by a section of the *Kaishin-to* and by Conservatives well disposed to the Government. The House, it will be remembered, has to elect three members for each post and submit them to the Emperor, and as upon this point parties are scarcely like to act in union, it is impossible to predict the result.

THE BANK OF JAPAN.

The amounts of convertible notes and reserves in the Bank of Japan for the week ended the 25th ultimo were as follows:—

CONVERTIBLE NOTES.	RESERVES AND SECURITIES.
YEN.	YEN.
Notes issued	Gold coin and bullion
76,360,579	24,005,247
	Silver coin and bullion
	18,839,312
	Public Loan Bonds
	15,479,450
	Treasury Bills
	—
	Government Bills
	—
	Other securities
	4,732,182
	Commercial Bills
	14,317,328
76,360,579	76,360,579

Of the above total issue of notes, the sum of yen 5,834,325 is in the treasury of the Bank, and yen 70,526,254 in actual circulation, the latter showing an increase of yen 1,015,680 as compared with yen 69,510,574 at the end of the previous week.

ALLEGED THEFT OF \$200.

On Sunday John McCotton, second engineer of the *Hokkai Maru*, who had just been paid off from that vessel, went to a saloon in China-town with over \$200 in his pocket. After leaving the saloon he stopped to speak to a coloured man for a short time, during which a *jinrikisha* coolie whom he had engaged saw his pocket book drop from his pocket and saw the man to whom McCotton was speaking pick it up and put it in his own pocket. The *jinrikisha* man followed him, but lost sight of him somewhere near the Chinese Consulate. The matter was reported to the Police Station, and McCotton was advised to go to the American Consulate and take out a warrant for the alleged thief's arrest.

AN EVIL MINDED SCRIBBLER.

A PRUDENT noodle has addressed to one of the local journals a letter charging Japanese scribblers with using obscene terms to name their silks. The particular word which caught this salacious simpleton's eye means nothing more or less than "golden jewel," but since his own unclean vocabulary contains only one word of that sound, he jumped to the insane conclusion that only one such word exists. Why these silly persons should be allowed to publish in the local press impressions as immodest as they are ignorant, we are at a loss to conceive.

BOAT RACE.

THE Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club Club fours race came off on Monday afternoon. Three boats started. Black kept the lead till near the finish, when Blue got in front and came in a foot ahead. The following were the crews:—

BLACK.	RED.	BLUE.
Smith (bow).	Payne (bow).	Gibbs (bow).
Eyton (2).	Young (2).	Marshall (2).
Martin (3).	Abenheim (3).	Barton (3).
Shepherd (stroke).	Mottu (stroke).	Campbell (stroke).
Henson (cox.)	Hooper (cox.)	Robinson (cox.)

THE HOUSE OF PEERS.

It is announced in the *Official Gazette* on Saturday morning that Count Ito has been nominated by His Majesty the Emperor President of the House of Peers, in accordance with Article XI. of the Imperial Ordinance concerning the House of Peers, while Count Higashikuni, Privy Councillor, has been nominated Vice-President of the Upper House.

ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY.

We learn that it has been decided by the St. Andrew's Society to celebrate the forthcoming anniversary of St. Andrew by a ball, to be held in the Public Hall on Friday evening the 28th instant.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

UNCERTAINTY existed until recently as to the probable occupant of the important position of President of the House of Peers. Public opinion had been for some time fixed upon three men, Count ITO, Count YANAGIWARA, and Count OKUMA, the general opinion being decidedly in favour of the first named statesman's appointment. But Count ITO himself did not appear to be at all willing to accept the post. He had foreseen, it was supposed, that the position of President of either House would, under ordinary circumstances, virtually remove its occupant from the field of active politics, and since the nation looks to him to resume the direction of the Cabinet at no distant date, he might naturally hesitate to assume duties incompatible with that prospect. The vernacular newspapers, however, in recent issues, spoke as though no doubt could any longer be entertained on the subject. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, always conspicuous for the accuracy of its information in respect of such matters, explained that the Cabinet having unanimously fixed upon Count ITO as best fitted for the post, and this opinion having been conveyed to the Count, he sought audience of the EMPEROR and explained his views at some length. Subsequently the Minister President communicated the sentiment of the Cabinet to Count ITO through Mr. ITO MIYOJI, but the Count showed no sign of consenting, and another emissary was accordingly employed. This led to a second visit by the Count to the Palace, after which frequent interviews took place between him and members of the Cabinet. Nothing definite transpired, however, until yesterday, when the majority of the vernacular newspapers in the capital published an announcement that Count ITO had at length agreed to accept the Presidency, and that an official notice of the fact would appear in a few days. It seems probable, therefore, that the matter has now been absolutely settled. Before assuming that Count ITO's hesitation to fill the post arose from the cause generally assumed, namely, reluctance to remove himself from the field of active politics for a lengthy period, it has to be remarked that, according to his own theory, no disability of that kind attaches to the position of President of the Upper House. Count ITO in more than one speech delivered last year, declared emphatically that the Cabinet must stand entirely aloof from party politics. The Count, who understands questions of this nature at least as well as any one in the empire, must foresee very clearly that the time is not far distant when Japanese Cabinets will hold office as representatives of the majority in the Diet; in other words, when they will hold office by the will of the party which succeeds in returning a majority of the members. But at present the

theory of the Japanese polity is not only that the Ministers of State receive and retain their portfolios entirely by the will of the Sovereign, their appointment to a tenure of office being thus absolutely independent of the Diet, but also that a Cabinet actively presided over by the EMPEROR himself, must not be exposed to reconstruction at the caprice of a political party. So long as this theory can be maintained in practice, it is plain that an interchange of offices between the Minister President of State and the President of the House of Peers need not present any incongruity or entail any inconvenience. We greatly doubt, therefore, whether Count ITO's reluctance to accept the latter post was due to the motive popularly assigned. It seems to us much more reasonable to attribute the Count's hesitation to his strongly expressed resolve not to take office again for a lengthy period. Last year, when he retired from the Presidency of the Privy Council, he let it be distinctly understood that he desired to stand aloof from official life during a long interval. In this announcement he was beyond question sincere, and only considerations of great weight can have moved him from his purpose. Such considerations, it appears to us, are easily discernible. The introduction of parliamentary institutions in Japan is an experiment of incalculable interest. It would be difficult to assign any limit to the effect which success or failure will exercise upon Japan's national reputation. The hitherto firmly held creed of Western nations is that conditions compatible with constitutional government are either indigenous in a State, or result from long years, centuries even, of education and effort. Some observers go so far as to claim that the interest attaching to Japan's case is not confined to her own destiny but extends to every country not yet blessed with parliamentary institutions, because, if Japan succeeds, her precedent will justify others in attempting an equally rapid transition. We do not share this view, being persuaded that the Japanese people possess special qualities which adapt them for the remarkable rôle they are now playing, and which will carry them safely over the difficulties lying in their path. But there can be no doubt that civilized nations will be eager spectators of the ordeal which Japan has voluntarily chosen to undergo, and that the verdict depending on the result is vital for her. Count ITO, before all Japanese statesmen, is responsible for the Constitution, and the question naturally arises whether his patriotic duties ended on the 11th of February, 1889, when the Minister President of State received the precious document from the hands of the Sovereign. We do not for a moment think that they did end then. The framing of a Constitution at once in touch with the circumstances of

the nation and in harmony with the spirit of parliamentary government was a great and memorable achievement. But the carrying out of the Constitution is even more onerous and important. To enact laws may be difficult, but to interpret them wisely demands even higher faculties. It will rest, for the most part, with the Presidents of the two Houses to interpret the Constitution. Many perplexing questions will certainly arise, and it seems almost essential that Count ITO's services should be available to answer them. The Houses, too, though absolutely new to their work, will be expected to establish precedents for the guidance of future sessions. No estimate, indeed, could be excessive of the responsibilities devolving upon the first Diet, of the difficulties it will have to contend with, and of the inferences that will be drawn from its conduct. The duty of assisting at such a crisis is almost obligatory on Count ITO. In a certain sense he may be said to be the father of the Constitution, and it devolves upon him to see that the healthy child born under such happy auspices does not degenerate into a deformity in its early youth.

NATURALIZATION OF BRITISH SUBJECTS IN JAPAN.

THE possibility of a British subject being naturalized in Japan under existing circumstances has been discussed more than once, and on each occasion the discussion has elicited strong comment that Englishmen do not enjoy in Japan the full liberty guaranteed to them by their own institutions under which they are supposed to live here. The Naturalization Act of 1870 provides that "a British subject in any foreign State may renounce his allegiance to HER MAJESTY by becoming naturalized in that State." Hence, to cursory controversialists it seems plain that a British subject in Japan should be at liberty to avail himself of the privilege granted by this Act. But there is an obstacle not apparent at first sight, namely, that according to Great Britain's construction of her Treaty with Japan, the latter cannot be regarded as a foreign State for any legal purpose. All the laws of England are operative in respect of British subjects in Japan just as though—to use the objectionable but expressive formula of the Order in Council—just as though this empire were "conquered or ceded territory." It would plainly be a flagrant contradiction to claim, on the one hand, that the laws of England are operative in respect of British subjects in Japan to the same extent as if Japan were conquered or ceded territory, and on the other to assert that Japan may be regarded as a purely foreign State for the purpose of privileges granted by those laws. The fact is that, so far as British law is concerned, a British subject in Japan is on the same footing as

he would be were he living in London. An Englishman in England certainly could not take advantage of the denationalizing privilege granted by the Act of 1870, and neither can an Englishman in Japan. For all legal intents and purposes, the two are on the same footing. Japan is not a "foreign state" in the sense contemplated by the Naturalization Act.

The particular case which recently gave rise to a renewal of this controversy was that of a British subject who wanted to marry a Japanese. It does not appear that his primary purpose was to become naturalized in Japan. To complete a legal alliance with a lady upon whom he had set his affections, was the extent of his aim. But the lady happened to be registered as the head of her family, and so long as she occupied that position marriage with her could only be effected by her husband's taking her name. This is a point concerning which Japanese law is very explicit and very inflexible. Under such circumstances the union could not be accomplished unless the man became a naturalized Japanese subject, and it was his unsuccessful attempt to do so that reopened the controversy as to the scope of the Act of 1870. Japanese law provides only one course by which a foreigner can become a naturalized Japanese subject, namely by adoption into a family for marital purposes. This course has been followed by at least one American citizen, for the view taken by the United States of Japan's status *quoad* the laws of the Treaty Powers differs considerably from the view taken by England. Thus, in the case we are considering, the Englishman preceded by the only available route. But he suddenly found it blocked by the *non possumus* of his Consul; which incident has been strongly criticised, on the ground that no reference whatever need have been made to the British Consul by the Japanese. That is a misconception, we think, due probably to a confusion of ideas between the ceremony of marriage and the act of naturalization. If a British subject desires to marry a Japanese woman according to the forms prescribed by Japanese law, the British Consul need not be consulted at all. If he desires to marry her according to the forms of British law, the assistance of his Consul is of course indispensable, and a document must also be obtained from the Japanese Authorities certifying that there is no objection on their side to the marriage. All this has now been thoroughly cleared up. Much uncertainty existed about it formerly. Our readers probably remember a case tried in the Probate and Divorce Court in London last spring. The plaintiff, a British subject, moved the Court to recognise the validity of a marriage contracted by him with a Japanese lady according to the forms of Japanese law, and the Court sustained his petition. It was thus finally decided that the Japanese marriage law is

applicable to a British subject residing in Japan. The hearing of the case by Sir JAMES HANNEN only occupied a day, and the question, when placed under the lens of British judicial acumen, assumed such simple and logical dimensions that no one dreamed of doubting the justice of the decision. Still less could any one have suspected that long years of legal discussion and official obstruction had preceded the final submission of the issue to a British Court. We do not propose to enter here into the details of the story, but only to note the particular feature of it which bears upon the recent case. That feature was a strange doctrine, advanced by the Japanese Authorities and maintained by them for years, namely, that in order to extend the Japanese marriage law to a foreign subject or citizen, the coöperation of his Consul was essential. The alleged ground of this theory was derived from the fashion of the Japanese marriage ceremony, which is purely a civil rite, consisting in the registration of the woman as an inmate of the man's house in the capacity of wife. The certificate of registration having been duly signed and sealed, an entry to that effect is made in the official records by the Head-man of the district in which the newly married couple reside. It was asserted by the Japanese Authorities that, for the purposes of the ceremony, the functions of Head-man must be discharged by the Consul of the would-be husband's nationality. Of course this was a misconception, the more remarkable inasmuch as it showed that the Japanese Government, while maintaining, as they had always done, that the provisions—though not the penalties—of their territorial laws apply to every foreigner residing in the Empire, were nevertheless unprepared to carry their contention into practice, or to take any step in such a sense without the consent of a foreign Consul. Still the difficulty was obstinately interposed, and could not be removed until years of discussion had brought sufficient light to bear on the question. It is just possible that the Kanagawa Authorities, unaware of what had occurred in Tokyo, may have taken a similarly mistaken view of the course to be followed in respect of the recent marriage. We can hardly think so, however, for Governor ASADA is an able official, thoroughly conversant with all matters of international bearing. Besides, as we have already noted, the question was one not of marriage merely, but of naturalization. To the latter it is beyond dispute that the Consul must be a consenting party, and no British Consul could so consent without direct opposition to the interpretation attaching to the Treaty in the eyes of the British Government. From a British Consul's point of view, his nationals are no more at liberty to remove themselves from British Jurisdiction in Japan, whether by process of naturalization or in any other

way, than they would be were they living in the United Kingdom. Whether this position is based on a correct and tenable interpretation of the Treaty is a different question, open to much discussion. Great Britain's reading may be in some degree arbitrary, but it has enabled her to assume in practice a logical and efficient attitude, which is more than can be said of all her colleagues in their dealings with Japan.

A ROYAL KOREAN FUNERAL.

THERE is one thing which the Confucian cult has stamped upon its adherents, namely, the great significance of the marriage ceremony and of the funeral ceremony. Death is practically apotheosis and the event of the funeral often has a triumphal side which is unknown among Caucasian races. The funeral of an eminent personage in Korea has none of the solemnity or dignity which attend the funeral of such a personage in the West. One would have thought that a great national festival was in progress by the way the country people flocked into Söul to witness the funeral pageant of the QUEEN DOWAGER of Korea. Perhaps it will be well to say a word herein regard to the history of this really remarkable woman. Her life is evidence enough that even in a country where the position of females is little better than in Persia or Turkey, a woman may by power of will and force of character wield almost any amount of influence. She was born about 1807, and became QUEEN about 1820, and from that time to the day of her death she exerted an influence second to almost none in the kingdom. Her death removes a powerful conservative element, and for this reason has some considerable political and social significance. The first ten years of her married life witnessed the entrance of the missionaries of the Société des Missions-étrangères of Paris and the persecution of the Romanist converts. In 1839 occurred the greatest religious persecution in Korea with the exception of the one in 1866. About 1845 the KING died leaving a young boy as heir to the throne. The mother acted as Regent until he attained his majority, a space of five years. He then ascended the throne and reigned eleven years. Upon his death, his son not yet being of age, the grandmother waived her right and allowed the mother to assume the reins of Government during the interregnum of one year. The son then began to reign, and continued until his death in 1864, leaving no issue. It should be observed that the grandmother and the wife of this KING belonged to rival families, and much depended on which of them should become Regent. The grandmother, entering the room where the KING lay expiring, demanded the seals of State which the QUEEN held folded in the flowing skirts of her dress. The younger woman,

overawed by the vehemence and strong personality of the elder, gave up the seals, and immediately the edict went forth that the QUEEN DOWAGER, had appointed a distant member of the Yi, or reigning family, as Cadet KING, and that the Regency was in her hands until he should attain his majority. The young boy's father practically controlled the affairs of State. Soon after this occurred the French missionaries became implicated in political matters and were seized and put to death, nine in all. The ill-fated expedition of Admiral ROZE and the marauding expedition of some unprincipled freebooters subsequently aroused the most intense feeling throughout the country: general persecution of native Romanists began which carried off thousands upon thousands. Then followed the accession to the throne of the heir appointed by the QUEEN REGENT, treaties with Japan and China, and finally treaties with Western Powers, and the opening of the country. Such are some of the scenes through which this woman passed, and through all of which she exerted a powerful influence.

Her funeral was the same in all respects as that of an actual KING, and all the mourning rites were carried out with the same punctiliousness. Every Korean citizen must doff his black hat and wear a white one for the space of three years. He must also wear white shoes and eschew parti-coloured clothing. Five months elapsed between the death and interment, and during that time most elaborate preparations were made. Diviners selected by the aid of their magic a propitious spot for the Royal grave. All the paraphernalia of the funeral procession were minutely prepared. Some hundreds of thousands of dollars were necessary for the accomplishment of all this. During some months the two Royal mints held back their whole product in anticipation of the heavy expenses to be incurred on the day of the funeral. The funeral procession itself was an imposing spectacle. First came thirteen gaily-coloured sedan chairs, hung with silk drapery, each borne upon the shoulders of twelve men. They were much larger and were carried much higher than ordinary sedan chairs. In them were supposed to be borne the historians who write the history of the deceased. Then came singly or in pairs a number of banners, each of which was furnished by one of the various guilds in Söul. One was furnished by the silk merchants, another by the shoe merchants; the tobacco-nists, iron-mongers, rice dealers, hatters, and various other bodies sending banners varying in gorgeousness and size. They cost from one hundred to two hundred thousand cash each, or from ten to twenty pounds sterling. The standards were thirty feet high and surmounted at the very top by a handsome bunch of peacock feathers brought over from China for this purpose. Below this bunch was a cross-bar from

which hung the banner, made of brocaded silk of the very finest quality bordered by silk of another colour but equal quality. The edge was serrated and the centre panel bore an inscription in Chinese characters, while from the ends of the cross-bar hung gaily coloured cords terminating in tassels or knots. Above the cross-bar small bells were suspended. Both the main standard and the cross-bar were covered with different colours of felt on which were fastened gilt and tinsel figures of dragons and men and various other conceits. Each banner had three carriers, who relieved each other from time to time, and each flag was followed by a multitude of men of the guild which furnished it.

On either side of the street was a single line of soldiers bearing, in lieu of guns, blue silk flags with red Chinese characters sewed on. Some of them also carried immense paddles with which they were supposed to keep back the crowd if it pressed too hard upon the lines. The funeral procession, according to custom, had to start at night. On both sides of the street, at intervals of six or eight rods, were placed immense torches made of brushwood, and as they were lighted the fierce glare set off the gay colours of the flags and of the clothes of the bearers and soldiers, and gave the whole thing a weird unearthly aspect different from anything that one sees in other countries. After the banner-bearers came gaily dressed men bearing long poles on which were hung scrolls each embodying a eulogy on the deceased, written by some high Korean official. Fifty or sixty of these made a striking element of the parade.

An adjunct not to be omitted from the description was the devils, or what cannot be better described than by that term. They were masked men on horses, the masks about two feet broad and having two pairs of eyes and a hideous grinning mouth. These devils or imps were supposed to scare away all evil spirits and protect the procession and the dead from the infernal powers. They were well calculated to do so, to be sure.

So far, we have described merely the vanguard of the main procession. At the head of the main body rode a General mounted on a splendid charger surrounded by a crowd of liveried servants. The General held in his hand the wand of authority, and was in truth the master of ceremonies, the Marshall of the day. Impossible to describe his costume further than to say that all the colours of the rainbow were represented. Not far behind him came the chair in which the deceased was accustomed to ride while living. It was a gem of Korean art, although Korean art does not appeal especially to Western taste. It was borne high on the shoulders of about twenty men. Behind it followed a curious thing: an immense piece of cloth carried on numerous poles

and used for making an inclosure within which the palace women might sit and wail at the tomb without being open to the gaze of sightseers.

The procession now grew denser and noisier. The glare of the torches, the clouds of dust, the hoarse shouting of the soldiers and bearers all united to make a most curious scene. Before the spectator had time to examine the elements of the crowd, however, the preliminary hearse or catafalque came in sight. We say preliminary, for in all Korean funerals of importance there are two catafalques, and no one is supposed to know in which one the body is. It was an immense oblong affair surrounded by a railing or balustrade and inside this was the silk draped bier. Red and green were the predominant colours, although gilt played an important part. The whole was upheld by a number of long poles and ropes, between the meshes of which the bearers, more than fifty in number, stood, the ropes passing over their shoulders. From the four corners long ropes extended forward and backward and hundreds of men, grasping these ropes, either aided in pulling the catafalque along or pushed the crowd of spectators back. Immediately behind the catafalque came the most singular part of the whole procession, six immense horses made of paper stretched on wooden frames. The most uncouth and ugly looking beasts imaginable, they were nevertheless intensely spectacular. The crowd burst into roars of laughter and cheers as these ungainly figures trundled by on rough wooden carts. The horses were about twelve feet high, and, mounted on the carts, they loomed up nearly twenty feet. They were supposed to accompany the spirit of the dead to the other world and provide means for its posthumous locomotion.

The second catafalque followed, larger and more magnificent than the first. High up on the front stood a man clothed in mourner's clothes, carrying in his hand a bâton, and another stood at the rear, but what their office was it was difficult to ascertain. Behind this catafalque came another great cloth to shelter the female mourners, and then a long line of officials and mourners, flags, soldiers, and last, but not least, the howling excited rabble. It was a scene worth seeing, but one which to see once sufficed. Many a long year had passed since Söul witnessed a similar spectacle, and for the sake of the nation's pockets, if for no other reason, we trust that a still longer interval may elapse before occasion arises for another such funeral.

IN NIGHT SWEATS AND PROSTRATION USE HORSFORD'S ACID PHOSPHATE.

Dr. CHAS. CUTMORE, M.R.C.S., 5, Hogarth road, Kensington, S. W., says:—"I have found it extremely valuable in the last stages of phthisis, where exhaustion had set in after the night sweats. Also in debility and prostration arising from fevers. In atony of the stomach in dyspepsia it has done me good service."

REMARKABLE OPINIONS.

THE *Daido Shimbun* having now been recognised as an organ of the Constitutional Liberals, its utterances deserve consideration. But, on the other hand, they ought to be correspondingly considered before publication. Last year this newspaper made itself conspicuous by its opposition to Count OKUMA'S proposals. We greatly differed from the views taken by it then, but inasmuch as they have received the *cachet* of success, we should not comment on their repetition now if only a moderate degree of discrimination were displayed in advancing them. But in truth the *Daido Shimbun* exceeds the bounds of ordinary sense when it declares that the projects of employing aliens in the capacity of Japanese judges and permitting foreigners to own land in Japan were insulting to the national dignity (*Kokken wo keibetsu suru*). As to the judge question, it is useless now to raise any discussion, but with what pretence of reason can it be asserted that a privilege granted by Great Britain to foreigners would, if similarly granted by Japan, be an insult to the national dignity? It is true that in some of the British colonies the tenure of land by foreigners is subjected to various restrictions, and that in the United States of America and other Western countries the privilege is withheld altogether. It is also true that England herself did not depart from her conservative attitude in this respect until 1870. Still the fact remains that a foreigner may purchase land in Great Britain to-day. Liberality of such a nature has nothing whatever to do with the dignity of the nation. To imagine that it has is purely morbid sentimentality. We ought not, perhaps, to be surprised that the *Daido Shimbun*, having shown itself the victim of so strange a phantasy in one instance, should be equally unreasonable in another. Yet the comments which it proceeds to make about Tariff Autonomy are even more superficial than its ideas about the ownership of land. The one feature to be regretted, it says, in the new scheme of revision is that Tariff Autonomy is not recovered. Foreigners, it continues, think only of gain. "To allow them to trade and travel in the interior before Japan recovers her Tariff Autonomy, would be like placing the keys of the house in the hands of men who come to rob it. If only Tariff Autonomy be recovered, we do not object to the opening of the country; but if it is not to be recovered, better break off the negotiations and devote ourselves to developing the national resources." Now we do not suppose for a moment that the *Daido Shimbun* desires to place frivolous obstructions in the path of Treaty Revision, but such writing can only have that effect. In point of fact Japan recovers her Tariff Autonomy fully and completely from the day on which the revised treaty is signed. So soon as foreign States make

a covenant with her agreeing that certain duties shall be levied on their imports for a fixed term of years, they put their hands to an instrument recognising her Tariff Autonomy in the most unequivocal manner. Precisely similar covenants are made constantly between the Great Powers of the Occident. Indeed there is scarcely a Western country, the United States of America excepted, that enjoys absolute Tariff Autonomy in the sense contemplated by the *Daido Shimbun*. All are bound by conventions, and have no more liberty to impose duties at will on one another's imports than Japan has under the present Treaties. When Japan revises her Treaties, and signs a new tariff convention operative for a fixed term of years, the bargain will not be binding on her alone: it will be equally binding on the other high contracting parties, since they, in return, will pledge themselves to admit her goods too under conventional tariffs. If such a covenant impairs her Tariff Autonomy, it impairs theirs also to an exactly similar extent. As to the other phase of the question, the strange misconception of our contemporary that the wealth-getting eagerness of foreigners would make them dangerous denizens of the country unless Japan could exercise the right of altering her customs dues at will, we really fail to apprehend the connexion of ideas. Has the *Daido Shimbun* considered who they are that pay import duties? Certainly not foreign importers or manufacturers. Such a tax upon trade comes entirely out of the pocket of the Japanese consumer. It simply means that he has to pay so much more for his yarns and piece-goods. The only interest foreigners have in the matter is that burdens laid upon trade tend to cramp its development, and that the expansion of Japan's commerce may be checked if tariff rates are largely increased. That, we presume, is a contingency in which the Japanese themselves are at least as much concerned as foreigners. It is equally in the interests of both sides that the trade of the country should grow and prosper. The rôle becoming a sensible and patriotic journal is to encourage the diminution of all taxes upon trade, instead of seeking to foment a spurious agitation in favour of crippling the country's resources. If Japan's foreign commerce were strangled in its cradle, or stunted in its now promising growth, who would be the chief sufferer—Japan herself, or the various Powers among whom this trade, infinitesimal in comparison with their own, is divided? Can it be possible that, every reasonable prop having been knocked from under their feet, party politicians are about to raise a new edifice of obstruction on the chimera of Tariff Autonomy?

DISPUTED ELECTIONS TO THE HOUSE OF PEERS

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 221.

We hereby order the following Rules for the Judgment of Suits relating to the Eligibility and Election of Members of the House of Peers, to be promulgated by Imperial Ordinance, believing it to be highly necessary to provide beforehand such rules rather than to postpone the same till the opening of the House of Peers. This ordinance shall continue in force until such time as the House of Peers may with the Imperial sanction promulgate rules to deal with such matters.

[His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.]
[Great Seal.]

Dated October 10th, 1890.

(Countersigned.)

Count YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.
Count SAIGO TSUKUMICHI,
Minister of State for Home Affairs.
Count YAMADA AKIYOSHI,
Minister of State for Justice.
Count MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of State for Finance.
Count OYAMA IWAO,
Minister of State for War.
Count GOTO SHOJIRO,
Minister of State for Communications.
Viscount AOKI SHUZO,
Minister of State for Foreign Affairs.
Viscount KABAYAMA SUKENORI,
Minister of State for the Navy.
YOSHIKAWA AKINASA,
Minister of State for Education.
MOTSU MUNEMITSU,
Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

Article 1.—The House of Peers shall elect a standing committee at the beginning of each term for the purpose of investigating suits relating to the eligibility and election of members of the House of Peers.

Article 2.—Any person qualified to vote in the election of a Count, Viscount, or Baron to the House, and any person qualified to vote for a member chosen from the class of highest taxpayers, who may raise an action according to Article 9 of the Ordinance relating to the House of Peers, shall sue the member elected, who shall be the defendant.

Article 3.—The plaintiff shall file a statement of his petition and send a copy to the President of the House, who shall deliver the same to the Committee above mentioned.

Article 4.—A statement of the grounds of claim and proof in support thereof shall be included in the petition, which shall bear the signature of the plaintiff.

Article 5.—The Investigation Committee above mentioned shall send a copy of the petition to the defendant, and require the defendant to produce a statement of his defence as well as a copy of the same, which shall be forwarded to the plaintiff within a fixed period.

The Committee may require both the plaintiff and the defendant to produce statements of reply and rebuttal should the same appear necessary.

Article 6.—Both plaintiff and defendant may transmit documents by post, and the time occupied in such transmission shall not be included in the period mentioned above.

Article 7.—The Investigation Committee may, through the President, demand from the Government documents relating to and in proof of the election of members.

Article 8.—Should matters showing a contravention of the Penal Code be apparent as the result of the examination, they shall be reported to the Minister of State for Justice by the President. The process of examination and decision shall not, however, be stopped or delayed by such discovery.

Article 9.—Should the defendant fail to produce a statement of defence within the time fixed, the Committee may at once report the result of its examination.

Should any person be able to prove that he has been unable to produce a statement of defence within the time fixed, owing to natural misfortune or accident, the President may fix a fresh period for its production.

Article 10.—Should the Committee lay before the President of the House a report as the result of their examination, the President shall bring the matter forward for the discussion of the House.

Article 11.—When the House has come to a decision on the subject the President shall order the Chief Secretary to prepare a copy of such decision according to the rules of debate (*gijiroku*), and serve the same upon the plaintiff and the defendant. No reasons shall be affixed to the decision of the House.

Article 12.—If the House of Peers decide the qualification or election of a member in a manner adverse to such member, the President shall suspend such member from his functions and report the matter to His Imperial Majesty.

Article 13.—A member who has been placed in the position of a defendant does not lose his status or right of speaking in the House until a decision as described in the last article is delivered. He may not, however, take part in the decision by vote of a suit in which he is concerned, though he may personally or by the medium of other members give explanations.

A member who is a defendant may attend meetings of the Committee in reference to a suit relating to himself.

Article 14.—In the case of an election to fill a vacancy after the meeting of the House in session, ten days after such election in the case of Counts, Viscounts, or Barons, and a similar period after the Imperial appointment in the case of highest tax-payers shall be the interval within which suits may be raised.

Should the sittings of the House close before the lapse of the period hereinbefore mentioned, and thus prevent the raising of a suit, such suit may be initiated within ten days after the opening of the next following session.

Art. 15.—Any complaint made by a member as to the eligibility of another member shall be disposed of in accordance with Arts. 3 to 13 inclusive. In such case, however, the periods provided in Art. 18, Rules for the Election of Counts, Viscounts, and Barons, and Art. 26, Rules for the Election of Members of the House of Peers from among highest tax-payers, shall not be observed.

DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR OFFICIALS.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 258.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Regulations relating to the Organization of Diplomatic and Consular Officials, and order the same to be promulgated.

[His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.]

[Great Seal.]

Dated October 21st, 1890.

(Countersigned.)

Count YAMAGATA ARITOMO,

Minister President of State.

Viscount Aoki SHUZO,

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs.

Article 1.—The Organization of Diplomatic Officials shall be decided as follows:—

Minister Plenipotentiary, *chokunin* rank.

Minister Resident (*Henri Koshi*), 2nd class

chokunin rank or 1st class *sonin* rank.

Chargé d'Affaires (*Dairi Koshi*), 1st or 2nd

class *sonin* rank.

Councillors of Legation, 1st or 2nd class *sonin*

rank.

Secretaries of Legation, 2nd or 3rd or 4th class

sonin rank.

Attache (*hosakawan shiko*), 5th or 6th *sonin* rank.

Article 2.—Officials of *shimin* rank may be appointed Ministers Plenipotentiary as an additional office.

Article 3.—Consuls may also be employed as diplomatic officials (*gaiko jinukwan*) in places where Ministers are not stationed.

Diplomatic officials shall be of *sonin* rank.

Article 4.—The Organization of Consular Officials shall be as follows:—

Consul-General, 1st or 2nd class *sonin* rank.

Consul, 2nd, 3rd or 4th class *sonin* rank.

Vice-Consul, 5th or 6th class *sonin* rank.

Article 5.—Diplomatic and Consular officials not in actual office may be ordered to serve in the Foreign Department.

Article 6.—Commissioners of Trade (*Boyeku-jinukwan*) may be appointed to places where Consuls are not stationed.

Commissioners of Trade shall be under 2nd *sonin* rank.

Article 7.—Honorary Consuls or acting Consuls may be appointed in places where Consuls or Commissioners of Trade are not stationed.

Article 8.—Clerks shall be attached to legations and consulates.

Clerks (*shokusei*) shall be of *hannin* rank.

Article 9.—The Minister of State for Foreign Affairs may attach other assistants to legations or consulates should he consider the same necessary.

Article 10.—The number of diplomatic and consular officials not in actual office shall not surpass 20.

Article 11.—The organization of Diplomatic and Consular Officials, Imperial Ordinance No. 5, of the 3rd month of the 19th year of Meiji, shall be abolished.

PUNISHMENT OF BANKRUPTS UNDER THE COMMERCIAL CODE.

LAW No. 101.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Regulations relating to those who are adjudged bankrupts according to the Commercial Code, and order the same to be promulgated. We also direct that this law shall come into force on and after the 1st day of the 1st month of the 24th year of Meiji.

[His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.]

[Great Seal.]

Dated the 8th day of the 10th month of the 23rd year of Meiji.

(Countersigned)

Count YAMAGATA ARITOMO,

Minister President of State.

Count YAMADA AKIYOSHI,

Minister of State for Justice.

Any person adjudged bankrupt according to the Commercial Code, who shall have been guilty of criminal practices in connection with his bankruptcy, shall be punished according to the following distinctions:—

1. A fraudulent bankrupt shall be punished by *Kei-choyeki* (imprisonment with labour during from 6 to 8 years.)

2. Any one who has become bankrupt in consequence of his own negligence or error shall be punished with major imprisonment for not less than two months, and not more than 4 years.

CONSULAR FEES AND EXPENSES.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 258.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Regulations relating to the payment in foreign coin of Fees and Travelling Expenses of Consuls, and order the same to be promulgated.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.)

(Great Seal.)

Dated October 21st, 1890.

(Countersigned)

Count MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,

Minister of State for Finance.

The Fees of Consuls as well as their travelling expenses, as mentioned in the Regulations relating to Consuls of the Empire of Japan Imperial Ordinance No. 80, March, 1890, may be paid in foreign coin according to the ratio of exchange settled by the Minister of State for Finance.

AMENDED ORGANIZATION OF THE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE.

We hereby give our sanction to the present amendment of the Organization of the Judicial Department, and order the same to be promulgated.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign-Manual.)

(Great Seal.)

Dated the 10th day of the 10th month of the 23rd year of Meiji.

(Countersigned)

Count YAMAGATA ARITOMO,

Minister President of State.

Count YAMADA AKIYOSHI,

Minister of State for Justice.

The following paragraph shall be added to Art. 5 in the Organization of the Judicial Department: "A Vice-director shall be attached to the Finance Bureau."

TELEPHONE EXCHANGES.

As the construction of telephones in Japan is now approaching completion, the following Ordinances will be of interest to the foreign public:—

ORDINANCE No. 7 OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS.

REGULATIONS RELATING TO TELEPHONE EXCHANGES ARE HEREBY PRESCRIBED.

Dated the 19th day of the 4th month of the 23rd year of Meiji, (19th April, 1890).

Count GOTO SHOJIRO,

Minister of State for Communications.

REGULATIONS RELATING TO TELEPHONE EXCHANGES.

Art. I.—The Department of Communications will establish a Telephone Exchange Office and several call-offices in those cities or towns where they may be deemed necessary, and, by concentrating to such Exchange Office the telephone wires for use by the subscribers and also those of the call offices, or by erecting wires between any two places, will facilitate the exchange of telephonic communication.

Note.—At the request of subscribers, the telephone wires may, however, be extended beyond the city or town limits.

Art. II.—The telephone wires and apparatus shall be established, and be kept in good working order by the Department of Communications.

Note.—Any damage caused by the improper use of the same by subscribers, shall be repaired by the Department at the expense of such subscribers.

Art. III.—Subscribers shall be entitled to make the following communications:—

1. Direct communication between subscribers within or without the limits of a city or town throughout the day and night.

2. Direct communication with any persons at call-offices within or without the limits of a city or town at the hours fixed.

3. Direct communication with postal telegraph offices or telegraph offices to transmit or receive telegrams at the hours fixed.

Art. IV.—Any person shall be allowed to make at call offices the following communications at the hours fixed, such hours to be fixed and advertised by the Department of Communications:—

1. Direct communication with subscribers.

2. Direct communication with others at call-offices.

Art. V.—The time allowed for each of the following communications shall be 5 minutes:—

1. Direct communication between any two cities or towns.

2. Direct communication between any two persons at call-offices, and direct communication between subscribers and others at call-offices.

Art. VI.—Subscribers shall not be entitled to rent the apparatus to others nor shall they be allowed to use it for any but their own account.

Art. VII.—The Telephone Exchange Office shall from time to time dispatch inspectors to the premises of subscribers to inspect the working state of the apparatus.

Art. VIII.—Any damage discovered in the wires or apparatus by the subscribers shall at once be reported by them to the Telephone Exchange Office.

Art. IX.—The term of the first subscription shall be fixed at two years, commencing from the day on which the wires and apparatus are furnished for use by the subscribers, and that of the second subscription at one or more years, no subscription being allowed for a less period than one year.

Note.—In case the wires and apparatus be furnished during any of the following quarters of the year, as specified below, it shall be understood that one year shall extend from the day on which subscription was made, to the end of the same quarters of the following year.

1st quarter January to March.

2nd quarter April to June.

3rd quarter July to September.

4th quarter October to December.

Art. X.—Subscribers not desiring to renew their subscription shall give notice to that effect to the Telephone Exchange Office, three months previous to the expiration of the term. If such notice be not given, it shall be understood that it is desired to extend the subscription over another year.

Art. XI.—Subscribers shall pay the sums fixed by the Department of Communications for the use of the wires and of apparatus according to the following stipulation, except in case special arrangements for such payment be made:—

1. In current money, quarterly at the Exchange Office, viz., in January, April, July, and

October of each year, in accordance with the quarterly arrangement specified under Art. IX.

2. When the subscription begins during any quarter of the year, the charges for that quarter shall be paid at the Exchange Office pro rata, in current money, according to the number of days, within one week after the day on which the wires and apparatus are furnished.

Art. XII.—In case subscribers fail to pay the charges when due, their communication shall there after be suspended.

Art. XIII.—Subscribers having apparatus fixed beyond the limits of the city or town, or any one subscriber having two or more apparatus fixed in one and the same house or grounds in one and the same circuit shall be charged the following rates in addition to the charges specified under Art. XI:—

1. For fixing the apparatus beyond the limits of the city or town 3 yen annually for every 3 chō, or any portion thereof, from the city or town limits.
2. For fixing two or more apparatus 8 yen per annum for every apparatus excepting the first one.

Art. XIV.—Subscribers desiring to remove the wires or to alter the position of the apparatus fitted up for their use in the same house or grounds shall apply to the Exchange Office. The expenses necessary for such removal or alteration shall be borne by such subscribers (the cost of wires, poles and apparatus, etc., being excluded).

Note.—Any difference in the amount of charges caused by the removal of the wires shall be counted from the day on which the work of such removal is completed.

Art. XV.—Any person speaking at a call-office, or one subscriber speaking with another subscriber or with any other person at a call office, in another city or town, shall pay the charges fixed by the Department of Communications, in accordance with the following conditions:—

Note.—Subscribers speaking with any person at a call-office in the same city or town shall not be charged.

1. Any person speaking at a call-office shall pay the charges in postage stamps at the same office.
2. Subscribers shall pay the charges for each month by the 10th of the following month at the Exchange Office.

Art. XVI.—Subscribers speaking with a postal-telegraph office or telegraph office in order to transmit telegrams in accordance with Clause 3 under Art. III. shall pay the charges in postage-stamps for each month by the 10th of the following month at the same office.

Art. XVII.—In case any damage is caused to the wires or apparatus and communication is thereby interrupted during a period longer than three days, a refund shall be made to the subscribers for the number of days more than three during which the interruption continues.

Note.—If such damage is due to the improper use of apparatus by subscribers as provided under Art. II, no refund shall be made.

Art. XVIII.—Any person desirous of becoming a subscriber shall forward a written application in the following form:—

Note.—If it is desired to have the apparatus fixed in the house or grounds of a third person, the written approval of the owner of such house or ground must be attached to the application.

(FORM OF WRITTEN APPLICATION.)

To the Engineering Bureau of the Imperial Department of Communications.

1. The undersigned, do hereby express my desire to subscribe to the Telephone Exchange according to the Regulations relating to Telephone Exchanges. Place and number of apparatus required hereinafter mentioned.

(Applicant's Name) _____
(Date) _____ His legal residence, occupation, etc.

Place _____
Number of Apparatus _____

ORDINANCE No. 8 OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS.

The rate of charges for the use of the wires and apparatus under Art. XI. of the Regulations relating to Telephone Exchanges, and of the charges for speaking at call-offices under Art. XV. of the same Regulations, are hereby fixed respectively at 40 yen per annum for each circuit and 5 sen for each communication not exceeding 5 minutes, in the city of Tokyo.

Dated the 19th day of the 4th month of the 23rd year of Meiji (19th April, 1890).

Count GOTO SHOJIRO,
Minister of State for Communi-
cations.

ORDINANCE No. 13 OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS.

The rate to be charged for the use of the wires

and apparatus under Art. XI. of the Regulations relating to Telephone Exchanges is hereby fixed at 35 yen per annum for each circuit in the town of Yokohama.

The rate to be charged for conversation at call-offices in Yokohama under Art. XV. of the same Regulations is fixed at 5 sen for each communication not exceeding 5 minutes, exchanged within the limits of the Yokohama Exchange.

Dated the 24th day of the 6th month of the 23rd year of Meiji (24th June, 1890).

Count GOTO SHOJIRO,
Minister of State for Communi-
cations.

ORDINANCE No. 14 OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS.

The rate to be charged for conversations between Tokyo and Yokohama under Art. XV. of the Regulations relating to Telephone Exchanges is hereby fixed at 15 sen for each communication not exceeding 5 minutes.

This amount shall be paid by the person who makes the demand for the conversation.

Dated the 24th day of the 6th month of the 23rd year of Meiji (24th June, 1890).

Count GOTO SHOJIRO,
Minister of State for Communications.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE PRESENT STATE OF UNITARIANISM IN NEW ENGLAND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Mankind, it seems to me, is so steeped in ignorance and stupidity that anybody can get some hearers and followers on any point that he pleases. Why, in this last decade of the 19th century a crack and quack physician invented the "elixir of life" and a large crowd of credulous simpletons beheld him who let impure blood be injected into them got poisoned and died. The last number of the *New York Independent* speaks of a new Christ in the West who has found a good many followers with whom he has retired to some secluded place and is living in a state of moral filth and sewerage. This state of things, however, is more frequent in the religious world than in any other department of human life. Hitherto we have had the "Oxford movement" the "Unitarian movement," the "Broad Church movement," and before this much abused century rolls into the past God knows how many more "movements" and "isms" will be showered upon a suffering humanity.

What I say, or intend to say, is fully illustrated by the rise and decline of Unitarianism in New England. When Doctor Channing preached his once famous but now altogether forgotten sermon on Unitarian Christianity, and the final disruption was imminent, not only individuals but even Churches not belonging to Channing's denomination left their fold and followed him. Everybody thought that the kingdom of God was being gradually realized and consummated in Channingism. I have often asked myself why this should be the case. Did these men not know that Unitarianism in one form or other had agitated the peace of the Christian Church from Arius down to Socinus and so on? Evidently Channing had preached nothing new on the subject; and anybody who knows something about Christian theology and Church history must have learned that the savant of Boston was far inferior in mental capacity to his two afore-mentioned prototypes.

Of course I don't say this only concerning Unitarianism, because there are other isms which cannot be explained unless it be by the test of the same canon. Take the case of Mormonism. There is every cause to believe that Joseph Smith was a thick-headed and know-nothing charlatan, but to-day his religion is more flourishing, and exercises more influence in shaping the future of the country than the religion of Dr. Channing. There is not the slightest doubt that just as the author of the former culture was a bad man in the full sense of the word, the author of the latter was a good man; but to-day while Mormonism is making rapid progress in the States, Unitarianism is sinking with Quakerism and other similar insignificant sects in the "Limbo Infantum" of inactivity.

It cannot be denied that Unitarianism has many attractive points. It appeals to reason in opposition to faith. It reduces religious duties to their lowest minimum. Hence such a religion—if it can be called religion—will be always attractive to those who have not plunged themselves

deeply into the spirit of humanity, those who have a vague idea of a supreme power which does not trouble itself about the affairs of this world. To such an individual Unitarianism will always be attractive. But on the other hand it will, *per se*, lack that religious furor which is the vitality and the motive power of a visible community whose aim is to reach things transcendental which cannot be apprehended by physical means.

I think nobody possessing an honest conscience will deny the statement that Unitarianism, which came out of Dr. Channing's movement, is rapidly decaying. This statement is not originated by the enemies of the sect, but is gathered from data supplied to the annual religious census taken by the *New York Independent*, a very honest and independent paper. Then the question comes up: why should the religion of Channing based upon an apparent and attractive rationalism decay, and that of Joseph Smith based upon fraud progress? Unless it be that Unitarianism at first has undermined the foundation of its fabric and then has begun building enormous superstructures upon it, while Mormonism has left the foundation untouched (the Mormons are orthodox in regard to the Trinity and the Incarnation) and built some contemptible huts over it. To this I would add:—

1.—As I have said before, religion is like a living organism, the slightest cut or amputation is liable to bleed the body to death. The Reformation of Luther is the greatest monument which humanity has achieved. It has no parallel in history hitherto and will in all probability have none hereafter. Still—I hope nobody will be offended by what I am going to say—still its results upon the whole body have not been very beneficial. It has not reformed what it intended to reform, viz., the Church; and its usefulness has been almost counterbalanced by the present divided state of Protestantism. One more illustration. Perhaps no other religious movement in the 19th century has been so ridiculed in the Protestant world as the Tractarian movement under Keble and Pusey. It would be worthy of the contempt showered upon it if the movement had taken the shape of a new sect; but the wisdom of its leaders forbade it, and to-day its spirit has pervaded and permeated the whole body of the Anglican Church. It has conquered those who thought they had conquered it. It has infused a new life into the whole body! I believe if Dr. Channing—or others who have hitherto intended in the future to form new sects—had remained in his own communion and developed his doctrines and infused his spirit it would be more profitable in every respect. Channing was a Trinitarian in his spirit, but a Unitarian in his mathematics.

2.—The causes of this decay, to a certain degree, are to be found in the split in Unitarianism itself. From the beginning the movement took the shape of a theological discussion rather than a moral and religious awakening like the Reformation, or the 19th Century Methodism. Therefore the development of Unitarianism resembles a great deal the diminution of Hegelianism into the right and left as represented by Meineke and Strauss respectively: the former gravitating towards orthodoxy, the latter falling into a sort of mechanical monism. Soon after Channing had disappeared his school was divided into two camps, the right represented by Dr. Clark, author of the "Ten great religions" and Dr. Hale, author of the "Ten times one," which in the Unitarian Arithmetic have proved to be equal to one! And the left was represented by the famous Dr. Theodore Parker. The former camp has been unable to satisfy the religious instinct of those Unitarians who possess such a feeling; and the latter have found Parkerism not radical enough to their taste; hence to-day the hall from the platform of which Parker harangued his anathemas against Christianity, and predicted its immediate downfall, has been abandoned to the atheistic howlers. Hence to-day Dr. Channing's camp looks to me like the vessel which came down from heaven to St. Peter full of every clean and unclean animal.

3.—I think from the beginning the influence of Channingism upon the moral and intellectual life of New England has been much exaggerated. Who can for a minute contrast it as a moral force in the States with Methodism or Congregationalism? As a religious body, under whatever form of creed, it has not been a great power for the eternal palengenesis of humanity. I know it was very active in the slavery struggle, but it should not be overlooked that slavery took entirely a local political aspect, and if Unitarianism was a product of the South undoubtedly it would be found on the other side. As an intellectual movement it has produced some of the best American authors and men of genius, like Emerson, Holmes, Lowell, and some others, but these names, it should

not be forgotten, do not belong to the sect as its guides since their professions are entirely in another direction. As regards the rest, I sympathize with the French savant who after reading a few pages of the "A history of transcendentalism in New England," shut it and said, "Such stuff can either come out of hell or of Boston!" I know well what encomiums have been showered upon "La religion de Mr. Channing" by M. Renan. But anybody who has a little knowledge of Mr. Renan's trend of mind knows well that whenever the author of the "Vie de Jesus" intends to praise an object, he ramples down all honesty, truth, and logic under his feet. He will use almost the same expressions whether he is speaking of Moses, Jesus, or of Mohammed; whether of Christianity, of Atheism, or of feticism. A man who does not believe in God nor in His Son, but will say—"Le jour où il (Jesus) prononça cette parole:—'The hour cometh, and now it is, when true worshippers shall worship the father in spirit and in truth'—il fut vraiment fils de Dieu," &c., shows that Renan is a very dangerous guide in a rocky sea during a great tempest.

What will be the future of Unitarianism in Japan only the future itself can unfold. Thanks to Mr. Knapp, the religious duties have not only been reduced to their last minimum, but have been annihilated altogether. Evidently it is an abuse of language to call Mr. Knapp's ideas Unitarianism, unless the title be taken like the "x" in algebraic formulae to mean anything from Buddhism down to Atheism. I really do not see any reason why all Buddhists should not accept Mr. Knapp as another reincarnation of the original Buddha, and recognize him at once as their leader to wage their battles against Christianity.

Mr. Knapp, as every body knows, has brought the "Gospel of Character" and the "Religion of Sympathy" into Japan. Hitherto I have watched him very closely to see some symptoms and fruits of his ideas, but I am sorry to say until the present day I have not seen any. A man who claims to be the Apostle of such a religion evidently will manifest it in every action that he performs and every word that he utters. Has Mr. Knapp built a hospital, an orphanage? If he has, he has a right to claim what he claims for his religion. Has he or have his satellites visited the poor and fed them, the naked and clothed them, the sick and comfortless and comforted them? If they have, evidently they are right in what they say, that the tree is known by its fruits; it is an infallible criterion. Knappism also will be known by its fruits.

Hitherto, so far as I know, it has not shown such a tendency; the leader and his associates have confessed philanthropy by their words and denied it by their actions. Their new environments here in Japan do not give us any hope or expectation of such a grand spiritual transformation. Of course I would be the last man to charge Mr. Knapp with such stupidity as to think that the drinking of wine with Count Kuroda and Dr. Kato is an act of high philanthropy.

The Gospel of Character and the Religion of Sympathy are very high sounding words; but unless they be consummated in tangible actions, they will turn their sublime position into ridiculous. I am sorry to say that even now when I hear of the "Gospel of Character" I am reminded of those Oriental pseudo magicians who carry big and pretentious clients upon their backs, and as they reach a public rendezvous put the chests upon the ground and work themselves up into the highest pitch of excitement, and run to and fro and shout at the top of their voices "Men! women! children! come! come! see wonders! miracles!" As soon as a large concourse of people have gathered they begin begging, and when this finishes they perform a few commonplace things and disappear at the first opportunity. I think I know a little about human nature, because I possess a little bit of it myself. I know how often those psychological messages and appearances, which have no existence in the world of reality, into what props they are turned; what gigantic hopes we build upon them; like those Persian tramps who go to hot baths early in the morning and swallow a pennyworth of hashish and dream the whole day that they are kings, possessing magnificent palaces and beautiful queens. I know well what transcendent future we often portray to ourselves, in which we find ourselves great reformers in the moral, political, or other world's surrounding humanity. To disturb rudely such a happy dreamer is cruel. Perhaps the reader will think that I am unjust to Mr. Knapp. God knows I am not. I would have written nothing against him, his mission, or his theology, if he had himself followed his duties as a labourer for the amelioration, both physical and spiritual, of the condition of his fellow men. I think God has allowed such an enormous amount of sin to exist in this world of ours in order that the exercise of virtue should

be developed perfectly in every human being. If Mr. Knapp had followed such a path I would not have anything against him. But since his coming, it seems to me he has done nothing but write and speak against those who, in spite of all their weaknesses and imperfections, have done far more than he has done or will ever do in any kind of good works.

I am pretty well acquainted with the history of all religious and moral revolutions from Moses and Sociates down to Rammahum Ray and Rabbinoitch; I do not know in all this wonderful catena of great men a single person who has exaggerated the value of his mission, and his own personal powers and influence like Mr. Knapp, with the exception of the late Soudanese Mahdi.

Mr. Knapp has again and again asserted that his little finger is thicker than all the missionaries' loins put together. Of course he has a perfect right to think any thing he pleases about the thickness of his little finger; but for my part, I not only think that his little finger is not thicker than our loins, but I think he has got no little finger at all.

A few words more about the present "crisis" in the Churches of Japan, and I am done. That there is a change in the churches cannot be denied; but its causes must be sought in the physico-psychological idiosyncrasies of the race rather than in other places. This is evidently not a "crisis," because uniformly a crisis is caused by some activity, but in this case there is absolute inactivity. The Churches of Japan in their present condition are like the journey of Christian in the "Pilgrim's Progress" while passing through the land called, if I recollect rightly, Euclyptus; the effect of whose atmosphere upon foreigners was to produce stupor and drowsiness. Whether in passing through this land the churches will be lulled to sleep and final death I shall leave to the future. But the symptoms are encouraging in the fact that the foremost leaders among the Japanese Christians are fully alive to the gravity of the situation.

I cannot agree with those who ascribe this situation to the divisions of the sects represented in the field or to the dogmas of the Christian religion. Everybody knows that at present there is a great reaction against studying English and other European languages; will Mr. Kato trace it to the doctrine of the Trinity? And most of the Japanese ladies are giving up foreign dress; can the cause of the reaction and change be ascribed to the dogma of the incarnation.

The spiritual metamorphosis of a race is not the process of a few days or of a few years, but that of ages, and during these ages the wheels of the machinery will produce many revolutions and counter-revolutions until the new creature comes out in an infinitely higher rank. When the process of the transformation is short, the durability of the new creation also will be short. Japan at present is in the throes of birth to a new and higher spiritual existence; blessed is the man who helps it in such a moment.

Thanking you deeply for the kindness shown to me always by the *Japan Mail*.

I remain, very truly yours,

ISAAC DOOMAN,

Nara Eiwa Gakko.

October 23rd, 1890.
[We doubt whether Mr. Doman is correct in his conclusion that there is a great reaction in Japan at present against studying English and other languages. No symptoms of such a reaction have made themselves apparent in the capital. We trust that our correspondent will give some fuller information on this interesting point.—Ed. J.M.]

THE LATE PERFORMANCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Before leaving Japan I wish to express publicly my sincere thanks to the ladies and gentlemen who so kindly came forward and did all in their power to endeavour to render successful the two performances of "Our Italian Cousin." The earnestness with which they devoted much time and trouble to the study of their parts, and the pains which they took to attain perfection therein, I can only acknowledge by returning them my most heartfelt thanks. To Mr. W. G. Bayne I would wish particularly to record my appreciation of the uniform kindness which he has extended to me during my stay in Yokohama, and the energetic manner in which he has made my interests his own. While regretting that the public have not more unanimously responded to the efforts made by the ladies and gentlemen who so ably assisted me, I cannot lose this opportunity of thanking the few faithful friends and compatriots who gave me such zealous proofs of their support and approval.

I am, etc.,

E. MAJERONI.

Yokohama, October 27th, 1890.

THE MISSIONARY MEMORIAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—You published in the *Japan Mail* a few days ago the Missionary Memorial regarding Treaty Revision. My presence here for a month, owing to illness, is the reason why my signature was not attached to the Memorial. In order that my position on that matter may not be misunderstood by my friends and others, I respectfully request that you publish my name as endorsing said Memorial. Trusting that you can favour me to this extent, I remain

J. W. McCOLLUM, S.B.C., Kobe.

ROBERT A. THOMSON, A.B.M.U., Kobe.

Very respectfully, FRED. C. KLEIN.

Methodist Protestant Mission, Nagoya.

Kyoto Hotel, Kyoto, October 25th, 1890.

THE IMPERIAL VISIT TO MITO.

The above caption represents, perhaps, the greatest event in the history of Mito. It is the first time in all its history that it has been favoured by a visit from an Emperor. Nor is it at all improper that it should be thus favoured; for this city and province have always been strongly Imperialistic in sentiment. Although Iyeyasu made one of his own sons Prince of Mito, and established there one of the fields with which he engirdled and protected Yedo, it was by Iyeyasu's own grandson, Mitsukuni (Gikō), the second prince, that a strong feeling of hostility to the Shōgunate and of loyalty to the Emperor was inspired. And to the vigorous policy of Noriaki (Rekkō) in the present century was due in no small degree the successful opposition which culminated in the Revolution of 1868. In coming to Mito, therefore, their Imperial Majesties visit one of the most intensely loyal cities in the Empire.

It is needless to say that the announcement of the proposed visit of the Emperor and the Empress produced great excitement in this place, and became at once the topic of conversation, to the exclusion of the much-discussed subject of the weather! As soon, of course, as it became a positive matter, it was necessary to begin preparations to receive Their Imperial Majesties in a suitable manner. A special session of the City Assembly was convened. Committees of citizens were appointed in each ward (*ku*) to look after the matter of public decoration. Subscription papers were circulated in all parts to raise extra sums for the extra expenses. Coolies and convicts were put at work, with cart-loads of stones to repair the roads, especially those over which Their Majesties were expected to pass. Private fences, hedges, haws, houses, etc., were put into repair; and bustle reigned supreme. Moreover, I ought to speak of the topic of dress, of *kimono*, *obi*, *hakama*, *haori*, *tabi*, *geta*, *kanzashi*; of frock coat, silk hat, gloves, etc.; but, as these are personal matters, they came under observation before the great day only from the fact that everybody was exceedingly busy!

By Saturday, October 25th, the public decorations began to be set out. On each side of the streets was a row of pine posts, or small bamboos, or ever-green draped posts. These were connected with cords, from which hung lanterns [white and red (*hinomaru*) or all red], straw wisp and paper streamers, as in the decorations of the New Year. At two diagonal corners of street crossings were little Mount Fuji's of sand with a little salt sprinkled on the summits—these are emblems of purity. In many places were arches, more or less elaborate and beautiful; and in other places long strings of lanterns hung from three or four sides of a high pole. The railway station was adorned with signal flags, green, red, and white, hung in pairs with colours alternating. The station yard was adorned with hundreds of lanterns, and with a magnificent evergreen *torii*, beneath which the Imperial procession was to pass. Out in Lake Soma also a long line of lanterns was set up. Thus all parts of the city presented a gay and loyal aspect.

Sunday, October 26th, was a bright day, perhaps, even a little too warm. Early in the morning the crowds began to flock in from the country, and the city people began to flock out on the streets; so that by noon every road along which the Imperial procession was to pass from the station, was filled as much as was allowable. I asked some friends how many people there were all together, and received answers ranging from "50,000" to "100,000." But as the population of Mito is only 20,000, the true total was probably not much over the lower figure given above. The police, of course, were kept very busy preserving the lines, but did not have much trouble with turbulence; for a Japanese crowd is proverbially good-natured.

At the station special places were allotted respectively to Princes, officers of the Army and Navy, officials, members of the Diet, members of provincial, municipal, town or village assemblies, etc., according to rank. From about noon these persons began to arrive at the station and take their places. Princes Arisugawa and Kitashirakawa had arrived a day or so before; and on the regular noon train a number of Princesses came. All these ladies were in European dress, and made a fine appearance.

At about two o'clock the special Imperial train arrived and was welcomed with fire-works. The Emperor, and afterwards the Empress, passed from the train through the station on matting, and seated themselves in the carriages. The band in the meantime was playing "*Kimi-ga-yo*." The procession then advanced up the hill; at the post-office turned to the right twice, and then proceeded toward the old castle grounds near by. Some of the people essayed shouting or singing, but were promptly suppressed by the police; so that in the main their Majesties were welcomed by a silent, but none the less loyal, throng. Such a custom may be dignified, but seems tame as compared with the even noisy enthusiasm of the European or American peoples.

In the castle grounds were drawn up, first the Normal School pupils, then the Middle School pupils, then the pupils of various Elementary Schools, and last of all, those of the Kindergarten just before the front gate of the Normal School. The pupils and teachers of the Normal and the High Schools greeted their Imperial Majesties, either by the military salute with guns, or by removing their hats and bowing; while the pupils of the lower institutions greeted them by singing "*Kimi-ga-yo*." It is estimated that about 3,000 pupils were in line.

The Imperial party are entertained in the commodious, modern, foreign style buildings of the Normal School in the old castle. From either an historical or a practical point of view, there could be no more appropriate or comfortable location. The buildings are well adapted to accommodate a large company; and the spot is not only beautiful, but is hallowed by many historical associations with the name of Imperialism.

This morning the Emperor and the Empress left the *Ansaisho* (temporary lodging-place) at eight o'clock, and proceeded by special train to Shishido. From there they rode in carriages about three miles to Iwama-hara, where the Imperial Bodyguards are stationed for their autumn drill. Your correspondent tried yesterday, but in vain, to ascertain the programme for to-day, and did not learn it until he received the *Ibaraki Daily News* this morning. It was then, unfortunately, too late to reach the field in time for the sham-fight of the morning. It is stated, however, that 16,000 or 17,000 troops are engaged in the manoeuvres. The plan of campaign was as follows:—The troops were to be divided into a northern, or foreign army, and a southern, or Japanese army. The former, having captured Hakodate and Muroan, had advanced part of its force toward Niigata, and had sent the fleet to attack Choshi (in Shimosha) and Mito. The southern, or Japanese army, had sent one division to protect Niigata, and had kept the remainder in this vicinity to protect Mito. The Imperial party reached Mito on the return trip at two o'clock, and were again greeted by an immense throng. To-morrow they go again to the field where the Bodyguards are stationed, and hold the formal review. On their return to Mito, the Emperor will visit the *Kencho* (Prefectural Offices), and the Empress will visit the Tokiwa Park. Their Majesties will leave here for Tokyo on Wednesday morning at 8 o'clock.

CLEM.

Mito, October 27th, 1890.

II.

In my former letter and in a telegram, I referred to the matter of a decision concerning the victory in the sham battles. I must now explain more particularly the meaning of the words "victor" or "victory." No general decision concerning the ultimate issue of the conflict was given. Judgment was passed upon this movement and that movement, this retreat and that advance, etc.; and victory may be said to have rested with one army, in the sense that its movements were generally commended.

In regard to the number of troops engaged I have not been able to ascertain anything with certainty. In one telegram I stated the number at 17,000; on the battle-field I was informed personally by an officer that there were about 15,000; but the *Ibaraki Daily News* puts the number at considerably less.

I was also misinformed about the presence here of Prince Kujo and Count Oyama, neither of whom came; and I omitted the name of Prince

Tokugawa Iyesato, the heir of the last Shogun, who was conspicuous in the old feudal dress of the nobles.

On Monday, October 27th, His Royal Highness Prince Kitashirakawa made a visit to Ishioka; while Her Royal Highness, Princess Kitashirakawa and Madame Hanabusa, took a trip to Orai on the sea-shore.

Their Imperial Majesties on the 26th and 27th had the pleasure of seeing many ancient books, pictures, and other relics. Some live salmon and "sea-eels" (*awabi*) were brought in a little boat, and exhibited to the Emperor, who purchased them. It seems, that, as salmon do not live long after being taken out of the water, a live salmon is quite a rare sight in this city.

Monday evening, October 27th, a large party was given at the Kōdō Kwan to the Princes and other notables.

The visitors to Mito have, of course, been numerous. In a former letter I gave estimates varying from 30,000 to 100,000; and in this morning's paper I found an estimate of about 40,000. The number of guests stopping at the inns is, of course, officially known; but besides those a much larger number stayed with friends or relatives; or, living near by returned home at night, to come again the next morning; while many slept in the parks or fields.

The weather has been favourable throughout the whole period. One evening it rained a little, but not enough to do serious damage. The days have been bright and warm, even a little hot; while the evenings have been mild, and bright with lantern light and moonlight; in fact, last night it was full moon.

Yesterday (Tuesday) may, perhaps, be called the great day. Extra trains were run, in fact, have been run every day, but even these could not accommodate the immense crowds. The *Mail* representative left on the first train in company with a representative of the *Boston Transcript*, and reached Shishido station about 7.30 o'clock. As it was early and cool, we walked to Iwama, about three miles distant, and then rode on to the Nami plain, about two miles farther. In a short time the sham battle commenced; and before long the Imperial party arrived on the scene of action. The *Mail* had been honoured by Governor Yasuda in having its representative ranked as a *Kunshi*; so that, by means of the yellow flannel badge tied around the right arm, we were enabled to pass freely about, and into the very midst of the battle, even to the spot where the Imperial party were viewing the conflict.

As I am totally unacquainted with military science or phraseology, I shall make no attempt to explain the various manoeuvres. I was informed that the contest was well carried on and showed a good knowledge of tactics. Even to one wholly unacquainted with such things, and viewing them for the first time, the manoeuvres were extremely interesting. The battle began about 9.30 a.m. and continued till noon.

After a rest and an opportunity to obtain refreshments, the troops proceeded to the parade-ground. Here at about 2 o'clock the officers of the Body-Guards were called before the Emperor to hear the report of the affair, and the criticisms of the movements. The Imperial party, led by His Majesty, and accompanied by the band, proceeded down the line, and returned to the grand stand. Then the troops, led by the band, marched in review past the Imperial party; and consumed about 45 minutes in that operation. After this the Imperial party went to Shishido, and returned to Mito by their special train. A large number of the spectators also reached Shishido, either by walking or riding, in time to return by the regular train leaving a few minutes later.

Upon their return to Mito the Imperial party divided; the Emperor visited the *Kencho*, and the Empress made a trip to the two parks of Mito.

This morning about 7 o'clock the various schools again took position in the castle grounds to greet their Majesties as they left. It was exactly 8 o'clock by the city bell, when the Imperial party began to pass out the front entrance of the Normal School, and the little children of the Kindergarten started up "*Kimi-ga-yo*." A few minutes later they were at the station, and soon left Mito. Long before this, we suppose, they have safely reached Tokyo.

After this departure the Normal School was thrown open to special persons; and an opportunity was given to view the *ansaisho*. But only the matting, screens, and chairs were left to reflect the Imperial magnificence.

The Imperial Visit to Mito is thus a thing of the past. The decorations are being taken down; the crowds are disappearing; and everything will resume its former state. But Mito, always loyal to the Emperor, will be more loyal than ever.

Mito, October 29th, 1890.

CLEM.

IMPERIAL UNIVERSITY SPORTS.

The annual sports of the Imperial University took place on Saturday in the University grounds. Fine weather favoured the event, and though the number of entries was rather below those of former years, the various items were as interesting and as warmly contested as ever. The programme began at one in the afternoon, and being carried out with promptitude and punctuality was finished before five, but the process of calling out the names of the winners (which ceremony was gracefully performed by Mrs. Divers) occupied a long time, so that darkness had set in ere the visitors left the scene. Perhaps the most noticeable competition was the pole jumping, in which Ishikawa easily cleared 7 ft. 9 in. Three members of the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club were present and ran in a race set apart for members of the Club, Eytan taking the lead and winning easily. The judges were Professors Kikuchi, Knott, and Yamaguchi. The Imperial Guards Band was present and played at intervals. The following is a list of the events:—

100 YARDS RACE.

First Heat.

T. Kato	1	Hayashi	3
Tanabe	2		

Time, 11.2 sec.

Second Heat.

Matsubara	1	Saito	3
Noda	2		

Time, 11.6 sec.

Final Heat.

Tanabe	1	Saito	3
T. Kato	2	Noda	4

Time, 10.8 sec.

THROWING THE CRICKET BALL.

Samushima, 77 yds. 2 ft. 10 in.	1
Momina, 75 yds. 1 ft. 3 in.	2
Shishido, 75 yds. 1 ft.	3
Ishikawa, 68 yds. 6 in.	4
Matsubara, 64 yds. 2 ft. 1 in.	5

LONG JUMP.

Kinoshita, 16 ft. 1 in.	1	Matsui, 14 ft. 1 in.	4
N. Kato, 16 ft.	2	T. Kato, 14 ft.	5
Kawai, 14 ft. 6 in.	3		

220 YARDS RACE.

First Heat.

Tanabe	1	Nozoye	3
Hayashi	2		

Time, 28.6 secs.

Second Heat.

Saito	1	Sasada	3
Narita	2	Ijima	4

Time, 28.8 secs.

Final Heat.

Hayashi & Nozoye	1	Tanabe	3
	2		

Time, 29.4 secs.

PUTTING THE SHOT.

F. Sato, 31 ft. 8 in.	1	Matsubara, 30 ft. 4 in.	3
T. Momma, 30 ft. 4 in.	2	S. Ota, 29 ft. 11 in.	4

HIGH JUMP.

Kinoshita, 4 ft. 9 in.	1	K. Tsutsumi, 4 ft. 7 in.	3
Kakehi, 4 ft. 8 in.	2	Ishikawa, 4 ft. 6 in.	4

440 YARDS.

Naruta and Tanabe, tie	1	Yamashita	4
Edakuni	3		

Time, 6.4 secs.

THROWING THE HAMMER.

Matsubara, 78 ft. 8 in.	1	Ishikawa, 77 ft. 3 in.	3
S. Ota, 78 ft. 4 in.	2		

MOMBUSHO SCHOOLS RACE—440 YARDS.

Takada	1	Iki	3
Fukushima	2		

Time, 6.6 secs.

POLE JUMP.

T. Ishikawa, 7 ft. 9 in.	1	S. Ichioke, 7 ft. 5 in.	3
Oshima, 7 ft. 8 in.	2		

SPECIAL MEMBERS' RACE—220 YARDS.

Matsuzaki	1	Tamba	3
Sakurai	2		

Time, 31.8 secs.

ONE LEGGED RACE.—(50 Yards.)

Ota	1	Momina	3
Nakaya	2		

Time, 10.6 secs.

YOKOHAMA ATHLETIC AND CRICKET CLUB MEMBERS RACE.—(Once Round 365 Yards.)

J. Eytan	1		
	2		

Time, 47.6 secs.

THREE LEGGED RACE.

Kinoshita	1	Kato	2
Kawa	2	Kuroiwa	3

Time, 31.8 secs.

880 YARDS RACE.

Shibaru	1	Noda	3
Edakuni	2	Narita	4

Time, 2 min. 34.4 secs.

GAKUSHI RACE—(220 Yards).

Ushioda.....	1	Saga	3
Kubo	2		

Time, 30.6 secs.

OBSTACLE RACE.

First Heat.

Kato and Iwaoka .. tie	Kawai	4
Nakaya.....	3	

Time, 1m. 18.3 secs.

Second Heat.

Tsutsuni	1	Ota	3
Matsubara	2	Ichioika	4

Time, 1m. 14.8 secs.

CONSOLATION RACE—(Once Round).

Hiri	1	Fujise.....	3
Iisuta	2	Morita	4

Time, 57.4 secs.

A VISIT TO A STRANGE PEOPLE.

In one of Kotzebue's voyages it is related that when the great navigator was coasting along the island of Saghalien he used to make frequent incursions into the interior for the purpose of procuring supplies for his ship and for exploring the country. During one of these inland expeditions he came across a singular race of people, differing in all respects from the surrounding natives. They were small in stature, no more than three feet in height, with fair hair and blue eyes, and he goes on to describe their habits and mode of life. As nearly all the old navigators were fond of drawing somewhat on their imagination in describing anything out of the common, very little attention has probably been paid to the description of this pigmy race. It was my good fortune some years ago to be able to verify the story of the old Russian to some extent when I was on board a schooner trading between Vladivostok and Chirikov Bay. I had heard the people on shore in Chirikov, especially the Ainu, on several occasions speak about a strange people living in a valley among the mountains and holding no intercourse with any outsiders, and pronounced by the Ainu to be "uncanny." This awakened my curiosity to a high degree, and, remembering Kotzebue's story, I determined to penetrate into the stronghold of this strange race, if possible, and ascertain for myself the truth of their existence. I had no opportunity to do anything until September, as our stay at Chirikov was always too short for such an expedition, while in the latter part of that month we were assured of detention for a week at least. So my chance came. I had at first great difficulty in procuring a guide, as all the Ainu were very shy about going towards these particular mountains, but I finally secured a young fellow from the opposite side of the island, who could not withstand the offer of a bright red shirt and a red blanket. He promised to take me as far as the top of the range overlooking the valley, and there wait for my return, of which he evidently had some doubts. The distance was not far, but the entire absence of roads made the travelling a long and serious undertaking. I brought with me a week's provisions, which were carried by the Aino in addition to his own. My rifle, an old and tried companion in many a former expedition, I carried, besides a Smith and Wesson's revolver. I took a few old knives and trinkets, picked up on board or in the store on shore to distribute as presents among the strange people to secure their goodwill. It was on a Tuesday morning when we left the settlement. I had kept my projected trip, quiet, but it leaked out somehow, as quite a crowd assembled to see me off, the Ainu ominously shaking their heads at my foolhardiness. My guide took almost a straight course through bushes and brambles, fording streams, and climbing steep hills; and I had to moderate his pace after a while, as at the rate he was going I would have soon been exhausted. We now kept on at a reduced speed and with more frequent halts, but still we made good progress and at nightfall were at the foot of the last mountain range, where I concluded to remain for the night. My guide took me to an old tumbledown grass hut, formerly occupied by Ainu, and where I staked my fire and boiled my coffee. He then collected a quantity of dry grass and herbs, which made a soft and fragrant bed. Next morning we were up at daylight, and found the mountain in front of us concealed in masses of fleecy clouds, which dispersed as the day advanced and the sun rose. Its ascent was more difficult than that of any we had encountered the previous day, and my guide seemed to be uncertain about the right direction, or else the proximity of the "uncanny" people had thrown his ideas into confusion, for we had often to retrace our steps after coming in front of some precipice we found it impossible to scale. At length the topmost ridge was reached,

and before us stretched a deep undulating valley, extending for miles to the northward, and watered by several small streams that twisted and coiled about like snakes among the green grass and trees, and surrounded on all sides by ramparts of well-wooded hills. My guide hinted now that his services were no longer required, as he had brought me to the place agreed upon, and he did not wish to stay on the mountain top. I thereupon dismissed him, and, telling him to wait for me at the hut where we camped the previous night, in a few minutes he was out of sight. I had determined to reach the top of the range before stopping to lunch, which I now took in grand solitude before I started on the descent. Going a short distance along the summit of the ridge I soon struck a barely perceptible path, made either by man or beast, and this took me to the foot of the mountain, and continued along the bank of a small brook winding through the verdant carpet, dotted with low bushes covered with red berries. So far, I had seen no sign of anything human, but, coming suddenly round a dense thicket of tall trees, two fields separated by a well trodden path were right at my feet. The farther I advanced along this path the more conspicuous became the proofs that I was approaching the habitations of the natives. Rude agricultural implements were lying about, and several baskets made of twigs were in sight. The crop, which had already been gathered, consisted of beans apparently, as I detected some of these dropped on the path in divers places. Turning round to the right I perceived a pair of eyes watching my movements over a low hedge. They were quickly withdrawn immediately I looked in that direction, and I then heard the clatter of shod feet running away. I stepped across the field, and, finding a narrow gap in the hedge, squeezed myself through. A tolerably good path followed the hedge on this side, and led, as I conjectured, to the native village. I knew that the moment was now drawing near which would decide whether the natives would meet me as friend or foe; and, grasping my rifle firmly in my hand, I kept on my way, but—tell it not in Gath—with a lonely beating heart. I was not long kept in suspense. Hearing many voices ahead, I stopped, and in a few minutes a great concourse of people came in view. My fears of being received by hostile hordes vanished at once, and I almost blushed with shame as I gently transferred my rifle to my shoulder. The natives as they thronged the road in front of me waved green branches of trees, and sang or rather chanted in low tones what was apparently a psalm of welcome. They greeted me with oriental salutations by putting their hands to their foreheads as I drew nearer. Young and old, men and women, came out to receive me, and their faces were lit up with joy as they crowded around me. Any one I happened to look directly at instantly bowed his head with humility and glanced at me with a deprecating smile. They invited me with friendly gestures to enter their village, and I was conveyed to the largest house. A couch of dried skins was pointed out to me to rest upon, and a large wooden beaker of milk was handed to me for refreshment. A tub of warm water was also brought to me, and a couple of damsels hastened to divest me of boots and stockings, and carefully wash my feet, some of the more ancient dames superintending the operation.

The people were not exactly pigmies, but were shorter and slither than the Ainu, averaging, I should say, about 5 feet. Their complexion was lighter, and several had brown hair and gray or blue eyes. The Ainu are a heavily bearded race, but these people had generally smooth, broad faces, not perhaps handsome, but mild and inoffensive in expression. The women were smaller and slither than the men, and many of them were almost white. I saw but very few children among them, which is probably due to continued intermarriage. Their clothing consisted of tightly fitting garments, made of some coarse native material and the skins of animals; the women and men being dressed almost alike. The men had their hair cut short across the forehead and tight round, but the women wore the hair long, twisted in a knot, and fastened at the back of the head with large horn pins. The houses were low and built of stones and thatched with grass, and each had a wide porch in front; the dwellings contained only one room, which constituted sleeping room for the whole family, and kitchen, with a hole in the roof for the smoke, like the Ainu. Rude wooden platforms were ranged round the walls, seats by day and couches at night. All their cooking vessels were made of a brown, unglazed earthenware, of which material, beside wood and basket work, all their other household utensils were also made. After my feet had been washed I lit a cigar, and offered another to a venerable looking old man who seemed to be the patriarch of the crowd; he lit it, took

a draw or two, and then passed it, with a wary face, to another man who did the same, and so on, till it was passed through the crowd and then returned to me. Evidently tobacco did not please them. I now made signs that I desired to have a look around the village, when they all jumped up with alacrity and offered their services. Before I left the house I took the cartridges out of both rifle and revolver, to prevent an accident, as they were continually fingering them. My clothing also excited their curiosity; but if I showed the least symptom of impatience they immediately desisted from touching my clothes. They were, indeed, the most harmless people I ever came across. Their houses were all of the same build and internal arrangement; the village was built on both sides of a narrow creek spanned by three primitive bridges. Many of the houses were unoccupied and in ruins, a sure sign that the population was decreasing and that the people were gradually becoming extinct. On the outskirts of the village I perceived a larger building surrounded by a high hedge. I soon saw that they objected to my entering it, and I refrained from inquiring. The only trouble I had was that I could not speak to them; the Russian and Aino words that I knew were not understood, so all our communications were made by signs, a very unsatisfactory method of obtaining information. They spoke a language in which many words sounded familiar to me, but they pronounced them with such rapidity that I could make nothing of it. About their customs, religion, and government I could find out nothing.

I arrived on the afternoon of Wednesday, and during the next day I paid visits from house to house and was well entertained everywhere. Dried venison, broiled trout, eggs, beans, and several sorts of sweet berries was the kind of food generally set before me, and as the people seemed to feel hurt when I refused to partake of any, I consequently consumed an unusual quantity. I had seen all there was to see, and I had learned all I could learn about them, so, after having distributed the trinkets among them, I started on my return on Friday morning. The whole population, to the number of 59, as I counted them, followed me to the foot of the mountain, singing a plaintive dirge, and, after having pointed out the path to me, they prostrated themselves as I ascended. I wanted a couple of them to accompany me up the mountain, but to this request they gave a decided refusal. It took me longer of course to climb up than to come down, and, as I missed the path a couple of times, it was noon before I reached the summit. I now fired off my rifle to attract the attention of the Aino before I descended the other side, and when I got to the bottom he was waiting for me. He surveyed me, however, with some distrust and seemed to be very shy in coming towards me. At the time this appeared strange to me, and he even refused to eat the food I offered him. That night we slept in an unoccupied Aino hut,—at least I did, the Aino preferring to sleep outside. We arrived at Chirikov in the afternoon of the next day, and I went immediately on board the schooner where I had to relate my adventures to an admiring audience.

Next day an old Russian, from a settlement on the other side of the island, came on board, and, after having introduced himself, told me, in excellent English, that he had heard something about my journey the previous evening and asked me to oblige him with a recital of it. He listened to me without interruption. Now and then I saw a peculiar smile on his lips, but he said nothing until I had finished. "Honoured sir!" he began, "You are, I doubt not, a great traveller." I bowed my head. "You may now, perhaps, have discovered a strange race, as you say, but"—here he made a pause, "I think, you have simply made a visit to the leper settlement instead!" After giving me a few minutes time to digest this, he continued; "Some 50 years ago or more, leprosy was introduced on the island by the shipwrecked crew of a whaler. The malady spread quickly until the Government collected all persons having any symptoms of the disease and deported them to a valley among the mountains, supplying them with some provisions and tools, but where they afterwards had to shift for themselves, and were not allowed to hold any communication with anybody outside on pain of death. They were strongly guarded at first, but after some examples had been made, the vigilance was relaxed, as none attempted to escape, and they were finally forgotten. Ainu, Russians, and natives of other countries were sent there. Their descendants are living there now, and these are the people you have been visiting, and you have been the recipient of the leprosy's hospitality. I advise you to say no more about your journey, because if the 'Little Father,'—here he took off his hat—"should hear about it, he might perhaps

send you there to join them, and his ears and eyes are sharp and his arms long." He ceased, and looked at me with a meaning smile as I sat mute and perplexed. Knowing something about the paternal care taken by the "Little Father" of his children, I promised to follow the old Russian's advice. I left the schooner in Vladivostok, but did not consider myself quite safe until I was clear of Russian territory. Was Kotzebue's story a myth? or was the old Russian only playing on my fears?

LETTER FROM SAN FRANCISCO.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

San Francisco, October 9th.

A few hours after my last letter to you was mailed, the President signed the Tariff Bill, and both Houses of Congress adjourned *sine die*. In the Senate, on motion of a Democrat, thanks were tendered Vice-President Morton for the able and impartial manner in which he had presided over the body;—in point of fact, Mr. Morton's *forte* is button-hole diplomacy, and not Parliamentary management, and his duties throughout the session have been performed by Mr. Loggins. The members of the House did not stand upon the order of their going, but, mindless of the usage which requires a vote of thanks to the Speaker, they ran away as fast as they could, and when the hour came for adjournment, the Speaker looked over his desk, and only saw two members present.

Mr. Reed has certainly managed to alienate not only his political opponents, but the members of his own party. He has acted as if the House was a school, and he was the schoolmaster. At the same time, he has made an enemy of his former friend and patron, Mr. Blaine. I send an issue of *Puck*, in which you will find a cartoon illustrating the situation. In an imaginary "Presidential chair" Blaine sits at one side, squeezed against the arm of the chair, while Reed has forced his bulky body in on the other side, and poor little Harrison is flattened between them. Reed lowers threateningly at Blaine; the latter retorts with a look in which contempt and grief struggle for the mastery. The gifted man from Maine has in effect been slain by the leader of his own household. He is hoist with his own petard. It was Blaine who, by falsely assuring the workmen that protection was the mainstay of wages, induced them to elect Harrison President; and now the spoils of war go to another. In the next National Republican Convention, Blaine will not be the one man fit for the highest post of honour; Reed and McKinley will contend for the prize, and Blaine will glower in the background. They will reap the harvest he sowed. He saw his mistake too late; vainly he tried to stem the torrent he had let loose; he played Girondist to these new Jacobins, and will repeat the part of Vergniaud, with the guillotine omitted.

Congress dissolved, Mr. Harrison started out on a junketing tour through the West, which affords him an opportunity of repeating the pretty little speeches for which he is famous. It is sweet to hear him announce to his fellow-citizens that correct behaviour is the key to happiness, and that virtue is its own reward. Mr. Blaine, it may be observed, is not with him. He sulks in his tent at Washington. Unless he can pick a quarrel with England, his political career is ended.

The last incident of the session was the receipt of the report of the Commissioner of Pensions, Mr. Green B. Raum. This document shows that 537,944 persons are pensioners on the bounty of the United States, 66,637 of whom were added to the list last year—a quarter of a century after the close of the war. Raum's administration of the Bureau was the subject of an investigation by Congress, and it was shown that in considering pension claims, the cases represented by an agent named Lemon were given preference over others. It was also shown that just prior to this arrangement, Lemon who had had no previous business relations with Raum, endorsed his note for \$12,000. The Republican members of the Committee report that they can see nothing wrong in this, and whitewash Raum.

Social circles in the East are in a flurry over the arrival of the Count of Paris, who spent a year in the United States army during the war, and was one of the gignards by whom McClellan was surrounded. He left the army because he was satisfied that the country was going to the how-ows. Ever since then he has been conspiring in a feeble, fitful, underhand way against the Government of his own country. All which to the contrary notwithstanding, New York and Baltimore are dining and winning him, and laying their fairest virgins at his gony feet.

Next to the Count, the Jews are the leading

object of attraction in the East. Rabbi Joseph of New York has resurrected Sir Moses Montefiore's scheme to colonize the Jews in Palestine, and lots of money are offered to carry out the enterprise. There are two difficulties in the way. Palestine could not support the Jews if they went there, and they haven't the least idea of going. The children of Israel know too well where they are well off. Their lives have fallen in pleasant places in this country. They are all traders—merchants, bankers, shopkeepers, or lucksters—and they are making money. No Jew ever earns his living in the United States by manual labour. To barter, to dicker, to buy and to sell, are his destiny, and he fulfils it well. As a rule, they are honest, enterprising, quick-witted and liberal. They are at the head of all progressive enterprises. They are the best patrons of the theatre: any house which happened to be boycotted by the Jews would have to close its doors. But there is no bigotry about them. They enjoy the "Merchant of Venice," and "Samuel of Pozen" as heartily as the Christians. If they could get over their tendency to be obtrusive and presuming, they would be a delightful element in society.

The organization of the new states and territories is giving rise to the usual squabbles. Oklahoma is taking upon herself territorial honours. An inter-state contest is going on there over the choice of a capital city. The Lower House decided in favour of Oklahoma City; but while it was debating a motion to reconsider, Speaker Daniels signed the bill, and Representative Perry started with it in his pocket for the Governor's office. He was detected, and the whole house followed him in quick pursuit. The air was full of cries of "Hang him! hang him!" which added wings to his flight. When his wind gave out, he handed the document to Representative Nesbitt, who sped on his course. But his condition was poor; the crowd overtook him and forced him to return with the bill to the house where the Governor's signature was erased.

Clerical circles are rather distressed over a criminal case which has just ended at Scranton, Pa. The Rev. Peter Roberts of the Congregational Church, while a student at Yale College, loved a fair maid named Husaboe, and she poor thing, returned his love not wisely but too well. Before her baby was born, he took her to a doctor who undertook to help her out of her trouble, and which she was lying ill at death's door, the Rev. Peter fled to wild Wales, where according to Borrow, such trifling performances as his are not noticed in a man. But the fair Husaboe followed him, and so harassed him that he returned to this country promising to make her an honest woman. He changed his mind when he got a church, and swore that the wronged girl should never be Mrs. Peter. Then her wrath arose, she sued him, and a sympathetic jury gave her \$3,000 damages, which it will take Peter a long time to earn by expounding the gospel according to the lights of the Congregational Church. Miss Husaboe will probably move into Missouri, where, as in Lapland, ladies with her experience are in lively demand among hachelors inclined to matrimony.

A more tragic case of unhappy love has just come to light in this state. A pretty girl of German birth named Louise Eastinger loved a young man, and was deserted by him. She left her place of abode, and removed to Redwood City, where she won the heart of a substantial citizen named Wehrlin. They became engaged, and, contrary to usage, she insisted on an early day for the wedding. The man bought and furnished a cottage for his expected bride, and the wedding was celebrated with due ceremony and circumstance—the whole country having been invited to the marriage feast. At 4 a.m. bride and bridegroom left for their new home. As became a gentleman, Wehrlin left his bride alone for a while in her apartment; then, after a suitable delay, he knocked for admittance. She replied that he could not come in. He expostulated, but in vain; and after vainly trying the strength of the door and the bolt, he returned rather sheepishly to his uncle's house, where the wedding had been performed. When daylight broke, he was advised by his friends to insist on his rights, and he returned to his cottage and broke open the door. A dreadful sight met his eyes. His wife, in her night-dress, was stretched dead upon her bed, her wedding clothes being scattered on the floor. A doctor who was summoned declared that she had died from poison.

No judicial inquiry has been instituted, but it is privately understood that the poor girl was convinced that compliance with her husband's demands would have revealed to him a story which would probably have ended their conjugal life then and there.

There has been a terrible explosion at the famous Dupont Powder Works at Wilmington, De-

laware. It appears that a soldering iron with which a workman was sealing some cans of powder became too hot, and set fire to the powder. Six magazines were destroyed, nearly a hundred houses were blown up, eleven persons killed, and a score or more wounded. The explosion was heard at Philadelphia.

The end of the noted outlaw—Rube Burrows—is reported from Alabama. He had been caught and was on his way to prison, when he asked his captor to hand him his saddlebags, in which he had some crackers. The request was granted; but instead of crackers, the outlaw drew from his bags two revolvers with which he covered the deputy sheriff, bidding him unlock his handcuffs. The deputy complied, and Burrows might have gone free, had it not occurred to him to try to recover the money which the sheriff had taken from him the day before. He walked into town, met the man who had his money, and in the scuffle which followed, was shot dead.

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

The following notice has been sent to all members of the Photographic Society of Japan:—
Sir,—The following letter has been received from Mr. S. Cocking of Yokohama:—

Yokohama, 4th October, 1890.

TO THE SECRETARY OF THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN, TOKYO.

DEAR SIR,—With the view of bringing more prominently before the notice of the members of the Photographic Society the use of Bromide paper, we herewith beg to intimate to the Committee our willingness to present certain prizes, viz.:—1st prize, \$15.00; 2nd prize, \$10.00; 3rd prize, \$5.00, for the best three prints.

We also will present to the Society the paper to be used by the exhibitors. With respect to the details of the competition we will leave that to the discretion of the Committee, making only the following conditions ourselves, viz.:—

1st.—That the negatives must be taken by the exhibitors, and the prints printed by them.

2nd.—That all the exhibits must be on the paper presented by us.

3rd.—That the prize photos are to be our property. We shall be pleased to have you present the above proposition to the members at your next meeting, and if same is accepted kindly inform us to whom the Bromide paper shall be sent, and at what time.

Yours faithfully, (Signed) COCKING & CO.

The Committee unanimously decided to accept Mr. Cocking's generous offer, and the following conditions were made.

That the work be exhibited, on a date to be fixed by the Committee, pictures being without mark whereby it can be told by whom they are done.

That the judging be by a ballot of all who attend the exhibition.

That members of Committee shall not take part in the competition.

Should you wish to compete you are requested to apply to the Secretary, before 10th November, stating what size of paper you would wish to have, when your application will be considered by the Committee.

I remain, Sir, yours truly,

W. K. BURTON.

9, Kaga Yashiki, Hongo, Tokyo.

IN H.B.M. COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before N. J. HANNEN, Esq., Judge.—TUESDAY, October 28th, 1890.

FUJII V. SPENCER.

Fujii Kinjiro sued Percival Spencer for \$39.30, alleged to have been incurred for sundry work done for the defendant.

Defendant said he had received no detailed account from the plaintiff, besides which the amount claimed was exorbitant. He had never seen the account (his Honour showed defendant the account). He could prove that many of the items were incorrect. There were only four men employed on the 19th inst., whereas in the account the plaintiff had put twelve men. The \$5 balance from the contract money was correct. The \$4.50 for broken fences ought not to have been in the account. The contract was, "and have everything ready for your next performance, a balance of \$5 to be paid." The \$5 for bamboo poles was incorrect. The \$2 for curtains was right. The \$8.20 for 12 carpenters ought to be \$2.80. The repairs for the dressing room were not correct.

Fujii Kinjiro deposed that there were extra ex-

penses. The \$5.00 was simply a balance from the contract of the first ascent, and was to be paid at the second performance, if witness was punctual and had everything ready. The other items were different expenses. The 12 carpenters was made up of 5 employed for two days and two others to do sundry jobs. There were other little expenses in connection with the enclosure, two men not being sufficient, and which witness had not included in his account. The repairs to the dressing-room took place on the Saturday previous to the last ascent. In connection with the ascent a momban was needed as things got lost from the dressing-room. Witness did not employ a momban but went himself and employed his time in repairing the dressing-room. The fence round the room and also the interior of it required some repairs.

The defendant showed an account on the back of which was a receipt, and said the plaintiff had agreed to put the fences up for the next ascent for \$30. The plaintiff's representative wrote out the account. Mr. Schmidt, defendant's assistant, was present at the time.

The plaintiff said he did not know anything about the account and receipt which the defendant showed him. His account was not written in Japanese and was something like the one produced, but he could not say positively that it was the account. He signed the receipt for \$26. He received \$36. He did not understand what were the terms of the receipt. The document produced was not the contract.

By the defendant—There was no interpreter present when I received the \$36. The receipt was drawn up by the defendant. I went with an interpreter to the Grand Hotel. Before I signed the receipt it was interpreted to me.

Sakuma Ihei, a jinrikishaman, said that the plaintiff had told him about the contract he had made with Mr. Spencer and said that as he did not understand English he was a great deal perplexed as he was to have had the place ready on Sunday but owing to some delay it was not ready and Mr. Spencer had fined him \$10. After that the plaintiff took particular care to have everything ready by the proper time. Witness was employed by the plaintiff to go messages and went with him on the 17th to the Grand Hotel about a promise made by the defendant as to the repair of the place for the next ascent, when defendant said he would pay the \$3 balance at the next ascent. The work in the Public Gardens was finished by six o'clock on Saturday evening. They went with the account to the Hotel on Sunday morning, but defendant said they must come in the evening. They went then but he was out.

By the defendant—The work was finished on Saturday. It was begun on Friday. I was not present when you paid the \$36.

Percival Spencer deposed that he gave the plaintiff the order to put up sundry temporary timber. It was to be done for \$30 and he was to start at 7 o'clock. At that time he was not there, and was not found till nine o'clock. Witness's assistant, thinking he might be stuck for money, advanced him \$10, but he did not go on, and a Chinaman was engaged to do the work for \$25. When the Chinaman started on the work the plaintiff at once began and evidently bought the Chinaman out by giving him \$10. There was one addition to the contract work, which was some timber put up and tied in place for a dressing-room, valued at about \$3. When witness paid him \$35, \$5 was to stand over till next time. Witness told him to put up some fence curtains, and a little other work was done which could only be valued at a small amount and the \$5 more was to cover the whole of it. When the plaintiff brought his account there was a balance of \$9.50. Witness wrote a letter asking that a proper account in English be sent in. There were no repairs done to the dressing-room. There were no fresh materials, and the man was only told to go and tie up some boards.

Louis Schmidt deposed that there were four men and one boy employed on Saturday. There was not one man there on Friday. There were some on Sunday, but the only work they did was to move a pole. The dressing-room was made of some boards which were there from the first performance. If they got \$1.50 or \$2 for it that was ample. The room was not taken away, but was simply taken down, the posts being left standing. There was an interpreter present when the \$36 were paid.

His Honour said he believed Mr. Spencer's account of what took place, and after reducing the price of some of the items and taking out some which were wrong, he gave judgment for the amount of \$18.90 with no costs.

Before J. TROUP, Esq., Acting Assistant Judge.
TUESDAY, October 28th, 1890.

ALLEGED ASSAULT AND THEFT.

John McAlpine charged T. Davis with having stolen on the 26th instant the sum of \$196.

John Dobbie McAlpine, engineer, deposed that on Sunday afternoon he left his residence on the Bluff to call on some friends. He hired a *jinrikisha* and, finding his friends not in, he told the man to drive him around a bit. He stopped at a public house, not knowing where he was, having only come ashore on Saturday night for the first time. He had not been there long when one of the sailors from the ship he had come from came in and the accused with him. Witness asked them to have a drink. Later on the accused asked him to stand another drink, which he refused to do, as he had too much himself. He saw that the accused was trying to stop him from leaving the house, but he managed to get out. He had not gone far, however, when he found that he had lost his money. He went to the police station and reported the matter, and went accompanied by two policemen to find the house he had been in, but could not find it. The policemen left witness to continue the search, and he went back home and left the matter in their charge.

By the accused—I don't know in which house you assaulted me, and took my money from me. You laid hands on me to keep me from getting out.

By the Court—I had about \$196 in my pocket in Japanese one yen notes. There were two packages. One was \$100 unbroken and the other had a few dollars out of it. I have not got the money back.

Chino Ichiya, a jinrikisha man, employed by the mistress of the house where the complainant was staying, deposed that between three and four o'clock in the afternoon of Sunday last he took the complainant to a saloon in Sakai-cho. He left the place at a little after four o'clock, and went to another saloon in Motomachi. When it was getting dark he said he would go to No. 5 where he was taking his meals. Just then he met the accused, who asked him to stand another drink. They went together to the corner of the Public Gardens and the complainant then said he wanted to get out of the jinrikisha. As he was getting out witness saw two bundles of Japanese notes fall from his pocket. Accused took them and having nodded to witness ran away. Witness put his jinrikisha down and ran after him, but in Chinatown near No. 125 he lost him, and at once went to the house where his master was staying and reported it to the mistress. He, with a youth and a man about 30 years old, went to the police station and reported the matter.

By the complainant—I saw no real quarrel between you and the accused at Sakai-cho.

By the accused—I did not see you take the money from the complainant's pocket. It was after the lights were lit that you ran away with the money.

By the Court—The money was on the ground when the accused took it. I saw two bundles and knew it was my master's money. One of the bundles spread out in the road and the other fell solidly. I don't know what they were tied up with. I could see nothing around the loose bundles of money.

Charles Loperly, late steward of the *Swatara*, at present living at Ortiz's house, deposed that on Sunday last when he went home he heard the mistress call upstairs that witness had come in. Witness went to the back and afterwards went upstairs, where he saw something on the table in a handkerchief. There were present Ortiz, Davis, and another man. As soon as Ortiz saw witness he turned round to prevent witness seeing what was on the table. Witness was going to bed, when Ortiz said they had better go downstairs, which they did. Witness heard him say to Davis that he must give him (witness) "a dollar out of it." Witness, however, did not know what "it" was, but Ortiz said it three or four times. They then went downstairs to the other room. As soon as they went into the room they locked the door. Davis afterwards said that if witness would give evidence in his favour and say he was sick for so many days with rheumatism he would give him \$9. Witness heard Ortiz tell Davis to give the money to the missis as it would be safe with her, and to say that he was sick for three days and could not walk. After they had finished their business they opened the door and told the missis it was all right and that she was safe. Witness could not say exactly that it was money he saw, but they were counting some paper notes. He believed it was now in Ortiz's private room.

By the accused—I saw you upstairs counting paper notes. I did not see you give Ortiz any money to keep, but heard him say so. Ortiz

told you to give the money to the missis. It was at Ortiz's boarding house that Davis asked me to give evidence in his favour.

John Ortiz, a boarding house keeper at No. 106, Honmura, deposed that Davis was boarding at his house. He did not take any money into the house on Sunday last to witness's knowledge. That night two new men went to his house to sleep. The accused was in witness's house all day and had his breakfast, tiffin, and supper sent up to his room.

Thomas Philip, a Chilean, deposed that he came out in the *Kii Maru* from England. He did not see Davis take any money into the house. He was in the house all day.

By the complainant—I remember letting a glass fall to the floor. It was not Davis who said, "Don't give him any more drink." It was another coloured man. I do not know in what house it was I let the glass fall. I had tiffin at the boarding house and afterwards went out but got back by four o'clock.

Nojii Yoshitaro, a boy in Ortiz's house, deposed that Davis was in the house during the whole of Sunday, and did not go out at all. Witness took him his breakfast, tiffin, and supper upstairs. Witness did not see Davis have any money in the house. Witness had been with Ortiz about two months.

Loperly, recalled, said the accused was not in all day, but was out.

His Honour said with regard to the charge of assault there was no evidence to support it; it therefore would not be proceeded with and was dismissed. As regarded the other charge he asked accused if he had any defence to make.

Accused said on Sunday morning when he woke up about five o'clock he felt a headache and was unwell. He told Ortiz that he would have to send his breakfast upstairs as he was sick and could not go down. It was sent up, as were his dinner and supper. Witness stopped in the house the whole day until Monday morning about 12 o'clock, and did not go anywhere. About 12.30 on Monday the Court Constable came to him, took a summons out of his pocket and gave it to him (accused). Not knowing what it meant, he took it down to Frank who read it to him. He thought it very strange as he was not out of the house the whole day. He knew nothing about the money.

His Honour said the charge of assault was dismissed. The accused would be committed for trial on the charge of larceny. The complainant would be bound over for \$400 to prosecute.

PUSS ON PEGASUS.

A MEW FOR MERCY.

Awake, my lyric mews,
And help me to diffuse
Some pity in mankind for my relations,
When, their masters all away
For a summer holiday,
They are left behind to suffer sore privations.
It makes my whiskers burn
With indignation when I learn
How many a petted tortoiseshell and tabby
To starvation point comes down,
When the family's out of town.
(There's a sample of home Rule for Mr. L-bby!)

Once in Egypt whose'er
Killed a cat (excepting Care)
Got his instant *coup de grace* (see Diodorus);
We were then a nation's pride,
And when any of us died,
The Pharos and the fellah wept in chorus.
O, the life that there was ours,
O, the larking in the bowers,
And the dreams of future dignity as mummies!
O, those days of long repose
Mid the lotus and the rose,
And the dainties that regaled our little—appetites!
O, those nights upon the tiles,
O, the dalliance and the wiles,
And the serenades that shook the Liliyan welkin,
As, conscious of his place
In a consecrated race,
Loud and louder rose the voice of great Grimalkin!
Then to think in London dens
(*Horresco referens*)
The heirs of such prestige should be neglected,
And pine through lapse of "laps"
Of that beverage, perhaps,
Which has always as our birthright been respected.
Tis hard to bid adieu
To the honour we once knew
On the banks of Cleopatra's noble river,
And on weather-beaten leg
Of a casual meal to beg
From the basket of the man-of-lights-and-liver.
So, good people, don't forget,
When you take us for a pet,
To that pleasure are attached some obligations;
And your duty 'tis to see,
Ere you "take your hook" and flee,
That our larder is supplied with proper rations.

COTSFORD DICK in the World.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, October 24th.
The shipping federation threat has been denied.

The following is the result of the Cambridge-shire Handicap:—

Mr. M. Ephrussi's ch. f. Alicante..... 1
Mr. Cass' ch. c. Belmont 2
Captain J. Orr-Ewing's b. c. Tostig..... 3

London, October 25th.
The Liberals of Canada urge unrestricted reciprocity with the United States.

London, October 26th.
The recent decline in the price of silver is attributed to the liquidation of large speculative accounts.

London, October 27th.
The Italian papers announce that the East African Company has been founded with a capital of twenty million francs.

London, October 29th.
Admiral Fremantle has landed a thousand men with the object of advancing upon Vitu to punish the murderers of the Germans at that place. A battle is expected.

London, October 30th.
Admiral Fremantle has attacked Vitu, which he captured and burned.

(FROM THE "SINGAPORE FREE PRESS.")

London, October 7th.
The old tariff expired at midnight on Sunday and a great rush was made by captains to get their vessels entered at the New York custom house. The Cunard steamer *Etruria* with an immense cargo entered a minute before. The customs receipts were the largest on record. The re-assembling of Parliament will take place on the 20th November.

London, October 8th.
The Mormons have held a conference, and decided on the abolition of polygamy.

London, October 9th.
Signor Crispi, speaking at Florence said that the Government were firmly resolved to maintain alliances, and he appealed to the country for support in combating Irredentism.

London, October 11th.
Messrs. William O'Brien and Dillon, who were arrested some time ago for inciting tenants to withhold payment of their rents, have escaped and secretly gone to America. Their bail of £1,000 each has been estreated.

London, October 13th.
Diligent but unsuccessful search has been made on board all the outward bound steamers at Queenstown owing to the belief that Messrs. O'Brien and Dillon have not yet started for America.

The partisans of self-government have triumphed at the recent elections at Natal.

There has been parleying between England and Italy relative to the claim of the latter to occupy Kassala.

Lady Rosebery is suffering from typhoid fever.

London, October 14th.
His Imperial Highness the Czarwitsch has abandoned his intention to visit Stamboul and Palestine, in consequence, it is supposed, of the cholera epidemic. It is also rumoured that the proposed journey to the East will not take place owing to the Czarina dreading the prolonged parting.

Great preparations are being made in New York to welcome Messrs. O'Brien and Dillon on their arrival in that city.

(FROM THE "EL COMERCIO.")

Madrid, October 10th.

The Liberals have organised an active electoral campaign in favour of Sagasta, beginning in Aragon and Catalonia.

The commercial war declared by America has alarmed Europe.

The Catholic Congress has met; 29 prelates have addressed an enthusiastic message to the Queen Regent.

TIME TABLES AND STEAMERS.

TOKYO-YOKOHAMA RAILWAY.

DOWN TRAINS LEAVE SHIMBASHI Station at 6.05, 6.40, 8.35, 9.30, 10.25, and 11.45 a.m., and 1.25, 2.30, 3.55, 4.45, 5.50, 6.50, 8.30, 9.55, and 11.15 p.m.
UP TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 6.30, 7.20, 8.10, 9.15, 10.22, and 11.30 a.m., and 12.45, 2.3, 4.25, 5.30, 6.35, 7.50, 9.10, 10.05, and 11.05 p.m.
FARES—First-class, *sen* 60; second-class, *sen* 40 and third-class, *sen* 20.

Trains marked * run through without stopping at Omori, Kawasaki, Tsurumi, and Kanagawa Stations. Those marked † run through without stopping at Omori, Kawasaki, and Tsurumi Stations.

TOKAIDO RAILWAY.

TRAIN LEAVE YOKOHAMA (down) at 6.50, 9.10, 11.25 a.m., and 12.40, 3.25, 4.55, 5.35, and 7.15 p.m.; and KOZU (up) at 6.35, 8.40, 9.40, and 11.07 a.m., and 1.17, 2.45, 4.53, 7.25, and 9.46 p.m.

FARES—To Hologaya, first-class *sen* 6, second-class *sen* 4, third-class *sen* 2; to Totusaka, *sen* 18, *sen* 12, *sen* 6; to Ofuna *sen* 36, *sen* 24, *sen* 12; to Fujisawa, *sen* 42, *sen* 28, *sen* 14; to Hiratsuka, *sen* 66, *sen* 44, *sen* 22; to Oiso, *sen* 75, *sen* 50, *sen* 25; and to Kozu, *sen* 93, *sen* 63, *sen* 31.

Down trains at 6.50 a.m. run no further than Kyoto arriving there at 11.20 p.m.; at 10.20 a.m. no further than Nagoya, arriving at 10.10 p.m.; at 12.40 p.m. no further than Shizuoka, arriving there at 6.50 p.m.; at 3.25 p.m. no further than Shizuoka, arriving at 8.48 p.m.; and the train at 5.35 p.m. runs to Kobe, arriving at 12.45 p.m. next day.

A tramway runs between Kozu and Yomoto (distance 4 ri.) Jiniokishi may be hired between Yomoto and Miyakosumi (distance 13 ri.)

OFUNA-YOKOSUKA RAILWAY.

TRAIN LEAVE OFUNA (down) at 7.30 and 9.40 a.m., and 12.05, 1.30, 4.03, 6.14, and 8.30 p.m.; KAMAKURA (down) at 7.41 and 9.51 a.m., and 12.16, 1.41, 4.14, 6.25, and 8.41 p.m.; and ZUSHIMURA (down) at 7.50 and 10 a.m., and 12.25, 1.50, 4.23, 6.34, and 8.50 p.m.; YOKOSUKA (up) at 6.45, 8.55, and 11.20 a.m., and 12.50, 3.10, and 7.45 p.m.; ZUSHIMURA (up) at 7.01, 9.12, and 11.36 a.m., and 1.06, 3.16, 5.26, and 8.01 p.m.; and KAMAKURA (up) at 7.11, 9.22, and 11.46 a.m., and 1.15, 3.26, 5.36 and 8.10 p.m.

FARES—To Kamakura, first-class *sen* 9, second-class *sen* 6, third-class *sen* 3; to Zushimura *sen* 15, *sen* 10, *sen* 5; and to Yokosuka *sen* 30, *sen* 20, *sen* 10.

TOKYO-SHIOGAMA RAILWAY.

TRAIN LEAVE UENO (down) at 6.40, 8.50, and 11.10 a.m., and 2.40 and 5.40 p.m.; UTSUNOMIYA (down) at 10 a.m. and 3.03 and 5.59 p.m.; SHIRAKAWA (down) at 8 a.m. and 12.30 and 5.41 p.m.; KORIYAMA (down) at 9.25 a.m. and 1.54 and 6.58 p.m.; FUKUSHIMA (down) at 7.35 and 11.33 a.m. and 3.45 p.m.; SENDAI (down) at 6.15, 10.25, and 10.40 a.m. and 2.30, 6.35, and 6.50 p.m.

TRAIN LEAVE ICHINOSERI (up) at 6.40 a.m., and 2.50 p.m.; SHIOGAMA (up) at 7 and 11.05 a.m., and 3.10 and 7.15 p.m.; SENDAI (up) at 7.35 and 11.40 a.m., and 3.45 p.m.; FUKUSHIMA (up) at 6.40 and 10.26 a.m., and 2.36 p.m.; KORIYAMA (up) at 8.29 a.m., and 12.22 and 4.28 p.m.; SHIRAKAWA (up) at 6.35 and 9.47 a.m., and 1.40 p.m.; UTSUNOMIYA (up) at 6.20 and 9.05 a.m., and 12.18, 4.14, and 6.33 p.m.

FARES—Ueno to Utsunomiya, first-class *sen* 2, second-class *sen* 1.32, third-class *sen* 66; to Koriyama *sen* 4.10, *yen* 2.74, *yen* 1.37; to Fukushima *sen* 5, *yen* 3.32, *yen* 1.66; to Sendai *sen* 6.45, *yen* 4.30, *yen* 2.15; to Shiogama *sen* 6.75, *yen* 4.50, *yen* 2.25.

TOKYO-MABASHI RAILWAY.

TRAIN LEAVE TOKYO (Ueno) (down) at 6.40, 8.50, and 11.40 a.m., and 2.40 and 5.40 p.m.; and MABASHI (up) at 6.55, and 11.50 a.m., and 2.50 and 5.50 p.m.

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

STEAMERS LEAVE the Nippon Hatoon daily at 8.30 a.m., and 12.30 and 3.30 p.m.; and LEAVE YOKOSUKA at 8.30 a.m., and 12.30 and 3.30 p.m.—Fares, *sen* 20.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki, & Kobe..... per H. V. K. Friday, Nov. 7th.
From Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co. To-day, Nov. 1st.
From America... per O. & O. Co. Saturday, Nov. 8th.
From Hongkong, per P. & O. Co. Sunday, Nov. 9th.

† Batavia left Vancouver on October 10th. ‡ Belgic left San Francisco on October 21st.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Shanghai, Nagasaki, & Kobe... per N. Y. K. Wedn'day, Nov. 5th.
For America... per P. M. Co. Wedn'day, Nov. 5th.
For Europe, via Shanghai... per M. M. Co. Sunday, Nov. 9th.
For America... per O. & O. Co. Wedn'day, Nov. 13th.
For Europe, via Hongkong... per N. D. L. Wedn'day, Nov. 13th.
For Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co. Thursday, Nov. 27th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, P. Hussey, 24th October,—Kobe 22nd October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 24th October,—Shanghai and ports 17th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Drummond, 25th October,—Hakodate 22nd October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 436, Miyagi, 25th October,—Kobe 23rd October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,878, W. D. Mudie, 26th October,—Hongkong 17th, Nagasaki 22nd, and Kobe 25th October, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Brown, 26th October,—Kobe 25th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omaha (12), U.S. flagship, Captain F. V. McNair, 27th October,—Kobe 25th October.

Meiji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,010, Captain Allen, 27th October,—Yokosuka Dock, 27th October.—Lighthouse Department.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,182, Walter, 28th October,—Hakodate 26th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 28th October,—Kobe 27th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

China, British steamer, 2,644, W. B. Seabury, 29th October,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 9th October, General.—P. M. S. Co.

Milverton, British ship, 2,112, Hansford, 29th October,—New York 10th May, Oil.—Mourilyan, Heilmann & Co.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 29th October,—Shimonoseki 27th October, Coal.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, John Wynn, 29th October,—Hakodate 27th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 30th October,—Nagasaki 26th October, General.—Mitsui Bishi Sika.

Glamorganshire, British steamer, 1,845, Davis, 30th October,—Kobe 28th October, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Kaisow, British steamer, 1,934, G. L. Castle, 30th October,—Kobe 28th October, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Abyssinia, British bark, 1,127, Hilton, 30th October,—New York 21st May, Oil.—Fraser, Farley & Co.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,357, Drummond, 30th October,—Kobe 29th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, Wm. Ward, 31st October.—Hongkong 25th October, General.—P. M. S. Co.

Tureune (12), French cruiser, Captain C. Aubry de la Nuy, 31st October,—Kobe 28th October.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 31st October,—Shanghai and ports 24th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oxus, French steamer, 2,500, Delacroix, 1st November,—Hongkong 23rd, Shanghai 27th, and Kobe 31st October, General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, P. Hussey, 1st November,—Hakodate 29th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 24th October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Aglaia, German steamer, 1,668, Christiansen, 24th October,—Kobe, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Sussex, British steamer, 1,619, F. H. Holt, 24th October,—Hongkong via Nagasaki, General.—C. P. M. S. Co.

Parthia, British steamer, 2,035, J. Panton, 25th October,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. M. S. Co.

Asloun, British steamer, 1,827, Jas. Murray, 23th October,—Kobe, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, P. Hussey, 25th October,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Natal, French steamer, 4,038, Bretel, 26th October,—Shanghai via Kobe, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Drummond, 26th October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Leander (10), cruiser, Captain B. Watson, 27th October,—Yokosuka Dock.

Alacrity (4), despatch vessel, Commander Robt. B. Maconochie, 28th October,—Yokosuka Dock.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 28th October.—Shanghai and ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Brown, 28th October.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,182, Walter, 29th October.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Swatara (8), U.S. corvette, Captain P. H. Cooper, 29th October.—San Francisco.

China, British steamer, 2,644, W. B. Seabury, 30th October.—Hongkong, General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 30th October.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, C. Young, 30th October.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,878, W. D. Mudie, 31st October.—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Wynn, 31st October.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 31st October.—Nagasaki, General.—Mitsui Bishi Sh.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Dr. and Mrs. Perkins, Miss Perkins, Master Perkins, Messrs. C. Derby, Junr., J. W. Piper, W. R. Lambuth, Mrs. S. Fumiko, Messrs. W. J. S. Shand, W. T. Payne, and Hagge in cabin; Messrs. Takifini, Oyama, John Walter, Fukunaga, and Hirose in second class, and 64 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. F. James, 2 children, infant, and nurse, Mr. J. Troup, Master Pownall, Mr. J. J. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. F. V. Hornby, Mrs. Musse, Major and Mrs. Hamann, Messrs. A. Crombie, C. A. Pownall, Taylor, C. W. Tilden, P. H. Dmyea, Ching King Hing, and Tsung Woon Kwong in cabin; 2 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Sagami Maru*, from Hakodate:—6 passengers in second class, and 70 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. W. W. Till, K. Bepps, Y. Kajiki, and M. Takeda in cabin; 3 passengers in second class, and 64 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *China*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. Woo, Miss E. Parker, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Faires, Captain Gilmore, Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Lockwood, Mr. N. Asano, Miss Nellie Russell, Mr. R. H. Goveil, Mr. Comstock, Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Bragdon, Major D. Carnegie, Mrs. T. S. C. Lowe, Captain W. Glascock, Mrs. H. F. Hawkes, Mrs. Kimball, Mrs. Mack, Mrs. S. L. Wilson, Mr. T. H. Church, Mr. Andreas Lopez de Verga, Rev. A. A. Bennett, Miss M. L. Robertson, Mrs. R. B. Gilmann, Dr. Joo. C. Wise, U.S.N., Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Dyer, Mr. and Mrs. Adam Sykes, Mr. S. Ogun, Mr. Terada, Miss A. A. Adams, Mrs. Gould, Miss Oskamp, Miss A. Coe, Mrs. C. C. Bragdon, Miss B. K. Bragdon, Mr. J. R. Bragdon, Mr. C. C. Bragdon, Mr. S. Kanbe, Mr. R. Hopwood, Mr. Kubota, Mr. Kimura, Mr. Haisue, Mr. and Mrs. Kawagita, child and servant, Captain and Mrs. N. G. Phillips and maid, Mr. Robt. Dean, Miss Dean, Mr. W. H. Lyons, Rev. C. Glover, Rev. F. M. Morris, Mr. and Mrs. Ye Wan Young, Rev. and Mrs. J. H. Jordan, and Dr. and Mrs. Hutchinson in cabin. For Hongkong: Miss H. Lewis, Dr. Sanderson, Mrs. L. Weston, Mrs. S. E. Peoples and infant, Mr. S. E. Peoples, Mr. and Mrs. Mar Ah Fow, Miss Mary Scott, Miss E. Campbell, Miss M. Dunwidie, Mrs. Seymour, Mrs. S. J. Wilson, and Mr. C. Adams in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, from Hakodate:—1 passenger in second class, and 26 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, from Kobe: Miss Cook, Messrs. Shirakawa and T. Chigio in cabin; 1 passenger in second class, and 79 passengers in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from Hongkong:—Miss L. Barrett and Mr. Gustave Gilbert in cabin. For San Francisco: Mr. K. Herze, Mrs. M. L. Wolber, Mrs. M. A. Happer, and Miss Nyrup in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. Lee H. Newton, Mr. S. Dubinsky, Mr. and Mrs. W. V. Drummond and child, Mr. D. H. Drummond, Professor and Madame Vira and 5 children (Infant Prodigy Troupe), Mr. and Mrs. S. Mita, and Mr. W. K. Tresize in cabin; Mr. Fisher and Mr. K. Tani-

waki in second class, and 54 passengers in steerage.

Per French steamer *Oxus*, from Hongkong via ports:—Messrs. Wagen, Rayvall, Woog, Scuri, Maclarie, Arch, Cassar, Attilio Bianchi, Strone, Lefauve, Jubin, Waison, Herb, and Lee Peck Bun in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, for Kobe:—Mrs. Cook, Miss Cook, Messrs. S. M. Barr, Ziegler, C. W. Ziegler, Bensend, Griffiths, Carleton, Barr, Taylor, Fletcher, Varley, Scott, Varley, Sakurai, and 1 passenger in cabin; 8 passengers in second class, and 45 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Parthia*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Captain Ingles, R.N., Miss Ingles, Messrs. J. E. Cairnes, Honey, T. W. Hellyer, E. Hunt, and W. Beyfus in cabin. From Hongkong: Mr. Allan Simpson in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. Wong He Cheung and son, Mrs. Lee Yow Foo, and Miss Gam Ho in second class. From Foochow: Mr. Spencer P. Gracey in cabin. From Shanghai: Miss Marchand in cabin. From Kobe: Mr. A. W. Gillingham in cabin.

Per French steamer *Natal*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Mr. C. J. Strome, Mr. John Parker Fox, Mr. Breton, Mr. H. B. Roper, Mr. Hecht, Mr. W. H. Wallace, Mr. Wallace, Mr. B. Rutunjee, Mrs. Osuma, Mr. Apau, Mr. A. Gregory, Mr. F. Schürch, Mr. and Mrs. G. Tauffer, Miss Tauffer, Mr. Goulas, Mr. A. P. Ismail Sahib, Mr. Hidenatsu Tsuchiya, Mr. D. Chiorato, Mr. J. Reynaud, and Mr. G. Roncali in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Captain and Mrs. H. J. Carver, Mrs. Kuroino and child, Miss Kuroino Katsu, Mrs. Yuchi, Mr. and Mrs. Masujima, Mr. and Mrs. Tsiboi, Signor Majunoni and wife, Rev. and Mrs. Wallen, Miss L. Lovell, Mrs. Aoyagi, Mrs. Takasugi, Dr. Smith, Messrs. Oberkamp, Yuchi, Kato, Kwam mamatsu, Kujima, Ito, Suyematsu, and Retz in cabin; Mrs. Nakamishi, Mrs. H. Fuji, Mrs. R. Fugli, Mrs. Uchihashi, Mrs. Hita, Messrs. Espinasse, Kadooka, Wakabayashi, Kataoka, Fuji, Kuroino, and Okada in second class, and 67 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Satsuma Maru*, for Hakodate:—Mr. Morita in cabin; Messrs. Yamaguchi and Shiratsuka in second class, and 47 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *China*, for Hongkong:—Mr. W. R. Needham, Mrs. Loureiro and native servant, and Miss A. Loureiro in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, for Hakodate:—Mr. Blake in cabin; 30 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Hoyt, Mrs. Cory, Miss Cory, Messrs. K. Burr, F. M. Burr, G. W. Taylor, G. H. Calton, W. Griffith, H. Vincent, F. W. Ziegler, H. M. Ziegler, W. H. Fletcher, H. W. Varley, Mr. and Mrs. O. E. Bailey, Mr. Chan Yuk Chung, Mrs. Ket Shing, Mrs. Ah Sing and infant, and 6 Japanese (circus troupe) in cabin; and 1 European, 4 Chinese, and 1 Japanese in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Parthia*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—

	TEA.	CHICAGO AND WEST.	NEW YORK AND EAST.	PACIFIC COAST.	TOTAL.
Hongkong ..	116	38	17	110	281
Amoy ..	—	—	3,962	—	3,962
Foochow ..	832	118	—	25	975
Shanghai ..	33	2,287	2,380	274	4,974
Hyogo ..	727	335	1,472	—	2,534
Yokohama ..	2,445	727	668	375	4,115
Total	4,154	3,505	8,099	784	16,542

	SILK.	NEW YORK.	TOTAL.
Shanghai ..	—	40	40
Yokohama ..	—	439	439
Total	—	479	479

Per French steamer *Natal*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Silk for France 350 bales, Italy 12 bales. Waste silk for France 512 bales, England 1 bale.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure \$3,114.00.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Silk for France 161 bales.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Captain Husey, reports:—Left Kobe the 22nd October at noon; 00.30 p.m. turned back strong gale from the eastward and heavy rain; anchored off Higo at 4.30 p.m. weather clearing; left for Yokohama passed Oshima the 23rd at 3 a.m., with a fresh wind from E.N.E. and rain; 11 a.m. wind shifted to N.N.W.; 3.30 p.m. shift of wind to E.N.E. with rain and freshening to a strong gale with

heavy rain; passed Rock Island at 7 p.m. a strong gale throughout the night with heavy rain. Arrived at Yokohama the 24th October at 9 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, Captain Haswell, reports:—Left Shanghai the 17th October at 0.30 p.m.; had weather dull and overcast with moderate to strong northerly wind and beam sea. Arrived at Nagasaki the 19th at 6.30 a.m. and left the 20th at 5 a.m.; had moderate breeze with cloudy weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Shimonoeki the 21st at 5.35 a.m. and left at 6.30 a.m.; had light to moderate winds and fine weather till midnight; thence to port drizzly rain. Arrived at Kobe the 23rd at 3 a.m. and left the 24th at noon; passed Oshima at 8.16 p.m.; thence to port strong N.E. winds to moderate N.E. gale and heavy sea. Arrived at Yokohama at 4.30 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, Captain Drummond, reports:—Left Hakodate the 22nd October; had light variable winds to Shiiya-saki; thence continuous rain with moderate to fresh S.E. winds to Kinkasan at 0.23 on the 23rd. Arrived at Oginobama at 1.45; fine and clear; fresh N.N.W. winds. Left the 24th at 6 a.m.; had strong wind from northward increasing to strong gale; passed Inuboye at 8 p.m.; reached Noshima at 2.32 a.m. on the 25th; high sea and hard gale from N. Arrived at Yokohama at 6.30 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Sagami Maru*, Captain Walter, reports:—Left Hakodate the 25th October at 2 p.m.; had fresh breeze from S.E. and fine weather to about 9 p.m. wind shifted to the S.E. with rain and increased to moderate gale with high sea. Arrived at Oginobama the 26th at 2 p.m. and left the 27th at 6 a.m.; had same wind and weather to noon; thence moderate winds and fine weather.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, Captain Young, reports:—Left Kobe the 27th October at noon; had light variable winds and fine weather to Oshima, which passed at 8.50 p.m.; had fine weather throughout to port. Arrived at Yokohama the 28th October at 6 p.m. Passed a large sailing ship off Kannon-saki bound up to Yokohama.

The Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, Captain Wynn, reports:—Left Hakodate the 27th October at 2 p.m.; had light variable winds with heavy easterly sea to Shira-saki, and light S. winds with N.E. swell to Inuboye, which passed on the 29th at 0.53; rounded Noshima at 9.17. Arrived at Yokohama the 29th October at 1 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, Captain Drummond, reports:—Left Kobe the 29th October at noon; passed Tomaga-shima at 2.15 p.m.; abreast of Oshima at 8.45 p.m., had fine clear weather and light northerly breeze and smooth sea; reached Rock Island the 30th at 0.5 p.m., moderate N.E. winds and slight sea; passed Sagami at 1.10 p.m. Arrived at Yokohama at 6.30 p.m.

The American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, Captain Wm. Ward, reports:—Left Hongkong the 25th October at 2.23 p.m.; met O. & O. steamer *Gaelic* the 26th at 1.30 a.m.; had moderate N.E. monsoon with strong current most of the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 31st October at 8.56 a.m. Passage, 5 days, 16 hours, 51 minutes.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The Import Market so far shows little or no signs of improvement, in the face of the drop in exchange; the Native Markets continue very depressed. Prices are all more or less nominal. Sales for the week amount to 75 bales English Yarns and 200 bales Bonbays.

COTTON PICK GOODS

Grey Shillings—34 lb, 34 yds. 39 inches	\$1 35 to 1 50
Grey Shillings—4 lb, 34 yds. 45 inches	1 60 to 1 50
T. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yds, 32 inches	1 15 to 1 40
Indigo Shillings—12 yds, 44 inches	1 20 to 1 60
Prints—Assorted, 24 yds, 30 inches	1 70 to 2 00
Cotton—Italians and Sultans Black, 32 inches	0 07 to 0 14
Turkey Reds—18 to 24 lb, 24 yds, 30 inches	1 00 to 1 15
Turkey Reds—24 to 30 lb, 24 yds, 30 inches	1 20 to 1 40
Turkey Reds—36 to 40 lb, 24 yds, 30 inches	1 70 to 2 05
Velvets—Black, 35 yds, 22 inches	4 50 to 6 00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yds, 42-3 inches	0 50 to 0 65
Taffetas, 12 yds, 43 inches	1 35 to 2 25

WOOLLENS.

Plain Orleans, 10 1/2 yds, 30 inches	\$1 00 to 1 50
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches best	0 74 to 1 25
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches	0 30 to 0 40
Medium	0 20 to 0 24
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches	0 16 to 0 20
Common	0 10 to 0 20

Mousseline de Laine—Cape, 24 yards,	
31 inches	0.14 to 0.15
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.45
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.60
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.35 to 0.60
Blankets—Scarflet and Green, 4 to 11 lb.	
per lb.	0.30 to 0.38

COTTON YARNS.

Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	25.00 to 26.00
Nos. 16/24, Medium	26.00 to 27.00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	27.00 to 28.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	29.00 to 30.00
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	27.75 to 28.50
Nos. 28/32, Medium	28.50 to 30.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	30.25 to 31.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	34.00 to 35.00
No. 328, Two-fold	31.50 to 35.00
No. 428, Two-fold	35.50 to 36.00
No. 208, Bombay	70.00 to 78.00
No. 168, Bombay	72.00 to 78.00
No. 104, Bombay	—

METALS.

Trade is not lively. With a fresh turn upward in exchange buyers think they will get some reduction in prices again. Holders are firm, and the market steady at late rates.

Flat Bars, 1 inch	2.65 to 2.75
Flat Bars, 1 inch	2.75 to 2.85
Round and square up to 1 inch	2.65 to 2.85
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.
Nailrod, small size	Nom.
Sheet Iron	2.80 to 3.00
Galvanized Iron sheets	3.20 to 3.40
Wire Nails, assorted	4.40 to 4.90
Pin Plates, per box	4.60 to 4.80
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.95 to 1.27

KEROSENE.

Market quiet, although trade in Tokyo is reported better at slightly improved prices. Vessels in harbour are landing their cargoes but there is nothing important in the way of sales. Deliveries are fair and the stock ample for all present requirements. One sale of Comet is entered at \$1.65, but requires confirmation. The British barque *Abyssinia* has arrived with a full cargo of Oil from New York.

QUOTATIONS.

Chester	\$1.65 to 1.67
Comet	1.62 to 1.65
Devon	1.60 to 1.62
Russian	1.55 to 1.57

SUGAR.

Nothing doing in the Sugar trade.

White Refined	\$5.50 to 7.00
Manila	3.60 to 4.30
Taiwan	—
Pentana	2.75 to 3.00
Manilla	2.80 to 3.00
Cake	3.10 to 3.80
Brown Takan	4.15 to 4.20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 24th inst., since which date business has continued on much the same scale, settlements by foreigners being 678 piculs, divided thus:—*Hanks*, 53; *Filatures*, 307; *Re-reels*, 274; *Kakeda*, 44. There have been no direct shipments during the week, so that the total business is comprised in the above figures. We have now a fair amount of daily business both for Europe and America, although the Market news from both worlds still remains very discouraging.

The low rates of Exchange current during the past few days have doubtless tempted buyers to operate, but a sudden strong rebound in the value of Silver causes present rates of Exchange to be higher than they were a week ago, and the tendency to buy is accordingly checked, for, so far, holders will make only a fractional reduction in their demands.

Quotations given below show some decline on those of a week ago, but it has not been sufficient to induce general business. In spite of the daily settlements, which are about 100 piculs on the average, the arrivals from the interior have increased the stock to 16,200 piculs. The great bulk of this is in *Filatures*, and for this class holders are more inclined to be current than any other. *Kakeda* are in comparatively small stock, and have held their own well during the week, while as for *Hanks* the supply is so small, and the Native demand so good, that transactions for Export are well nigh impossible.

As we noted in our last, holders will have to take less money before any very large or extensive business can be done; at the same time we repeat that they will not be very anxious, so long as they can dispose of about 100 piculs per day.

The settlements have again been principally for the American Trade, the business for Europe being very small. It is interesting to compare the statistics given at foot with those of last year. Settlements to date last year were 22,400 piculs

against 6,300 only this year, while the stock on 31st October, 1889, gave the small figures of 5,100 piculs against 16,200 to-day. A better commentary on the dull state of trade during the present season could not be given.

There have been two shipping opportunities during the interval; the Canadian steamer *Parthia* on the 25th inst. carried 439 bales for the New York trade, while the French mail steamer *Natal* on the 26th had 337 bales for France and Italy. These departures bring the present export figures up to 5,874 piculs, against 18,213 last year and 12,484 at the end of October, 1888.

Hanks.—There was a little trade at the beginning of the week, principally in *Shinshu* at \$580 and \$560. One parcel of *Shimonita* also brought \$580, with some common *Hachoji* at \$530. Since then nothing has been done, holders being very firm.

Filatures.—These have declined about \$10 on the week, which is by no means the equivalent for the rise in Exchange. In *Extras* a parcel of *Utsunomiya* was done at \$700 for new silk and \$690 for old crop. No. 2 silks of *Mino* and other districts were done at \$645, \$640, and \$630. In full-sized Silks the latest sales give the following prices:—*Shinshu* \$647½, \$642½, and \$640 for various chops all grading No. 1. In *Kushu* one parcel was sold at \$645, followed by a repeat at \$640; even these prices at the present rates of Exchange seem to be above the limits which the majority of buyers have in hand.

Re-reels.—A fair amount of business has been done in these, also at some small reduction on last week's rates; a long line of *Kirihana* No. 1 was hooked at \$620 with No. 2 at \$600, *Bushu* sorts also bringing \$600. Later in the week a good parcel of *Shorusha* was done at \$600, with *Fine Girl* and *Kaura* at \$630. These so far have been the lowest prices made, but with the rising Exchange holders will have to take less money if they want to keep moving.

Kakeda.—Purchases in this class have not been large; as noted above, the stock is not of an unwieldy size, and holders have been pretty firm in consequence. The latest purchase noted is a parcel of *Tiger* chop at \$600 per picul, with *Black Lion* at \$597½; prices which cannot be called cheap. In other sorts nothing has been done.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No. 1	Nom.
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	Nom.
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshiu)	Nom.
Hanks—No. 24 (Shinshu)	575 to 580
Hanks—No. 24 (Joshiu)	570 to 575
Hanks—No. 24 to 3	560 to 565
Hanks—No. 3	550 to 555
Hanks—No. 34	525 to 530
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	690 to 700
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	660 to 670
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	670 to 680
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	640 to 650
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	630 to 635
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	640 to 650
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	620 to 625
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	610 to 615
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Shinshu and Oshu) Best No. 1	640 to 645
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	630 to 635
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	600 to 610
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	590 to 595
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	580 to 585
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	570 to 575
Kakeda—Extra	Nom.
Kakeda—No. 1	610 to 625
Kakeda—No. 11	610 to 620
Kakeda—No. 2	600 to 605
Kakeda—No. 24	590 to 595
Kakeda—No. 3	580 to 585
Kakeda—No. 34	570 to 575
Kakeda—No. 4	560 to 565
Oshu Sendai—No. 24	—
Hanatsuki—No. 1, 2	Nom.
Hanatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 24	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 31st Oct., 1890:—

	1890-91.	1889-90.	1888-89.
Europe	1,914	8,919	5,555
America	3,793	9,043	6,822
Total	5,707	17,962	12,377
Settlements and Direct	6,300	22,400	14,600
Stock, 31st October	16,200	5,100	11,850
Available supplies to date	22,500	27,500	26,450

WASTE SILK.

Another brisk week, settlements being 1,650 piculs, divided as follows:—*Cocoons* 85, *Noshi* 800, *Kibiso* 710, *Mawata* 55.

Prices are well maintained; at the same time holders have shown themselves fairly current, adopting a wise policy of meeting buyers on a fair basis and lightening their stocks while shippers were in the humour to operate. The consequence is that settlements to date are larger than those of the same date last year; a very marked contrast to the state of things in the Raw Silk Market.

All kinds of *Waste* have shared in the demand

with the exception of *Neri*; *Noshi* and *Kibiso* of good quality being most patronized.

The French Mail Steamer *Natal* on the 26th inst. took 513 bales of *Waste* and *Cocoons* for various European Ports, and the German steamer *Agia* took 21 bales of *Noshi* for Trieste. These departures bring the present export figures up to 6,243 piculs, against 7,292 last year and 6,169 in 1888.

Pierced Cocoons.—About 80 piculs have been hooked at former prices, and it seems as though, like the former parcels, they would be destined for the Lyons market.

Noshi.—Large business in the best kinds, the highest price paid for *Oshu* being \$147. *Joshu* has been done at various prices ranging from \$84 downwards, some very common being booked at \$76. *Mino* has passed the scales at \$130 per picul for prime quality and \$120 for seconds.

Kibiso.—This has again been in strong demand, *Filatures* ranging between \$95 and \$120; while *Re-reels* brought \$87½, *Mino* \$72½ and \$62½, according to quality.

Mawata.—This has been again purchased for Bombay, price for best reaching \$200 per picul; seconds have been done at \$190 and \$187½.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	\$120 to \$130
Noshi— <i>ito</i> — <i>Filature</i> , Best	150 to 160
Noshi— <i>ito</i> — <i>Filature</i> , Good	140 to 145
Noshi— <i>ito</i> — <i>Filature</i> , Medium	130 to 135
Noshi— <i>ito</i> — <i>Oshu</i> , Good to Best	140 to 150
Noshi— <i>ito</i> — <i>Shinshu</i> , Best	—
Noshi— <i>ito</i> — <i>Shinshu</i> , Good	110 to 120
Noshi— <i>ito</i> — <i>Shinshu</i> , Medium	—
Noshi— <i>ito</i> — <i>Bushu</i> , Good to Best	130 to 140
Noshi— <i>ito</i> — <i>Joshiu</i> , Best	92½ to 95
Noshi— <i>ito</i> — <i>Joshiu</i> , Good	85 to 90
Noshi— <i>ito</i> — <i>Joshiu</i> , Ordinary	80 to 85
Kibiso— <i>Filature</i> , Best selected	110 to 120
Kibiso— <i>Filature</i> , Seconds	100 to 105
Kibiso— <i>Oshu</i> , Good to Best	90 to 100
Kibiso— <i>Shinshu</i> , Best	80 to 90
Kibiso— <i>Shinshu</i> , Seconds	70 to 75
Kibiso— <i>Joshiu</i> , Good to Fair	50 to 40
Kibiso— <i>Joshiu</i> , Middling to Common	35 to 30
Kibiso— <i>Hachoji</i> , Good	45 to 40
Kibiso— <i>Hachoji</i> , Medium to Low	35 to 30
Kibiso— <i>Neri</i> , Good to Common	15 to 8
Mawata—Good to Best	180 to 200

Export Table Waste Silk to 31st Oct., 1890:—

	1890-91.	1889-90.	1888-89.
Waste Silk	5,002	5,550	5,770
Pierced Cocoons	641	1,742	399
	6,243	7,292	6,169
Settlements and Direct	6,300	9,900	9,000
Export from 1st July	11,600	12,200	11,250
Stock, 31st October	16,200	22,100	20,250

Exchange dropped smartly during the week, afterwards recovered with a sharp rebound, and now closes lower again at the following rates:—London, 4m/s. Credits, 3/5½; Documents, 3/5½; 6m/s. Credits, 3/5½; Documents, 3/6; New York, 30 d/s. U.S. \$83½; 4 m/s. U.S. \$84½; Paris, 4m/s. lcs. 4.37; 6m/s. lcs. 4.39.

Estimated Silk Stock, 31st Oct., 1890:—

RAW.	WASTE.
Hanks	325
Filatures	9,650
Re-reels	4,850
Kakeda	1,025
Oshu	340
Taysam Kinds	10
Total piculs	16,200

TEA.

The Tea business is quiet, and quotations unaltered.

	PER PICUL.
Common	\$14
Good Common	12 to 13
Medium	14 to 15
Good Medium	16 to 17
Fine	18 to 19
Finest	20 to 22
Choice	23
Choicest	23 1/2 up to 25
Extra Choicest	—

EXCHANGE.

Exchange had a heavy fall during the week, but has again recovered.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/4
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/5
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/5
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/5
On Paris—Bank sight	4-29
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4-30
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1/2 prem.
On Hongkong—Private to days' sight	1/2 dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72½
On Shanghai—Private to days' sight	72½
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	82½
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	82½
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	82½
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	82½

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 19.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, NOVEMBER 8TH, 1890.

通信者認可

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"PAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, NOV. 8, 1890.

DEATHS.

On November 2nd, at No. 12, Tsukiji, Tokyo, Mrs. MARY B. TAFT, wife of Rev. G. W. Taft, aged 22.

On the 4th inst., at 1 a.m., at 19, Bluff, Yokohama, EDWARD MORRIS, for many years Manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank at that post, aged 57.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

A SHOCK of earthquake was felt in the capital on the 2nd instant at 9h. 30m. 30s. a.m.

HER MAJESTY THE EMPRESS paid a visit to the Shiba Detached Palace on the afternoon of the 7th instant.

THE publication of the *Chusei Nippo*, the organ of Viscount Torio, commenced on the 3rd instant in Tokyo.

MR. KUWABARA KAIHEI, formerly chief of Kitateshima-gun, was appointed head of the Bonin Islands on the 4th instant.

HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR will proceed to the Yokosuka Naval Head-quarters on the 11th instant, to inspect the fort at Tomitsu.

THE Kyushu Railway Company was permitted by the Railway Bureau on the 1st instant to open communication between Akama and Ogagawa.

CAPTAIN KAWARA YOICHI was ordered by the Minister of State for the Navy, on the 4th instant, to proceed to England to complete his studies.

A TELEGRAM has been received by the Naval Department to the effect that the *Hiei* and *Kongo Kan* arrived safely at Singapore on the 1st instant.

AN action raised by Mr. Koidzumi Katsusaburo, against Mr. Mutsu, Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, asking that an alleged illegal act by which copper mining operations at Sarasawa have been suspended, should be annulled, was decided in the Tokyo Court of Appeal in favour of the defendant on the 1st ultimo.

THE *Tsukuba Kan*, which has left Japan for the Hawaiian Islands with a number of graduates of the Naval College, arrived at Honolulu on the 4th October last.

HIS IMPERIAL HIGHNESS PRINCE FUSHIMI, who had proceeded to Ibaraki Prefecture in connection with the manoeuvres there, returned to the capital on the 31st ultimo.

MR. ONISHI HIDEHARU, a third class surgeon of the War Department, has been ordered by the Minister of State for War to proceed to Germany to complete his studies.

MR. TANABE SAKURO, an engineer of the Kyoto City Government, was appointed Professor of the College of Engineering in the Imperial University on the 30th ultimo.

AN outbreak of fire took place on the night of the 2nd instant in a house at Kojimachi, Jusanchome, Kojimachi-ku, and thirty-seven houses were entirely destroyed before the flames could be extinguished.

THEIR MAJESTIES THE EMPRESS and EMPRESS-DOWAGER paid a visit to the new villa of Count Oyama at Sendagayamura on the 31st ultimo, where their Majesties witnessed a performance, returning to the Palace at about 8 p.m.

MR. MASAKI TAIZO, Consul at Honolulu, received the additional appointment of a diplomatic official on the 1st instant in accordance with the Regulations relating to Diplomatic and Consular Officials promulgated recently.

THE Sanitary Bureau in the Home Department reports that the number of persons attacked by cholera throughout the Empire from the commencement of the epidemic to the 4th inst., was 43,210, resulting in 29,844 deaths.

MR. FUJITA SHIRO, a private secretary of the Minister of State for Communications, was permitted by the Decorations Board on the 1st instant to accept and wear a decoration conferred on him by the Emperor of Prussia.

AN ordinary Cabinet meeting was held on the 4th instant at which there were present Counts Yamagata, Oyama, and Goto. Viscounts Aoki and Kabayama and Mr. Mutsu. The proceedings lasted from ten in the forenoon till three in the afternoon.

AN ordinary meeting of the Cabinet was held on the 31st ultimo at which there were present Counts Yamagata, Yamada, Saigo, Goto and Oki, Viscounts Aoki and Kabayama and Mr. Mutsu. The proceedings lasted from ten in the forenoon till five in the afternoon.

THE election to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Miura Giken, member of the Lower House for the ninth district of Hiroshima Prefecture, took place on the 31st ultimo. Mr. Inouye Katsugoro, a leading member of the Equal Treaty Association, was elected.

MR. YAMATAKA SHIURI, manager of the Imperial Museum, was decorated with the Third Class Order of the Zuihoshon on the 1st instant, and Mr. Sakata Haruo, a secretary of the Agricultural and Commercial Department, was decorated with the Sixth Class Order of the Rising Sun.

ABOUT 700,000 Buddhist believers in the province of Aki have decided to present a petition to the Imperial Diet asking that Article XII. of the Law of Election for Members of the House of Representatives, by which Buddhist priests are disqualified for seats in the Lower House, should be revised.

A MEETING of the Privy Council was held on the 4th instant, at which there were present Counts Oki, Terajima, and Soyejima, Viscounts Yoshida, Sano, Fukuoka, and Enomoto, and Messrs. Kono, Tanaka, and Osaki. The proceedings were opened at ten in the forenoon and closed at four in the afternoon.

THE graduation ceremony of the Tokyo Hogakuin (Law Institution) took place on the 2nd instant in presence of various high officials of the Educational Department. Addresses were delivered by Mr. Masujima Rokuichiro, President of the Institution, and Mr. Egi Chu, a councillor of the Educational Department.

THE half-yearly meeting of shareholders of the Mito Railway Company was held on the 30th ultimo at the Bankers' Club, Sakamotocho. The receipts for the six months ended the 30th September last amounted to yen 24,515.029. A dividend was declared at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, after providing for the usual expenses and an appropriation to the reserve fund.

A REPORT issued by the Home Department shows that 48 earthquakes were felt in the Empire on 24 different days in September last, the largest number being felt on the 6th, when there were 6 shocks. The greatest number of earthquakes was felt between 12 noon and 1 a.m., and 12 a.m. and 1 a.m. The most severe oscillations took place between 12 a.m. and 1 m., their area being also greatest at that time. The hours which were most free from earthquakes were between 3 a.m. and 5 a.m., and 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. The provinces visited during the month were Nemuro, Ishikari, Mutsu, Rikuchu, Uzen, Ugo, Echigo, Iwashiro, Iwaki, Hitachi, Shimosa, Kazusa, Awa, Musashi, Shimosuke, Kozuke, Shinano, Kai, Sagami, Idzu, Suruga, Totomi, Mikawa, Owari, Mino, Ise, Shima, Kawachi, Kii, Higo, and Satsuma, Higo having no less than 14 shocks. The disturbance most extensively felt was that which occurred on the 6th, extending over 13 provinces. The provinces in which the most severe shocks were felt were Sagami, Kai, Musashi and Suruga, in other provinces the tremors being generally weak.

THERE is but little life in the Import market, which is doubtless partly due to the constant fluctuation of exchange; Yarns and Shirtings are unchanged in value, but there is very little doing. The Metal market is generally characterised by dullness, while prices are weak. Small sales only have been effected in Kerosene, and the recent better feeling in the trade seems to have passed away. The stock is very heavy, there being not less than 800,000 cases on hand. Sugar is hardly looked at, and quotations are nominal. There has been somewhat more enquiry for Silk, though actual transactions have not been large, buyers saying that they cannot pay the prices asked. Meanwhile, stock increases, and is now close upon 17,000 piculs, an unprecedented quantity at this time of year. Waste Silk has been taken in fair quantities, prices are well maintained, and holders appear to be strong. The Tea trade has been small, and the season is now drawing to a close. Exchange has again fluctuated, though not to the extent of recent variations. The latest movement, however, is a further decline.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

POLITICAL PARTIES.

THE *Koku-Hon*, writing on this subject, declares that the time has not yet come for the formation of any permanent political parties. It regards existing parties as simply provisional, and says that they will have to undergo a series of disintegrations and amalgamations before they settle down into efficient and stable bodies fit to serve the purposes of Government by party. The character of a constitutional government being directly affected by the character of the political parties existing under it, the *Koku-Hon* emphasises the importance of excluding from every party all factious and clan elements. Notwithstanding the existence of a number of political parties for more than ten years, none of them as yet enjoys the consideration and respect usually paid to political parties in European and American countries. As an illustration of the fact that the time is not yet ripe for the formation of truly representative parties in Japan, the *Tokyo Journal* cites the case of the recent movement for the amalgamation of progressive parties. When that movement first came on the *taps*, it seemed likely to carry every thing before it, resulting in the formation of a party of commanding influence. What has been the fact. The first ardour of the promoters of the scheme soon cooled down, and the only fruit of so much noise and so much agitation has been the organization of the Constitutional Liberal party—a party not by any means distinguished for cohesion, and already fast losing the activity it at first manifested. Our contemporary does not, however, lay the whole blame to the charge of the leaders of the party; for the failure of their efforts, it thinks, is to be ascribed to the general condition of politics in this country. Japanese political leaders are very well acquainted with the theory of parliamentary government in the West, but they lack what is more important than mere theory, practical experience. Further, what course of progress will be taken by Japanese Society and politics under the new régime to be soon inaugurated? The question cannot possibly be answered by reference to the history of any European or American nation. Thus, the conditions under which political parties are to move being as yet indeterminate, our contemporary thinks it premature to look for the formation of any permanent and intelligible association. At present political parties are in course of fermentation, and it will, according to the *Tokyo Journal*, be some years before we shall be able to have the ultimate products of the process. Under these circumstances, not a few politicians of eminence are reluctant to join any of the existing parties, not because they do not agree with the principles professed by such parties, but because they know very well that all these associations are in their nature provisional, and that permanent parties have yet to be formed. Until the transitory period in the history of political parties in this country is over, it will be impossible, in the opinion of our contemporary, to carry into practice the theory of government by party. Lastly, with reference to the members of the House of Peers, our contemporary, unlike the *Kokumin-no-Tomo*, whose opinion on this subject has already been noticed in these columns, seems to approve their independence of political parties, at least for the present. For the present they are wisely inclined to maintain strict neutrality between the different contending parties; but when parties truly representative of the people shall have arisen, the peers will no longer be either able or disposed to stand aloof from parties; for, unless the members of both branches of the Legislature are united by party ties, it would be impossible to carry out party government.

CHRISTMAS CARDS.

Among the most successful applications we have seen of Japanese art industry to the purposes of Western life, the hand-painted Christmas cards sold by Messrs. Kelly and Walsh are decidedly noteworthy. These little tokens of

friendly recollection are really admirably executed. As water colour pictures they merit high praise, and they derive additional interest from the fact that they combine the methods of the Occidental studio with the peculiar graces of the Japanese school. The artists have chosen for their subjects delightful little glimpses of the exquisite scenery of this country, pleasant incidents from the every-day life of the people, views of rural hamlets or luxurious houses and gardens in the metropolis, and representations of agricultural or industrial pursuits and doings. Nothing could be better calculated to convey to our friends at home an idea of our surroundings in this distant land, and a no small recommendation is that the cards are ridiculously cheap. In no other part of the world could such work be done for such paltry prices. There is just one point which might be mended, and that is the printing of the phrases of felicitation. The system now pursued, apparently, by Messrs. Kelly and Walsh is to procure the cards from Europe or America with the legends of the season already impressed on them in gilt type. These are then handed to Japanese artists, who paint pictures on them. But in nine cases out of every ten, we imagine, the recipient of a card with a printed inscription concludes at once that the picture also is produced by some mechanical process, and thus fails to understand that he is coming into possession of a beautiful little water-colour. Why not omit the printing, and let the senders of cards add their own felicitations in their own hand-writing? This would impart personality to the memento while avoiding the deceptive inference suggested by printer's type.

THE ECONOMICAL POLITICIANS.

We agree with the *Fiji Shimpō* in ridiculing the idea that Japan cannot afford to hold fête on the Emperor's birthday. It appears that certain leading members of the Constitutional Liberals, Messrs. Sugita Teichichi, Fujita Magohi, Kataoka Kenkichi and others, having been invited to the ball which is to be given by the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and Viscountess Aoki on the 3rd instant at the Rokumeikan, met together and seriously discussed the advisability of declining to attend. Mr. Fujita seems to have been the chief suggestor of objections. He explained that while it would undoubtedly afford himself and his friends pleasure to go to the ball, the question appeared to call for serious reflection, inasmuch as the principle of the Constitutional Liberals is to advocate retrenchment, and to discomenentance all expenditure for luxurious purposes. This suggestion did not meet with general approval, some of those present being of the opinion that the ball would offer a good opportunity of acquiring knowledge on many topics. It was finally decided to submit the problem for consideration by the committee of the Party. To apply the economical principles of the *Rikken Tsin-to* to the annual ball on His Majesty's Birthday, an entertainment that has now received the sanction of long custom, would be a curious way of commencing retrenchment. Such cavilling strikes us as somewhat childish. Unless Japan is to retire into her shell altogether and assume the attitude of an impecunious anchorite, she must perform her social duties, and foremost among them is the exercise of hospitality on the day of national fête. All civilized countries follow this habit, and whether it be a good custom or a bad, Japan cannot afford just now to set the example of departing from it.

THE P. AND O. BRINDISI EXPRESS.

THE Peninsular and Oriental Company, which does everything in the most thorough style, has published a pamphlet explaining the conditions under which a special train service between Brindisi and Calais was organised for the convenience of passengers by the Company's steamers. For some time it had been recognised that an improvement in the overland service was necessary, more especially as the quantity of mail matter for conveyance *via* Brindisi had increased so much that accommodation for

passengers threatened to become unprocurable. The obvious way out of this dilemma was to organise a special train for passengers only, and this having been accomplished, the "P. & O. Brindisi Express" became an active institution on the 18th of last July. It replaced the regular Indian Mail Service, by which no passengers were carried after July 11th. The pamphlet from which we take these particulars contains the following:—"In order to secure the establishment of the Special P. & O. Brindisi Train de Luxe specially for and confined to passengers by the Company's steamers, considerable pecuniary sacrifice has been entailed by the P. & O. Co., but there will be no increase in the charge for this expensive journey to the passenger. The Special Train will consist of a Restaurant Car, fitted with all necessary appliances for cooking, hot meals being served in the dining saloon during the transit, in the same manner and style as in the best Continental and English Services; and Sleeping Cars for 48 passengers, provided with every convenience for the journey—the whole being of the most modern and perfect description. It will run from London in connection with the Paris Club Train of the South Eastern and London, Chatham Companies leaving Charing Cross and Victoria Stations at 3.15 p.m. each Friday afternoon and will proceed express *via* Paris arriving at Brindisi at 4 p.m. on Sunday, there being no change of carriage throughout the whole distance between Calais and Brindisi."

VISCOUNT YENOMOTO ON COAST DEFENCE.

VISCOUNT YENOMOTO is represented by one of our vernacular contemporaries as having spoken some timely words of wisdom on the subject of coast defence. Anxiety having been expressed in certain quarters because Hokkaido is not provided with forts and naval stations, the Viscount, who has lately paid a visit to that district, explained that in his opinion Yezo is not likely at present either to be an object of attack or to be regarded as a favourable basis of operations, for it possesses few harbours suitable for men of war, its resources are still imperfectly developed, and it is a cold bleak region during the winter months. The case is very different, the Viscount explained, with respect to the southern coasts and islands of Japan. Throughout those districts excellent ports abound, and abundance of supplies are procurable. The Goto Islands, for example, have an anchorage fit for the largest vessels, and absolutely secure in all weathers, as experience has proved. An enemy gaining possession of these islands could inflict great loss on Japan. Yet the place is not equipped with so much as a single fortress, telegraph wire or detachment of troops. Oshima in the Satsuma sea, Saigo in Oki, and other places are harbours giving anchorage for ten or twelve ships of war. Yet these places also are not in any way secured. Hokkaido may be regarded without anxiety, but it is urgently necessary that the Goto Islands and so forth should receive military attention.

FISH.

THAT the seas surrounding Japan teem with fish of all kinds is well known, and it has generally been supposed that the Japanese showed as much industry and were as successful as other nations in availing themselves of the provision thus made by nature for their use. But such does not appear to be the case, according to statistics published by the *Tokyo Shimpō*. The export of marine products has, indeed, greatly increased during the *Meiji* era. In the first year of that era the total value of such exports was only five hundred thousand *yen*, whereas last year it amounted to 3½ millions. These are gratifying figures, but if we enquire a little further the record is not so rosy. The total number of persons employed in fishing is eight hundred thousand, and their aggregate gross earnings yearly are only sixteen million *yen*, which gives an average of twenty *yen* per man. In Sweden, on the other hand, a country which has nothing like the same length of sea-coast as Japan, the average annual earnings of each person employed in the fishing trade are two

hundred *yen*. Moreover, while the exhibition at Stockholm in 1880 showed that the number of varieties of fish in the seas about Sweden is only about sixty, it is known that there are seven hundred varieties in Japanese waters; a wealth of fish unknown anywhere else. Scarcely any European country with a seaboard takes less than seventy or eighty million *yen* worth of fish annually, and it is therefore evident that Japan does not utilize her opportunities to anything like their full extent. The *Tokyo Shimpō* thinks that want of proper legislation has much to do with the question. No attempt is made to fix open and close seasons, or to control the methods of taking fish. Everyone is free to do exactly what he pleases and when he pleases. The appliances of the fisherman are also pronounced by our contemporary to be so defective that fishing is limited to the vicinity of the coasts, and distant waters are left untouched. The fishermen are not prepared even to grapple with a shark. Instead of being glad to see one, and setting to work to capture it, they give it a wide berth. Farther, they are without capital, do not take the trouble to accumbulate any, and have no apparatus for ascertaining the condition of the deep sea. These considerations are urged upon the attention of the authorities by the *Tokyo Shimpō*.

THE CHANGE IN THE RAILWAY RULES.

On the 18th of October the Railway Department issued new rules to regulate the periods covered by the tickets of persons travelling by line. A great deal of liberty had previously been granted to the public in this matter, and as the new rules curtailed this liberty, some expressions of discontent were heard. It was provided by the altered by-laws that all journeys of less than 50 miles (English) must be performed within one day, unless a new ticket were purchased from the point where the journey was broken. From fifty to a hundred miles, two days were allowed; from a hundred to two hundred miles, three days; from two hundred to three hundred miles, four days, and from three hundred miles upwards, five days. The *Hochi Shimbun* offers an explanation of the change. It says that dishonest persons took advantage of the former system. Thus, a man would buy a through ticket from Tokyo to Kobe. At Osaka he would alight, and then forward his ticket by post to a friend in Tokyo. The latter would thereupon buy a ticket from Tokyo to Shinagawa or Omori, and being thus enabled to enter the train, would journey right on to Kobe, giving up his friend's ticket at the latter place. Meanwhile the friend would have proceeded to Kobe by paying his fare from Osaka thither. In this manner two people travelled from Tokyo to Kobe at the cost of one ticket plus single fares from Tokyo to Shinagawa and from Osaka to Kobe. This was very clever and very unscrupulous no doubt, but we do not see that the change of rules obviates a repetition of the dishonesty. An interval of five days would amply suffice to accomplish the trick. A passenger arriving in Osaka in the evening might post his ticket the same night. The letter would be delivered in Tokyo on the following day, or at latest on the second day, and another passenger might then proceed leisurely to Kobe with the same ticket. The only effectual plan would be to mark the ticket of anyone breaking his journey, and to require passengers to show their tickets at intervals *en route*. We imagine that such a system is already in force, and if so the chicanery described by the *Hochi Shimbun* could not possibly be perpetrated, unless the guards on the line were very careless.

PRINCE SANJO AND THE HOUSE OF PEERS.

The Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal has addressed to the Council of Nobles (*Kazoku-Kaikan*) a memorandum of some importance. The following is a translation:—"His Majesty the Emperor having granted a Constitution, has established a bicameral Diet, of which one part is the House of Peers, composed of the five orders of nobility. The Princes and Marquises sit in perpetuity, the Counts, Viscounts and Barons elect certain of their orders to represent

them. In addition to these there are Imperial Nominees and Members chosen from among the highest tax-payers. But, as its name truly indicates, the House consists chiefly of Peers, to whom the Emperor has delegated the function of assisting His Majesty in the exercise of the legislative prerogative, that constituting their chief duty. The large numbers of the three lower orders of nobility makes it necessary that they should choose members from among themselves, but for the rest there is no distinction between those who are members and those who are not: all are equally bound to aid in the work of legislation, and since this responsibility devolves on all alike, they must unite their strength for the common cause. The nobles who are chosen to be members have to perform the important function of adopting measures to secure public peace and good order, and it is of the greatest moment that due investigations should be made to that end. The subjects to be investigated, however, are very numerous, and include a comparative study of various laws. It is not possible for one person to undertake the work alone. Steps should be taken to form a Committee of Investigation including as much ability as possible. The Council of Nobles (*Kazoku-Kaikan*) was organized that the nobility might render service to the State, as His Majesty the Emperor explained when calling the Council into existence. Its members have now an important duty to perform. The section of investigation should therefore be increased and arrangements made to collect law books for examination not only by the committee but by the nobles generally. The matter is one of urgency at the present juncture. The ordinary expenditure of the Council ought to be reduced as much as possible and the money thus saved should be devoted to the purposes of the Investigation Committee, any deficiency being made up by the members at large. The time for the opening of the Diet is now close at hand. There is no leisure to take counsel with my brother nobles, and I have therefore expressed my views in writing. I look for your reply by the 29th instant (29th of October) and shall conclude that those not answering by that day are in favour of my project, which will be carried out in accordance with the decision of the majority." The above is signed by Prince Sanjo in his capacity of President of the Council of Nobles.

COMPETITIVE POETS.

The *Chinese Times* has tried the experiment of inviting competitive English renderings of German and French pieces. The example chosen from German literature was a well known poem of Körner's, and the following excellent translation secured the first prize:—

I am awake! In rosy glory
Around me shines the springtide day;
It draws me from my attic storey,
Its bell-notes call my heart away.
The sun breaks through his cloudy prison,
Little his radiance glads my eyes;
To me he lingers still unrisen
For my heart's sun has yet to rise.
Along the street gay life is thronging,
I reckon not of the crowd and press;
My thoughts fly forth on wings of longing;
To know thee near is happiness.
Entrancing fears my heart beleaguers,
With timorous joy my senses swell,
What time I pass with footsteps eager
The corner which I love so well.
Then let me hang with clearer vision
Where thy dear window o'er me gleams
While rapture, restful yet Elysian,
Transports me to my land of dreams;
Till hopes perfected crown my dreaming
Till Faith at last is lost in Sight.
And thy loved eyes upon me beaming
Fill all my life with heavenly light.

SVASTIKA.

THE EMPEROR'S BIRTHDAY.

Tokyo was unusually quiet yesterday for an Emperor's birthday. The review of the troops in garrison, which generally constitutes the principal event of the day, had to be postponed on account of His Majesty's indisposition, and thus the city, instead of being enlivened by strains of martial music and the rattle of *feu de joie*, remained undisturbed until noon when

the boom of big guns rolled but from the saluting battery and the ships lying off Shinagawa. In the evening the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and Viscountess Aoki gave a reception at the Rokumeikan. A vast number were present, probably some fifteen hundred, including Princes of the Blood, Ministers of State, nobles, members of the Corps Diplomatique, and other notables, official and private, foreign and Japanese. The building as usual was beautifully decorated, and though the crowd seemed denser than ever, it was observed that either owing to special arrangements or because consideration is becoming a more widely practised virtue, a reasonable space was left for the dancers. The Japanese have evidently lost much of the enthusiasm which for a time threatened to reconcile them to round dances in Occidental style. The disposition to take part in these was rarely evinced last evening, but the square dances always enlisted a strong contingent of Japanese ladies and gentlemen, who went through every figure and step with notable precision. There was, we regret to say, a total absence of Japanese costumes, but it could not be inferred that this was due to any revival of the fancy for foreign fashions on the ladies' part. Rather must it be attributed to the fact that what may be called the foreign-frock-wearing section of the Tokyo fair sex alone were present. Doubtless the novelty of these huge balls has to a great extent worn off, and Japanese ladies no longer emerge from their quiet homes to assist as interested and slightly surprised observers at entertainments not altogether congenial to the national taste. Judging from the demeanour of some of the guests, however, it was conjectured that a ball in Western style still presents novel features to certain Japanese, for a numerous knot of gentlemen, probably provincial members of the Diet, watched the proceedings with sedate but palpable curiosity. The Yokohama community was not very largely represented, the long railway journey and the unseasonable cold of the evening doubtless acting as deterrents. It need scarcely be said that all the arrangements were perfect, that the refreshments and supper were excellent, that the music was good, and that a brilliant display of fireworks delighted not only the guests, but also a concourse of thousands of sight-seers covering the Hibiya Parade-ground and the adjacent streets.

* * *

In Yokohama many business places were closed and in all the public offices, both Japanese and foreign, holiday was celebrated. Most of the ships in Harbour and all the men-of-war, dressed, and at midday the war-vessels fired a salute.

DOINGS IN THE DIET.

Among the various predictions uttered with respect to the probable doings of the Diet, a striking one is published by the *Yomiuri Shimbun*. It is to the effect that a small party among the members of the House of Representatives is bent upon agitating for reforms of a most drastic character. The principal items of their contemplated programme are the three Departments of Communications, Education, and Agriculture and Commerce. Instead of the Department of Education they advocate the establishment of a Board (*Tokugaku-in*) with an official of *chokunin* rank at its head. The Department of Communications they would replace by a Post Office Bureau, entrusting to private enterprise the greater part of the functions now performed by the Department. As for the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, their opinion is that it may be swept away altogether, since its duties could be equally well discharged by Chambers of Commerce and similar bodies. Even the business of the Bureau of Government Forests, they think, might be dispensed with, and its work performed by Local Governments. No doubt all this would signify an appreciable diminution of the public expenditure, but that there is the smallest chance of such a programme being carried out, we do not for a moment suppose. The band of politicians who are said to have pledged themselves to this pro-

gramme must be of exceedingly diminutive strength if they consist chiefly of ex-Senators, since the number of the latter elected to the House might almost be counted on the fingers of one hand. We do not ourselves look forward to any remarkable achievement on the part of the Diet during its first session of three months. By the time it has passed the Budget and discussed the various bills submitted to it by the Government—which bills, according to the Constitution, take precedence of measures initiated by the Diet itself—there will be very little left of its three months' existence. Three months from November 25th to February 25th will only give about sixty sittings, if Sundays, national holidays and the New Year's recess be subtracted. The lowest estimate of Government bills to be submitted puts the number at twenty-two, which means something less than three nights per bill. Of course all proposals of a fiscal nature, including the abolition or reconstruction of Departments of State, might be introduced into the debate on the Budget, but changes so radical as those attributed to the coterie of ex-Senators are not likely to occupy the attention of the House for any lengthy period.

COUNT SOYESHIMA.

THE interviewers have been visiting Count Soyeshima and asking his opinions about the burning question of the day. The comet replied in part sentimentously and in part sagely. He gave it as his opinion that since the solution of a problem like Treaty Revision depends largely on the effective strength and wealth of the Empire, the difficulty of success is very great. But he then went on to explain that the mood of the people is also a very important factor, and he illustrated this by referring to his own experience as Minister of Foreign Affairs. In those days no sooner was one question settled than another cropped up, in the shape of the assassination of a foreigner or the burning of a foreign Legation. The British Representative, too, at that era, was a diplomatist of somewhat imperious type and, moreover, foreign troops were quartered in Yokohama. Among foreign officials the Japanese had only one friend, Mr. F. O. Adams, the First Secretary of the British Legation. A hard matter, therefore, was the conduct of the country's foreign affairs in those times. Count Soyeshima's retrospect evidently afforded him little satisfaction, and he was strongly disposed to compare it with the different state of affairs to-day existing. Now, however, no less than then, he declared that a dignified, unanimous and quiet attitude on the part of the Japanese nation was before everything essential, with which verdict we fully agree.

GOLD IN JAPAN.

AN interesting statement is published by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* with regard to the quantity of gold coin in Japan. We read that according to an examination recently undertaken by the Authorities, the total value of the gold coin held by the Banks and in circulation is 89,270,000 *yen*, to which must be added a sum of about 25 millions constituting a part of the Treasury reserve for the redemption of paper money. Compared with the records of the *keicho* era (1596-1614), which is always referred to as the golden period of Japanese history, these figures look insignificant, the value of the gold coin held by the Government and the Banks, together with that in circulation at the close of the sixteenth century, having been no less than 346,450,000 *yen*. This latter figure is decidedly striking. If it be trustworthy, and the records are said to be beyond doubt, the quantity of the yellow metal held by the Japanese nation three centuries ago was very remarkable. At the same time it has to be observed that the currency of those days was practically gold and gold only, the subsidiary coins alone being silver, with the exception of a limited number of silver *ryo*. Silver was as scarce then as it is now plentiful. Moreover, the habit of hoarding was general. From the Shogun down to the pettiest feudal baron everyone aimed at accumulating in his store-house a stock of gold

for use in times of trouble. Now-a-days one scarcely ever sees a gold coin in Japan. Though nominally using a gold standard the nation employs silver only for currency purposes, and we should not have been at all surprised to learn that the stock of gold coin represented only half of the amount ascertained by recent researches.

THE LAST OF THE SIDE-WHEELERS.

By the disappearance of the *Nagoya Maru* whose destruction has already been decreed, the last of the old side-wheelers, the presence of which has almost since the first days of Yokohama as an open port been such a prominent feature of our harbour, will be removed. Some three months ago the *Hiroshima* was taken over to Kanagawa where she has since been in the hands of the spoilers, her deck fittings, smoke-stack, engines, &c., gradually disappearing till now little remains of her but her lower timbers and the fragments of her wheel shafts. A day or two ago the *Nagoya* was taken over to fulfil a similar doom, and now lies within a cable's length of the *Hiroshima's* wreck, in readiness to pass through the same process. Both ships have had somewhat of a history, the greater part of which is no doubt familiar to more than one of those whose memories will carry them back to the earlier days of the Pacific Mail in Japan. The *Hiroshima*, which is now, we believe, some thirty six years old, was built for the Vanderbilt line and having made a trip to England went thence to Australia, making a record which was not broken up till two or three years ago. Afterwards she found her way to San Francisco, and was employed running in the Southern trade. In 1869 she came to Japan as one of the first steamers of the Pacific Mail, bearing then name of the *Golden Age* and after running for some years on the Pacific line she passed into the hands of the Mitsu Bishi Co. The *Nagoya* a much newer ship came out to Japan as the *Oregonian* in 1868. Both vessels were employed on the Shanghai mail line by the Japanese companies who successively owned them, till the *Yokohama Maru*, *Tokio Maru*, and other new ships were put on. Though to the landsman's eye sister ships, the two side-wheelers were much different, the *Nagoya* having heavier engines, considerably more beam (and consequently much greater cargo capacity) and having very shallow draught.

THE OLD QUESTION.

OUR readers will scarcely need to be told, we imagine, that the topic of Treaty Revision continues to fill many a column of the vernacular press, sometimes in the form of editorial notes, sometimes in the form of interviews with men of reputation, and sometimes in the form of fragmentary intelligence, indicating chiefly the perplexity and uncertainty of the writer. We read, for example, a statement that, according to the hundred and sixty-sixth article of the Civil Code, the contention raised by certain foreign land-renters in Yokohama—that inasmuch as they have been holding land for over twenty years without any limit of period, right of ownership is now established—has no validity, for the Code fixes the limit of emphyteusis at fifty years. This point may have some interest, but it certainly possesses no practical value, for there is not the smallest fear that foreigners will be disturbed in their holdings as a result of the revision of the Treaties. They are now in the position of lessees only, but on the completion of Treaty Revision they will doubtless be registered as owners, and can receive title-deeds if they please. The provision of the Civil Code referred to is that an emphyteusis, that is to say, a lease of an immovable for a long term, cannot exceed fifty years; but the same section enacts that leases of immovables made previously to the promulgation of the Code for a fixed term of even more than fifty years will remain valid for the full term assigned to them. There is also a provision with regard to leases that have been formally agreed to as leases in perpetuity: it is enacted that a special law, issued sub-

sequently to the promulgation of the Code, will provide for the power of the emphyteuticary to purchase the right to receive rent, and the conditions on which such purchase are to be made. The matter cannot, therefore, be dismissed in the summary fashion adopted by one of the vernacular journals. But, as we have already said, there is not the slightest ground for apprehension that any vexatious or onerous conditions will be imposed upon foreign land-renters—or foreign land-owners as they will then become—by the terms of the revised Treaties. Passing from this question, which has at least the merit of being worthy of notice, we enter the region of interviews, and are introduced to Count Soyeshima contrasting the evil days of his own tenure of the portfolio of Foreign Affairs with the pleasant places of power and consideration in which the lot of a present Foreign Secretary is cast; or again, we find ourselves with the French Minister, into whose mouth are put some wholly imaginary assertions about his attitude towards Count Okuma's proposals and his attitude towards Viscount Aoki's programme. Then we have estimates of the disposition and character of Her Britannic Majesty's Representative, and strange complaints that whereas England blocked the way and Germany opened it last year, the positions are now reversed and England is the pioneer, while Germany holds back. Need we say that truth is enshrined in only the most infinitesimal fraction of such stories, the other parts being pure invention? Even more applicable is this caution to the accounts given of the Revision programme and history. One newspaper asserts that, so far from the negotiations having made marked progress, they have not even commenced, nor is the Japanese Government certain that it will undertake them at all. Another, with no less assurance, declares that a settlement is in sight, and that Japan will very shortly obtain what she has long aspired to. Then again, we are assured that the new draft has been purged of the conditions which hurt the national pride last year, or threatened to be injurious to Japanese interests, whereas another metropolitan journal says precisely the opposite, and warns the people to keep their eyes open as foreigners are on the point of getting everything they want. To give these various *canards* and conjectures in detail would be merely to waste our space and weary our readers. We refer to them here solely for the purpose of showing that our silence as to the publication of so much idle comment and mythical intelligence must not be construed as indicating any absence of such matter from the columns of the vernacular press. We may note, too, *en passant*, the peculiar fact that the versions appearing in this Japanese newspaper or that, are carefully reproduced by one, if not both, of our local English contemporaries, and treated with serious consideration. Is it to be inferred from this that Yokohama, having held a meeting to publicly protest against a programme concerning which information was alleged to have been procured from a perfectly trustworthy quarter, is still ignorant of the measure against which it raised its voice so emphatically? The inference appears rather extravagant. Yet if Yokohama knew what it was doing on September the 11th, why do its local journals collect and give seeming credence to scraps of information furnished by the vernacular press six weeks later, and if it did not know, why on earth did it protest?

THE SILK MARKET.

"THE state of the Yokohama silk market," writes the *Shogyo Shimpō*, "which has never been active this year from the beginning of the season, is at present so dull that the foreign houses look as if they were enjoying holidays more numerous and unwelcome than those observed in connection with the Negishi Races. Such being the case, and there being also some indications of further depression, the Japanese merchants in possession of large stocks are naturally feeling very anxious. Already the firm of Messrs. Hara & Co., being in possession of a far larger stock than any other house this year, showed signs of beginning to sell off, and a general forced sale seemed imminent, but the

prices momentarily cooled the business ardour of the foreign merchants, and the anticipated event was postponed. The foreign merchants, who have not received as many orders as usual from America this year, and who are well aware of the existence of a surplus stock, seem resolved to adopt the course of beating down the price of silk as much as possible, and waiting for a general forced sale on the part of the Japanese. Under such circumstances, selling off by one Japanese firm of consideration would lead to a sudden and general change in the market, and silk merchants are anxiously watching the movements of Messrs. Hara & Co. Whether selling off at present would be a wiser plan than holding until the market assumes a better condition, is a difficult question to solve, but there seems to be a strong feeling in favour of manfully disposing of the stock now before forced sales at too low figures become necessary. Some think that the stock of silk in Yokohama having reached, on the 31st of last month, thirty thousand bales, an amount never heard of since the opening of the port, it would be wise policy to unload at once. This is indeed a problem as puzzling as it is important."

MR. MOTLEY OF SHANGHAI.

FOR genuine naïveté the *North China Daily News* latest utterances on the subject of Treaty Revision deserve the palm. At the close of an article written chiefly, so far as we can judge, to prove that the cruet-stand is the centre of civilization in Japan, that journal gives us the following information:—

The Japanese are taking with much zeal to entertainments in foreign style. They give each other dinners at their semi-foreign hotels, and the cruet-stand occupies a very prominent position in their feasts, for the Japanese banqueter is not particular as to the appropriateness—to the foreign taste—of the condiments he employs, and he employs them freely. In feasting, as in almost everything else, the Japanese looks up to foreign ways as superior to his own; whatever his newspapers may say, the ordinary Japanese still regards the foreigner as a superior being, and shows it by his incessant endeavours to imitate him. As long as this is the case, it is unreasonable to imagine that he feels really insulted by extraterritoriality, or will be really aggrieved if he does not get the treaties with foreign Powers revised on the basis of equal rights. It seems certain that the demands for the abolition of extraterritoriality is not a popular demand; it may be very reasonably diluted whether the people, as a whole, want to have the country thrown open to foreigners; even if, with that concession, they buy the withdrawal of consular jurisdiction. The Diet meets in a month, and then perhaps we shall get at what the real feeling of the country is; we say perhaps, because the people generally did not take much interest in the election of members of the Diet, and their members may not, at first, represent them accurately. But the Diet will be a splendid means of political education, and it will not be long before the electors do take an interest in their parliament, and then we shall know what their real wishes as to treaty revision are; and when the country is thrown open, the demand for cruet-stands will become larger still.

It is hard to discover whether the writer of this intends to be taken seriously. His ignorance at all events is amusing, and if the qualities of some of the condiments usually contained in cruet-stands could be imparted to his style, he might pass for a fifth-rate jester. But at present silliness is his only title to be diverting. Some one of his calibre was needed to discover that because the Japanese are beginning to like beef, and because they are also beginning to eat mustard with it therefore they don't want the Treaties revised. *O sancta simplicitas!* "Let the doors be shut upon him; that he may play the fool nowhere but in his own house."

THE PROGRAMME OF THE INDEPENDENTS ("TAISEI KAI").

We read in the *Fomuri Shimbun* that the Committee of five—Messrs. Oyagi Bichiro, Motoda Hajime, Okata Ryoichiro, Yendo On, and Tsuda Moichi—appointed by the Independents (*Taisei-kai*) to investigate the special subject of law, have completed their labours and presented a report embodying a number of suggestions, of which the following are the principal:—Changes in the Organization of the Courts of Law; postponement of the date of operation of the new Commercial Code; reform of the regulations as to public meetings and political parties; certain changes in executive methods; repeal of the Peace Preservation Regulations; explanation of the 67th Article of the Constitution; reform of the law of statistics; reform of the Prison Regulations; and abolition

of the Appeal Court of Hakodate. Such an extensive programme of reform certainly indicates that, like all new brooms, the Independents want to sweep clean. Their proposal to postpone the date of operation of the new Commercial Code strikes us as a little surprising, seeing that those who were most opposed to the speedy operation of the Code are said to have discovered, on careful investigation, that their objections are not well founded, and that the Code presents very few features calling for alteration.

CUSTOMS RETURNS.

THE following is a summary of the Customs Returns for September, showing the foreign trade of Japan for the month:—

	1890.		1890.	
	SILVER YEN.	TAELS.	SILVER YEN.	TAELS.
Exports	6,755,786.080	4,276,919.010		
Imports	5,507,014.700	7,385,197.200		
Total exports and imports	11,662,645.240			
Excess of imports		3,108,718.100		
Exports			118,779.958	
Imports			247,141.352	
Miscellaneous			10,301,795	

Total

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS TO AND IMPORTS FROM VARIOUS FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.
Great Britain	473,025.180	1,140,950.000	2,604,275.18
United States of America	1,533,026.200	363,909.010	18,052,242.10
France	41,214.870	1,230,451.400	1,250,666.270
Hongkong	575,764.300	524,430.790	1,100,195.090
Germany	635,537.710	316,204.200	9,970,700.010
China	488,450.200	521,375.000	911,200.000
Korea	30,406.350	203,194.310	740,574.250
Russia	75,091.050	203,090.000	372,250.050
Australia	13,398.900	150,000.250	109,453.140
Canada & other British America	85,103.750	45,817.450	130,980.800
Philippine Islands	20,401.320	2,845.670	33,336.990
Belgium	20,300.010	35,721.900	61,437.900
Switzerland	5,105.000	24,539.150	59,615.110
Turkey	35.000	52,472.100	52,507.100
Italy	1,850.200	37,772.200	39,622.400
Siam	9,728.650	17,926.000	37,211.900
Austria	18,355.100	1,009.130	20,409.230
Denmark	—	11,495.600	11,495.600
Holland	1,212.350	4,116.600	5,328.950
Hawaii	3,829.190	—	3,829.190
Spain	305.000	1,290.000	2,594.900
Peru	—	790.940	790.940
Portugal	—	475.720	475.720
Sweden & Norway	—	33.540	33.540
Other Countries	101,663.350	863,193.000	964,856.350
Total	4,070,430.370	3,385,097.200	11,455,527.570

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS TO AND IMPORTS FROM AND TO EACH PORT.

	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.
Yokohama	2,469,090.820	3,513,000.010	5,982,090.830
Kobe	2,100,790.800	3,149,109.570	5,249,900.370
Osaka	705,451.590	305,000.500	1,010,452.090
Nagasaki	318,331.140	188,910.000	507,241.140
Hakodate	81,067.510	—	81,067.510
Ningbo	1,217.970	216.000	1,433.970
Shimonoseki	12,148.510	136,052.120	148,200.630
Manila	47,331.400	—	47,331.400
Hakata	1,416.000	1,497.400	2,913.400
Karatsu	10,377.040	—	10,377.040
Kuchinotsu	92,074.400	—	92,074.400
Specie and Bullion		1,469,636.370	1,469,636.370
Imports		58,330.140	58,330.140

Total

Excess of exports

VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS BY JAPANESE MERCHANTS AND GOVERNMENT.

By Japanese Merchants { Exports	545,713.990
{ Imports	1,534,509.500
Imported by Government	54,297.670

THE "GAKUSHU KAI-IN."

THE *Gakushu-Kai* of Tokyo is an institution originally modelled on lines similar to those of the Royal Society of England. It was organised eleven years ago when Count Saigo held the portfolio of education, its declared object being to bring together men of conspicuous learning and philanthropy, not only for purposes of debate, but also to open correspondence with bodies of like nature in other lands. Its earliest members, according to a sketch given in the columns of the *Mainichi Shimbun*, were Messrs. Fukuzawa Yukiichi, Kato Hirayuki, Kanda Kohei, Nishi Shu, Tsuda Mamichi, Mitsukuri Shinryo, and Nakamura Masanao—a group of scholars brilliant enough to raise the new society at once to a very high plane. The members were empowered to add to their number by election, and they exercised this power to a limited degree. By and by, however, Messrs. Fukuzawa and Tsuda resigned, and the death of Mr. Mitsukuri still further reduced the

original band. In 1886 the rules of the Society were amended, and a provision was inserted to the effect that fifteen special members might be nominated by the Crown. It does not appear, however, that this provision was acted on in more than two cases, that of Count Terashima and one other gentleman. At present the total membership is only twenty-seven, from which fact alone it may be gathered that the Society has not attempted to fill a place corresponding with that occupied by its foreign models. Influenced probably by this reflection, the Government has now sought to give the Society an impetus by issuing, for the first time, rules determining its constitution. A translation of the Imperial Ordinance bearing on the subject will be found elsewhere in our columns. Nevertheless the object of the new Ordinance is not to extend the membership of the Society to any great extent, since it provides that associates chosen by the members shall not exceed twenty-five, and associates nominated by the Crown shall be limited to fifteen, making forty in all. The *Gakushu-kai* in now becomes practically a section of the Educational Department, with a President and two Directors, each receiving a trifling salary of 300 yen annually, evidently of the nature of a contingent allowance. A similar allowance is also to be made to members over sixty years of age, provided that their number does not exceed ten. Judging by the terms of the Ordinance, it appears that the *Gakushu-kai* is to be a species of deliberative assembly to which the Minister of State for Education may submit educational questions for discussion and advice.

DISCOVERIES.

THE genius of discovery should always be treated with reverence. We therefore reproduce, from the columns of the *North China Daily News*, a paragraph which proves that certain newspapers in Germany are highly gifted in that respect:—"The *Export*, a German mercantile paper, warns the manufacturers of the Fatherland against the apparently guileless Japanese gentlemen who visit Europe in search of knowledge. They are particularly fond of and interested in all sorts of ingenious mechanical processes; and the German manufacturers have always been most kind in showing them over their factories, and explaining to them the various uses and mysteries of the various machines. Now these Japanese have gone back to their own country and turned on their benefactors. With the aptness and quickness characteristic of their race, these tourists have quickly picked up the secrets of European factories, and established similar factories in Japan. The Germans have just awakened to the fact that, as the *Export* points out, the Japanese are competing with them in China in the beer trade, and are already making Swedish matches, silk umbrellas, cheap woollen stuffs, metal buttons, and petroleum lamps. For the two last-named articles, says the *Export*, the Chinese market will soon be entirely closed to German manufacturers." It is too bad of the Japanese to have behaved in this manner. The *Export*, however, does not carry its warning quite far enough. It ought to have added another item to the iniquity of the Japanese, namely, that they actually employ German brewers to manufacture the beer which competes with the German product in Chinese ports. As for matches, we fear that the Japanese are quite incorrigible in that matter. They so were ungrateful as to begin making matches years ago and they have pushed the industry to a very high point of development.

THE "JIJI SHINPO" AND THE "DAIDO SHIMBUN."

THE *Jiji Shimpō* stated in a recent issue that the *Daido Shimbun* had been acquired by the newly organised National Liberals and was to be made their organ. The *Daido* denies this with some indignation. It says that the newspaper is now the absolute property of Mr. Sanyō Shigeyasu, and that preparations are in progress to increase it considerably in view of the opening of the Diet. The idea of disposing of it to another political party has never been entertained.

Mr. Suyehiro is a leading member of the Constitutional Liberals, and it is not in the least likely that he would suffer his journal to be converted into the organ of an opposing party. "The *Fiji Shimpō*," adds the writer of the contradiction, "has not betrayed ignorance of political party matters now for the first time. A little more caution would become it. This latest fabrication is startling, and we beg our provincial contemporaries not to be misled by it." The trouble is in such a case that the circulation of the *Fiji Shimpō* in the provinces far exceeds that of any other political journal of Tokyo, so that unless "the pink paper" itself publishes a withdrawal of its error, the denial of the *Daido Shimbun* will be comparatively inaudible.

PICTURESQUE JAPANESE.

SPEAKING of the death of Canon Liddon, the *Pall Mall Budget* writes:—"The attendance at St. Paul's Cathedral when Liddon was in residence was probably the most cosmopolitan of any ever seen in any church. Only on the occasion of his last sermon there were present Japanese Christians in their picturesque costume, an African priest, a distinguished lay member of the Greek Church, and representative members, probably, of every religious denomination. Of late years he has not alluded explicitly so much as he had been in the habit of doing to public events but his sermons always had an indirect reference to what was uppermost in the minds of his hearers." We should like to know what were the "picturesque costumes" here alluded to. It is generally supposed that Japanese living in London wear the same dress as the British denizens of that city, and it has not yet been suggested by any critic that they wear it in a specially picturesque manner.

ACCIDENT TO A CHINESE MAN-OF-WAR.

REFERRING to the reported loss of two Chinese men-of-war, the *N.C. Daily News* of the 25th ultimo said:—"The report which we mentioned on Wednesday of the loss of two vessels belonging to the Peiyang squadron, was not altogether unfounded, for two of the ships had an uncommonly narrow escape. The *Chingyuan* and a consort were coming down from Vladivostok, when the *Chingyuan* bumped over the rocks off Cape Bruat, her consort running unharmed between the rocks and the Cape. The *Chingyuan* was very seriously damaged, her stem being broken, and her ram driven in, a lot of her outer bottom torn away, and the inner bottom pierced by the rocks, and one of her propellers stripped of all its blades. She got into port with several compartments full of water, and had a very narrow escape of foundering with all on board. She was ordered to come to Shanghai to be docked, after the necessary temporary repairs had been effected. It was little short of a miracle that her consort got through safely; another instance of China's proverbial luck.

THE IMPERIAL VISIT TO MITO.

BEFORE the Emperor's departure from Mito, His Majesty awarded 200 *yen* each to Fujita Jirozaemon, Fujita Seinoshin (well-known by his *nom-de-plume* "Tōko"), Toda Ginjirō and Aizawa Tsunezō, famous Mito *literati*, and Imperialists; and 200 *yen* to the *Chirei-sha*, where many patriots are enshrined. The Emperor and the Empress were also graciously pleased to grant 300 *yen* to the Normal School, in whose buildings they were lodged, and 100 *yen* to the city of Mito, which welcomed them so heartily, and presented such a gay and beautiful appearance during their stay. The Imperial party left the Castle grounds on Wednesday morning at 8 o'clock, and took the train for Tokyo, having had fine weather during their stay at Mito, and the greatest enthusiasm displayed everywhere.

MR. COLBORNE BABER.

We take this from the *Chinese Times*:—"The Royal Geographical Society's obituary notice of Mr. Colborne Baber includes some interesting reminiscences from the pen of his father, who

was at the time of his son's birth in 1843 headmaster of the school which has since developed into Dulwich College. Among other things he gives the following verses which mark an incident in Mr. Baber's early experience which left a deep, and his father seems to think a permanent, impression on his mind:—

Why are the fond forsaken?
Why do the dear ones die?
Shall we from death awaken,
To find the loved ones nigh?
It is but empty seeming,
An idle tale and vain,
That I am always dreaming
Of meeting thee again!
O fondest, truest, dearest!
In that sweet heaven above,
I wonder if thou hearest
The voice of thy true love?
The voice that often moved thee,
As none could move before;
The voice of him who loved thee,
And lost thee—dead Lenore.
Hast thou the same sweet presence
As in the happy past,
Or art thou but an essence,
That wanders in the vast?
Or does that same sweet spirit,
That filled a form so fair,
Shine high heaven inhabit
The shape that angels wear?
Oh! my heart, my heart is aching
With longing to be free,
If death has any waking,
I shall awake with thee.
Such burning thoughts come thronging,
And thrill me more and more,
With an eternal longing
To be with thee, Lenore."

THE CONSTITUTIONAL LIBERALS.

At the last meeting of the Constitutional Liberals (*Rikken Jiuyō*) a report was presented, says the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, from the Committee appointed to examine the question of Treaty Revision. The report explained that although this subject had attracted much attention of late and given rise to various rumours, there did not, on accurate investigation, appear to be sufficient grounds for the excitement. It was added, however, that as the question occupies a prominent place in the political programme of the Party, the fullest attention should be given to it. At the same meeting the *Daido*, *Koko*, and *Jiyu* newspapers were declared to be the organs of the Party.

SOAP.

We take this from a home exchange:—"Soap was unknown to the ancients. It is fact, however, that the word soap does occur in the translation of the Old Testament, but the original Hebrew words *Nether* and *Borith* were better translated as meaning mineral and vegetable alkali. Homer was unacquainted with soap, and from the following we gather that the Greek ladies cleansed themselves first with alkaline water, and then, in order to remedy the caustic alkaline effect, anointed themselves with oil or fat.

They seek the cisterns where the Phœcean dames
Wash their fair garments in the limpid streams;
Where gathering into depths the falling rills,
The lucid wave a spacious basin fills;
The vestures cleansed, o'erspread the shelly sand,
Their snowy lustre whitens all the strand;
Then with a short repast relieve their toil,
And o'er their limbs diffuse the ambrosial oil.
—Homer's *Odyssey*.

Soap is first mentioned by Pliny, who informs us that the Gauls manufactured a soap from goat's tallow and the alkaline ashes of beech-wood. It was introduced by the conquerors to the Roman dames to afford a means of beautifying the skin, and with a view to reduce the dark colour of their hair to that of the Teutons. After this, another substance, the crude fat obtained from sheep's wool, known as *Oesypus*, was most extensively employed as a cosmetic. Ovid informs us that the Greek ladies employed this *Oesypus* with very satisfactory results, as a safeguard against wrinkles, and to promote the growth of the hair. The Roman ladies, learning of the success attending the employment of *Oesypus*, were not slow in following their example, and very soon adopted it as their favourite article for the toilet. When Rome was conquered by the Barbarians, this favourite unguent

appears to have fallen into disuse, and we hear nothing more of it until a few years ago, when an industrious chemist on the Continent (Professor Liebreich), carefully made the crude product "*Oesypus*" a matter of research. The result was his discovery of "*Lanoline*," a pure, regenerated "*Oesypus*," which in appearance is like a thick cream. He discovered, moreover, that this "*Lanoline*" was really the natural fat of the skin and hair, and when employed as a dressing for these tissues it rendered them supple and healthy. As opposed to the ordinary glycerine oils and fats employed in the manufacture of cosmetics, it caused a complete revolution. Everyone has experienced the disagreeable effects of ordinary soaps, which invariably contain an excess of alkali. "*Lanoline*" afforded a means for overcoming this important defect, and in "*Lanoline*" Toilet Soap we find an excess of the fat natural to the skin, which renders it smooth, supple, and healthy, instead of dry, harsh, and inclined to chaps, as was the case with the toilet soaps of the past. In addition to its employment in the manufacture of toilet soap, "*Lanoline*" Cold Cream, "*Lanoline*" Pomade, and Toilet "*Lanoline*" are prepared. These preparations are all natural to the tissues; and instead of acting as irritants, they afford a means for supplying nutrient material which promotes *metabolic force*, and conduces to a healthy condition of the skin and hair."

COUNT HIGASHI-KUZE.

Some scandal-mongers having spread a report that the sum of seventeen thousand *yen* had been spent by Count Higashi-Kuze to secure his nomination to the Vice-Presidency of the House of Peers, a friend called upon the Count and elicited from the latter a laughing comment on the tale. The new Vice-President explained that as a Privy Councillor he received a salary of four thousand five hundred *yen* annually, whereas his emoluments as Vice-President will be only two thousand *yen*. He thus loses two thousand five hundred *yen* per year, and since his term of service as Vice-President is seven years, the total loss will be seventeen thousand five hundred *yen*. It is quite true, therefore, to say that he has expended seventeen thousand *yen* to procure his present appointment, though the manner of expenditure is not precisely what rumour indicated.

THE THREE BANKS.

DRAFT regulations for the organization of a Bank of movable property (*Dosan Ginko*), an Industrial Bank and a commercial Bank, were supposed to have been prepared some time ago and submitted for deliberation in the proper quarters. A rumour was recently circulated, however, to the effect that the idea of founding such establishments had been abandoned and the task of revising the regulations given up. The *Shogyo Shimpō* now explains that, according to trustworthy information supplied to it, nothing of the kind occurred. The Regulations have actually emerged from the hands of the Legislative Bureau and been laid before the Cabinet. But the latter has decided that the organization of the three Banks had better be debated by the Diet, and it is accordingly intended to embody the draft Regulations in a Bill to be laid before that body.

WHAT WILL BE THE SELLING PRICE OF TSUSHIMA?

"How earnestly Englishmen regard the Eastern Pacific question," says the *Fiji Shimpō*, "may be gathered from a proposal recently put forward by an English naval officer in an essay, a prize essay, on Coast defence, namely, that England should buy the Islands of Tsushima, and make there a naval station as well as a trading port. Everybody knows that Tsushima lies in an important situation dividing, as it were, the China seas and the Japan seas, and that not only did the Russians once attempt to obtain possession of the islands, but the English Government also wishes to have one of the Tsushima ports opened for foreign commerce. Further the Japanese Government has already made special arrangements for the defence of the

islands and has built a fort on the isle of Chikubu. The essay, alluded to above, after treating of the insufficiency of the British naval force in the Eastern Pacific, goes on to say that Hongkong does not meet the requirements of the situation as a coaling station, and proposes to approach the Japanese Government with a view to the purchase of the islands of Tsushima. We may smile at the ridiculous idea of a British officer's thinking that the Japanese Government would sell Tsushima. To an outsider, however, a small piece of isolated land, as Tsushima looks on the map, not unnaturally appears a fair object of barter and likely to be gladly disposed of so soon as the bidding reached a fair amount. What is certain, however, is that should Japan show any disposition to get rid of the islands, buyers would not be lacking. Were we to put up Tsushima for sale at auction in the world's market, who would offer the highest sum, and what would the amount be? We should like to know."

DEATH OF MR. EDWARD MORRIS.

WE read with deep regret the death, which occurred at an early hour this morning, of Mr. Edward Morris, manager at Yokohama of the local branch of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation. The deceased gentleman had been ailing for a long time, his health entirely giving way towards the close of last summer, despite the closest medical attention. On the 24th of August last he went to Hakone, and a week later on the 31st he was taken ill. The deceased gentleman had been in indifferent health, and under the latest attack (which consisted of serious complications of heart disease) he rapidly sank, and at length passed quietly away. Mr. Morris had been a bank manager for fully thirty years. He came out to the east to join the staff of the Agra Bank, and after acting for a long period manager in Shanghai of that institution, he entered the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank in 1872, as sub-manager at Hongkong, afterwards acting as agent at Calcutta. He took charge of the interests of the great banking corporation at this port in February, 1884, in succession to Mr. John Walter, and in his hands those interests have since been guarded and advanced with such energy and enterprise that his removal means an almost irreparable loss to those whom he so ably represented, as well as to the public at large. The deceased gentleman did not publicly take any prominent share in the affairs of the community, but his influence was ever exerted for good, and from no movement directed to worthy ends was the substantial aid and support of Mr. Morris ever withheld. His well known figure will be long missed by the community, and his memory will be treasured with the highest respect by all in whose minds unflinching integrity and high dignity of character constitute claims to human esteem.

ANOTHER VIEW OF COUNT ITO'S NEW OFFICE.

It seems that every one is not unanimous in approving of Count Ito's appointment to the Presidency of the Upper House. Viscount Yuri, a nobleman of whom the public hears very little now-a-days, though at one time he was counted a personage of note, has been telling a reporter of the *Nippon* that Count Ito cannot undertake to discharge the duties of President without loss of prestige. As the opponent or chief of the present Cabinet the Count would be occupying a proper position, but since all the members of the Cabinet are men who rank below him politically, it is difficult to see how he can conveniently fill a post which places him, in a certain sense, between the Cabinet and the Legislature. Such is Viscount Yuri's view, but we confess that it is too subtle for our appreciation. No one ignores the fact that Count Ito makes a considerable sacrifice, from a personal point of view, in accepting the Presidency of the Upper House. But his duty to his country undoubtedly requires that he should lend his active assistance to the successful accomplishment of the great work, the preliminaries of which are virtually of his arranging. The

interpretation of the Constitution in practice demands almost as large an exercise of skill and judgment as its compilation, and Count Ito, before all Japanese statesmen, is best qualified to act as its exponent. Before considerations of such moment points like those raised by Viscount Yuri seem to us to possess little significance.

THE OSAKA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND THE NEW COMMERCIAL CODE.

It has already been explained in these columns that the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce decided, by a majority, to recommend the postponement of the time for putting the new Commercial Code into operation. The Osaka Chamber of Commerce, however, takes a different view, and regards the speedy operation of the Code as matter of congratulation. Some time ago, the latter Chamber chose a Committee of fifteen of its members to examine the Code carefully, and this Committee reported the result of its investigations at an extraordinary general meeting of the Chamber, held on the 27th ultimo. The report, distinctly favourable to the Code, was adopted by a majority of those present at the meeting. We find in various vernacular journals a tolerably detailed *resumé* of the document. It runs as follows:—"Your Committee is of the opinion that the provisions of Chapters 1 to 5, Part I. of the Commercial Code, are of practical importance for the due regulation of commercial dealings, though it must be admitted that some points are novel and slightly vexatious. Your Committee holds that any embarrassment likely to be caused by the operation of the Code will be out-balanced by the good effects produced by it. Chapter 3 contains important rules which are evidently needed, as the question of trade-marks occupies much attention in the commercial world at present. Article 23 of that chapter will be especially beneficial when taken in conjunction with the Law of Bankruptcy. Chapter 4, which relates to account books, will also produce excellent results at the cost of very little trouble. Every merchant who cares for accuracy and system should keep books of the kind there prescribed, whether the law directs or does not direct him to have them. If he does not do so, his own carelessness is to blame. Further, no penalty is inflicted for not keeping these books; the only consequence is that the merchant who does not keep them is placed at a disadvantage in the event of a civil suit. Chapter 5 regulates the relations between employer and employee, and will materially help to render trade safe and easy. To take an example; this chapter provides that a merchant may be represented by his agent in Court, instead of being obliged to appear in person or be represented by a barrister, as the Code of Civil Procedure directs. There are not a few novelties in this last part, but they are manifestly beneficial and should be put into practice without delay. Turning to the Second Section, we are of opinion that Chapter 6, Part I. of the Code, should also be put into operation speedily. Our reasons are; first, that rules like those contained in this chapter are absolutely needed to correct the numerous abuses arising from the present imperfect law of companies. Secondly, that though the provisions of the chapter differ from those of existing laws, the difference is not sufficient to be embarrassing. Thirdly, that persons forming companies are intelligent merchants of, or above, the middle class, and will therefore be able to understand the new rules. Fourthly, that no postponement of the operation of the Code is required in respect of these provisions, inasmuch as the procedure laid down gives quite sufficient time for companies to make the necessary arrangements. And fifthly, that this chapter almost exactly creates the system which our chamber advocated in a memorial presented some time ago to the Authorities. With regard to the Third Section, your Committee finds that the provisions of Chapters 7 to 10, Part I. of the Code, do not materially differ from the methods now in vogue, and that merchants will experience no difficulty in complying with them. Slight amendments may be desirable, but they

furnish no ground for postponing the operation of the Code. As for the Fourth Section, the system prescribed by Part II. of the Code sufficiently resembles existing customs. Maritime merchants will not be at all perplexed by it. Indeed many of these merchants have no knowledge of existing laws, so the enactment of new ones will concern them very little. It will only be a benefit to them to be able to find the rules applying to their business clearly and succinctly laid down. Your Committee believes that this portion of the Code should be carried out without delay. It should be noted that your Committee invited owners of ships registered in Osaka to attend a meeting for the purpose of discussing this point, and that, with very few exceptions, all were in favour of the views here recorded. In respect of the Fifth Section, which relates to Insurance, your Committee is equally in favour of putting it into speedy operation for the following reasons:—First, there should be no objection to the application of such rules to fire and life insurances which were introduced from abroad or are essentially non-indigenous. This applies with even greater force to forms of insurance which have still to be introduced. Secondly, systems of insurance being of Western origin ought to be regulated by laws similar to those enforced in the West. Thirdly, as a policy of insurance under the new law will have the rules applying to it accurately recorded on its face, the insurer and insured alike will know exactly what they are doing. Fourthly, your Committee believes that the rules contained in this chapter closely resemble those actually in force at present. Fifthly, underwriters, whose business is insurance, can have no difficulty in comprehending the law. Sixthly, there are no reasonable grounds to apprehend that insurers will attempt to take advantage of the ignorance of the insured. Seventhly, the object of insurance, namely to secure people against loss, will be sensibly promoted by these improved regulations. Again, with regard to Chapter 12, Part I. of the Code, we are in favour of its speedy application, because (1) anyone acquainted with the present law as to bills and notes can have no difficulty in understanding the provisions of this chapter. (2) It is true that the new law is more complicated than the old, but this seems inevitable in view of the great extension of the dealings to which it applies. (3) There is a strong probability, in the opinion of your Committee, that the use of bills and notes will be developed by the operation of these new regulations. (4) It will be of immense advantage to commercial men that the use of cheques is placed on a clear and safe basis. Finally, your Committee thinks that the Regulations relating to Bankruptcy, as set forth in Part III. of the Code, ought to go into operation speedily because (1) The existing law of bankruptcy is imperfect and gives rise to great abuses which will be obviated by the New Code. (2) The main part of this Section relates to civil procedure. (3) The excellence of the new law is that while it prescribes severe penalties for fraudulent bankrupts, it deals leniently with an honest man who fails through pure misfortune or error of judgment."

It appears to us that this report does infinite credit to the Osaka Chamber of Commerce. Clear and comprehensible reasons are assigned for each opinion; in marked contrast to the vague objections raised by some persons in Tokyo, who are either unable or unwilling to explain the grounds of their objection.

ORGAN RECITAL.

WE learn that the Second Organ Recital and Concert in the Union Church is fixed for Tuesday, the 25th instant. The chorus-work is expected to be particularly good on this occasion, the organ itself is rapidly settling down into perfect condition, and we may look for another musical treat on that evening. We understand that it was at first intended to have the Recital on Thursday, the 22nd—a day peculiarly appropriate to such a function, it being allotted in the calendar to Cecilia, the patron-saint of organists—but the departure of

the American mail on that day has made it necessary to postpone the performance until the 25th.

With reference to the above paragraph, we are glad to find that there is a movement on foot for reviving our local Choral Society. We hail this announcement with delight. We believe that the ladies and gentlemen who are assisting at the Organ Recitals will form the nucleus of the new society, a fact which is in itself a guarantee of success. We have only to add that Mr. Keil is devoting himself with his characteristic energy to the *renaissance*, and our readers will be at once assured that Choral music will soon flourish in our midst.

THE NEW CONSERVATIVE ORGAN.

ON the birthday of the Emperor there appeared in Tokyo the first number of a conservative newspaper under the name of *Chusei Nippo* ("Just and Neutral Daily News"), known to be an organ of the *Hoshu Chusei-Ha* (the Conservative and Neutral party) of which General Viscount Torio and his friends are said to be principal figures. The *Nippon* writes of the new paper that *Koko* (the World) appeared and *Jiyu* (Liberty) followed and now *Chusei* (Impartiality) has come forward. A Count as reporter and a Viscount as editor set an excellent example to the newspaper world. Unfortunately we have found nothing of special interest in the Count's reporting, nor can we discover from the first issue whether the Viscount's editorship will prove to be brilliant, but we think we shall not be alone in ranking this spirited and grave *Chusei Nippo* at the head of the three recently born papers. In order, however, that our readers may be able to judge for themselves what motives inspire the new journal, we translate its opening article:—"The Neutral Conservatives, true to their pledge and purpose of independence, stand neutral among political parties. To their camp belong men who, adhering to conservative principles, are inspired by strong sentiments of loyalty towards our Sovereign and love for our country. In a brief space not yet amounting to two years our Party has become what it is. To complete its internal organization and to enable it to compete with other parties, something more than a monthly periodical is needed. The opening of Parliament, too, is close at hand and Governmental measures of various sorts will doubtless be taken. Under such circumstances a daily newspaper is indispensable, and for this reason the *Chusei Nippo* is published. Placing our conservative principles on the same level with our attachment to hearth and home, we shall labour to the very limit of our capacity to propagate our creed. Henceforth it shall be our duty to discuss the advantages of official measures, from questions of economy and law to those of art, industry, and education. We shall give intelligence about Government and people and about local conditions, not seeking the applause of others or bowing to their opinions, and never practising deception. Strict veracity shall be our rule both in controversy and in intelligence, and we shall always keep moderation in view. But when the duty devolves on us of discussing grave issues or exposing serious errors, we shall not hesitate to resort to strong language. Such is the programme of the *Chusei Nippo*."

Following the above declaration of faith and purpose, comes an article by Viscount Torio under the title of "Apprehension of what Impends." The gist of the Viscount's essay is thus:—"Since the treaties with foreign nations were concluded, we, the people of Japan, have all done what we respectively could for the welfare of our country. Yet looking back at the state of affairs since the Restoration, we see that these efforts have simply produced the effect of injuring the nation, and now the evil one to the country has reached a point almost irremediable. If things were allowed to proceed in this way there would be reason to apprehend a result of extremely disquieting character. The causes which have conspired

to produce such a lamentable state of affairs may be various, but we think that the chief reason is to be sought in men's tendency to assert what each individually thinks to be for the public advantage, but in the heat of such assertion forgetting the interests of the country he desires to serve, and allowing himself to become engrossed in pure controversy. The time is past, however, when people can pause to dispute about what would be beneficial to the nation. The day has come when opinions must be put to the test of practice. That being so, the vital question of the hour is what position should those who are true-hearted and faithful to the country assume in order to best discharge their duties." Here the Viscount's essay stops. We must wait for the conclusion until the 7th instant, when the next number of the new journal will appear. The exordium, however, is well calculated to excite interest. The Viscount's extraordinary proposition that all Japan's efforts since the Restoration have only resulted in doing her harm, is certainly the most sweeping and startling thesis yet advanced by any public writer. We should like to hear the gallant and noble editor prove such an assertion, but from the fact that his article has already been carried to the stage of advice for future guidance, we fear that he intends to leave his main position undemonstrated. At all events it is both curious and unpleasant to find such a close connection asserted between the foreign treaties and the nation's serious injury. The injury, indeed, is not visible to ordinary people, and we wish that, for the sake of others less gifted, he would fill in the details of the vista he perceives.

"THE JAPAN ECHO."

THE *Japan Echo* has made its *début*. If we were surprised at the courage of its projectors before the breadth of their purpose could be gauged, our sentiment of astonishment is increased now that the first copy of the *Echo* lies before us. The *Echo* is a periodical of twenty-four pages, its paper luxuriously thick, its type large and clear, and its general get-up excellent. It has illustrations also, but of these the less said the better. They are decidedly bad. Some accident appears to have happened at their publication. In future issues we are promised an improvement, for which there is practically unlimited room. The letter-press, however, is decidedly good reading. The style is fresh and vigorous. So long as it retains these recommendations the reader not unwillingly closes his eyes to the occasional intrusion of other qualities not equally pleasant or praiseworthy. The sanguine rôle proposed for itself by the *Echo* is that of a journalistic judge. It intends to sit on a little rostrum away in Tsukiji, or perhaps Hongo, and there, clothed in the ermine of impartiality and wearing the wig of justice, to pronounce verdicts between the views of contemporaneous controversialists. It does not under-estimate the difficulties of such a function, but humbly promises "to hold the scales as evenly as poor erring fallible man can be possibly expected to do." And we are bound to say that, in our opinion, its first essay has succeeded. The editor gilds his pills with good humour and delivers his strokes with a padded weapon. He pats one side on the back while decreeing its efforts a failure, and slaps the other on the cheek to chasten its pride of success. We dare not hope that such a mood will be permanent. The black-pudding seller, set up by the two slaves of comedy to rule in Athens, found that his only fate was to squint when he sought to fix his right eye on Caria and his left on Carthage. Will it fare with the *Echo* as it did with the black-pudding man, and shall we ultimately have a dose of Athenian Billingsgate in lieu of the modesty and moderation which mark the opening moments of the new sovereign's career? Perhaps not: we sincerely hope not. If a judge has really arisen in our midst, may he prove a Solomon of sagacity and a Job of gentleness. But whence is his reward to come? We grieve to think that so much effort must go unrewarded. There is no fund to draw upon for such purposes in these sterile regions. Already ill-

starred editors toil to make bricks without straw and to gather figs off thistles. The poor *Echo*, fulfilling the fate of its name, will find itself "feeding its grief amid the voiceless mountains" and waiting vainly for some auriferous sound to re-awaken its dying tones.

THE GRAND CROSS OF THE BATH AND PRINCE KOMATSU.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Jiji Shimpō* writes from England as follows:—"The British Government seldom confers its Orders on sovereigns or subjects of foreign nations, and consequently few Englishmen receive foreign Orders. Only to show special good-will does Her Majesty's Government confer its Orders. The Emperors and Kings of various States in Europe and two or three Dukes have received the highest British order, that of the Garter, and this has been done to prove the friendly relations existing between those nations and England. Of other foreign sovereigns, only one wears this decoration, that is the Shah of Persia. It was conferred on him at a time when the British Government vied with the Russian Government to gain the good will of Persia, and it must be considered as a wholly unusual event. It is said that sometime ago the Queen of England wished to present the Emperor of Japan with the inferior order of the Star of India, but the Emperor declined to receive it. Whether this is true or not cannot be ascertained by outsiders, but if the offer was made, it is easy to imagine that it may have produced the feeling described. I think it was quite proper that the presentation of an order of high merit should be made to Prince Komatsu, who ranks high among the Imperial family, and is in such an important position as General in the Army and Commander of the Imperial Guards. The circumstance may fairly be hailed as an evidence of happy relations between England and Japan. Besides, His Imperial Highness Prince Komatsu attended the ceremony of the Queen's Jubilee, as representative of the Emperor, in 1887. He appears in the picture painted by order of Her Majesty to commemorate the occasion, and thus his visit will long be remembered by the Queen. This must have been one reason for conferring such an honour on him. Now-a-days, too frequent presentations of Orders in the intercourse of nations have caused them to be looked upon almost as childish, but England's gifts of this nature must be differently interpreted. I do not, of course, say that this event will have any direct effect on the relations between Japan and England, but as those relations lately tended to become rather strained on account of England's apparent preference for China, and as the Japanese had grown somewhat offended by the haughty ways of the English, the conferring of the Order should be taken as a gracious act on the part of the Royal Family of Great Britain, intended to mark the latter's sense of the importance of her relations with Japan. The good feeling thus evinced by England should be reciprocated by the Sovereign and people of Japan."

MR. FUKUCHI ON POLITICS AND LEARNING.

MR. FUKUCHI, formerly editor of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, of whom nothing has been heard since he thought it necessary to retire from public life in consequence of the imputations cast upon his fair fame in connection with the celebrated bribery case in the Tokyo City Assembly, recently emerged from his seclusion and delivered an address before the Elocution Society on the subject of Politics and Learning. Mr. Fukuchi is always interesting and original, and his lecture attracted considerable attention. The gist of it was as follows:—"In studying the relation that exists between politics and learning, an instructive example is furnished by Japan's modern history. The fall of the Tokugawa Shogunate, if its real causes are investigated, will be found to have been due to a conflict between the political system and the educational methods of the time. A salient event of the era was the appearance of foreign men-of-war off the coast of Japan in 1853.

This incident involved remarkable consequences, for instead of managing everything autocratically as had hitherto been the habit of the Yedo Court, reference had thenceforth to be made to the Emperor and to the nobles. What was the reason of this necessity? Why was not the Shogunate competent to deal with national affairs in the same independent manner as of old? The reason is to be sought in a conflict between the systems of education and administration. During 200 years the nation had been studying the Chinese classics and deriving from them ideas of government quite at variance with the principles on which the administration of the Shogunate was based. Absorption in these studies did indeed give peace to the nation but cost the Shogunate its place of power. Men versed in the *Shisho* and *Gokro* had come to understand that the Shogun was not the real ruler of the State; that the source of authority was primarily with the Emperor, and that even as the heads of the *Sei* and *Shin* dynasties assisted the *Shu* dynasty of China, so the Shogun's true function was to act as his Sovereign's lieutenant. The Bakufu, on the contrary, had long acted on the principle that its authority was absolute, and that no sanction but its own fiat was needed for any of its acts. In short, the scholars of the day advocated a system of limited monarchy; the Shoguns pursued a despotism. The final result was the Reformation. In the face of such a grave national emergency as the advent of foreign vessels of war, the officials of the Bakufu found themselves embarrassed. It was no longer possible for them to act without reference to the Throne and the nobles. One measure adopted to meet the crisis was the founding of the *Shohei Gakko*, the first university of Japan. There able men were expected to assemble by degrees and assist the Government. Nagai Gemba, Hori Oshie and many other eminent scholars graduated at the University and were appointed to posts of high trust. But the counsels tendered by all these students were in accordance with the teaching of the Chinese Classics: they urged the necessity of consulting with the Crown and the nobility. Thus the Bakufu ultimately found itself confronted by the Throne and the Nobility, and was thrust out of power by the combination. Thenceforth a new line of progress after Dutch models was taken by the country, but from about the year 1873 England became Japan's example, and English science and polity received universal respect. The study of English systems must produce an effect analogous to that produced by the study of Confucian systems in the years preceding the reformation. It is merely idle to expect anything else. With the example of the past in sight, the tendency of the present is unmistakable, and to fight against it or seek to repress it would be futile.

THE JAPANESE ARMY.

"THE Japanese army was organised," says the *Choya Shimbun*, "with the idea of being able to put into the field at any moment two hundred thousand troops of all arms, consisting of the men with the colours and the First and Second Reserves. But the strength of the First and Second Reserves at present does not amount to even one half of the contemplated establishment, and the cavalry is so deficient in numbers that it does not represent the force required to serve with the colours alone. It is stated that if the three bodies, namely, the troops with the colours and the First and Second Reserves, were mobilized to-morrow, barely a hundred and forty thousand men would be found available, and that the Military Authorities look forward to ten years as the time that must elapse before the original scheme can be fully carried out. Among officers holding high rank, as Generals and Colonels, some are not acquainted with the systems of strategy and tactics employed in the present era, and among junior officers some have had no actual experience in the field though their standard of education is high. Sufficient care, too, has not been exercised to devise a system of promotion by merit, and the result is that good soldiers find themselves holding rank inferior to that of

men who are by no means their equals in military attainments and capacity. With regard to the private soldiers, there is no doubt that the system of training has the effect of transforming them from rough and uncouth beings into well set up men with a certain amount of education, and that the new scheme of conscription exercises a beneficial influence on the mass of the nation. But it may be doubted whether the men are not distinguished by immorality and love of display rather than by courage and steadiness. Drunken soldiers are too often seen reeling before wine-shops or lounging in casinos. Finally, with regard to national defence, we scarcely trust ourselves to speak, seeing that our faintest hopes have not been realized in the matter of coast defence. It is true, indeed, that the Shimonoseki Straits, the Gulf of Tokyo, and the Tsushima Straits are pretty well defended, but even in their case more strength is needed."

* * *

This is a pretty sharp indictment. Perhaps it is needed, but to close readers it seems to be inspired by a desire to find fault rather than to criticise honestly. The point which strikes us especially is the complaint about insufficient coast defences. The political parties in opposition to the Government cry out constantly about excessive taxation and talk of reducing the revenue largely. How they are to accomplish this, and at the same time to spend millions of *yen* on building fortresses and buying big guns, we do not clearly perceive.

LAWN TENNIS.

The dirge of Lawn Tennis is thus sung by the *St. James's Budget*:-

The lawn-tennis season of 1890 is over, and the votaries of croquet and archery are still able to point out that their prophecies are in process of fulfilment; and that although neither of the amusements which it displaced are likely at present to regain their position the popularity of lawn-tennis is rapidly diminishing. Five years ago it reigned supreme, defaced our laws, disfigured our dunes, hitherto mentioned in other people's, and demoralized our garden-parties, at which it was then a *sine qua non*. It is still a good, healthy, pleasant game played under suitable circumstances, but as an all-pervading tyrant its reign is virtually over. It has been done to death by its keenest admirers. Cricketers have always despised it, rightly or wrongly; the man of muscle who can play an innings of a hundred runs, or field through the hottest day without flagging, mistrusts a game at which his sisters, cousins, and even his aunts, can shine—sometimes to the extent of being able to beat him if he takes up his net among them.

"Clap-d-d-d! a woman's game!" he says, and even its male professors are not always what he calls "men." Still, in a small way, such as rustic and country-house cricket, lawn-tennis has had its revenge; and its decline in popularity is not due to a rival, but results from the zeal of its keenest admirers. The young man who is possibly a really good player, and who at all events considers himself too good to play with ladies; the young ladies who, while declining to practise sufficiently hard to render themselves good partners in an ordinary four-handed game, still insist upon playing with men of their own choosing, and refuse to be relegated to ladies' or "duffers'" sets, have alike had something to do with the matter, as well as those men who, making it the study of their lives, play winter and summer if they can find any one whom they think good enough to play with them, and a court good enough for them to play upon. Lawn tennis needs a court, and not merely a lawn, if it is to be well played and really enjoyed; but at the same time a host does not always like to hear that his grass is mossy, his service-line an inch too near the net, his balls too light, or his posts the wrong height. It may be wrong for him to ask people to play and not provide the best possible apparatus; but he does not enjoy being told so.

A few years ago lawn-tennis was welcomed as a new attraction at garden-parties. Its success was due to the fact that they thought it attracted the men and amused the girls. Now the men have found that they rarely get enough good sets on a good court to make it worth their while to go in flannels, and that the flannels which are good enough for a quiet set at home or for wear at cricket are not quite what they care to stroll about in at a social "function." And if it is so with them, what is it with the fair sex? They have long ago discovered that to play in a "good dress" on a hot afternoon ruins the dress, while the dress itself interferes with their play; and that to walk about after playing in a few games clad in a costume admirably serviceable but not always elegant or becoming, while rivals have been sitting cool and in their smartest frocks watching their struggles with a supercilious eye, is not always pleasant. Both sexes have discovered long ago that lawn-tennis in itself is a game which must be played hard to be enjoyed, and is utterly unsuited for purposes of flirtation. And the man who likes to sport with Amaranthus in the shade knows that he will enjoy it more the more because he or she, or both of them, have just been toiling and perspiring in the sun. Women on such occasions think of their personal appearance; so do men; small blame to either of them. In the country many clubs are formed of members who meet to play on fixed dates at one another's houses in rotation. These are generally successful and pleasant enough; but they are liable to suffer from hostesses using the club-meeting as a nucleus for a garden-party. They want a

crowd and they like to kill two birds with one stone, and they get people, especially men, to their houses who would otherwise stay away; but the lawn-tennis players do not care for a mob of people, dressed as if for Cup Day at Ascot, strolling round their courts and getting in their way, and the bird most effectually killed is the lawn tennis. Archers and croquet-players will very likely have their day again in a modified degree; but though they may have predicted the decline of lawn tennis, they will not have caused it. Its most formidable rival now is golf. It has many points in its favour, but is a game which requires space and conditions for its development usually not to be met with just where lawn-tennis is most feasible. As a game for a few players fairly matched who have two or three hours to spare and are fond of exercise, lawn-tennis is unrivalled; but still the rage for it is not the rage of half a dozen years ago.

JAPAN'S TRADE.

A CERTAIN Count, quoted by the *Mainichi Shimbun*, refers to the state of Japanese commerce as follows:—"The present tightness of the money market and depression of trade are entirely attributable to exceptional circumstances connected with the country's foreign commerce. Owing to the sudden rise in the price of silver, caused by the action of the United States, the most important staple of Japan's export trade, silk, has been kept out of the market and accumulated in Yokohama. On the other hand, the failure of the rice crop last year necessitated importations of foreign rice into Japan to the extent of ten million *yen*. Thus, on one side, more than ten million *yen* worth of silk has been held back in Yokohama, while on the other, ten million *yen* worth of rice has been brought into the country, the net result being that Japan has suffered to the extent of twenty million *yen*. No wonder that trade is dull under such circumstances. Lamentable as the record seems, however, close scrutiny indicates that it is not so bad after all. The Yokohama Customs Returns show that from January to September, the value of the country's imports exceeded that of her exports to the extent of 26 million *yen*. But out of this total it appears on enquiry that only some ten million *yen* worth have actually been sold to Japanese, the rest being still in the godowns of the importers. As a matter of fact, therefore, the purchases of the nation exceeded its sales by only twelve or thirteen million *yen* at most, and since the twenty thousand bales (Japanese) of silk now lying in Yokohama must find their way westward eventually, their price will very nearly correct the balance. Moreover, the rice crop this year is exceptionally good: some estimates put it at twenty per cent above the average yield; some at fifteen per cent. Assuming that it is only ten per cent better than usual, and taking the average crop at 40 million *koku*, we have a surplus yield of 4 million *koku*, which, at 5 *yen* per *koku* represents twenty million *yen*. If a deficiency of ten million *yen* in last year's crop produced such a marked effect on trade, a surplus of twenty million *yen* this year ought to be equally efficacious in the opposite direction. On the whole, therefore, there is not much reason for despondency.

A STRANGE STORY.

IN the Washington *Reveille* we find the following strange story:—"A year ago last August the schooner *Challenge*, then cruising for seals in Alaskan waters, left eight of her crew on two banks of sand, one twenty miles from Kodiak, the other forty miles out in the Arctic sea. It seems that the cruise of the schooner had not been profitable, and these Japs, desiring to remain, were landed on the sandbanks, with provisions for six months, and two of the ship's boats, together with guns and ammunition. On the main island, which is four miles broad, there were several Indians who were working for another company. They reported that the island was not habitable during the stormy months of January and February. Four of the crew, Azuma, Mizuta, Nosaka and Takeda, were left here, while Kane, Yoshida, Kishimoto and Okano were left on a smaller bank twenty miles further out, and outside of the ordinary cruising ground of sealers. There is no timber on either island, and the hunters were obliged to dig caves in the sand for shelter from the winds which blow with great violence except in the months of June and July. Except in those

months a small boat can be used but very little, and is launched with difficulty. At certain seasons there are eggs on the island, but in the winter the banks are as desolate as the Sahara Desert. The Japs are Bellingham Bay Japs, and their friends here are much (Vancouver) concerned about them, as they have not been heard of in thirteen months. To add to their anxiety, it is reported by a Seattle countryman that in January a great hurricane swept over the islands, which was followed by a tidal wave. One of the men has a woman on the Sound to whom he was greatly attached, and it is considered improbable that if alive he would remain away so long."

THE TREATIES.

"THE Treaties must be revised on a basis of equality. What one side concedes the other will concede; what one side withholds, the other will withhold. This is a very pretty doctrine so far as the text of the Treaties is concerned, but in practice it will not bear scrutiny. Suppose"—we translate from the *Fiji Shimpō*—"that Japan agreed to allow English ships to engage in her coasting trade on condition that her ships should be free to engage in the British coasting trade. British vessels would then come to Japan and, competing with our ships, would rob them of their trade, but if Japanese ships went to England and attempted to compete with British vessels, they would not have the least chance of success under existing circumstances. All the advantage would be on England's side, and Japan would have no compensation. The present programme of Treaty Revision approaches much more closely to lines of equality than did the programme of Count Okuma, but what arrangements are to be made about the cabotage? In former years it is recorded that Frankfort signed a treaty with England, in which there was included an article providing that the vessels of Frankfort should enjoy the same privileges as the ships of England. Considering the position occupied by Great Britain as mistress of the sea, this covenant appeared a very fine thing for Frankfort. But in point of fact it made no difference at all in Frankfort's favour. Great Britain continued to monopolise the maritime carrying trade as she had done before, and Frankfort's newly acquired privilege turned out to be in reality a new embarrassment. The question is then, what kind of equal covenant is this which Japan is expected to make with Western Powers."

The *Fiji Shimpō* puts these words into the mouth of a Japanese who lately returned from Europe. They sound like wise words, but it is only sound, we think. A foreign ship coming to Japan, and attempting to wrest the coast-wise trade from the hands of its present holders, would have a stiff task before it. Such competition would depend almost altogether on organization of a nature hardly to be accomplished by foreigners alone in this country. Foreigners in cooperation with Japanese might make a fight, but even then they would be heavily handicapped—so heavily that shrewd ship-owners are not at all likely to try the hazardous experiment. The field for foreign enterprise in Japan does not extend in directions where the Japanese have already proved their capacity to act independently, and where success hinges entirely on securing Japanese custom. Native shippers would not come to foreign freight-agents if they could go to their own with a tolerably equal prospect of good and efficient service. The Japanese are not made that way. As a mere question of privilege, Western Powers might desire to avoid any discrimination against the ships of their nationals, but so far as concerns the practical value of such a privilege, foreign shipowners would not probably care two straws about it. There is such a thing as being too sharp. People afflicted with that tendency not infrequently over-reach themselves, a fact to be borne in mind by certain Japanese.

THE DESTRUCTION OF INSECT PESTS.

IN view of the great loss annually borne by crop-growers in consequence of the ravages of insect

pests, the investigation of means of prevention and protection has always been watched by the public with deep interest. The most ingenious instruments for purposes of fumigation and for spraying deadly mixtures have been brought into use, but their application must in the nature of things be imperfect, and their effects very partial. It has been recognised that no attack upon an insect pest is more certain and fatal than that of the enemy which nature, with marvellous prudence, has provided to check the ravages of each species, and for this reason natural history pursuits when directed to useful ends have for practical people a real and vital interest. Systematic and organized research will always of course achieve more satisfactory results than the labours of individual investigators; but the work accomplished by such a body as the Entomological Division in the U.S. Department of Agriculture must in a very large degree be furthered by students, who from the most distant parts are kept in communication with the central staff at Washington. Recent numbers of *Insect Life*, the bulletin of the Division, contain striking illustrations of the value to agriculture of such investigations. In the early part of 1888, the ravages of the Fluted Scale (*Icerya purchasi*) among the orange groves of California, had become so serious that the Department of Agriculture determined to take active measures with the hope of introducing into the infested districts such natural enemies of *Icerya* as might stay the spread of the destructive species if not exterminate it altogether. To this end Mr. Albert Koebele, a Californian agent of the Entomological Division, was despatched to Australia and New Zealand to observe the dreaded *Icerya* (indigenous to those countries), and to investigate its parasites and natural enemies with a view to their introduction into California. Mr. Koebele returned from his trip about March, 1889, bringing with him several species which were pronounced to be natural enemies of the pest. With one only of these, however, are we concerned, *Vedalia cardinalis*, the Australian Ladybird, for so completely did this invaluable little insect effect the destruction of the Scale, that no other enemy of the latter could, by reason of the extermination of its food supply, find a foothold. This is how, according to Mr. Koebele, the Ladybird disposes of its victim:—"As soon as the female Ladybird was among the Scales she became quiet, stopped, and deposited an egg upon the twig. As soon as this was done, she turned around and devoured the same, which took her about half a minute. A few moments were spent in cleaning herself, and then another egg was brought forth and eaten. After this and another wash she attacked and devoured a half grown Scale. This was eaten into from the back, very quietly at first, yet in a little time she became lively, almost furious, tearing the Scale off from its hold by the beak and turning it up and down in the air with the mouth-parts, assisting in this with the anterior legs. In about one minute this was devoured and nothing but the empty skin left, after which she went to work, business-like, and deposited eggs quietly, sitting at rest upon the Scales, and every few minutes thrusting an egg in between or generally under them. A very large Scale was lifted with the posterior legs and the egg thrust beneath."

Even more interesting than the above, because vested with a local interest, is the reported discovery in the United States of a most dreaded pest, the Gipsy Moth (*Oenocera dispar*) and the detection soon afterwards by Rev. H. Loomis, of Yokohama, of one of its most deadly enemies. The moth in question—the caterpillar of which, unlike some larvae which confine themselves to one class of food, devours with equal relish a wide range of leafage from the foliage of the apple tree to that of the Norway spruce—is said to have escaped during some experiments with silk-worms in Massachusetts in 1870, but curiously enough did not manifest itself as a pest till 1889. From the great number of its food plants, the spread of this scourge is viewed with much apprehension, the more so because while in Europe a large number of natural enemies have been observed, not one has yet been noticed in

the States. It now seems clear that in Japan a most effective enemy exists. Mr. Loomis, who is well-known as a devoted student of natural history, and whose entomological collection is beyond doubt the most extensive and complete that at present exists of Japanese specimens, had his attention directed to the caterpillar in consequence of its attacks upon a wisteria growth within his compound, which in a very short time was all but stripped of its foliage. Suddenly, however, its advances were checked, and even more rapidly than it had appeared the pest vanished. The cause was easily found. It consisted in the presence of the eggs and grub of one of the moth's natural enemies, the eggs having been deposited in or on the caterpillar, which thus became the food store of its unwelcome guests. The operations of the enemy were sufficiently attested by the numerous small cocoons found adhering to the dead larvæ. Mr. Loomis has not yet been able to hatch from the eggs of the parasite—if parasite it be—but has established, almost as a certainty, that they are those of an ichneumon fly. He has transmitted specimens to Washington, and it seems pretty certain that the gipsy moth's enemy is one of the species of *Apanetes*, the colonization of which in the infested districts in the States would undoubtedly produce effects with which the application of Paris green or other poisons is not at all comparable.

THE CHION-IN IN KYOTO.

THE pecuniary difficulties into which the celebrated temple of Chion in Kyoto has been plunged owing to dishonesty on the part of persons who had access to its seals, were recently explained in these columns. The question was submitted to the Law Courts and decided against the temple, but subsequent confession made by the perpetrators of the fraud, who had quarrelled over the distribution of the booty, inspired a hope that the old adage would be verified and that honest folks would come by their own when thieves fell out. The representatives of the temple appealed from the judgment of the lower court, but the appeal seems to have gone against them. Why this should have been the case, assuming the correctness of the confession ascribed to the perpetrators of the fraud, we cannot conceive, for it will be remembered that the gist of the confession was that copies of the temple seals were made, and employed to raise money; an act for which the temple certainly ought not to be held liable. Possibly the appellants failed, after all, to establish that forged seals had really been employed. The Japanese system of seals opens the door to easy fraud, as was well explained some time ago by Mr. R. Masujima, in a paper read before the Asiatic Society. Where there is question of imitating a man's handwriting for the purpose of forging his signature, a calligraphic expert can generally detect the genuine from the spurious with tolerable certainty. But to distinguish the impression made by two seals, of which one has been engraved an exact facsimile of the other by a skilled artizan, must be a task in most cases beyond the ability of human eyes. Unless such a distinction were established by testimony of the persons using the false seal, or in some other manner, it is evident that the temple must be held responsible for documents bearing all the marks of authenticity. At any rate, things appear to have gone against the temple, and though the loss entailed was only seventy thousand *yen*, a comparatively paltry sum which the members of the powerful sect supporting the Chion-in might easily subscribe and which, indeed, there was recently talk of subscribing, it is now asserted that a decree of bankruptcy will be issued against the temple, and that all its belongings, with the exception of the heirlooms and articles essential to the performance of daily service, will be sold by public auction, even the edifice itself and the furniture of the gardens being included in the bill of sale. The *Nippon*, from which we gather this information, adds that intelligence of the intended sale having quickly reached the ears of an American merchant at Kobe, he immediately opened

negotiations with the priests, and offered a sum of two hundred and seventy thousand yen for the temple and its belongings. The idea of the purchaser is to transport the building to New York and set it up there, as far as possible in exactly its original condition as to the structure and its surroundings alike, so that people in the United States may have an opportunity of seeing a celebrated Buddhist temple of Japan exactly as it stood on its original site. The *Nippon* laments the prospect of such a finale, and says that it will be a bitter reflection to the parishioners of the temple, the mortuary tablets of whose friends and relatives are deposited there. At bankrupt's sales, however, distinctions of nationality are not regarded among the buyers, and if a foreigner makes the best offer, to him the property must go. We heartily echo the *Nippon's* hope that some steps may be taken to raise the necessary money in Japan. It seems absurd that property which would fetch nearly three hundred thousand yen in the open market—assuming our contemporary's figures to be correct—cannot be taken as sufficient security for a loan not exceeding one fourth of that sum, and it seems equally unaccountable that the money cannot be raised by subscription. The Chion-in is one of the very finest temples in Kyoto. Not alone is the building a good specimen of Japanese architecture, but its surroundings and the whole plan of its construction constitute a beautiful feature of the Western capital. The removal of such an edifice would be little short of a national disgrace.

TAXES.

Now that the first session of Parliament is drawing near, the politicians who have talked so much about the necessity of reducing taxation are beginning to think seriously of the details of their project. Of course it is easy to name many imposts which the people would be glad to see diminished, notably the taxes on confectonary, weights and measures, draught cattle and vehicles, and above all the land tax. Concerning the last, everybody is practically agreed that it must be made lighter in the interests of agriculture. But the question is, how are administrative expenses to be met if the revenue is reduced to this extent? Evidently new taxes must be imposed, or the cost of government must be cut down, and no one appears to be clear as to how either of these ends is to be achieved. The *Hochi Shimbun* has an article on the subject, in which it is stated that the possibility of imposing a tax upon silk cloth or establishing a tobacco monopoly has been mooted, but neither of these schemes would be easy to carry out. The tax upon trades and the income tax seem to be the only resources capable of expansion. The *Hochi* says that if any person has a good programme to propose, the public would like to hear it. We suspect, however, that the much discussed fiscal reforms of political parties in opposition will prove very impracticable when they come to be reduced to legislative measures.

THE JAPAN RAILWAY COMPANY.

It speaks very highly for the management of the Japan Railway Company that despite the heavy losses caused by the floods of last summer, not only in respect of actual injury to the line but also in consequence of interruption of traffic a dividend of eleven per cent. could be paid as the result of the half year's working ending the 30th of September. The repairs of the roads had been almost completely finished by that date, and it may be presumed that the outlay thus entailed was included in the accounts of the half year. Yet a sum of 837,486 yen was available for the payment of dividend. Rumours were persistently circulated at one time that the expense involved in repairing the lines and the loss caused by interruption of traffic would amount to nearly two million yen, but it is happily evident that this estimate was a wild exaggeration.

THE HOUSE OF PEERS.

No attempt has been made, so far as we know, to classify the members of the Upper House ac-

cording to political parties. The task would be extremely difficult, for, as a rule, the nobles have never identified themselves with any of the movements in the political world during the past ten years—we except, of course, peers of recent creation, as Counts Itagaki, Goto, and so forth—and it goes without saying that the Imperial nominees as well as the representatives of the highest tax-payers are, for the most part, men of neutral views. At present the sum of our information about the Upper House is confined to the following analysis of its members, given by the *Mainichi Shimbun*:—Ten Princes of the Blood; ten Princes; twenty-one Marquises; fifteen Counts; seventy Viscounts; twenty Barons; sixty-one Imperial Nominees; forty-five Representatives of the Highest Tax-payers. In other words, the Nobility, apart from the Princes of the Blood who are not likely to take active part in the debates, musters 136 members, while the Imperial Nominees and the representatives of the highest tax-payers number 106.

GOLD AND SILVER RATIOS.

The *Official Gazette* gives the following table of comparative values of gold and silver coins and of the pound sterling for the week ended the 1st instant, as derived from the returns of the Bank of Japan and the Yokohama Specie Bank:—

Days	Gold Coin. (Per yen 100) Silver Yen.	Pound Sterling (Per £1) Silver Yen.
27th	121.000	A.M. 5.957 P.M. 5.962
28th	120.700	A.M. 5.962 P.M. 5.9142
29th	120.500	A.M. 5.889 P.M. 5.895
30th	119.200	A.M. 5.765 P.M. 5.765
31st	117.100	A.M. 5.871 P.M. 5.871
1st	118.800	A.M. 5.871 P.M. 5.871
Averages	119.550	5.8857

The above averages show for gold coin an increase in value of yen 1.067 per cent., and for the pound sterling an increase in value of yen 0.0013 as compared with the previous week.

THE BANK OF JAPAN.

The amounts of convertible notes and reserves in the Bank of Japan for the week ended the 1st instant were as follows:—

Convertible Notes.	Reserves and Securities.
Yen.	Yen.
Notes issued 88,739,148	Gold coin and bullion 24,995,247
	Silver coin and bullion 19,534,848
	Public Loan Bonds 23,470,450
	Treasury Bills
	Government bills 11,000,000
	Other securities 4,734,182
	Commercial bills 15,000,721
	88,739,148

Of the above total issue of notes, the sum of yen 5,418,442 is in the treasury of the Bank, and yen 72,320,706 in actual circulation, the latter showing an increase of yen 1,794,452 as compared with yen 70,526,254 at the end of the previous week.

SAILING RACE.

The final race of the season for 17 raters took place on Saturday and resulted in a win for *Sayonara*, which even without her time allowance of 5m. 9s., easily took first place. On handicap for the remaining places *Jessie* won second prize and *Petrol* third. *La Belle* did not finish. The following are the times:—

Rating.	1st Round.	Finish.	Allowance.	Time.	Corrected
	h.m.s.	h.m.s.	m.s.	h.m.s.	h.m.s.
<i>Jessie</i>	16.....	4.10.15	4.32.30	—	4.32.30
<i>Petrol</i>	10.....	4.30.30	4.30.00	—	4.43.00
<i>La Belle</i>	10.....	4.29.00	4.47.00	—	4.47.00
<i>Sayonara</i>	13.....	4.11.00	4.10.00	5.09.....	4.04.41

Handicap for Second and Third Prizes.	Corrected Time.
m.	h.m.s.
<i>Jessie</i>	allows.....4.32.30
<i>Petrol</i>	2.....4.41.00
<i>La Belle</i>	2.....4.45.00
<i>Sayonara</i>	6.....

BALLOONING BEFORE THE EMPEROR.

It is stated that His Majesty the Emperor has signified his desire to witness the aeronautic performances of Mr. Spencer, and that arrangements have been concluded for an ascent in the grounds of the former Palace, where the Imperial Prince now resides, on the 12th of the

present month. Speaking of this reminds us that a large additional space is now being added to the grounds of the Prince's Palace. The green bank resting on a stone foundation which surrounds the old enclosure is being carried on so as to include the whole space between the roads on the north, east, and west of the Palace. The grounds when thus enlarged will be of very great extent, and if the added portion is laid out with anything like the taste and skill displayed in the making of the beautiful garden familiar to those who have the honour of witnessing the Palace Chrysanthemum fêtes every autumn, the result will be a park worthy of old Japan.

REGULATIONS OF THE DIET.

In the draft regulations of the Diet, there is an article which provides that "members who desire to speak on the questions noted in the *Giji Nitai* (daily list of subjects to be submitted for deliberation) shall intimate to the secretary before the meeting is opened their names and their intention to speak for or against the bills in question." Several vernacular papers report that a section of the members of the House of Peers is strongly opposed to this regulation, on the ground that it practically means the imposition of restraint on speech and is besides quite unnecessary in the Upper House, the members of which will not be animated by party feelings. This opinion prevails among members who had seats in the late Genro-in (Senate) and who form a large and influential section. The question is causing some anxiety in the minds of those who framed the draft, for they point out that, without some regulation of the kind complained of, the duties of the President are likely to be exceedingly arduous. It will be very difficult to regulate the debate if members are allowed to speak when they please.

GOLDEN WEDDINGS.

It is a curious fact that just as Yokohama is celebrating the golden wedding of a man whom all delight to honour, a similar ceremony should have been performed for the first time in Japan by a Japanese. We read in the *Hochi Shimbun* that Mr. Chiba Taizo, an inhabitant of Nakatsuyama in Miyagi Prefecture, finding the fiftieth anniversary of his wedding day at hand, and seeing himself surrounded by children and grandchildren, determined to mark the day by a festival. He accordingly advertised the fact, and invited all his friends to a convivial entertainment. "This," says the *Hochi Shimbun*, "is the first instance of a golden wedding (*Kin-kansetsu*) being celebrated in a Japanese household. The custom exists in the West but has not before been observed in Japan."

DR. HEPBURN.

The numerous friends of Dr. and Mrs. Hepburn have subscribed to present to them a memorial on their golden wedding which fell on the 27th ult. Dr. Hepburn has lived the best years of his life in Japan, and each year has placed him closer to the hearts and higher in the esteem of his fellow-residents. The good he has wrought in our midst is incalculable, and the fragrance cast upon Christian propagandism by the flower of his blameless life has done more for the cause of Christ than any eloquence or zeal could accomplish.

H.M.S. "FIREBRAND."

Says the *N.-C. Daily News* of the 25th ult.:—"A telegram was received late on Thursday night by Mr. Hughes, and handed to Commander Tisdall, directing the latter to proceed with the *Linnet* at daylight yesterday to search for the *Firebrand*. The men who were ashore on leave had to be hunted up, and the vessel proceeded in the morning as directed. Three steamers have seen the *Firebrand* this week; the last one, the *Mecfoo*, passed close to her on Wednesday at 4 p.m. She was then at anchor off the Taichows, and as she did not hoist any signals it is presumed she did not require any assistance. It is stated that the *Firebrand* has a quantity of naval stores on board for the

Zinnel. Instructions were also sent to Woon-sung to intercept the *Wanderer*, and direct her to go to the *Firebrand's* assistance." The *China Mail* of the 24th also reports the despatch on that date of the *Redpole* and *Rattler* to search for the gunboat, which is stated to have been 22 days out from Hongkong. Subsequently it was reported that the *Firebrand* had arrived at Wenchow, short of coals, but all well.

MR. SPENCER'S PERFORMANCE IN TOKYO.

THE loss of Mr. Spencer's balloon, as reported from Kobe, will probably interfere with his projected performance in Tokyo. It appears to be more or less uncertain when the latter event is to take place. The latest idea was that Mr. Spencer's ascent would form a feature of the Imperial Garden Party on the 10th instant, but rumour, reported by the *Tokyo Shimpō*, now re-asserts that the date formerly spoken of, namely the 12th instant, will be adhered to, that the ascent will be from the space outside the Niju Bridge in the former Palace grounds, and that, in addition to the usual list of *invitees*, the pupils of the Nobles' Schools for girls and boys will be present.

THE EMPEROR AND THE FUTSU FORT.

It is stated that His Majesty the Emperor proposes to pay a visit to Yokosuka on the 11th instant, and that the occasion will be taken advantage of to fire the guns recently mounted in the new Fort at Futsu. There are twelve of these guns. His Majesty will be accompanied by a number of high officials of the Army and Navy, and will be received by the Prefects of Chiba and Kanagawa.

THE IMPERIAL GARDEN PARTY.

MONDAY next, the 10th instant, has been fixed as the date for the Imperial Garden Party.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The vernacular press is at present full of rumours concerning the contemplated formation of a great new political party, to be called the *Kokumin Yiyu-to*, or, if we may believe a later report, the *Yiyu Club*. The originators met at the Oyū-kwan, Asakusa, on the 1st instant. From the speech said to have been delivered on that occasion by Mr. Ayai, it appears that the new party, or at least most of the originators, are as liberal in their political views as the members of the Constitutional Liberal party. Mr. Ayai laid particular emphasis on the importance of promoting the unity of the nation and raising its status among the civilized Powers of the world. The meeting was attended by several members of the Diet and other politicians, representing the Prefectures of Yamana-shi, Aichi, Hiroshima, Toyama, Ishikawa, Kanagawa, Chiba, Kochi, Fukuoka, Nagasaki, Kumamoto, and Nigata. Mr. Ayai stated that there were several gentlemen who had been prevented from attending the meeting by political reasons, and this statement has led to various surmises as to who these gentlemen may be. Rumour connects with the new party the names of Count Goto, Viscount Tani, Viscount Miura, and even Count Inouye, Mr. Mutsu, and some of the leading merchants of the capital. As usual most of these gentlemen have been interviewed by newspaper reporters. From the accounts of the interviews, it is evident that there is little foundation for the rumour that Mr. Mutsu is connected with the new party; neither does it appear probable that Count Inouye has anything to do with it. As to Count Goto and Viscounts Miura and Tani, there is no denying that they are, either directly or indirectly, concerned in the scheme. The organs of the *Kaishin-to* and the *Rikken-Yiyu-to* adopt a tone unfavourable and even bitter towards the new party. Indeed it is an open secret that the latter is being organized in opposition to the Constitutional Liberal party. As to the method of procedure, some of the originators propose to maintain for the present no party organiza-

tion, but simply to unite under the name of the *Yiyu Club*. The probable number of the Representatives in the Diet belonging to the party is variously estimated at from about twenty to seventy. The originators propose to hold another meeting on the 20th, at which the details of the scheme will be discussed. Meanwhile, several members have been despatched to the various Provinces to win adherents to the party.

Another event that has given rise to much newspaper criticism and discussion is the drastic changes that have been effected in the *personnel* of judges and public prosecutors. The judiciary used to be the most unpopular branch of the Japanese service in the opinion of young men of enterprise and ambition. It was usually complained that promotion was slow and that men in the higher ranks had little capacity or inclination to discover the merits of their subordinates. Perhaps to retrieve this unpopularity, promotion has now been freely given; so freely indeed that remonstrances are already heard to the effect that the Authorities in the Department of Justice have gone too far in the opposite direction. But in matters of this kind, more accurate information than the newspapers possess is essential to a true view of the situation.

The question of Treaty Revision still continues to occupy the attention of the press. But not one of the leading papers shows that it has obtained any accurate information on the subject. Some state that negotiations are being carried on with the British Government, while others assert that negotiations are at a standstill. It is discernible, however, that an important turn is taking place in discussions on the affair. Hitherto questions relating to Consular jurisdiction have engrossed the larger portion of all controversy on this subject, but of late more attention is being paid to the economical and commercial aspects of the subject. It is highly probable that, should concessions be given to any Power in matters concerning commerce and navigation, there would instantly be raised a loud outcry by the majority of the metropolitan papers and by most of the political parties.

Four banking schemes of great magnitude are reported in the papers. Three of them—the Movable Property, the Industrial, and the Agricultural Banks—are it is said, to be laid before to the Diet in the coming session. The fourth is proposed by Buddhists, their purpose being to obtain funds for the propagation of their religion. According to the *Choya Shimbun*, two Movable Property Banks, each with a capital of 2,000,000 *yen*, are to be established, one at Tokyo and the other at Osaka. The object of these banks is to advance money on the security of shares and stocks of companies, two-thirds of the face value of which have been paid up. The capital of the Industrial Bank is put at 10,000,000 *yen*. The Agricultural Banks are to be established throughout the country, with a capital of 50,000 *yen* each, for the purpose of advancing money to farmers on the security of land. The Industrial and Agricultural Banks are to be closely connected, one of the objects of the former being to supply the latter with funds if necessary. The newspapers recommend the Authorities to make these schemes public as soon as possible, because questions of this nature require serious consideration and careful research on the part of the public in general and the members of the Diet in particular. With reference to the Buddhist Bank, the *Yiji Shimpō* remarks that the promoters of the affair are taking a step which can have no other effect on the public mind than to show the decline of Buddhism. It would, says our contemporary, be a pitiable and ludicrous sight to see Buddhist priests at the counting table, forgetting that what they really need is not money but virtue and religious enthusiasm. Did they possess these two qualities, they would have no occasion to think about *yen* and *sen*, for funds would be willingly contributed by

believers and followers. The *Yiji* points to the great temples which adorn every hillside in the country, and asks who founded these splendid edifices. Were not their founders poor moneyless devotees, who thought little of worldly pleasures, but by undagging zeal and nobility of heart succeeded in infusing their religious enthusiasm into the breasts of their hearers?

The remarkable Imperial Rescript addressed to persons engaged in education throughout the country, is commented upon by the whole press of Tokyo with warm approval. Great gratitude is expressed for the deep interest manifested by His Majesty in educational matters. The Rescript may be briefly described as an explanation of the fundamental principles of moral education to be imparted in schools.

Every political party is now busily engaged in the investigation of public affairs. The object of these investigations seems to be two-fold; to obtain the necessary information for discussing bills introduced by the Government in the Diet, and to procure materials for proposing reforms in the various administrative departments. The *Choya Shimbun*, which, like many of its contemporaries, attaches little importance to these investigations, asks the parties whether they have made up their minds as to the basis of the national policy. Until this question is determined, the *Choya* thinks it of little use to investigate minor points of administrative business. In another article, the same journal, writing on this subject, recommends the various parties to publish the results of their investigations. Politicians out of power have hitherto complained that the Government keeps everything secret; but these very persons are now doing what they condemned the Authorities for doing. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, writing on the same subject, alludes to the difficulties which the so-called Investigation Committees experience in their researches, and recommends the Government to make public at an early opportunity the bills which are to be introduced in the Diet, for then every party will be in a position to turn its investigations in the right direction. The *Yiji Shimpō* after alluding, in its characteristic airy manner, to the "prevailing fashion" for political investigations, observes that one of the alleged purposes of these investigations is said to be the discovery of a means of economizing public expenditure. What is meant by economizing public expenditure? Does it mean a reduction in the actual amount of the expenditures, or simply the introduction of more economical methods in the employment of the public funds? With economy in the latter sense, our contemporary is entirely at one; but if the object of the parties be merely to reduce the actual number of *yen* spent by the State, the *Yiji* cannot but express emphatic disapproval of the course proposed. It believes that the expenses necessary for the maintenance of the army, navy, and other Departments of State, must yearly increase rather than diminish as the country advances in civilization.

In a series of articles just concluded, the *Yiji Shimpō* discusses the question: what are the natural courses in which the energies of the Japanese should be employed? The matter is examined from historical, geographical, and social points of view, and the conclusion is reached that commerce and navigation are the proper spheres of action for the Japanese, while as to the polity of the country, loyalty to the reigning dynasty should be the keystone.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* is carrying on a discussion as to the date when the Commercial Code ought to be put into force, but its articles are not yet concluded. The *Hochi Shimbun* suggests the amendment of the Law of Election. The *Nippon* is engaged in reviewing the recent history of finance. These essays are so long and interesting, that we think it desirable to give them fuller notice in future issues.

OUR BELIEF IN THE SUPER-NATURAL.

LADY WELBY, who is one of the most distinguished thinkers of the day, recently delivered a remarkable lecture before the British Association at Leeds. The gist of what she said may be very briefly stated. From the earliest days of history human thought has been in plain process of evolution. Instincts which in their pristine shape inspired the commission of savage acts, have gradually been modified until, though still obeyed, their exercise is subjected to law and philosophy. The sanguinary revenge of the naked barbarian has been transformed into the statute that imposes penalties for crime, and the iron law is in its turn yielding to the nobler instinct of forgiveness. So it has been in every phase of thought with one notable exception. That exception is man's belief in the supernatural, or to put it more crudely, his belief in ghosts. Whatever civilized folks hold to now-a-days in other matters is founded on tangible evidence, but without a particle of really credible testimony they cling obstinately to their faith in supernatural beings and a life beyond the grave. This, Lady WELBY declared, is a sudden break in the development of the human mind; a backward step "from the process of induction from facts into a region of mere illusion." If any one had ever seen, heard, or even smelled a ghost, there would be some reason to account for the general faith in a world of ghosts. But no one has ever had such an experience. No one has ever seen a spook even in a dream. Why, then, has man always believed, and why does he still believe, "in a thing he never saw or heard of and for which, through all the cycles during which he has been accumulating from experience the materials of thought, he has found no evidence whatever?" Such unreasoning credence seems entirely opposed to the hypothesis that the human intellect is a result of evolution and that, as education improves and knowledge widens, the tendency of men's minds is to abandon every idea for which no authority can be found either in the investigations of science or in the testimony of established facts. Lady WELBY appears to have confined herself to stating the position, without making any attempt to explain it. The *Spectator*, always interested in such subjects, formulates an explanation in these words:—

To us, and we suppose to all Christians who have thought upon the subject, there appear to be only two reasonable answers to that question. One, which in practice is, of course, quite futile, is that primitive man actually had evidence that he had seen or heard at some time or other that which inspired conviction in his mind. He became as sure of another life as of the action of sunlight, and for the same reason, because he had watched its manifestations. This, which was the universal theory of the ancient world, and is still held by a good many theologians, is we quite admit, a purely conjectural hypothesis. We know little, except by conjecture, of the experience of primitive man, nothing whatever of his mind, and, above all, nothing whatever of his thoughts about things

non-material. He may have had a great many, as some existing savages have; or he may have had none, as seems to be the case—and possibly only seems—with some of the very lowest tribes. He may have been closer to the invisible world than we are, as the legends of all races affirm; or he may have been, as the modern animals are supposed to be, much further off. There can be no evidence on the subject, and, except as an intellectual exercise, it must always be useless to discuss it. The other answer is that, whatever the truth about the evolution of thought—and part of the theory is almost visibly true—some thoughts must be intuitional, must, that is, have been generated in man originally by some external power. Nothing is self-generated; and yet they do not spring from experience, which, in fact, so far as material experience is concerned, denies and refutes them. The first of those thoughts—it is not the only one—is that idea of the future state to which Lady Welby refers as the great "break" in the evolution of mind, the conception which should have burdened its recipients in the great race, and so extinguished them, but which, on the contrary, on evidence admitted by materialists, made them run the faster. That thought certainly did not come from experience; and if it did not, what becomes of evolution as a theory explaining fully the existence of the present mind of man?

This explanation certainly leaves much to be desired. It amounts to nothing more or less than a claim, first, that the belief in a future state is founded on miraculous manifestations vouchsafed to man in his pristine condition but never once repeated after the commencement of the really historical era; secondly, that our faith in a life beyond the grave is an instinct, born with us and as ineradicable as our craving for food and drink. The former hypothesis no longer deserves serious consideration; the latter virtually removes the whole problem from the sphere of discussion. But if faith in a future state be instinctive in the human breast, how does it happen that such a faith was incomparably weaker in remote ages than it is now? When PLATO wrote his *Phædo*, how many of his countrymen were prepared to treat his doctrine of the immortality of the soul with anything but ridicule? On the other hand, how many educated men can be found to-day who really and sincerely believe that death is the end of life? An instinct which has nothing to do with reason ought not to be strengthened and developed in proportion as the sway of reason becomes more supreme. Yet it has certainly fared thus with man's belief in the supernatural. The more intellectual the world becomes, the more tenaciously does it cling to its faith in a future state. The spread of civilization is, in effect, synonymous with the propagandism of creeds, the keynote of which is the duty of preparing for eternity. Of course all this is not absolutely incompatible with the instinctive theory. A noble instinct is none the less an instinct because it is strengthened and developed by the growth of knowledge and the sway of reason. But it seems easy to conceive how this faith, originally founded on impressions independent of reason yet not unreasonable and as natural as they were powerful, ultimately received the endorsement of science, and so far from representing a break in the continuity of mental evolution, is in fact a further evidence of that evolution. Men

in the early ages of the World's history, however undisciplined their intellectual forces may have been, were capable of affections and impressions that utterly refused to be dissipated by the death of the beings which had inspired or produced them. Strong feelings may centre about familiar objects of inanimate nature, or about pets of the animal genus, but the blank left by the destruction or death of such objects is something wholly different from the blank left by the death of a human friend. The personality of the latter is not buried with him. It lives, and asserts itself again and again, with varying intensity, in the lives of his survivors. It has never been possible that men should accept the separation of the grave as absolutely final. Something, call it a mere creation of memory, a suggestion of instinct, or a mirage of affection, seemed to remain, and from the sense of its impalpable presence grew the belief that our communion with it would be closely renewed when we too should have passed through the same mysterious ordeal. Only a small interval divides the shadowy preception that a link indissoluble even by death can be established between human beings, from the confident *non omnis moriar* of SOCRATES. The Greek philosopher, weaving for himself a faith out of impressions which he perceived to be common to all, offered a genuine example of the evolution of human thought. By and by the age of the supremacy of science commenced. The physicist began to interpret nature with a degree of accuracy never even dreamed of in ancient days. At what conclusion did he finally arrive? That matter is absolutely indistinct; that in the economy of Nature not an atom of any gas or a particle of any solid is lost. Everything is eternally recovered, re-combined, and re-utilized. Here then was a new basis for the old faith. If matter in all its various forms is thus preserved against the smallest loss through all the ages, why should annihilation be the perpetual fate of that which we know to be incomparably superior to matter, that which exercises over matter power absolute within the limits of Nature's laws? We cannot tell, cannot even conceive, what the soul of man may be. We cannot so much as say whether he has a soul. But we know of a surety that the faculty which separates him from and makes him immeasurably superior to every object in the world, is wholly independent of the corporeal matter which, though dissipated at his death, is eternally secured against destruction. We know, too, that of all the immense labour he has expended on the cultivation of his mind and intellect, none is transmitted to his children, and only a small fraction is utilized during his life for permanent results. Knowing all this, does reason bid us believe that his soul, his spirit, call it by what name we please, per-

ishes when it ceases to animate his body? Does reason bid us believe that the noblest and grandest thing in the scheme of Nature is the one and only thing doomed to destruction? It does not seem that to admit such a belief would be consistent with the continuity of the evolution of thought. On the contrary, that continuity is testified by the spread and strength of the very faith which Lady WELBY calls a break in the development of the human mind.

THE SOUTHAMPTON STRIKES.

EXCHANGES to hand by the French mail place us in possession of full and exhaustive accounts of the lawlessness at Southampton which, according to Reuter's telegrams, necessitated the intervention of a military and naval force. One of the leading local journals, the *Hampshire Independent*, devotes more than a fourth of the space available in its weekly issue to what reads like a fair and unbiassed report of each day's proceedings; and to the *Independent* we are mainly indebted for our knowledge of the affair. It was clearly recognised long before the mail left that the trouble had been gathering force some time, and though *The Times*, in its customarily positive manner, attributes the deplorably serious developments to the alleged hesitancy and incapacity of the Mayor,—whose conduct was subsequently pronounced by special resolution of nineteen of his brother magistrates to have won their "grateful appreciation" by its "courage, firmness, and yet moderation * * * under unexampled and critical circumstances"—there are not wanting signs that a considerable share of public censure will ultimately rest upon the Dock Company and other employers. For this reason: that in face of the unanimous resolution of the Directors of the Chamber of Commerce, deploring the difference between employer and employed and offering their services in the formation of "a Board of Conciliation between the two interests," the representatives of the shipping and commercial interests of the town and port of Southampton, while willing to enter into personal communication with their own men, declined by equally formal and deliberate resolution "to recognise any outside interference." Indeed, it would seem that the obstinate attitude of the employers in refusing to recognise the Labour Union is responsible for the strike of the dockers in the first place. The local journal calls the strike "as remarkable in its origin as regrettable in its consequences." More or less agitation among the dock labourers of the port, we read, had existed for several months, and as the employers "decided that they would in no way recognise the union, or treat with its delegates," the men felt that there was "no prospect of their demands being conceded

without a preliminary struggle." They consequently discussed the wisdom of resorting to a strike, and finally agreed tentatively upon a date when work should cease. The strike was averted, however, thanks mainly, it is said, to timely warning given by the press, which "at once" led to the employers informing "their workmen that increased pay would be given." The employers, with a few exceptions, we are quoting the *Hampshire Independent*, still refused to deal with the union, consistently asserting their determination to deal only with their own men, but sensible and unprejudiced people as well as not a few even of the disputants, "admitted that they were wrangling over the shadow regardless of the substance," and that "both sides were to a certain extent beating the air." Then it may and doubtless will be asked what occasioned the strike, the call for the military, and the subjection of a part of the town to what was virtually a state of siege? The answer is, inopportune action on the part of the Dock Company, the largest of the employing bodies, in inaugurating and prosecuting a policy designed to convert casual into permanent work; and the suspicion and mistrust of the dock hands who professed to see in the Company's purpose an endeavour to go behind the promises extracted and to effect "by underhand methods" a reduction of pay beyond even the original limits. The men went on strike on Monday the 8th of September, and work of every description was speedily at a standstill not only in the docks, and on the steamers there discharging and loading, but in a great measure at the London and South-Western Railway Terminus. Those who have passed through Southampton will recall that the freight lines cross the street separating the dock-wall from the railway yard, thus permitting uninterrupted conveyance of goods to and from the immediate vicinity of the ship's side. It was this that gave the strikers their strength. They resolutely blocked the way to any and all trains not carrying mails alone. The police were powerless to keep the road clear, and no driver could dash his engine into a solid mass of men. The accounts of the struggles at the gates at these points show that they were repeated and severe and stubborn, and even when, on the evening of Tuesday, the 1st Battalion of the Yorkshire Light Infantry arrived from Gosport, it seemed that nothing short of opening fire would disperse the surging crowds. After well nigh two hours' work, however, during which several of the officers and civil officials were seriously injured, the troops charged at the double and cleared the districts affected. The threatening state of affairs continued all through Wednesday, the strikers resorting to well-devised methods to prevent control of the dock entrances both by land and water, boats

containing dockers picqueting the Itchen River, until a gunboat and patrol boats were sent in response to urgent summonses despatched to the Admiralty Authorities at Portsmouth Dockyard. Mass processions paraded the town until the corporation prohibited further demonstrations of the kind, but beyond wrecking the front of the Mayor's place of business no damage was done or attempted to private citizens or their property. Save in one or two isolated cases, when the men captured a train for instance, no wanton spirit of destructiveness and malice would appear to have been engendered, the vast crowds of discontented persons heeding the voices of their leaders and sympathisers. The accounts mention, for example, that the arrival of the military "was greeted by loud and prolonged cheering on the part of the dockers, which was renewed with even greater intensity when the order was given to unfix bayonets. The local clergy and one or more of the Borough Magistrates were active in their efforts to effect a compromise, Canon SCANNELL, and the Rev. W. W. PERRIN, of the Established Church, and the Rev. J. LEACH forming part of a deputation which on Thursday sought an interview with a meeting of masters at the South-Western Hotel. The only result of this was, scarcely credible though it seems, a point-blank refusal to receive the deputation, accompanied by the announcement that "they would see no one except their own employés, and were determined to maintain their position." Notices, inviting a resumption of work at specified rates of pay eventually paved the way to a return to the normal condition of things, neither party, strictly speaking, having won the day. It is somewhat singular that the military should have been summoned, "notwithstanding the fact that there had not been a single arrest in connection with the strike." Altogether it must be admitted that the ancient borough will not emerge with much credit from an affair which drew world-wide attention for the moment, and which it is estimated will cost Southampton an extra rate of not less than twopence in the pound. Neither Magistracy, Dock Company, employers, nor employed can look back upon the unhappy week with any satisfaction. As the *Independent* says, "the prestige of the place must necessarily suffer."

In the *Daily News*' article on this subject we observe the following significant passage:—"The time has gone by, and for ever, when the various questions of labour could be settled, or even could be regulated, without the concurrence of the working men. The employers have to recognise the claims and the credentials of those who represent the authority of Union organizations. The Unions of trades and of labouring associations have become a power in our day which it is perfectly absurd to fancy that the employers or the com-

munity can ignore. The working classes now are only doing that which, * * * the employers have been free to do for generations and almost from all time in civilized society." The Hampshire journal also has a powerful leader on the same subject. We reproduce portions of the concluding paragraph, as they embody in an effective way views most moderate and fair-minded men will be willing to endorse:—"Working men have a right to combine, but they have not a right to coerce; they may be justified in resisting their employers, but they are not justified in terrorising the community generally * * *. Trade Unionism has done great good in the past; it may do still greater good in the future. But it must be remembered that it has its duties as well as its rights. It is protected by the law, and it must respect the law. It enjoys liberty, and it must not countenance oppression. Legislation has enfranchised labour and made workers free; they in their turn must cherish this freedom and must not themselves become tyrants. This, as a rule, is admitted and recognised: we hope the "New Unionism" will preach no other doctrine."

THE COMMERCIAL CODE.

LAW No. 103.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Regulations relating to the postponement of the carrying out of the Commercial Code, and order the same to be promulgated.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.)
(Great Seal.)

Dated October 8th, 1890.

(Countersigned)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.

COUNT YAMADA AKIYOSHI,
Minister of State for Justice.

For the present the Commercial Code, Law No. 32, of the 23rd year of Meiji, shall not be carried out in Okinawa Prefecture.

PUBLIC OFFICES AND DOCUMENTS.

LAW No. 100.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Regulations relating to public offices, public officials, the seals of public offices, documents, licences and tickets (*kansatsu*), and order the same to be promulgated. We also direct that these regulations shall come into force on and after the 1st day of the 11th month of the 23rd year of Meiji.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.)
(Great Seal.)

Dated October 8th, 1890.

(Countersigned)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.

COUNT YAMADA AKIYOSHI,
Minister of State for Justice.

Articles relating to Government offices (*kancho*) and offices (*kancho*) in the Penal Code shall be applied to public offices; articles relating to Government officials, to public officials; and articles relating to the seals of Government offices, and documents, licences, and tickets, to the seals of public offices, and to documents, licences and tickets.

HORSFORD'S ACID PHOSPHATE FOR ABUSE OF
ALCOHOL.
It relieves the depression therefrom.

RANKS AND SALARIES OF LOCAL OFFICIALS.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 226.

We hereby give our sanction to the present amendment of the Ranks and Salaries of Local Officials.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.)
(Great Seal.)

Dated October 10th, 1890.

(Countersigned)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.

COUNT SAIGO TSUKUMICHI,
Minister of State for Home Affairs.

COUNT MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of State for Finance.

Article 1.—The yearly salaries of governors, secretaries, chiefs of police (*Keibuchō*), chief tax collectors (*Shuzōchō*), and superintendents of prisons (*Tengoku*) of cities and prefectures, shall be as follows:—

	Three cities and prefectures where open ports and head-quarters are.		Other prefectures.	
	Yen.		Yen.	
Governors	4,000	3,500		
Secretaries	2,000	1,500		
Chiefs of police	1,400	1,100		
Chief Tax Collectors	1,400	1,000		
Superintendents of Prisons	800	600		

Article 2.—The Governor of the City of Tokyo may specially receive yen 4,500 per annum.

Article 3.—The yearly salary of one councillor shall be yen 1,000 and of the other yen 700.

Article 4.—Headmen of rural districts shall receive yen 600 yearly.

Headmen of rural districts specially appointed by the Minister of State, for Home Affairs shall receive yen 800 yearly.

Article 5.—Superintendents of islands (*toshi*) shall receive yen 1,200 yearly.

Article 6.—A Governor's salary may be subject to a special addition of not more than yen 500 in one year, above the sum mentioned in Articles 1 and 2.

The salary of the chief of police of the City of Osaka may be subject to a special addition of not more than yen 300 in one year.

Article 7.—Each of the councillors of the Cities of Tokyo, Kyoto, and Osaka, and the prefectures of Kanagawa, Hyogo, Nagasaki, and Niigata, may receive a special addition of not more than yen 200 yearly.

Article 8.—Headmen of rural districts specially appointed according to paragraph 2, Article 4, shall not number more than 150.

Those Governors whose salaries are specially increased according to paragraph 1, Article 6, shall not number more than 20.

Article 9.—All ranks and salaries of local officials, except those regulated in this ordinance, shall be in accordance with the ordinance relating to the ranks and salaries of higher officials, Imperial Ordinance No. 6, of the 19th year of Meiji, and ordinances relating to ranks and salaries of *hannin* officials, Imperial Ordinance No. 36 of the same year, and Imperial Ordinances Nos. 74 and 75 of the 23rd year of Meiji.

THE TOKYO GAKUSHI-KAI-IN.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 264.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Regulations relating to the Organization of The Tokyo Gakushi-Kai in and order the same to be promulgated.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.)
(Great Seal.)

Dated October 24th, 1890.

(Countersigned)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.

COUNT YOSHIKAWA AKIMASA,
Minister of State for Education.

Article 1.—The Tokyo Gakushi-Kai-in is established for the purpose of assisting education by promoting the status and value of sciences and arts, and its control is vested in the Minister of State for Education.

Article 2.—The Tokyo Gakushi-Kai-in shall be composed of members chosen from among men of the highest virtue and learning.

The mode of election and number of members shall be as follows:—

- (1.) Members specially chosen by the Crown, 15.
- (2.) Members elected by recommendation of members, 25.

The election of members nominated by the other members must be sanctioned by the Minister of State for Education.

Membership shall be for life.

Article 3.—Members of the Tokyo Gakushi-Kai-in shall express their views and opinions relating to any branch of science which constitutes their special study, and shall report on matters relating to sciences, arts, and teaching.

Article 4.—The Tokyo Gakushi-Kai-in shall discuss any question relating to sciences, arts, and teaching, emanating from the Minister of State for Education; its members may engage in debates at its meetings and express their views to the Minister of State for Education.

Article 5.—Members of the Tokyo Gakushi-Kai-in above 60 years of age may be granted a special allowance of yen 300 yearly, the number of such members being limited to ten.

Article 6.—One president and two directors shall be attached to the Tokyo Gakushi-Kai-in. The president and directors shall be appointed by the members from among themselves and with the sanction of the Minister of State for Education. Their terms of office shall be one year. They may, however, be re-elected.

Article 7.—The President shall superintend the affairs of the Kai-in and take charge of any debates that may occur. His duties may in his absence be conducted by a director. The director shall assist the President in conducting the affairs of the Kai-in.

Article 8.—An annual allowance of 1,300 yen shall be granted to the president and directors. Members, however, who are in receipt of the allowance mentioned in Article 5 shall not come under this article.

Article 9.—Two clerks shall be attached to the Tokyo Gakushi-Kai-in, and *soku* of the Educational Department shall be appointed additionally when required. Clerks shall be under the orders of the president and directors, and shall deal with miscellaneous affairs.

Article 10.—The Tokyo Gakushi-Kai-in may frame its own bye-laws with the permission of the Minister of State for Education.

LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 225.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Amendment of the Organization of Local Governments, and order the same to be promulgated.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.)
(Great Seal.)

Dated October 10th, 1890.

(Countersigned.)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.

COUNT SAIGO TSUKUMICHI,
Minister of State for Home Affairs.

COUNT MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of State for Finance.

Article 1.—The following officials shall be attached to each city and prefecture:—

A Governor, a Secretary, a Chief of Police, a Chief Tax Collector, Councillors; Engineers; a Superintendent of Prisons, *Zoku*, *Gishu*, Police-inspectors (*Keibu*), *Zoku* of Tax Offices, Clerks of Prisons, a Chief prison Inspector (*Kanshuchō*).

Article 2.—The Governor shall be a *chokunin* official.

Article 3.—The secretary shall be a *sonin* official.

Article 4.—The chief of police and the chief tax collector shall each be below 2nd *sonin* rank.

Article 5.—There shall be two councillors below 3rd *sonin* rank.

Article 6.—The superintendent of prisons shall be under 4th *sonin* rank.

Article 7.—*Zoku*, police inspectors (*keibu*), *soku* of tax offices and clerks of prisons shall be of *hannin* rank, and the chief prison inspector shall be under 3rd *hannin* rank.

The *hannin* officials of all cities and prefectures shall be fixed as follows:—

<i>Zoku</i> , police inspectors, clerks of prisons, and chief prison inspectors	6,296
<i>Zoku</i> of tax offices	5,606

The settled number of *soku*, police inspectors, clerks of prisons and chief prison inspectors in each city and prefecture shall be decided by the Minister of State for Home Affairs; and the settled number of each shall be decided by Governors of cities and prefectures with the permission of the Minister of State for Home Affairs.

The settled number of *soku* of tax offices in each city and prefecture shall be decided by the Minister of State for Finance.

Article 8.—Engineers and *gishu* may be attached, if necessary, to city or prefectural Governments according to the Regulations relating to Ranks and Salaries of Engineers (*gyutsu-kwan*), within the limits of the settled estimate of salaries of *hannin* officials.

Article 9.—Governors shall be generally under the guidance and superintendence of the Minister of State for Home Affairs, but shall be under the control of the Minister of State for each Department as to affairs which come within the province of that Department, and shall carry out laws and ordinances, as well as control administrative affairs of their offices.

Article 10.—Governors shall issue city or prefectural ordinance applicable to all or a part of their province with regard to the administrative affairs of their office, by virtue of their official power or by special order, within the limits of laws or ordinances. The period for the coming into force of city or prefectural ordinances shall be 7 days after the date on which they are promulgated within the jurisdiction by the *Official Gazette* or other special means, except in cases where a date of enforcement is specially provided. In islands the period shall, however, be reckoned from the day following that on which they arrive at the office of a rural district.

Article 11.—City or Prefectural ordinances may be annulled or suspended if the Minister of State for Home Affairs or other Minister having chief responsibility relative thereto consider them likely to injure the public interest, or to contravene rules, or subvert authority.

Article 12.—Governors may, by letter to the commanders of military divisions (*shidan*) or of head-quarters (*ryodan*), require the presence of troops if such be deemed necessary in case of an extraordinary and sudden occurrence, or for protection.

Article 13.—Governors shall control all officials under them, and report the faults or merits of officials of *sonin* rank to the Minister of State for Home Affairs or the Minister of State having chief responsibility relative thereto, but shall deal according to their discretion with officials under *hannin* rank.

Article 14.—Governors shall reprimand officials under them according to the provisions of laws and ordinances, and memorialize the Minister of State for Home Affairs, or the Minister of State having chief responsibility, in the case of officials of *sonin* rank, but shall deal exclusively with officials under *hannin* rank.

Article 15.—Governors may reward officials of or under *sonin* rank who are specially meritorious, within the settled estimates of their office, and memorialize the Minister of State for Home Affairs, or the Minister of State having chief responsibility, as to officials of *sonin* rank and deal exclusively with officials under *hannin* rank.

Article 16.—Governors may if necessary engage employes (*yatoi-in*), within the settled amount of the financial estimate relating to the salaries of *hannin* officials.

Article 17.—Governors may establish bye-laws for disposing of the affairs of their offices.

Article 18.—Secretaries shall discharge the duties of Governors in the absence of the latter.

Article 19.—In each local government there shall be a Governor's secretariat.

Clerks and *soku* shall be attached to the Secretariat of each Governor.

Article 20.—The following affairs shall be dealt with in each Governor's Secretariat:—

- (1.) Affairs relating to the promotion, removal and status (*naibun*) of officials.
- (2.) The receipt of documents (*uketsuke*).
- (3.) The custody of the seals of the city or prefectural government.
- (4.) Affairs relating to foreigners.

Article 21.—The following offices shall be established:—

Office for Home Affairs.
Office for Police Affairs.
Direct Tax Office.
Indirect Tax Office.
Prison Office.

Article 22.—The secretary, as chief of the office for Home Affairs, the chief of police, as chief of

the office for Police Affairs, the chief tax collector, as chief of the Direct and Indirect Tax Offices, and the superintendent of prisons (*tengoku*) as chief of the Prison Office, shall control officials under them according to the orders of the Governor and deal with the affairs entrusted to them.

Article 23.—The following four sections shall be attached to the office for Home Affairs, and their respective business shall be as follows:—

FIRST SECTION.

- (1.) Matters relating to meetings for the election of members, city or prefectural meetings, rural district meetings, municipality, town or village assemblies, meetings of public associations and so forth.
- (2.) Matters relating to the internal economy of the municipality, town or village, city or prefectural taxes, and the Distress Relief Fund.
- (3.) All other matters in addition to the above which do not belong to another section.

SECOND SECTION.

- (1.) Matters relating to agriculture, industry, commerce, and works.
- (2.) Matters relating to Government land and the purchase of land for public use (*tochi shuyō*).

THIRD SECTION.

Matters relating to scholastic affairs, sanitation, military affairs, shrines, and the census (*Koseki*).

FOURTH SECTION.

- (1.) Matters relating to the city or prefectural finances.
- (2.) Matters relating to the expenditure and receipt of city or prefectural taxes, as well as of the Distress Relief Fund.

Article 24.—The Office for Police Affairs shall deal with affairs of higher and administrative police (*gyosei-keisatsu*).

Article 25.—The Direct Tax Office shall deal with matters relating to the assessment (*fukuro*) of direct taxes; and the levying of taxes, as well as the cost of the same.

The Indirect Tax Office shall deal with matters relating to the assessment of indirect taxes, and the punishment of offenders against the rules regulating the same.

Article 26.—The Prison Office shall deal with affairs relating to prisons.

Article 27.—Councillors shall give their opinion at the request of the Governor, and shall conduct discussions and prepare drafts of documents.

They shall be appointed chiefs of sections in the Office for Home Affairs, or may assist in the business of any office or section temporarily, in accordance with the orders of the Governor.

Article 28.—*Zoku* shall be appointed chiefs of sections of the Office for Home Affairs, except where councillors hold such posts as additional appointments.

Article 29.—The Governor shall settle the divisional sections of the affairs of the Office, for Police Affairs, the Direct and Indirect Tax Offices and the Prison Office, and report the same to the Minister of State having chief responsibility relative thereto.

Article 30.—If there should arise temporary business in addition to that provided for in the preceding articles, Governors shall, according to their own convenience, decide the office or section which shall deal with the same.

Article 31.—*Zoku* shall be attached to sections of the Division for Home Affairs as well as the Governor's Secretariat, and shall transact miscellaneous business according to the orders of their superiors.

Article 32.—Police Inspectors (*keibu*) shall conduct business relating to police, and have charge of the police constables (*junsu*) under them, according to the orders of their superiors.

Article 33.—*Zoku* engaged in connection with taxation shall be attached to the sections of the Direct and Indirect Tax Offices, and shall deal with miscellaneous affairs, according to the orders of their superiors.

Article 34.—Clerks of prisons shall deal with miscellaneous affairs according to the orders of the superintendents of Prisons (*tengoku*). In the absence of a Superintendent the head clerk shall represent him according to the orders of the Governor.

Article 35.—Chief Inspectors of Prisons (*Kan-shucho*) shall visit and inspect prisons and control and give orders to inspectors of prisons (*Kan-shu*), according to the orders of superintendents of prisons.

Article 36.—Police Stations shall be established in each rural district and municipality, and branch police stations shall be established at various other points within the jurisdiction.

Two or more police stations may be established

in the municipalities of Kyoto and Osaka with the permission of the Minister of State for Home Affairs, and the chief of police shall make appointments to the office of chief of a police station or of a branch police station.

Article 37.—Regulations relating to police inspectors and inspectors of prisons shall be specially decided.

Article 38.—Direct and Indirect Tax Branch Offices shall be opened where necessary in cities and Prefectures. The Minister of State for Finance shall decide their distribution, as well as the boundaries of their jurisdiction.

Article 39.—*Zoku* engaged in connection with Taxation may be appointed Chiefs of Direct and Indirect Tax Offices.

Article 40.—Prison surgeons and instructors shall be appointed and treated as *hannin* officials. Their settled number shall be decided by the Governor, who shall obtain the sanction of the Minister of State for Home Affairs.

Article 41.—Matters relating to the police and prison administration of the City of Tokyo shall be dealt with in accordance with the Organisation of the Metropolitan Police Board.

Article 42.—The following officials shall be established in each rural district:—

A rural district chief and rural district clerks.

Article 43.—The chief of a rural district shall be below 3rd *sonin* rank.

Article 44.—Clerks of rural districts shall be *hannin*, and their settled number shall be decided by the Governor, who shall obtain the permissions of the Minister of State for Home Affairs.

Article 45.—Chiefs of rural districts shall enforce laws and ordinances within their districts and control the administrative affairs of the same, in accordance with the guidance and control of the Governors.

Article 46.—Chiefs of rural districts may carry out, at their own discretion, matters specially entrusted to them by Governors or entrusted to them by laws and ordinances.

Article 47.—Chiefs of rural districts shall control the headmen of towns and villages in their districts as to administrative matters, and superintend them as to their common affairs.

Article 48.—Chiefs of rural districts shall report to Governors the appointment and removal of clerks of rural districts.

Article 49.—Chiefs of rural districts may issue police regulations as to matters entrusted to them by laws and ordinances, or by Governors. Seven days after the day on which such regulations are promulgated by usual or special means, they shall come into force, except in the case of those the date of enforcement of which is specially mentioned.

Article 50.—The police regulations of rural districts may be annulled or suspended if a Governor, or the Minister of State for Home Affairs, or the Minister having chief responsibility, shall consider them to be injurious to the public interest, against former regulations, or subversive of authority (*Kengen*).

Article 51.—Clerks of rural districts shall conduct miscellaneous business according to the orders of chiefs of rural districts.

If the chief of a rural district is absent, the head clerk of such district shall represent him according to the orders of the Governor.

Article 52.—Insular offices shall be specially established in islands as provided for Imperial Ordinance.

Article 53.—The officials of an insular office shall be as follow:—

Superintendent (*Toshi*).

Clerks.

Article 54.—The superintendent shall be below 2nd class *sonin* rank.

Article 55.—Clerks shall be *hannin*, and their settled number shall be decided by the Governor within the settled number of *hannin* officials of the city or prefecture.

Article 56.—The superintendent shall dispose of the administrative affairs of the island according to the guidance and superintendence of the Governor, and may deal with matters entrusted to him by the Governor.

Article 57.—The superintendent may issue police regulations according to Article 49. Article 50 shall be applied to the police regulations mentioned in the last paragraph.

Article 58.—The superintendent shall report to the Governor the appointment and removal of clerks under him.

Article 59.—The superintendent shall as to administrative affairs control officials of towns and villages within his jurisdiction.

Article 60.—Clerks shall deal with miscellaneous affairs according to the orders of their superintendent.

If the superintendent of an insular office is absent, the head clerk of the office shall represent him according to the orders of the Governor.

FUNERAL OF MR. EDWARD MORRIS.

Late yesterday afternoon the remains of Mr. Edward Morris, the Yokohama manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, were interred in the General Cemetery, in the presence of a crowd of mourners comprising all the leading business men of different nationalities in the Settlement.

Out of respect for the memory of the deceased gentleman, the banks in town closed at tiffin time, and practically the chief business houses did the same. The coffin was conveyed at four o'clock from the residence of the family at No. 119, Bluff, to Christ Church, where a service was performed by Rev. Mr. Irvine, who was assisted by Rev. L. B. Cholmondeley, the musical share being rendered at the organ by Mr. Choje. At the close of an unusually impressive service, Mr. Irvine said it was not necessary for him to speak to his hearers at any great length concerning the character or life of the lamented friend whose funeral service they were celebrating. Nor was it necessary to select any special words to form the text of the few remarks he should speak regarding the deceased gentleman. The text was here, in themselves. No further indication was needed of the varied links by which Edward Morris was united to this Settlement. In some respects his death was of an unusual nature, different from that of many of the friends whom they had had to mourn from time to time, in the many years the Settlement had existed. Because it was one of those rare instances where the father of a family, surrounded by that family and leaving them for the most part grown up to manhood and womanhood, was taken away here at his very post, and with that family around to witness and to mourn for his death. For most of us there was a sad place in the corner of our hearts. A father or mother had passed away far distant from us, though not forgotten. Yet to some it was merciful that distance did intervene at times, because for strong and deep natures to see passing away from their very midst the prop and the staff of the household was a grief which only those who have experienced can understand. It was not because Edward Morris represented in this community the commercial heart of the place; it was not because as they knew he was a man who did with all his might whatsoever his hand found to do, and was respected by all classes of business men with whom he had to deal, as a business man who thoroughly understood his work; or because before the hand of sickness was laid upon him and while strength and energy were still his, he was known by his staff for his capacity and insight, and for his special adaptation to his particular branch. It was because the family by which he was surrounded were here among them to-day; and he would go farther and say that the influence of that English home had been felt widely and deeply by the little community to which they belonged; that the spirit which it breathed of affection and dutifulness, of love and care from the parent to the child, and of kindness and many little deeds which were known to many here—these were the things which more than any effect of his position here caused them to show their grief and sorrow and sympathy that he should have been taken away from among them as he had been. Nay, more. They had seen his sons growing up to manhood; they could recollect the loss of his dear son at home, and remember what the deceased gentleman then passed through. They saw the sons rising up to manhood and entering business here and in the sister port, and they saw a daughter who united them to the capital by new and valued ties. They could not over-estimate the importance of the steady, diligent, kindly life and the high principle that existed in that household. Therefore they would, he knew, join with him in praying earnestly from their hearts, and in wishing most deeply and strongly, that God would be both the Father of the fatherless and the God of the widow, and that his blessing would rest upon them.

At the conclusion of the service the coffin, which had hitherto rested in the chancel, was conveyed to the hearse, the strains of the Dead March in "Saul" echoing through the church as the mourners quitted the building. Mr. E. Morris and Mr. P. Morris, sons of the deceased gentleman, were the chief mourners, and the pall was borne by the following gentlemen—Messrs. M. Kirkwood, son-in-law of the deceased; G. W. Butt, manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, Kobe; Alex. Center, agent, Pacific Mail and O. O. Steamship Cos.; N. J. Hansen, Judge of H.B.M. Court for Japan; Dr. Wheeler, Dr. Baelz, Messrs. J. P. Morrison, W. R. Ben-

nett, N. P. Kingdon, R. Johnstone, A. H. Dare, Hongkong and Shanghai Bank; and T. B. Glover. The members of the Chamber of Commerce attended in a body, having resolved on this method of showing their high esteem for the dead; the staffs of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank and the other foreign banks of the Settlement attended and walked near the coffin. A striking feature of the funeral was due to the circumstance that many persons carried wreaths, of which there must have been over half a hundred, some of the greatest beauty both in colour-harmony and design. Among those who walked to the cemetery after the hearse were the Belgian Minister, the Hon. the Master of Napier, Messrs. F. Walkinslaw, Donald Fraser, J. A. Jeffrey, C. H. Wilson, C. H. Balfour, J. T. Boag, J. Rickett, Macpherson, Captain Wilson Walker, Messrs. A. Schultz, N. F. Smith, A. O. Gay, G. H. Alcock, C. L. Anderson, J. T. Griffin, J. Mendelson, J. Ph. von Hemert, W. J. Kenny, B. Gillett, W. G. Bayne, F. H. Trevelthick, H. C. Piggott, O. Keil, Geo. Sale, Paymaster Macdonald, U.S.N., Dr. Hall, Messrs. F. H. James, R. N. St. John, A. F. Macnab, Dr. Tripler, Messrs. A. Brent, J. W. Cridgishank, R. A. Wylie, W. B. Walter, A. C. Read, Gower Robinson, V. Blad, E. B. Jones, E. B. Watson, C. J. Stome, W. Aitchison, A. L. Robinson, Professor J. Milne, Messrs. J. F. Lowder, A. B. Walford, W. D. S. Edwards, J. Corder, J. A. Fraser, O. Reimers, Pereira, F. A. Saway, Captain Bougonin, Messrs. Wilkin, J. D. Hutchison, Marquis Nembini-Gonzaga, &c.

On reaching the cemetery, which was entered from the lower gate, the coffin was carried by the pall bearers up the hill-side to the grave, which had been dug close to the upper fence of the inclosure. At the side of the grave a short service was read by Rev. Mr. Irvine, after which the coffin was lowered to its last resting place. The grave was completely covered by the wreaths brought by mourners. Among these were offerings from the Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Thomas Jackson, manager of the Bank at Hongkong; the staff of the Bank at Yokohama, the Bank staff at Hyogo, the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club; the First National Bank; the boys and coolies of the Bank, and the Chinese shroffs also sent wreaths, and among others who sent similar tokens were Mr. Kirkwood, Mr. and Mrs. H. Steele, Mr. F. Walkinslaw, Mr. W. G. Bayne, Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Watson, Madame Neyt, M. and Mme. E. Blanc, Mr. J. D. Hutchison, Mr. A. Center, &c.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE BRITISH CONSUL AND BRITISH MARRIAGES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In to-day's *Mail* you say that if a British subject wishes to marry a Japanese woman according to the forms prescribed by British law "the assistance of the Consul is of course indispensable." Allow me to point out that this is an error. A British subject may be married by the clergyman without the intervention, or even the knowledge, of his Consul; and such a marriage is registered in London, and is as valid legally as if it were performed in a church there.

I am Sir, your obedient servant,

CHURCHMAN.

October 29th, 1890.

[We referred to the civil ceremony only. The religious ceremony is quite another affair, and had no connection with the subject under discussion.—Ed. J.M.]

RAILWAY MANAGEMENT IN JAPAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—As one's experience of railway management in Japan increases, the felicity of Professor Chamberlain's phrase "nuddle-pated folk when it comes to matters of business" strikes even the most friendly foreigner. A month would seem sufficient time for a change in train service to get itself registered on the bulletin boards at the chief railway stations. But the time table, English at least, at Shimbashi continues to assure foreigners that connection is made at Takasaki for Yokogawa by the train leaving Shimbashi at 8.10 a.m. though no train has left at that hour for a month at least, the present time being 7.30 a.m. With the station time-table wrong it is not surprising that the daily newspapers of Tokyo, Japanese, go on assuring their readers that the train leaves at 8.10.

Really it is not amusing even when one is told in the most "good-natured, artistic" fashion that the train has gone forty minutes

previous while the time-table still insists that an early breakfast and hurried departure were not in vain. It is not too much to ask that official time-tables tell the public when trains go, instead of contenting themselves with ancient history.

Yours, &c.,

October 31st, 1890.

BELATED.

CHRISTIANITY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—As the age goes on from year to year, all new discoveries and inventions seem to be more or less pointed at Christianity. It has been proved over and over again, by deep, thorough and lengthened study that there is nothing in science which can in any way tarnish the veracity of scripture, but on the contrary, it establishes every word which God has uttered in connection with the formation of the earth. Attacks are generally made by those who have scarce passed the threshold of science; just as a young man at home, having made the first step toward a public school teacher, dangles his gold washed watch chain, but finds after a few years rubbing that the brass appears. God's word has withstood the scorn and worldly wisdom of centuries, and sits to-day enthroned as the "Light" giving power challenging dispute.

Christianity holds that the Bible, from the first word in Genesis to the last word in Revelation is the inspired Word of God—not a part here and there according to the fancies of men, but every word as given by the Prophets and Apostles under the power of the Holy Ghost. If the Bible, *in toto*, be not the Word of God, who will take upon himself the responsibility of deciding what part or parts are genuine and what spurious? A certain sect tells us to reject all passages that relate to the Blood of Jesus Christ, God's Son cleansing us from all sin, as they cannot bear the thought of innocent blood being spilt to save the guilty. If you take your Bible and cut out from it the "Blood" passages you have nothing but a useless tatter left—no cleansing, no peace, no calm in a dying hour, no coming King, no resurrection, no Glory. Christianity cannot live if this part of the Word be not reliable. When it is argued that the doctrines of this so-called Christian sect just suit the natural mind, no blacker mark could be scored against it. Anything and every thing that falls in line with man in his natural condition before God is only a house built upon the sand which must irretrievably perish before the storm, or a bubble which will burst under examination. Man naturally is a lost sinner and needs a salvation to deliver him from perishing, man is a "Broad Way" traveller and must be arrested or he shall enter destruction by the "Broad Gate."

Another voice is now heard in Japan saying that Christ is not divine. The band, sect, or company from which this voice proceeds, by such a pernicious doctrine are endeavoring to lead those who have professed faith in our Blessed Redeemer away from the simplicity which is in Christ. This sect deny the fact that Christ is divine and yet call themselves Christians. Most extraordinary! Can there be such a thing as Christianity, in its true significance if Christ be not divine? Most emphatically we answer, no. Without the Blood of Christ Christianity cannot live, and without the divinity of Christ Christianity must be thrown into the same category as Buddhism, Confucianism, Shintoism, &c. Christ never could have atoned for the lost if He be not divine. "Without controversy, great is the mystery of godliness,—God manifest in the flesh."

Again, Christ, when on earth claimed that He was divine, and the Apostles hold, in their writings, to the same truth. Christ said:—"I and my Father are one," "Before Abraham was I am," "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth." "I adjure thee by the living God," said the high priest, "that thou tell me whether thou be the Christ the Son of God." "Jesus saith unto him, Thou hast said: nevertheless I say unto you hereafter shall ye see the Son of Man sitting upon the right hand of power and coming in the clouds of heaven" If such utterances be not from a divine person they are nothing short of blasphemy. Scores of passages can be quoted, proving, if they mean or prove anything, that Christ is divine. Now fancy a sect that profess to be Christian—followers of Christ—and yet deny that which Christ constantly claimed himself to be. Nay more, if Christ be not divine, this so-called sect have for their leader the greatest imposter the world has ever heard of or seen. They may try to explain away, reject, or alter the Word to suit their own notions, but if the Bible can be treated in this way, the quicker we abandon the whole thing the better.

All who hold such views, whatever else they may

be, whatever they may seek to do, are not within the Christian Church. This we say from the authority of God's Word, "Every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God." Here we have, "God manifest in the flesh" pure and simple. It is an utter impossibility to be a Christian—a follower of Christ, redeemed from the curse of the law, and to deny the cleansing power of the Blood or the divinity of Christ. All such sects are not plantings of the Lord and will be rooted up—they are blind leaders of the blind and shall fall into the ditch—sad and deplorable end, yet awfully true.

Such views may be stigmatized as "old" and "not according to the spirit of the age." Most heartily do we admit this, and at the same time rejoice that we hold to the "old time religion." We believe in development and advancement in Christianity, but not developing out of it. There is a great deal of useless controversy concerning science and religion. Many supposed scientific darts shot at Christianity are only the "crackling of thorns under a pot," soon to result in smoke and ashes by their own energies. These Christian forms are without power—saving and uplifting power—and are only the latest of the devil's devices to delude and destroy, and should be treated as such. Many of these attacks upon Christianity and also pretences at being Christian should be dealt with on Solomon's plan: "Answer not a fool according to his folly lest thou also be like him. Answer not a fool according to his folly lest he be wise in his own conceit." These are not contradictory propositions, but two sides of the one case with reasons for each. Acting thus, and at the same time clinging fast in life and teaching to the Word will carry God's children safely over many difficulties.

Yours, &c.,
October 25th, 1890.

R. H.

A DISCLAIMER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—With reference to your remarks about me in your note on the Yokohama Local Press in your issue of the 31st ult., kindly allow me to make an explanation about the phraseology of the letter you quote from the *Nichi Nichi*. One of my students called my attention to the paragraph in that journal alleging that I was to become editor of the *Fapan Herald*. As this was the very first I had ever heard of the matter, I naturally authorized him to contradict the statement at once. The letter in the *Nichi Nichi* was penned by him, and the first time I saw it was in the issue of that paper of the day following. Of course I admit that I ought to have seen his note before publication, but it so happened that I was called off elsewhere on important business and had no opportunity of doing so. I regret that the word "reputation" was employed,—with respect to that your remarks are quite pertinent and proper; an old pressman has no earthly reason to be ashamed of his profession. It is certainly news to me to learn that "for several days it has been matter of common talk that Mr. Murdoch was likely to be the new editor of the *Fapan Herald*." So far from being at all approached on the matter by any one interested, I could not at first make out precisely what my informant was talking about. The other observations in your note call for no special notice.

I am, etc.,

JAS. MURDOCH.

Tokyo, November 1st, 1890.

JAPAN AND THE CHICAGO EXPOSITION.

The following speech was delivered lately by Mr. Kuki before a large meeting of artists, exhibitors, and officials of the Educational Department at Mukojima:—

GENTLEMEN,—I wish to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to Mr. Goward for visiting our Exhibition, and at the same time for the detailed speech that he has just delivered. Although he modestly refrained from expressing criticism as to the exhibits in connection with our exhibition, I hope there may be an opportunity for his doing so, for any criticism coming from such an accomplished stranger as our guest will be profitable to you. As to the World's Columbian Exposition which he represents, he spoke in detail; but from the middle part of his speech, I feel that his modesty prevented him from sufficiently enlarging upon the magnitude of the interests which the United States have for us. I therefore beg to trespass upon your attention to show that from

every point of view there are reasons why our people must make extraordinary efforts in connection with the World's Columbian Exposition. Since I first heard of the exposition, I have used every occasion to impress upon both the Government and the people, and on all persons whom I considered to be related in any way to it, the necessity of making a special endeavour at this time. It is needless to say that since Mr. Goward's arrival, my interest in the matter has been redoubled. Since the time when Commodore Perry came here, the conditions of our country have rapidly changed, the tide of events has turned to progress; and a constitutional representative government is now to be established. These facts, it may be, are not now worth mentioning. Throughout these various changes, the feeling that Japan and the United States are sister countries, with friendly relations, is prevalent on both sides and has never been changed. Many difficulties have occurred; but the friendship between Japan and the United States has not once been interrupted. Before I proceed to state actual proofs of the friendliness and warm feelings of the United States, I wish to call to your remembrance the name of Mr. Harris, the Minister of the United States, who did his utmost in behalf of Japan after Commodore Perry. He came when the country was in a difficult position. The famous Mr. Seward was then Secretary of State. It seems that Mr. Harris's friendly intercourse with our country gave to his people at home, who naturally could not know the condition of Japan, a feeling of impatience, for Mr. Seward often urged and instructed him to decide on arbitrary measures. He nevertheless insisted on his course in the face of the higher authorities. Much is due to his influence that Japan did not venture in dangerous waters and was gradually able to lay the foundation of our present system. We must never forget this friend. The evidences that the United States have always preceded any other nation in giving friendly recognition to Japan in regard to diplomatic and economical questions are many. To quote important instances: the re-payment of the Shimomoseki indemnity was an act which finds no parallel in the history of other nations. The treaty of extradition made during my stay in Washington, obviously showing the recognition of mutual independence and of our judicial autonomy, is a new event since the opening of Japan. We often hear complimentary phrases and polite expressions in diplomatic circles, but nothing similar to this case where in reality Japan is treated on terms of perfect equality with the civilized nations of the West. Indeed, the articles of the treaty are far more special than those of the treaties that were made between the United States and other European Powers. Moreover, as to the revision of our treaty, the United States appears never to hesitate, if the condition of Japan seems to warrant a new treaty. And fortunately our people seem to be fully sensible of the friendship of the United States. Of the many foreign victims of conservative frenzy, only one American was sacrificed during the present transition when stubborn, vagrant Japanese wandered here and there cutting people down like melons. Further, think of the actual commercial relations between Japan and the United States. Raw silk, tea, fine art objects, miscellaneous goods, and grain, etc., are principally exported to the United States. According to recent returns, the Americans import over 20,000,000 yen of Japanese goods, while we import only about 5,000,000 yen of their goods. The case is reversed with the Europeans, whose exports exceed their demand for our goods. This is owing to the generosity of the Americans, and to the fact that they have such a good market in Europe, and that they have no time to endeavour to carry away the money of such a country as our own. Specially in recent years the increase of their wealth was phenomenally rapid, and in the short interval of ten years, this increase has enabled them to take the first rank in the world. When I was in the United States in 1884, I noted their wonderful progress since I had passed through in 1872. Still more, the progressive changes in Chicago, where the Great Exposition is to be, and the inland States, Nevada, Oregon, California, etc., has been almost beyond conception. At the French International Exposition of 1878 there were more than 50 Japanese merchants, and they used to say that the English bought articles that cost 10,000 yen after looking twice, the French five times, the Germans ten times, but the Americans only once. In short this is effected by the wealth of the United States as well as the generosity of the people. Indeed, the richness of their soil is a natural blessing. They, living far from other powerful nations, are seldom interfered with. It is well that they continue to observe the principle of the Washington and Monroe doctrines:

"We do not attack others nor let them attack our own." This principle being in fact suitable to the national policy, they are naturally on as good terms with small weak nations or newly civilized nations as with powerful nations, and thus it is by no means accidental that they should have the respect of all. International laws are thought to be binding on all the nations, but they are not quite recognised by any but the American nation. It may be seen by this that the Americans have such power that other nations cannot imitate them. In case of international dispute no European nation could offer to act as umpire, before it had thoroughly considered the result of its arbitration as well as the situation of its own territory. But on the contrary, the American nation can at once arbitrate without the least consideration for its own safety. An example is the late war between China and France. Those, therefore, who opened our country to foreign intercourse are Americans; they are particularly friendly with our people, and it is by the feeling between sister countries that their friendship to our people is so different from that to other new nations. The United States, therefore, being a friendly country, our people have the duty as well as the obligation of doing their best for the World's Columbian Exposition, in addition to the historical fact, spoken of by Mr. Goward, that Japan was the cause of Christopher Columbus' discovery of America. As most of those present here are distinguished artists, I will lay before you a few thoughts about art exhibits. In all civilized countries, fashion is very changeable. It occasionally happens that women's dress is three or four times changed by fashion during one season. The best kinds of straw hats exported from our country many years ago were at first much in demand at between 2½ and 3 dollars; but three or four years afterwards, the price falling to forty or fifty cents, they were heaped together with rubbish in the corners of shops. It is practically impossible that our people can compete with Europeans so long as we continue to occupy a lower position in respect of improved methods. Look at the state of the telegraphs, posts, and means of transportation generally, which are the most useful instruments of competition for trade purposes, and you will find that Japan has nearly ten times as much loss of time and expense as Europe. For this reason also it is impossible that our people can compete with Europeans. What, then must they do? The fine arts of Japan cannot of course be compared with those of Greece, but judging from their special characteristics, we may see that they have in some points been thought worthy of comparison with Grecian standards. Until recent years our ancient art objects were secretly shut up in Buddhist shrines, and to say nothing of foreigners, even Japanese were not able to examine them. On that account there were many things practically unknown to Japanese as well as to foreigners. But in recent years, with the assistance of a few American gentlemen, minute examination of our art treasures has been made and we have seen that the value of our ancient art was more than we had imagined. If these hitherto concealed products of our ancient art be exposed to the world at large, we firmly believe that impartial Americans will hesitate to say that they are not worthy to be compared with those of Greece. Encouraged by this exalted and hopeful gift of the ancients, and brought up in this beautiful atmosphere, you have already the basis of literary ability as well as of art. How happy then is the opportunity that has arrived for you to raise your standard in the United States, directing your attempts towards making the art of Meiji the brightest page in the art records of Japan. If you fortunately accomplish this object by such great efforts, and if you succeed in making the fine art of Japan esteemed by your friends the Americans, as equal to those of Greece or France, you need no longer be compelled to engage in impossible competition. And you may expect to stand in such a position as will enable you to control fashion to some extent. The distinguished gentlemen who are present here have only just enough time to design their work for the Columbian Exposition. They must not lose this opportunity. They must determine to pay for the friendship of the United States, and also add to the glory of our country by making great efforts. I have mentioned that the American people are extremely friendly to our nation, and have also referred to the reciprocal feeling existing among our people. The World's Columbian Exposition is a great opportunity to express this feeling. The exhibition will be a great advertisement for our future commercial transactions. Gentlemen, is this not a great opportunity to exert ourselves? This evening, I am here at the kindly invitation of Mr. Okakura, and having heard Mr. Goward's speech I wish to again thank him for his trouble and also to lay my mind before you. As to the details of the exhibits I hope to speak more fully hereafter.

A NIGHT ON DEADMAN'S ISLAND.

During the summer of 1878 I was employed on board of a schooner belonging to a Russian-American firm in Vladivostok extensively engaged in the business of collecting and curing seaweed on the island of Saghalien, where they had several large stations, employing quite an army of Russians, Chinese, and Ainios. During the summer we made regular voyages between Vladivostok and Chirikov Bay, where the largest depot was situated, and whence we returned deeply laden with seaweed ready for the market. Occasionally we brought over a number of Chinese coolies to relieve the time-expired men, and sometimes a Russian official or a clerk from the office in Vladivostok would take a passage with us; in fact, we carried passengers every trip, as our schooner was the only means of communication between the mainland and that part of Saghalien where we traded. We generally had several days' detention in Chirikov every voyage, and took the opportunity to make short excursions into the interior, hunting in the wild and thickly wooded country around the bay. There were three Europeans aft, the captain, mate, and second mate, and six half-breed Russian sailors forward, and on these expeditions two Europeans and two sailors usually made up the party. On the particular voyage to which I refer we had two passengers, neither of whom were in any way connected with our business, but both were fond of sport and adventure, and not afraid to rough it. I will call one of them Smith and the other Brown. As usual, we had several days' leisure after the stores for the settlements were discharged, and then a hunting trip to extend outside Cape Zintro, the southernmost point of the bay, was unanimously decided on; the captain, myself, and the two passengers to constitute the party, with two of the sailors to pull the boat. At daylight the next morning we left the vessel, and in a light land breeze we soon reached the beach. Our armament consisted of four repeating rifles and two shot guns, and we considered ourselves able to cope with any number of bears or wolves, the only dangerous animals on the island. It was really a splendid day for such an expedition; not a cloud in the sky, a roseate tint on the eastern horizon blending with gold where the morning sun just appeared above the water line. We started together, but before long we had separated, each one going his own way, having arranged to rendezvous about four o'clock on the beach. Our day's sport produced one deer, two land otters, and several foxes, each animal with an adventure attached to it of course; and Smith had seen the tracks of a large bear on the sandy shore inside of the cape, and as he wanted all of us to participate in the search for it, he had considerably left the animal alone and returned for our cooperation. It was rather late in the day to begin bear hunting, so we determined to pull around the cape and land on a small island inside the point and there pitch our tent for the night. The evening was calm; a light haze had set in, but not enough to obscure anything within a mile or so. The little island, as we approached it, appeared on the water like a veritable gem, a green bower floating in the sea, a vision of unsurpassed loveliness. We landed on one side where the vegetation grew down to high water mark in rank profusion. "What a lovely spot!" exclaimed Brown, as he kept his seat after the boat had touched the shingly beach, with his eyes riveted on the island. "What a lovely spot to catch the ague in!" remarked the more practical Smith, as he jumped ashore. We carried the boat well up among the bushes, and while the sailors were gathering wood and starting a fire the rest of us busied ourselves with rigging up the tent on a slightly elevated plateau in the middle of the island. The fire was lit outside one end of it, and the coffee pot was soon on, and the venison steaks broiling. We collected a large heap of grass, over which we spread sails and blankets, and made ourselves comfortable for the night. While supper was preparing we walked down to the water, in which we all had a plunge which greatly refreshed us after the day's fatigue. Supper over, we threw ourselves on our improvised couches, lit our pipes, and related our respective adventures during the day. The night was dark, but the stars twinkled with unusual brilliance. Everything was still around us; not a leaf stirred in the surrounding trees. The cuckoo's cry could be heard from the neighbouring shore, whence also an occasional yelp or howl sounded shrilly in the stillness. Our voices gradually ceased as we succumbed to the unnatural quiet around us, and we laid silently gazing at the countless known and unknown bodies performing the functions allotted to them by their creator. One of the sailors had just re-

plenished the expiring fire with several billets of wood, and had retired to his nest in a corner of the tent, when suddenly a strong puff of icy cold wind swept over us and almost lifted the tent bodily up, tearing the fastenings adrift and making a general wreck of it. It was over in a moment, and then everything was as still as before. We had to get up and secure the tent, and collect our apparel which had been sent flying in all directions. "That's a white squall," said the captain, showing off his nautical knowledge. "Somebody is walking over my grave," said Brown, wrapping himself up in a blanket, shivering. The same cold, disagreeable feeling passed through all of us, and we were to muffle ourselves in the blankets and retire inside the tent. The fire, which had also been scattered, was gathered together and soon blazed up again, throwing a cheerful light over the interior. I was just beginning to doze, when a loud "whiz" started me up into a sitting posture, —the tent was full of smoke and not a vestige was left of the just now so brightly burning fire. What had happened? We called up the sailors and told them to start the fire afresh, but after several attempts they had to give it up, as all the wood had apparently been thoroughly drenched in water and would not ignite. The captain called them a set of fools, and got up himself to light it, but as he was groping about in the dark a sudden push from behind sent him spinning on top of the black and sodden embers. He naturally imagined that one of us had played him this trick, and gave vent to his indignation, in the midst of which another thrust sent him on top of us, which effectually silenced him for the time. We advised him to get under the blankets, but just as he was covering himself the blanket was pulled out of his hands and thrown over to the other side of the tent; at the same time I felt a poke in my ribs from beneath, as if somebody was showing a stick up through the grass on which I was lying. Smith and Brown were accusing each other of pinching, while the two sailors had an altercation between themselves in their corner. We shouted inquiries in half a dozen languages, but no response was made, the cuckoo continuing to utter his plaintive cry from the clump of trees nearest us on the main island. We huddled together after this, though sleep was out of the question, for a while at least, and pipes were again lit. We were not troubled any more, and our courage rising, just followed jest, as we arrived at the conclusion that the affair resulted from natural causes. Finally Smith, who had a fine voice struck up "John Brown's body," and we all joined in the chorus; little imagining how appropriate that song was in the place we were camping. After another song had been sung we proposed to lay down again when Brown, looking at his watch, said it was midnight. "Now," quoted Smith, "is the witching hour of night, when graveyards yawn. . . ." he had got that far when the tent collapsed, enveloping us in its folds, while the same icy blast swept over us as before. It was with some difficulty we extricated ourselves, and emerged in the open and looked about us. Nothing could be seen,—all was still and calm! "Served us right for quoting scripture in this place," muttered the captain, in an angry tone to Smith. "It was not scripture!" he replied. "Yes, it was, and it was really uncalled for," insisted the captain. I suggested that we had better get our traps down to the boat and go on board, to which proposal all agreed, except the captain, who would not, and we had to remain. We left everything where it was thrown, and sat down on the ground with our backs against the boat, while the captain paced up and down, and there we remained until morning without any farther manifestations from the unseen. The time passed slowly, and it was with a sigh of relief that I saw daylight appear. We left the green, alluring island behind us without regret as we pulled away from it towards the schooner, and by this time the captain had regained his usual good humour.

When our nocturnal adventure was related to the people on shore they exhibited great amazement, and congratulated us on getting away safely with our lives, as the island was said to be haunted and every one shunned it after nightfall. The story told about it is that many years ago an epidemic raged in Chirikov, and nine-tenths of the population died, to the number of many hundreds. The dead were conveyed to this island and there buried in one immense pit (on which, I suppose, we pitched our tent), and it was said that several living, but comatose, victims were mixed with the dead. The island was after that time called "Dead Man's Island." This is not an idle tale, but a fact, on which I make no comment, only that "there are more things in heaven and earth than are dreamt of in our philosophy."

CRICKET.

MR. HORNBY'S TEAM V. MR. EDWARDS'S TEAM.

This match, played yesterday, resulted in a win for Mr. Edwards's team. Two respectable scores were made on each side, Watson 34 and Hannay 36 for Mr. Hornby; Garde 22 and Shepherd 39 for Mr. Edwards. If Mr. Hornby had received a little assistance from the half dozen of his team whose wickets went down for "now!" he might have had a different showing in the end, but he did not set the example. Off 115 balls from Edwards only 24 runs were made, and in this essay he took six wickets and bowled eleven maidens overs. Hunter's bowling was also good—32 balls, 8 runs, 3 maidens, 4 wickets. Following are the scores:—

MR. HORNBY'S SIDE.	MR. EDWARDS'S SIDE.
Mr. Hornby, b. W. Edwards. 32	Mr. Garde, run out. 22
Mr. Watson, c. Walter, b. W. Edwards. 34	Mr. Shepherd, b. Watson. 39
Major Hannay, not out. 36	Lieut. Harton, b. Hornby. 0
Mr. Lewis, b. W. Edwards. 0	Sir. Walter, run out. 9
Dr. Lawson, b. W. Edwards. 0	Mr. W. Edwards, not out. 14
Mr. Playfair, c. Pearson, b. Hunter. 7	Mr. Kenny, c. Fardell, b. Watson. 0
Mr. Gillett, b. Hunter. 0	Mr. Nash, run out. 0
Mr. Moss, c. Walter, b. Hunter. 0	Mr. Pearson, b. Watson. 3
Mr. Fardell, b. W. Edwards. 0	Mr. Motta, did not bat. 0
Mr. Abraham, lb.w., b. W. Edwards. 0	Mr. Hunter, b. Watson. 2
Mr. Watt, st. Garde, b. Hunter. 0	Mr. Hood, not out. 2
b. 7, lb. 1. 8	b. 4, lb. 1. 5
70	95

IN H.B.M. COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before J. TROUP, Esq., Acting Assistant Judge.
SATURDAY, November 1st, 1890.

ALLEGED STABBING ON SHIPBOARD.

Thomas Conway, seaman, of the barque *Abysinia*, was charged by Captain B. Robins Hilton with having on the 29th of July last assaulted W. Kelly and T. Bride on the high seas.

Bradford Robins Hilton, master of the barque *Abysinia*, deposed that when he went on deck on the morning of July 29th the mate informed him that the prisoner had refused to do some work he ought to have done. He had ordered him to take a bucket of water and clean up some tobacco juice which the mate said he had ejected while at the wheel. The prisoner refused, saying he had not done it. At eight o'clock when the watch was relieved and all hands were on deck, witness ordered them all aft to find out who had made the mess. The two men who had preceded Conway at the wheel did not chew tobacco, and as witness knew the mess was not there at eight o'clock the night before he was sure it was him. Witness had a great antipathy to tobacco chewing, and made it a rule never to allow it at the wheel, and that anyone who made a mess would have to clean it up. Conway denied it in a very loud, and not what witness called respectful, manner. The second mate Kelly then said the accused must have done it, and Conway pushed up to him and asked with an oath what had he to do with it. Witness could not remember all that was said, but eventually the second mate struck him. His manner was very aggravating and he dared the second mate to touch him. They had a scuffle and witness tripped the prisoner up on deck, told them to stop fighting, and told the second mate not to strike him. The prisoner then jumped up and ran to the main deck from the poop telling the second mate to go down and have a fair fight. The second mate followed him down. As he reached the main deck the prisoner was about 20 paces from him. He turned around, drew his knife and rushed towards Kelly. Kelly attempted to grasp the knife but was cut across the left temple, severing a small artery, from which he lost a great quantity of blood. Thomas Bride, a seaman, tried to take the knife from him, but the prisoner stabbed him in the left arm, and severed the main artery, and his hand was now useless. At one time he appeared so liable to bleed to death that witness ran for Mauritius for medical assistance. When within 300 miles of Mauritius he seemed so much better that witness concluded to resume the voyage. The detour lost 14 days. They got the knife from the accused and put him in irons. He resisted and threatened vengeance, especially against the man whom he had cut, Bride. Witness lashed him up to the mizen stays till he got a little subdued, and then put him in solitary confinement with irons on for a time; afterwards on promise of good behaviour witness allowed him to continue his work. About a fortnight after the occurrence, being short-handed, having two men disabled witness let him out to help work the ship.

Bride was in a very weak state and it seemed to make him nervous that Conway should be at liberty. So witness shut him up again. After about a month witness let him out again and he resumed his work for the rest of the voyage.

By the accused—I do not think I was the first to strike you. Kelly and you were in a struggle. I struck Conway once, but not first. It was when I tripped him.

By His Honour—The incident happened before we reached the Cape of Good Hope, latitude 36 deg. S. longitude 3 W. It was about a week from the time I bore away for Mauritius that I decided that his arm would heal. The blood would break out sometimes ten times a day. It was three weeks from the time he was cut before he showed signs of healing. He lost so much blood that if he had not been a man of great vitality he would have sunk under it.

William Kelly, second mate of the *Abyssinia*, deposed that he went on deck at four o'clock on July 29th. The mate asked who was at the wheel in witness's watch from eight to twelve. Witness told him they were called Liverpool and Charley. The mate said there was some tobacco juice at the wheel. Witness told him there was none at eight o'clock, and that neither of the men used tobacco. At eight o'clock the mate ordered all hands aft. The captain who was aft near the wheel asked who had spit tobacco juice at the wheel. Witness's two men said they did not use tobacco. The captain reminded them of the order given on leaving New York that there was to be no chewing of tobacco at the wheel. The prisoner spoke to the Captain in a very disrespectful way about spitting tobacco, and witness told the prisoner no one but him had done it. He called witness a liar; and, asking what he had to do with it, pushed right up to him. Witness took hold of him and he fell back and pulled witness on top of him. Witness let him go, and he got up and challenged him on the main deck to fight. Witness went after him and as he got to the foot of the ladder he turned around, and drew a knife and stabbed witness on the temple. He had another knife in his pocket but did not use it. Witness got hold of his hand trying to get the knife from him, and he cut witness in two or three different places through the clothes. Thomas Bride tried to take the knife. They got the knife from him and witness was bleeding from 20 minutes to half-past eight, and could not remember any more. He cut Bride in the arm.

By the accused—The captain was not standing between you and me when I first caught hold of you. The master did not strike you when I first took hold of you. I did not see the master strike you with a capstan bar. I do not know if you were lying on the deck when Bride was cut; you were on your feet when you made the other stab at me; you were not lying on the deck when you made a stab at my heart.

By the prosecutor—When I received the first cut Conway and I both fell down together. Conway got upon his feet again.

Thomas Bride corroborated in great part the previous evidence. He heard the master give instructions at the commencement of the voyage that there was to be no spitting at the wheel, and prisoner had repeatedly said he was dissatisfied with the order, which he said the captain had no right to make. Prisoner was the first to answer that it was not him when the master asked about the tobacco spitting over which the present trouble arose. After Kelly had been cut witness tried to stop prisoner, but before he knew anything the knife was through his arm. He was now a cripple, the lower part of his arm being paralysed. Witness did not kick prisoner in the side and ribs or strike him in the mouth. When prisoner said he would not be put in irons for the best man in the ship witness struck him with the hand that was not injured. He did not see the captain strike the prisoner on the side with a capstan bar and disable him. Witness did not see any one strike the prisoner when he was trying to take the knife from the prisoner. Witness had never said that the captain should put a spittoon at the wheel and that if he did not witness would spit there for spite.

Prisoner admitted having cut Kelly when he came down the ladder, but instead of injuring Bride he had himself been knocked down and did not get on his feet again.

The case was here adjourned till Tuesday at 10.30 a.m.

TUESDAY, November 4th, 1890.

Thomas Conway, a seaman of the barque *Abyssinia*, was brought up on adjournment from Saturday, charged with having wounded William Kelly and Thomas Bride on July 29th.

Roderick Mackenzie, able seaman of the *Abyssinia*, deposed that he saw the disturbance. He could not recollect the date. The Captain had given

orders to the men not to spit at the wheel. When he asked who had spit at the wheel witness did not think any one spoke. The Captain said that as Liverpool and Charley did not chew tobacco it was left between the accused and witness. Witness had been at the wheel from six to eight on the evening before, and the tobacco spit was not seen there at eight o'clock. The second mate said the accused had done it. The accused called him (the second mate) a liar, and used some bad language. They caught hold of each other. The Captain went to interfere and hit the accused a slight blow on the side of the head and tried to trip them both up. They were both down. The second mate, witness thought, was on the top of the accused. Mr. Kelly told the Captain not to interfere as he could manage. The Captain went back, and the second mate and the accused both got up. The accused put his hand to his hip, and Thomas Bride said he was getting a knife. The accused challenged the second mate to go down and have a square fight, and went down to the main deck, the second mate following him. The next thing witness saw was the accused going towards the second mate with his two hands over his head and a knife in one hand. Witness could not exactly see whether he cut him or not. They both closed and tumbled around for a while, and both fell down. Witness saw Thomas Bride swinging his hand and saying that he was cut. The mate interfered, and tried to take the knife from the accused, who tried to keep the knife, but it was taken from him. Witness saw blood on the mate's hand, but could not say where it came from. He saw the second mate strike the accused on the side of the head with his fist after he had been cut by him (the accused). They had considerable difficulty to put him in irons, and the captain gave him two or three blows with a capstan bar to quieten him, and witness saw the captain kick him once or twice. One of the sailors forward called Charlie kicked the accused. They put the irons on the accused and tied him to the fore stays, for how long witness could not say, but the Captain said three hours. Witness believed he got very good treatment since then. Witness saw Thomas Bride hit the accused while they were trying to put the irons on him; it was after he was cut. The accused sung out to the Captain not to allow any of the men to hit him after he got the irons on him.

His Honour adjourned the case till two o'clock for further evidence.

On resuming,

Dr. Stuart Eldridge deposed that he had seen Bride professionally on one occasion. He had examined his left arm and found the scar of a wound just above the wrist in such a location that if sufficiently deep it must have severed both nerve and artery. As a matter of fact that it had done so, so far as the nerve was concerned, was shown by the condition of the hand, which was almost entirely paralyzed and considerably wasted. The injury was of so severe a character as to practically incapacitate the man for any labour with that hand.

The accused asked that a witness he wanted should be brought, and in answer to His Honour said he supposed the evidence would be about the same as the previous evidence given. His Honour said it would not be necessary to get more evidence of that nature.

The accused said that on the morning of the trouble on the ship, the date of which he did not quite remember, he went on deck and walked aft, and saw that the men were working aft on the poop. He walked aft to relieve one of the men. Up to that time he heard no order from the master to muster all hands aft. He did not hear the Captain ask any one else if they had used tobacco, but he asked deponent personally if he had used any. Deponent told him he did use tobacco, and showed him a piece which he had cut from a half pound plug that morning and had put in his pocket. The master then asked him if he had expectorated at the wheel. Deponent told him he had not done so, but the mate accused him of having done it. Deponent wanted to explain to the Captain how he had come to notice the marks of expectoration during the night. He said that during the night when the mate first noticed them he did not speak to accused, but stood looking at them for full half an hour and also at witness to see if he would spit again. It was about 20 minutes past twelve o'clock. After he had stood there to see if witness would spit, he walked forward a little. Deponent took the opportunity when his back was turned to stoop down and rub his finger across the mess to ascertain if it was dry. He found it dry. After he had been relieved from the wheel the mate told him to get a broom and a bucket of water and scrub up his mess at the wheel. Deponent said he had not done it, and refused to scrub it up. The reason was that on two or three previous occasions deponent showed the mate

the tobacco spitting, and told him not to lay the blame on him. He said he would not blame him for anything he did not see him do, so deponent refused to scrub it up. At four o'clock the next morning he heard the mate and Kelly talking together about his having refused to scrub up the mess. Deponent afterwards heard Kelly and Bride speaking about it when he was in the fore-castle. He heard Kelly say "Wait till—" the hour he did not catch. There were then a few whispered words which he did not catch, and then he heard Bride say, "If he does—" and that was all witness could hear of whatever threat it was. At eight o'clock in the morning after he turned to, the master asked him if he spat on the deck at the wheel. Accused told him no, but the mate blamed him for it. The captain then asked the other two men who were at the wheel before him if they had done it. They said no, they did not use tobacco. The master then said it must have been him. Deponent wanted then to explain to the master by showing him what he had done the night previous, and that it was evident that it must have been there when he went to the wheel, when Kelly turned around and called him a foul name, and asked if he meant to say it was in his (Kelly's) watch. Deponent said he did not care when it was done, but it was there before he went to the wheel. Kelly then took hold of witness by the collar and said he would "do for" him. Deponent put up his hand to make him leave go, when the master struck him with both hands one after the other. Deponent could not see who it was that tripped him, but when he fell down the master kicked him a few times. Kelly had relaxed his hold of his collar, and deponent saw him push aside the master saying he could do for accused, and he was man enough for that. Deponent saw by the way things were going on he would have to use Nova Scotia law. Kelly seized him again when he was down and he (accused) told him to let him get up. Deponent knew that when the master did not check him for his interference he had all the officers to attack. He challenged Kelly on the main deck. He walked five paces, and turned, when he saw Kelly at the foot of the ladder on the main deck. Deponent drew his knife as he was walking over. He did not stab Kelly at random. He had the knife in his hand, there being about $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch, that could go into the flesh of anyone it cut. He walked over and deliberately cut Kelly, giving him a slight wound on the left side of the head between the eye and the temple. Then Kelly and accused, after handling each other roughly for some time, both fell. Accused could not say whether it was the mate who fell on him, but he held on to accused's right arm until he had the irons on his right wrist, so he thought it was the mate. When accused fell, Kelly was kneeling on his legs, and punching him in the face and head. Some other fellows were kicking him, but he could not say who they were. He got a severe blow on the shoulder which was from a capstan bar in the hand of the master, and another severe blow on the side of the head by the captain from the same bar. The other fellows still continued kicking him in the stomach, side, and in the head and face, knocking several of his teeth out (accused here showed two teeth). He got another kick in the temple which dazed him for a short time. He did not remember when he lost hold of the knife, but he had a cut on the left hand when he came to his senses. The were still abusing and kicking him, and when he opened his eyes properly he saw the mate trying to put the irons on his left hand as well as on his right. He refused to go in irons, saying he would "rather die than go in irons." The mate and the steward and someone else tried to put his hands together to put the irons on. The master said "look out and keep quiet," and gave him a blow which he believed had injured him for life. It knocked him stupid and dazed for a moment or more. He was weak as a child. The next thing he saw was Thomas Bride, who said, "You have cut me," and then he gave him a blow on the right leg, at the same time asking the master's permission to give him another kick. That was the first he knew of Bride being injured. The master then took deponent and tripped him up to the mizen stay. Deponent asked for something to wash his mouth out as his teeth were all loose, and got the consoling advice to "spit 'em out." He then asked for something to keep the cold air from the wound on his head as it was bleeding profusely. Some time after the master came with a piece of rag with some balsam on it and put it on his head. It remained on till about midday next day. The master went in at dinner time, and when accused asked for a fresh application of balsam he looked at his head and said "it was all right." The severity of Kelly's wound or the master's order kept him below till eight o'clock that morning. Deponent distinctly heard Kelly tell a Dutch boy

who was on board that he would punch him or anyone else if they spoke to accused. The effects of the last blow he received from the captain bar at the hands of the Captain kept him passing blood for 17 days, and in the left side there seemed to be something like a stitch, moving from one side to the other, almost preventing him from drawing his breath. He was still affected by it, and thought it was due to lying on his chest furling canvas when entering port. The disrespectful language of which the master complained was that witness did not say "sir" to him at the finish of every sentence.

His Honour committed the accused for trial.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, November 1st.

After the burning of Vitu by Admiral Fremantle, 10,000 rupees were offered for the Sultan's capture.

The Porte, fearing the occupation of Tripoli, is largely increasing the garrison there.

London, November 3rd.

Messrs. Dillon and O'Brien have arrived in New York, where they have met with an immense reception from the Irish Societies of that city.

London, November 4th.

The Czarewitch has started for Trieste, from whence he will proceed through Greece and Egypt to India and the Far East.

The Australian strike is virtually over.

(FROM THE "SINGAPORE FREE PRESS.")

London, October 15th.

Persistent rumours are being circulated that Messrs. O'Brien and Dillon went to Havre to embark for America, but missed the steamer, and that both are now hiding in the vicinity of Paris.

London, October 16th.

In the Portuguese Chamber, the Premier said that Government were unable to recommend the adoption of the African convention, but intimated that they were willing to accept amendments. He also said that unless the recent gunboat incident on the Zambesi was explained satisfactorily the difficulty of a speedy settlement was likely to be aggravated.

London, October 18th.

The Hon. A. J. Balfour, Secretary for Ireland, speaking at Newcastle, said that the Irish policy of the Government must be maintained, as anarchy, if allowed to continue, would inevitably result in disaster to Ireland.

London, October 20th.

A furious gale has been blowing at Scarborough for several days. Admiral Seymour, 45 officers, and 200 men belonging to the Channel Squadron, who were on shore have been trying since Friday to rejoin their ships, but were unable to do so. The vessels have since put to sea safely.

Messrs. O'Brien and Dillon are both in Paris, and have announced that they will sail for America on the 25th, remain there four months, then return to England and surrender themselves to the authorities.

London, October 21st.

Thirteen men on board H. M. S. *Camperdown* were injured while slipping the cables of their vessel during the recent gale at Scarborough.

The Marquis of Bute has, in response to the general wish, accepted the Mayoralty of Cardiff.

London, October 23rd.

A Radical has been elected for the Eccles division of South-East Lancashire in place of the Hon. J. F. Egerton (Conservative) deceased.

London, October 24th.

Speaking at Midcalder, the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone advocated the one man one vote principle and a shorter Parliament. He was also of opinion that the judgment of the masses on great questions was more enlightened than the judgment of the educated classes. He was disposed to support the eight hours' Miners Bill, but not the general bill until it had been more carefully examined.

TIME TABLES AND STEAMERS.

TOKYO-YOKOHAMA RAILWAY.

DOWN TRAINS LEAVE SHIMBASHI Station at 6.05* 6.40, 8.35, 9.30*, 10.25, and 11.45 a.m. and 1.25, 2.30, 3.55, 4.45, 5.50, 6.50, 8.30, 9.55, and 11.15 p.m.
UP TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 6.30, 7.20, 8.10, 9.15, 10.22, and 11.30 a.m., and 12.45, 2.30, 3.45, 4.55, 5.50, 6.50, 8.10, 9.10, 10.05, and 11.05 p.m.
FARES—First-class, *sen* 60; second-class, *sen* 40 and third-class, *sen* 20.

Trains marked (*) run through without stopping at Omori, Kawasaki, and Kanagawa Stations. Those marked (†) run through without stopping at Omori, Kawasaki, and Tsurumi Stations.

TOKAIDO RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA (down) at 6.50, 9.10, 11.25 a.m., and 12.40, 3.25, 4.55, 5.35, and 7.15 p.m.; and KOZU (up) at 6.35, 8.40, 9.40, and 11.07 a.m., and 1.17, 2.45, 4.58, 7.25, and 9.46 p.m.

FARES—To Hologaya, first-class *sen* 6, second-class *sen* 4, third-class *sen* 2; to Totsuka, *sen* 18, *sen* 12, *sen* 6; to Ofuna *sen* 36, *sen* 24, *sen* 12; to Fujisawa, *sen* 42, *sen* 28, *sen* 14; to Hiratsuka, *sen* 66, *sen* 44, *sen* 22; to Oiso, *sen* 75, *sen* 50, *sen* 25; and to Kozu, *sen* 93, *sen* 62, *sen* 31.

Down trains at 6.50 a.m. run no further than Kyoto arriving there at 11.30 p.m.; at 10.10 a.m. no further than Nagoya, arriving at 10.10 p.m.; at 12.40 p.m. no further than Shizuoka, arriving at 9.50 p.m.; at 3.25 p.m. no further than Shizuoka, arriving at 8.45 p.m.; and the train at 5.35 p.m. runs to Kobe, arriving at 11.45 p.m. next day.

A tramway runs between Kozu and Yumoto (distance 4 ri) Jinrikisha may be hired between Yumoto and Miyakojima (distance 13 ri).

OFUNA-YOKOSUKA RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE OFUNA (down) at 7.30 and 9.40 a.m., and 12.05, 1.30, 4.03, 6.14, and 8.30 p.m.; KAMAKURA (down) at 7.41 and 9.51 a.m., and 12.16, 1.41, 4.14, 6.25, and 8.41 p.m.; and ZUSHIYAMA (down) at 7.50 and 10 a.m., and 12.25, 1.50, 4.23, 6.34, and 8.50 p.m.; YOKOSUKA (up) at 6.45, 8.55, and 11.20 a.m., and 12.50, 3, 5.10, and 7.45 p.m.; ZUSHIYAMA (up) at 7.01, 9.12, and 11.36 a.m., and 1.06, 3.16, 5.26, and 8.01 p.m.; and KAMAKURA (up) at 7.11, 9.22, and 11.46 a.m., and 1.15, 3.26, 5.36 and 8.10 p.m.

FARES—To Kamakura, first-class *sen* 9, second-class *sen* 6, third-class *sen* 3; to Zushimura *sen* 15, *sen* 10, *sen* 5; and to Yokosuka *sen* 30, *sen* 20, *sen* 10.

TOKYO-SHIOGAMA RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE UENO (down) at 6.40, 8.50, and 11.40 a.m., and 2.40 and 5.40 p.m.; UTSUNOMIYA (down) at 10 a.m., and 3.03 and 5.59 p.m.; SHIRAKAWA (down) at 8 a.m., and 12.36 and 5.41 p.m.; KORIYAMA (down) at 9.25 a.m., and 1.54 and 6.58 p.m.; FUKUSHIMA (down) at 7.35 and 11.33 a.m., and 3.45 p.m.; SENDAI (down) at 6.15, 10.25, and 10.40 a.m., and 2.30, 6.35, and 6.50 p.m.

TRAINS LEAVE ICHINOSEKI (up) at 6.40 a.m., and 2.50 p.m.; SHIOTAMA (up) at 7 and 11.05 a.m., and 3.10 and 7.15 p.m.; SENDAI (up) at 7.35 and 11.40 a.m., and 3.45 p.m.; FUKUSHIMA (up) at 6.40 and 10.26 a.m., and 2.35 p.m.; KORIYAMA (up) at 8.29 a.m., and 12.22 and 4.28 p.m.; SHIRAKAWA (up) at 6.35 and 9.47 a.m., and 1.40 p.m.; UTSUNOMIYA (up) at 6.20 and 9.05 a.m., and 12.18, 4.14, and 6.33 p.m.

FARES—Ueno to Utsunomiya, first-class *yen* 2, second-class *yen* 1.32, third-class *sen* 66; to Koriyama *yen* 4.10, *yen* 2.74, *yen* 1.37; to Fukushima *yen* 5, *yen* 3.32, *yen* 1.66; to Sendai *yen* 6.45, *yen* 4.30, *yen* 2.15; to Shiogama *yen* 6.75, *yen* 4.50, *yen* 2.25.

TOKYO-MABASHI RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE TOKYO (Ueno) (down) at 6.40, 8.50, and 11.40 a.m., and 2.40 and 5.40 p.m.; and MABASHI (up) at 6.55, and 11.50 a.m., and 2.50 and 5.50 p.m.

SHINJIKU-HACHIOJI RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE SHINJIKU, TOKYO, (down) at 6.55 and 9.55 a.m., and 12.52, 4, and 7 p.m.; and HACHIOJI (up) at 5.25, 8.25, and 11.25 a.m., and 2.20 and 5.30 p.m.
FARES—First-class *sen* 90; second-class *sen* 60; third-class *sen* 30.

TAKASAKI-YOKOKAWA RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE TAKASAKI (down) at 6.30 and 9.25 a.m., and 12.20 and 3.15 p.m.; and YOKOKAWA (up) at 8 and 11 a.m., and 1.50 and 4.55 p.m.

FARES—First-class, *sen* 75; second-class, *sen* 45 third-class, *sen* 25.

OYAMA-MITO RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE OYAMA (down) at 6.50 and 9.25 a.m., and 2.20 and 5.15 p.m.; and MITO (up) at 6.25 and 10.10 a.m., and 2.05 and 4.55 p.m.

FARES—First-class, *yen* 1.20; second-class, *sen* 84; third-class, *sen* 42.

UTSUNOMIYA-NIKKO RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE UTSUNOMIYA (down) at 5.25 and 10.05 a.m., and 12.25* and 3.05 p.m.; and NIKKO (up) at 7.20 and 11.55 a.m., and 2.25 and 4.55* p.m.

* Through Trains to and from Utsuro.

KOZU-KOBE RAILWAY.

DOWN TRAINS LEAVE KOZU at 8.30 a.m., and 12.50, 2.13, 4.57, and 7.10 p.m.; GOTEMBA at 9.52 a.m., and 1.34, 3.35, 6.18, and 8.32 p.m.; NUMAZU at 5.20 and 10.40 a.m., and 2.30, 4.27, 7.09, and 9.24 p.m.; SHIZUOKA at 7.20 a.m., and 12.19, 4.12, 6.50, and 10.59 p.m.; HAMAMATSU at 6 and 10 a.m., and 2.40 and 6.45 p.m., and 1.16 a.m.; TOYOHASHI at 7.10 and 11.10 a.m., and 3.39 and 7.45 p.m., and 2.14 a.m.; OFU at 8.59 a.m., and 1.06, 5.22, and 9.28 p.m., and 4.02 a.m.; NAGOYA at 9.45, and 11.50 a.m., and 2. and 6.08 p.m., and 5 a.m.; Gifu at 10.53 a.m., and 1, 3.06, and 7.09 p.m., and 6 a.m.; OGAKI at 11.24 a.m., and 1.28, 3.33, and 7.38 p.m., and 6.28 a.m.; MAIBARA at 9.45 a.m., and 1, 2.49, 5.07, and 8.55 p.m., and 7.45 a.m.; HIKONE at 10.05 a.m., and 1.18, 3.02, 5.25, and 9.06 p.m., and 7.58 a.m.; BABA (Otsu) at 12.3, 1.15, 4.40, 7.10, and 10.43 p.m., and 9.34 a.m.; KYOTO at 12.45, 4.05, 5.35, and 8 p.m., and 10.14 a.m.; and OSAKA at 2.25, 5.35, 7.20, and 9.50 p.m., and 11.42 a.m.

UP TRAINS LEAVE KOBE at 5.55 and 9.55 a.m., and 1.55, 3.45, and 5.30 p.m.; OSAKA at 7.06 and 11.06 a.m., and 3.06, 5, and 6.36 p.m.; KYOTO at 5.35 and 8.40 a.m., and 12.40, 4.36, 6.40, and 8.05 p.m.; BABA (Otsu) at 6.18, and 9.31 a.m., and 1.30, 5.25, 7.31, and 8.50 p.m.; HIKONE at 7.56, and 11.05 a.m., and 3.03, 7.02, 9.08, and 10.25 p.m.; MAIBARA at 8.13, and 11.20 a.m., and 3.19, 7.20, and 10.42 p.m.; OGAKI at 9.30 a.m., and 12.30, 4.37, 8.46, and 11.54 p.m.; Gifu at 9.57 a.m., and 1.02, 5.04, and 9.15 p.m., and 12.17 a.m.; NAGOYA at 6, and 11 a.m., and 2.10 and 6.20 p.m., and 1.09 a.m.; OFU at 6.43 and 11.44 a.m., and 2.56 and 7.04 p.m., and 1.41 a.m.; TOYOHASHI at 8.30 a.m., and 1.30, 4.42, and 8.52 p.m., and 3.17 a.m.; HAMAMATSU at 6.30 and 9.45 a.m., and 2.45 and 6 p.m., and 4.25 a.m.; SHIZUOKA at 5.15 and 9.07 a.m., and 12.45, 5.20, and 9.45 p.m., and 7.08 a.m.; NUMAZU at 7.03 and 10.46 a.m., and 2.24 and 7.14 p.m., and 8.43 a.m.; GOTEMBA at 8.15 and 11.58 a.m., and 3.38 and 8.28 p.m., and 9.53 a.m.; and KOZU at 9.40 a.m., and 1.17, 4.58, and 9.46 p.m., and 11.07 a.m.

FARES—Kozu to Gotemba: first-class, *sen* 66, second-class *sen* 44, third-class *sen* 22; to Numazu *yen* 1.11, *sen* 74, *sen* 37; to Shizuoka *yen* 2.13, *yen* 1.42, *sen* 71; to Hamamatsu *yen* 3.57, *yen* 2.38, *yen* 1.19; to Toyohashi *yen* 4.23, *yen* 2.82, *yen* 1.41; to Ofu *yen* 5.22, *yen* 3.48, *yen* 1.74; to Nagoya *yen* 5.58, *yen* 3.72, *yen* 1.87; to Gifu *yen* 6.15, *yen* 4.10, *yen* 2.05; to Ogaki *yen* 6.42, *yen* 4.28, *yen* 2.14; to Maibara *yen* 7.05, *yen* 4.70, *yen* 2.35; to Hikone *yen* 7.17, *yen* 4.78, *yen* 2.39; to Baba *yen* 8.10, *yen* 5.40, *yen* 2.70; to Kyoto *yen* 8.40, *yen* 5.60, *yen* 2.80; to Osaka *yen* 9.21, *yen* 6.14, *yen* 3.07; and to Kobe *yen* 9.81, *yen* 6.54, *yen* 3.27.

The down train at 8.30 a.m. runs no further than Kyoto, arriving there at 11.30 p.m.; at 12.12 p.m. no further than Nagoya, arriving at 10.10 p.m.; at 5.05 p.m. no further than Shizuoka, arriving at 9 p.m.; and the train at 9.30 p.m. runs to Kobe, arriving at 12.50 p.m. next day. The up train at 5.55 a.m. runs no further than Shizuoka, arriving there at 8.40 p.m.; at 9.45 a.m. and 1.55 p.m. no further than Nagoya, arriving respectively at 6.07 and 10.15 p.m.; and the train at 3.30 p.m. runs to Shimbashi arriving at 1.40 p.m. next day.

NAGOYA-TAKETOYO RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE NAGOYA at 9.05 a.m., and 5.05 p.m., and TAKETOYO at 7.50 a.m., and 3.50 p.m.

FARES—Second-class, *sen* 74; Third-class, *sen* 37

TAKETOYO-OFU RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE TAKETOYO (up) at 5.40 and 10.40 a.m., and OFU (down) at 3.55 and 8.55 p.m.

FARES—Second-class, 26 *sen*, third-class, 13 *sen*.

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

STEAMERS LEAVE THE NIPPON HATOBATA daily at 8.30 a.m., and 12.30 and 3.30 p.m.; and LEAVE YOKOSUKA at 8.30 a.m., and 12.30 and 3.30 p.m.—Fares, *sen* 20.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki & Kobe.....	per N. Y. K.	Friday, Nov. 14th.
From America.....	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Nov. 8th.*
From Hongkong.....	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, Nov. 9th†
From America.....	per P. M. Co.	Thursday, Nov. 20th.‡
From Europe via Hongkong.....	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, Nov. 15th.§
From Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co.		Thursday, Nov. 20th.¶
From Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co.		Thursday, Nov. 20th.¶

* *Belgic* left San Francisco on October 21st. † *Gallic* left Hongkong on November 3rd. ‡ *City of Peking* left San Francisco on November 1st. § *McBourne* (with French mail) left Hongkong on November 6th. ¶ *Straits of Belle Isle* left Vancouver on November 1st. ¶ *Albatross* left Vancouver on November 3rd.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, via Shanghai.....	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Nov. 9th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki.....	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, Nov. 11th.
For America.....	per O. & O. Co.	Wedn'day, Nov. 12th.
For Europe, via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd.	Wedn'day, Nov. 12th.
For Hongkong.....	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Nov. 15th.
For America.....	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Nov. 2nd.
For Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co.		Thursday, Nov. 27th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Batavia, British steamer, 1,661, J. C. Williamson, 1st November.—Vancouver, B.C., 10th October, General.—C. P. M. S.S. Co.

Oceana, German steamer, 1,628, G. Petersen, 1st November.—Hamburg 6th September, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Musashi Kan (6), Japanese corvette, Captain Y. Matsunaga, 2nd November.—Shinagawa 1st November.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 2nd November.—Kobe 1st November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,182, Walter, 2nd November.—Kobe 1st November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Alacrity (4), despatch-vessel, Commander Robt. B. Macdonochie, 3rd November.—Yokosuka Dock 3rd November.

Kii Maru, Japanese steamer, 860, Kori, 3rd November.—Yokkaichi 2nd November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 389, Watanabe, 3rd November.—Yokkaichi 2nd November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 436, Miyagi, 3rd November.—Kobe 2nd November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Brown, 4th November.—Hakodate 1st November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Suru, 4th November.—Yokkaichi 3rd November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Wynn, 4th November.—Kobe 3rd November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kii Maru, Japanese steamer, 860, Kori, 5th November.—Yokkaichi 4th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 5th November.—Hakodate 3rd November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 386, Watanabe, 6th November.—Yokkaichi 5th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, P. Hussey, 6th November.—Kobe 5th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Harima Maru, Japanese steamer, 436, Kobayashi, 7th November.—Hakodate 4th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,240, Pender, 7th November.—Hakodate 5th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Suru, 7th November.—Yokkaichi 6th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

General Werder, German steamer, 1,820, Eichl, 7th November.—Hongkong 1st November, General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 7th November.—Shanghai and ports, 31st October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 386, Watanabe, 1st November.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 656, McMillan, 1st November.—Hakoda, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Drummond, 1st November.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Suru, 2nd November.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, P. Hussey, 2nd November.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Antenor, British steamer, 1,376, Grier, 3rd November.—Kobe, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Esmeralda, British schooner, 148, J. T. Harrison, 3rd November.—Guam, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Kaisow, British steamer, 1,934, G. L. Castle, 3rd November.—Kobe, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Kii Maru, Japanese steamer, 860, Kori, 3rd November.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,182, Walter, 3rd November.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 386, Watanabe, 4th November.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 4th November.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, Wm. Ward, 5th November.—San Francisco, General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Brown, 5th November.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Suru, 5th November.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 5th November.—Shanghai and ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kii Maru, Japanese steamer, 860, Kori, 6th November.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Musashi Kan (6), Japanese corvette, Captain Y. Matsunaga, 6th November.—Shinagawa.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Wynn, 6th November.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 436, Miyagi, 6th November.—Bonin Islands, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 386, Watanabe, 7th November.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Harima Maru, Japanese steamer, 436, Kobayashi, 7th November.—Nemuro, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 7th November.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Batavia*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mrs. Ballagh, Professor and Mrs. Dixon, and Mr. A. Cabellu in cabin; 5 Japanese in steerage. For Shanghai: Miss L. Oakland and Mr. T. W. Kingsmill in cabin. For Hongkong: Mrs. Margrave and Mr. J. B. Andrews in cabin; 162 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. D. Fraser in cabin; and 21 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Sagami Maru*, from Kobe:—20 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, from Kobe:—Mrs. Fownes and Mrs. Ono in cabin; 2 passengers in second class, and 49 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from Hakodate:—Mr. G. R. Smithers and Mr. G. Suku in cabin; 4 passengers in second class, and 46 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. C. E. Bigmore in cabin; 1 passenger in second class, and 44 passengers in steerage.

Per German steamer *General Werder*, from Hongkong:—Mrs. H. Engel, Miss Orth, Mrs. Sophie Kunkel, Messrs. Orth, Shiba, C. P. Low, Mr. and Mrs. Chang Ga Ting and 4 children, and Mr. Pak Chan in cabin; 1 European and 34 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Captain R. Crawford, Miss L. Philips, Masters T. and W. Squires, Mr. Nijima, Mr. Kawakami, Mrs. Carlew and child, Mr. Toda, Mr. A. A. Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. Miss Takehashi, Mr. Narisawa, Mr. and Mrs. Masujima, Mr. and Mrs. Hara, and Mrs. Asakura and 2 children in cabin; Messrs. Paichang, Matsumoto, Date, Ogawa, Mrs. Toda and 2 children, and Mr. and Mrs. Harada in second class, and 58 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, for Hakodate:—Mrs. Tanaka and Mr. Yasuda in second class, and 27 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, for Hakodate:—Mr. and Mrs. H. Komiya and Mr. O. Hotta in second class, and 38 passengers in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for San Francisco:—Mr. R. Heroze, Mrs. M. L. Wolber, Mrs. M. A. Happer, Miss Nyrip, Mrs. L. R. Valpy, Dr. and Mrs. J. J. Selwood, Messrs. Y. Nakai, Lee H. Newton, S. P. Dubrosky, T. Hayashi, A. J. E. Arch, Mr. and Mrs. W. J.

Ramage, Mrs. Fownes, Mr. Jas. Bond, and Mr. Geo. Nash in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Rev. W. R. and Mrs. Ferris, Rev. and Mrs. Gould and infant, Miss E. Parker, Mrs. Gillett and infant, Miss C. Rice, Mr. and Mrs. Ginnau, Miss Robertson, Mrs. Arthur Mack, Miss Li Shu Shang, Messrs. Wong, Li Pang Shing, T. W. Kingsmill, C. George, J. Mackenzie, Otori, Yamamoto, Hoo, Signor Lopez de Vega, and Bishop Williams in cabin; Mrs. Nakamura, Messrs. Seki, Ga, and Chun Kee in second class, and 89 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, for Kobe:—Messrs. Hopwood, Nang, and Machida in cabin; Mr. Vagi in second class, and 57 passengers in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for San Francisco:—

	TNA.	NEW YORK.	OTHER PORTS.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	720	228	1,140	2,097
Hyogo	—	1,535	1,477	3,012
Yokohama	3,329	5	554	2,988
Hongkong	174	—	—	174
Total	3,232	1,768	3,471	8,471

	NEW YORK.	OTHER PORTS.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	185	—	185
Hongkong	95	—	95
Yokohama	1,194	—	1,194
Total	1,474	—	1,474

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Batavia*, Captain Williamson, reports:—Left Vancouver the 10th October at 4 p.m.; experienced a succession of strong westerly gales with heavy sea throughout the voyage, during which ship was hove to several times; sighted Inuboye light the 1st November at 0.30 a.m. Arrived at Yokohama same day; had fine weather on the coast.

The Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, Captain Ekstrand, reports:—Left Kobe the 1st November at noon; had light winds and fine clear weather; passed Oshima light at 8.50 p.m.; had moderate to fresh northerly winds all the voyage. On the 2nd at 4.30 p.m. met British gunboat *Alacrity* coming from Yokosuka going south. Arrived at Yokohama at 5.30 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Sagami Maru*, Captain Walter, reports:—Left Kobe the 1st November at midnight; had light winds and fine weather all the way. Arrived at Yokohama the 2nd November at 11.30 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, Captain Wynn, reports:—Left Kobe the 3rd November at noon; had light variable winds and fine weather throughout the passage; passed Rock Island the 4th at 11.20 a.m. Arrived at Yokohama at 5 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, Captain Young, reports:—Left Hakodate the 3rd November at 2 p.m.; had light westerly winds and fine weather to Kinkasan, which was passed the 4th at 10.30 a.m.; fine weather continuing to Inuboye, which was passed the 5th at 1.30 a.m.; cloudy with thick rain; thence to port. Arrived at Yokohama at noon.

The Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Captain Hussey, reports:—Left Kobe the 5th November at noon; had light N.E. winds and rain; passed Oshima at 9.30 p.m. with light variable winds and heavy S.E. swell; the 6th at 3 a.m., a fresh breeze sprang up from the N.W. and continuing to 10.30 a.m., with fine clear weather; passed Rock Island at 1.30 p.m.; Cape Sagami at 4.30 p.m. Arrived at Yokohama at 7 p.m. Passed an American ship off Sagami bound in.

The German steamer *General Werder*, Captain Eichl, reports:—Left Hongkong the 1st November at 11 a.m.; through Formosa Channel had strong N.E. monsoon with rough sea; thence to port R. and N.E. winds and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 7th November at 3.40 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, Captain Conner, reports:—Left Shanghai the 31st October at 0.25 p.m.; had fresh N.W. winds and fine weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Nagasaki the 2nd November at 6 a.m. and left the 3rd at 5 p.m. Arrived at Shimonoseki the 4th at 6.15 a.m. and left at 8 a.m. Arrived at Kobe the 5th at 5 a.m. and left the 6th at noon; had light northerly winds and fine weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 7th November at 3.30 p.m. Passed two sailing ships off Kanon-saki.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The position of the Import Market remains unchanged. A few transactions have been reported in various counts of English Spinnings at low rates, but there is no life in the business. Bombays are unchanged. Two or three sales of Shirtings have also been made at former quotations, but the market is lifeless. Sales for the week amount to 225 bales English Yarns, 65 bales Bombays, and 4,250 pieces Shirtings.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

Grey Shirtings—84 in, 34 yds, 39 inches	\$1.35 to 1.50
Grey Shirtings—90 in, 34 yds, 45 inches	1.60 to 2.52
1. Cloth—7 1/2, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.15 to 1.47
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.20 to 1.60
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.70 to 2.00
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	0.07 to 0.14
Turkey Reds—14 to 24 in, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.00 to 1.15
Turkey Reds—24 to 30 in, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.20 to 1.40
Turkey Reds—34 to 40 in, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.70 to 2.05
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	4.50 to 6.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 3/4 inches	0.50 to 0.65
Taffetas, 12 yards, 43 inches	1.35 to 2.25

WOOLLENS.

Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches	\$1.00 to 1.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.24 to .28
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.20 to .24
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.16 to .20
Mousseline de Laine—Cape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.14 to 0.15
Cloths—Pilot, 54 to 56 inches	0.30 to 0.45
Cloths—Presidents, 54 to 56 inches	0.50 to 0.60
Cloths—Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.35 to 0.60
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 5 1/2 yds	0.30 to 0.38

COTTON YARNS.

Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	\$2.50 to 26.00
Nos. 16/24, Medium	26.00 to 27.00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	27.00 to 28.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	29.00 to 30.00
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	27.75 to 28.50
Nos. 28/32, Medium	28.50 to 30.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	30.25 to 31.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	34.00 to 35.00
Nos. 48, Two-fold	33.50 to 35.00
Nos. 48, Two-fold	35.50 to 36.00
Nos. 90s, Bombay	70.00 to 78.00
No. 168, Bombay	72.00 to 78.00
Nos. 10/14, Bombay	—

METALS.

Another wave of dullness appears to have swept over this market. Buyers are scarce, and the native dealers seem to be much discouraged at the bad state of domestic trade. Prices nominally unchanged, but weak. The stock of Nailrods is only about 20 tons, and it seems as though this class of Iron was being entirely superseded by Wire Nails.

Flat Bars, 1 inch	\$2.65 to 2.75
Flat Bars, 1 1/2 inch	2.75 to 2.85
Round and square up to 2 inch	2.65 to 2.85
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.
Nailrod, small size	Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	2.80 to 3.00
Sheet Iron	3.20 to 3.40
Galvanized Iron sheets	5.80 to 6.00
Wire Nails, assorted	4.40 to 4.90
Tin Plates, per box	4.60 to 4.80
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.25 to 1.27

KEROSENE.

The better feeling reported in Tokyo a week ago seems to have passed away, and the market is once more dull. Recent sales have not been large, but holders generally are somewhat firmer, hoping for a continuance of low exchange. The stock here now is large, about 800,000 cases, say 450,000 American and 350,000 Russian.

QUOTATIONS.

Chester	\$1.65 to 1.67
Camel	1.62 to 1.65
Devon	1.60 to 1.62
Russian	1.55 to 1.57

SUGAR.

Next to nothing moving in Sugar, transactions scarcely being capable of making quotations.

White Refined	\$5.50 to 7.90
Manila	3.60 to 4.30
Taiwanfoo	—
Pentama	2.75 to 3.00
Namida	2.80 to 3.00
Cake	3.10 to 3.80
Brown Takao	4.15 to 4.20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last report was of the 31st ult., since which date settlements amount to 365 piculs divided

thus:—Filatures 216, Re-reels 268, Kakeda 81. In addition to these purchases by Foreigners, direct shipments have been 160 bales, making the total business of the week equal to 735 piculs.

The bulk of the above settlements were made before the departure of the *City of Rio de Janeiro*, which steamer carried about 1,200 bales, the largest shipment of the present season. Since she sailed the Market has been quiet; prices are irregular, some holders appearing anxious to sell, although they are not willing to accept very much reduction on previous quotations. Exchange has been fairly steady, closing about the same as last week.

Quotations given below show a further decline in some classes, while others are strong. It will be observed that the stock of Filatures alone now reaches 10,000 piculs; but notwithstanding this, we cannot purchase at much below last week's rates, although holders express their willingness to sell. Should the Market continue inactive for a few days, we look for a further decline.

The business done has again been mainly for America. There are telegraphic enquiries from Lyons, but at present holders and buyers fail to meet each other.

There have been two shipping opportunities since we last wrote, English and American Mails both taking Silk. The first named, *Ancona*, on the 1st instant, had 161 bales for Europe, while the *City of Rio de Janeiro* on the 5th instant took 1,194 bales for New York. These departures bring the export figures up to 7,271 piculs, against 20,176 last year and 14,898 to the same date in 1888.

Hanks.—There has been no settlement during the week, but as we write some purchases of common *Hachoji* are reported at \$525. Stock is small in this class and holders are strong.

Filatures.—These have declined about \$80 on the week, but shippers require further concessions before they will operate to any large extent. Trade in fine sizes is especially dull, and since the steamer left there has been nothing done in full sizes. Holders are round offering their wares, but have not as yet made up their mind to accept the prices which buyers can afford to pay.

Re-reels.—A fair amount of business was done at last week's quotations before the departure of the steamer; at the time of writing prices may be quoted \$10 lower, but without inducing any general business.

Kakeda.—These also show a decline of \$10 per picul, and some business has been done at the decline. Among the latest purchases are *Flower Girl* and similar silks at \$607 1/2, *Three Horsehead* \$575, *Tiger Chop* \$585.

In other Classes there has been no business.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No. 1	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	Nom.
Hanks—No. 2 (Jushu)	Nom.
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	575 to 580
Hanks—No. 2 (Jushu)	570 to 575
Hanks—No. 2 1/2	560 to 565
Hanks—No. 3	550 to 555
Hanks—No. 3 1/2	525 to 530
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	650 to 660
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	650 to 660
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	650 to 670
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	630 to 640
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	620 to 625
Filatures—No. 2, 10/13 deniers	630 to 640
Filatures—No. 2, 13/18 deniers	610 to 615
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	600 to 605
Re-reels—Extra	600 to 615
Re-reels—(Shinshu and Oshu) Best No. 1	630 to 635
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	620 to 625
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	590 to 600
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	580 to 585
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	570 to 575
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	560 to 565
Kakedas—Extra	Nom.
Kakedas—No. 1	620 to 625
Kakedas—No. 1 1/2	600 to 610
Kakedas—No. 2	590 to 595
Kakedas—No. 2 1/2	580 to 585
Kakedas—No. 3	570 to 575
Kakedas—No. 3 1/2	560 to 565
Kakedas—No. 4	550 to 555
Oshu Sendai—No. 2 1/2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1	Nom.
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodal—No. 2 1/2	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 7th Nov., 1890:—

	SEASON 1890-91.	1889-90.	1888-89.
Europe	2,100	9,296	6,717
America	4,987	10,567	8,014
Total	7,087	19,863	14,731
	7,271	20,176	14,898

	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Settlements and Direct	7,050	22,600	15,700
Export from 1st July	7,050	22,600	15,700
Stock, 7th November	16,600	6,800	11,850

Available supplies to date 23,650 29,400 27,550

WASTE SILK.

Settlements for the week amount to 800 piculs, divided thus: *Cocoons*, 51; *Noshi*, 649; *Kibiso*, 100. The large business noted in our last was kept up

during the early part of the week, but since then trade has fallen off and the total business of the week is only half that of the previous one. Prices are well maintained, and holders are strong, having sold largely during the last month and are not in a hurry to reduce their quotations.

The English Mail Steamer *Ancona* took 318 bales chiefly for Europe, and the *City of Rio de Janeiro* had 11 bales of *Mawata* for New York. These departures bring the present export figures to 7,239 piculs against 7,179 last year and 7,780 to the 7th November, 1888.

Pierced Cocoons.—Only 50 bales have been booked at previous rates, and the Market drags heavily along.

Noshi.—Again considerable business in the better kinds; *Joshu* being especially well patronised at prices ranging from \$80 to \$94 according to quality. *Oshu* has again been done at \$145, with fine *Bushu* at \$130.

Kibiso.—There has not been a large trade in this class; one parcel of *Sendai* brought \$113, and *Filatures* have been taken in small lots at from \$118 to \$124.

In other sorts nothing has been done; quotations generally remain unchanged.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	\$120 to \$130
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	150 to 160
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	140 to 145
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	130 to 135
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	140 to 150
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	100 to 105
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	110 to 120
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	100 to 105
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	130 to 140
Noshi-ito—Jushu, Best	92 1/2 to 95
Noshi-ito—Jushu, Good	85 to 90
Noshi-ito—Jushu, Ordinary	80 to 85
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	110 to 120
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	100 to 105
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	90 to 100
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	80 to 90
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	70 to 75
Kibiso—Jushu, Good to Fair	50 to 60
Kibiso—Jushu, Middling to Common	35 to 30
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good	45 to 40
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	35 to 30
Kibiso—Noshi, Good to Common	15 to 8
Mawata—Good to Best	180 to 200

Export Table Waste Silk to 7th Nov., 1890:—

	SEASON 1890-91.	1889-90.	1888-89.
Waste Silk	6,550	5,683	7,921
Pierced Cocoons	689	2,036	759
	7,239	7,719	7,780
Settlements and Direct	7,239	7,719	7,780
Export from 1st July	11,500	10,550	9,900
Stock, 7th November	11,600	12,550	11,400

Available supplies to date 23,100 23,100 21,300

Exchange has remained through the week without any great variation, but has dropped at the close to the following rates:—LONDON, 4 m/s. Credits, 3/5 1/2; Documents, 3/5 1/2; 6 m/s. Credits, 3/5 1/2; Documents, 3/5 1/2; New York, 30 d/s. U.S. \$83; 4 m/s. U.S. \$83 1/2; PARIS, 40/s. fcs. 4.35; 6 m/s. fcs. 4.37.

Estimated Silk Stock, 7th Nov., 1890:—

	RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	400	—	—	—
Filatures	10,000	—	—	700
Re-reels	4,800	—	—	4,150
Kakeda	1,030	—	—	6,150
Oshu	360	—	—	300
Laysam Kinds	70	—	—	300

Total piculs 16,600 Total piculs 11,600

TRA.

A few small parcels continue to be fired, but the season is rapidly drawing to a close.

	PER PICUL.
Common	\$1 1/2
Good Common	12 to 13
Medium	14 to 15
Good Medium	16 to 17
Fine	18 to 19
Finest	20 to 22
Choice	23 & up'ds
Choicest	—
Extra Choicest	—

EXCHANGE.

There have again been fluctuations, though not great, but the latest movement is another drop.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/4
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/4
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/4 1/2
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/5
On Paris—Bank 1 month's sight	4.90
On Paris—Private 1 month's sight	4.90
On Hongkong—Bank sight	4.30
On Hongkong—Private to days' sight	4 1/2 prem.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	2 1/2
On Shanghai—Private to days' sight	2 1/2
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	83
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	83
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	82
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	83

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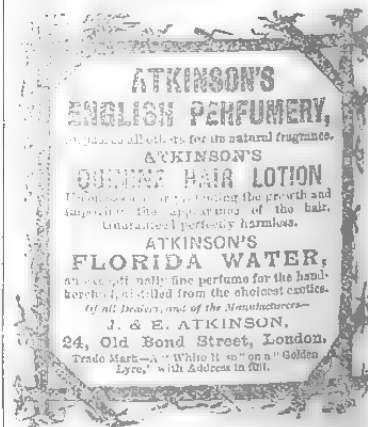
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

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AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, NOVEMBER 15TH, 1890.

通信書部可

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, NOV. 15, 1890.

BIRTH.

At No. 135, Bluff, on the 10th inst., the wife of CHAS. W. JOHNS, of a Daughter.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE *Hiyei* and *Kongo Kan* left Singapore on the 8th instant, *en route* for Turkey.

DON AUGUSTIN GONZALEZ DEL COMPILLO, Secretary of the Spanish Legation, has taken up his residence in Tokyo.

THE Chinese Minister was decorated with the First Class Order of the Rising Sun on the 1st instant.

It is intended by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha to develop communication between Nagasaki and Hongkong.

HIS IMPERIAL HIGHNESS PRINCE KITASHIRAKAWA left the capital on the 8th instant for Gumma Prefecture.

HIS IMPERIAL HIGHNESS PRINCE ARISUGAWA (TAKUHITO) returned to the capital from Ibaraki on the 11th instant.

HIS IMPERIAL HIGHNESS PRINCE ARISUGAWA (TAKUHITO) left Tokyo on the 11th instant for Yokosuka.

COUNT INOUYE, who left Tokyo on the 11th instant for Yamaguchi Prefecture, will not return to the capital till April next.

THE amount of silver coins struck in the Osaka Mint during October last was yen 1,655,220 (one yen pieces).

THE French Representative gave a farewell entertainment on the 7th instant to Captain Bougouin, *Attaché* of the French Legation,

who will leave Japan about the end of the present month. Some twenty Japanese and foreigners were present.

MR. TATENO, Minister Plenipotentiary, will, it is stated, be appointed Japanese Representative to the United States shortly.

HER MAJESTY THE EMPRESS attended the bazaar held in aid of the Tokyo Charity Hospital on the 13th instant at the Rokumei-kan.

THE line of the Kyushu Railway Company between Akama and Ogawa, having been completed, will be opened for traffic on the 15th instant.

A VIOLENT typhoon swept over the island of Torishima, Okinawa Prefecture, on the 22nd ultimo, 55 houses being destroyed or damaged, and 2 boats swept away.

HER MAJESTY THE EMPRESS, accompanied by Viscount Kagawa and several court ladies, paid a visit to the Shiba Detached Palace on the 7th instant.

THE number of visitors to the Fine Art Exhibition, Uyeno, during two weeks ended the 3rd instant, was 2,532, of whom 7 were special, the remainder being ordinary visitors.

THE total receipts of the Patents Bureau in the Agricultural and Commercial Department during the month of October last amounted to yen 1,388.65, which shows an increase of yen 164.074 as compared with the previous month.

AN outbreak of fire took place early in the morning of the 7th instant in a house at Nibancho, Niigata, and eleven dwellings were entirely destroyed before the flames could be got under control.

IN consequence of the recent storms in Kagoshima Prefecture 1,330 dwellings, 2 village offices, and 6 schools were destroyed, 97 boats being lost, and 16 persons killed. Much damage was also done to crops.

MESSRS. BAN SEIJUN, Ishii Ikujiro and Hara Shimato, merchants of Tokyo, were permitted by the Authorities recently to establish a private bank at Nishikicho, Kanda, under the name of the Kanda Ginko, with a capital of yen 50,000.

THE Chinese Minister, who is about to leave Japan for home, will give a farewell entertainment on the 15th instant at the Legation to Ministers of State and high officials of the various Departments.

AN outbreak of fire took place early in the morning of the 8th instant in a house at Kayechimachi, Nagoya, and thirty-four houses were entirely destroyed, four dwellings being partially burned, before the flames could be subdued.

MR. ARAI SAKU and two other merchants of Tokyo applied to the Authorities on the 7th instant for permission to establish a bank at Hongo under the name of the Tote Ginko (Eastern Capital Bank) with a capital of yen 150,000.

THE Sanitary Bureau in the Home Department reports that the number of persons attacked by cholera throughout the Empire from the commencement of the epidemic to the 11th instant, was 44,008, resulting in 30,611 deaths.

A MEETING of the Privy Council was held on the 11th instant, and was attended by Counts Oki, Sasaki, and Soejima, Viscounts Enomoto,

Fukuoka, and Sano, and Messrs. Kono, Tanaka, Osaki, Motoda and Inouye, the proceedings closing at 3 p.m.

MR. KAWAKAMI KUCHI, Director of the Commercial Bureau in the Foreign Department, left Tokyo on the 13th instant for Osaka, whence he will proceed to Korea.

AN outbreak of fire took place on the night of the 30th ultimo in a house at Kuroshimamura, Fugeshi-gun, Ishikawa Prefecture, and destroyed thirty-two dwellings, three houses being partially burned before the flames could be got under control.

THE line of the Sanyo Railway Company between Une and Nishigahara, having been completed, will be opened for traffic shortly. The line of the company between Funasaka and Kurashiki, which is now in course of construction, will be completed in February next.

MESSRS. YAMAMOTO HIROSHI and Nakajima Takeshi, of Tokyo, have applied to the Authorities for permission to establish a private bank at Horidome Nichome, Nihonbashi, under the name of the Yamamoto Ginko, with a capital of yen 100,000.

AN ordinary Cabinet meeting was held on the 11th instant, at which there were present Counts Yamagata, Saigo, Yamada, Matsukata, Oyama, and Goto, Viscounts Aoki and Kabayama, and Mr. Mutsu. The proceedings lasted from ten in the forenoon till three in the afternoon.

A POLITICAL lecture meeting was held on the 9th instant at the Tsuta Theatre, Yokohama, when speeches were delivered on the subject of treaty revision by Messrs. Akiyama Kotaro, Hamano Kyusuke, Kobayashi Sentaro, Mayeda Kagaku, Ayai Takeo, Kaji Suyekichi, and several other members of the Equal Treaty Association.

THEIR IMPERIAL HIGHNESSES PRINCES KOMATSU and FUSHIMI, Prince Sanjo, Viscount Hijikata, Minister of State for the Imperial Household, Counts Inouye, Terajima (Vice-President of the Privy Council,) Okuma, and Sasaki, Viscounts Enomoto, Sano, and Messrs. Motoda, Nomura, Tanaka, and Osaki, Privy Councillors, had the honour of dining with the Emperor on the 8th instant at the Palace.

THE Import market may still be described as stagnant, but if there is any change in the situation it is in the position of the seller, who now demands better prices—indeed has refused offers which are a distinct advance on the recent rates paid. This being the case, trade has of course been small, and the few hundred bales of Yarn sold have been English and Bombays in equal quantities. The Metal trade is depressed, and stocks are ample for some time to come. Prices for Kerosene are nominal and weak, the two large cargoes last arrived bringing the stock here to close upon a million cases. Sugar is dull, and the Tea trade is nearly over. The Silk business continues in a most unsatisfactory condition. There is now lying here an immense stock of Silk in good assortment and of high quality, but buyers cannot operate at the price for which it is held, and many holders will not listen to any offer that can be made. There has been a slight revival in the demand for Waste Silk, and though over 1,000 piculs have passed the scales, more business might have been done were buyers and sellers not so far apart in their ideas of values. Exchange has not fluctuated quite so much, and may be called fairly steady, though rates are not strong.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE "TOKYO KORON" ON DIPLOMATIC METHODS.

"The diplomatists of the world are wont to regard strategy and expedients as essential in international negotiations. At one time they employ persuasion; at another threats, resorting to a variety of devices. There is no apparent reason why Japan should not adopt a similar course in seeking to accomplish Treaty Revision, but in our humble opinion those who are entrusted with the task will not advance but rather gravely injure the national interest by such methods. What we desire to see is an effort to accomplish the country's object by means of the weapons of sincerity, publicity, and candour. We have perfect confidence in the ability and diplomatic competence of the present Minister of Foreign Affairs and those who are associated with him in the duty. Compared with the diplomatists of the West, they are doubtless not inferior in talent and experience. But Western diplomatists remind us of the old-time statesmen of China: the policy which they applaud in the morning will in the evening be replaced by another and opposite policy equally imperative in theory. Their cleverness and the skill which they have acquired from long practice are remarkable. Such men make no signal failures in negotiation though resorting to all sorts of devices, neither do they inflict injury on the national interests. But, on the other hand, if small statesmen without experience follow a similar course in diplomacy and resort to strategy, the experiment is more hazardous than that of putting a naked sword into the hands of a child. The diplomatic representatives of the great and strong States of the West, relying on the prestige and power of their country, may find strategy a very convenient weapon, but the representatives of a small and weak State like ours can derive no benefit by relying on the nation's prestige *vis-à-vis* the Great Powers of the West. Let their methods in negotiation be never so clever, they can only reach their goal by following the path of public justice and right. Nevertheless, it does not greatly concern us that our statesmen should resort to various devices in their dealings with foreign countries. If only ability to pursue that programme exists, its adoption need not involve serious discomfiture, but may, on the contrary, result in speedy attainment of the object in view. But if strategy be employed not only towards foreign nations but also towards the people of the country; if, for the purpose of accomplishing Treaty Revision various devices be used to deceive the people and to carry out a scheme of revision calculated merely to meet the needs of the moment, the injury done to the national interests may be most grave. If those entrusted with the task of revision, having decided on a programme, seek to obtain the support of public opinion, now by putting golden gags into the mouths of their opponents, now by working upon the feelings of politicians, or by other various stratagems, the result cannot fail to be evil. The problem of Treaty Revision is one of unparalleled national difficulty. To accomplish its satisfactory solution demands extraordinary effort. The arduous nature of the undertaking has been amply proved by the story of past failures. A problem of such magnitude cannot be achieved by the strength of a little band of statesmen. The whole nation must be made a party to the conference, to the end that by wide consideration and careful examination of all the facts, a really satisfactory scheme of Revision may be definitely resolved on. To seek a satisfactory issue through the medium of petty stratagems, by hood-winking public opinion and by stopping the mouths of critics, is the method of men who do not know the art of governing. Rumour says that the officials engaged in the business, dreading lest another ebullition of public opinion should interrupt the proceedings, have taken various steps to reach the politicians who led last year's opposition, to the end that things may be suffered to proceed quietly. If his report be true, it indicates the existence of

grave danger to the State. Therefore we cannot pass it over in silence. It behoves the officials concerned to consider this point carefully."

We translate the above from the *Tokyo Koron*. It is a species of Delphic Oracle, interesting because it leaves so much to the imagination of those interpreting it. All the early part of the article can only mean that instead of resorting to the usual methods of diplomacy, the Government should seek the direct coöperation of the nation—in other words, should submit its programme of Treaty Revision to Parliament, which is utterly out of the question, being a course of procedure as impracticable in Japan as it is everywhere. All the latter part of the article, which, like the postscript to a lady's letter, evidently enshrines the kernel of the writer's purpose, is nothing more or less than an accusation that the Government has endeavoured to obviate any fresh ebullition of ignorant and intolerant public opinion by appealing directly to the intelligence of political agitators. And what if the Government has done so? Several instances are on record of men who from violent opposition were converted to acquiescence so soon as direct converse with a Minister or Secretary enabled them to obtain a clear insight into the situation. If the Authorities are taking steps to enlighten the darkness of agitators who fondly imagine that all the world is at Japan's feet and that she need only be persistent and importunate in order to get exactly what she wants, then the Authorities are acting very prudently and patriotically. All this high-flown talk about national injury and so forth is veritable fustian. The section of intemperate political agitators who revolted against Count Okuma's programme last year, and who, according to the *Tokyo Koron*'s view, seem to labour this year under the hallucination that Japan is already in a position to claim exactly the same international treatment as that accorded by the Great Western Powers to one another—these agitators are not sole guardians of the national safety. If the interests of the country can only be served by suffering them to give full vent to their intemperate zeal and indiscriminating opposition, then the interests of the country are in a condition of decided jeopardy.

Since writing the above we find that the *Tokyo Koron* has withdrawn its article by means of the regular formula, an admission of incorrect information. But two lines of recantation cannot remove the impression produced by two columns of argument. It seems to us that, in this instance, the *Koron* allowed itself to be converted into an instrument for influencing public opinion in a manner diametrically opposed to the principles which it avowedly advocates.

THE AGRICULTURAL AND COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT.

Among the economical schemes devised by reformers in opposition, the abolition of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce is the principal. It is said that many politicians, among both nobles and commons, are in favour of such a measure. The Department, however, was not established without full consideration. At the time when it was called into existence, some discussion took place within the Government, and very full investigations were made, with the result that the necessity of organizing the Department received full recognition. In view, however, of the strong probability that a motion will be made in one or both houses to do away with the *Noshomusho* altogether, and entrust the essential parts of its business to the Home Department, H.E. Mr. Mutsu, we read in the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, has directed the officials of the Department to prepare statistics and other information with the view of giving full answers to any questions raised in the Diet. The *Yomiuri* observes that it is easy to talk of incorporating the functions of the *Noshomusho* with those of other Departments, but that, in point of fact, such a proceeding would not be easy, since the *Noshomusho* includes several important Bureaux which are not represented in

other sections of the Government. The Bureau of Forestry, for example, is entrusted with business of such a character that, so far from abolishing it, there has often been talk of extending its scope, and even of raising it to the rank of an independent section of the Government. The same is true in a modified sense of the Bureau of Commerce and Industry and that of Mines. The *Yomiuri Shimbun* says that at a time when the public mind is turned to the improvement of agriculture as vitally necessary to the national prosperity, to propose the abolition of the Bureau of Agriculture seems like talking of diminishing the country's productions. We do not quite see the sequitur of this latter idea, believing, as we do, that agriculture in common with all other wealth-earning pursuits, has never owed much to official aid anywhere. With regard, however, to the broader question of abolishing the *Noshomusho*, if a strong feeling exists on the subject in the ranks of the opposition, it will be well that the subject should be thoroughly ventilated in the Diet.

ALLIANCE OF PARTIES IN THE DIET.

The contemplated organization of a new party, under the title of National Liberals forms the principal topic of present conversation among men interested in politics. Various speculations are made as to the probable effects of the new party's formation on the relative positions of existing parties. According to impartial observers, it is considered very likely that the Constitutional Liberals and the *Kaishin-to* will be drawn more closely together, while a section of the *Taisei-Kai* (Independent) will probably unite with the National Liberals. The *Kokumin-no-Tomo*, which is distinguished for its perseverance in promoting the coalition of progressive parties, seizes this opportunity to urge upon the members of the *Rikken Jiyu-to*, the *Kaishin-to*, and the *Taisei-Kai* the importance of coalition, at least on certain general questions. It is a remarkable circumstance that the *Taisei-Kai* is not invited by our contemporary to join the alliance. One can easily imagine that no small flutter is caused in certain political doves by the prospect of the rise of a powerful body of opponents. The three parties most strongly represented in the Diet are the *Rikken Jiyu-to*, the *Kaishin-to* and the *Taisei-Kai*, possessing respectively 120, 40, and 70 votes in round numbers. Neither of these parties separately will be able to obtain ascendancy in the Diet. Comparatively speaking, the first named has the greatest number of representatives in Parliament; and though its condition is not yet as orderly as is desirable, it is full of youthful vigour and contains many able politicians. Some people compare it to the short-lived Fujiyama at Asakusa; a tempest will suffice to shake its foundations. But the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* takes a highly favourable view of the party's prospect. That its basis rests on a firm ground is illustrated by reference to the decisive measures lately taken against certain members who had been disloyal to it. It has indeed a better chance of asserting itself in the Diet than any other party, but no party can hope to long occupy an ascendant parliamentary position with only 120 members. As to the *Kaishin-to*, our contemporary expresses profound regret for the want of enterprise which has twice prevented its amalgamation with the Constitutional Liberal party. To speak frankly, writes the *Kokumin*, the *Kaishin-to* has shown itself unworthy of the high estimate usually made of its dexterity in party manoeuvres. But speaking individually of its members, there is no lack of men of effective eloquence, wide information, and extensive experience. Thus the *Kaishin-to* may not be very powerful as an independent party, but its value as an adjunct to any large political combination will be unestimable. With regard to the *Taisei-Kai*, that party, or rather association, is said to contain two sets of elements of divergent tendency. The one set is desirous of making the association a closely united body, while the other is equally desirous of having the cohesion of the party as loose as possible. The members of the *Taisei-Kai* are not uniform in their political opinions, but there can be no doubt that a section

of them are devoted to liberal principles. Vernacular writers strongly recommend that section to ally itself with the Constitutional Liberal and other parties of progressive principles. Thus, none of the three parties above described being in a position to obtain the ascendancy in the House of Representatives, our contemporary advises them to form an alliance for parliamentary purposes. Such an alliance would be contrary to the Law of Political Associations, but there can be, in the *Kokumin-no-Tomo's* opinion, no fear of infringing that Law so long as the alliance is limited to members of the Diet representing the three parties. As the first step towards such a union it is suggested that the political investigations now being prosecuted independently by each party, should be conducted by a committee composed of equal numbers of the three parties. It might, however, be convenient to leave the present Investigation Committee of each party as a sub-committee charged with the duty of investigating minor points of special value and interest to the respective parties. The Central Investigation Committee could then make it their business to determine the general course which the allied parties should take in the Diet with respect to questions which they mean to take up in combination. The time is declared to be ripe for effecting such an alliance, and the *Rikken Jiyuto* is advised to make the first move towards reconciliation, for, being the largest and strongest of the three, it can take such a step without danger to its dignity and self-respect.

FAREWELL DANCE ON THE FLAG-SHIP.

PERFECT weather favoured the dance given on Saturday afternoon by Sir Nowell and Lady Salmon on board the *Imperieuse*. Amongst those who came off from the shore to enjoy once more the hospitality of the most hospitable of Admirals, and to take a last glimpse of a favourite ship, were H.E. Count Saigo, Admiral Belknap, Count de Bylandt, General Sir Allen Johnson, K.C.B., the Master of Napier and the Hon. Mrs. Napier, Mr. Bonar, Mr. and the Misses Loureiro, Mrs. Bailey, Mr. Mrs. and the Misses Hannon, Mr. and Mrs. F. T. Piggott, Monsieur and Madame Cazenave, Mrs. and the Misses Divers, Mr. and Mrs. Bayne, Dr. Cox, R.N. and Mrs. Cox, Mr. Walford, &c. Officers from the American and French men-of-war now in harbour and from the ships of the British fleet mustered in force, and lent additional brilliancy to a more than usually picturesque and enjoyable dance. A feature of the decorations was formed by the letters P.P.C. which, picked out in electric lights, glowed from between the hangings at the stern of the ball room—letters, a lady was heard so remark, which unintentionally but accurately described the sentiments of the guests on the occasion—Pleasure and Pain Combined.

LAWS OF THE PROPOSED NEW BANK FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF INDUSTRIES (KOGYO GINKO.)

THESE laws, we read in the *Mainichi Shimbun*, consist of thirty-three or thirty-four articles. The capital is to be ten million *yen*, in shares of one hundred *yen* each. The object of the scheme is to make advances for the purposes of encouraging and promoting agricultural and industrial enterprise, and also for the purpose of permanently improving river embankment works belonging to prefectures, cities, towns or villages. Security will be required in the shape of immovable property. The Bank is to be in Tokyo: the project does not seem to include any branch establishments. Its president will be a *chokunin* and its vice-president a *sonin*. The Government will aid the establishment of the Bank as well as its management afterwards.

Another institution now contemplated is the *Dosan Ginko*, or Bank for movable properties. Its laws are to be submitted to the Diet this year. They consist of some thirty articles, and the capital is to be two million *yen*. The bank will have two establishments, one in Tokyo and one in Osaka. These laws when under exami-

nation by the *Hosei Kyoku* (Bureau of Legislation) were condemned as likely to exercise injurious effects on other existing banks, since the new Bank will be permitted to take public bonds, stocks, shares, &c., as security, and would thus, in the opinion of the Bureau, be placed in an unduly favourable position as compared with rival institutions. Objections on this score appear, however, to have been finally removed.

A third Bank projected by the Authorities is the *Nogyo Ginko* (Bank for Agriculture). Its laws are also to be submitted to the Imperial Diet. The capital is to be fifty thousand *yen*. The bank may have establishments in every locality, and the extent of the district to be included in the sphere of business of any establishment can be fixed by the promoters when making application for a charter. The *Kogyo Ginko* is regarded as a very promising institution, since it has to deal with an extensive and important class of business, but the *Nogyo Ginko* has only to do with agricultural operations and must take real property as security. Its prospects are consequently considered somewhat dubious, and what it can effect with a capital of only fifty thousand *yen*, we cannot easily conceive.

THE LAST CENSUS OF JAPAN.

In the *Official Gazette* of Saturday the results of a census carried up to December 31st, 1889, are given as follow:—

Number of houses in the whole of Japan	7,810,872
Total population	40,702,020

The above population divided according to classes gives the following results:—

Nobles and their families	3,825
<i>Shinoku</i>	1,993,637
<i>Heimin</i>	38,074,558

These figures, compared with the census taken in 1888, show an increase of 38,046 houses and of 464,786 persons. Statistics of ages are also given, and from them we learn that at the close of last year there were 65 persons who had attained their hundredth year in Japan; 45, their hundred and first year; 13, their hundred and second year; 11, their hundred and third year; 1, his hundred and fourth year; 9, their hundred and fifth year; 3, their hundred and sixth year; 1, his hundred and seventh year; and 1, his hundred and ninth year. The Cities and Prefectures having populations of over a million were as follow:—

Tokyo City	1,138,546 persons.
Osaka City	1,203,395 persons.
Hyogo Prefecture	1,533,400 persons.
Yamaguchi Prefecture	1,726,158 persons.
Saitama Prefecture	1,701,148 persons.
Chiba Prefecture	1,195,101 persons.
Ibaraki Prefecture	1,108,460 persons.
Aichi Prefecture	1,465,765 persons.
Shizuoka Prefecture	1,086,556 persons.
Nagano Prefecture	1,131,518 persons.
Okayama Prefecture	1,074,900 persons.
Hiroshima Prefecture	1,324,395 persons.
Fukuoka Prefecture	1,225,018 persons.
Kumamoto Prefecture	1,050,724 persons.
Kagoshima Prefecture	1,002,134 persons.

A SECTION OF THE UPPER HOUSE.

THE *Yomiuri Shimbun* thinks it likely that the section of members of the Upper House who have been elected from among the highest taxpayers will hardly be viewed with respect either by their colleagues of the House of Peers, or by the members of the Lower House. It is perhaps, our contemporary feels, only to be expected that some such feeling should exist, for plainly the class alluded to have gained admission to the Upper House, not by virtue of their intellectual superiority, but because of their contributions to the Treasury. There are two or three considerations which the *Yomiuri* ventures to bring forward in this connection. These members, numbering about forty, are by no means an insignificant section, and it should be their aim to devote their attention to matters relating to the public revenue, and to finance generally, for they ought to remember that they represent not only the highest taxpayers of the country, but also to a certain extent the interests of the lower classes. It will be specially their task, should disputes

arise between opposing sections, to act as mediators, but always with a view to the claims of the people at large. They should regard it as a duty to spare no efforts, in the hall of debate, in the waiting rooms, or in social gatherings, to make their colleagues acquainted with the true state of the lower classes; and—though indeed the obligation is incumbent on all the members of the Upper House—they should specially cultivate relations with the representatives in the Lower House, for it is by this means, and the constant and free interchange of views, that discord between the two houses may be avoided. It is not expected that they should attempt to vie with the peers in the luxury of their living and appointments; if they keep prominently before their colleagues the actual condition of the localities which they represent, they will amply fulfil their obligations.

TITLE DEEDS.

SOME two years ago title deeds were abolished, and it was provided that thenceforth the ownership of land and all transactions of its sale, purchase, or mortgage should be recorded in the Great Ledger (*Daicho*). People were not forbidden, of course, to have title deeds: they were only relieved of the necessity of having them, since for all legal purposes an entry in the *Daicho* sufficed. It is now stated that this system has proved inconvenient in practice, and that in some quarters a desire to return to the old method is manifested. The reason assigned for this dissatisfaction is that fraud has been facilitated, land which had already been mortgaged and registered duly in the *Daicho* having been a second time mortgaged by means of the old title deed. It is not easy to see how anything of the kind could happen with ordinary care. If legal advice were taken before lending money on the security of land—and legal advice is surely plentiful enough and cheap enough in Japan—it would be discovered at once that an entry in the Great Ledger is essential to the validity of the transaction, and an attempt to effect such entry would at once disclose the fact that the land had been already pledged. Nevertheless, the *Yomiuri Shimbun* says that not a few persons have suffered loss, and that a movement is on foot to induce the Diet to vote a Bill sanctioning reversion to the old system.

WOMEN AND THE DIET.

IN the provisional Rules of the House of Representatives, it is provided (65th article) that women shall not be admitted to the strangers' gallery. This provision has excited much adverse comment. A number of ladies, mostly Christians, have drawn up a memorial on the subject and forwarded it to the *Kaishin-to*, requesting its members to see that the obnoxious provision be amended when the House meets for business. The *Kokumin-no-Tomo* entirely sympathizes with these ladies, and advises them not to stop here but to exert themselves to regain also the other rights of which they are deprived by the Public Meetings Regulations. The *Nippon-jin*, which is distinguished by its conservatism in relation to social questions, joins the general attack on the obnoxious article of the provisional Rules. Our contemporary declares it extremely inconsistent in a Government which is, if anything, over-zealous in introducing Western customs and manners, to shut the doors of the Diet against the fair sex. There are, says the *Nippon-jin*, many Japanese ladies as competent as their Western sisters to take interest in practical politics, and it is particularly unjust to deprive them of the right of hearing the debates of the Diet.

The Rules in question being only provisional, it is believed by most persons that the discrimination against ladies will be removed after the opening of the Diet. The Authorities must have had some reason for enacting such an unpopular provision, but the public has not been informed of it, and for our part we are perplexed to conceive any adequate explanation of the veto. If the space available for visitors in the Houses of Peers and Representatives were too small to accommodate ladies, the case

would be different. But there is no lack of room. The interior arrangements of the temporary *Giji-do* are excellent. Most commodious provision has been made by the architect for every contingency. Even though this were not so, however, it is plain that the Authorities have it always in their power to regulate the system of granting orders for admission to the strangers' gallery, so that inconvenience or overcrowding can be avoided. What seems particularly regrettable about the restriction introduced into the provisional rules is that it tends to perpetuate the ostracism of women from the intellectual life of the nation. The Japanese woman at present is little more than a domestic drudge. She may be treated kindly by her husband and dutifully by her children. In these respects she is probably as well off as her Western sister. But rarely, very rarely, does she enjoy the privilege of sharing her husband's intellectual aims and aspirations. From that, the higher, side of his life she is virtually shut out, unless she extorts admission by some wholly exceptional ability or ambition. The biographies of great men in the West show how much they owed in many cases to the sympathy and advice of their wives, and how often the one unhappy page of their history was that comprising the story of a wife's inability to appreciate her husband's objects and to take a helpful place in the scheme of his life. It is true that the latter misery is seldom experienced in Japan. The Japanese wife, always docile and self-effacing, retires quietly into insignificance and inconsideration, careful not to mar though she be forbidden to make. But her intellect, often more subtle and discerning than that of the strong sex, is almost lost to the nation, and the perpetual passivity to which she is condemned cannot but tend to her mental, if not to her physical, deterioration. It is easy to assign causes which have conspired to bring about this undesirable state of affairs. Chief among them, perhaps, is the ideographic script, mastery of which never entered into the programme of female education, the consequence being that women had no access to the literature constituting the staple of men's reading. This drawback has been perpetuated in the pages of the vernacular press. In Europe and America women read the same newspapers as their husbands and brothers, and share the general interest in public questions. In Japan there are special journals for women. Printed in easy characters, and composed in comparatively simple language, these journals devote the greater part of their columns to pure gossip and worthless romances, the editors never seeming to remember that a woman's mind should occupy itself with other things than the amours of the city alleys or the title-tattle of social mischief-makers. The strangers' gallery in the Houses of Peers and Representatives might have done something to mend matters. Ladies might have gone there and learned without much difficulty all about the topics that absorb their husbands, fathers, and brothers, thus qualifying themselves to take an intelligent interest in public events, and to become intellectual helpmeets instead of mere household toys. Why the galleries should be closed against them we fail entirely to comprehend. Such a veto seems entirely contrary to the motive that has directed the Government's policy for many years, and we heartily echo the hope that a more liberal provision will be substituted.

SMOKING CONCERT.

THE third of the series of smoking concerts promoted by Mr. Bayne and his coadjutors for the purpose of relieving the financial difficulties of the Public Hall took place on Monday, and proved, like its predecessors, a most enjoyable entertainment. The house was well filled, and the various songs, &c., were accorded rapturous applause. Mr. Walford opened the programme with a capital rendering of "Gallants of England" and was followed by Mr. G. Robinson who, being in splendid voice, was peremptorily encored. In his place came Mr. Hopkins made up to resemble him so well that when he sang a parody on the previous song "T'was

only a year ago" the audience delightedly demanded more. Both gentlemen then appeared and sang a verse of the parody, and with this the house had to be content. The next number brought forward Mr. Townley, who was also in fine voice and afforded the audience a capital treat. Mr. Goodrich followed with a recitation, which was given with such spirit that he had to return and render another, "Little Richard." M. Launay, like the previous gentlemen, a well known figure at these concerts, was the next singer, and his efforts also were so well appreciated that he was recalled and gave the song "Madame, Bonjour," with which he delighted the audience at a former concert. A "Serenade," sung by Dr. Eames accompanied on the violin by Dr. Cox, also went capitally, being sung with rare taste and expression. Mr. Walkinshaw then sang a comic duet, accompanying himself on the piano, and in compliance with a universal demand gave another song with banjo accompaniment. Mr. A. C. Read followed with a capital rendering of the Irish strain "Start for Philadelphia in the mornin'," and Dr. Eames with another song and violin accompaniment, which were very deservedly encored. Mr. Hopkins gave a new and original sketch descriptive of a picnic, in which, as may be imagined by those who have had the pleasure of attending former concerts, he was excruciatingly funny. Being recalled he convulsed the audience with other comicities of voice and action, putting the cap on his previous efforts by an irresistibly ridiculous thing called "The Acorn and the Spud" the refrain of which ran:—

"For beneath a ragged waiscoat many a noble heart may thud;
And an acorn ne'er should sneer at a poor and lonely spud"

Mr. Launay followed with another French song rendered in his best style, and finally Mr. Walkinshaw gave a castanet solo to a polka accompaniment by the Band. The piano accompaniments were given by Messrs. Keil and Griffin. The Band was that of the *Imperieuse*, kindly lent by Sir Nowell Salmon and the officers of the flagship. Under Mr. Milo's skilful leadership the following selections were given with much acceptance during the evening—

Selection	Bishop's Songs	Hartman.
Song	"Stanichen"	Czibulsky.
Cavatina	Chorus and solo	Schubert.
Dance	"Irlandaise"	Thiere.
Polka	"Ton Bras"	Rietter.

AN INDICTMENT.

THE prosecution of the newspapers which recently offended against the Press Laws by publishing a memorial addressed to the Minister President by certain Kansei politicians, has exposed the Authorities to some damaging criticism. The document was injudiciously worded, and the character of its contents ought to have warned editors not to insert it without strict adherence to the course prescribed by the Regulations, namely, application for official permission. The implicated journals have consequently refrained from protesting against the fact that they were punished. They would have been justified, we think, in objecting to the severity of the sentence, for certainly it is extremely difficult to appreciate the necessity of sending an editor and publisher to prison for a month because they have published a document which, though technically interdicted, cannot fairly be called seditious and is certainly of great public interest. However, the newspapers unquestionably laid themselves open to a penalty of some kind, and with a commendable sense of dignity they refrained from crying out because they were beaten with many stripes where few would have sufficed. Probably they are wise enough to understand that the best way to enlist public sympathy is to take their punishment manfully. Thus at first everything seemed to go smoothly enough. But by and by the newspapers began to raise their submissive heads, and discover that the laugh was not entirely against them. The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* takes a sort of gentle revenge in the following note:—"Reviewing the sentences pronounced by different courts of law in various localities against journals which had been guilty of the

same offence, we find some curious facts. The punishments inflicted on journals in the Western part of Japan were more severe than those inflicted in the Northern parts. The editor and publisher of the *Nagasaki Shimpō* were sentenced to two months' imprisonment and a fine of 50 *yen*, whereas the Tokyo editors and publishers escaped with one month and 25 *yen*. Still more remarkable was the procedure in the case of the *Tohoku Nichi Nichi Shinbun* of Sendai. Its printing plant was seized, at the outset. Then the plant was released, and finally the Public Procurator decided that the sentence need not be extended to the plant, because the type of the offending matter had been already distributed. Finally, we have the case of the *Hokkai* of Hakodate, which, being duly arraigned, was duly acquitted, the Court holding that it had not committed any offence at all. The law, in this matter, seems to have behaved like the cholera. Virulent in Nagasaki, the epidemic lost much of its severity in Tokyo, and did not reach to Hokkaido at all." This is very pretty ridicule, and will doubtless be read with relish by many people. But a little reflection shows that the recent newspaper escapade presented some very peculiar features. The Authorities, with proper wisdom no doubt, consider it necessary to protect the administration against unbridled newspaper attacks. But they can scarcely have foreseen that the process of protection might subject the administration itself to a very severe test of efficiency. Where and when has it been before recorded that a number of law courts throughout the country were required to try and pronounce judgment on the same offence almost simultaneously? If judges were cast in exactly the same moral mould, sentences delivered under such circumstances would doubtless be identical. But it is pretty certain that even in respect of a much simpler case than that of the newspapers, a common-place felony for example, British tribunals themselves would impose different penalties. As for the Hakodate judges, were we Japanese we should be proud of them, assuming that they really did take the independent view suggested by their verdict of acquittal. But another explanation offers itself, namely, that they acquitted the *Hokkai* because an insignificant provincial journal can scarcely be punished for reproducing the contents of its great metropolitan contemporaries' columns. Certainly a month's imprisonment supplemented by a fine would be an extraordinary punishment for such a peccadillo. Still the *Nichi Nichi Shinbun's* cholera simile is good, and will probably become a household word.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL LIBERALS AND THE DIET.

WE read in the *Kokumin Shinbun* an interesting statement of the measures which the Constitutional Liberals (*Rikken Jiyu-to*) intend to bring before the Diet. At the head of the list stand the recovery of Japan's Tariff and Judicial autonomy, and the establishment of relations with foreign nations on a footing of absolute equality. After this the most important reform is deemed to be reduction of the Land Tax from 2½ per cent. to 2 per cent. of the assessed value of the land. This would mean a loss of eight million *yen* of annual revenue, which deficiency the Constitutional Liberals propose to meet by economizing administrative expenditure, and, if economies to that extent are impossible, they advocate an increase of other taxes, notably of the income tax, the tax on houses, pleasure grounds and industries, together with the imposition of new taxes upon banks and railways. The other reforms contemplated are catalogued as follow:—The abolition of the Department of Education, and transfer of its duties to the Home Department. The institution of an inquiry as to the expediency of abolishing or preserving Upper Middle Schools. Postponement of the date for putting into force the new organization of the Law Courts, as well as of the date for carrying into operation the new system of City and Prefecture Government, and the Commercial Code. Reform of the Law of the Houses, and transfer to the Diet of the power of appointing, promoting, or removing all officials con-

nected with it. Cessation of State support for schools. Reform of the organization of the Government, and reduction of the number of officials. Placing the University on an independent footing. Reform of the Press and Public Meetings Laws. Determination of the meaning of Article 67 of the Constitution. Alteration of electoral districts so as to coincide with Cities and Prefectures; one member being returned for every eighty-two thousand (?) persons. Extension of the franchise to all persons paying national taxes to the annual amount of five yen, and reduction of the age for electors to 25 years. Appointment of Committees to enquire into financial and military questions. Abolition of Retired List Regulations.

THE IMPERIAL GARDEN PARTY.

ON Monday morning the prospect looked very gloomy for the Imperial Garden Party, the sky being overcast and rain falling steadily. It had been notified on the cards of invitation that, in the event of unfavourable weather, the party would be given up, but the Imperial Gardens would nevertheless be open to any of those invited who desired to view the chrysanthemums. This alternative appeared at one time inevitable, but happily before noon the rain ceased and some struggling rays of sunshine gave promise of a fine afternoon. It was not, however, a hearty effort on the part of the weather, for the air continued raw and cold, and the sun did not come out with sufficient strength to dry the ground. The arrangements for the party were not different from those usually made. His Majesty the Emperor did not appear to have recovered entirely from his recent disposition, but the Empress looked, as she always does, gracious and cheerful. The balloon ascent, spoken of at one time as a probable feature of the entertainment, had been given up, but the splendid display of chrysanthemums amply occupied the attention of the guests. A large number of naval officers, French, American, and English, were present.

THE MCKINLEY BILL.

THE London *Spectator* has the following pertinent remarks about the McKinley Bill:

Three things thus combined to bring about the McKinley Bill,—the failure of the present scheme of Protection to protect, the desire to do something for the farmer, and the necessity for keeping down the surplus. Those, however, who entered with a light heart upon the revision of the Tariff found that the task before them was not nearly so easy as they had at first imagined. They began by declaring that it would be their duty to see that every citizen should have his fair share of the benefits of Protection, and that the *egis* of the Tariff should be thrown over all the industries of the nation. Unfortunately for them, however, they had promised the one thing that they could not perform. It is impossible to make Protection fair all round, for the very simple reason that no distinction can be drawn between what are industrial products and what are not. In the abstract, the Protectionist wants to tax the manufactured article, but to let the raw material in free. It happens, however, that in many cases the so-called raw material is the farmers' industrial product; while on other occasions, what is a finished industrial product in one trade, is a necessary basis of industry in another. These facts were soon unpleasantly forced upon the Republican managers, whose one and only desire was to please all parties. The difficulty in which they were placed in regard to hides is characteristic of the whole situation. The duty here was taken on and off an almost incredible number of times, as first one and then another gust of interest prevailed in the Committee of Congress, till at last those responsible for the measure were at their wits' ends how to act. Originally a duty was placed on hides in order to please the farmers. But in a moment the whole boot trade was up in arms. "You are taxing our raw material," they cried, "and if you persist, you will ruin our trade, deprive thousands of men of employment, and place us at the mercy of the pauper labourers of Europe. How can we compete with them if we have to buy dear hides?" How the controversy ended we do not know, for the newspapers have made no serious attempt to follow the constant and almost hourly changes made in the Bill; but it is safe to say that whichever side has prevailed will leave the other bitterly discontented. It was much the same story in the case of "tin-plates," the article more bitterly debated than any other. "Tin-plates" are the great sheets of metal out of which cans and the tins for biscuits and preserves are made. There is already a duty on their importation, but the manufacturers wanted it raised, and to this the Committee of Con-

gress began by assenting. They forget, however, that a most flourishing American industry—that concerned with preserving meat, fruit, and vegetables—would be deeply injured. When the duty was raised, Mr. Armour, of Chicago, whose name may be seen on "corned-beef" tins in every grocer's on the face of the earth, hurried to Washington and declared that he could not and would not stand having the supply of tin-plates interfered with. The manufacturers, however, stood firm, and the battle raged with varying success in the Lower House of Congress, and then in the Senate till within a day or two ago. At one time it was proposed not to increase the Tariff, but to pay the manufacturers their slice of Protection direct, in the shape of a bounty. In the end, however, a different compromise was arranged—unless, indeed, it has been altered since—and according to the last despatches, tin-plates are to be free after October, 1895, "unless American makers turn out before that time one-third of the amount imported." Here, again, we have an example of the inherent incompatibility of the various interests at stake.

We cannot on the present occasion enter into the device, interesting as it is from a constitutional point of view, under which the President is to be armed by the new measure with special powers for extorting reciprocity from foreign nations, nor can we dwell upon other minor details of the Bill. The time to discuss them will arrive when the Bill has actually become law, and the last double-shuffle over this or that product has been performed. It may, however, be worth while to notice one fact about the woolen duties, as they are typical of the spirit in which Protection is applied in the McKinley Bill. "Woolen hosiery and underwear," costing 32 cents a pound, was taxed under the war tariff—that of 1861—at the rate of 90 per cent. Duties will now be levied thereon at the rate of 214 per cent. Again, cotton hosiery, costing 62½ cents the dozen, which used to be taxed at the rate of 15 per cent., will now pay duty at the rate of 110 per cent. To quote yet one more example, the dues on silk goods have been raised by 30 per cent., while those on ready-made clothing have very nearly been doubled. It is evident, then, that the promoters of the McKinley Bill intend to build a wall of exclusion round the American producer. What will be the end of the attempt remains to be seen. Professor Goldwin Smith, in a jubilant article, declares that the McKinley Bill is "the darkness before the dawn." It is always dangerous to prophesy, but we are inclined to believe him. The Bill cannot help the farmers, and when they find this out, they are extremely likely to withdraw their support from the Protection party. If the Democrats return to power, it will be as virtual Free-traders.

VISCOUNT KABAYAMA ON NAVAL AFFAIRS.

A FEW days ago, writes the *Yomiuri*, some person, calling on Viscount Kabayama, Minister of Marine, asked him whether the bill for increasing the Navy, rumoured to be now under deliberation in the Cabinet, would not necessarily add to the burdens of the people, and whether it might not be injudicious to bring forward such a scheme just when public opinion is in favour of reducing taxation. He was answered that those in office are well aware of the necessity of diminishing taxation and developing material resources, but the Navy of this country is at present insufficient to serve as a national defence, and without a sufficient national defence it is idle to talk of developing the material resources of the country. To make the Navy efficient is one of the means of enabling the people to prosecute their industries in peace and security. "When I think of the present condition of our Navy," the Viscount is represented to have said, "I am so tormented by anxiety that I can neither eat nor sleep."

The same journal reports that a bill for increasing the navy will surely be one of the chief questions submitted to the Diet; and that a certain member of the House of Peers had remarked with regard to the bill that a proposal to increase the navy is not unreasonable, but that to bring it forward in the first session of the Diet would not be a wise plan on the part of the Government, because even those members of the House of Representatives who are personally well disposed to the proposition may be constrained to oppose it owing to the pledges given by them to their constituents. This nobleman therefore recommended the postponement of the bill until the second session of the Diet.

BILLS WHICH THE GOVERNMENT PROPOSES TO SUBMIT TO THE DIET.

APART from the Budget, which will naturally form the first subject for consideration by the Diet, the Bills which the Government intends to submit to the two Houses, and which, in pur-

suance of that intention, are said to be now in process of drafting by the Legislative Bureau, will probably be as follow, says the *Yomiuri Shinbun*:—Rules for the organization of the three Banks of Movable Property, Industries and Agriculture. A Bill relating to postponed payments of taxes. Rules relating to public highways. A Bill relating to the relief of the poor. A Bill for the better determination of age for registration purposes. A Bill for the regulation of weights and measures. A Bill for the examination of silk-worms' eggs. A Bill relating to Barristers. In addition to the above the following are said to be still in the hands of the various Departments from which they emanate:—A Bill for raising a Naval Loan. A Bill for the prevention of cruelty to animals. A Bill relating to the Nakasendo Railway. Rules for allowances to diplomatic officials. A Bill relating to sanitation at the Treaty Ports. And finally, two or three Bills for transferring to the sphere of ordinary legislation matters hitherto regulated by Imperial Decrees, Notifications and so forth. It is not expected that all these measures will be submitted to the first Diet, but that the Government will select from them such as call for earliest consideration.

JAPAN'S NAVAL FORCES.

THE *Tokyo Shimpō* has a leading article under the heading of the "Japanese Navy," professing to be based on the remarks of an official in the Government. Says our contemporary:—The system of defence of a nation should be based on some standard or other. England for instance has war-ships of a gross tonnage of 940,000 tons, and stands above France in that respect; but if we deduct from the number some 300,000 tons for vessels required to defend the numerous territories and colonies possessed by England, we shall find that she possesses only 600,000 tons to defend the mother country. The tonnage of war ships possessed by France is about the same, and therefore the naval forces of England and France at home are equal and well-matched. There are other European nations which are equipped with navies for the defence of their coasts, but England and France are by far the greatest naval Powers in Europe. Now to solve the question of what shall be taken as a standard for the Japanese navy, we must consider what naval Powers we have to compete with. Looking at the different Oriental nations, we find that China is the only one powerful enough to enter the field with Japan; but to decide Oriental affairs now-a-days, we must consider the state of things in the West as well as in the East. Of the European Powers, England's interests require that she should act in combination with China, and Japan must therefore, in viewing the Chinese naval force, take with it as well the Pacific force of England. The eastern squadron of England is very powerful compared with those of other European nations in the East; its force, though subject to occasional changes, may fairly be taken at something like 40,000 tons. China has numerous small ships of war stationed in her larger rivers, but as they are only fit for use in rivers and inland seas, we may take her tonnage of war ships over 400 tons at 80,000 tons. That is to say we shall not be much beyond the mark if we regard the combined naval forces of China and England as equal to 120,000 tons, and take this figure as the standard for deciding on the naval force necessary for the proper defence of our country. Now let us look at the present state of the Japanese Navy. The gross tonnage of ships of war over 400 tons is only 56,000 tons, a figure less than the Chinese by 24,000 tons and less than the united Chinese and English fleets by 64,000; and as to our ships, with the exception of the two now in course of construction in France and one in Yokosuka, each of 3,000 tons, which will not be surpassed by any Chinese or English ship, the rest do not at all come up to the mark. There is here plain necessity for increasing our naval forces, the present state of which is truly miserable. To develop our naval force, we must have ships of war built, and the questions of what kind of ships are required, and how their power is to be computed, have to be

considered. A good fleet should comprise all kinds of ships required for various emergencies, and the proper choice of ships to organize a fleet will much depend on the form and position of the country to be defended as well as the circumstances of possible enemies. Some say that as Japan is surrounded by seas numerous ships are required, and therefore, if necessary, size should be sacrificed to number; but this is an incorrect view. Large ships of war are more effective than small vessels, and fighting ships, to be really effective, should be over 4,000 or 5,000 tons. England possesses numerous ships of war of several thousand tons; one, the largest in the world at present, being as much as 14,000 tons. We should be guided by this, and keeping the size of the ships of the possible antagonist in view, should be able to form a proper opinion. Finally, for the calculation of our naval forces, we should take the tonnage as a basis instead of the number of ships.

THE PERUVIAN MINING SCHEME.

IN "The Amazon Provinces of Peru," a book published two years ago, and forwarded to us by Mr. Oscar Heeren, a chapter is devoted to the silver mines of Yauli, which, our readers will remember, is the district that was chosen as a field of operations by the Japan-Peru Mining Company of disastrous memory. With regard to the Carahuacra Vein, which the company was organized to work, the following paragraphs appear in the above mentioned volume:—Carahuacra, situate to the south of Yauli, is the most renowned and productive vein in the district. It has been surveyed and found to extend for a distance of 5 kilometres (3 miles), and its thickness in places to be 30 metres (99 feet). These enormous dimensions rival the largest silver veins known, such as the Comstock in Nevada, which is 7 kilometres (4½ miles) long and in parts 60 metres thick; the Veta Madre of Guanajuato, 14 kilometres (8½ miles) long and 10 to 66 metres thick; the great vein of Zacatecas, of little less length than the former, and 10 to 22 metres (33 to 72 feet) thick; and the great vein of galena in Clausthal, in Prussia, 8 kilometres long (5 miles) and from 6 to 130 feet thick. The Carahuacra vein is superior to these in the richness of its ores. Its course is north-west to south-east, in which direction there is seen rising above the surface a gangue quartz of dark grey colour, interrupted by an accumulation of large boulders of dark grey colour lying in the direction of the gangue. It is composed of quartz, of grey or black colour, in which the ores are scattered in small irregular veins or nests, which makes the working somewhat difficult. There are ores of silver—native silver, ruby silver, rich *pavonado* (argentiferous grey copper ore), with much zinc blende, pyrites, and a little galena; the zinc blende is of different colours, yellow, chestnut, and black. The northern part is the better known, and up to the present time has almost exclusively produced the metal. Here also are the Carmen (San Antonio de Callapa), San Francisco, San Marco, and San José (Ventanilla) mines, which occupy, according to the *Padron de Minas*,¹ an extent of 1,600 yards (1,337 metres). The San Francisco Mine had been, without doubt, much worked during the colonial period, as is shown by the extent and depth of its works. In the San Francisco mine the predominating ore is ruby silver with zinc blende; in the San Marco, a mine likewise much worked, although not so much as the former, it is the *pavonado fino* (argentiferous grey copper ore), under which name they denote the grey copper ore of high ley of silver, which is generally 8 to 10 per cent.² The other mines are abandoned.

¹ The *Padron de Minas* is the official Register of Mines, published half-yearly. ² This is an extraordinarily rich ore.

PRISON REFORM.

ACCORDING to the *Mainichi Shimbun*, the Government has been constantly trying to improve the prison system, which, however, is a problem of great difficulty. Even in Europe, the construction of prisons, the allotment of tasks to prisoners, their food, and their clothing require most careful investigation.

It is said that the Department of Home Affairs has decided to appoint a committee in order to investigate and discuss difficult questions relating to the prison system. The committee will consist of one president, eleven members, and two clerks. The Commissioner of the Keihokiyoku (Police Bureau) will be president, and the Vice-Commissioner of that Bureau, two councillors (*Sanji-kwan*) two architects, and two physicians of the Department for Home Affairs, two judges, commissaries or councillors of the Judicial Department, and two barristers will form the members, while the clerks will be drawn from the Police Bureau.

CHESS IN YOKOHAMA.

THE leading chess players of Yokohama are to be congratulated on their resolve to form a chess club. Some years ago very good chess used to be played in this Settlement, and we cannot doubt that much of the skill of that time is still available. There are, we believe, as many as fifty players of greater or less strength in Yokohama, and if even one half of that number combined to form a club, there would be no difficulty in carrying out the scheme. In Tokyo, also, there are about a score of players who have for some time talked of forming a club. Contests by correspondence might then be carried on between the capital and this Settlement, especially when the telephone is in working order. An annual tourney, in which chosen players of each club took part, might also be added to the novelties of our life in the East. Another interesting feature would be the investigation of Japanese chess, which evidently has a common origin with European. There are many very fine Japanese players who would soon develop great skill at the Western game if they took the trouble to study it. Possibly something might thus be added to chess literature, exhaustive as it seems to be already.

PROMENADE CONCERT.

THE promenade concert given on Tuesday by the band of the *Imperial* was very largely attended. The programme which we append, was listened to throughout with the very greatest pleasure by the large audience, and the entertainment altogether proved a high musical treat. Following is the programme, the selection of which, as well as its performance, reflect much credit on the musical skill and taste of Mr. Mollo, the conductor:—

Overture.....	"Don Pasquale".....	Donizetti.
Gavotte.....	"Le Chame".....	Thiers.
Selection.....	"Dinorah".....	Meyerbeer.
Valse.....	"Rosen aus den Sunden".....	Strauss.
Selection.....	"La Sonnambula".....	Bellini.
Polka.....	"Spanish Serenade".....	Lehot.
Selection.....	"Doris".....	Celifer.
Polka.....	"Garde du Corps".....	Fels.

COUNT ITO AS PRESIDENT OF THE HOUSE OF PEERS.

THE *Kokumin-no-Tomo* congratulates the Imperial Diet in general and the House of Peers in particular, on having obtained, as President of the latter, the services of a politician so prominent as Count Ito. Without pretending to estimate the Count's value as a statesman, our contemporary asserts that, most of the heroes of the Restoration having dropped off one after another, a foremost place must be accorded to Count Ito among the administrators of the present time. It is well known that he accepted the position with extreme reluctance, and only at the repeated request of His Majesty the Emperor. But the people, though on the one hand, glad to have so able a statesman at the head of the Peers, have, on the other, received the news of his appointment with a certain degree of suspicion and doubt, because he is generally supposed to hold peculiarly intimate relations with the present Ministry; so much so that he is often spoken of as its wire-puller. Interpreted in plain language, this assertion of the *Kokumin* seems to mean that some people regard Count Ito's acceptance of the post as part of a deep political scheme. While the Count was leading a retired life at Odawara, apparently engaged in rural pleasures and literary pursuits, the nation, according to the *Kokumin-no-Tomo*, never ceased to consider him the guardian of the

Cabinet, a living commentary on the Constitution, and the leader of the nobles. Indeed, so many followers has he among the Ministers and subordinate functionaries of the Government, that the Tokyo periodical is not surprised by the people's persistence in regarding him in the light above indicated. If the opinion of the mass can be taken as a proper standard of the value of statesmen, then our contemporary thinks that Count Ito is too able a statesman, too powerful a leader of the nobility, and too competent an authority on the Constitution, to be a good President of the House of Peers, which, when necessary, ought to bow to the will of the House of Representatives. With Count Ito's personal influence, his tact, eloquence, and sagacity, the *Kokumin* is certain that it will not be at all difficult for him to secure for the Upper House ascendancy over the Lower. But is such the true object of the Count? This question is distinctly answered in the negative. He is, we are told, too sagacious not to know that the only result of trying to make the Peers more powerful than the Representatives would be a fierce strife between the two, and that though the former might for a time obtain and exercise the supremacy, there would sooner or later set in a violent reaction, against which even the Count himself would hesitate to make a stand. In order to secure the peaceful working of the Constitutional machinery, the Upper House ought to be prepared to yield a step to the Lower. The Tokyo periodical, therefore, hopes that Count Ito will use his powerful authority for the establishment of precedents conducive to the harmonious working of the two branches of the Legislature. He is requested to imitate the example of the Duke of Wellington, who did not hesitate to sacrifice his popularity with his party for the sake of preserving harmony between the hereditary and representative branches of Parliament. Count Ito is specially fitted to act such part, for he is distinguished, above all, for the art of conciliation.

The *Koku-Hon*, writing on the same subject, takes a somewhat different line. It receives the news of Count Ito's appointment to the Presidency of the Upper House with mixed feelings of satisfaction and regret. After observing that he is reported to have accepted the offer only on condition that he will be relieved of the office at the end of the first session of the Diet, our contemporary proceeds to say that his appointment to the post has, on the one hand the effect of strengthening the position of the Yamagata Cabinet, and, on the other, that of lowering his place in popular opinion. Unlike the *Kokumin-no-Tomo*, the *Koku-Hon* is of opinion that the position of President of either House, especially the Upper, does not warrant its occupant in exercising any authority beyond that of keeping order during debates and generally within the House. Should the President of either House be allowed to meddle with the policy of the Government, he would be unable to properly discharge the original duties of his position. The *Koku-Hon* would, therefore, prefer for that post a second or third rate politician to a statesman of the first order possessing vast political influence. In support of this contention it points to the example of England and other constitutional countries of the West. As to the claim that, during the early stages of Constitutional institutions, it is important to put at the head of Peers a statesman of Count Ito's ability and constitutional knowledge, the Tokyo periodical replies that such a theory, though very common now, is nevertheless mistaken, for the duty of successfully carrying out the Constitution devolves upon the Ministers of State and not on the Presidents of the Houses of the Diet. Our contemporary, however, apprehends that Count Ito, being intimately connected with the present Ministers, especially Count Yamagata, may identify himself too closely with the success or failure of the Cabinet. In one sense the *Koku-Hon* regards his appointment with satisfaction, because of all statesmen he is best qualified to act as a mediator between the

Cabinet and the Diet, should any difficulty occur between the two. But considering the chief functions attaching to the post and also Count Ito's prospects as an active statesman, our contemporary very well understands the reluctance shown by him to serve the full term of seven years.

A curious utterance on the same subject is that of the *Nippon-jin*. Under the heading "Japan's Great Celebrity" (*Nippon no Daimyō-ka*) our contemporary writes thus:—"Count Ito is one of the statesmen who commenced the work of the Restoration. He is therefore one of Japan's celebrities. He determined the organization of the Cabinet and became Minister President of State. He determined the organization of the Privy Council, and became President of that body. He compiled the Constitution, and now becomes President of the House of Peers. All the greatest posts are occupied once by him. And his new appointment as President of the Upper House is to be only temporary. After it he will certainly become the Emperor's Representative abroad as Minister Plenipotentiary." Count Ito must be at once diverted and edified by all this commotion and comment. His critics seem to have only a faint idea of the immense responsibility that will devolve on the Presidents of the Houses in the first Diet, when wholly novel points of order will have to be constantly decided and interpretations of the Constitution given that will become precedents. Men like the writer in the *Koku-Hon* appear to found their opinions on the conditions existing in countries where parliamentary systems have been in operation for one or two centuries. In our opinion Japan has no statesman too great or too wise to place at the helm when the parliamentary ship is to be steered for the first time from the harbour of theory into the straits of practice. Unless Count Ito has lost the sagacity which has hitherto constituted one of his most prominent merits, he will know how to separate political ties from parliamentary duties. He has never been a party politician in any sense, and it is in the last degree improbable that he will choose this most unfitting time to become one. As for the objection that his relations with the Yamagata Cabinet are close, it seems to us both thoughtless and frivolous. The Presidents of both Houses must necessarily be men in close touch with the Government. They are so everywhere, and we see no reason why they should not be so in Japan. If it be correct, as the *Koku-Hon* asserts, that the smooth working of Constitutional institutions will depend on the Cabinet, then surely the President of the House of Peers, who has to interpret the Constitution, ought to enjoy the entire confidence of the Cabinet and hold intimate relations with it.

THE FOREIGN TRADE OF THE PRESENT YEAR.

The *Keisai Zasshi* of the 8th instant, writing on this subject, observes that the excess of imports over exports during the nine months from January to September amounted to no less than 25,383,537 yen in goods. In 1870, when the balance of trade was against Japan to an exceptional degree, the excess of imports did not amount to more than 19 million yen in round numbers, and again in 1876, when the balance tended in the same direction, the excess only amounted to about 11 million yen. Comparing these figures with those quoted above for the current year, it is no wonder—our contemporary continues—that financial and business men view the situation with uneasiness. In accounting for the causes that have led to such an unprecedented phenomenon in the foreign trade of the country, the *Tokyo* journal gives the foremost place to the extraordinary rise in the price of rice. The costliness of this staple operated in two ways: first, it completely stopped the exportation of the commodity, whereas the amount exported in the preceding year was 7,434,000 yen in value; and secondly, it caused a great quantity of foreign rice to be imported, the total value of the grain brought in during the nine months under consideration reaching no less

than 12,019,000 yen. Thus the condition of the rice market alone has helped to produce the above-mentioned excess of imports over exports to the amount of nearly 20 million yen. The next course operating in the same direction is the violent fluctuation of foreign exchange, which has placed export merchants at a great disadvantage. As an illustration of the dulness of the export market, our contemporary points to the fact that as many as 30,000 bales (Japanese) of silk are now in Yokohama still unsold. Even making due allowances for the unfavourable attitude of the American silk market, the *Keisai* cannot but think that, had foreign exchange been what it used to be, silk merchants would have fared far better. As to the economical aspect of the question, it is observed that an excess of imports over exports is not necessarily a lamentable circumstance. However, should the foreign trade continue in its present condition, serious results must ensue in the Japanese money market and in commercial and manufacturing circles. But the *Tokyo* journal assures its readers that trade cannot long continue in its present state. For when gold and silver leave the country in great quantities, as in the present instance, the inevitable consequence is an appreciation of the value of money, or in other words, a fall in the prices of commodities, the consequence being that home products will naturally seek foreign markets where better prices are obtainable. Already such results are discernible; the price of rice, for instance, has gone down very much, and when it has reached a certain point, the staple will again be exported to foreign countries. Moreover, foreign exchange has of late become very much more favourable, and our contemporary believes that the balance of trade will not be against Japan any longer. We (*Japan Mail*) do not quite follow this reasoning, especially in respect of rice, but the facts advanced by the *Keisai Zasshi* are interesting.

THE SILK TRADE IN AMERICA.

INTELLIGENCE has arrived by cable reporting another large failure in New York, the well known importing house of John T. Walker, Son & Co. having gone under. The telegram states that more failures were pending, as it was expected that the firm named above would bring down others with them. It further reports the Silk market demoralized, and in a state bordering on panic in consequence. Our merchants here, both foreign and native, who are engaged in the Silk business, are certainly entitled to our sympathy this year. Their chief market (New York) has proved a broken reed on which to lean: failures there have been frequent and troublesome ever since the suspension of the old firm of Louis Franke & Co. last April, and now the epidemic seems to have set in once more with renewed vigour. Doubtless a more healthy trade will spring up anon, and it will be better for all concerned when the unsound traders are weeded out; but meanwhile, what with the interference with trade caused by violent fluctuations in silver, the McKinley tariff-bill, monetary stringency in London, New York, etc., our Silk friends have a hard time just now, and we wish them well through it.

CABINET RESPONSIBILITY AND TREATY REVISION.

At the time of Count Okuma's failure to accomplish Treaty Revision, says the *Tokyo Koron*, an attempt was made to hold the whole Cabinet responsible, but in the end it was understood that the responsibility was limited to the Minister President and the Minister of Foreign Affairs. Such would be the ordinary rule: the Minister directly concerned in any affair and the chief of the Cabinet alone would be held responsible. But on the present occasion the Minister for Home Affairs, Count Saigo, and the Minister for Communications, Count Goto, have been included in the chain of responsibility, the result being that the whole Cabinet is virtually involved. For this reason it is said that a certain country, hitherto the most obdurate, has fallen in with Japan's proposals, and no serious difficulties are likely to be en-

countered in coming to a settlement. Before public discussion becomes warm, the whole thing will probably be arranged. Instead of the countless objections advanced and obstacles raised in previous conferences, there appears now to be no one disposed to make trouble, and it is likely that the present Cabinet, despite the failures of Counts Inouye and Okuma, will have the honour of solving the knotty problem.

We trust that the *Koron's* predictions may prove correct, but at the same time we must protest very strongly against the motive assigned by it for England's action, since England is evidently the obdurate Power referred to. Our contemporary's interpretation could only mean that the British Government hesitated to yield until it found itself confronted by the whole Japanese Cabinet; in other words, until no doubt could any longer be entertained that the Japanese Government, in its entirety, desired Revision. Such a view is at once wholly inconsistent with facts, and very unjust to England. The truth, now publicly known, is that England submitted her counter-proposals to the present scheme of revision long before the smallest notion existed that Counts Saigo and Goto would be joined with the Minister of Foreign Affairs as Plenipotentiaries. Every one possessing any knowledge of the situation is well aware that the nomination of the two latter Ministers had no reference whatsoever to the mood of foreign Powers, but was purely a measure of expediency in connection with Japan's domestic politics. Counts Saigo and Goto were appointed less than a month ago. Great Britain's counter-proposals, from which she has not, so far as we know, budged an inch, were communicated to Japan probably three months ago. Whatever liberality she has displayed must be attributed solely to her conviction that the time has come to be liberal; a conviction which had no more to do with the number or character of Japan's Plenipotentiaries than with the motions of the tides.

RICE.

ACCORDING to official estimates, to which reference is made in the *Hochi Shimbun*, the rice crop this year will fully realize the high expectations formed of it. The yield is now put at forty-three million *koku*, a harvest such as has not been known for twenty years. The annual consumption for food purposes, liberally calculated, is thirty-three million *koku*, and the quantity employed in *saké* brewing and for other purposes is three and a half million *koku*. It may be assumed, further, that a certain amount will be stored up by way of provision against the possibility of a bad harvest next year. Putting this last amount at two and a half million *koku*, there would remain a surplus of from three to four million *koku*, which will actually come into the market. Evidently the result of such an increased stock must be to drive down the price considerably. So low, indeed, would it probably fall if no measures to arrest it were contrived, that the plentiful harvest would prove disastrous rather than beneficial to the farmers. The *Hochi Shimbun* says that much anxiety is felt on this point. The one resource is exportation, and our contemporary recommends that the Government should resume its old rôle of exporter. Various reasons are assigned in support of this recommendation, but we confess that they do not appear to possess much force. It may be true, as the writer in the *Hochi* says, that the Government, having ample funds at its disposal and being under no necessity to deal in rice at one time rather than at another, is particularly favourably situated for watching the market and adapting its transactions to the state of the latter. But these considerations do not seem to outweigh the weighty objections always existing against official interference with the course of trade. If rice falls to a certain point there will always be plenty of private persons ready to export it, and we cannot entertain the smallest doubt that it is better to encourage the development of this natural outlet than to attempt to control the market by

Governmental meddling. Private enterprise is discouraged and deterred from the moment that it finds itself confronted by official competition.

BALLOONING IN TOKYO.

It was supposed at one time that the heavy rain which fell on Wednesday afternoon would prevent the balloon ascent, arrangements for which had been made in the large space outside the main gate of the Palace. Two hours, however, before the time fixed—half past two in the afternoon—it was understood that no postponement would take place, and despite a downpour of cold and tolerably heavy rain, a vast crowd assembled in the large area designated for the event; so large a crowd that its overflow completely blocked the gate beyond the castle moat and thronged every available place of vantage in the vicinity. No attempt was made to interfere with sight-seers so long as they kept outside the small space reserved for Mr. Spencer and his apparatus. Invitations had not been issued, but an intimation was sent to the various Legations that the ascent would be made at half-past two o'clock. Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress viewed the affair from within the Palace. Everything went off satisfactorily, but Mr. Spencer was again somewhat unfortunate in the place of his descent, for he alighted in the moat. Evidently water has an affinity for him at present, but of course this incident did not at all mar the character of the aeronautic performance itself.

MR. SPENCER'S AERIAL EXPERIMENTS.

We read in the *Fiji Shimpō* that Mr. Spencer's recent accident at Kobe has caused him much chagrin. In the course of his career as a balloonist he says that he has descended with his parachute on mountains, in valleys, on the seashore, and in tree-tops, but it never before happened him to fall into the water, and so narrowly escape death by drowning as was the case at Kobe. He is resolved not to leave Japan without making another effort to retrieve his reputation; so at least, writes our Tokyo contemporary, but for our own part we fail to see why a descent into the sea can fairly be regarded as a failure on the part of the aeronaut. Such accidents are always liable to happen, and the only comment to be made is that Mr. Spencer should be better prepared to encounter them. He evidently takes that view himself, for we read that he proposes hereafter to employ a water-proof parachute and to be furnished with means for keeping afloat.

A FAMILIAR DELUSION.

The *London and China Express* has a moderate and guarded article on the subject of Treaty Revision in connection with the protest of the Yokohama meeting. The article is chiefly conjectural, no details having reached London when it was written. It gauges pretty accurately, however, the cause of the foreign residents' objection to the unconditional surrender of Consular jurisdiction. But the writer advances one point which seems decidedly untenable, though it has been put forward more than once before. "The Government of Japan proposed," says our contemporary, "and as a matter of fact recognised, that foreigners were entitled to and should have a guarantee in the shape of a certain number of foreign judges." The phraseology of this sentence is somewhat confused, but the meaning intended to be conveyed is clear enough, namely, that, by proposing to add some foreign legal experts to her staff of judges, for the purposes of trials in which foreigners were concerned, Japan herself admitted the necessity of having such experts; admitted, in fact, that her own judges were not competent to undertake the duty. Surely this is a very unfair inference. The idea of appointing foreigners to the Japanese Bench was prompted entirely by a desire to satisfy the scruples of foreigners. It was not an admission that their scruples were justified: it was simply a concession to their want of confidence. Experience had abundantly proved and preliminary negotiations had plainly shown that unless some pledge of good faith were given, there existed no possibility of effect-

ing an arrangement. Japan was willing to give the pledge, but her willingness by no means signified that she doubted the competence of her judiciary. If a man, finding that another will not trust his verbal promise, offers to give a guarantee of sincerity, assuredly his offer cannot properly be construed as an admission that he does not deserve to be trusted. To rely on such an argument as that stated by the *London and China Express* is to admit the weakness of one's cause. If the contention holds in respect of the proposals of 1889, it must hold equally in respect of the proposals of 1886. The transition from a majority of foreign legal experts sitting on the Bench in every case that concerned a foreigner, to four judges of foreign origin sitting in the Supreme Court which could only be reached on a plea of error in law, was much more radical than the transition from four foreign Judges to no foreign Judges at all. People who consent to a compromise do not, by so consenting, admit that their right is imperfect. They only acknowledge their willingness to make some concession in the interests of an amicable understanding.

GOLD AND SILVER RATIOS.

The *Official Gazette* gives the following table of comparative values of gold and silver coins and of the pound sterling for the week ended the 8th instant, as derived from the returns of the Bank of Japan and the Yokohama Specie Bank:—

Days	Gold Coin. (Per yen 100) Silver Yen.	Pound Sterling (Per £1) Silver Yen.
4th	118.800	A.M. 5.8536 P.M. 5.8536
5th	118.500	A.M. 5.8536 P.M. 5.8536
6th	118.500	A.M. 5.8536 P.M. 5.8536
7th	118.500	A.M. 5.9259 P.M. 5.9259
8th	120.000	A.M. 6.0000 P.M. 6.0000
Averages	118.860	5.8973

The above averages show for gold coin a decrease in value of yen 0.690 per cent., and for the pound sterling an increase in value of yen 0.0116 as compared with the previous week.

THE BANK OF JAPAN.

The amounts of convertible notes and reserves in the Bank of Japan for the week ended the 8th instant were as follows:—

CONVERTIBLE NOTES.		RESERVES AND SECURITIES.	
YEN.	Notes issued	YEN.	
100,316,216	100,316,216	24,095,247	Gold coin and bullion.
		30,061,616	Silver coin and bullion.
		18,476,450	Public Loan Bonds.
			Treasury Bills.
		22,000,000	Government Bonds.
		4,732,182	Other securities.
		15,169,721	Commercial bills.
	100,316,216		100,316,216

Of the above total issue of notes, the sum of yen 5,616,151 is in the treasury of the Bank, 22,000,000 has been transferred on loan to the Government, and yen 72,700,065 in actual circulation, the latter showing an increase of yen 379,359 as compared with yen 72,320,706 at the end of the previous week.

CHINA AND JAPAN.

From time to time discussions about the treaty between China and Japan appear in the vernacular press. The latest is to be found in the *Mainichi Shimbun*. After noting the difference between the treaty privileges enjoyed by Japanese subjects in China and the subjects or citizens of other States, it says that some years ago, when a Japanese Plenipotentiary sought to have this corrected, Viceroy Li told him that the privileges given to Western folks had been granted under pressure of *force majeure*, and that China could not consent to extend them to another Power by the process of peaceful negotiation. The Japanese Plenipotentiary admitted the justice of this reasoning. Since then, too, there has been no occasion to regret the discrimination against Japanese, for the privilege of trading in the interior under passport has been less and less availed of every year by Occidental merchants, experience having shown that such business is troublesome, precarious, and not correspondingly profitable. The Japanese would be ill advised, according to the *Mainichi's* view, if they attached much

importance to securing this privilege or urged China to grant it in the revised treaty said to be now in process of negotiation, because not only would the concession be of little value, but it would involve a similar concession on Japan's side to Chinese subjects visiting the empire. At present Chinese residents or travellers are not permitted to go into the interior of Japan on passports as other foreigners are. If they were not only permitted to do so, but also suffered to trade and settle in the interior, the Chinese question would undoubtedly become for Japan what it is for America.

ALLEGED OPIUM-EATING IN JAPAN.

In the *Hyogo News* of the 11th instant the following paragraph appears:—

Travelling down from Osaka the other day by rail a curious instance of opium-eating was observed. The carriage was full of Japanese, many of them, apparently, subordinate officials, and the proceedings opened by one of them suddenly removing his white gloves and extending his hand to his neighbour coupled with a request for something. The latter complied by drawing a small bottle from the folds of his dress, and dipping a bodkin into it, a dark, brownish-looking substance adhered. This he rubbed on the extended hand, which the owner at once sucked with great gusto. This was repeated two or three times, three of those present taking part in it.

With reference to this, a Japanese correspondent writes:—"Among other curious reports made to the *Hyogo News* by foreigners who appear not to be much acquainted with Japanese customs, there is a remarkable falsehood that some Japanese were eating or sucking opium in a railway carriage between Kobe and Osaka. The truth is that these Japanese travellers were taking a well-known Japanese family medicine called *Shinyaku* (神樂). It is sold in small bottles, and its colour exactly answers to the description given by the writer in the *Hyogo News*. The Japanese are in the habit of eating it from the hand as a refresher, especially when they are fatigued by exercise or travelling." This explanation ought to have been sent to the *Hyogo News*, which would have been prompt to correct the misapprehension of its previous informant.

AN ELECTION PRITITION.

In Mr. Traill's "Saturday Songs" one of the gems is a description of the fate of a certain Colonel Blunt, who having stood for Barleyshire in opposition to Mr. Tennent Wright, is unseated for corrupt practices:—

"The Colonel stared a moment mute, then cried in wonder.
(Eh)
What! guilty—practices corrupt? Look here my lord, I say,
I only paid the farmers down what Mr. Tennent Wright
Had promised them 'in six months' time if he should win the
fight."
The learned judge maintained his frown, although there seemed
to slip
The faintest flicker of a smile across his rigid lip:
'You are a simple soldier, sir, or you would hardly miss
The fallacy that vitates comparisons like this.'
'Well, I shall always miss it,' said the Colonel, 'while I live.
I may not bribe these men, my lord, with what's my own to give,
While those confounded Gladstones, as far as I can see,
May bribe them, every mother's son, with what belongs to
me.'"

THE EMPEROR'S VISIT TO COUNT OYAMA.

The Emperor's projected visit to the suburban villa of H.E. Count Oyama, Minister of State for War, in Sendagaya-mura, which had to be postponed on account of His Majesty's indisposition, is to take place on the 15th instant. The announcement is made in the *Official Gazette*, and it is added that His Majesty will leave the Palace at 1 o'clock in the afternoon.

DEATH OF AN OLD RESIDENT.

MANY of our readers who knew and respected the Rev. Mr. Syle and Mrs. Syle during their residence in Japan many years ago, will learn with regret that news has been received of the death of Mrs. Syle. We have no particulars, but Mrs. Syle's age must have been sufficiently ripe to prepare her friends for the loss which they have now sustained.

FATAL RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

A TELEGRAM from Okayama, dated the 12th inst., in the *Tokyo Koron* states that a serious railway accident took place on the 9th inst. on the Sanyo Railway, a train being derailed near Nashikawara, with the result that eight persons were killed and sixteen injured.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

As a young girl regards her approaching marriage with mixed feelings of gladness and anxiety, so—we are told by the vernacular press—the Japanese nation, though extremely glad that the long desired establishment of a constitutional Government is to become an accomplished fact within less than a fortnight, is at the same time perplexed and not a little uneasy at the sense of the immense responsibility about to fall on its shoulders. The growing anxiety of the public more and more finds an echo in the columns of the Tokyo newspapers. In a series of articles entitled the dissolution of the Diet, the *Choya Shimbu* endeavours to persuade the Representatives of the people to make good the pledges which they gave to their constituents at the time of the general election. What will be the results of the first session of the Diet, the *Choya* does not pretend to say certainly; but, so far as the relation between the Government and the various parties arrayed against it is concerned, the Tokyo journal thinks that one of three things will happen: either the Government may be too strong for the antagonistic parties, or the Opposition may be powerful enough to compel the present Cabinet to hand over the administration, or again the power and influence of the Cabinet and the Opposition may be so evenly balanced as to bring about the formation of a coalition Government. The *Choya* would not be satisfied with the last mentioned result. "Our desire," it says, "is to concentrate the energies of all the parties out of power and to attack the abuses of the existing Government in such a manner that the latter will have no alternative but to adopt the suggestions of the Opposition." Our contemporary then goes on to condemn those who are said to hope for nothing better than the formation of a coalition Cabinet. If the members of the Diet be not fully resolved to do their duty earnestly and fearlessly, they will, we are told, no longer represent the nation, and the Diet ought then to be instantly dissolved. At any rate the people are entitled to memorialize the Emperor for the dissolution of a Diet which they think does not truly represent their sentiments.

The *Mainichi Shimbu* takes a similar, but more moderate, view of the situation. It is afraid that the present Cabinet may be too ready to resort to the Bismarckian method of intimidating the Diet into submission by threatening to dissolve it. "There may indeed be occasions when the dissolution of the Diet would be of absolute necessity in order to take the sense of the country," Our contemporary advises the Members of the Diet not to be afraid of a dissolution, but to do their duty manfully, taking at the same time precautions not to supply the Government with pretexts for dissolution.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbu* is afraid that the Government and the Opposition, each animated by a rooted prejudice against the other, may meet on the floor of the Diet in a sulky and uncompromising mood; the former may resort to dissolution as its last defence, while the latter may vote want of confidence in the former. Our contemporary hopes that both the Government and the Opposition will try to bury in oblivion all their past wrongs, and meet in the Diet in a frank and impartial temper.

The *Nippon* is outspoken in its denunciation of a certain class of statesmen out of power, whose sole aim and purpose is to dislodge the present Ministers from the Cabinet, and get themselves seated therein. All the political parties, our contemporary goes on, are in the manipulation of these statesmen, who do not scruple to employ the engines of constitutional government as mediums through which they hope to be avenged on their old competitors and enemies, their object being not so much to serve the country as to gratify their private grudges and selfish interests. The *Nippon* thinks it a deplorable circumstance that such persons should have the control of most

of the existing parties. The Tokyo journal is unable to see any difference between statesmen of this type, on the one hand, and those of another sort, on the other, who are determined to continue in possession of power even at the point of the bayonet.

It will be seen that the articles above quoted relate to the House of Representatives. The members of that House are generally believed to be mostly opposed to the Government, and if we may credit what the papers report about the members of the Upper House, they seem to be not much more friendly to the Cabinet. Whereas the Commons will be partly restrained by the fear of dissolution, the Peers will not be under any such apprehension. Moreover, the majority of the Imperial nominees, especially ex-Senators, are said to be decidedly antagonistic to the Ministers, while those representing the maximum tax-payers in the respective localities have, on the whole, more sympathy with their neighbours in the other House than with the Cabinet. Among the noble members, there are not a few who are at best very cold towards the Government. Altogether it is presumed, according to the papers, that the Upper House will be more stony than the Lower.

Talk about the new political party still continues to occupy a large portion of the news columns of the vernacular papers, though not to so great an extent as during the preceding week. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbu* advises the originators of the party not to mould the organization on the hard and fast patterns of other parties, but to found it on the strength of similarity of views in respect of practical questions of the day, without any declaration of principles or the framing of any rules. The same view seems to be held by most of the principal spirits of the movement, and the formal organization of the party will not, according to rumour, take place before some months shall have passed. The general meeting originally announced for the 20th has been postponed.

As noticed in our last weekly review of the vernacular press, discussions on the subject of Treaty Revision have entered a new phase in respect of the nature of the topics to which public attention is now chiefly directed. Commercial and economical affairs form the principal topics of discussion. Mr. Tomita, formerly President of the Bank of Japan, lately delivered a lecture on the subject of the coasting trade, at the *Gakuri Gikwai*. His lecture is not fully reported by the papers, but his views have been made known through the columns of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbu* in the form of an interview which some one had with him. Mr. Tomita, after noticing in general terms the importance of excluding foreign ships from the coasting trade of the country, and alluding to the practice of Western nations in this respect, proceeded to tell his interviewer that, in his opinion, Japan ought, for the sake of her navigation, her shipbuilding, and the regulation of her Customs, to keep vigilant watch against the encroachment of foreign vessels on the privileges which only ships flying her flag should be entitled to enjoy. The shipbuilding industry being yet in its infancy in Japan, Mr. Tomita remarked that she could not, like the United States, prohibit the use of foreign-built vessels in the coasting trade of the country, but he held that she should still make some difference in the treatment of vessels built at home and of those constructed abroad, as, for instance, in the case of tonnage dues, such difference being always in favour of the home-built vessels. Further he thought it of vital importance for Japan not to allow her people to charter foreign vessels for the purpose of engaging in the coasting trade.

The *Keizai Zasshi* is also publishing a series of articles on this subject. They are not yet concluded. Attention is drawn in them to the extraordinary enterprise and energy possessed by the Anglo-Saxon race, and the Japanese nation is warned against the danger of admitting

Anglo-Saxons into free competition with its own people in the carrying trade between the various ports of the country.

The *soshi*, despite the disgust and loathing with which they are universally regarded by all people outside a limited circle of professional politicians, still continue to prosper and multiply in the capital. The *Fiji Shimpo* writes strongly against the whole fraternity and especially against their patrons. Our contemporary heads its article: "Enemies of Liberty." After alluding to the conspicuous and disgraceful part lately played by the *soshi* in connection with the amalgamation of progressive parties and the formation of the Constitutional Liberal party, the *Fiji* goes on to remark that these simple-minded youth are less to blame than the politicians who employ them as instruments in the prosecution of infamous intrigues.

The *Yomiuri Shimbu* draws attention to the extraordinary power wielded by the *soshi* in Japanese politics. They are used, it is true, by politicians, but the latter are in turn influenced by them. The *Yomiuri* refers to the part taken by them at the elections of July last. Most of the representatives elected were to a great extent indebted to the exertions of the *soshi*. These representatives are now, according to the *Yomiuri*, in an embarrassing situation; for the *soshi* who assisted them in their election campaign think themselves entitled to interfere whenever they regard as objectionable any conduct or utterance of such members on public occasions. From these facts our contemporary apprehends that the conduct of the members on the floor of the Diet may be influenced by the opinions of the *soshi*, who are ever ready to employ force in the prosecution of their purposes.

The *Hochi Shimbu* probably has the *soshi* in view when it recommends young men to emigrate to Hokkaido and enlist in the colonial militia. If practicable, this is the best method yet suggested for disposing of these undesirable members of the community.

The question that has occupied by far the largest space in the vernacular press for the week, is that relating to the reported proposal for the development of the navy, which the Cabinet is believed to have decided to lay before the Diet. It is rumoured that the scheme of the Government is to raise a loan amounting to about 13 million yen, which will be used chiefly for the construction of war vessels. The reporters are exceptionally busy in interviewing Ministers of State, Generals, and Admirals. The most interesting of those interviews is that with Viscount Kabayama, Minister of the Navy, which is now appearing in the *Fuyu Shimbu*. As yet we cannot give a general view of the opinions entertained on this subject by the vernacular press, for most of the leading papers refrain from expressing themselves until they have made a thorough study of the whole question in its diverse bearings. The discussion of the Government's proposal will inevitably involve the vital question of the relative importance of the army and the navy, and the Tokyo papers predict animated debates on this subject when the Diet meets.

The *Yomiuri Shimbu* and the *Koku Shimbu* have discussed at some length the celebrated 69th Article of the Constitution. The *Hochi Shimbu* devotes some articles to the consideration of the various methods of reducing the land tax; the unfavourable condition of Japan's foreign trade forms the subject of a few leading articles, especially in the *Fiji Shimpo*, the *Hochi Shimbu*, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbu*, and the *Choya Shimbu*. The *Fuyu Shimbu* writes copiously on the distinction between the theory of individual liberty and that of State liberty. *Nippon* is still engaged in reviewing the recent history of national finance. The contention now going on between the Merchant Party and the Land Party in Yokohama as to the proprietorship of the Gas Works, is also discussed by some of the metropolitan papers.

THE KANGA-KAI'S EXHIBITION.

THE sixth Exhibition of the *Kanga-kai*, or Society for promoting Pictorial Art, is now open in the Art Museum, Uyeno Park. Criticisms of this Society's doings appeared more than once in our columns in past years. Nevertheless it will perhaps be necessary to remind our readers that the chief object of the Association is to promote the cause of pure Japanese Art, as distinguished in the first place from the Art of the West, which now finds many votaries in Japan, and in the second from the combination of Japanese and Western art which is likely to be the ultimate outcome of the Art School in Uyeno. In short the *Kanga-kai* folks are essentially conservative. They profess reverent attachment to the canons of old times, and base their judgment of a painter's excellence on qualities appreciable only by the initiated. Conservatism, however, is not possible in the present age. Of art, no less than of everything else, it is indisputably true that to be in touch with the time is the first essential of vitality. This fact has forced itself more and more painfully on the attention of visitors attending the periodical exhibitions held quarterly or yearly in Tokyo. On each occasion the pictures displayed seemed even less in keeping with the tastes and tendencies of the era than their predecessors were, and the impression conveyed by this gradual widening of the chasm between the painter's work and the sources of his inspiration is fatal to public interest and sympathy. The same fault was conspicuous in the pictures shown at the recent National Exhibition. Rare indeed were examples suggesting anything better than conventionalism divorced utterly from inspiration and reduced to a mere trick of training or dexterity. The conservatives themselves were conscious of this, but they attributed it to some accidental inferiority of the works exhibited rather than to any moribund condition of their School. The best artists, they said, had refrained from contributing. This was certainly true. Many names well known to the public were absent from the list of exhibitors, although the occasion seemed sufficiently important to invite general effort. Want of confidence in the judges was assigned in several quarters as a reason for such marked abstention. Artists of note declined to submit their productions to the verdict of men in whose critical competence they had no faith. Whether or no this distrust was justified, we do not pretend to say, but it must be confessed that little discrimination could be detected in the awards distributed wholesale to exhibitors whose pictures seemed unworthy of any such honour. However, inasmuch as the general public, knowing nothing of the reasons that had induced some of the best masters

of the day to hold aloof, drew inferences very unfavourable to the condition and prospects of the country's ancient art in the hands of its modern representatives, the conservatives saw themselves more or less discredited, and accordingly announced that steps would be taken to organise another exhibition of such a character as to vindicate the doctrines of their School. This exhibition is the one now in progress at Uyeno, and under the circumstances special interest of course attaches to it. The result is wretchedly disappointing. The whole display is marked by a dead level of inferiority. So entirely has the spirit of the old School perished that the productions of its students are uniformly inanimate and mechanical. There are still many objects which the Japanese artist can paint admirably without, on the one hand, departing from the traditions of his art, or, on the other, losing touch of contemporary feeling. Birds, foliage, and flowers stand at the head of this category. Painters like WATANABE SHOTEI—who, we notice, contributes nothing to the present exhibition—fully deserve the favour they enjoy. Nothing more admirable was shown at the recent National Exhibition than WATANABE'S group of ducks, just flushed, struggling out of a cane-brake. Composition and execution were equally good in this picture. So, too, BAISON, an artist of Kanagawa Prefecture, has contributed to the present exhibition of the *Kanga-kai* a grand painting of an eagle in the act of alighting upon a bough in the teeth of a gale of wind. Such a work appeals to all time, but hanging in the Uyeno Exhibition it only helps to accentuate the wretchedness of its surroundings. Of these it is scarcely too much to say that they chiefly resemble designs for the decoration of flat surfaces. The visitor has constantly to remind himself that he is not inspecting specimens of wall paper. Everything is flat, lifeless, and conventional. Naturally, there are a few pictures which deserve to be excepted from this general condemnation. Two landscapes by NOMURA BUNKYO, a representation of waves by TAKI KATEI, and a carp by SEKISEN are not unworthy of praise. But these are almost lost in a multitude of wholly meritless daubs. It must be noted that the leading men of the *Kanga-kai* are themselves disappointed with the exhibition. So far does it fall short of their expectations that they talk of awarding no prizes at all. On the other hand, they have not yet learned the lesson plainly taught by recent experience, namely, that their school is doomed. In a limited sense there is a field still open to the pure Japanese artist: the kingdom of birds, flowers, and insects offers subjects which he can treat in a manner not inferior, and often distinctly superior, to the corresponding work of his Occidental colleagues. But his figures, his landscapes, his animals, his sea-scapes—all these

scarcely rise above the level of ridicule. The past, indeed, produced painters who bequeathed to posterity charming little bits of scenery, glimpses of summer mists, winter snows, or island-dotted coasts. The mantle of these masters is still worn by a few, but their efforts to sustain the reputation of their school are almost lost in the mass of worthlessness that comes from the brushes of their imitators. Painting in the genuine Japanese style survives only in so far as its outcome has not fallen hopelessly behind the sympathies of the day. This fate might have been predicted long before such exhibitions as that now open at Uyeno furnished convincing evidence.

LAND AND SEA.

AT a recent meeting of the Asiatic Society of Japan, Admiral BELKNAP, U.S.N., drew attention to the very remarkable depths that exist off the East Coast of Japan—depths which he had the honour of first sounding. This deep-sea sounding is a comparatively new feature in terrestrial surveys, made imperative when telegraphic cables had to be laid along the ocean bottom. Till then, careful surveys near coasts or in the vicinity of shoals were found sufficient for the practical needs of man; but now, partly because of commercial necessities, partly because of scientific curiosity, we are not content with such border knowledge. Irrespective altogether of the direct value of a discovery, man has a growingly insatiable desire to know all about it. And although, outside the telegraphic question, it is difficult to see what practical benefit the careful contouring of the ocean depths can have, nevertheless the work goes on steadily in the hands of our Naval officers, and the general interest in it grows as steadily. We propose to notice a few of the broad results recently established as regards the comparative areas and the comparative heights and depths of land and sea.

The most elaborate of recent calculations on these lines is that by Dr. JOHN MURRAY (of the *Challenger*) who finds the dry land area to be to the sea area in the ratio of 13 to 33. The land area being much the smaller, it is to be expected that its average height will be distinctly less than the average depth of the sea. The ratio in this case is indeed as 10 to 54. To get a clearer idea of the full significance of the comparison, let us suppose all the dry land to be reduced to one uniform height with sheer vertical walls facing the sea, and the sea to be reduced to one uniform depth like a canal with perpendicular banks; then the height of this table-land above the sea level would be 2,231 feet, and the depth of the ocean ditch would be 11,975 feet, or very nearly 2,000 fathoms.

Thus a comparatively slight sinking of the world-ridges which form our dry land would suffice to bring about a uni-

versal deluge. If we were to slice off all the matter that protrudes above the ocean surface and tumble it into the ocean depths, the mean depth of the original ocean part would be reduced by only 140 fathoms. If again, we were to level down all the rocky irregularities of the solid earth until the world should be covered with an ocean of uniform depth, this depth would be as much as 1,700 fathoms. It is small wonder, then, that the denizens of the deep are the oldest inhabitants of earth. In the evolution of the higher animals the first necessary step was the evolution of the dry land, which geologists tell us was much less extensive in former eras than now. In Palæozoic times Europe was chiefly a small Scandinavian patch and Asia a narrow island stretching from Turkestan to Manchuria. Japan was not; North America did not extend below the Great Lakes; and all over the present continental area dry land existed in isolated patches. The prolonged hypogenic action that gradually through the ages pushed up the world-ridges above the ocean waves was therefore the *sine quâ non* to an evolved humanity. We do not yet understand the nature of this tremendous force which has lifted the highest summits eleven miles above the deepest hollows. Its action still goes on in the tilting of continents and the quivers of earthquakes; its effects exist in all the land survivals of to-day. But when we do understand it we shall recognise in it as potent a factor in the development of mankind as the very life-germ itself.

It is probable that once life, like a limpet, attached itself to the emerging land, it would begin to evolve with accelerated rapidity. The greater variety of environment would lead to quicker changes in habit of life and structure of body. How much richer must the frog's experiences be than the tadpole's! Even on things inanimate the atmosphere has the touch as of a magician's wand. For the sub-oceanic hills and dales altogether lack the picturesque forms which weather, the master sculptor, has wrought out all around us. Fairy-like grottoes and caves "full many a fathom deep" are as rare as their mythical dwellers, the mermaids. Taken all in all, a soul of high ambition should rejoice that he is of the land and not of the sea; and should be eternally grateful to the volcanic agencies which in spite of gravitation prepared his place for him.

Gravitation, however, has its own important functions. Under its influence the ocean waters are highly compressed in their lowest depths. In the recently published *Challenger* Report on the physical properties of water, Professor TAIT has calculated that, if the action of gravity were to cease, the level of the ocean in the deepest parts of the Pacific away to the east of Japan would rise more than 600 feet. A huge wave would come rolling in upon us, and Foreign Concessions and Consular Courts would be totally submerged.

CHARACTERISTICS OF SOME AMERICAN CITIES.

ONE of the most striking features of American life at the present day is the crowding of the native American population into the cities, and the phenomenal growth of these cities. Wealth in the great centres is so easily secured by intelligence and astuteness, that the "smart" American of the rural counties is allured from the dull labour of ploughing and reaping, and leaves his rude farmstead for the more comfortable and luxurious surroundings of the city. It is a remarkable fact that districts which, when the present generation was young, were peopled by a rural population bearing Anglo-Saxon names, are now wholly and entirely German or Scandinavian. The hard-working, less mercurial Teuton or Scandinavian comes into the possessions relinquished by his more ambitious predecessor, and the cities gain what is lost to the counties. The cities themselves, moreover, are constantly receiving increments of pure German and Scandinavian stock, who conduct most of the retail business; while the Irish, Polish, and Italian immigrants act for the most part as "hewers of wood and drawers of water." It is astonishing, in passing through great centres like Kansas City and St. Louis, to observe the almost unbroken succession of guttural names in the shop-signs, and the frequent recurrence, among ecclesiastical edifices, of Lutheran and Evangelical churches, built for the accommodation of these immigrants from the North Sea. Most of the population of Iceland, starved out of that inhospitable climate, is making its way westward, *vid* Leith in Scotland, to find more favourable conditions for life and labour in the New World. In a few years Iceland may be virtually uninhabited. This population, however, will engage either in fishing or in agriculture.

There is rivalry among the great American cities, rivalry which found a vent for expression in the recent competition for the accommodation of the so-called World's Fair. The four serious candidates were New York, Washington, Chicago, and St. Louis. Philadelphia was ruled out, seeing that she had already enjoyed the great honour of entertaining the world at the Centennial Exhibition of 1876. The claims of the other four were duly considered and discussed with considerable heat in the columns of newspapers and amongst the public generally. The chances were considered to lie between New York and Chicago. Finally the great emporium of the North proved the winner, and the American world as a whole acquiesced in the justice of the award.

And yet Chicago is in some respects less of a centre to the Commonwealth than is St. Louis. Of late years, no doubt, the northern city has outstripped the Queen

of the Mississippi in enterprise and growth, and has left her far in the rear. But still St. Louis remains the railroad and commercial centre for a number of the Southern states; and the radius of the circle which may be drawn, with St. Louis as a centre, so as to cover United States' soil, is far greater than if, on the same map, one were to use Chicago as the centre for such a circle. St. Louis is the metropolis of the Mississippi, the hinge of the "Mississippi Valley System," which embraces about 15,000 miles of railroad. It leads not only the Republic, but the world in about a dozen industries. The river frontage of the city extends over nearly twenty miles, and the city limits include an area of sixty-one square miles; its population numbers over half-a-million. Sixth in respect to population, it stands fourth in the matter of commerce. Its natural situation on a bend of the Mississippi river, just beyond the point where the Missouri adds its own mighty quota of waters, is both commanding and picturesque.

It must, however, be confessed that the traveller who visits St. Louis suffers a certain disappointment, observing that no more use has been made of so fine a site. The broad waters of the Mississippi, "Father of Waters," flow round the city, and she turns her back to them. The famous levee, far less crowded with steamboats than in days when the great bridge had not yet brought in railway competition, is a mere shelving bank paved with cobblestones. There is no esplanade, no river street frontage worthy of the name. The fine buildings of the city, its banks, insurance offices, hotels and business houses, face each other in narrow streets, where the passer-by has to crane his neck to get a tolerable view of them. Of the numerous parks, none slope down to the river; they are all situated within the city or inland, and lose the inestimable advantage of a river prospect. In the matter of railway depôt accommodation, St. Louis is notoriously deficient. Her central station, known as the Union Depôt, would disgrace a city of far meaner pretensions. It is dirty, cramped, and altogether wretchedly defective; a mere temporary structure that threatens, notwithstanding constant complaints, to remain permanent. When compared with the fine railway depôts of Chicago, it appears altogether disgraceful. The site for a new depôt, however, has at last been chosen, and the ground is actually cleared for building operations.

By good luck or good guidance, and partly, no doubt, as a result of second thoughts to which the great fire would allow free play, Chicago has made few of the mistakes that one regrets in the case of St. Louis. The fine frontage on the lake has been made good use of, several of the chief hotels commanding a prospect of Lake Michigan; while the glorious Lincoln Park owes much of its beauty to the skilful use that has been made of its

vicinity to the lake. The streets of Chicago are wider and far better suited to the lofty buildings that are so characteristic of modern American city architecture. And, finally, the buildings themselves are costlier and more effective. The splendid Auditorium Building, covering about one and a half acres, and having a street frontage, on three sides, of 710 feet, is perhaps the finest block in the world. It comprises a music hall, a recital hall, a tower observatory, and an hotel with 400 guest rooms, besides an extensive business portion. The building rises to the great height of 145 feet, in ten separate stories; and above the whole looms the high tower, 270 feet in height, where, in the seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth stories, are situated the rooms of the U. S. Signal Service station. The other city buildings are in keeping; the fine sculpture and painting galleries, the city chambers, the hotels, and several railway depôts. Chicago impresses a stranger perhaps more than any city in America; its vastness and orderliness, without the sense of emptiness which Washington is apt to convey, make it superior in general impressiveness to the over-crowded empire city on the Hudson. The choice of Chicago as the site for the World's Fair in 1892 will, we think, be fully justified by results.

Kansas City is fast becoming a rival of the older communities lying to the east. Suddenly casting aside its insignificance as a wild western settlement on the edge of the buffalo plains of Kansas, it has now a population of two hundred thousand, and, from its unrivalled position as a railway centre, its future growth is certain. Here again one meets with those lofty tower-like buildings which the necessities of New York first brought into vogue. But, as the busiest parts of the city lie in a hollow, and as the most crowded thoroughfares are narrow, few of these structures are shown to advantage. The residential portion of the city occupies the long range of bluffs rising abruptly at the back of the original river settlement. An unequalled system of cable, electric, steam and horse tram-cars binds the city together and unites it with the suburb across the Kaw river. No limits can with certainty be placed by prognosticators to the future growth of Kansas City. It is a growing centre, throbbing with life, and full of assertiveness, its population recruited in great measure from Wisconsin and others of the Northern States.

The position of St. Louis and Kansas City, each on the edge of the State of Missouri, and each touching prohibitionist States, has led to curious conditions. A long range of beer saloons marks the street into which the traveller passes when he crosses the State line dividing East and West Kansas City, while St. Louis gamblers find across the river, in the Illinois St. Louis, freer opportunities for the practice of their pastime. It is a difficult

matter to secure for the administration of laws touching on social life as gambling and liquor laws do, more than a certain amount of efficiency. Society refuses to bear more than a modicum of strain in this direction, and measures that are meant to be curative are apt to develop new evils.

DOROTHEA LYNDE DIX.

“**H**ERE is a woman who, as the founder of vast and enduring institutions of mercy in America and in Europe, has simply no peer in the annals of Protestantism. To find her parallel in this respect, it is necessary to go back to the lives of such memorable Roman Catholic women as ST. THERESA of Spain or SANTA CHIARI of Assisi, and to the amazing work they did in founding throughout European Christendom great conventual establishments. Why, then, do the majority of the present generation know little or nothing of so remarkable a story?”

These are among the opening words of the preface to the “Life of Dorothea Lynde Dix,” by FRANCIS TIFFANY, of Boston, U.S.A., a recently published book, well worth reading by mankind the world around. Mr. TIFFANY answers his question by informing us that the story has hitherto been untold, simply because Miss DIX’S “own positive refusal to permit anything to be written of her” compelled silence during her life-time. Shortly before her death, however, which took place about three years ago, Miss DIX, yielding to the persistent solicitations of friends, gave her consent to the preparation of a memoir of her life. The world may now know of her wonderful career of beneficence.

Miss DIX was born just after the present century opened; she spent her childhood chiefly in and near Boston, in the State of Massachusetts, of the United States. At that time Boston was “already giving signs of an intellectual ferment in theology, philanthropy, philosophy, and literature, which was to inaugurate a new epoch in the spiritual history of New England.” “None entered more earnestly into certain phases of this spiritual re-birth than did Miss DIX.” Probably the strongest prompting in the nature of this sensitive girl was “pitiful compassion for the ignorant, degraded, and suffering.” Her spiritual development was then, and for many years afterwards by intimate contact, under the wise influence of Dr. WILLIAM ELLERY CHANNING, so well known throughout the world now, for religious fervour and Christian humanitarianism. Even in girlhood the genius of the woman led Miss DIX to do deeds of mercy. She established in her grandmother’s barn a school for outcast children, which became the nucleus of a great afterwork of beneficence to the children of degraded poor. For several years, during early womanhood, Miss DIX

was in a very precarious state of health (it was often believed that she would live but a short time), and the direct effect of her disease was to “raise to a perilous intensity the self-sacrificing impulses and the moral and religious ardour of her temperament;” to see suffering or degradation anywhere aroused in her an unconquerable longing to relieve it. But a long, though often critically invalid, life was before her.

Miss DIX was nearly thirty years old when the events occurred which directed her energies into the special work by which she became distinguished among the world’s benefactors. For some time the modern theory of insanity and the treatment of the insane, advocated by such men as the French PINEL and the English TUKE, had been slowly making way among Western nations, and there were, in both Europe and America, noble minds enlisted in their service, but “none the less one indispensable spiritual power was lacking. It was that of a fervid apostle of the new creed.” In Miss DIX that apostle was to be found.

Fifty years ago, when coming out of Church one Sunday, she overheard some gentlemen speaking of horrible treatment to which prisoners and lunatics were subjected in a jail near Boston. She was so moved by what was said that she determined to go to the prison and see for herself. The result of that visit was more than a confirmation of what she had heard. Then, a suspicion that this terrible condition of affairs was not confined to this one prison started her on an investigation of all the jails and almshouses of the State. For two years she followed her self-imposed task, “steadily accumulating statistics of outrage and misery,” until she had gathered a mass of testimony appalling in extent and detail. With these potent facts she memorialized the Legislature of Massachusetts. There is not space here to repeat Mr. TIFFANY’S eloquent story of how Miss DIX’S memorial startled and shocked the commonwealth, nor of how, at length, a Bill of Relief was triumphantly carried through the legislature, making at last the horrors afflicting the pauper insane, which had for so long disgraced the community, only a miserable memory.

With this triumphant struggle, however, Miss DIX’S mental and moral powers found an adequate field of action, and started her on that marvellous mission of mercy, by which, having conquered the law-makers of her own State, she gained the support of the legislatures of more than twenty great States of the American Union, again and again secured the co-operation of both Chambers of the Federal Congress at Washington, and, in Europe when others had notably failed, prevailed upon the British Parliament to pass laws which actually revolutionized the lunacy legislation of Scotland. The story of these splendid achievements covering nearly twenty years of intense devotion to the

one purpose of justice and mercy to the helpless suffering, has been told with rare effectiveness. Mr. TIFFANY'S enthusiastic chapters are a masterly tribute to the heroic life they make known to the world. It is impossible to give even a synopsis of the thrilling recitals. We are shown in them, not simply a good and merciful woman—she was truly that—but a woman, also, in whom flashed “the splendours and audacities of moral genius,” “a woman with the grasp of intellect, the fertility of resource, and the indomitable force of will that go to the make-up of a great statesman or a great military commander.” It must stir the most indifferent to read Mr. TIFFANY'S graphic record of this faithful patience, this unwearying, unswerving impulse of purpose, this keenly intelligent use of opportunities to accomplish the one end, this persistent self-obliteration in the service of others, this devout humility even in moments of magnificent success after the hardest struggles, and this courage always abounding where strong men often faltered and gave way. What could seem more presumptuous, for example, than for a woman and a foreigner to attempt a legislative revolution among a people like that of the British empire, yet, “gentle lady and terrible reformer,” as she has been named, Miss DIX knew no national or race lines when the destruction of injustice to helpless humanity was necessary, and did presume to call upon the British nation to destroy its long permitted wrongs. Her appeal was heard and, in the end, in spite of all the obstacles placed in her way, gratefully, nobly heeded. In Scotland and in the Channel Islands a new and cheering day for the insane dawned. Hardly less presumptuous would it seem that a woman, a foreigner, a Protestant, and yet more, a Unitarian, should seek an audience of the Supreme Pontiff of the great Roman Catholic Church to inform him that “in the light of modern knowledge and humanity, the insane asylum of the Holy City was a disgrace and scandal,” yet, obedient to a law higher than that of Rome, Miss DIX did meet Pope PIUS IX. who listened to her with sympathetic attention, who afterwards went unannounced to the accused asylum and made a personal inspection of its wards, and who in a second interview warmly thanked her for bringing to his knowledge the condition of these “cruelly entreated members of his flock.” Not long afterwards the Pope erected a new asylum in Rome, on the most approved plan, in all probability prompted to do so by the efforts of Miss DIX.

But space prevents our following this Crusader for mercy's sake in her long journeys. Alone she travelled through Greece, Turkey, Russia, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Belgium, and part of Germany, day by day exploring prisons, asylums, poor-houses, and leaving inestimable blessings in her way.

Returning to America not long before the outbreak of the great civil war, Miss DIX became the constant adviser and helper of the many asylums for the insane which had been originated or improved by her efforts before she went to Europe. Her biographer says that during these four years she obtained “larger appropriations of money for purely benevolent purposes, than, probably, it was ever given to any other mortal in the old world or the new to raise.” Among the “millionaires of charity” she easily heads the list.

While engaged in this onerous work the crisis in the history of the American Union came. The war between North and South broke out. For the succeeding four years Miss DIX was burdened with a new and engrossing labour, that of “Superintendent of the Women Nurses” of the military hospitals of the United States. Although sixty years of age at the outbreak of the war, she assumed and bore to the end of the fearful conflict the extraordinary burden. How much suffering was relieved, and how many valuable lives were saved under her wise management can never be known. She never gave herself a day's furlough through the long years. “Untiringly she remained at her post, organizing bands of nurses, forwarding supplies, inspecting hospitals,” correcting abuses, and opening new ways of beneficent service. “A very retiring, sensitive woman, yet brave and bold as a lion to do battle for the right and for justice,” wrote a physician of her at that time. All the public recognition of her invaluable services she would accept from the national authorities was, the “Flags of my Country.” These now hang in the Harvard College Memorial Hall. After the close of the war Miss DIX, ever untiring, collected money and built a monument in one of the largest national cemeteries, “In Memory of Union Soldiers who Died to maintain the Laws,” her tribute to the patriotic dead, and in myriad ways assisted soldiers and nurses who had become permanent invalids during the national strife. Then, at the age of sixty-five, she took up her old work in behalf of the insane, and continued it for fifteen years, a self-appointed but universally recognized “lunacy commission” of one, to visit the asylums scattered all over the country, the offspring of her unsurpassed devotion through a half century. The last five years of her life, Miss DIX spent, gratefully cared for, in the apartments tendered her in the New Jersey Asylum, which she had playfully named her “firstborn child.” There, after a long and painful illness, this queen among philanthropists passed away in 1887, truthfully characterized as “the most useful and distinguished woman America has yet produced.”

What special appropriateness has this glimpse at the story of Miss DIX'S career for the people of the empire of Japan?

Much, as a memorial of what has been done by one person for the alleviation of human misery and the advancement of the world's higher civilization. It is especially fitting, however, that Miss DIX'S memory should be honoured here, because to Miss DIX is owing much of whatever care is now given to the insane of this nation. When MORI ARINORI was sent to America as *chargé d'affaires* of the Japanese Government, Miss DIX “sought his acquaintance and held long and earnest interviews with him on the subject that lay nearest her heart.” In 1875 Mr. MORI wrote from Tokyo to her, “Do not think I have been idle about the matter in which you take so deep an interest. I have given the subject much of my time and attention, and have successfully established an asylum for the insane at Kyoto, and another in this city is being built, and will soon be ready for its work of good. Other asylums will follow, too, and I ardently hope they will be the means of alleviating much misery.” To Miss DIX evidently the field was the world, and to the world her memory belongs.

Not for the insane only was her life a perpetual offering; poverty, ignorance, and degradation of all kinds among her fellow beings, and suffering in the brute world, had her unreserved service. We cannot follow in these columns the inspiring record of her work in its fullness. Mr. TIFFANY has given it with the pen of a master, and we commend his memoir to the reader.

CLAY MACCAULEY.

FLOWER POTS.

NO nation ever carried the manufacture of flower pots to such a height of artistic skill as the Japanese. Their habit of dwarfing shrubs, and their rule that in the furniture of a verandah or a *naka-niwa* movable yet growing plants were a necessity, led the keramist to employ all the resources of his art in producing porcelain or faience pots fit to figure among any surroundings. In almost every variety of ware we find flower-pots so perfectly finished both technically and decoratively, that the great care bestowed on them is evident even to a tyro. They are of all shapes, from the portly round vase of plain earthenware in which the true lover of peonies nurtures the glowing plants, to the wide flat dish of blue-and-white or still more highly decorated porcelain, sometimes of great size, which, with its deftly arranged contents of miniature rockery, bright hued gravel and rare grasses, constitutes the much-affected *sekisho* of aristocratic alcoves. The delicate *sous-couverte* blues and fine-grained pastes of the Nabe-shima and Hirado factories were always valued in this branch of keramics, but perhaps the most highly prized colour of former days was *ruri*, or mazarin blue. Every lover of Chinese monochromes knows what mar-

vellously soft rich tints were produced by the old-time potters of Ching-tê-chêng in mazarin blue. There is great, almost incredible, room for exercise of skill in this colour. The gulf is enormous between the glowing, restful blue of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, with its microscopic dappling too minute to be perceptible without very close inspection, yet greatly enhancing the beauty of the surface by a subtle play of light, and the heavy, lifeless, impure colour obtained from modern smalt. The softest velvet does not differ from the coarsest cotton more than these two differ from one another, not in the quality alone of the colour but also in its texture, a point which every careful student of Chinese monochromes will at once appreciate. The *ruri* of Japan never quite attained the highest standard of its Chinese model, but it was a rich, restful, and beautiful colour for all that. Its successful production was a matter of the greatest difficulty. The pigment employed was of two kinds, the one technically called *suna-ye* and the other *ye-gusuri*. *Suna-ye*, literally translated, signifies "sand picture;" that is to say, colouring matter obtained from sand or gravel. The appellation had its origin in the fact that this particular kind of cobalt was found in pebbly masses which had to be crushed, washed, and subjected to various troublesome processes before they consented to yield up the fraction of pigment embedded in them. The *ye-gusuri* (literally, colour for painting) also existed in a very inaccessible form, and both this and the *suna-ye* were scarce and difficult to find. Indeed, the expense of searching for and preparing the colours was virtually deterrent, and could only be borne when no limit of price hampered the keramist. The mineral does not appear to have been found anywhere but in the provinces of Owari and Mino, and when these formed part of the powerful fief called after the name of the former province, no question of cost had to be considered in manufacturing *ruri* pots for use in the castle alcoves and gardens. In those lordly times fifty labourers would be unhesitatingly set to dig for *suna-ye* and *ye-gusuri*, and if three or four days' search only produced one or two ounces of the precious pigment, nobody was censured or embarrassed: the work simply proceeded. It used to be calculated that colouring matter sufficient for a medium-sized flower-pot cost about ten *yen*, and as a matter of course ordinary folks had not much concern with such expensive articles. A coat of *ye-gusuri* was first applied, and its surface was then covered with *suna-ye*, this double layer, with the thin translucent glaze ultimately run over the whole, forming a thickness of nearly a quarter of an inch. Indeed, the thickness of the blue covering constituted a distinguishing feature of old *ruri* monochromes as compared with the crude, garish smalt of modern days, which

is never applied in a layer of more than about three-hundredths of an inch. The ash of the *kiri* (*Paulownia imperialis*) was mixed with the colouring material, and modern potters say that experts of former times possessed special skill derived solely from experience and essential to the successful production of this grand colour. Things are changed now-a-days. From 1875 the choice *suna-ye* and *ye-gusuri* were replaced by imported smalt, which alone is used at present, with results hopelessly inferior. The *ruri-no-uyekibachi* (*ruri* flower-pot) was not a simply monochromatic piece. It was generally decorated with finely moulded white designs in high relief, as a scroll of peonies and *shishi*, an arabesque of vine tendrils, a combination of bamboo leaves and stems, or the conventional emblems of happiness, fortune, and longevity. It is strange how little care seems to have been taken of these beautiful pots. Twenty years ago numbers of them were to be found in the conservatories of Tokyo gardeners, exposed to all the perils that beset fragile pots under such circumstances. To-day with difficulty can one be discovered here and there, and generally its chipped and cracked condition testifies the hardships it has endured. Yet the supply will never be renewed unless chemists can furnish some easy substitute for the colouring matter of former days. No one dreams now of going out to look for *suna-ye* or *ye-gusuri* in the hills of Owari and Mino. The minerals rest undisturbed, and the beautiful part they were once with pain and patience persuaded to play is miserably performed by cheap and nasty smalt, which never deceives the mediocre workman nor ever enables him to come within measurable distance of the achievements of his predecessors in the production of *ruri* monochrome.

BASEBALL.

The game of Baseball played on Saturday, Club v. U.S.S. Omaha, resulted in a win for the Club. We append scores:—

"OMAHA."			Club.		
Pos.	Outs.	Runs.	Pos.	Outs.	Runs.
Mr. Reeves.....	20	3	Mr. Nash.....	9	1
Mr. Douglas.....	18	3	Mr. Tilden.....	10	2
Mr. Cooke.....	19	4	Mr. Merriman.....	20	3
Mr. Barrett.....	30	4	Mr. McNair.....	10	3
Mr. Largent.....	38	2	Mr. Cole.....	30	3
Mr. Deffenbach.....	3	1	Mr. H. G. Hunt.....	10	1
Mr. Wright.....	10	4	Mr. Stone.....	10	2
Mr. Baumgardner.....	2	3	Mr. Howard.....	10	1
Mr. Monroe.....	1	2	Mr. Knox.....	10	2
	27	13		34	16

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE TOKYO POLICE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Allow me space to express our high appreciation of the efficiency of the police in this capital city. During the time of the fire last evening (7th inst.), in this suburb of Tsuno-hazu-mura, which threatened at one time to destroy both our Joshi Dokuritsu Gakko and residence, the police rendered most valuable services. The officers, from the chief of the district to the lowest subordinate, were promptly on hand. Most courteous and affable were they, maintaining self composure amid all the excitement surrounding them. They took special pains to guard the school and our home near by, having two policemen patrol our premises the whole night.

I have met with no such efficiency in all my travels, and I doubt whether any civilization, Occidental or Oriental, can claim a superior and

better qualified police force than that found in Tokyo. Last night's experience only increased my high esteem of the officials in this department of municipal government. Whenever previously I have called upon them for any service whatever I have found them most worthy of their position. To the officers in Tsuno-hazu-mura and Shinjuku districts I desire, in behalf of the school and my family, to render this expression of our deep gratitude and sincere appreciation.

FREDERICK J. STANLEY.

Tokyo, November 8th, 1890.

MEMBERS OF THE DIET.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In a list of the members of the Lower House of the Diet, given in your issue of August 1st, I find information respecting the occupations of only about 175 of the number.

Will you kindly let me know where data are available concerning the rest, or are so many as 125 of the members men who have no "occupation?" I shall be greatly obliged for any information to this end that you may be able to give me.

Yours respectfully,

A. B.

November 6th, 1890.

(We are sorry to say that no information of the nature desired by our correspondent has yet been published.—Ed. J.M.)

THE PERUVIAN MINING SCHEME.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In the mail edition of your important paper dated 21st June, you publish extracts from the Japanese press in reference to the Japanese Mining negotiations in Peru, and, guided by your honorable feelings and strict impartiality, you express your reserve to admit the vile imputations put forward against me.

I beg you, sir, to accept the expression of my gratitude for your generous proceeding.

You will understand that neither the great distance at which I find myself from Japan, nor the level to which the attacks against me have been lowered, nor the language in which they are written, allows me to enter into discussion on this painful matter.

Under given circumstances I have resolved to address Mr. Takahashi as per my letter of 12th inst., of which I beg to enclose a copy, subjoining, at same time, for your guidance, copies of some other letters and documents, as per separate list, to which I allude in my said lines. With these data at hand and with the volume "Amazon Provinces of Peru," by Guillaume, which I remit by book-post, you may, if you kindly take the trouble of looking these papers over, form a clearer judgment about myself and with regard to this painful affair.

I would feel obliged to you if you would publish or extract from these papers what you may deem convenient to general interest and fair towards me.

I remain, Sir, yours faithfully,

O. HEEREN.

Lima, September 12th, 1890.

Lima, September 12th, 1890.

K. TAKAHASHI, Esq., Tokyo.

SIR,—By the last mails I received from Yokohama the *Japan Mail* dated 21st June and the *Herald* dated 3rd July, in which extracts are published from the Japanese newspapers in reference to the Japanese mining negotiations in Peru, which have come to so fatal and disastrous a close, involving not only serious material losses, but also the sacrifice of higher and sacred personal and general interests.

Although it is not strange that in the state of over-excitement which the breaking down of the enterprise has caused—an enterprise to which so many reasonable hopes of success could be attached—violent and extravagant opinions and judgments should be put forward by some of the interested, in order to explain such a painful event, losing sight of the fact that but too often in life very simple and insignificant causes produce transcendental effects, and that it is not necessary in order to explain a war disaster, to attribute the same to the acts of a traitor, still on this occasion the limits are passed, and the attacks lowered to a level to which I disdain to descend for a reply.

I doubt not that once the excitement has calmed down, and confiding in the qualities which distinguish the Japanese character, those who so vilely have attacked me will regret their rash and unpardonable proceeding, and the more so, as the wounds I have received will not easily heal, for the injustice done to me will not be repairable.

From what I can gather from the publications in the *Herald* and *Japan Mail* it would

seem that I have deceived you, the Japanese engineer, and in fact every one, and that the mines, which by undisputedly competent authorities in the matter are declared to be of the most important existing in the world, which fact is so evident that with eyes, a certain amount of intelligence, and good faith, it cannot but be confirmed by any one—those mines are considered by the "Japanese mining engineer, Mr. Koike" as of little or no value, and thus a scandalous fraud! If the case were not so serious, it would simply be ridiculous, knowing, as you and I know, who and what Koike is! That such a man should have decided on the fate of such a negotiation, and of our names and interests, is nearly incredible, and still a fact; and no wonder that I have been able to "salt" or "fill up" and "disguise" the mines, (extending over 1,200 metres in length and being open to inspection to anyone, as they have in fact been extensively worked) or that I have bought them at infinitesimal cost, and resold at an enormous advantage; no wonder, I say, that all these, and many other vile, false, or absurd assertions, put forward from different parts or in ignorance of facts, or in bad faith, should have found acceptance, if Koike's opinion on mining matters of such importance, is admitted and of weight!

All those assertions are as false and vile and absurd, as those which from the beginning were launched against this enterprise, when, as I understand, it was even declared that the Carahuacra mines did not exist at all, and when their existence was no longer deniable, they were placed in regions where human beings could scarcely live!

On the other part, it is forgotten, or rather not mentioned, that I was to receive my interest in this negotiation, to which I had agreed to hand over, not only other costly mines belonging to me, but also a valuable property in Lima, and eventually my agricultural estate, the cost of which exceeds £25,000, receiving in exchange only shares, which if the negotiation turned out well, would be of value, or if the mines were bad cause me most terrible loss. It is forgotten to mention, that, as you know, I continually insisted on Mr. Kawano coming out here, in order to direct work at the mines, and how pleased I was when I heard that Mr. Kawano not being able to come, Mr. Yamada was on his way to Peru. It is forgotten to say how much I have written, requesting that efforts be made in Japan, in order to get an Imperial official representative named for Peru, who might inform all about this country, which is also so infamously depicted by some of your native press, and who might protect Japanese interests, and report on the progress of our negotiation, and eventually on many future ones. I have always felt convinced, and feel so still now, that few countries in the world, if any, might become of such advantage to Japan as Peru.

In fact you, Mr. Takahashi, have had opportunity to treat and study me, in the intimate intercourse which we have entertained during several months, and I know you cannot but be convinced that I am incapable of any proceedings similar to those which are so vilely imputed to me.

In fact it would have been more than madness to involve myself in a negotiation in which all depended on the results, if I had not been, as I am, absolutely sure of the value and importance of the mines; it would have been more than madness to expose myself to utter ruin and to the consequences which would have fallen on me, and with a large Japanese colony on the spot.

Common sense, and any impartial judgment, in view of the preceding facts which in every respect are exact, cannot but declare absurd the vile assertions put forward against me, and seek for an explanation in reasonable causes, which are easily to be found, in the course of this unfortunate affair, for which perhaps Mr. Tashima was not quite the most suited, as you yourself have had occasion to appreciate. I will try in a few words to recall to your mind the following true facts. In the middle of March last, and when we had agreed on all clauses of our mutual contract, and on my expressing to you my satisfaction about the arrangement, and the advantages we had a right to expect from the negotiation, you, for the first time, informed me of the extravagant hopes which in Japan were attached to it, and offered to give me a translation of the calculations made there, by which more than a million yen net profit was to be derived per year.

Considering that it would be more than serious, not to rectify such unjustifiable expectations, I proposed to you immediately to write to Capt. Guyer, the representative of Messrs. Fraser & Chalmers in Peru, requesting him, who knows the Carahuacra mines and ores thoroughly, as he has made a serious study of the matter, and is a man of high respectability and exceptional competency and prudence, to submit for your guidance his authorized opinion on so important a matter; and

Mr. Guyer handed us on the 13th March his letter, report, and calculations, in which, treating only of the low grade ores of Carahuacra (and not taking in consideration the richer ores from those mines, which were and have been up to now always shipped to Europe to be dealt with there) he shows a profit of £30,000 net per year, if duly treated on the spot. Mr. Guyer, in order to be sure, calculates on 30 oz. ores (equal to some 11 marks per cajon) and of such low grade, nearly unlimited amounts are at hand. Mr. Guyer, like all competent men, recognises the immense importance and value of the Carahuacra lode to consist in the fabulous amount of low grade ores of which it principally consists, leaving the rich ores and large pockets as extra advantages out of his prudent calculation, and still giving £30,000, or 20 per cent. on £150,000, our projected mutual capital.

Unfortunately this reasonable and minimum result is too insignificant compared with the calculations formed in Japan, and of which on the 13th of March you handed me the surprising data. By those calculations with some £43,000 invested in machinery (a 40-stamp mill, exactly as Mr. Guyer projected and calculated) and some £15,000 working capital, and with about 250 Japanese miners, a yearly net profit of over one million yen, was shown.

I, for my part, have certainly, not by word, nor by writing, given any data authorising such extravagant expectations, nor have I had any idea thereof until the time I mention, say the middle of March.

Carahuacra is evidently a most important and valuable mine, but in order to give such results, a very large capital would have to be invested, under thoroughly competent and economical management with very powerful machinery, &c.

In the difference between Mr. Guyer's calculation based on the lowest and soundest items, and the Japanese calculation, established on extreme expectations, the real reasonable principal cause of the breaking down of the negotiations may be found, and in fact since that time you and I understood that the projected negotiation could not offer satisfaction to either of us.

The result was our abandoning the execution of the mutual contract we had agreed upon, and your proposing me to grant an option for the whole of my properties in Carahuacra, in order to establish a purely Japanese negotiation.

This is to my sincere understanding the real truth, abstaining from entering into details in matters of a more secondary character, although still of very great importance, as e.g. the cost and doubtful convenience of Japanese miners, &c. On the 10th of April you left Peru for Japan.

Having resolved not to discuss nor to reply to those who have attacked me and the negotiations in the most unfair way, and who now with apparent perfect reason, have a right to enjoy the ruins of the enterprise, I have decided to address you these lines, as the only and final step I can take under given circumstances, and in order to place matters on their real basis.

You must allow me now to formulate a reproach against you, which you cannot but declare just; and it is your not having acted with the frankness I had a right to expect and you had a right to show, and the more so as it cannot have escaped your attention that on certain occasions I made you certain indications with regard to Mr. Tashima, and gave you to understand my want of esteem for him. You have preferred not to ask for an explanation, and you may have had your reasons for so acting, but I expect that many evils we have now to lament could have been avoided if you had acted otherwise and some matters had been cleared up there and then. I, for my part, have to regret my having condescended to submit to certain pretensions which, if not acceded to, would have continually caused opposition or difficulties in the way of any projected negotiation. Unfortunately, in many business matters where elements of different kinds have to interfere, it happens that in order to come to a solution concessions have to be granted, which, although not affecting the real importance of the negotiation, still affect its tendencies.

I desist from entering into further details, repeating my last assertion that there are certainly few more important mines in the world than the Carahuacra mines, and that the negotiations that have come to so painful a close, would have not only procured great material advantage, but honour and satisfaction of superior value to all interested. The future will, without doubt, prove that my assertions were exact. I may resolve to send a copy of this to the editors of the *Japan Mail* and the *Japan Herald* in order that, if those gentlemen deem it fit, and fair towards me, they may publish the same or extract part thereof.

I remain, Sir, yours faithfully,

(Signed) O. HEEREN.

Lima, 30th June, 1890.

SHIRO FUJIMURA, Esq., Tokyo.

DEAR SIR,—I confirm my lines dated 26th inst. and beg to acknowledge receipt of your telegram dated 28th inst. reading:—

"patulal" = The panic still continues.
 "procurer" = I have nothing to propose.
 "actingly" = Act promptly.
 "accumbency" = According to arrangement.
 "Takahashi" = Takahashi.
 "robuck" = As I will not use the option to purchase your properties and rights stipulated in our contract, I beg you to inform Mr. Yamaguchi of the fact at once and kindly attend to the departure of the Japanese for Japan. Telegraph me the day of their departure.

"deregle" = Telegraph day of departure.

This telegram thus confirms the fact of the negotiation having broken down, and, as it seems, on account of the financial panic still existing in Japan.

I am satisfied of having done, on my part, all I could to save you and your friends the financial loss you are suffering, and was, as my telegram of 21st inst. expressed, desirous of facilitating any reasonable combination, even if prejudicial to me, but in order to save our names.

I have done my duty, and submit to what could not be avoided!—No words can express my painful feelings. I rely that you and your friends will act as your convenience may order you, when, as I but too well understand, this disastrous result will be declared to be my fault.

Unfortunately, success is all in life. The worst proceedings, and crimes committed, if in their result they are crowned with success, are not only soon forgotten but even transformed into merits in many cases; and the most honourable acts, the most important and beneficial plans, and the noblest intentions, if in their execution success is not the result, are soon exposed to blame, and depreciation of the vilest kind.

Such will be the case with regard to me, and to this negotiation.

Time, I rely, will do me justice; and I doubt whether ever any foreigner has during so many years so constantly kept as sincere and friendly feelings towards Japan and the Japanese, as I have done, although neither in Japan, nor in later times, nor now, have I derived any advantage thereof, but on the contrary suffered losses and annoyances thereby.

It is a useless, and would be a very unsatisfactory task for me, to expose to you many facts, and complications that have taken place in the course of this negotiation, and the great trouble the miners and some of the Japanese employes have caused, but I think it my duty to declare that Mr. Yamaguchi, and Mr. Yas merit high esteem.

The miners will give you data about the Carahuacra mines, and time will show that no more valuable property exists in Peru than those mines which I wished to see in Japanese hands.

Mr. Takahashi has fulfilled his difficult task in the most honourable way, and I cannot but express my high esteem for him, and for the members of the Company, which was established with so many reasonable hopes of success, and falls to the ground causing ruin and disgrace, separating Peru and Japan for many years to come, although these two countries are of the greatest importance for one another!

Your orders for the prompt re-embarking of all the Japanese to Japan will be duly executed. Mr. Yamaguchi has been informed that the negotiation has terminated, and will arrive from Carahuacra, in a few days with the miners. Matsumoto also returns for Japan.

I remain, dear Sir, yours truly,

(Signed) O. HEEREN.

"CARAHUACRA." 40 STAMP MILL.

ESTIMATE FOR WORKING 45 TONS OF 30 OZ. SILVER ORE PER DAY BY ROASTING AND ANALAGATION.

45 tons ore @ 30 oz. Silver	1,350.00
Less 20% loss in working	270.00
Leaves	1,080.00
Proceeds—1,080 oz. Silver @ \$1.11	\$1,198.80
Mining and transporting 45 tons ore @ \$2.00	\$90.00
10 tons coal @ \$8.00	80.00
42 tons salt @ \$32.00	1,440.00
50 lb Quicksilver	50.00
Labour and general expenses	100.00
Management, &c.	34.80
	494.80

Equal @ \$7 to \$1, to \$100 per day of 300 working days

\$700.00

\$30,000
 (Note this estimate was made for London parties who expected to form a syndicate on Carahuacra.—Guyer.)

CARAHUACRA'S ORES.

DATE.	MARE.	BAGS.	WEIGHT.	ESSAYS.	MARKS.	OUNCES.
			STANISH			
			LB.	P.	60	OP. P.
20, 11, 1889.	R.M.C.	100	100	100	100	804
20, 11, 1889.	E.M.C.	30	30	30	30	519
25, 4, 1890.	R.M.C.	40	40	40	40	528
25, 4, 1890.	E.M.C.	18	18	18	18	525
25, 4, 1890.	E.M.C.	15	15	15	15	528
25, 4, 1890.	E.M.C.	23	23	23	23	528
25, 4, 1890.	E.M.C.	32	32	32	32	528
10, 5, 1890.	E.M.C.	32	32	32	32	528
6, 5, 1890.	E.M.C.	30	30	30	30	518
12, 5, 1890.	E.M.C.	23	23	23	23	528
12, 5, 1890.	E.M.C.	23	23	23	23	528
12, 5, 1890.	E.M.C.	29	29	29	29	528
12, 5, 1890.	E.M.C.	16	16	16	16	528
17, 5, 1890.	E.M.C.	30	30	30	30	500
21, 6, 1890.	E.M.C.	18	18	18	18	500
25, 5, 1890.	E.M.C.	20	20	20	20	500
25, 5, 1890.	E.M.C.	40	40	40	40	500
20, 5, 1890.	E.M.C.	20	20	20	20	4472
20, 5, 1890.	E.M.C.	5	5	5	5	528
3, 6, 1890.	E.M.C.	16	16	16	16	500
3, 6, 1890.	E.M.C.	9	9	9	9	500
5, 6, 1890.	E.M.C.	10	10	10	10	4128
5, 6, 1890.	E.M.C.	40	40	40	40	500
7, 6, 1890.	E.M.C.	18	18	18	18	500
7, 6, 1890.	E.M.C.	35	35	35	35	1248
8, 6, 1890.	E.M.C.	30	30	30	30	500
		719	719	719	719	50

SHIPMENTS TO HAMBURG.

DATE.	STEAMER.	VIA.	REMARKS.
11, 4, 1890.	Karlsruhe	E.	Mark=1 Spanish pound;
11, 5, 1890.	Voltaire	E.	Spon. pound=16 ounces;
21, 5, 1890.	do.	E.	thus:
21, 5, 1890.	do.	E.	Mark=8 ounces
21, 5, 1890.	do.	E.	Spanish weight,
21, 5, 1890.	do.	E.	and
21, 5, 1890.	do.	E.	A Span. q. (1 q.)=100 lb.
21, 5, 1890.	do.	E.	20 q. = 1 ton Spanish.
21, 5, 1890.	do.	E.	
21, 5, 1890.	do.	E.	
21, 5, 1890.	do.	E.	
14, 6, 1890.	Manard	P.	These minerals were
20, 6, 1890.	Denderah	E.	principally taken out by
20, 6, 1890.	do.	E.	the Japanese miners;
20, 6, 1890.	do.	E.	of lower grade ores
14, 6, 1890.	Manard	P.	immense amounts are
20, 6, 1890.	Denderah	E.	at the mines.
20, 6, 1890.	do.	E.	O. HEEREN.
14, 6, 1890.	Manard	P.	
14, 6, 1890.	Denderah	E.	
20, 6, 1890.	do.	E.	
20, 6, 1890.	do.	E.	E.=Magellan Straits.
20, 6, 1890.	do.	E.	P.=Panama.

The mines were only worked on a small scale at the time.

Lima, September 12th.

Extract from the Estimates made in Japan, as handed to me by Mr. Takahashi on 15th March, 1890:—

Page 2.	THE ESTIMATES.	£
Price of services, grounds, &c.	31,000.00	
Machines and Buildings	43,000.00	
Passage Money, &c., for Japanese labourers.	7,400.00	
Passage Money, &c., for employes	305.00	
Advances	3,749.00	
Reserve fund	14,840.00	

Capital of society	150,000.00
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Page 5.	EXPENSES.	Yen.
Salaries (\$24,000 in mine 21 employes, \$14,940 in mill, 13 employes)	38,940.00	
Office expenses	5,000.00	
Food for 43 employes	9,417.00	
Wages for 230 miners	65,584.00	
Wages for 20 head miners	10,857.60	
Wages for 65 coolies	14,190.00	
Wages for 50 women	5,400.00	
Gunpowder	14,352.00	
Timbers, columns, &c.	14,400.00	
Expense for transport of minerals	15,000.00	
Miscellaneous expenses	20,000.00	
Wages for 70 mechanics	20,208.00	
Wages for 16 coolies	4,992.00	
Wages for 20 women	5,184.00	
Coal salts, chemicals	90,000.00	
Miscellaneous expenses	10,000.00	
Price for mendicabals minerals	23,523.59	
	359,714.19	

PROFIT AND LOSS.	Yen.
Profits one year	1,370,214.144
Expenses one year	359,714.190
Gain	1,000,499.954
of which:—	

Page 6.	
Yen 100,000.	Reserve.
Yen 50,025	Gratifications.
Yen 30,000	Expense of head office.
Yen 180,025	
Balance Yen 320,474.954	Dividend, $\frac{1}{3}$ of which will be
Yen 410,237.477	for Japanese partners.

DETAILS OF PROFIT AND LOSS: INCOME.

Yen 1,370,214.144.—Price of Silver bullion. One miner is counted to take out $\frac{1}{4}$ of a ton of minerals, the average grade of the minerals estimated at 2.76 of one thousandth or about 27 marks per cajan, and worked by 200 miners 27 days per month.

Price of silver 13 cents. per mommé (1 mommé equals little more than $\frac{1}{8}$ of an ounce).

According to the above calculation the income per month will be yen 114,184.512.

Conform to original, O. HEEREN.

JUDICIAL TITLES.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 254.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Regulations relating to the Official Titles of Judges, Public Procurators and Clerks of Court, and to the retirement from office of Judges, and order the same to be promulgated.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.)
(Great Seal.)

Dated October 18th, 1890.

(Countersigned)

Count YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.
Count YAMADA AKIYOSHI,
Minister of State for Justice.

Article 1.—Judges, public procurators and clerks of Courts of Law who may be in office when the Law of the Constitution of Courts of Law, comes into effect, shall be styled judges (*hanji*), public procurators (*kenji*), and clerks of Law Courts (*saibansho shoki*).

Article 2.—Judges who may be in office when the Law of the Constitution of Courts of Law comes into effect, but who may not be re-appointed to another office, shall be deemed to be in retirement (*kyushoku*).

Article 3.—Should any judge who has been in office above 15 years become unable to attend to his duties owing to illness or some other cause, after the carrying into practice of the Law of the Constitution of the Courts of Law, and apply for retirement from office, the Minister of State for Justice may sanction such retirement. In the case of judges who have been transferred to that office from the rank of public procurator, their years of service as public procurator shall be reckoned.

Article 4.—The salary during retirement shall be one-third of the ordinary salary.

Article 5.—The basis observed in granting salaries to judges in retirement shall be similar to that of general officials on the *hishoku* list.

LOCAL EDUCATION.

We hereby give our sanction to the present general regulations relating to Local Education, and order the same to be duly promulgated.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.)
(Great Seal.)

Dated October 2nd, 1890.

(Countersigned)

Count YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.
YOSHIKAWA AKIMASA,
Minister of State for Education.

Art. 1.—Towns and villages shall organize town and village school unions for educational purposes, in conformity with the rules laid down in Imperial Ordinances.

To a town or village school union thus organized, Art. 117 of the Law for the Organization of Cities, Towns, and Villages shall apply.

Art. 2.—For the purposes of elementary school education, a city, town, or village, or a town and village school union shall be divided into several districts in conformity with the rules laid down in Imperial Ordinances.

In the case provided for in the above paragraph, and in the absence of a district assembly or a district general assembly, the provisions of Art. 113 of the Law for the Organization of Cities, and of Art. 114 of the Law for the Organization of Towns and Villages shall apply.

The expenses of establishing and maintaining elementary schools specially provided for one or more districts, shall be borne by those that are residents of, or are sojourning in, such district, or that own lands or houses, or that carry on trade therein (excepting pedlers and hawkers).

In the case of property owned by the district, the income derived therefrom shall be applied first to the defraying of such expenses.

The *Kucho* or his deputy under Art. 60 of the Law for the Organization of Cities, and Art. 64 of the Law for the Organization of Towns and Villages, shall, in accordance with ordinances, assist in the transaction of educational affairs of the State relating to the district.

Art. 3.—For educational purposes, the provisions of the Law relating to Cities, or to Towns, and Villages may be applied to districts within cities, towns, and villages or to town and village school unions, or to districts within such unions.

Art. 4.—Towns or villages or Town and Village School Unions or districts therein shall, in

accordance with the directions of the *Guncho*, accept the care of the education of children of other towns and villages, or of other town and village school unions or of districts within them.

Art. 5.—In case of the abolition of a town and village school union, or in case of any of the towns and villages forming a town and village school union taking charge of the establishment and maintenance of one or more of the elementary schools, or in case of any of the towns and villages forming a town and village school union accepting the care of the educational affairs of children of other towns or villages, should the towns and villages interested be unable to arrive at an agreement as regards the disposal of their property, the *Gun Council* shall decide.

In case the towns and villages interested are unable to arrive at an agreement as to whether remuneration for the education of children shall or shall not be allowed, and as to its amount and other important matters, the provisions in the above paragraph shall apply.

Art. 6.—Each *fu*, *ken*, *gun*, city, town or village, and each town and village school union shall, for educational purposes, appoint a school committee in conformity with Imperial Ordinances.

For the purposes of elementary school education, a district within a city, town, or village, or a town and village school union, may appoint a school committee in conformity with Imperial Ordinances.

Art. 7.—The educational affairs of the State to be transacted by the directors and other officials of a city, town, or village school, by a school committee, or by the *Kencho* and his deputy, etc., shall not come under the 2nd paragraph, Art. 31 of the Law for the Organization of Cities, or under the 2nd paragraph, Art. 33 of the Law for the Organization of Towns and Villages.

Art. 8.—The regulations for disciplinary penalties to be inflicted on officials of *fu*, *ken*, *gun*, cities, towns, and villages in connection with the transaction of educational affairs of the State shall be prescribed by Imperial Ordinances.

Art. 9.—Each *fu*, *ken*, *gun*, city, town, or village, town and village school union, or district within a city, town or village or within a town and village school union, may provide the property forming the stock of a school.

Such school property may be provided severally for each particular school or jointly for more than one school.

In case such school property be dispensed with or provided, or expended, sold, exchanged, alienated, or mortgaged or hypothecated, permission to that effect from the respective superintending Authority shall be obtained.

For diverting the income derived from a school property to other than educational purposes, permission to that effect from the respective superintending Authority shall be obtained.

Art. 10.—In each *fu*, *ken*, *gun*, city, town or village, town and village school union, or district within a city, town and village, or within a town and village school union, educational donations whether in money or otherwise, shall be reserved as school property, except in cases where the items of appropriation are designated by the donors.

Initiation fees, entrance examination fees, fees for the use of books and apparatus, etc., may be reserved as school property.

Fu, *ken*, and *gun* may reserve the surplus of the annual expenditure or a portion of the annual income, specially increased for that purpose, as school stock property.

Art. 11.—Money and other funds hitherto reserved for school purposes, which have been added to the property of cities, towns, and villages in accordance with Art. 81 of the Law for the Organization of Cities, or Art. 81 of the Law for the Organization of Towns and Villages, may, on the approval of the Council of the *fu*, *ken*, or *gun*, be separated and reserved as school property for a period of two years after the date on which this law comes into force.

Art. 12.—The official duties and relations of the Minister of State for the Interior provided in the Law for the Organization of *Fu*, *Ken*, or *Gun*, of Cities, and of Towns and Villages, shall for educational purposes, devolve upon both the Ministers of State for the Interior and for Education.

Art. 13.—This law shall come into force in *fu* and *ken* where the Law for the Organization of Cities, Towns, and Villages are practically carried out. The date on which this law is to come into force shall be fixed by the Minister of State for Education on the representation of the *chiji* of *fu* or *ken*.

IMPERIAL MODEL YACHT CLUB
REGATTA.

The members of the Imperial Model Yacht Club held their Autumn Sports on the afternoon of the 3rd inst., His Imperial Majesty's Birthday, on the Club pond adjoining the Naval Academy grounds. The Commodore, H.E. the Marquis Nabeshima, was unable to attend, and many other Japanese members were unavoidably prevented from being present. Spectators were few, no guests having been invited, but a few of the more earnest sports the "elder boys" of the Club were there in sufficient force for carrying out the programme. The wind blew strong and steady from the north-west, and covered the whole length of the pond without flaws or eddy-winds of any kind. The course was across the pond at an oblique angle, which made the distance about 200 yards, and the boats were to sail close-hauled on starboard tack. At 2.30 p.m. the competing boats for the first race were in line ready for the start. The following were the entries (A Section, First Class, 36 in. water line, "the heavies," displacement from 25 to 32 lbs.):—

NAME.	RIG.	OWNER.	SAILED BY.
<i>Volunteer</i>	Chinese	Mr. J. M. James	Mr. Hammond.
<i>Wild Wave</i>	Sloop	Mr. J. Saigo	Mr. James.
<i>Constance</i>	Cutter	Capt. Squire, R.N.	Mr. Owston.
<i>Irex</i>	Sloop	Mr. J. M. James	Mr. Beart.

The boats got away well together, but the *Volunteer* soon went ahead and won with ease; *Wild Wave* second, with *Constance* and *Irex* close at her heels. The *Constance* had her topmast struck and carried lower sails only, the others carried whole sail. A second heat was made on the same course, when *Constance*, getting well away from her opponents, crossed the line first. *Volunteer* rammed the *Wild Wave* just after starting and turned her round on her heel, but, notwithstanding this accident, the latter boat came in a good second, with *Irex* third. *Volunteer* caught a flaw which carried her away to windward of the winning line altogether, and consequently was not in the race at all. The following were the entries for the second race (B section, first class, 33-35 in. water line).

NAME.	RIG.	OWNER.	SAILED BY.
<i>Ume</i>	Sloop	Mr. I. House	Mr. James.
<i>Cousins</i>	Sloop	Mr. J. M. James	Mr. Hammond.
<i>Karasaki</i>	Sloop	Mr. C. Nabeshima	Mr. Beart.
<i>Dai-ichi Tsuru</i>	Cutter	Prof. West	Prof. West.

This was a very exciting race, as the boats were well matched and had much about the same sail power. The *Ume* won the race easily, making a straight course from start to finish, followed closely by the *Dai-ichi Tsuru*, under lower sails only, second; *Karasaki*, third, but to leeward. The *Cousins* was pinched too much in the wind from the start and did not cross the winning line. A second heat was sailed in which the *Ume* again took first place, with *Karasaki* second. *Dai-ichi Tsuru* crossed the winning line third, jumping it and running into the wall beyond, carrying away her head gear. The following were the entries for the third race (Second class boats, 26 in. water line):—

NAME.	RIG.	OWNER.	SAILED BY.
<i>Albatross</i>	Schooner	Mr. J. M. James	Mr. James.
<i>Coronant</i>	Schooner	Lieut. Yoshi, I.J.N.	Mr. Beart.
<i>Blakie</i>	Cutter	Professor West	Mr. Glover.
<i>Keppels</i>	Cutter	Professor West	Mr. Hammond.

Professor West's *Blakie*, "booming along" from start to finish under all flying kites, crossed the winning line first; *Albatross*, a good second, *Coronant* third. The wind was now falling light and the races for the third-class boats did not take place. During the second race some ladies, relatives of some of the members, were present and seemed to take a lively interest in the movements of the little craft. The sports, although on a small scale, were a great success, and the thanks of the members are due to their Yokohama friends who so ably assisted them in carrying out the programme, both seniors and juniors. Professor West acted as umpire in the first race, and Mr. Alan Owston in the others, and Mr. Asada as starter. No prizes were given nor times taken. As on previous occasions, the superiority of the Chinese rig for speed and weatherly qualities was very apparent, and leaves no doubt that, with models of equally fine lines, the Chinese rigged boat will in nearly all cases outsail and weather any other fore and aft rig.

FOR SICK HEADACHE USE HORSFORD'S ACID
PHOSPHATE.

Dr. JNO. LAMBE, M.R.C.S., West Villa, Shur-dington, Cheltenham, says:—"It produced good results in sick headache and brain prostration, tranquillizing the irritation, giving comfortable sleep. Also in a case of dyspepsia, with great distension after meals, and flatulency."

LETTER FROM SHIMANE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Matsue, November 3rd.

The very agreeable monotony of life in this populous and prosperous city of Matsue, is varied only by the public holidays, and by incidents connected with public educational matters, or the local government. Such incidents, however, usually create a good deal of commendable interest.

The most notable educational event during the month of October was the celebration of the students' annual gymnastic festival at Ninomaru, in the spacious grounds of the ancient castle of Matsue, on the 25th ultimo. The entertainment was given and managed by the members of the Educational Association, and had been generously provided for. Galleries had been erected for the spectators; and race-courses and an arena had been staked off and placed in the best possible condition. About twenty schools were represented at the contests; and no less than six thousand boys and girls took part in the games.

His Excellency Governor Kotoda presided at the contests; and the management of the games, according to programme, was superintended by Mr. Saito, Director of the Middle and Normal Schools; by Mr. Oka, who takes charge of educational affairs in the Kencho; by Mr. Tsuboi, Chief instructor of the Normal School, and by most of the teachers of the *Chin-gakko* and *Shihan gakko*.

The contests comprised foot-races, jumping, fencing, the "tag-of-war," and a large number of Japanese athletic games, very amusing, and very spiritedly played. Several hundred prizes were given; the winners receiving their awards from the hands of the Governor. The part taken by the girl-students in the sports was among the most interesting spectacles of the day. There was a girls' race, for example, in which the contestants had to pick up while running three balls of different colours out of a number scattered on the turf.

Manual gymnastic exercises also formed a very charming feature of the festival. The most perfect performance of this sort was probably that of the Normal School,—the young men of this school being disciplined like soldiers. But what was even more pleasing and remarkable was the dumb-bell exercise of the Koto-Shogakko,—five hundred boys performing the movements simultaneously with faultless precision, under the teaching of Mr. Uno. The girls and the younger boys of local schools also gave some very entertaining exhibitions of manual exercises, under the guidance of Mr. Yeto, gymnastic teacher of the Normal School, Mr. Mioshi, gymnastic teacher of the *Chin-gakko*; and Mr. Funo. At 6 p.m. the festival was concluded by the singing of the National Hymn of Japan, and three cheers for His Majesty the Emperor. The singing by six thousand voices was impressive.

These games, called *Tai-ku-kwai*, are usually celebrated once a year; but last year there were none,—perhaps owing to the depression of trade consequent upon the failure of the rice-harvest. This year the festival was, I am told, the most entertaining yet held here, and the attendance the largest. The prizes given were chiefly books, and various articles of educational value.

The week previous, Mr. K. Mizobe, first secretary of the Kencho, having been appointed *Sanji-kwan* of Shiga-Ken, took his departure for Otsu. Mr. Mizobe had formerly been Superintendent of the Schools; and the teachers and pupils of the principal schools of Matsue escorted him to the steamer.

To-day, the birthday of His Majesty the Emperor, is celebrated in Matsue after quite a special manner,—which reminds me very much of a Carnival day in France or Italy. There are jolly masquerades; the whole population sings, plays, dances; and the city is as merry as possible, with that kindly courteous merriment peculiar to this people.

LETTER FROM SAN FRANCISCO.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

San Francisco, October 21st.

Two weeks from to-day, the fall elections take place, and the canvas is in full progress. In most of the states, state Governors, and a full set of State officials are to be chosen; in nearly all, members of Congress, and of legislatures to fill vacancies in the Senate. No particular issues are involved in the contest. The Republicans will claim that Republican success implies a popular en-

dorsement of the McKinley tariff, as the Democrats will claim that the success of their party will mean the reverse. But it is yet too soon for the effects of that measure to be felt. Manufacturers and wholesale dealers have raised the prices of their goods; but the following advertisement appears in the papers of most large cities:—"Notwithstanding the tariff, the old reliable house of Snooks & Co. will continue to supply their customers at the old prices; apply early if you don't want to pay more."

As usual in off years, there are no indications how the elections will go, and the talkers of both parties are both confident of triumph. In the East, it seems to be assumed as a foregone conclusion that the Democrats will secure a majority of the next Congress; I must admit that the reasoning on which this expectation is based is not altogether convincing to me. There is a great deal of discontent among the Republicans, but there is also considerable indifference among the Democrats, and unless a change takes place in the next fortnight, the vote on both sides will be light.

More important perhaps than the result of the elections is the evolution of the labour conflict in the new phase in which it has entered. On October 16th, the International Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, which is the most highly respected if not the most numerous labour body in the country, held its annual meeting, and was addressed by Chauncey Depew, President of the New York Central Railroad. The significance of Depew's speech arose from the recent circular of the Central Company to its employees, warning them against joining the Knights of Labour. He said:—

The effort to absorb the individual, to divide the people into employing companies and employees and to destroy competition will inevitably end in disaster. Hostile legislation and the laws of trade will leave only the legitimate enterprise surviving. In the same way, and from the same causes, there have been several ambitious attempts to form gigantic labour trusts which should combine under one central and autocratic authority every occupation of trades and occupations, having nothing in common, certain qualities of audacity, fluency of speech, and capacity for men who know little of the great interests conceded to their grounds. The committee which calls upon the employer or railroad officer must know its own business as well as he does, comes exercise of brute force, and violence fails to secure intelligent presentation.

Mr. Depew went on to say that his hands have never had any misunderstandings with the company when they had brought their grievances to the company's office, and laid them before persons who understood the railroad business; that the only disputes which had occurred had been caused by the interference of outsiders who were unacquainted with the business of transportation. On one occasion, he said, a number of his hands had struck under orders from a walking delegate, who was a shoemaker, and controlled the assembly to which the hands belonged. He did not say in so many words that the company would not employ Knights of Labour hereafter; but he observed that the railroad thought it was entitled to the undivided allegiance of its employees, and this amounts to the same thing.

The truculent assumptions of the agitators who are endeavouring to establish labour trusts, to coerce employers and to deprive workmen who are not members of Unions of the means of earning or living, are creating disgust everywhere. In this city, each labour union sends delegates to a body which calls itself the council of the Federated Trades. The object of the organization was to enable the Unions to co-operate effectively for a common object. But the leaders of the council have discovered that by a dexterous use of the "boycott," an honest penny may be turned at elections. Candidates who were credited with timidity have been approached, and invited to define their position. It is to be inferred that some of them declined the invitation, for at the last meeting of the Council, boycott decrees were issued against the Republican candidate for Mayor, and two other candidates for municipal office. It was proposed to boycott alike the Democratic and the Republican candidates for Governor, nor was it discovered that one boycott would neutralize the other until an outsider pointed out the fact. If the labour organizations should succeed in establishing the empire they aim at, this country would be ruled by the worst of all possible despotisms, the despotism of a mob. Happily, workmen must live, and to live they must get work; thus, if the worst comes, employers will have a remedy in their own hands.

The views of a sensible workman were lately expressed by Chief Locomotive Engineer Arthur, who has controlled the Brotherhood for years. He said:—

It is by honourable action we have achieved success as a labour organization, not by might—not by loud, boastful assertions of what, owing to our number, we might compel corporations to do. No, that has never been our policy. We ask but fair, just dues, nothing more, if there be those who would

array labour against capital, I am not one of them or with them. If there be those who regard the interests of labour and capital as naturally or properly antagonistic, I do not agree with them. The interests of labour and capital are identical, or, to be more accurate, reciprocal. Any argument respecting labour topics which does not distinctly recognize and concede the truth of this proposition must needs be fallacious.

Justice Miller of the U.S. Supreme Court, is dead. He was the Senior Judge on the Bench, having been appointed by President Lincoln twenty-eight years ago. He was not a showy judge, but a sound solid jurist, who knew the principles of law, and applied them honestly, so long as they did not conflict with the doctrines of the political party to which he belonged. He was chosen to write the opinions affirming the constitutionality of the last amendments to the federal constitution, and he led the majority which voted Rutherford Hayes into the Presidency to which Samuel J. Tilden had been elected. *Du resiste*, he was a gentleman and a scholar; urbane to the bar, gracious to visitors, and setting an example of high bred courtesy in his intercourse with all. It is said that he is to be succeeded by Attorney General Miller, of Indiana, an utterly unknown man, but a former partner of President Harrison.

About these days, says Nestradamus, expect disasters by flood and fire. Five days ago, the Leland Hotel in Syracuse, the largest house of public entertainment in Western New York, was destroyed by fire in the small hours of the morning. Some twenty lives are said to have been lost; the killed having either been burned to death, or having been dashed to pieces on the pavement after leaping from the upper windows. The building was six stories high, and almost all the inmates were in bed. Those who escaped did so in their night clothes which in several cases were torn from their bodies in the frantic struggle, so that the streets surrounding the hotel were for some time full of men and women absolutely naked. The usual heart-rending incidents are reported. A husband and wife were seen clasped in each others' arms at a window. The woman was evidently urging the man to jump, and he was holding her back. At last she tore herself from his clutch, and mounted the window sill; but at that moment, a gust of flame rushed through the window, and the unfortunate pair fell back into the cauldron inside. Another woman with a baby in her arms was seen at a window on a back ground of fire. Her cries for help were pitiful. Shouts of jump! jump! were uttered by men below who held nets to receive her. But she hesitated too long, and fell back to be seen no more. Some women did jump, and, missing the nets, were smashed out of all recognition on the stone pavement.

A companion piece to this though happily less destructive of life—is the log of the ship *City of Philadelphia* which arrived here last week—216 days out from New York. She sailed on March 15th, and two months afterward, was disabled by a storm which twisted her rudder. The captain managed to rig a jury rudder with which he brought her into Rio, whence, after being repaired, she resumed her voyage on June 17th. When off Cape Horn, she encountered a series of storms, which the captain describes as the most severe he ever felt. For forty-one consecutive days it blew a gale, with snow, hail, and sleet; during which period the ship worked her way from 50 degrees in the Atlantic to 50 degrees in the Pacific. She was a wreck when the gale abated; but happily in all her troubles, she only lost one man.

A recent incident in North Carolina may be preserved as an illustration of manners and customs in the ex-slave states. A young farmer named Dixon suspected that his wife, who was only a girl, was more intimate with a neighbour named Halsey than the law allowed. He followed her one evening when she went out for a walk in some woods near by, saw her meet Halsey, and likewise saw that which left no doubt of their mutual relations. As often happens to gentlemen on such still hunts, Dixon had taken his rifle with him. Choosing a moment, when Halsey was perfectly still, he took careful aim and shot him dead with a bullet through his brain. Word of the murder reaching Halsey's brother, he sallied forth with a revolver in quest of vengeance. He met Dixon, and was for opening fire then and there, but the bystanders insisted on a regular duel in the form prescribed by the code. The combatants were set at ten paces distance, facing each other, each with a revolver in his hand. At the word, both opened fire, and kept it up till the five chambers of each pistol were emptied. Both men stood erect, for a moment; then Halsey began to totter, and presently fell on his face, stone dead. Dixon mounted a horse and defied the sheriff and his posse. Riding into the wood, he cried, or would have cried if he had known the line—"They'll have swift steeds that follow," quoth young Lochinvar.

LETTER FROM DENVER.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Denver, Colo., Oct. 13th.

A strange story reaches us from Clay county in the State of Missouri, carrying one's thoughts back to the old days of Californian excitement and to the wild scenes of early border life in the Far West.

It seems that just twenty years ago, near Excelsior Springs in the district above named, twenty-four complete skeletons were discovered by a farmer who was excavating for a well. With these bones were a few old-fashioned guns, bits of clothing, and rotten rope and a piece of oaken board. The last mentioned article gave a clue to the mystery; for on careful examination it revealed the word, "Atlantic to the Pacific. Five waggons and twenty-nine souls, 1850." On the back of the board a rough artist had cut rude figures of twenty-nine prostrate persons and stained each carving with some sort of dye. Above the head of each, a tomahawk was cut in relief. According to the board there should have been twenty-nine bodies, but search for the missing five proved fruitless, until by accident a negro came upon a skull the other day while digging a cellar. An old man named Quinton Brown heard of the discovery of this skull and led the way in laying bare the five lost skeletons. The explanation of the board with its carving is that in the early "fifties" a band of lawless scoundrels, calling themselves "The Injuns" infested the western border, preying on defenceless gold seekers, and led by a wretch named Jim Burroughs. To carry out the elegant conceit of their lineage they abjured alphabetical writing, returning to the pictorial methods of their ancestors. It was but fitting that, as they had morally reverted to their original type of savagery, their art of writing should display the fact. Jim Burroughs was hanged by the crew of a steamboat near the mouth of the Grand River. His methods were adopted by the "James boys" and other such freaks of taste, called Bald Knobbers, White Caps, and so on. It is to be hoped, however, that none of these pleasant people ever joked so gorily as those "Injuns" did. Twenty-nine low mounds, five newly made, now mark the sod in a little cemetery, and twenty-nine unknown men lie beneath, silent witnesses of what ferocious instincts lie dormant in the bosom of our civilization.

Here in the broad West there is elbow room for ferocity to swing its war club, and a keen, dry, electric atmosphere that tends to waken men and beasts. I suppose it is only reasonable to trace to this physical cause the freaks of cowboys and "shootists" generally. Every morning the paper contains some new instance, sometimes funny, often tragical and terrible—of the exhilaration produced by residence here.

To call a few instances. A wild west show is *en route* to St. Louis, Mo. The humorous proprietor finds time pass heavily in the railroad cars, so goes out on the rear platform and takes flying shots at whatever strikes his fancy. A harmless railroad operative is walking along the track, and is so unfortunate as to attract wild West attention and falls with a shattered knee, so good is the funny man's aim. Another incident of the railroad occurred in Kansas a week or two ago. Two cowboys were returning from the delivery of some cattle and had to travel beside the track. A freight train overtook them. Anxious to know the time of day, they calmly desired the engineer to stop and tell them. The train, however, kept moving, much to their disgust, and one of them was suddenly seized with an idea. Out went his lariat like a flash, noosing the engine-stack, and the stout bronco prepared for the novel steer to lunge. Greatly to the bronco's surprise he was hauled rapidly along in strange gyrations and his rider was in imminent risk of a broken neck. His companion, however, lassoed the captive bronco, and the first lariat broke close to the engine-stack. It is not long since one section of the coming aristocracy celebrated a "Hod Carriers' Ball." Doubtless the hod carrying profession is as pure as any other; but the ball was held in a saloon and there seems to have been no attempt at scrutinizing new-comers. This accounts for the fact that a man not a hod carrier, accompanied by two female persons, drove up to the door, walked in, drew his revolver, and began to shoot before anyone could interfere. The lights were at once put out, and everyone scurried for the safety of self and mate. When the shooting ceased a dying man was on the floor and the murderer was gone. Nobody seems to inquire where this "shootist" is. The brand of Cain is not on his brow, neither does the conscience of Lamoch make him sore, but he is ready to grace some other festive occasion with his fair comrades and his

"gun." The murdered man was laid in the morgue and was visited by crowds. Late one evening a negro hod carrier requested to see the corpse. He slowly approached the spot and was about to raise the sheet from the face when a current of air caught it and gave it a truly lifelike motion. Sambo started back in terror, shrieked "Foul de Lawd!" and fled through the nearest doorway. Nor could he be persuaded to return.

The Royal Yedo Japanese Troupe are visiting this town. One wonders why it is not an Imperial Troupe. Last Sunday a wrestling match between a Japanese and two or three American artists was one of the attractions for the pleasure-seeking crowds.

Mr. Michael Davitt has laid hold of the popular imagination and the popular sympathy in the States by his new paper. Of course the *Labour World* will probably make a more profound impression in England than here, where already the omnipotence of Labour is recognised by politicians. But even here the paper is bought up and its contents are deeply pondered by all sorts of thoughtful workers.

A question that troubles Colorado is why should "The Dollar of our Dads" be still so far from its ideal worth? Silver at first rushed up to more than \$1.17 per ounce. It has since been down to \$1.09. It now hangs about the figures \$1.103. Nobody seems to know why this natural result should have followed recent legislation. There are ominous Democratic whispers of treason, corruption, wholesale swindling. Others profess to find in the Silver law a deliberate sacrifice of the country's interests for that of the railroads. These say that it must lead to an increase in the export of gold and a consequent further relative depreciation in the value of silver. To an onlooker, however, these noisy combatants seem like men fighting blindfold. Even the bankers cannot give a clear reason for their faith that the country ought to carry all the silver mines upon its back. Indeed, an onlooker cannot help noticing how fast there is growing a deadly type of patriotism. Its true name is patriotic pauperism. Every man loves his country—for what he can get out of her. So legislators must pension every man who fought in the war; tariffs must be imposed for the benefit of workmen; important offices of State must be made the goal of unprincipled avarice. If we go on at this rate we must make the title of mandarin, in its modern celestial meaning, the highest decoration of public men. Thoughtful persons throughout the whole country must regard this pauper spirit with extreme apprehension. And yet it is but a natural outcome of a policy which has permitted the influx of foreign paupers, chiefly Irish, in limitless numbers, and has endowed them all with legislative functions. Their patriotism is peculiar, whether in the Emerald Isle or in the new world. Politics in this State are becoming lively. There is a split in the Republican ranks. Vituperation is the mildest term applicable to the attacks made by the two sections on each other through their respective papers. Neither does the Democratic organ come behind in this gift of political dirt. Its language towards the Republican Mayor and his subordinates is scurrilous and libellous. If true, Denver should be bracketed with New York city as the most striking instance of municipal corruption in all the Occident. That there is neglect in the Health Department, leading to a terrible visitation of typhoid fever, no one denies. Neither does the police force claim immunity from criticism. It is humiliating to find detectives in the pay of gambling dives and brothels.

Everyone, irrespective of parties, now groans over the advance in prices consequent on the McKinley law. Stuffs that no American manufacturer can produce nevertheless fall under the ban of this tyrannical measure. And as a necessary result of the whole blunder the homes of the working man, in whose interest tariffs are supposed to be levied, are bare and comfortless, or else carpeted and cushioned with vile materials. The working man's wife must now pay \$2.25 a yard for imported goods that were formerly dear at \$1.75. A few more McKinleys will surely kill the cause of protection in America; even if the farmers do not resolutely take the bull by the horns before that patriotic genius can propagate itself.

One is amused to learn that the present head of the Mormon fraternity has received a special revelation, forbidding polygamy. Considering that each believer now practising polygamy is liable to a hundred dollar fine, one can but admire the peculiarly opportune arrival of the heavenly mandate. The Church assembly has ratified President Woodruff's order, and Mormonism has prepared the way for its admission to the catalogue of respectable churches. Mahomed himself could hardly have made his prophetic gift more wholly subservient to his wishes than this same President Woodruff does.

IN H.B.M. COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before N. J. HANNEN, Esq., Judge.—THURSDAY,
November 13th, 1890.

LARCENY.

James Adolphus Davis was brought up for trial, charged with having stolen \$106 on the 26th Oct., the property of John Dobbie McAlpine.

Messrs. Donald Fraser, G. J. B. Adet, W. N. Watt, James Esdale, and B. Gillett were sworn as a jury.

The accused pleaded not guilty to the charge.

Mr. Litchfield prosecuted and in opening the case for the Crown said, the prisoner was charged with the crime of larceny. He would explain to them shortly the circumstances under which the crime was committed. J. D. McAlpine came out to Japan as an engineer on one of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's steamers and was paid his money for the outward passage on Saturday, October 15th, on that day he received \$200 as his wages. On the following Sunday he left his house, with the money he had received in his pocket, and under the auspices of a jinrikisha man proceeded to review the town of Yokohama. After going about, he went into a public house in Motomachi and there he made the acquaintance of two sailors, one of whom was the accused. They had some refreshment together and the accused becoming pushing in his attentions; Mr. McAlpine left as soon as possible. After leaving the house he was accosted by the man again and got out of his jinrikisha, and as he was getting out the money which he had previously put in his pocket fell to the ground. The prisoner took it up and walked away with it. He was followed by the jinrikisha man and went towards China-town where he was lost sight of. The next place in which they heard of him was in a seaman's boarding-house kept by a man named Ortiz in China-town. He appeared to have been there in the evening and certain circumstances took place there from which there would be no doubt that the prisoner passed into the house, let in a friend, and that something did take place in that house kept by Ortiz. That was the chain of circumstances which led to the committal of the prisoner. It was for the jury to decide whether the money was stolen and whether it was stolen by the prisoner or not. If a man took up money in the street knowing who the owner was, and with such knowledge appropriated the money for his own use, he would be committing the crime of larceny.

John Dobbie McAlpine, examined by Mr. Litchfield, deposed that he was a marine engineer. He reached Japan on he thought the 22nd October. He was paid his wages the day before he got on shore, the 25th October. He left his house on Sunday, 26th October, in a jinrikisha, having \$200 on his person. He was staying at No. 184, Bluff. He first went to the Club Hotel, and not finding the people he wanted to see there, went out and told the jinrikisha man to take him around the town and go back again. It was, as far as he could remember, about four o'clock, but it might be a little after. He stopped at a public-house to get some refreshment, and was not long in the house before he met the prisoner and a sailor who was on the ship he (witness) came out from England in. Witness did not know the sailor's name, but would know him again if he saw him. The prisoner wanted witness to give him more drink, which witness refused to do. He took his money from his inside pocket from a bundle of which he had two all in \$1 notes and in two bundles of \$100 each. He did not remember receiving any change for the money he paid for the drink with. He did not exactly remember what he did with the remainder. He remembered taking out \$2. He had at first \$200 in his pocket. He remembered leaving the house. He had a struggle to get out, and after running a short distance he put his hand in his pocket and found his money was gone.

By the accused—I remember seeing you on the 26th October in the public house. We had a quarrel because you wanted more drink. I don't remember you running out with me. I had a struggle to get out of the house, and after going a little way found that my money was gone, and went to the Police Station at once and reported it. I did not go in a jinrikisha. I don't know whether I lost the money in the street or in the public house. I did not see you take my money. The jinrikisha man gave in evidence that he saw you take it. I go by his evidence. I was not sober at the time.

Chino Ichihai, a jinrikisha man, deposed that he remembered taking the last witness in his jinrikisha on October 26th. He took him first to the Club Hotel and then to a restaurant in Sakai-cho. When he left the restaurant he was some-

what drunk. The drinking place was below, not upstairs, and the door was open. A coloured man afterwards went in to where the last witness was and entered into conversation with him. He afterwards met him again. The coloured man witness referred to was the prisoner. There was another coloured man in the saloon. He was not so dark as the prisoner. They stopped there about one hour talking and drinking. The last witness then parted from the coloured man and went away in witness' jinrikisha to a saloon in Motomachi, Sancho-me, where he had more drink. The door of the saloon was open at first but was shut after he went in. He did not stop in the house long, but came out just as it was getting dark. Leaving the house he went in the direction of the Public Gardens, and had gone about 50 or 60 yards when he met the prisoner. They went some distance together, talking in a foreign language which witness did not understand. They went on to the Public Gardens where witness' fare said he wanted to get out and witness put the jinrikisha down. He got out without any help at all, but as he was getting out of the jinrikisha witness saw him drop something which he recognized as money. It was in bundles. Witness could not tell the denomination or value of the notes. They were the same colour as Japanese notes, but whether they were \$5 or \$1 notes witness could not say. The prisoner took the notes up and ran away with them. Witness followed him to China-town. Witness arrived at Yokohama about two months before. He missed the accused at the cross roads. Witness went to the house where the complainant was staying and reported the loss of the money. The complainant took on another jinrikisha man to push behind from the English Hatoba.

By the accused—I saw you on October 26th in a public house. There was no quarrel between you and my fare. You did not go with my master when he left the house but stayed behind. When my master came out of the first house he went in a jinrikisha. When he went into the second house you were not with him. My master dropped the money near the Public Gardens just as he was going to turn the corner. I did not see you take any money from his pocket, but I saw you take it from the ground when it fell. I was the only one who ran after you. The other man stayed behind. My master of course was under the influence of liquor and was drunk at the time. I took my jinrikisha along with me and left it at a jinrikisha station. Some of the jinrikisha men there saw you run past.

Yakamura Mototaro, a jinrikishaman, deposed, that he remembered October 26th. He was taken from the English Hatoba. He understood very little English. His fare went to the Oriental House and got out of the jinrikisha and went in the house. Witness saw the prisoner there. He had seen him about three before. Witness' fare stopped at the house and then went to the Grand House near Aoi-cho. He stopped about an hour there where he saw the prisoner. Witness' fare left, first leaving the other behind. He then went to a house in Motomachi and stopped there for about 20 minutes or half an hour. He then went in the direction of the Settlement. When near the Public Gardens he saw the coloured man. The complainant said he wished to go to the Club Hotel, but the prisoner told witness not to take him there but to take him to the Yoshiwara. They did not go to the Yoshiwara. The went to the corner of Tokiocho, where his fare got out of the jinrikisha and as he was getting out he let fall some money in two bundles one done up tightly and the other loose. The prisoner took them up and said to witness something about, "to-morrow, consul, and 2 piece carriage man" and went towards China-town. Witness went to the Police Station and reported the matter. At about eight o'clock his fare came and also reported it. The other jinrikisha man went after the prisoner.

By the accused—There was no quarrel between my master and you. I did not see you take any money from my master's pocket. I ran after you for about 100 yards. You were going slowly at first, but ran afterwards. No one was in the road to see you but a shampooer.

Charles Lopez, formerly steward of the *Swatara*, deposed that on the 26th October he went upstairs at Ortiz's house, and saw the prisoner and Ortiz and another coloured man known as Bill. They were counting some notes just like the one he then saw. They did not say anything to witness, but Ortiz turned and faced him to prevent him seeing what was going on at the table.

By the accused—I did not see you take any money in the house on Sunday, October 26th. I saw you counting money upstairs. I did not report it. I did not know of the loss till afterwards, and even then it was not my business to report it.

I did not know whether you stole it; you got it somehow. I reported it at the Court on Tuesday.

William McNeill deposed that he was an American citizen, and was living at Ortiz's house. He went in the house on Sunday, October 26th, about nine o'clock. Davis was not in then, but went in about 10 minutes afterwards and went upstairs. The prisoner spoke to witness and then Ortiz went upstairs. The prisoner said he had found some money. Witness said it was \$50, but he said it was not so much. Witness told him he had better take it to the Consul. Witness saw him take it from his vest pocket. Witness handled and counted it and gave it back to Davis. Witness made a statement to Mr. Hodges about it after Davis was committed for trial.

By the accused—I did not see you take any money into the house. I did not see you give Ortiz any money to keep. I saw you with the money that night. I did not report the matter. I did not hear about the loss till later, when Valentine told me. I did not report it then. It was not my business to do so, as I am not a reporter.

By a juror—I counted \$60. I did not count the other roll.

William Nicol Wright deposed that he served a summons on the prisoner on the 27th October. After he was committed for trial witness accompanied the turnkey to the jail where he searched prisoner's clothes and found three \$1 notes (given in). Witness made pencil marks on the back.

John Ortiz deposed that the prisoner was at his house on October 26th. When witness sung out for coffee in the morning the prisoner did not appear, and told witness he would have to send his breakfast upstairs. He did so and also sent his dinner and supper upstairs. He saw the prisoner at 12 o'clock and at five o'clock. Witness went to bed at seven o'clock. Witness did not see him take any money into the house. He had only seen him with \$7 which was paid to him (witness) for boarding.

By Mr. Litchfield—I went out at five o'clock and came back at 6.30 o'clock. The coloured men boarding at my house are McNeill, Davis, and Lopez. When I came home I got my supper and turned in. I saw the prisoner at nine o'clock, but I don't know what became of him between five and nine.

Philip Thomas deposed that he saw the prisoner on Sunday, October 26th, during the day but did not see him in the night as he slept out that night.

Noguchi Yoshitaro, cook at Ortiz's house, deposed that on October 26th he took Davis' coffee upstairs in the morning and also took his tiffin and dinner up. Beyond that he did not remember anything as he was busy. He had been in the house all day and in fact for several days previous and after. Witness did not see him take any money into the house. About six o'clock he was in bed.

The accused made a long defence, the gist of which was that on Sunday morning he woke up very sick with headache and pains elsewhere. He told his boarding-master he was sick, and that his breakfast would have to be sent upstairs. He was in his bed all day. After he had been in Yokohama for some time he went up north on a Swedish schooner and received his wages from the agent, \$30. He had spent all this but \$3, and that he had hid for the time when he should go away. McNeill and he had had some trouble before and McNeill had made a false report about him. If McNeill had seen him counting the money and had heard of the loss, was not it his duty to go and report it? The complainant did not see him (prisoner) take the money, but took the word of jinrikishamen who said they would tell what they knew if he would give them something. The complainant believed the jinrikishaman when he said he (deponent) had taken the money. He would evidently believe him if he had said it had sunk into the ground or flown away on the wind. The \$3 he (deponent) had was what was left of some money received for a sealing expedition to St. John's Island. If he had found the money he would have been very careful not to let anyone else see it, and certainly would not give it to anyone else to count.

His Honour, in summing up the case, said the evidence was before the jury, and the course Mr. Litchfield had taken in not addressing them was because the prisoner was not defended by counsel, and Mr. Litchfield thought it would not be fair to address them and to bring out the points to them as he would be able to do. There was one thing, however, that his Honour thought it only fair to the prisoner that he should speak about. It was the finding of the \$3 in the prisoner's boot. It was, his Honour thought, very likely that the accused put the money there as a kind of nest egg for such time as when he should be going away, for if it got known that he had the money he would have had to pay it down to the boarding-master. With regard to the evidence, the jury would not be able to make much of the prosecutor's evidence, as he

was not quite sober when he lost the money; but there was the evidence of the two jinrikishamen. There was also the evidence of the two coloured witnesses, both of whom gave testimony to the effect that the prisoner had money. The two jinrikishamen said the prisoner was the man, and if the jury believed them they would find the prisoner guilty. Against that they had what Ortiz said, which was that the prisoner was in the house at six o'clock and at nine o'clock. They had the evidence of the two jinrikishamen, also the cook at Ortiz's house, who said he saw him at six o'clock. If a man had picked up any money with the intention of taking it to the proper owner or to the Consul it was not larceny; but if he took the money and said he would take it to the Court, and afterwards said he had not taken it that would be larceny, and if the prisoner was the man who took up the money he was guilty of larceny. It was for the jury to find out whether the prisoner took the money or not, and if he did so he was guilty.

The jury after retiring for a few minutes, returned a verdict of guilty, and his Honour sentenced the prisoner to six months' imprisonment with hard labour.

THE FRENCH LAND TRADE WITH SOUTHERN CHINA.

On June 1, 1889, the towns of Lung-chow in the province of Kwangsi and Mengtzu in Yunnan were opened to French trade through Tonquin, in pursuance of the terms of the treaty of peace between France and China after the Tonquin war, and of an additional convention signed at Peking in June, 1887. By the end of May last year Chinese Customs stations had been established in both towns, and the reports of the Commissioners to Sir Robert Hart on the trade up to the close of the year have recently been issued. They are both important documents, for we obtain from them for the first time an authentic and unimpassioned account, from experienced and independent officials, of the actual and possible trade between France and China through Tonquin, and of the commercial methods and potentialities of the interior of Southern China. This is a topic of great interest in more ways than one. Efforts to tap this trade, whatever its value may ultimately prove to be, have been frequently made. The plan of opening the upper waters of the Canton river to foreign trade has been mooted more than once. The port of Pakhoi was opened by the Szechuan Convention with this aim; and from the side of Burmah we have various railway projects, all with this as the main object. During the Franco-Chinese war French statesmen constantly referred to this trade as a sufficient reward for all the sacrifices entailed by the struggle. In addition to the two reports already referred to, the British Consul at Pakhoi, in his last report, discusses the subject from another point of view. He is naturally concerned for the prosperity of British trade through his own port, and views the opening of the two towns to French trade in this aspect.

The Commissioner at Lung-chow, Mr. Carl, reports that for the seven months under review the trade has been very insignificant indeed, and he thinks there is little chance of improvement for several years to come. The cost of transport in Tonquin is so heavy that Kwangsi merchants find it cheaper to get foreign goods from Hongkong by way of Pakhoi, and thence overland. For 133 1/2 lb. of goods through the port of Haiphong and Tonquin the charges are \$7; through Pakhoi they amount only to \$3, although the distance is a third longer. Carriers in China work for half the wages of the same class in Tonquin, on account of the military demand for them in the latter. If the French wish to derive benefit from the opening of Lung-chow and to get the trade of Kwangsi, the Commissioner says it is absolutely necessary to construct a railway to some point within water communication of that town. A line is projected within Tonquin between Phu-liang-thuong and Lung-sou, a distance of 75 miles, the latter town being still 50 miles from Lung-chow. But even if this line were completed it would only improve trade into Kwangsi to a limited extent, if at all. If the line were continued 20 miles further to a town called Na-sham, whence there is water communication with Lung-chow, and if the cost of transport through Tonquin were reasonable, it might, coupled with the reduction of three-tenths of the import duty secured by the treaty, lead to many towns in Kwangsi drawing their supplies through Tonquin, and sending their own produce by the same route, to the detriment of the trade of Pakhoi. But Mr. Carl reminds us that, in truth, the Canton or West river, with its numerous feeders branching out in every direction, is the natural trade route for nearly the whole

of the province, and if the Chinese Government ever decides to abolish *likin* stations on the river, no railway in Tonquin could possibly compete with the river route in the matter of cheapness. This view, it may be added, is that of every one who has studied the subject, and it is to this we owe the suggestion of the late Sir Harry Parkes, which has more than once been discussed in *The Times*, that the opening of a port on the Canton River, such as Nan-ning or Po-sè (Mr. Colquhoun's Pê-sè), by which the *likin* stations would *ipso facto* disappear, would absolutely neutralize for purposes of commercial competition any advantage the French may have by their situation in Tonquin, however they may improve it by the construction of railways and roads. If these *likin* barriers disappeared, says Mr. Carl, "all the big towns along the river would draw their supplies from, and ship their produce to, Canton." He describes Kwangsi province as very hilly, sparsely inhabited, and only cultivated to a small extent. It is probably rich in minerals. One of the best paying silver mines is in the province, and the country round Po-sè is a vast bed of coal. But there is little produce for exportation, and almost none in Lung-chow district. Under very favourable circumstances there might be a trade in aniseed oil, cassia, ground-nut oil, indigo, Yunnan opium, and tin, though great inducements must be offered to make the trade change from the established route by Pakhoi to that through Tonquin; but with cheap and quick transport in the latter, and the four-tenths reduction in export duty, this change might be brought about. In the seven months over which the report extends the total imports were about £2,500, consisting chiefly of dye-stuff and hard-wood timber. Both come from the hilly districts of Tonquin, and are sent on to Canton. No single item in the list of exports reached the value of £120, and only five exceeded £25. The total value was only £420, and the total customs dues collected only £150.

Mr. Happer, the Commissioner at Mengtzu, in Yunnan, has a good deal more to say about his station, its situation, surroundings, and trade. Mengtzu is in a cultivated plateau 20 miles long by 12 wide, 4,500 feet above the sea, perfectly level, and encircled by mountains. The Commissioner, indeed, waxed eloquent and enthusiastic over the beauty of the situation, the clear atmosphere, and the exquisite effects of the almost perpetual sunshine on the surrounding heights. But he contends also that the town is well situated for a trade emporium, and "for the distribution of merchandise throughout a province destined to become rich and populous because of its great mineral resources." He then discusses the various trade routes into the province, of which there are six. The route from Bhamo to Taliu is not sufficiently known yet; by Hankow, on the Yangtze, and the Tung ting Lake, merchandise must make a journey of 40 days overland, the greater part on the backs of animals, and besides the cost of transport there are the heavy dues payable at the custom-houses of the different provinces traversed. Another route leaves the Yangtze higher up and gives water communication with Quinning, in South-Eastern Szechuen. This requires 19 days water transport, and more than 20 by a tedious road across mountains, where transport is on the backs of mules. A third Yangtze route, and that most used, involves a land journey of 22 days. Any of these three routes involves a circuitous and tedious journey from the coast to Yunnan-fu, with loss of time, heavy cost of transport, and numerous transit dues. The route across Southern China from Pakhoi has a large trade; it takes 54 days, of which 20 are occupied in water transport. Opium and tin go down to the coast from Yunnan and Kweichow, while yarns and piece-goods, cotton and woollen, are imported. The value of the import into Pakhoi alone for transit to Yunnan is given at about £350,000, and the quantity of cotton yarn at 100,000 bales, while it is said that, independently of merchandise, about £250,000 in silver annually passes Po-sè to pay for the Yunnan opium. This means an enormous trade altogether, when the extent of land transport is considered, and the Po-sè merchants fear loss if Mengtzu succeeds as a distributing centre. As to the route by the Red River of Tonquin, which it is Mr. Happer's special duty to watch over, he points out that it is not a new highway for trade. Manhao is the head of the navigation, and there is a well worn paved road between it and Mengtzu bespeaking a great traffic in other years, "and the value of that trade was certainly great which could support the expenditure entailed by the laying of such a road over a very mountainous country." It is evident that before the Mahomedan rebellion the town was the seat of an important trade, owing to its proximity to the tin-mines and to the river at

Manhao. From the sea at Haiphong to the latter (by junk from Hanoi) is given at 28 days; from Manhao to Mengtzu is three days by pack animals, and thence nine days onward to Yunnan-fu, or 40 days in all, in addition to which there is the gain in a decreased import duty, and the privileges of the transit pass system, which frees merchandise throughout the province from the *likin* duties. So much in favour of the Red River route; but Mr. Happer admits that up to the present there have been causes which have retarded the movement of cargo destined for Yunnan. One of these is piracy on the Red River, in consequence of which boats dare not ascend the river alone. Besides the time lost in waiting for a convoy, each boat added to a fleet cuts down the rate of speed, because the whole must wait until each individual boat is dragged over the rapids. Thus it has come about that the time occupied in ascending from the sea has been over 60 days; but as the French Colonial Government is taking great interest in facilitating trans-frontier trade, these causes of delay will doubtless disappear, "so that the Red River route will prove in practice, as well as in measurement of miles, the shortest and cheapest approach to the rich province of Yunnan." From Hongkong by Haiphong and Red River to Mengtzu a box of 80 lb. weight pays for transport about 11s., while if going by Pakhoi or Canton it pays that amount for mule-hire alone from Po-sè. There has been no difficulty about transport down stream. Driven by a rapid current, each boat makes the best time it can, and the journey from Hanoi is usually performed in from 12 to 15 days. To aid the trade, the French authorities have exempted all merchandise crossing the Chinese frontier from import and transit duties, thus practically giving free trade to Chinese produce shipped overland.

Owing to various delays, the figures for the trade of Mengtzu really represent only 90 days; in that time the total value was about £36,600, of which the value of exports was £17,600, and more than 78 per cent. of the total imports and exports was the share of Hongkong. The main import was Indian cotton yarn, which is largely used by the aboriginal tribes to weave a cloth which they prefer to foreign piece-goods. A curious item of import is coffin-wood from Tonquin. It is said to be the preserved remains of old forest trees partially buried in the soil, and to be impervious to moisture, so that it is regarded as specially valuable for coffins. In three months the import amounted to £1,800. Another is narcissus bulbs, which start from the province of Fukkien on the coast, and bear the transport, not only to Mengtzu, but 19 days further on pack-animals to Taliu. Mr. Happer says that this shows the strong hold that the narcissus has in the æsthetic taste of the Chinese. The chief export is tin in slabs, of which the value was £14,500. The mines are only 20 miles from Mengtzu. The musk collected in the province is considerable. Musk-producing deer are found on the hills not far from Mengtzu, but they are caught chiefly in Western Yunnan and on the border of Tibet. A trial shipment to Shanghai of slabs of Taliu marble for furniture was made, but the result was not known when the report was written. The famous Pu-eh tea was exported to Tonquin chiefly for local consumption. Under the head of "Shipping," Mr. Happer says that muleteers are the real ships and pilots of Mengtzu trade, "and a large fleet they are, which distinctive characteristics of their own." The mules and ponies are small, but hardy creatures. Bearing burdens of about 160 lb., which often look disproportionately large on their diminutive bodies, they make a daily stage of 18 to 25 miles. "When decorated with rosettes of Turkey red and sleigh-bells, the leader flying the colours of his owner from short sticks projecting from the head gear, every five animals commanded by a turbaned driver, and keeping pace to the tap of a gong, they make a fine display. Their keep is very economical. On the road, the drivers seek a green spot, with water near by, to give them their noonday meal on nature's provender, supplemented with a few beans or Indian corn, and at night, bedded on equally favoured ground, their supper is the same, with the sod for their stall." The number of animals reported at the Mengtzu Customs, with imports, exports and transit goods, for the last five months of last year was 12,647, of which 4,201 were engaged in the transit trade, "and it is the position of Mengtzu, on the southern plateau of the province, near the central meridian, in easy distance of the Red River, and with good roads leading to all the principal marts of this province, that enables her to make good use of the large fleet."

The population of Mengtzu is variously estimated at from 10,000 to 20,000. It is composed mainly of Chinese, descendants of emigrants from the central provinces who went there after the conquest. Aborigines belonging to the Lolo

tribes are the principal inhabitants of the small hamlets in the plain and in the valleys of the surrounding mountains. Much land in the plain lies fallow; the crops raised on the other parts are rice, wheat, buckwheat, Indian corn, millet, beans, sweet potatoes, and tobacco. Amongst the fruits are pomegranates, peaches, persimmons, and plums. Pomegranates grow to perfection. The climate is one of perpetual sunshine; a strong wind blows steadily from the south throughout the year, even in the coldest weather, so that the temperature is moderate. But in spite of all these climatic advantages, Mengtzi, in common with other parts of Yunnan, has suffered annually for years from the plague, a kind of malignant fever, which is fatal in a few days, and has carried off a number of the inhabitants of Yunnan. One of the symptoms is a hard swelling on the neck, in the armpits, or in the groin. The presence of so much fallow land near the town is attributed to the decimation of the population by the pest. On the approach of the epidemic the first victims are rats, which rush madly out of their holes, and after capering round the room fall dead on the floor. The next to suffer are cattle, amongst which the effect is almost as fatal. In the presence of these warnings, the inhabitants of the hamlets often desert their homes *en masse* to seek safety on the mountain side, for one of the many curious incidents of this plague is that it never descends to places under 1,200 feet above the sea, and it rarely rises above 7,200 feet. Moreover, it rarely attacks person from other provinces sojourning in Yunnan, its victims being the aborigines and Chinese born in the province. Native practitioners are quite helpless in dealing with it. Mr. Happer concludes his report by saying that on a tablet in the chief temple of Mengtzi is a prediction by a distinguished resident of the place, who had travelled far and held high office, written 156 years ago, to the effect that when a certain mountain stream, which then flowed through the fields south of the town, should change its bed and find a new course on the north side, the citizens would enjoy three great blessings—"supreme civic honours, untold wealth, and length of days." The stream recently changed its bed, owing to the silting up of the old channel; the citizens have lately enjoyed an unusual share of literary honours they have had a centenarian amongst them, and now they hope the foreign customs will bring them the untold wealth.

It thus appears that while Lung-chow is unsatisfactory and unpromising, in Mengtzi the prospect is excellent in the eyes of the Commissioner of Customs there. Mr. Allen, the British Consul at Pakhoi, as has been said, regards the subject from his own point of view. In his last report he inquires how far Pakhoi has realized the hope with which it was opened, of tapping the trade of South-Western China. Prior to 1885, when the French established their position in Tonquin, the trade of the port rose gradually, with some fluctuations, until in that year it reached £657,000; since 1885 it has risen almost by bounds until now it is £1,094,000, the growth being practically that of the import trade. The conclusion is that before the imposition of the French duties in Tonquin trade to the value of £500,000 with South-Western China went through the latter, and then was diverted to Pakhoi. The problem is how best to get goods from the coast to the inland waterways of Kwangsi, which give access to the whole region. When the Tonquin railway to Lang-sou, referred to by Mr. Carl, is constructed, these waterways will be nearly reached; but Pakhoi is only 75 miles (the Lang-sou railway will be 80) from the nearest point of the west or Canton river. When the Tonquin rivers are connected by the railway with those of Kwangsi, Mr. Allen thinks Tonquin will reappropriate from Pakhoi all it has lately lost to the latter, and his remedy for this is a railway from Pakhoi to Nan-ning. Without it he fears the former must resign its hopes of commercial importance. The Lang-sou railway is progressing; according to the latest information from Tonquin, 12 miles of it were to be opened for traffic during the present year. The French in Tonquin are therefore making a bold and energetic bid for the trade of Southern China. The opinion of competent and disinterested officials on the spot is that they are going the best way to work to secure this trade. It will be observed, however, that the routes by Burmah into South-Western China are not taken into consideration here. What a railway, such as that now projected, and apparently received with official favour, from Mandalay through the Shan States to the Chinese frontier, may do remains to be seen. Certainly some definite policy on this subject seems urgent, as also does some step towards opening to foreign trade a port on the Canton river, so that British goods may be placed in Kwangsi and Eastern Yunnan on terms not less favourable than those accorded to French goods through Tonquin.—*Times*.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, November 8th.

At the election in Ohio, MacKinley has been defeated, and it is now believed that the Democratic majority in the new House will exceed one hundred.

London, November 9th.

Viscount Cantelupe has been drowned whilst yachting near Belfast.

Signor Crispi and Herr von Caprivi have had a most cordial meeting at Milan.

[Viscount Cantelupe was heir to the Earl of Delawarr, the Rev. Reginald Windsor Sackville, and was 32 years of age.—*Ed. J.M.*]

London, November 11th.

Messrs. Dillon and O'Brien have arrived in Boston, where they met a great ovation.

Stanley brings grave charges against Bartellot and Jamieson.

London, November 12th.

The Marquis of Salisbury, speaking at the Guildhall on Monday night, said that all the omens were peaceful, and referring to the visit of the Cesarewitch to the East, said that his Imperial Highness would be the guest of Her Majesty whilst in India.

London, November 13th.

The cruiser *Serpent* has foundered off Cape Finisterre.

The panic on the New York stock market has subsided. London has been somewhat affected, but the position of affairs has improved.

[The *Serpent* was a 6-gun twin-screw cruiser of the 3rd class, of 1,770 tons and 4,500 horse-power.—*Ed. J.M.*]

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

Shanghai, November 14th.

Tseng Kwo Chuan died yesterday.

[The deceased statesman, Tseng Kwo Chuan, was Viceroy of the Liang Kiang, and younger brother of Tseng Kwo Fan, the father of the Marquis Tseng, who died recently. He had the rank of Earl, and must have been eighty years of age.—*Ed. J.M.*]

(FROM THE "SINGAPORE FREE PRESS.")

London, October 25th.

Considerable sensation has been caused at Aldershot by the War Office order for all regiments going abroad to return their magazine rifles and re-arm with Martins.

London, October 27th.

The ninetieth birthday of Field-Marshal Count Von Moltke has been celebrated in the most marked manner. His Imperial Majesty the Emperor personally congratulated the Field-Marshal in the presence of the Generals and Staff of the Army.

TIME TABLES AND STEAMERS.

TOKYO-YOKOHAMA RAILWAY.

DOWN TRAINS LEAVE SHIMBASHI Station at 6.05* 6.40, 8.35, 9.30*, 10.25 and 11.45 a.m., and 1.25, 2.30, 3.55, 4.45, 5.50, 6.50, 8.30, 9.55, and 11.15 p.m.

UP TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 6.30, 7.20, 8.10, 9.15, 10.22, and 11.30 a.m., and 12.45, 2.30, 3.45, 5.30, 6.35, 7.50, 9.10, 10.05, and 11.05 p.m.

FARES—First-class, *sen* 60; second-class, *sen* 40 and third-class, *sen* 20.

Trains marked (*) run through without stopping at Omori, Kawasaki, Tsurumi, and Kanagawa Stations. Those marked (†) run through without stopping at Omori, Kawasaki, and Tsurumi Stations.

TORAIDO RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA (down) at 6.50, 9.10, 10.20, 11.25 a.m., and 12.40, 3.25, 4.55, 5.35, and 7.45 p.m.; and Kozu (up) at 6.35, 8.40, 9.40, and 11.07 a.m., and 1.17, 2.45, 4.58, 7.25, and 9.46 p.m.

FARES—To Hodegaya, first-class *sen* 6, second-class *sen* 4, third-class *sen* 2; to Totsuka, *sen* 18, *sen* 12, *sen* 6; to Ofuna *sen* 36, *sen* 24, *sen* 12; to Fujisawa, *sen* 42, *sen* 28, *sen* 14; to Hiratsuka, *sen* 66, *sen* 44, *sen* 22; to Oiso, *sen* 75, *sen* 50, *sen* 25; and to Kozu, *sen* 93, *sen* 62, *sen* 31.

Down trains at 6.50 a.m. run no further than Kyoto arriving there at 11.30 p.m.; at 10.30 a.m. no further than Nagoya, arriving at 10.10 p.m.; at 12.40 p.m. no further than Shizuoka, arriving there at 6.50 p.m.; at 3.25 p.m. no further than Shizuoka, arriving at 8.40 p.m.; and the train at 5.55 p.m. runs to Kobe, arriving at 12.45 p.m. next day.

A tramway runs between Kozu and YUNOTO (distance 4 ri). Jinrikisha may be hired between YUNOTO and MIYANOKITA (distance 14 ri).

OFUNA-YOKOSUKA RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE OFUNA (down) at 7.30 and 9.40 a.m., and 12.05, 1.30, 4.03, 6.14, and 8.30 p.m.; KAMAKURA (down) at 7.41 and 9.51 a.m., and 12.16, 1.41, 4.14, 6.25, and 8.41 p.m.; and ZUSHIMURA (down) at 7.50 and 10 a.m., and 12.25, 1.50, 4.23, 6.34, and 8.50 p.m.; YOKOSUKA (up) at 6.45, 8.55, and 11.20 a.m., and 12.50, 3.50, and 7.45 p.m.; ZUSHIMURA (up) at 7.01, 9.12, and 11.36 a.m., and 1.06, 3.16, 5.26, and 8.01 p.m.; and KAMAKURA (up) at 7.11, 9.22, and 11.46 a.m., and 1.15, 3.26, 5.36 and 8.10 p.m.

FARES—To Kamakura, first-class *sen* 9, second-class *sen* 6, third-class *sen* 3; to Zushimura *sen* 15, *sen* 10, *sen* 5; and to Yokosuka *sen* 30, *sen* 20, *sen* 10.

TOKYO-SHIOGAMA RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE URNO (down) at 6.40, 8.50, and 11.40 a.m., and 2.40 and 5.40 p.m.; UTSUNOMIYA (down) at 10 a.m. and 3.03 and 5.59 p.m.; SHIRAKAWA (down) at 8 a.m. and 12.35 and 5.41 p.m.; KORIYAMA (down) at 9.25 a.m. and 1.54 and 6.58 p.m.; FUKUSHIMA (down) at 7.35 and 11.33 a.m. and 3.45 p.m.; SENDAI (down) at 6.15, 10.25, and 10.40 a.m. and 2.30, 6.35, and 6.50 p.m.

TRAINS LEAVE ICHINOSEKI (up) at 6.40 a.m., and 2.50 p.m.; SHIOMIYAMA (up) at 7 and 11.05 a.m., and 3.10 and 7.15 p.m.; SENDAI (up) at 7.35 and 11.40 a.m., and 3.45 p.m.; FUKUSHIMA (up) at 6.40 and 10.26 a.m. and 2.36 p.m.; KORIYAMA (up) at 8.29 a.m., and 12.22 and 4.28 p.m.; SHIRAKAWA (up) at 6.35 and 9.47 a.m., and 1.40 p.m.; UTSUNOMIYA (up) at 6.20 and 9.05 a.m., and 12.18, 4.14, and 6.33 p.m.

FARES—Ueno to Utsunomiya, first-class *yen* 2, second-class *yen* 1.32, third-class *yen* 66; to Koriyama *yen* 4.10, *yen* 2.74, *yen* 1.37; to Fukushima *yen* 5, *yen* 3.32, *yen* 1.66; to Sendai *yen* 6.45, *yen* 4.30, *yen* 2.15; to Shingonia *yen* 6.75, *yen* 4.50, *yen* 2.25.

TOKYO-MAEBASHI RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE TOKYO (Ueno) (down) at 6.40, 8.50, and 11.40 a.m., and 2.40 and 5.40 p.m.; and MAEBASHI (up) at 6.55, and 11.50 a.m., and 2.50 and 5.55 p.m.

SHINJIKU-HACHIOJI RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE SHINJIKU, TOKYO, (down) at 6.55 and 9.55 a.m. and 12.52, 4, and 7 p.m.; and HACHIOJI (up) at 5.25, 8.25, and 11.25 a.m. and 2.20 and 5.30 p.m.

FARES—First-class *sen* 90; second-class *sen* 60; third-class *sen* 30.

TAKASAKI-YOKOKAWA RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE TAKASAKI (down) at 6.30 and 9.25 a.m., and 12.20 and 3.15 p.m.; and YOKOKAWA (up) at 8 and 11 a.m., and 1.50 and 4.55 p.m.

FARES—First-class, *sen* 75; second-class, *sen* 45 third-class, *sen* 25.

OYAMA-MAEBASHI RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE OYAMA (down) at 7.15 and 9.45 a.m., and 2.15 and 5.20 p.m.; KIRIU (down) at 5.9.11, and 11.40 a.m., and 4.10 p.m.; MAEBASHI (up) at 6.12 and 10.35 a.m., and 1.55 and 6.35 p.m.; and KIRIU (up) at 5.10, 7.13, and 11.37 a.m., and 2.57 p.m.

FARES—Oyama to Kiriu, first-class *sen* 97, second-class *sen* 66, third-class *sen* 33; to Maebashi, first-class *yen* 1.51, second-class *yen* 1.2, third-class *sen* 51.

UTSUNOMIYA-NIKKO RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE UTSUNOMIYA (down) at 5.25 and 10.05 a.m., and 12.25* and 3.05 p.m.; and NIKKO (up) at 7.20 and 11.55 a.m., and 2.25 and 4.55* p.m.

* Through Trains to and from Utsuno.

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

STEAMERS LEAVE THE NIPPON HATOKA daily at 8.30 a.m., and 12.30 and 3.30 p.m.; and LEAVE YOKOSUKA at 8.30 a.m., and 12.30 and 3.30 p.m.—*Fare, sen* 20.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki & per N. Y. K. Friday, Nov. 21st.
Kobe, per N. Y. K. Friday, Nov. 21st.
From America, per P. M. Co. Thursday, Nov. 20th.*
From Canada, per C. P. M. Co. Thursday, Nov. 20th.*
From Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co. Thursday, Nov. 20th.*
From Hongkong, per P. M. Co. Tuesday, Nov. 18th.†
From Hongkong, per P. & O. Co. Sunday, Nov. 23rd.‡

* City of Peking left San Francisco on November 1st. 1 *Straits of Belle Isle* left Vancouver on November 1st. 1 *Albatross* left Vancouver on November 3rd. 1 *China* (with English mail) left Hongkong on November 13th. 1 *Albatross* left Hongkong on November 14th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki, per N. Y. K. Tuesday, Nov. 18th.
For America, per P. M. Co. Saturday, Nov. 22nd.
For Europe, via Shanghai, per M. M. Co. Sunday, Nov. 23rd.
For Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co. Thursday, Nov. 27th.
For America, per C. O. & O. Co. Thursday, Dec. 4th.
For Europe, via Hongkong, per N. D. Lloyd. Wednesday, Dec. 10th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Josephus, British ship, 1,397, Rogers, 8th November.—New York 21st May, Oil.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Pythone, British ship, 1,896, T. Dexter, 8th November.—New York 8th June, Oil.—China & Japan Trading Co.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, F. H. Seymour, 8th November.—Hongkong 31st October, Nagasaki 4th, and Kobe 7th November, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, G. W. Pearne, 7th November.—Hongkong 3rd November, General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Brown, 10th November.—Kobe 8th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Belgie, British steamer, 2,695, W. H. Walker, 10th November.—San Francisco 21st October, General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.

Admiral Nakhimoff (22), Russian cruiser, Captain Fedotoff, 10th November.—Vladivostok 5th November.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 11th November.—Hakodate 9th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 11th November.—Kobe 9th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Wynn, 12th November.—Hakodate 10th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Strathclyde, British steamer, 1,743, White, 13th November.—Nagasaki 7th November, Sugar.—Calling for coal; bound to San Francisco.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,162, Walter, 13th November.—Kobe 12th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,357, Drummond, 14th November.—Kobe 12th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 14th November.—Shanghai and ports 8th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, P. Hussey, 15th November.—Hakodate 12th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Melbourne, French steamer, 3,400, Vimont, 15th November.—Hongkong 6th, Shanghai 10th, and Kobe 14th November, General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

DEPARTURES.

Glamorganshire, British steamer, 1,845, Davis, 9th November.—Kobe, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Oceana, German steamer, 1,628, Petersen, 9th November.—Kobe, General.—Simon, Everts & Co.

Oxus, French steamer, 2,500, Delacroix, 9th November.—Shanghai via Kobe, General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 11th November.—Shanghai and ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Brown, 11th November.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Belgie, British steamer, 2,695, W. H. Walker, 12th November.—Hongkong, General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.

General Werder, German steamer, 1,820, Eichel, 12th November.—Hongkong via Kobe, General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, W. G. Pearne, 11th November.—San Francisco, General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.

Admiral Nakhimoff (22), Russian cruiser, Captain Fedotoff, 12th November.—Yokosuka.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 12th November.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Imperieuse (10), flag-ship, Captain W. H. May, 12th November.—Kobe.

Alacrity (4), despatch vessel, Commander Chas. H. Adair, 12th November.—Kobe.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, C. Young, 13th November.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sophie Richmers, German steamer, 2,093, Genne-deich, 13th November.—Kobe, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Wynn, 14th November.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Strathclyde, British steamer, 2,154, White, 14th November.—San Francisco, Sugar.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, F. H. Seymour, 15th November.—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Verona*, from Hongkong via ports:—Miss Webb, Mr. R. Silber, Mr. F. Dirberly, Captain and Mrs. Clayton, Mr. Pow Chun, and Mr. Sankosha in cabin.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from Hongkong:—Dr. and Mrs. Thomson and Mr. Drummond Anderson in cabin. For San Francisco: Mr. Lyman J. Maury and Mr. Yui Sin Ching in cabin.

Per British steamer *Belgie*, from San Francisco:—Messrs. W. F. D. Smith, V. K. Lee, J. Crabtree, Miss R. Loring, Mr. W. H. Morse, Mrs. O. M. Locke, Rev. T. M. Sanford, Mr. S. Rosenfeld, Mr. Geo. E. Scott, Miss Louise Fleigant, Dr. Edward Hallier, Messrs. L. A. Lewis, C. H. St. John Honby, Wm. Bean, Mrs. C. P. Low, Mrs. E. Bieber, Miss S. M. Spooner, Mr. Geo. Einhorn, Rev. T. H. Stacey, Mrs. Saml. C. Thompson, Mr. Ferris Thompson, Mr. Joseph Iteu, Miss J. Lee, and Miss J. Walker in cabin. For Hongkong: Rev. E. Z. and Mrs. Simmons, Miss Lulu Whilden, and Rev. R. W. Pitcher in cabin. For Shanghai: Mrs. L. A. Davault and children, Rev. James M. and Mrs. Rollins and children, and Mr. H. C. and Mrs. Whittlesey in cabin. For Tientsin: Messrs. Charles Myrick, Thomas Sandy, J. F. Evans, James O'Toole, and Gilda in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Hakodate:—Mrs. Abe, Messrs. Arai, Yonemoto, R. Yonemoto, and Kubo in cabin; 47 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Admiral Akamatsu, Messrs. Kato, Shibuya, Toyama, Hosoi, Lungtuck, General Nakamura, Bishop Williams, Mr. Nakagawa, and Mr. C. Gibbins in cabin; Mr. Asakura and Mr. Koga in second class, and 38 passengers in steerage. For San Francisco: Mrs. G. Wakefield in cabin.

Per French steamer *Melbourne*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell, infant, and 1 servant, Miss Rouch, Messrs. W. Kanai, Bernard Bernardi, Paquier, Andri Colcombet, Ahmed Hallaba, and Darbier in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Oxus*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Messrs. H. L. Bagallay, J. B. Andrews, E. Clement, Mr. and Mrs. W. Farnam, Dr. J. J. C. Watson, Mr. and Mrs. Ziegler and 2 children, Messrs. Kamura Yoichi, Kanenari Hamaguchi, Matsudaira Matsuro, Miss Marguerite James, Messrs. Kuroda Sadaharu, Hayaoka Gisaburo, Otsuka Bunrin, Ando Shigehiro, Louis Motter, Frans H. Schluter, Ismail Saiboo, J. Woldstin, Lee Pak Bun, Shiou Kay, and Keng Kwang in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Count and Countess Ioonye, Count Mori, Mrs. T. H. Davault and child, Rev. J. M. and Mrs. Robbins and child, Miss A. B. Cue, Miss Oyama, Mrs. Lo Chia Tsch and infant, Dr. and Mrs. Perkin and 2 children, Mrs. Chisaka, Mrs. C. Bieber, Miss J. Lee, Miss J. Walker, Messrs. J. W. Kingsmill, W. H. Drummond, V. K. Lee, and Koshiro in cabin; Mrs. Smils, Messrs. Mayeda, A. B. Bowie, Tajima, Master Kodama, Messrs. Uyeno, Tanaka, and Nabeshima in second class, and 65 passengers in steerage.

Per German steamer *General Werder*, for Hongkong via Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. Pokotilow, Messrs. J. Winckler, F. Dankwerts, Hugo Orth, Stegmüller, Colonel Penperton, Mr. and Mrs. Metz and 2 children, Captain Ruhe, Messrs. T. Schindorff, Becken, Mrs. Blank and daughter, Mr. C. Huybrecht, 3 Chinese ladies and children, Messrs. Tai Kan Hing, Loo Ching Yow, Loo Sue Yen, Fum Too Seng, and Onee Seng Chai in cabin; and 20 Chinese and 3 German sailors in steerage.

Per British steamer *Belgie*, for Hongkong:—Dr. Geo. R. Brush, U.S.N., Mr. R. T. Wright, Dr. Sanderson, Mr. and Mrs. Hermann and two children, Mrs. Ah Cheung, Rev. H. R. Waterman, Miss L. Barret, Mr. C. E. Begmore, Mr. and Mrs. Vita, five children, and two native servants, Mr. C. Vivian Ladds, and Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Bray in cabin.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco:—Mr. Lyman I. Mowry, Miss Louise Phillips, Messrs. H. L. Meaulle, A. A. Thomas, Chester Holcombe, Colonel and Mrs. Stockley, Mr. Robert Johnstone, Miss Alice Johnstone, Mr. Geo. A. Newman, Miss Newman, Mr. Ito Hikoshichi, Mr. M. Bagallay, and Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Boag and infant in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, for Kobe:—Messrs. R. Legros, Call, O'Toole, Gilda, M. Evans, Sandy, R. Hara, and H. Ada in cabin; Mr. S. Iinuma and 1 passenger in second class, and 42 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Kinney, Misses Tilden, Misses Storm and maid, Mr. and Mrs. Wells, Mrs. and Miss Delafield and maid, Major and Mrs. Hannay, Captain and Mrs. Clayton, Miss

Brownlow, Miss M. Brownlow, Messrs. E. Stonor, R. G. Brownlow, Wong Shin Ho, Tilden, Dmyea, J. Gomez, Kwon Yue Poon, Tsung Woon Kung, Ah Mann, and Sankosha in cabin; 1 European and 8 Chinese in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Oxus*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Silk for France 145 bales; Waste silk for France 420 bales; Treasure for Singapore \$100,200.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco:—

	SEA.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	263	89	313	665
Nagasaki	—	—	732	732
Hyogo	—	879	588	1,467
Yokohama	2,216	10	2,028	4,254
Hongkong	624	187	192	1,003
Total	3,403	1,165	3,873	8,441

	SEA.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	108	—	108
Hongkong	—	95	—	95
Yokohama	—	528	—	528
Total	—	731	—	731

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Silk for France 82 bales.

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Gaelic*, Captain Pearne, reports:—Left Hongkong the 1st November at 2.20 p.m.; had moderate monsoon, and fine weather to Yokohama; thence to port fresh northerly winds, and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 8th November at 3.43 p.m. Time, 4 days, 23 hours, 41 minutes.

The Japanese steamer *Satsuma Maru*, Captain Brown, reports:—Left Kobe the 8th November at noon; had very high barometer and light northerly winds and fine clear weather up to Oshima; afterwards dull cloudy weather, with heavy rain and N.E. winds with nasty head sea, up to arrival at Yokohama the 9th November at midnight.

The British steamer *Belgie*, Captain Pearne, reports:—Left San Francisco the 21st October at 2 p.m.; had strong head winds and seas throughout the passage; stopped off Noshima light the 9th November at 8 p.m. in easterly gale and thick weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 10th November at 1.14 p.m. Time, 19 days, 6 hours, 4 mins.

The Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, Captain Ekstrand, reports:—Left Hakodate the 8th November at 2 p.m.; had fresh N.W. breeze and fine clear weather which continued until arrival at Ogiuohama the 9th at 1 p.m. and left the 10th at 5 a.m.; had fresh northerly winds and cloudy weather until 4 p.m., when weather clearing and getting fine. Arrived at Yokohama the 11th November at 6.15 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, Captain Drummond, reports:—Left Kobe the 12th November at 4 p.m.; had thick weather with heavy rain; reached Wada Point the 13th at 2 a.m., where the weather cleared; passed Hino-saki at 6.15 a.m., fresh N.W. breeze and clear; at 6.15 p.m., moderate gale from N.W.; reached Rock Island the 14th at 2 a.m., strong gale and high sea from N.E.; passed Sagami at 6.35 a.m. Arrived at Yokohama at 8.30 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, Captain Haswell, reports:—Left Shanghai the 8th November at 7.30 a.m.; had fresh to moderate winds and cloudy sky till 8 a.m. on the 9th; thence to port strong easterly gale with very heavy sea. Arrived at Nagasaki the 10th at 5 a.m. and left at 5 p.m.; cloudy with moderate winds. Arrived at Shimonoeki the 11th at 5.30 a.m. and left at 7 a.m.; dull cloudy weather till 4 a.m., then came on very thick with rain and mist; came to anchor at 6 p.m. and left the 12th at 3.45 a.m.; had light easterly winds and rain throughout the passage. Arrived at Kobe at 1 p.m. all well and left the 13th at noon; had weather fine and clear with moderate N.W. winds; passed Oshima the 14th at 6 a.m. when wind hauled to E.N.E. fresh breeze; passed Rock Island at 10 a.m. Arrived at Yokohama at 3.30 p.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The Import Market still remains in a stagnant condition, but the nominal position of the buyer and seller has changed in favour of the latter. The few sales reported show an improvement on former quotations, and still higher rates have been offered and refused as they are far below importers' present ideas, and before any business can be done prices must advance considerably. Sales for the week amount to 125 bales English Yarns, 125 bales Bombays and 5,000 pieces Shirtings.

COTTON PICK GOODS

Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ yds, 39 inches	\$1.35	to	1.90
Grey Shirtings—9 lb, 38½ yds, 39 inches	1.60	to	2.24
1. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.15	to	1.47
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.20	to	1.60
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 44 inches	1.70	to	2.00
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	0.07	to	0.14
Turkey Reds—2½ to 2½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.00	to	1.15
Turkey Reds—2½ to 3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.20	to	1.40
Turkey Reds—3½ to 4 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.70	to	2.05
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	4.50	to	6.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 12-3 inches	0.50	to	0.65
Tartan Lanes, 12 yards, 43 inches	1.15	to	2.25

WOOLLENS.

Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches	\$4.00	to	5.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.24	to	28
Medium	0.20	to	34
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.16	to	20
Common	0.11	to	0.15
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.11	to	0.15
Cloths—Flats, 54 to 56 inches	0.30	to	0.45
Cloths—Presidents, 54 to 56 inches	0.50	to	0.60
Cloths—Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.35	to	0.60
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3½ lb, per lb	0.10	to	0.38

COTTON YARNS.

No. 16/24, Ordinary	\$26.00	to	27.00
No. 16/24, Medium	27.00	to	28.00
No. 16/24, Good to Best	28.00	to	29.50
No. 16/24, Reverse	30.00	to	31.00
No. 16/32, Ordinary	28.50	to	29.50
No. 16/32, Medium	29.50	to	31.00
No. 16/32, Good to Best	31.25	to	32.75
No. 18/32, Medium to Best	15.50	to	16.50
No. 32, Two-fold	34.50	to	36.00
No. 48, Two-fold	36.50	to	39.50
No. 20s, Bombay	70.00	to	78.00
No. 18s, Bombay	72.00	to	78.00
No. 16s, Bombay	—		—

METALS.

In sympathy with other imports, this market is dull and depressed. Prices nominally unchanged but weak all round. Apparently there is no demand, and present stock ample for prospective requirements some distance ahead.

Flat Bars, 4 inch	\$2.05	to	2.75
Flat Bars, 3 inch	2.75	to	2.85
Round and square up to 3 inch	2.65	to	2.85
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.		Nom.
Nailrod, small size	Nom.		Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	2.80	to	3.00
Sheet Iron	3.20	to	3.40
Galvanized iron sheets	5.80	to	6.00
Wire Nails, assorted	4.40	to	4.60
Pin Plates, per box	4.60	to	4.80
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.25	to	1.27½

KEROSENE.

Market very dull. The last two vessels from New York brought 130,000 cases Chester and Comet. The present stock is therefore over 900,000 cases, and buyers have things all in their favour. The low exchange has apparently not helped holders at all, and prices are weak at quotations.

QUOTATIONS.

Chester	\$1.65	to	1.67½
Comet	1.62½	to	1.65
Devon	1.60	to	1.62½
Russian	1.53	to	1.57½

SUGAR.

The Sugar trade is dull, and there is scarcely business enough to make quotations.

White Refined	\$5.50	to	7.90
Manila	3.60	to	4.30
Taiwanfu	—		—
Pentana	2.75	to	3.00
Namida	2.80	to	3.00
Cake	3.70	to	3.80
Brown Takao	4.75	to	4.20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last circular was dated the 7th inst.; since then settlements on this Market amount to 720 piculs divided thus:—Hanks, 27; Filatures, 313; Re-reels, 150; Kakeda, 200; Oshu 30. In addition to these purchases by Foreigners, direct shipments have been 95 bales, making the total business of the week equal to 820 piculs.

The chief business was done before the departure of the *Gaelic*, shippers hurrying up to get their purchases on board that vessel. Before the steamer left port, cables from the States reported heavy failures in New York with consequent demoralization in the Market there. This has had the effect of making our market very quiet for the last two or three days, buyers being afraid to operate until the troubles over the water are straightened out. Exchange has again been fairly steady, with only slight fluctuations.

Our price lists at foot show a further decline in price, but holders are not unanimous in their ideas.

Some of them are anxious to sell, and are meeting buyers to some extent, while others are strong and declare their intention of doing nothing at present.

The business done has once more been chiefly for the States, purchases for Europe being small and of little importance. Intelligence from the Lyons market is by no means cheerful, for, although they do not seem to be involved in panic and disaster, yet the trade there is very dull and the market depressed.

There have been two shipping opportunities since we last wrote. The French steamer *Oxus*, which left port on the 9th, carried 254 bales for Lyons, St. Etienne and Marseilles. The *Gaelic*, which sailed on the 12th, had 528 bales for the New York Market. These departures bring the present export figures to 7,981 piculs, against 20,544 last year and 15,643 in 1888.

Hanks.—There has been some enquiry for these; *Hachoji* being done early in the week at \$325. Since then a parcel of good *Yoshu* has been in treaty at \$540. Stock in this department is small, and holders are able to keep their prices pretty firm.

Filatures.—These are in very large supply and stock heavy; at the same time the largest holders, wealthy men who are not in need of money, refuse to sell at any price. They apparently believe that things cannot always go on getting worse, and profess themselves able and willing to wait for better times. Previous to the departure of the steamer, *Kameisha* and similar qualities were done at \$635; to-day they might be bought at \$620. *Koshu Filature Yafima* has been done at the latter price, and some good fine sized *Filatures* for Europe marked \$650.

Re-reels.—These also show a decline, but at the same time are somewhat irregular; proprietors of the largest factories being able to hold pretty strongly. At closing *Tortoise Clasp* has been done at \$595, with *Ichimurasha* at \$585.

Kakeda.—This has been in strong demand, and the stock being small, prices have been maintained better in this class than in *Filatures* and *Re-reels*. Among the latest purchases are *Flower Girl*, \$590; *Gold Tiger*, \$590; *Stork*, \$585; *Red Flag*, \$585; *Gold Fish*, \$560.

Oshu.—Two parcels good quality *Hamatsuki* have passed the scales at \$560. This class has apparently not yet felt the decline to any appreciable extent.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No. 14	Nom.		Nom.
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	Nom.		Nom.
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	Nom.		Nom.
Hanks—No. 24 (Shinshu)	550	to	560
Hanks—No. 24 (Joshu)	540	to	545
Hanks—No. 21 to 3	530	to	535
Hanks—No. 3	520	to	525
Hanks—No. 34	510	to	515
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	660	to	670
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	620	to	640
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	620	to	640
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	620	to	625
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	610	to	615
Filatures—No. 2, 10/13 deniers	620	to	630
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	600	to	605
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	590	to	595
Re-reels—Extra	—		—
Re-reels—(Shinshu and Oshu) Best No. 1	610	to	620
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	590	to	600
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	580	to	585
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	570	to	575
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	560	to	565
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	550	to	555
Kakedas—Extra	Nom.		Nom.
Kakedas—No. 1	600	to	610
Kakedas—No. 14	585	to	595
Kakedas—No. 2	580	to	585
Kakedas—No. 24	570	to	575
Kakedas—No. 3	560	to	565
Kakedas—No. 34	550	to	555
Oshu Sendai—No. 24	540	to	545
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	Nom.		Nom.
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—		—
Sodai—No. 24	—		—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 14th Nov., 1890:—

	SEASON 1890-91.	1889-90.	1888-89.
	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Europe	2,254	9,615	7,477
America	5,515	10,622	8,014
Total	7,769	20,237	15,491
	Piculs	7,981	20,544
Settlements and Direct	7,900	22,600	16,600
Export from 1st July	7,900	22,600	16,600
Stock, 14th November	16,800	8,300	12,850
Available supplies to date	24,700	30,900	29,450

WASTE SILK.

There has been rather more doing in this branch, and settlements for the week amount to 1,100 piculs distributed thus:—Cocoons, 90; *Noshi*, 700; *Kibiso*, 275; *Boseki*, 35.

The trade seems to have revived a bit, the purchases being more than during the previous week. Prices are nominally without change, varying a dollar here and there according to quality. Holders sell currently and meet the good demand freely.

The French mail steamer *Oxus* took 423 bales of *Cocoons* and *Waste*, three bales being for Shanghai, the rest for Europe. The German steamer *General Werder*, 12th inst., took 60 bales of *Noshi* for Italian ports.

These departures make the present export figures 8,772 piculs, against 8,569 last year and 8,857 in 1888.

Pierced Cocoons.—Another parcel has been weighed up of *Koshu*, somewhat light in yield, at \$107½, while 65 bales of *Najiko* were taken at \$50. Trade in *Cocoons* moves very slowly this year; consumers state that they can obtain cheaper material from Italy and China.

Noshi.—The better kinds of *Noshi* have been again in strong demand, \$140 being paid for some lots of prime *Bushu*, No. 2 quality being taken at \$130. A large parcel of *Oshu* was done at \$145, with a long line of *Shinshu* at \$115; *Mino* also realizing the last-named price.

Kibiso.—Purchases here have fallen off in volume; the price paid been has good: *Oshu* \$103 and \$97; *Common Hachoji* \$32. *Filatures* have been neglected.

Sundries.—The only trade in this class was a settlement of *Bosekiwata* at \$32.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	\$120	to	\$130
<i>Noshi</i> — <i>ito</i> , <i>Filature</i> , Best	150	to	160
<i>Noshi</i> — <i>ito</i> , <i>Filature</i> , Good	140	to	145
<i>Noshi</i> — <i>ito</i> , <i>Filature</i> , Medium	130	to	135
<i>Noshi</i> — <i>ito</i> , <i>Oshu</i> , Good to Best	140	to	150
<i>Noshi</i> — <i>ito</i> , <i>Shinshu</i> , Best	—		—
<i>Noshi</i> — <i>ito</i> , <i>Shinshu</i> , Good	110	to	120
<i>Noshi</i> — <i>ito</i> , <i>Shinshu</i> , Medium	—		—
<i>Noshi</i> — <i>ito</i> , <i>Bushu</i> , Good to Best	130	to	140
<i>Noshi</i> — <i>ito</i> , <i>Joshu</i> , Best	92½	to	95
<i>Noshi</i> — <i>ito</i> , <i>Joshu</i> , Good	85	to	90
<i>Noshi</i> — <i>ito</i> , <i>Joshu</i> , Ordinary	80	to	85
<i>Kibiso</i> — <i>Filature</i> , Best selected	110	to	120
<i>Kibiso</i> — <i>Filature</i> , Seconds	100	to	105
<i>Kibiso</i> — <i>Oshu</i> , Good to Best	90	to	100
<i>Kibiso</i> — <i>Shinshu</i> , Best	80	to	90
<i>Kibiso</i> — <i>Shinshu</i> , Seconds	70	to	75
<i>Kibiso</i> — <i>Joshu</i> , Good to Fair	50	to	60
<i>Kibiso</i> — <i>Joshu</i> , Middling to Common	35	to	40
<i>Kibiso</i> — <i>Hachoji</i> , Good	35	to	40
<i>Kibiso</i> — <i>Hachoji</i> , Medium to Low	35	to	40
<i>Kibiso</i> — <i>Neri</i> , Good to Common	15	to	20
<i>Mawata</i> —Good to Best	180	to	200

Export Table Waste Silk to 14th Nov., 1890:—

	SEASON 1890-91.	1889-90.	1888-89.
	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Waste Silk	7,972	6,512	8,098
Pierced Cocoons	800	2,057	759
	8,772	8,569	8,857
Settlements and Direct	12,600	11,500	11,800
Export from 1st July	12,600	11,500	11,800
Stock, 14th November	11,600	12,500	10,800
Available supplies to date	24,200	24,000	22,600

Exchange has fluctuated slightly during the week, closing apparently steady at last week's rates:—LONDON, 4 m/s. Credits, 3/5½; Documents, 3/5½; NEW YORK, 30 d/s. U.S. \$83; 4 m/s. U.S. \$83½; PARIS, 4m/s., fcs. 4.34; 6m/s. fcs. 4.36.

Estimated Silk Stock, 14th Nov., 1890:—

	RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	450		Cocoons	600
Filatures	10,250		<i>Noshi</i> — <i>ito</i>	3,900
Re-reels	4,850		<i>Kibiso</i>	6,540
Kakeda	900		<i>Mawata</i>	300
Oshu	340		<i>Sundries</i>	260
Taysam Kinds	to			
Total piculs	16,800		Total piculs	11,600

TEA.

The Tea trade continues to diminish in volume, and accounts from quarters of consumption are not of an encouraging nature.

	PAR PICUL.
Common	\$11½
Good Common	12 to 13
Medium	14 to 15
Good Medium	16 to 17
Fine	18 to 19
Finest	20 to 22
Choice	23 & up'ds
Choicest	—
Extra Choicest	—

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has again fluctuated, though not greatly, and quotations are fairly steady if not strong.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/4
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/5
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/5½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/5½
On Paris—Bank sight	4-23
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4-24
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1/2 prem.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	1/2 dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72½
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	81½
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	81
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	81½
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	81

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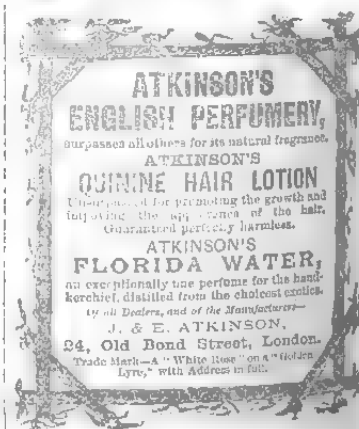
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 21.]

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AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, NOVEMBER 22ND, 1890.

通信者認可

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer; not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, NOV. 22, 1890.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Okayama Meteorological Observatory was opened on the 15th instant.

THE *Hiyei* and *Kongo Kan* arrived safely at Colombo on the 16th instant.

VISCOUNT DATE TSURUWAKA was raised to fifth class second grade on the 12th instant.

HER IMPERIAL HIGHNESS PRINCESS KITASHIRAKAWA left the capital on the 15th instant for Kamakura.

PRINCE TOKUGAWA KEIKI, ex-shogun, who had been in Tokyo for some time, left on the 18th instant for Shizuoka.

HIS IMPERIAL HIGHNESS PRINCE KOMATSU left the capital on the 14th instant for Gumma and Saitama Prefectures.

HIS IMPERIAL HIGHNESS PRINCE ARISUGAWA TAKEHITO left Tokyo on the 17th instant, and proceeded to Yokosuka.

PROFESSOR YOSHIDA, of the College of Science in the Imperial University, was placed on the *hishoku* (retired) list on the 15th instant.

THE steamer *Genkai Maru*, ordered by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha from a firm in Glasgow, will arrive in Japan in February next year.

THE line of the Sanyo Railway Company between Une and Mitsuishi will be opened for traffic about the end of the present month.

THE repairing of the Okitsu railway bridge on the Tokaido Railway, damaged by the recent floods, will be completed on the 25th instant.

HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR paid a visit to the second annual exhibition of the Meiji Fine Arts

Association in the former building of the Nobles' Club, Uyeno, on the 19th instant, leaving the Palace at 1.30 p.m.

VIC-ADMIRAL ITO, Vice-Minister for the Navy, proceeded to the Imperial Palace on the 11th instant, and had an interview with the Emperor.

MESSRS. MATSUI KOICHI and Tanaka Nobutoshi, of the Foreign Department, were appointed secretaries of the Japanese Legation at Peking on the 17th instant.

THE construction of the Segawa, Arakawa, and Iwai railway bridges, on the line of the Osaka Railway Company, will be completed during the present month.

MR. KAWAKITA, formerly Consul at San Francisco, was appointed Secretary of the Japanese Legation at Seoul on the 15th instant, and raised to second class *sonin* rank.

AN action was raised in the Kyoto District Court on the 14th inst. by Count Itagaki against Mr. Fukami Hikosayemon, a wealthy merchant of Fushimi, Kyoto, damages *yen* 10,000.

SEVERAL of the merchants of Hiroshima Prefecture have applied to the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, for permission to establish a Chamber of Commerce at Hiroshima.

THE number of visitors to the bazaar held on the 13th and 14th instant at the Rokumeikan in aid of the Tokyo Charity Hospital was about 800, by whom articles valued at about *yen* 4,200 were purchased.

MR. ENBU HIDEYUKI has been permitted by the Tokyo City Government to form a company under the name of the Japan Ironworks Company with a capital of *yen* 200,000, which will be raised from the public in shares.

FIRE broke out early in the morning of the 7th instant, in a house at Madenokoji-mura, Yamakado-gun, Fukuoka Prefecture, and one police station and sixteen dwellings were entirely destroyed before the flames could be subdued.

AN outbreak of fire took place on the morning of the 10th instant in a house at Futayemura, Amakusa-gun, Kumamoto Prefecture, and about sixty dwellings were entirely destroyed before the flames could be got under control.

THE Sanitary Bureau in the Home Department reports that the number of persons attacked by cholera throughout the Empire from the commencement of the epidemic up to the 18th instant, was 44,348, resulting in 30,874 deaths.

A MEETING of the Privy Council was held on the 14th instant and was attended by Counts Oki, Terajima, Sasaki and Soyejima, Viscounts Sano, Yoshida, and Fukuoka, and Messrs. Kono, Osaki and Motoda, the proceedings closing at 3 p.m.

THE Japanese Consul at San Francisco reports that the total value of the trade between Japan and San Francisco during the month of July last was \$787,607, of which \$75,460 represented exports from San Francisco to Japan, and \$712,147 imports.

THE ordinary Cabinet meeting was held on the 18th instant. The proceedings were opened at ten in the forenoon, when there were present Counts Yamagata, Yamada, Saigo, and Matsukata, Viscount Kabayama and Messrs. Mutsu

and Yoshikawa, and closed at four in the afternoon.

AN ordinary Cabinet meeting was held on the 14th instant, at which there were present Counts Yamagata, Matsukata and Goto, Viscounts Aoki and Kabayama and Mr. Yoshikawa. The proceedings lasted from ten in the forenoon till three in the afternoon.

THE total receipts of the Kyushu Railway Company on the section between Kurume and Akamagasaki during October last were *yen* 12,018.10, which shows a daily average of *yen* 387.681. During the same period 58,416 passengers were carried on the section.

A FAREWELL entertainment was given on the evening of the 18th instant, at the Imperial Hotel, by Mr. Kaneko Kentaro, Chief Secretary of the House of Peers, and other leading gentlemen, to the Rev. Mr. Knapp of the Unitarian Mission, who will leave Japan shortly for home.

HER MAJESTY THE EMPRESS, accompanied by Viscount Kagawa, Dr. Katsura, an Imperial physician, and several ladies of the Court, proceeded to the Aoyama Detached Palace on the afternoon of the 18th instant, where Her Majesty witnessed a performance of *No*.

AN extraordinary meeting of the Cabinet was held on the 17th instant, at which there were present Counts Yamagata, Saigo, Yamada, Matsukata, Oyama, and Goto, Viscounts Aoki and Kabayama, and Messrs. Mutsu and Yoshikawa. The proceedings lasted from ten in the forenoon till three in the afternoon.

THE opening ceremony of the Osaka Mercantile Exhibition took place on the 15th instant, at which Mr. Ishida, Vice-Minister for Agriculture and Commerce, Mr. Nishimura, Governor of Osaka, and leading merchants to the number of about five hundred and sixty attended. Addresses were delivered by Messrs. Ishida and Nishimura.

ACCORDING to returns compiled by the Customs Bureau in the Finance Department, the exports from Japan during the month of October last amounted to *yen* 5,213,876.340, and the imports, to *yen* 5,943,531.620, the latter exceeding the exports by *yen* 729,655.280. The following are the amounts of Customs duties collected at various ports during the month:—Yokohama, *yen* 238,509.585; Kobe, *yen* 126,120.099; Osaka, *yen* 8,247.680; Nagasaki, *yen* 18,726.810; Hakodate, *yen* 10,237.876; various other ports, *yen* 2,360.913.

No improvement in the Import trade. A few small sales of Yarn were effected, when another drop in exchange landed buyers and sellers in the same place they were before. Cotton Piece-goods and Woollens are lifeless, and the trade generally without a spark of animation. Metals nominal and weak, and practically no business doing. Kerosene in much the same condition, with a very heavy stock. Sugar dull, and not enough business to make quotations trustworthy. Financial disturbances both sides of the world continue to cramp the Silk trade, and sellers here complain of heavy losses on what transactions have been put through during the week. The difference in exchange now and a year ago is only about 2 per cent., but the quality of Silk sold this week fetched 25 per cent. more at same date last year. There has been a fair amount of Waste Silk purchased. Tea is nearly finished. Exchange continues up and down, though the tendency is generally in the latter direction, and rates are unstable.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

COUNT ITO ON THE REDUCTION OF THE LAND TAX.

AN interview with Count Ito, which has much of the ring of truth, is reported in the columns of the *Jiyu Shinbun*, Count Itagaki's new organ. We mentioned some time ago that a great improvement has been effected in the supply of political and social news to the vernacular press owing to the establishment of a news agency under the control of competent and responsible persons. Count Ito is reported to have spoken as follows:—"The reduction of the land tax is a problem that occupies a large share of public attention and doubtless the Diet will discuss it. But for my part I do not think that reduction can possibly be accomplished. The land tax is the principal source of revenue in Japan. The national income depends largely on it. If it be reduced, some other suitable source of taxation must be found. Is there such a source? As to effecting economies in administrative expenditure, I have only to say that if it were possible to effect economies sufficient to warrant a sensible reduction of the land tax, the Government would be greatly to blame for not undertaking the task long ago. Take my own experience. In 1885, after consultation with my colleagues in the Cabinet, I introduced exceptional reforms with a view to reducing administrative expenses, and at the same time devised various new sources of revenue with the hope of being able to lighten the land tax. Night and day did my colleagues and myself labour at this problem. But the national dignity demands that certain sums shall be expended for administrative purposes. In addition to ordinary domestic expenditure there was the special question of Treaty Revision to be dealt with. Year by year the demands on the national purse increased, and we found it impossible to achieve our purpose. I left my post at the head of the Cabinet, and was succeeded by Count Kuroda. The Count shared my views. The present Premier, Count Yamagata, does not think differently from either of us in respect of this question. Among the people there are some who attack the Government, saying that it is a clan Government, or a personal Government, or that it spends too much money on protecting industries and so forth. Granting it to be a clan Government, is that reason why its administration should be bad? Yamagata, Yamada, Inoue, and myself are all Choshu men. Our methods of procedure may differ from those of other persons, but it does not by any means follow that we are of one mind as to administrative affairs. I have had many a hot argument with all of them about governmental business. Why should we make little of the greater interests of our country because we happen to be of the same clan? As for the question of money used for protective purposes, it is beyond doubt that if the development of the empire's material resources be desired, agriculture, industry, and commerce must be encouraged. The Government, therefore, must assist the nation in these respects. At this very day, enterprises of national importance, as posts, telegraphs, and railways, are largely assisted by Governments in the West. In a country like Japan, where so much has still to be achieved, such measures are of great importance. For these reasons it is plain that any sensible reduction of the land tax is out of the question, unless, indeed, some suitable substitute for it can be found. Some people talk of abolishing the Department of Education, abolishing the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, abolishing the Department of Communications. Such proposals astound me. If you abolish the *Mombusho*, what is to be done about education? If you abolish the *Noshomusho*, what do you propose to do about agriculture, industry, and trade? If you abolish the *Teishinsho*, how are you to control the postal, telegraphic, and shipping systems? No controversialists are sufficiently unreasonable, I presume, to propose doing away with education, industries, and communications. The most radical proposals do not extend beyond combining the business

of these Departments with that of some other branch of the administration. How much economy could be achieved in that way? Abolishing Departments and checking the progress of education, industry and communication merely for the sake of effecting a paltry saving—surely such a proceeding would display little power of estimating the balance of advantage and disadvantage. The Diet, soon about to meet, is an affair of unprecedented magnitude and importance in Japan. It is to be sincerely hoped that the representatives of the people will investigate everything thoroughly and refrain from making extravagant propositions, and that the Government, on its side, will do everything in its power to conduct things quietly and with moderation."

* * *
The *Jiji Shimpō*, writing on the same subject, gives the following clear account of the state of political opinion:—"The contention that the burdens of the agricultural classes should be lightened by reducing the land tax, was advanced several years ago and has constantly gained ground. Special measures were adopted by the Government to revise the assessment of lands, but people are not content with this, and it is widely argued that a further large reduction should be made. The members of the Diet, having been, for the most part, elected by land-owners, are sure to advance propositions urging the necessity of reform in this branch of taxation. The positions taken by political parties towards the problem are three. The first is that the rate of taxation should be reduced; the second, that the imposts upon lands most heavily taxed should be lessened, and all inequalities of assessment corrected; the third, that in addition to correcting inequalities of assessment the rate of taxation should be lowered. The second proposal finds few supporters, its advantages not being considered equal to its disadvantages. The third is most widely approved, but inasmuch as great labour and expense would be entailed in carrying it out, and considerable time would be needed, some politicians contend that definite steps should be postponed until all the necessary investigations have been made. The first proposal is the only one that could be put into immediate operation. The Constitutional Liberals and their fellow-thinkers, arguing that the first Diet could not possibly obtain data for correcting inequalities of assessment, are in favour of simply reducing the general rate of taxation from $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 per cent. of the value of the land; a reduction which would cause a diminution of eight million *yen* in the national revenue. To meet this deficit, the idea is that administrative expenses should be economised, and if the economy cannot be carried far enough, the income tax and the tax on pleasure grounds must be increased, and the taxes on industries and houses should be included in the national taxes. The tax on industries levied in the various Cities and Prefectures amounts at present to three million *yen* annually, but the method of assessment varies considerably. Thus, while the Head Office of the Bank of Japan in Tokyo pays only 70 *yen*, the branch office in Osaka pays 500 *yen* yearly. Again, the largest haberdasher's shop in Japan, Echigoya of Tokyo, pays an industrial tax of 100 *yen*, whereas in Gumma Prefecture there is a haberdashery which pays 300 *yen*. If the impost were converted into a national tax, all these inequalities might be removed and the tax would be collected by a single bureau. Again, with reference to income tax, the English and American method of taxing people according to their own statement of their incomes is not suited to Japan. The French plan should be adopted, by which a man's house and manner of living are taken as a basis for determining the tax. A very considerable increase in the total amount of the tax would thus be obtained. Finally, if the tax on pleasure grounds, that is to say, ground not used for agricultural, commercial or industrial purposes, were augmented, an appreciable addition would, it is asserted, be made to the revenue."

* * *
It is interesting to observe how the progress

of this discussion brings the agitators nearer and nearer to the situation which the Government had to face at the commencement of the *Meiji* era. It was imperatively necessary at that time that a general survey of the country should be made with all speed in order to provide a source of revenue for carrying on the administration. The celerity and economy with which the task was accomplished have never, we think, been sufficiently appreciated. Perfect uniformity of assessment was out of the question under the circumstances, but when politicians now-a-days begin to talk of correcting inequalities and equalizing the tax in every district, they find that the preliminaries to such an undertaking would involve serious expenditure of time and money. Another national survey would have to be undertaken on a scale of greatly increased accuracy and at correspondingly heavy cost. The only alternative, therefore, is a rough reduction of one-half per cent. all round. Such a reduction signifies a serious diminution of the Treasury's receipts, but does it signify a proportionate relief to tax-payers? We greatly doubt it. Take the case of a farmer holding two *cho* of land, or five acres approximately, and suppose that his land is assessed at seventy-five *sen* per *tan*, or three hundred *yen* an acre, for purposes of taxation. Then the total value of his holding being fifteen hundred *yen*, his total land tax amounts to 3.75 *yen* annually, and if the proposed reduction of one half per cent. were made, the relief afforded to him would be seventy-five *sen* per year. Of course, if we double or treble the size of the holding, the effect of a reduction of one half per cent. becomes more palpable, but on the other hand, a farmer's ability to pay taxes under normal circumstances increases rapidly with the area of his farm. A diminution of yearly tax to the extent of 1.50 *yen* means much less to a man growing ten acres of rice than a reduction of 75 *sen* means to a man growing five. It is hard to believe that any really sensible relief would be afforded by the measure proposed. Moreover, the scheme includes transferring to the national exchequer funds hitherto devoted to local purposes—the tax on trades, for example, which produces three million *yen* annually. If this sum be taken from local revenue, some substitute will have to be found, and thus, while the farmers are relieved in one direction they will be additionally burdened in another.

CURRENT TOPICS.

LATELY much activity has been shown by the brewers of *sake* in the Provinces of the *Kwan-tō* in connection with the reform of taxation on that article, and with the revision of the Treaties. The tax on *sake* is at present exceedingly high—4 *yen* per *koku*—and naturally the brewers suffer very much, but they complain even more about the mode of collection than about the rate of the tax. The very minute and troublesome regulations now in force subject the *sake* manufacturers to so much inconvenience and so much loss of time, that they are reported to be willing to pay even a higher impost, if the process of collection be made simpler and more practical. Another grievance which they propose to bring to the notice of the Authorities is that they are placed at a great disadvantage by some foreign merchants in the settlements who secretly manufacture *sake* or liquor very much like *sake*, without paying anything in the shape of tax. What evidence they have as to the existence of this illegal practice on the part of foreign merchants, we do not certainly know, but we are informed by an apparently trustworthy authority that the Japanese brewers are in possession of some samples of the commodity in question. For the purpose of laying these grievances before the Government they recently sent up to the capital a number of delegates. The latter interviewed some Ministers of State and other high officials, and in particular the functionaries of the Foreign Office, to whom they explained the actual state of things, requesting that proper precautions be taken in the treaties under negotiation against the possibility of any injury being done to them by the foreign manufacture or importation of

sake. The delegates of the *Kwan-to* brewers also invited their *confidres* in the Provinces of the *Kwan-sai* to cooperate with them, and a report from Osaka informs us that the invitation has been gladly accepted, and that the western brewers are to hold a meeting there very soon.

Marquis Asano, formerly chief of the Hiroshima clan, is regarded as one of the most intelligent of the *ex-daimyo*. He is the leader of a political association called the *Seiyu-kai* in his native Province, and occupies a foremost place among the statesmen in the Conservative camp. Like Viscount Torio, he has hitherto been considered one of the opposition to the present Government, but, it is now rumoured, though with how much truth we do not know, that he is about to be appointed a Privy Councillor. A similar report is circulated about Count Yanagisawa, who is also one of the reputed anti-Government politicians.

The question of public prostitution, about which so much noise was made some time ago, seems to be still agitating a certain section of the nation. It is reported from Kyoto—if we may believe the *Jiyu Shimbun*—that a number of Christians there propose to petition the Diet for the abolition of licensed prostitution.

It is a remarkable circumstance that whenever any new movement occurs in the political or even commercial world, the public invariably thinks or pretends to think that Count Inouye is in one way or another connected with it. He cannot, therefore, expect to fare otherwise in the case of the contemplated organization of the National Liberal party. He is thought to be one of the principal promoters of the scheme. A reporter belonging to the Reporting Agency (*Jiji Tsushinsha*) interviewed him a few days ago, to ascertain the truth of the rumour generally circulated about him. The interviewer found him in his residence at Torizaka, surrounded by a quantity of old books and documents. The Count told his guest that, far from meddling in politics, he was entirely devoted to the perusal of treatises on military tactics or poetical works, and that, as he could no longer bear being constantly made the subject of false rumours, he had resolved to retire for some time to his native province with his family.

All the towns, in common with all the rural communes throughout the country, now enjoy the right of complete self-government. Tokyo, Osaka, and Kyoto, however, are under a special system of self-government; the principal points of difference being, first, that whereas in every other town a special Mayor (*Shi-cho*) is appointed, that office is in the case of the three cities mentioned above combined in the person of the Governor; and secondly, in some respects a higher standard is fixed in these cities for the qualifications of members of the Municipal Council than in the other towns. From the outset this system did not find favour with the inhabitants of the three great cities, and recently the members of the Tokyo Municipal Council took up the question, and resolved to memorialize the Government for the abolition of the system now in force. According to the *Hochi Shimbun's* information, the members of the Council are determined to do their utmost to attain their object. Should the Government fail to bring the matter before the Diet, the members of the Council will petition the latter directly on the subject. Kyoto is reported to be of the same mind. Nagoya, however, which is under the general Municipal system, has repeatedly been unfortunate in the election of its mayor; and its citizens are even said to be desirous of having the special system applied in their case.

THE ARMY AND NAVY IN THE DIET.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* publishes the following from one of its correspondents:—"In the first session of the Diet, a bill will be introduced for increasing military preparations. Judging

from the present constitution of the Diet, it is almost sure that, in the discussion thus raised, the interests of the army will be given preference over those of the Navy. Consider the respective numbers of Army and Navy officers in the House of Nobles:—

ARMY.

Prince Arisugawa (Commander-in-Chief of the Army).
Prince Komatsu (Commander of the Imperial Guards).
Prince Kitashirakawa (Major General).
Prince Fushimi (Colonel).
Prince Kanin (Lieutenant).
Lieutenant-General Torio.
Lieutenant-General Ozawa.
Lieutenant-General Miura.
Major-General Fukushima.
Major-General Harada.
Major-General Kunishi.
Major-General Yamakawa.
Major-General Murata.
Major-General Horiye.
Major-General Tani.
Surgeon-General Matsumoto.
Surgeon-General Hashimoto.
Captain Takatsukasa—18 in all.

NAVY.

Prince Takehito (Fushimi), Captain.
Vice Admiral Ito.
Rear-Admiral Yanagi—3 in all.

Eighteen to three is a glaring difference which cannot but tell on the result of the debate. Yet if it be asked whether there are not men of capacity in the Navy, we find such officers as Vice-Admiral Akamatsu, well known to be highly experienced; Vice-Admiral Nakamura, who has been an Admiral for over twenty years; Vice-Admiral Nirei, admitted to be the most influential officer in the Navy, and Admirals Hayashi, Ito, and others of note. If these persons were present in the House and took part in the discussions, the question would be fairly and properly argued. But a controversy in which three have to face eighteen is too unequal. If, therefore, the House of Peers decides in favour of developing the Army rather than the Navy, it will not be possible to say that the question has been fairly decided on its merits."

THE FOREIGN EMPLOYÉS OF THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT.

Under the heading "Destiny of the Government's Foreign Employés," the *Hochi Shimbun* writes thus:—"A considerable number of foreigners are employed by the Japanese Government in the capacity of advisers or teachers, and their monthly salaries aggregate a pretty large sum. Henceforward, however, questions relating to their re-engagement can scarcely be settled without the concurrence of the Diet, and we learn that even among employés whose engagements have been renewed frequently, a good many will not be required again when their present periods of service expire. Mr. Knipping, a German gentleman who has for a long time been attached to the Meteorological Bureau of the Home Department, and Mr. Chiossone, an Italian gentleman in the service of the Department of Finance, whose agreements terminate next March and January respectively, will return home then, we understand."

This comment doubtless expresses the sentiment of the time. It has long been the ambition of the Japanese to become independent of foreign aid in every respect, and they will not rest until they have accomplished their purpose. To condemn such a sentiment would be extravagant. It is natural, and all thinking persons must have foreseen its growth. In not a few cases, however, the agitation against foreign employés has been prompted and fostered by youthful officials whose chief motive has been jealousy that the foreigner should occupy a position for which they think themselves qualified. This, too, is very human. The rising generation has its own interests and prospects to consider, and if it does everything in its power to secure for itself the plums now plucked by outsiders, who will venture to assert that his own conduct would be different under similar circumstances? At the same time, it is decidedly painful that men like Messrs. Knipping

and Chiossone should be quoted as examples of those against whom this self-asserting mood is exercised. The work done by such experts in Japan is of permanent value to the country, and we should sorry to think that though their departure is thus cursorily alluded to by the *Hochi Shimbun*, their services will be unappreciated or forgotten in the Departments where they have discharged such useful functions for so many years. It is something to know, by way of set-off to this bad news—supposing it to be trustworthy—that a very different course has been pursued in the case of the majority of the foreign Professors in the University. Their agreements have been renewed for considerable periods, and the disposition of the Japanese Authorities has been all in the direction of retaining their services.

YOKOHAMA DOCKS.

THE *Chiusi Nippo*, referring to the Yokohama Dock Company, says:—"The projected works of the Yokohama Dock Company are an undertaking of large magnitude to be ranked side by side with the Yokohama Harbour improvement scheme. The promoters of the Company are the principal merchants of Yokohama, and an application for a charter on the basis of a capital of three million yen, according to estimates made by General Palmer, was presented to the Department of Home Affairs in the beginning of last year. Meanwhile, the effects produced by the establishment of numerous new companies have told on the financial state of the country and caused something like a panic owing to scarcity of circulating capital. The Government has consequently hesitated to grant the application, and the company, for the same reason, has not been eager in soliciting a charter. We are now informed that the examination of the specifications and estimates has been concluded and that, so soon as the sanction of the Cabinet has been obtained, a charter will be given to the Company. This event will probably occur in the latter part of the present month. The promoters will hold a meeting as soon as the charter is received and discuss whether the money shall be called in and the works begun or not, as it would be a serious question to withdraw so much capital from circulation in the present circumstances of the money market. The position of president of the Company is coveted by some of the promoters but the Government will have a voice in the appointment, and as the person likely to be named by the Government is an official on the *hishoku* (half pay), list, the promoters are said not to be pleased with the choice. The question is therefore at present left unsettled."

JAPAN'S FOREIGN TRADE.

"JAPAN's foreign trade," we read in the *Jiji Shimbun*, "has made extraordinary strides. Her exports and imports now amount to a hundred and twenty or thirty million yen, and their growth is a subject of general admiration. But if we look closely, we find that the Japanese merchants resemble cripples in respect of the part they play in this trade. They do not take voyages to distant countries for the purpose of selling Japanese commodities, neither do they import foreign commodities for sale in Japan. They simply wait at home for foreigners to come and sell to them or buy from them. They have stood still while trade has advanced. There are various reasons for this, doubtless. Although our intercourse with foreign States has greatly increased of late years, we remain almost as ignorant as ever, commercially speaking, of the conditions existing abroad, and the idea of investing capital in enterprises to compete with foreigners on their own ground never seems to occur to our people. We believe that want of acquaintance with Western languages is the chief cause of such an unsatisfactory state of affairs. There are, indeed, many Japanese who can speak English or French, but they are not connected with trade. Very few and far between are the Japanese merchants who know a foreign language or understand foreign trade conditions. It is imperatively necessary that our young merchants should become

acquainted with Occidental tongues. The Government, also, should exercise great care in selecting Consuls. The reports hitherto compiled by Japanese Consuls give no evidence of any care for the vital interests of future trade. They confine themselves to discussing questions and compiling statistics with reference to Japan's still small foreign commerce. Not regarding the possibility of Japanese merchants going abroad to carry on trade, the Consuls give no description of the commercial conditions existing in the countries where they are stationed, nor any data by means of which our merchants may arrive at comparative conclusions. Besides, it too often happens that before a Consul becomes thoroughly acquainted with the country of his service, he is removed to some other post. Better rank should be given to Consuls, greater care exercised in selecting them, and their periods of service should be lengthened, so as to enable them to become thoroughly conversant with commercial affairs in each place where they go. On the one hand, then, we have the advisability of greater attention and care in respect of Consuls, and on the other, the need of closer attention to linguistic studies, an end which the Government might assist by selecting the best graduates of commercial and other similar schools, and sending them abroad as commissioners to conduct inquiries. This seems to us the soundest method of developing Japan's foreign trade."

MR. TAGUCHI'S LETTER.

MR. TAGUCHI, as has been more than once noted in these columns, left the port of Shinagawa in the beginning of last summer on a voyage to the South Sea Islands, with the object of finding new markets for Japanese goods and of searching for places suitable for the emigration of Japanese. His first letter was reproduced some time ago. His last letter from Ponape, dated September 25th, has just reached Japan. He arrived there on the 10th of that month. Learning from a chart that Kichima (?) is the best port in the whole island, he had steered to it, but on entering it his party was informed that the seat of the Spanish Government being at the port of San Jago, all vessels coming from abroad must first enter that port. The wind being adverse, his vessel had to lay at anchor at Kichima for six days, without doing any business whatever. But while there he became acquainted with several natives and Americans, whose friendship was of great advantage to him in the prosecution of his researches. He was also agreeably surprised to meet a Japanese emigrant. His name is Minckishi Shigetaro, a native of Mito. He is a Protestant believer, and is said to enjoy the respect of the natives. On the 20th of the same month Mr. Taguchi entered the principal port, where the Government of the island is situated. He found that place a scene of great excitement on account of the insurrection of some hundreds of natives. The immediate cause of the revolt is ascribed to the cruel treatment to which the natives had been subjected by some engineering officers; but it seems that a long standing grudge had been entertained by the natives against their Spanish rulers, who had tried to force them to renounce their Protestant faith in favour of the Catholic religion. On the 10th of September, three Spanish men-of-war and two transports, with a battalion of soldiers on board, arrived at the port of San Jago. The fighting commenced on the 13th, and on the 21st the troops returned to the port. The rebellion had not, however, been completely suppressed at the date of the letter from which we are quoting. All the arms and ammunition on board the Japanese ship were seized by the Spanish authorities and carried to their men-of-war to be kept there during the continuance of the rebellion. Further, Mr. Taguchi's ship was prohibited from going to any other port in the island. He has much to say, he tells us, against this measure, but certain reasons induce him to keep silence in the present letter. The island of Ponapé, though small in extent, is

fertile, and Mr. Taguchi thinks that it will be very well adapted as a station for the Japanese race in the South Sea. He also speaks of the wreck of Captain Dewar's yacht. He entrusted his letter to a certain Japanese in the employ of that gentleman. Mr. Taguchi thinks that not before the end of the year or the beginning of January next, will he and his party be back in Japan.

H.M.S. "WASP."

We take the following from *The Times*.—"An interesting ceremony took place in the Royal Dockyard Church, Sheerness, on Saturday, the occasion being the dedication of two handsome memorial brasses to the officers and men of the ill-fated gunboat *Wasp* (6) 755 tons, 1,200-horse power, Lieutenant-Commander Bryan J. H. Adamson, which was lost with all hands on a voyage from Singapore to Hongkong in October, 1887. The proposal to raise a memorial originated with the Rev. H. W. Millett, chaplain of Sheerness Dockyard, and with the consent of the Lords of the Admiralty appeals were made by him to the naval service and the public generally for contributions, with most successful results. The brasses are of large dimensions, elaborately engraved, and mounted on a backing of solid rosewood. They are the production of Messrs. Cox, Sons, Buckley, and Co., and have been set up one on either side of the chancel. The brass on the left is surmounted by a beautifully-executed engraving in white metal of the *Wasp*, and the wording beneath recounts the history of her building, her dimensions, and the record of her fatal voyage as far as Singapore. The brass on the right bears the names in full of the 80 men who perished in her, and above the names, in a label supported by two lions, is an anchor with cable attached, and its palm embedded in the earth. Over it are the words, "Because I live, ye shall live also," and below it, "Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast." The dedication service was performed by the Chaplain of the Fleet, in the presence of Admiral Curme, Commander-in-Chief at the Nore, and the principal naval officers of the port, the crews of the *Northampton*, *Basilisk*, *Wildfire*, *Trent*, and the men stationed at Sheerness Naval Barracks. The names of the officers who perished in the *Wasp* are as follow:—Lieutenant-Commander Bryan J. H. Adamson, Sub-Lieutenants Alexander W. Atkinson, the Hon. W. G. D. Fortescue, and Thomas Kerr; Surgeon Thomas Nunan, M.D., Assistant Paymaster N. H. Greenwood, Engineer Henry Attwood, and Gunner F. Hodges.

REGULATIONS OF THE DIET.

In the draft regulations of the Diet, there is an article which provides that "members who desire to speak on the questions noted in the *Giji Nitte* (daily list of subjects to be submitted for deliberation) shall intimate to the secretary before the meeting is opened their names and their intention to speak for or against the bills in question." Several vernacular papers report that a section of the members of the House of Peers is strongly opposed to this regulation, on the ground that it practically means the imposition of restraint on speech and is besides quite unnecessary in the Upper House, the members of which will not be animated by party feelings. This opinion prevails among members who had seats in the late Genro-in (Senate) and who form a large and influential section. The question is causing some anxiety in the minds of those who framed the draft, for they point out that, without some regulation of the kind complained of, the duties of the President are likely to be exceedingly arduous. It will be very difficult to regulate the debate if members are allowed to speak when they please.

THE SPECIE BANK.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* writes from Yokohama:—"A rumour was recently circulated that the Yokohama Specie Bank, having made large advances against silk, was greatly embarrassed, and that the principal officials of the Bank were daily engaged dis-

cussing the best means of solving the difficulty. This is a false report originating in the imagination of some one ignorant of the true state of the Bank's affairs. The silk taken by the Bank as security up to the present amounts to 12,000 bales. In making advances against it, an average market value of \$620 per picul was taken and 80 per cent. of the value was advanced; that is to say, for one bale of 55 *kin* net, valued at \$341, the sum of \$272 was advanced; and, for *Zaguri* silk, an average value of \$570 per picul was taken, and against one bale, of the estimated value of \$313.50, the sum of 250 *yen* was advanced. Further, these advances were not made by the Bank direct to the sericulturists, but to silk merchants or bankers in Yokohama who mortgaged to the Bank bales of silk received by them from the owners as security. Consequently, before the Specie Bank sustains a loss through these transactions, the sericulturists in the first place, and the Yokohama merchants or bankers in the second, must become bankrupt. There is thus no fear of the Specie Bank being involved in loss, so long as rates anything like those quoted at present are sustained. Of course if the price of *Kitai* falls to \$490 and that of *Zaguri* to \$454, the prospect would be gloomy enough.

RIVERS IN JAPAN.

In recent numbers of the *Keisai Zasshi*, we find a series of interesting articles on the rivers of this empire. Japan being traversed throughout its entire length by a chain of high mountains, the rivers draining these, though numerous, are generally small and short. Still the damage wrought yearly by inundations is far from inconsiderable. From the statistics prepared by the Authorities, our contemporary quotes the following figures representing the comparative amount of damage by inundations for the six years from 1882 to 1887 inclusive:—

Year.	Damage by Large Rivers.		Damage by small Streams and Sea Water.		Totals.
	Yen.	.....	Yen.	.....	Yen.
1882	3,390,352	.....	—	.....	3,390,352
1883	1,444,750	.....	622,906	.....	1,867,656
1884	19,692,538	.....	1,510,916	.....	21,203,454
1885	25,678,819	.....	611,851	.....	26,290,700
1886	7,751,407	.....	1,228,502	.....	8,979,909
1887	2,208,037	.....	587,975	.....	2,796,012

It is seen from this table that the year 1885 stands foremost in the record of damage by inundations. To mention some of the rivers most destructive in that year: the Yodogawa was responsible for losses amounting to *yen* 7,552,196; the Tonegawa for *yen* 2,513,460; the Kiso-gawa for *yen* 2,094,459; the Arakawa for *yen* 1,651,480; the Yoshinogawa for *yen* 793,094; and the Tenryugawa for *yen* 743,468. The figures thus far quoted only represent direct damage caused by inundations, and do not include indirect losses incurred owing to interruption of routes of transportation and communication, disturbance of the markets, and loss of human life. In the opinion of our contemporary, disastrous inundations seem to have become more numerous and frequent in recent years. Possibly the opinion may not prove correct, but it is nevertheless shared by many people. The Tokyo journal refers the supposed increase of destructive floods to two primary causes. One is that the development of industries and railways has led to the deforestation of mountains; the other, that proper steps are not taken for keeping in good order the courses and embankments of rivers. Nevertheless the amount of money yearly spent upon the maintenance and repair of river-banks and channels throughout the country is quite considerable. The following table shows the sums thus spent during the five years from 1882 to 1886 inclusive:—

Year.	Defrayed by the Treasury.		Defrayed by Local Charges.		Total.
	Yen.	.....	Yen.	.....	Yen.
1882	395,345	.....	3,274,591	.....	3,669,936
1883	330,300	.....	2,566,010	.....	3,126,310
1884	571,744	.....	2,648,259	.....	3,219,003
1885	917,176	.....	3,323,749	.....	4,240,925
1886	633,323	.....	2,890,444	.....	3,523,767

The above figures represent only the sums required for repairing and improving the courses and embankments of the rivers. If we take

into consideration all other indirect expenses such as those connected with the repairs of bridges and roads damaged by floods, the total amount will be very large. Notwithstanding that such an amount is annually devoted to the maintenance of rivers, cases of injurious inundations are yearly increasing, because, says our contemporary, the works undertaken are merely temporary in nature, and not sufficiently thoroughgoing. Still, the country is not spending such enormous sums for nothing. Japanese rivers being generally shallow and rapid, their value as means of transportation is not great, but their importance is inestimable from an agricultural point of view, as without the water supplied by them it would be impossible to cultivate the most valuable crop in the country, rice. Our contemporary urges the larger employment of river water for industrial purposes, and observes that the rivers in Japan being generally rapid, it would be extremely easy and economical to employ them in that manner. At present manufactories using water power are rare. There is no reason why water power should not be as extensively used here as in Switzerland, the United States and some other countries, especially since its use would be in most instances more economical than that of steam. As to the method of using water power, our contemporary promises to speak in a future issue.

THE NEW CITY IN HOKKAIDO.

THE *Kokumin Shinbun* and other papers write in the following strain with reference to the new city projected in Hokkaido:—When the order to prepare plans for an Imperial pleasure house (Rikyu) at Kamikawa in the province of Ishikari was given last December, great excitement was caused among the inhabitants of Hokkaido and applications to the Authorities for permission to contribute towards the funds for the undertaking were received in great numbers. The ground survey has now been completed, and the divisions and allotments to be made in the city as well as the site of the palace and other details have been settled. Houses to be used as family residences, to the number of over four hundred, are to be erected there during next year, and are now in course of rapid construction. Kamikawa is a plain about 7 or 8 *ri* from east to west and 13 *ri* from north to south, surrounded by hills on all sides. It is traversed by rivers in various directions and will have great facilities for water transportation. The soil, except twenty to thirty per cent. of the whole area, is generally very fertile, and for several years to come crops might be grown without the use of fertilizers. The Ishikarigawa, which runs right across the district, is the longest and largest river in the whole of Hokkaido. It has a length of over 200 miles (English), and up to a point about 140 miles from its mouth and some 15 to 30 miles distant from Kamikawa, it is already navigated by steamers. Engineers consider that no difficulty will be found in improving the river so as to render it navigable right up to Kamikawa. The Sorachi Railway of the *Tunko Kwaisha* (Colliery Company) has already been carried to a point some 25 miles from Kamikawa and in 1892 or 1893 it will be extended to the site of the future city. The Kitami Road leading to Kamikawa is now in course of construction, and is expected to be finished during next year. When this road is completed the whole extent of Hokkaido can be traversed in a straight line from east to west. Other roads, such as those to Teshiwo, Nemuro, Kushiro, &c., will all be open in a few years. Kamikawa will then be situated at the central point from which the whole region of Hokkaido can be most conveniently governed. With the commencement of the projected works for the establishment of the Imperial City in the North, it is expected that the people will develop fresh activity, and that all enterprises as well as immigration will receive a strong impetus.

The vernacular press also reports with reference to the scheme of making the harbour of Muroran into a naval station, that there seem to be different opinions among the officers of the navy,

Hokkaido is almost destitute of good harbours other than that of Hakodate, and there is no really good anchorage in the north-eastern district of Japan. Consequently, Admiral Nirei, *faute de mieux*, fixed his eyes on Muroran. But Admirals Ito and Kabayama both disapprove of the idea, and their opinions are said to be supported by Admiral Yenomoto, who recently visited the place. The harbour is, however, good enough as a trading port, and will doubtless prosper as such. Its defects are want of capacity and the very limited quantity of land available around it, the ground rising in most places abruptly from the water's edge. Even to obtain room for the town excavations will have to be made, and stores, workshops, &c., for naval purposes could not be constructed except at heavy cost. Such being the case, the choice of this place as a naval station would cause great inconvenience to the people, as not only would the ships of war inconveniently crowd the harbour, but the admiralty buildings would occupy a considerable space on land. The decision of the Naval Authorities is anxiously awaited.

A SOCIETY OF LAW GRADUATES.

THERE is in Tokyo a Society of Law Graduates called the *Tokyo Hogaku-in Inyu-Kai*. Several members of this Society recently held a meeting for the purpose of discussing the new Commercial Code, the result of the discussion being that a memorial should be presented urging postponement of the date for putting the Code into execution. Considering that the date is now only six weeks distant, it seems ill-considered and unfortunate that such a memorial should be prepared. We have never been able to discover by what motives the opponents of the Code are really actuated, and since they advance no tangible reasons for their attitude of obstruction, they cannot expect to obtain public sympathy. There is very little probability, we imagine, that the Authorities, yielding at this eleventh hour, will consent to defer the operation of a Code embodying laws universally admitted to be essential, and subjecting merchants to no embarrassments at all commensurate with the benefits conferred.

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The same Society on the same occasion resolved to petition the Authorities of the Law Institution (*Hogaku-in*), formerly known as the English Law School, to remove the name of Mr. H.C. Litchfield, a well-known barrister of Yokohama, from the list of honorary members of the Institution. The reason for this singular proceeding is not given by the vernacular newspaper reporting the affair, but there can be very little doubt that Mr. Litchfield's connection with the Yokohama Anti-revision Meeting of last September prompted the step taken by the Society. In the records of that Meeting Mr. Litchfield played a very simple part. He confined himself to seconding the main proposition, moved by Mr. Lowder, and he did so in the briefest possible manner. Nevertheless his name has since then been constantly mentioned in the columns of the vernacular press as one of the leaders of the movement, and he has then acquired a degree of notoriety quite disproportionate, we think, to the part really taken by him. But under any circumstances the action of the Society of Graduates must be pronounced extravagant and undignified. Mr. Litchfield is perfectly entitled to hold any opinion he pleases on the subject of Treaty Revision, and if he possesses the courage of his opinion sufficiently to formulate it in public, that is certainly no reason why the members of a legal society should desire to have his connection severed with their *alma mater*. Of course the Society of Graduates has a right to choose its own associates, and if it thought that open relations with any of the nominal leaders of the Yokohama agitation would involve unpopularity, it might have voted a general resolution in that sense. But the course actually pursued is petty in the extreme. It betrays a most unfortunate failure on the part of the graduates to appreciate the true dignity of their parent institution. As for the Law

Institution, to the Faculty of which the memorial of the Society of Graduates will be presented, we have no difficulty in predicting that it will be particularly careful not to adopt the suggestion of the memorialists. The Society of Graduates has nothing whatever to do with the control or management of the Law Institution, and the Authorities of the latter are much too level-headed men to allow such a question to be entertained. It is very regrettable that these incidents should occur to disturb the relations between foreigners and Japanese, but public opinion has run high since the Yokohama meeting, and this access of umbrage coming to cap long years of growing discontent, confirms our often expressed conviction that until the Treaty Revision problem is removed from the path, friction and ill-feeling are inevitable.

HOLLAND AND JAPAN.

AMONG curious statements in reference to Treaty Revision, one made by the *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* is specially worthy of notice. It is to the effect that whereas England and France used to be the Powers most difficult to deal with, Holland now ranks with them in this respect. The reason assigned is decidedly bizarre. In Holland's Oriental possessions, Java, Sumatra and so forth, cases both civil and criminal, in which natives of the country are concerned are tried by native tribunals. "Supposing," says the *Nichi Nichi*, "that the Treaty between Holland and Japan were revised, then, under existing circumstances, Japanese residing in the Dutch East Indian territories would be judicable by these native tribunals. The Japanese, however, not being like the Chinese, Koreans and Indians who, for the sake of gain, disregard their national dignity, would not submit to appear before such tribunals. Consequently, before revising her Treaty with Japan, Holland will be obliged to make some new arrangement in respect of her judicial organization in the places referred to." It might have occurred to the writer of this criticism that if Western States have not found themselves embarrassed by Holland's judicial system in her East Indian territories, Japan need not be much disturbed about it either. At all events, we believe that the writer in the *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* enjoys a monopoly of the difficulty he raises, for so far as we know, it has never been discussed in diplomatic circles, probably for the simple reason that since the judicial system applied to Western subjects or citizens who visit or reside in Sumatra and Java would, under the revised treaties, be extended to Japanese also, under similar circumstances, there does not appear to be any special reason why Holland should revise the system on Japan's account if she has not revised it hitherto on account of England, France, the United States and so forth.

SOUTH AFRICAN GOLD PRODUCTION.

REFERRING to the production of gold in South Africa, concerning which we lately reproduced some interesting facts and figures, the *Economist* writes as follows:—"According to the telegraphic information received this week, the total production of gold from the Witwatersrand district of the Transvaal amounted last month to 42,861 oz., showing an increase of more than 3,000 oz. over the preceding month's figures, which until then were the best recorded. It is evident from this that the industry is making substantial progress, for the output for the past eight months has been nearly 307,000 oz., contrasting with under 380,000 oz. for the whole of last year. It is also to be observed that the augmentation is not due to a few mines having made better returns—two of them, indeed, though still heading the list, have shown a considerable decrease—but to the gradual increase in the number of properties which have been brought into the yielding stage. If the rate of production obtained in the past three months is continued for the rest of the year, the aggregate for the twelve months will not be far short of a million and three-quarters sterling, compared with about £1,300,000 in the preceding year. For some time past rumours have been circulated to the effect that the companies have suffered considerable loss owing to the

systematic purloining of gold during the process of extraction, and it is alleged that quite a large business has been done in the metal thus illicitly obtained. The Johannesburg Chamber of Mines has taken the subject in hand, and it is hoped that a better state of things may result from this tardy intervention. Of course, assays do not count for very much; but there is such a very wide margin between the assays and the yields from most of the mines, that the rumours of continuous thieving appear to be only too well founded. In the other districts improving progress is being made. In the De Kaap district, the Oriental and Sheba Valley mine has re-commenced crushing, and expects shortly to have at work the largest battery of stamps in South Africa. Development in the Lydenburg and Murchison Range districts also appear to be making headway at last; but the production of gold from these districts will not very much affect the current year's aggregate."

THE BRITISH NAVAL MANŒUVRES.

THE manœuvring of the British fleets this year has attracted considerable attention abroad. The general verdict of foreign journals agrees on the whole with that of the English press, and the regret that the hostile fleets have not met is almost universal. Captain Stenzel, a German naval authority and contributor to the *Military Weekly*, finds much interest in the proceedings of the torpedo flotilla, and, after a long and detailed review of the various manœuvres effected, goes on to say that a great variety of very instructive cases have occurred showing the weakness and the strength of torpedo warfare, and that it was chiefly due to the enterprise and daring of the leaders of the hostile flotilla that such valuable results were obtained for the use of naval experts. "Much," he says, "that was unreal, more than was desirable, occurred during this sham fighting, but it has now been demonstrated beyond a doubt that in somewhat protected waters and with anything but favourable weather, torpedo-boats can make voyages of very considerable length and can easily select their points of attack, while it is, especially at night, very difficult to recognize them in time to make their approach impossible or their attack harmless. It has also been shown that the torpedo net is so far the only safe means of protection. A few years ago Admiral Aube and others extolled the torpedo-boat as destined to supersede the heavy battle ships of the present. A natural reaction against this exaggeration gradually arose, and finally acquired such strength that in England, especially after the manœuvres of the last few years, the value of torpedo warfare was in many quarters held to be very doubtful. This year's experience, however, goes to show that no port of England's southern coast is really safe from an unexpected attack of torpedo boats from the other side of the channel, during the first night after the declaration of war. In fact better means of securing against such contingencies the commercial and naval ports most exposed are already under consideration. The more sheltered the waters concerned are from heavy seas the more complicated and difficult their navigation; and the more numerous the recesses and retreats offered by the coast, as in the Greek Archipelago and the Baltic Sea, the better and more promising is the prospect of success offered to these light, swift, and terrible vessels of war provided always that they are handled by men daring and devoted, yet also cautious and cool."

EXHIBITION OF OIL AND WATER COLOURS.

ON Sunday there was opened in the former building of the Nobles' Club (*Kiu-Kasoku-Kaikan*) in Ueno Park, the second annual Exhibition of the Meiji Bijutsu-kai (Meiji Fine Arts Association). The first exhibition took place last year, under circumstances of considerable difficulty, in the grand stand of the Ueno Race Club, a place ill suited by its associations for such a purpose. Many pictures of considerable merit were shown, but it was clearly understood that, the affair having been organised at very short notice, the painters of Tokyo had not been able

to put forth their strength. This year greater deliberation has been possible, and the display is correspondingly improved. The pictures promised have not all been sent in; but a large number are already in their places, and the whole will be hung, we learn, by the 20th instant. This exhibition probably offers the best opportunity yet afforded of estimating the progress made by Japanese painters of the Western School. People interested—and who is not?—in the vital struggle now going on between conservatism and liberalism in the world of Japanese art, will not fail to visit Ueno during the period of the Exhibition, namely, from the 15th of November to the 4th of December, inclusive.

VISCOUNT TORIO'S ESSAY.

VISCOUNT Torio's essay in the opening number of the new conservative organ is a noteworthy production. Excellently written from a literary point of view, as was to have been expected, the Viscount being a man of considerable scholastic attainments, the thesis is specially interesting as an exposition of the views held by the Conservative School of Japanese whom Viscount Torio represents. It is not, we imagine, a large school, but its ideas cannot be disregarded, not alone because of the position occupied by its leaders, but because its creed may be regarded as the extreme of the reactionary notions that began to find favour in Japan some three years ago. We therefore translate the concluding portion of the Viscount's essay, that our readers may form their own estimate of its merits—it will be remembered that the first part was translated in our columns some days ago:—"Order or disorder in a nation does not depend on something that falls from the sky or rises from the earth. It is determined by the disposition of the people. The pivot on which the public disposition turns towards order or disorder is the point where public and private motives separate. If people are influenced chiefly by public considerations, order is assured; if by private, disorder is inevitable. Public considerations are those that prompt the due observance of duties. Their prevalence signifies peace and prosperity in the case alike of families, communities, and nations. Private considerations are those suggested by selfish motives. When they prevail disturbance and disorder are unavoidable. As members of a family our duty is to look after the welfare of that family; as units of a nation, we have to work for the good of the nation. To regard our family affairs with all the interest due to our family, and our national affairs with all the interest due to the nation, is to discharge our duty fully and to be guided by public considerations. On the other hand, to regard the affairs of the nation as though they were our own family affairs, is to be influenced by private motives and to stray from the path of duty. What shall be said of persons who venture to treat the affairs of the nation as though they were affairs of their own family? The disorder that has overtaken many a State is the outcome of such an error. Since the Restoration, the society of this country has become strangely infected with a tendency to substitute private considerations for public. With regret do we perceive that men who originally rose to distinction by loyalty to their Sovereign and patriotism to their country, are growing self-willed and disposed to abuse their power by treating national affairs according to their own caprice. The odour of the West begins to pervade political circles. Each studies to promote his selfish purpose, those in the Government assuming the grand fashion of Occidental statesmen, and those in opposition imitating the bold spirit displayed by Occidental champions of the people's rights. Morality is trampled in the mud; oppression is regarded as administrative art; suspicion and jealousy prompt the organization of parties for purposes of mutual attack. We are reminded of a scene in some political drama. The people of the West are obstinate and self-willed. From the oldest times they have not ceased to advance theories and fight over them. Monarchs went to the limit of their rights and powers in ruling

their subjects. The nobility, yielding not an inch to either monarch or commoner, indulged in insult and oppression. The people, stubborn and unbending, were easily moved to rebellion, and, in cases too numerous to cite, either banished or slew their rulers. Moreover, from mediæval times the royal families and great nobles of different States gradually became connected by marriage, and thus, constituting one large family despite differences of nationality, assisted each other in times of emergency. The nations being governed by this big family of autocrats, were long compelled to bow before oppression and insult. But at length the long pent-up sense of injury burst forth, and found expression in the formula "popular liberty and right," now so universally echoed. Briefly, if we examine the history of Western nations we find it to be as a piece of cloth woven out of fights between rulers and ruled. Do the disciples of Western fashions intend to assert that such a state of things should be introduced, at this eleventh hour, into our country, disturbing the peace it enjoys? Such a notion is extravagant. Very painful is it to see men so blinded by private motives that they fail to perceive the trouble towards which they are drifting. After the Restoration they first affected France, then England, and then Germany. Their likes and dislikes are directed by caprice. Some think of modelling our Imperial House on German lines, recasting our *kazoku* in the mould of English peers, and re-organizing the administration after a constitutional pattern. Others are equally keen for change, but would adopt types obtained from a different quarter. When men are the creatures of selfish motives, their views, being the result of the position and circumstances of each, must necessarily be divergent. Yet they profess to think only of the welfare of the same country. In point of fact, their idea of what is meant by 'country' is distorted by selfish instincts. What is the history of the German Royal House? How are the relations between it, the nobles and the people controlled and maintained? We would propound these questions first to a certain political party. Further, the future of the Royal House of Germany is subject to changes resulting not only from its own past history but also from its peculiar relations with the nobles and the people. The same is true, *mutatis mutandis*, of the English nobility. We would, therefore, ask radical politicians:—"Do you wish to see similar changes introduced into this country also?" They would be perplexed, we imagine, to answer this question. But if they say that they do not aim at change, then why imitate England and Germany, which are evidently in a state of transition peculiar to themselves? It is impossible to cut a slice from one running stream and insert it in another, and this is equally true of the current of customs and events. The hopes of the radical politicians are as futile as their vision is blinded by selfish motives. Unawed by the august power of the Emperor and callous to the sufferings of the people, casting aside morality and disregarding uprightness, they make pretence of acting for the welfare of the country while in reality they obey the dictates of their own selfish aims. In a word, the Japan of to-day may almost be said to be a nation governed by private motives, and the age may be described as one in which those who are most self-willed have the best chance of obtaining political power. In the presence of such a general tendency even those who retain some degree of public spirit are in danger of eventually losing what little disinterestedness remains to them, and the result cannot fail to be the unchecked lapse of society into a state of disorder. What should be the thoughts of men inspired by loyalty and a sense of duty, under such circumstances, and how should they act? The histories of nations record facts that fill us with sadness. Is it for us to remain unconcerned while our country drifts towards a similar experience? What has become of philanthropy and what of the righteous sense of duty? The things which we enjoy now we owe to the deeds of our forefathers through three thousand years of effort; an obligation higher than the mountains

and deeper than the seas, which we are bound to recognise by our conduct. Among tendencies some are the outcome of men's natures; some the result of their conduct. The evil tendency now swaying Japan belongs to the latter category. For what do we see about us? Not alone the intellectual studies of our youth and the laws that govern our adults are fashioned after Occidental models: even the ideas and sentiments of the people have felt the foreign influence. The views held by our politicians towards their nation, towards their Sovereign and towards their fellow-subjects, are almost a replica of the views entertained by Western politicians. Loyalty and duty have ceased to be active factors in their conduct. They are guided solely by the dictates of their ability. The political world threatens to become nothing more than a field where talent and astuteness struggle for supremacy. The nature of the Japanese people is not responsible for this. Circumstances are responsible. Evils caused by human action should be remedied by a similar agency and not left to be healed by time alone. If the men in the Government honestly endeavour to assist His Majesty in the management of national affairs and to make his virtue felt by the people, and if the men outside the Government think solely of serving the Emperor loyally, social order will be assured and civilization promoted. But if, on the contrary, those in the Government abuse their powers and oppress the people, while those out of the Government express dissatisfaction and discontent, and, in obedience to their own selfish impulses and ambitions, organise political parties for purposes of personal aggrandisement, the state of the nation will be as that of a sick man to whom poison is administered in lieu of medicine. Selfishness is born with every man: to indulge it freely is to become a beast. Therefore it is that sages preach the principles of duty and propriety, justice and morality, providing restraints for private aims and encouragements for public spirit. Unfortunately in this era, those who are in a position to set noble examples to the mass of the people for their wise guidance, disregard duty and right, and, toying with national affairs, seek only to accomplish their private purposes, thus instigating men not possessed of similar ability and opportunity to act in such a violent and perfidious manner that general disorder is inevitable. Such methods and fashions are not indigenous in Japan. They are the creation of men who profess to obey the principles of Western civilization, and and by their conduct plunge the nation into a lamentable condition. What we know of Western civilization is that it struggled on through long centuries in a confused condition, finally attaining a state of some order, but that even this order, not being based on such principles as those of the natural and immutable distinctions between sovereign and subject, parent and child, with all their corresponding rights and duties, is liable to constant change according to the growth of human ambitions and human aims. Admirably suited to persons whose actions are controlled by selfish ambition, the adoption of this system in Japan is naturally sought by a certain class of politicians. Further, from a superficial point of view the Occidental form of society is very attractive, inasmuch as, being the outcome of a free development of human desires from ancient times, it represents the very extreme of luxury and extravagance in matters of food, dress and house equipment. Briefly speaking, the state of things obtaining in the West is based on the play of human selfishness and can only be reached by giving full sway to that quality. Social disturbances are little heeded in the Occident, though in truth they are at once evidences and factors of the present evil state of affairs. Do Japanese enamoured of Western ways purpose to have their nation's history written in similar terms, and do they seriously contemplate turning their country into a field for new experiments in Western civilization? I desire to ask them these questions plainly and directly. If they entertain no such intention, but, simply charmed by the superficial aspects of what they

see before them, seek to gratify their desires and achieve their ambitions without caring what befalls their posterity and without thinking what the people must suffer, then I cannot choose but call them a group of essentially heartless, unfeeling creatures."

"Apart from the question of national organization and the natural relation of subject to Sovereign, it must be confessed that if to bring about such conditions as those described above be the aim of civilization, then nothing can be more baleful to human society than this so-called civilization. Nature ordains, and the law of personal right permits, that each man may seek to achieve his own ambition so long as by thus doing he does not trespass on the domain of another's rights. From the moment that he trespasses he becomes a plunderer. A man occupying a position of power, who oversteps the due limit of his personal rights, can only be described as one who robs his inferiors. To achieve his dishonest purpose he uses the weapons of his natural talents and shrewdness and takes advantage of those not similarly endowed. That those entrusted with the control of a nation's political affairs and responsible for its welfare, should become students and promoters of a civilization so harmful to society, and should endeavour to introduce such a civilization into their country, is contrary to all reason. In the Orient from ancient times national government has been based on benevolence, and directed to securing the welfare and happiness of the people. No political creed has ever held that intellectual strength should be cultivated for the purpose of exploiting inferiority and ignorance. When the reins of power are held by creatures of selfishness, the peace of society is replaced by disorder. Under the pretence of acting for the nation, these men abuse the power entrusted to them and inflict injuries on the people. The inhabitants of this empire live for the most part by manual labour. Let them be never so industrious, they hardly earn enough to supply their daily wants. Repairing early to their place of occupation and returning home late; toiling with their whole families in all weathers, regardless of heat or cold, they just manage to procure the necessities of life. These sellers of the work of their hands earn on the average about 20 sen daily. There is no question with them of aspiring to wear fine clothes and inhabit handsome houses. Neither can they look to reach positions of fame and honour. What offence have these poor people committed that they too should not share the benefits of Western civilization? Why should they not only be shut out from seeking the pleasures attendant on that civilization, but also be sometimes regarded as semi-savage aborigines? By some indeed their condition is explained on the hypothesis that their desires do not prompt them to better themselves. There is no truth in such a supposition. They have desires, but nature has limited their capacity to satisfy them; their duty as men limits it, and the amount of labour physically possible to a human being limits it. They achieve as much as their opportunities permit. The best and finest products of their labour they offer for the enjoyment of the wealthy; the worst and roughest they reserve for their own use. Yet there is nothing in human society that does not owe its existence to labour. To satisfy the desires of one luxurious man, the toil of a thousand is needed. Surely it is monstrous that those who owe to labour the pleasures suggested by their civilization, should forget what they owe to the labourer, and treat him as though he were not a fellow-being. Civilization, according to the Occidental interpretation, serves only to satisfy men of large desires. It is of no benefit to the masses, but is simply a system under which ambition competes to accomplish its aim. Statesmen entrusted with the control of a nation's affairs should shrink from adopting such a civilization. Modern politicians, ignoring the fundamental proposition that the Emperor is the source of all rule and power in Japan, regard Imperialism much as Royalty is regarded

in the West. Distinguishing between the Sovereign and the Government, they seek to bring about administrative independence, asserting that not otherwise can political disturbances, involving even Imperialism itself, be avoided.

"They also separate religion and morality from politics, because the wisdom of such separation is recognised in the West, where men view morality simply as a social problem to be solved by philosophers. They seem to regard the Imperial Government as a fitting *corpus vile* whereon to experiment in the theories of Western politicians. In a word, their apparent purpose is to set up in this country a big administrative machine of Western manufacture, and to work it after Western methods. But in Japan the administrative power belongs to the Emperor. So long as loyalty retains its place in the hearts of the people, the Imperial House will stand above all the storms of politics, rage they never so fiercely. There have, indeed, been examples of disputes occurring within the Imperial Court about questions of State policy, but we have yet to learn that the Imperial prestige was lowered by them. Only when disloyal and undutiful subjects obtain influence in the Court, and over the people, do grave results ensue, as may be seen by studying the history of the empire since the days of Hogen. People who, without reflecting on all this, attempt to carry into practice selfish theories based upon Occidental principles, are not playing the part of faithful subjects. In respect of religion and morality a similar criticism may be expressed. Under the instruction and guidance of Shintoism, Buddhism, and Confucianism, the Japanese elaborated their systems of ceremony and etiquette, learned their duties and responsibilities, and evolved their manners and customs. Guided by these principles, established and universally recognised, they distinguish right from wrong, justice from injustice. If it be granted that the aim of efficient administration is to maintain public peace and good order, how can laws and regulations conducive to that aim be enacted, and how can the customs of the people be regulated and the system of education improved without due regard to religion and morality. Look around to-day, and it will be seen that the ancestral shrines of our beloved Sovereign are in danger of losing the respect and worship which is their due, and the nationality of Japan is threatened with extinction. This lamentable and evil state of affairs has been brought about by too eager devotion to Occidental methods of thought."

"That the Occidental system is gravely disturbing to the order and peace of a country is seen by men who have eyes, and heard by men who have ears. The future of Japan under such a system fills us with anxiety. A system based on the principle that ethics and religion are made to subserve human ambition, naturally accords with the wishes of individuals, and such theories as those embodied in the modern formula of 'liberty and equality' annihilate the established relations of society and outrage propriety and decorum with the intensity and rapidity of a fire raging among dry reeds. Absolute equality and absolute liberty being unattainable, the limits prescribed by right and duty are supposed to be taken, but inasmuch as each person seeks to have as much right and be burdened with as little duty as possible, the result is endless disputes and legal contentions. The principles of liberty and equality may succeed in changing the organization of nations, in overthrowing the lawful distinctions of social rank, and in reducing men to one nominal level, but they can never accomplish the equal distribution of wealth and property. Consider America. Her citizens boast of their country as the land of the highest types of liberty and equality, but so far from establishing the equal division of property, they accept degrees of wealth as standards of social position, and are governed by the vulgar creed that money constitutes right. Yet it is plain that if the mutual rights of men and their status are made to depend on degrees of wealth, the majority of the people, being without wealth, must fail to es-

establish their rights, whereas the minority, who are wealthy, will assert their rights, and under the ægis of society's sanction will exact oppressive duties from the poor, neglecting the dictates of humanity and benevolence. The adoption of these principles of liberty and equality in Japan would vitiate the good and peaceful customs of our country, render the general disposition of the people harsh and unfeeling, and finally prove a source of calamity to the masses. The progress of this change would be marked by demonstrations, strikes, and disturbances of every kind; and after repeated conflicts with alternating success and failure, it would be realized that the consequences of the system were interminably evil to all concerned, and that its inevitable tendency was to render men's dispositions dangerous and wicked and to fill their hearts with suspicion and jealousy. Thus, though at first sight Occidental civilization presents an attractive appearance, adapted as it is to the gratification of selfish desires, yet since its basis is the hypothesis that men's wishes constitute natural laws, it must ultimately end in disappointment and demoralization."

"There is no effect without a cause. The conditions of the various nations of the Occident are the result of certain causes, and may be traced to irresistible natural tendencies neither artificial nor accidental. These tendencies may be compared to a force which establishes its mastery over the object on which it is exercised. Unless duly checked by morality, its continued operation must lead to serious disturbance. Men controlled by selfish motives and personal aims, whose chief object is to enlarge the sphere of their individual rights, become obstinate and unyielding. In the fierce struggle for supremacy they forget the interests of their nation and of society, may even cease to care much for their own lives. It must be so, for their so-called 'rights' are in fact wealth and power, the desire for which grows with indulgence. Occidental nations have become what they are after passing through all these conflicts and vicissitudes, and it is their fate to continue the struggle. Just now their motive elements are in partial equilibrium, and their social condition is more or less ordered. But if this tender equilibrium happens to be disturbed, they will once more be thrown into a state of confusion and change, until, after a period of renewed struggle and suffering, temporary stability is once more attained. The poor and powerless of the present may become the wealthy and strong of the future, and *vice versa*. Perpetual disturbance is their doom. Peaceful equality can never be attained until it is built up among the ruins of annihilated Western States and amid the ashes of extinct Western people."

"To introduce such a state of affairs into this country, the natural distinctions of human relations as well as the ethics and creeds revered by the people must be discredited. Full sway must be given to selfish motives, and men must be taught to strive only for the attainment of their own desires. The distinctions of human relations, the ethics and the creeds hitherto observed in this country, taught the people to subserve private aims to public duties, to refrain from striving for power, and to take benevolence and sincerity as guides. All this, being in direct opposition to the Western system, must be swept away to make room for the latter's importation. It results, therefore, that those now possessing influence in the national and political affairs of the State, are trampling upon the ethics and creeds of Old Japan in their eagerness to substitute an Occidental novelty. In the future which they are preparing for their country, the powerful will be respected however worthy of contempt, and the powerless will be despised whatever their nobility. The transition may be slow and gradual, but it will not be the less inevitable."

SILK.

WHAT to do with the vast quantity of silk now lying unsold at Yokohama, is a topic which

engages the attention of not only business men but financiers in general. The quantity of silk thus detained is put at nearly 30 thousand bales. Should things continue in their present state, and should there be no large influx of specie, the *Keizai Zasshi* apprehends that a panic will overtake the Japanese commercial world at the end of the year. Our contemporary questions the wisdom of the course pursued by the Bank of Japan, which has advanced money at a low rate of interest to silk merchants in order to enable them to wait for an improvement in the market. Had not this step been taken by the *Nippon Ginko*, the silk merchants, says the Tokyo journal, might have been compelled to sell their goods at very low prices, but there would not now be such a vast quantity still on hand. Further, the foreign merchants, who were reluctant to purchase Japanese silk on account of the violent fluctuations of exchange, had no resource but to fall back on Italian silk, in view of the uncompromising attitude of Japanese holders. From these circumstances, our contemporary is doubtful whether the facility given to the silk merchants by the Bank of Japan has been beneficial either to the dealers themselves or to the financial world in general. As to the cardinal question whether this silk had better be sold within the year even at a low price, or whether it should be held over until next spring, the *Keizai Zasshi* is decidedly in favour of the former course. If there were any certainty of a rise of price next spring, it would be advisable to wait until then. But when there is no such certainty, it seems far wiser to sell now than to run the risk of losing a large sum of interest during the interval. How to sell without bringing down the price to a disastrous figure is left to the discretion of the merchants concerned.

The *Fiji Shimpō* is of the same opinion. It agrees with the *Keizai Zasshi* in thinking it extremely impolitic to hold on until next spring. The Japanese silk merchants are advised to sell by all means within the year. But in selling they ought to preserve their combination in such a manner that competition among them may not reduce the price to a ruinous point. There seem to be some persons who even propose that the Bank of Japan should raise the rate of interest on the money advanced to the silk merchants, so as to force them to sell their goods. But our contemporary regards such a proposal as rash and calculated to involve serious trouble.

The *Koku-Hon* and the *Hochi Shimbun*, writing on the prospects of foreign trade in general, seem to take a similar view of the situation, for they base their calculations on the supposition that the silk now remaining unsold will be disposed of within the year. Indeed the former journal explicitly advises a speedy disposal of the store now lying in Yokohama.

THE JAPANESE SEAMEN'S AID SOCIETY.

THE *Nippon Kai-in Ekisei Kai* (the Japanese Seamen's Aid Society) was formed in Tokyo in 1880 by benevolent persons who were desirous of benefiting both masters and sailors by assisting the latter to live more respectably when on shore, and also to render assistance to those who met with accidents or were sick. In June of the following year when the Russian man-of-war *Nakimoff*, one of the Siberian Squadron, was at Yokohama, Vice-Admiral Nazimoff, hearing of this society, took great interest in it and collected from his officers and contributed himself the sum of yen 1,000 in all, which he presented to the society through Viscount Enomoto, Vice-Admiral in the Imperial Japanese Navy. Since that time the position of the society has been gradually improving, the subscribers have from time to time become more numerous, and the funds have considerably increased. In 1882, as the first step, a Sailors' Home, was built at Shinagawa, and in due course opened, and occupied according to the objects contemplated. The result proved highly satisfactory, and branches of the society and homes were opened

in the ports of Yokohama, Kobe, Hakodate, Nagasaki, and Osaka, which have proved of great benefit to masters and sailors alike. This happy result was brought about by the liberal support received from the public, and especially the kind assistance of foreigners, which the Japanese promoters declare that they appreciate very highly. They promise, too, always to remember with great gratitude the kindly action of the officers of the *Nakimoff*.

ENTERTAINMENT OF A FOREIGN GUEST.

At the Koyo Kwan, Tokyo, a banquet was given the other evening by the Medical Society of Tokyo to Professor Benjamin Howard, M.D., of London. In giving the toast of the evening, Dr. Takaki, F.R.C.S., said that since the lecture of Dr. Howard before the Society a few months since, he had been fortunate enough to prove on more than one occasion the value of Dr. Howard's recent discovery as then explained to them. He was sure that it was a permanent addition to our means of saving human life, and they were there to express their appreciation and gratitude in having had the privilege of receiving an account of it from Dr. Howard's own lips. Amongst the guests who filled the large Hall were various nationalities, including the Surgeons-in-Chief of the Army and Navy, the Charity and County Hospitals, Dr. Whitney, of the United States Legation, and all the Japanese physicians in Tokyo having English or American degrees. A dramatic entertainment in the best style, for which this Club is so famous, closed a reunion of a most cordial and enthusiastic character.

THE IMPERIAL VISIT TO COUNT OYAMA'S RESIDENCE.

ON Saturday last His Majesty the Emperor paid a visit to the residence of Count Oyama, which is situated at Aoyama, close to the grounds of the old Kaitakushi. The house is a handsome brick building in modern castellated style, its tower being quite a feature in the landscape when approached from the north or west. The grounds, which are laid out in formal European fashion, were bright with chrysanthemums. An entertainment was prepared for His Majesty and the Empress in the shape of the *No* drama, a fine special stage being set up in the grounds for the occasion. On Monday, as already stated, the Countess invited a number of the European residents of the Capital to an At Home, when the performance was repeated. Needless to say, the dresses of the actors were magnificent, and, as many even of the older residents had hitherto had no opportunity of seeing the *No* in all its glory, the Countess's hospitality was highly appreciated.

THE CEREMONIAL OPENING OF THE DIET.

THERE seems to be very little doubt that the ceremonial opening of the Diet will take place on the 28th instant. No official announcement to that effect has been made, but the best informed among the vernacular newspapers speak of the date as virtually fixed. The Diet will of course meet on the 25th as ordered by Imperial Rescript, but until the President and Vice-President of the Lower House have been elected by the members and nominated by the Emperor, the various arrangements for his Majesty's reception cannot be made. The choice of three candidates for each of these posts will probably be concluded on the 25th, and from among the three the Emperor will make his selection and announce it in the *Official Gazette* of the 26th, or perhaps in an extra issue of the 25th. The 26th and 27th would then be devoted to making preparations for the opening ceremony. We are not yet definitely informed whether the day will be a general holiday, but public expectation is that it will, and that Tokyo will don a gala garb even more sumptuous than that assumed by it on the celebrated 11th of February, 1889. As yet, however, indications of wide rejoicing have not become apparent, and there is just a possibility that in consideration of the distress in the money market the Authorities may discountenance any expensive display. The programme

of the opening ceremony is given as follows in the *Official Gazette* though, as we have said, the date is not named:—

At 10 o'clock in the forenoon the members will assemble in both Houses. There will also be present the Princes of the Blood, personages holding Grand Orders of Merit, the Minister President of State, the President of the Privy Council, the Ministers of State, Officials entitled to be treated as Ministers of State, the Lord Chamberlain, the Vice-President of the Privy Council, the Privy Councillors, the Commander of the Imperial Guards and the Members of the Imperial Suite.

At half past ten the Emperor will leave the Palace and proceed to the Diet. His Majesty will be accompanied by the above named *Sauretsu in* (i.e. the persons named in the preceding section with the exception of the Members of the Diet).

The road will be lined with troops.

The Presidents, Vice-Presidents, Chief Secretaries, and members of the two Houses will be marshalled inside the gates to receive his Majesty.

The President of the House of Peers will lead the Emperor to the Waiting Room.

After his Majesty has entered the Waiting Room, the members of the two Houses will take their places according to instructions from their respective Presidents.

The Lord Chamberlain will inform his Majesty when all is ready, and the Emperor, led by the Lord Chamberlain and accompanied by the bearers of the Imperial Insignia, by the Princes of the Blood, and by the Officials in Waiting, will proceed to the Upper Chamber.

When his Majesty reaches the Dais a general salutation will be made.

His Majesty, standing, will receive the Imperial Message from the Minister President of State.

His Majesty will read the Imperial Message. A national salute will be fired.

At the conclusion of the Message, the Presidents and members of the Houses will make an obeisance. The President of the House of Peers will approach His Majesty, receive the Imperial Message and return to his place. Led by the Lord Chamberlain, and accompanied by the Princes of the Blood, and the Officials in Waiting, his Majesty will retire.

The Emperor will leave the Diet. The Presidents, Vice Presidents, Chief Secretaries and Secretaries of both Houses will bow his Majesty out. The Band will play the National Anthem.

The following will be entitled to be present at the opening ceremony:

The Foreign Representatives and staffs of Foreign Legations. All persons of *shinin* and *chokunin* rank in the capital, and all wearers of First Class Orders.

Local Governors and Prefects.

Commanders of Garrisons. Commanders of Districts. Chiefs of Admiralty Offices. Military and Naval Commanding Officers. Judges of High Courts. Procurators of High Courts. Lords in Waiting of the *Fako-no ma* and *Kinkei-no ma*, who are present in Tokyo. Foreign employes ranking with *chokunin*. Japanese and Foreigners having Third Class or Higher Decorations. A certain number of *soinin* officials of Third Class and upwards.

It will be seen that the details of this ceremony, though officially published now for the first time, were foretold very accurately by the vernacular press several days ago. From the numbers of persons included on the list of those who will have the privilege of being present, it is evident that the capacity of the House of Peers, where the ceremonial is to take place, will be pretty well tested, and that outsiders can have very little hope of witnessing this memorable event in Japanese history.

DEATH OF TSÊNG KUO-CHUAN.

THE following sketch of the services of Tsêng Kuo-chuan, telegraphic intelligence of whose death we published last week, appears in the *N. C. Daily News* of the 14th inst.:—"News was received by telegraph from Nanking yesterday of the death there at 2 p.m. of His Excellency Tsêng Kuo-chuan, Viceroy at Nanking, brother of the late Tsêng Kuo-fan, and uncle of the late Marquis Tsêng Chi-tsê. Tsêng Kuo-chuan was a Hunan man, and has had a most successful career. He was given the title of the third degree of nobility for successes against the Taiping rebels. He was appointed Judicial Commissioner in Chêkiang in February, 1862, and Governor of the province in 1863, Governor of Shansi in 1865, of Hupeh in 1867, and of Shansi again

in 1876. He was made Director-General of the Yellow River in March, 1875, and Viceroy of Shensi and Kansuh in February, 1881, retiring in ill health in October of the same year. In May, 1882, he was appointed Acting Viceroy of the Two Kuang, and in February, 1884, to the post in which he has died of Viceroy of the Two Kiang. In him China has lost one of the most prominent of her high officials, a mandarin of unblemished honour and integrity and sterling worth. He was about seventy years of age."

COUNT INOUE.

REFERRING to Count Inouye, the *Nippon* says:—"The Count has lived a quiet retired life since his resignation, but Society does not lose sight of him, and now annoyed by rumours of his privately taking part in the organization of a new political party, he thinks of going back to his province, where he will be able to pass his hours in undisturbed retirement. We learn that in a recent conversation with some person he remarked in his usual joking tone:—"I am going to live far out of the bustle of the world. Looking back on any career, I find that I am carrying all the failures of the Meiji Government put together on my shoulders. It is I who failed in the revision of the treaties; it is I who failed in the management of the financial affairs; it is I who introduced the principle of Westernizing; it is I who began the task of codifying the laws, and besides I am credited with many other failures made by other persons. At any rate, whatever failures the Meiji Government sustained I have been always connected with them. But it is one consolation to me as a man that I have all the nation's failures of a grave nature on my back." In truth Count Inouye is a man among men."

THE CABINET'S SECRET SERVICE FUND.

THE *Choya Shimbun* has a curious and very incredible note about the secret service fund of the Cabinet. It asserts that this money being entirely beyond the purview of the Board of Audit, the amount appropriated has often proved too large, so that sums have been left over from year to year until they now aggregate about three hundred thousand yen. Concerning the disposal of this surplus the Cabinet is perplexed. Some Ministers are in favour of employing it to defray party expenses, but others object to that course. Such is the *Choya's* story, but to us it sounds quite unworthy of credence. The idea of a surplus remaining year after year is in itself highly improbable, and the story that certain Ministers advocate applying the fund to party purposes would be less difficult to believe if there was any Government party to have its expenses paid.

GOLD AND SILVER RATIOS.

THE *Official Gazette* gives the following table of comparative values of gold and silver coins and of the pound sterling for the week ended the 5th instant, as derived from the returns of the Bank of Japan and the Yokohama Specie Bank:—

Days	Gold Coin. (Per yen 100) Silver Yen.	Pound Sterling (Per £1) Silver Yen.
10th	121.500	A.M. 5.9813 P.M. 5.9813
11th	121.000	A.M. 5.9627 P.M. 5.9627
12th	120.800	A.M. 5.9627 P.M. 5.9627
13th	120.800	A.M. 5.9627 P.M. 5.9627
14th	120.800	A.M. 6.0000 P.M. 6.0000
15th	120.800	A.M. 6.0000 P.M. 6.0000
Averages	121.000	5.9758

The above averages show for gold coin an increase in value of yen 2.140 per cent., and for the pound sterling an increase in value of yen 0.0825 as compared with the previous week.

THEN AND NOW.

HERE is a suggestive editorial from the *Nippon*:—"The editors of foreign newspapers know very little about the state of affairs in Japan. The *North China Herald*, in a recent issue,

said that the Japanese are very keen about imitating foreign fashions, deeming that the customs of foreigners and foreigners themselves are superior to Japanese customs and Japanese people. What sort of falsehood is this? It may have had some truth several years ago when Western ways were in vogue, but no Japanese now-a-days regards foreigners as men of high grade (*yuso naru jimbutsu*). The Shanghai paper further says:—"As long as this is the case—i.e. as long as the Japanese considers the foreigner a superior being—it is unreasonable to imagine that he feels really insulted by extraterritoriality, or will be really aggrieved if he does not get the treaties with foreign Powers revised on the basis of equal rights. It seems certain that the demand for the abolition of extraterritoriality is not a popular demand; it may be very reasonably doubted whether the people, as a whole, want to have the country thrown open to foreigners; even if with that concession, they buy the withdrawal of consular jurisdiction." This is a great mistake. We do not know how it may be with people like those of India, Egypt and so forth, but there is no self-respecting nation in this nineteenth century that does not feel the disgrace of its country and resent wrong done to it by foreigners. Nothing could be falser than to say that the whole of the people of Japan does not desire to have the Treaties revised on a footing of equality. Even the Progressionists (*Kaishin-to*), who claimed that an equal treaty could not be achieved, are only too anxious to obtain such a treaty." Finally, the *North Chinese Herald* writes:—"The Diet meets in a month, and then perhaps we shall get at what the real feeling of the country is; we say, perhaps, because the people generally did not take much interest in the election of members of the Diet, and their members may not, at first, represent them accurately. But the Diet will be a splendid means of political education, and it will not be long before the electors do take an interest in their parliament, and then we shall know what their real wishes as to treaty revision are." On what grounds does the Shanghai journal assert that the Japanese did not take much interest in the elections? For our part, we believe that the first Diet will be thoroughly competent to express the desire of the nation in respect of Treaty Revision, and we trust that foreigners will attend to and respect its verdict. What reason exists for awaiting the decision of a future Diet?"

CHESS IN YOKOHAMA.

IT is a pleasant surprise to learn that the Yokohama Chess Club, just organised, numbers as many as thirty members. That there are many people in the Settlement who entertain more or less affection for the noble game was never doubtful, but we scarcely hoped that so strong a muster would be made at the outset. Mr. Griffin, with whom, we believe, the idea originated, and who certainly took the most active part in arranging the preliminaries and securing co-operation, is to be thanked and congratulated. The Club is fortunate in having had a room placed at its disposal at 179, Bluff, by Mr. Hinton, himself a devoted chess player. Mr. Taylor's chess library, too, is a donation of no small value, comprising, as it does, pretty nearly all the volumes of any service or note that have been devoted to the development of the game. Mr. Taylor used for many years to furnish the chess problems which appeared in the *Japan Mail*. His knowledge of the game must be large. We trust that many parties worthy of public record will be played at the Club, and we shall be glad to give place in this journal either to the moves actually made or to diagrams of interesting positions.

We learn that in a few days nearly 50 members have been enrolled, and that the committee, after consulting the convenience of members, have decided that the meetings of the Club shall be held alternately in the Settlement and on the Bluff. All residents wishing to become members would do well to communicate at once with the Secretary, Mr. Balk—either

at his office, No. 256, Settlement, or at the Club Hotel, any evening between the hours of 5 and 11. We prophesy a long and flourishing career for the Club; it has the honour of being the first institution of the kind in Japan among foreigners, although societies for the study and practice of *shogi* have, we believe, been in vogue among our Japanese friends from time immemorial.

POPULATION STATISTICS.

THE *Tokyo Koron* gives extracts from statistical tables compiled by the Department of Home Affairs. We quote the following principal figures:—

TO THE 31ST DAY OF DECEMBER, 1889.

Number of dwelling houses in Japan...	7,840,872
Population—20,246,336 males	
19,825,684 females	40,072,020
Nobles (Heads of families, 593)	3,825
Shizoku (Heads of families 430,411)	1,993,637
Commons (Heads of families 7,736,764)	38,074,558
N.B.—Increase of houses over 1888	3,846
Increase of population over 1888	464,780
Married couples	7,445,119
Unmarried males	12,801,217
Unmarried females	12,383,565
Births, males	617,863
Births, females	592,047
Deaths, males	413,926
Deaths, females	394,753
Still born births	85,251
Marriages	340,445
Divorces	107,478
Population of Tokyo	1,138,546
Living abroad	15,711

The *Koron* remarks that, according to these figures, the number of females at the end of 1889 was less than the number of males by 420,650, and referring to their respective ages it is found that from 1 to 56 years males outnumber females; from 57 to 59 years females outnumber males; at 60 years males are in the majority, and from 61 to 109 females again outnumber males. Finally, above 87 years, females are more than double the males in number.

ENEMIES OF THE CABINET IN THE UPPER HOUSE.

It is hinted by the *Hochi Shimbun* that certain members of the House of Peers intend to agitate for a change of Cabinet with the intention of themselves obtaining portfolios in the new Ministry. Our contemporary does not find this strange, seeing that several members of the Upper House have records qualifying them to occupy seats in the Cabinet. Neither does the *Hochi* doubt that even in the Lower House there may be men entertaining similar projects, but it expresses a strong opinion against anything of the kind. The proper business of the Diet at first, we are told, is to place the Legislature on a sound footing, leaving to outsiders the task of attacking the Executive in newspapers, speeches and petitions. To seek to overturn the Cabinet merely for the sake of wresting the executive power from it, would be to forget the true functions of the Diet and to convert the Legislature into a weapon for destroying instead of assisting the Executive—a proceeding very inconsistent with the programme of bringing about government by party.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL LIBERALS.

THE Committee of the Constitutional Liberals (*Rikken Jiyu-to*) has held an extraordinary meeting and formulated a very extensive programme of political procedure, the details of which are given in the *Jiyu Shimbun*. Adopting the classification of our contemporary, which we presume, is that of the party itself, we translate the programme as follows:—

TREATY REVISION.

1. To urge the abolition of extraterritorial jurisdiction.
2. To determine by provisions of law the limits within which mixed residence, cabotage, the ownership of land, mines or railways, and trade undertakings should be allowed, and similarly to regulate all privileges and abdications connected with foreigners.
3. To urge the recovery of tariff autonomy.
4. To move that all treaties relating to trade shall be concluded with the concurrence of the Diet.

REFORM OF TAXATION.

1. Reduction of the Land Tax; namely, to amend the

first article of the Land Tax Regulations so that a general reduction of one half per cent. shall be made in the tax.

2. Reform of the Income Tax Law; namely to change the present system of determining incomes by profits (*riyest-ho*) to the system of determining them by manner of living (*shini-ho*), all objections raised against the manner of assessment to be decided in the Courts of Law.
3. To make the Income Tax a class tax; namely, to divide tax-payers into a large number of classes, the liability of which shall be differently assessed.

REFORM OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE SYSTEM.

1. To reform the Administrative system with the view of increasing the business facilities of Departments and Bureaux.
2. To change the system of salaries by classes into salaries by offices.
3. To abolish the Retired List.

REFORM OF THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM.

1. To place the Imperial University and all the Government Schools on an independent footing.
2. To abolish the Upper Middle Schools, and add Upper Sections to the Ordinary Middle Schools.
3. To abolish the system of granting subsidies to Private Schools.

REFORM OF THE ORGANIZATION OF THE LAW COURTS.

1. To abandon the collegiate courts provided by the Law of the Constitution of the Courts of Justice, promulgated in the 23rd year of Meiji, and to substitute Courts presided over by one Judge.
2. To reduce the number of Judges provided by the same Law for Collegiate Courts of Appeal and the Collegiate Supreme Court.

REFORM OF ALL THE REGULATIONS RELATING TO PUBLIC MEETING, NEWSPAPERS, AND PUBLICATIONS.

1. To reform the Public Meeting and Political Party Regulations; namely, to make the Regulations inapplicable to all meetings or associations of a non-political character.
2. To relax the provisions relating to promoters and members of parties.
3. To permit open air meetings.
4. To reform Article 11 of the Present Regulations and rescind Article 28.
5. To reform the Newspaper Regulations; namely, to permit the editor and publisher to be represented by one individual.
6. To abolish security money.
7. To make the provisions of Art. 11 of the present Regulations less stringent, in the sense of permitting the publication of official documents and memorials not made public in the ordinary course.
8. To do away with interdiction or suspension of publication and with confiscation of printed matter.
9. To rescind Article 17 of the present Regulations.
10. To amend the Publication Regulations; namely, while still enforcing the Regulations in the case of books and pictures printed for public sale, to repeal them in respect of documents printed for private circulation.
11. To grant freedom in respect of the publication of official documents and memorials not made public in the ordinary course.
12. To rescind Article 20 of the present Regulations.
13. To abolish all personal penalties for violations of the Public Meeting and Publication Regulations.
14. To abolish the Peace Preservation Regulations.

REFORM OF THE LAW OF ELECTIONS.

1. To make each City and Prefecture an electoral district, as far as possible.
2. To give to every hundred and twenty thousand of the population the right to return one member.
3. To make the qualifications of an elector that he should be at least twenty years of age, and that he should pay direct national taxes to the amount of five yen annually.
4. To reduce the eligible age of candidates for election to 25.
5. To forbid officials, other than members of the Cabinet, to hold office simultaneously with being members of Parliament.
6. To rescind clauses 4, 5, and 6 of the 14th Article of the Law of Elections.

REFORM OF THE LAW OF THE HOUSES.

1. To reform the Law of the Houses so as to strengthen the prerogatives of members.

LOCAL ADMINISTRATION.

1. To postpone the date of operation of the Local Government system for Cities, Prefectures, and Districts, with the object of amending it.

CONTROL OF GOVERNMENT PROPERTY.

1. To place the control of Government Property on a firmer footing.

REFORM OF THE SYSTEM OF OFFICIAL PROTECTION.

1. To correct the evil custom of granting subsidies to private enterprises.

Appended to this very comprehensive programme is a statement that the various items were decided by an extraordinary meeting of the Committee of the Party, and that they will be embodied in measures to be submitted to the Diet. It is also explained that the programme is couched in very general terms, but that fuller particulars will be given when it is proposed to bring up the various subjects for parliamentary deliberation. It seems to us that several of the contemplated changes have a very infinitesimal chance of obtaining general support in the Diet. At all events to discuss them now would be labour lost. Some of them, too, are very perplexing; for example, the proposal that official documents and memorials not of a public character should nevertheless be allowed to receive publication. We confess that we do not know exactly what this means, unless, indeed, the Committee of the Constitu-

tional Liberals intend to lay down the strange doctrine that there shall be no such thing as privacy in respect of official documents, and that even though they are not published by the office concerned, any journalist may insert them in his columns if only he can succeed in getting access to them.

A NEW JOURNAL.

ANOTHER journal has been added to the number of the Tokyo dailies. In some respects it promises to be a paper of great importance, being under the patronage and direction of men who occupy high positions in society, and are deservedly respected for their ability and integrity. Mr. Kawabata Sanebumi, younger brother of Prince Sanjo, and an ex-Senator, and Mr. Kô Kodô are said to have taken a leading part in starting the journal, and the public understands it to be the representative of a not inconsiderable section of the House of Peers who are well disposed to the present Cabinet. The name chosen for the paper is *Kokka Shimbun* (National Flower); a pretty title enough and appropriate in respect of the journal's noble (*Kasoku*) supporters, but inasmuch as the term *Kokka* has already been appropriated by the *Art Magazine* we doubt whether a more distinctive appellation would not have been wiser. The chief editor is Mr. Tatsumi, formerly connected with the *Nippon-jin*, and one of the leading spirits in the politico-religious association called by the sonorous name of *Son-nô Hô-butsu Daido-dan* (grand association of sovereign-reverencing Buddhism-preserving politicians). We should not have imagined that Mr. Tatsumi is eminently qualified for the post of editor-in-chief, but it appears that he is to have the assistance of Mr. Miyake, also connected with the *Nippon-jin*, a writer of very considerable capacity. There are rumours, however, that the latter gentleman has already experienced some friction in his relations with the promoters of the journal, and that his tenure of the post of assistant editor is not likely to be of long duration. Among the promoters the names of Mr. Kaneko, Chief Secretary of the House of Peers, and of Viscount Tanaka, Superintendent of the Metropolitan Police, are generally mentioned. It is also stated that Mr. Fukuchi, the well-known *littérateur*, is likely to assist in the editorial department. The first number of the paper appeared on the 17th inst. Its opening article, or declaration of policy, runs as follows:— "From ancient times until to-day a hundred and twenty-one dynasties of Sovereigns have sat upon the Throne of the Japanese Empire, and two thousand five hundred and fifty years have elapsed. The cause of such long stability is to be sought in the benevolent relations that have existed between rulers and ruled; in the fact that their relative stations have been duly fixed, and in the prevalence of truth and justice. It has not been so in the West. There the genealogies of sovereign and subject have been kept distinct, and in extreme cases the distinction has been accentuated by differences of race. The consequence has been unceasing wars and vicissitudes. There has been no long succession of dynasties; no unbroken lapse of accumulated centuries. The advantage is all with Japan by comparison. But the tendency now-a-days in our country is to copy everything Occidental, and to despise Japanese character. Should this disposition become general, the closely allied rulers and ruled will come to regard one another with eyes of hostility as is the case in the West. The safety of the State is closely concerned in this forgetfulness of one's own country and attachment to alien systems. The present month of the present year will see the establishment of constitutional government in Japan. According to the Constitution the executive power rests with the Emperor; the legislative power he shares with the Diet, which thus becomes partaker in the responsibilities of government. If the two Houses of the Diet, the House of Peers and the House of Representatives, discharge their duties and fulfil their functions, national peace and good order will result. Nothing is more to be desired than harmony

between these three factors, the Government, the Peers, and the Representatives. In Constitutional States of modern times, Governments fear diminution of their authority while the governed desire increase of their power. Rulers and ruled struggle for power, and it is the function of the nobility to stand between them and harmonise their relations, even at the risk of suffering in times of trouble. The Government should treat politicians outside its circle with the utmost liberality, and these politicians, in their turn, should seek to exert a guiding and pacific influence on the bulk of the people, whose experience of administrative affairs is small. Thus will national tranquillity be assured. The purpose of the *Kokka Shimbun* is to discuss and criticise affairs of the day in such a manner as to instruct the nation at large. Its policy is to promote respect for the Imperial House, to foster good feeling between officials and non-officials, and to labour for the perpetuity of the Empire. We trust that the public will approve our motive and read our columns."

LAND HELD BY FOREIGNERS IN THE SETTLEMENTS.

As the tenure of land by foreigners in the settlements has become a question of public discussion, the following editorial utterance of the *Yokyo Koron* will be read with interest:—"The fact that land within the Settlements has been leased to foreigners in perpetuity is perfectly plain according to the treaties. But the leases were not granted in the name of a Minister or a Consul. They bore the name of the foreigner to whom the land was assigned in perpetuity, and when other foreigners, coming subsequently, desired to obtain land for building purposes, they purchased from the original holders, so that transactions in land go on among foreigners in the Settlements just as among Japanese outside the Settlements. But of late disputes having arisen among foreigners with respect to the tenure of land, they applied to the Prefect—of Hyogo, doubtless—to have the title deeds altered. The Prefect, however, would not consent, and the dispute is still unsettled. On one side it is claimed that the intention of the Treaties is that land should be leased to foreigners in general, without distinction of persons. On the other it is replied that though the leasing of land is undoubtedly provided for in the Treaties, it is leased to the original lessees and all subsequent transactions connected with it must be managed by them, their heirs or their assignees."

Probably some of our readers will be puzzled by this over-terse statement. The fact, as we understand it, is very simple. The Japanese Government, having granted one lease of a piece of land, in perpetuity, to a particular foreigner, declines to reissue the lease in the name of another foreigner, for the obvious reason that by doing so it would take upon itself the responsibility of guaranteeing the correctness of all previous transactions in respect of the land. If Jones, having become lessee in perpetuity of a lot, subsequently transfers it to Brown, Brown to Robinson, and Robinson to Atkins, then if the Government issued a new lease in Atkins' name, it would at once become answerable for the legality of the transfers by Jones to Brown, by Brown to Robinson and by Robinson to Atkins. Such a proceeding on the part of the Japanese Authorities would be decidedly confiding. The absurdity of expecting it must be evident to the most superficial thinker.

WHISKY.

VERY interesting to whiskey drinkers is the following summary of a report recently compiled by a Select Committee of the House of Commons, appointed last July to consider whether, "on grounds of public health, it is desirable that certain classes of spirits, British and foreign, should be kept in bond for a definite period before they are allowed to pass into consumption, and to inquire into the system of blending British and foreign spirits in or

out of bond, and into the propriety of applying the Sale of Foods and Drugs Act and the Merchandise Marks Act to the case of British and foreign spirits, and mixtures of British and foreign spirits, and also into the sale of either as an intoxicant":—

There are three kinds of spirits manufactured in Great Britain which are called after the stills in which they are made. There is, first of all, "pot-still" which is invariably made from malt or from a mixture of malt and grain. Genuine Scotch or Irish whisky is "pot-still" spirit which has been allowed to mellow. Next, there is what is known as patent still spirit. The patent still is so perfect a piece of apparatus that it will extract spirit from almost any substance which contains sugar—from molasses, rice, and potatoes, for example. The distillate when purified is a simple plain spirit—in other words, a mixture of alcohol and water. This spirit, when passed through the rectifier's still, becomes "rectified spirit"—the third kind of spirit manufactured in this country. It consists very largely of pure alcohol, and is used for the making of perfumes, gins, liqueurs, and British brandy. The quantity of spirits manufactured in the United Kingdom during the year ending 31st March, 1890, amounts to no less than forty-one million gallons. Of this, sixteen million gallons were made in pot stills, and twenty-five gallons in patent stills. Something like a million quarters of malt and unmalted grain respectively are used in the course of a year; together with varying quantities of sugar, molasses, rice, and jawaree. In a hundred distilleries malt alone is used; forty-two use malt and mixed grain; five use sugar and molasses; while four use sugar, molasses, and rice. It would seem that the larger proportion of British-made spirit comes from malt and grain; though, in the result, patent-still spirit preponderates.

The forty-one million gallons of spirit made in the United Kingdom last year was for the most part used in this country. Nearly three-fourths of it (namely, 28,000,000 gallons) were drunk as a beverage; six million gallons were put into bond; a million and a half were used for purposes of methylation; two million and a half are accounted for by natural waste, mainly from evaporation; while something like three million gallons were exported. It will be observed that while only sixteen million gallons of pot-still spirit (that is, genuine whisky) were made, the consumption of spirits during the year amounted to twenty-eight million. It may be taken for granted that at least six million gallons of patent-still spirit—a mixture of plain alcohol and water—were either blended with pot-still spirit and sold as whisky, or were sold in the original state as such. Another six million gallons were sent to the rectifiers, and after further distillation were made into gin and British brandy. Thus is the total consumption—28,000,000 gallons—made up.

It is clear, therefore, that much of the liquid sold as whisky has practically no claim to the title. Such liquid is unmaturing and deficient in mellowness, and, so far from being obtained from fermented grain, it may be—and often is—prepared from molasses. It is clear that one-third at least of the total quantity of whisky sold is plain spirit. How far the ordinary whisky of the public-house conforms to the definition of the United States Pharmacopoeia may be seen in the following extract from the evidence of Dr. Bell:—

"Have you made any attempt to obtain public-house spirits from fairs and other places where people congregate together? We have not obtained any from fairs or races, because we did not know where to send for them; but we obtained samples from various towns, from the lowest part of those towns, where the lowest class of the working people would obtain their supplies."

"From England, Ireland, and Scotland?—From England, Ireland, and Scotland. Altogether we obtained fifty-one samples, and we subjected them to the usual qualitative test, and the results, so far as the purity of the spirit was concerned, were very satisfactory."

"Did you drink any of it?—I tasted it. From our examination of the samples we came to the conclusion that of the fifty-one six consisted of pot-still spirit only; thirty-eight mostly patent, and seven a mixture of nearly equal proportions of pot and patent still spirit. The strengths were various, but with two exceptions the great bulk of the samples lay between 15 and 25 under proof."

Were you surprised to find that the spirits sold in low public-houses were so pure?—I was not aware that highly-rectified spirit was so generally used for whisky."

But you are quite certain of it now?—Certain. I think one of the most important features of the result of the examination of these samples is that it affords evidence that an economic process is going on by which patent-still spirit is gradually replacing the pot-still."

The word "pure," it must be remembered, is used in its scientific sense. Absolute alcohol is perfectly pure from the point of view of the chemist; but it by no means follows that absolute alcohol would as a beverage make a wholesome substitute for a two-year-old Scotch whisky.

THE LAND TAX.

We detailed, in a preceding issue, the nature of the three propositions said to be generally entertained among politicians outside the Go-

vernment with reference to the land tax. The *Yoku Shimbun*, Count Itagaki's organ, states the case somewhat differently and with more precision. The first proposal, it says, is to leave the assessment as it is, and to reduce the tax all round from 2½ per cent. to 2 per cent. The second proposal is to undertake re-assessment on a minute scale with the object of reducing the taxable value of highly rated lands to the level of the low rated. The third scheme also depends upon accurate re-assessment, but differs from the second in advocating that low rating should be raised and high rating lowered so as to strike a general average. According to the same journal, putting the third scheme into operation would mean an increase of taxation for the Prefectures of Yamaguchi, Fukuoka, Oita, Miyagi, Iwate, Aomori, Akita, Yamagata, Fukushima, Niigata, Toyama, and Nagano, and for the city of Kyoto. Among these, Yamaguchi would suffer most, its increase of land tax being estimated at three hundred thousand yen. Miyagi, Yamagata, and Akita would each have to pay about two hundred thousand yen more than they do now. The total addition to the revenue from these thirteen Prefectures and one City would be two million yen approximately. Nothing is said, however, with regard to the loss that would ensue from reducing the tax in the remaining twenty-nine Prefectures and three cities. We do not suppose for a moment that the Diet would be content with the first proposal, inasmuch as one of the chief grounds for discontent at present is the unequal incidence of the land tax. Moreover, it is plain that if the revenue is to be cut down to the extent of eight million yen, as would be the case were the general rate reduced from 2½ to 2 per cent., a large portion of the deficiency would have to be met from other sources, and the Diet is not at all likely to contemplate that prospect contentedly. Re-assessment seems, therefore, to be inevitable, and if the Government has hitherto shrunk from the expense and delay involved in such a proceeding, Parliament will probably be equally reluctant.

SECRET SERVICE FUNDS.

ONE of the subjects into which people admitted for the first time to a share in the Government are naturally prone to enquire, is the manner of expending the funds appropriated for the secret service of the various Departments. It is evident, however, that curiosity on this point cannot be satisfied. In all countries the necessity of such funds is recognised, and if Parliament insisted on being informed of the manner of their employment, the Government would have no course but to resign. Thoughtful Japanese evidently appreciate this, for though some politicians more prone to criticism than reflection, show a disposition to be inquisitive, the leading newspapers do not countenance it in any way. The latest utterance on the subject is to be found in the *Hochi Shimbun*. "According to the estimates for the 22nd fiscal year," says our contemporary, "the Secret Service Fund amounted in all to 290,900 yen. The largest share, 150,000 yen, was taken by the Home Department, the Cabinet coming next with 74,000. The remaining 66,900 yen was divided between the other Departments in proportions varying from 40,000 to 1,500 yen. The estimates for the next fiscal year showed a reduction in this appropriation from 290,900 to 250,000 yen, the share of the Home Office falling to 130,000 yen, that of the Cabinet to 60,000 yen, and those of the remaining Departments being more or less diminished. As to the manner of expending this money we are not, of course, able to speak, but it may be conjectured that a portion was required in connection with popular agitation about Treaty Revision on the Japanese side and opposition on that of foreigners. Other purposes, also, involving all the Departments doubtless exist. It is plain that the amount of money expended for secret purposes must depend greatly on the peaceful and orderly condition of the country. Of late years, therefore, the aggregate outlay on this account has diminished, but since it is nevertheless necessary to be prepared for emer-

gencies, sufficient appropriations have to be made. Recently, when there was talk of a general combination of political parties to oppose the Government, the Authorities were obliged to spend considerable sums for the purpose of enquiring into the conditions of the movement. That crisis having been staved off, however, the use of a secret-service fund is now pretty well confined to the police, and it is probable that, as rumour states, a surplus remains from the appropriation made on account of secret service in the current year's estimates. If this be added to surpluses from previous years, the total would doubtless represent a considerable sum. No decision has been taken, we understand, with regard to the disposal of this surplus."

PRINCE SANJO ON POLITICAL PARTIES.

PRINCE SANJO, according to the *Daido Shimbun*, has expressed a very strong opinion about the political parties now growing mushroom-like in Japan. The Conservatives, who, contrary to expectation, have succeeded in organising themselves into something like a compact body with a journal of their own, are said to have been very desirous of inducing Prince Sanjo to accept the leadership of their party. Could they have attained this object, the event would have been one of the most important and significant in recent years. But Prince Sanjo's reply, as quoted, be it observed, by a bitterly anti-Conservative journal, was characteristic. He said that, in his opinion, political organizations are designed to correct abuses rather than to promote national prosperity. If a new political party is formed, its founders are bound to indicate some abuse as the *raison d'être* of their association. In a word, political parties are medicine to remedy some social malady. If such parties are numerous, it must be concluded either that they have no solid basis or that a correspondingly large number of abuses exists, either of which conclusions is equally unwelcome. "Since times earlier than the Restoration," the Prince is represented as having said, "I have had the cause of my country at heart, but I have not learned to be so foolish as to rashly set about applying remedies where no malady exists. The present condition of political parties suggests the idea that half a dozen doctors are disputing about the treatment of one disease, each advancing some peculiar system of his own but none succeeding in curing the malady. One good physician, if there be such, is quite sufficient. Why should my assistance be invoked in the matter?" Prince Sanjo seems to have spoken severely, but in truth, from the point of view of an old statesman like himself, all this political dust raised by men who rush along roads leading they do not distinctly know whither, must appear very frivolous and impalpable. The time has not come for political parties to be really solid and responsible. It is, however, very close at hand.

JAPAN'S AND KOREA.

THE *Yiji Shimpō* writes of Japan and Korea as follows:—"Among the diplomatic affairs of this country at present the difficult question of the revision of treaties is the most pressing, and next to it in importance may perhaps be placed the policy we should adopt towards Korea. In dealing with Eastern Pacific questions nowadays, the eyes of all nations are turned towards Korea, not merely because it constitutes the heart of such questions, but also because its condition shows signs of internal disquietude. Should anything happen in that country, the foreign Powers might easily find themselves involved in the matter, and a serious disturbance might result. As we are so intimately connected with Korea, all the circumstances of that country possess deep concern for us, and our Korean policy should receive our best attention. Our Government seem to have realized this for many years. It was rumoured some years ago that the sudden trip then made by Count Ito and Count Saigo to Vladivostok, via the Korean Coast, had much to do with the Korean question. Since Count Aoki accepted the portfolio of Foreign Affairs, he has been busily engaged

in investigating the question of Treaty Revision, and has probably taken no step with regard to Korean affairs. But now the sudden despatch of Mr. Kawakami, Commissioner of the Bureau of Commerce of the Department of Foreign Affairs, to Korea may be regarded as indicating the attention paid by the Government to our trade with Korea. It is rumoured that, according to the report of Mr. Kawakami, some diplomatic step may be taken in respect of our relations with Korea." The same paper reports that during the three months from April to June of the present year, trade in Korea showed an exceedingly favourable aspect. The customs duties collected in the three ports of Jinsen, Fusan, and Gensan amounted to three times that collected during the same period last year, as is shown in the following table:—

	APRIL, MAY, AND JUNE, 1890.	APRIL, MAY, AND JUNE, 1889.
Jinsen	\$80,932.64	30,792.78
Fusan	51,870.70	9,617.99
Gensan	32,107.19	14,249.72
	154,910.52	54,660.48

"QUIDNUNC."

WE note with pleasure from the last number of the *North China Herald* that "Quidnunc" has acceded to the wish informally expressed by several of his readers, and resumed his extremely interesting notes. His contribution on this occasion is mainly devoted to the memory of one of Her Majesty's Colonial officials, who died a short while since just as the steamer on which he was a passenger was entering Yokohama harbour. Few will need to be told that we refer to Mr. Alfred Lister, the gentleman who, in his capacity of Postmaster-General in the Hongkong Government, was the object of so much wild criticism and abuse whenever an error of judgment on the part of the Hongkong Post Office or some untoward circumstance delayed the outward mails a day or two. The remembrance of the prevailing tenor of the references to him in certain journals here will certainly not detract from the pleasure of reading the following graceful tribute from the pen of one who knew him well. We quote the passage in its entirety, as by so doing a little may be done to gain local support for the laudable object touched upon in the concluding paragraph. The burden of life pressed heavily on Alfred Lister; "too heavily for his shattered health and enfeebled frame, and though he bore it bravely, with never a murmur, his friends knew how overweighed he was. He served, I think, in every post open to him in Hongkong, with the exception of the administrators, during the five and twenty years he was there. He was most successful, perhaps, at the magistracy, where his moderation and common-sense won for him a reputation in striking contrast to the failures which have commonly attended the elevations to the Bench in Hongkong. In other posts he left the impress of his earnest and conscientious endeavour, but in none of them can he be said to have been distinguished. He lacked, indeed, the force of character which marks a man out from his fellows. His were not the qualities which tell in life's feverish struggle. I prefer to remember him in his too brief hours of leisure, when on some happy holiday we climbed together the ridge that hides the valley of the Pat Henng to spend a long day among its bosky recesses. He could maintain an easy mellifluous flow of conversation, picking his words delicately and almost pedantically, and his views, if not broad, were generally just. He talked best, I think, of books, for he had read widely in the English classics, and there was real literary insight in his criticisms. In his younger days he used to contribute to the *China Review*, and his articles, if slight, were distinguished by a style at once pure and polished. His essay on Chinese Tones is a good example of the superiority of his manner to his matter. He occasionally wrote poetry, which seldom rose above the level of mere versification, but was invariably graceful and correct. To everything he undertook he brought illimitable patience and carefulness to bear, and so far as these could command success he achieved it. But it was in the

qualities of heart rather than of head that he excelled. Like his old friend Mr. Stewart, he was naturally of a retiring disposition, and he was compelled by circumstances to a life of self-denying seclusion. It is no wonder that his friends were few, but it is difficult to understand the bitter hostility which in spite of his upright and unassuming character he undoubtedly aroused. For indeed his was a beautiful nature; sympathetic, almost feminine in its tenderness, resolute and even stern where a principle was involved, he led constantly the 'gentle life.' His death only serves to throw into brighter and clearer relief how bravely he lived. A certain hostile critic was used to style him "saintly" in contempt. He sees now the term was misapplied. May I add here that this heroic soul died as he lived in poverty. His entire estate realised about £500, and he leaves several invalid relatives who have looked to him for support during these many years, but who are now practically destitute. In a memorandum appended to his will he asks in simple faith that these should be cared for by his friends. *In te speravi, Domine, nec me confundas in æternum.* A fund has been opened and subscriptions may be sent to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank for the benefit of his children and dependents. The opportunity will not be lost by any who prize the memory of the just man, or who not willingly allow death to frustrate the intentions of the good."

COUNT ITO.

A SOJOURNER at the Imperial Hotel in Tokyo, whose identity is carefully concealed, has had an interesting interview with Count Ito. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* reports it, and we are inclined to think that the story may be accepted as true. Referring to his appointment as President of the House of Peers, Count Ito explained that he had consented to take the post in deference to repeated expressions of the Imperial wish, but that he did not intend to occupy it for a period longer than the first session of the Diet. It appears that his Excellency is desirous of going to China. During his visit to Peking and Tientsin in 1885, he made the acquaintance of many leading Chinese officials, especially of Viceroy Li, with whom he contracted a very close friendship. Ever since then the Viceroy and the Count have been constant correspondents, and Count Ito is anxious to renew an intercourse which, apart from its pleasurable aspects, may not be without useful results for the best interests of the Orient. At the conclusion of the Diet's first session the Count contemplates accepting the position of *Zenken-Daijin*, a term for which no correspondingly terse English equivalent exists, but which may be translated Plenipotentiary-in-Chief. There is certainly ample scope for the exercise of Count Ito's great abilities in the field indicated. The relations between Japan and China are of the first importance to the Orient, and their proper conduct demands more than ordinary tact and wisdom. Nothing is more essential in a Plenipotentiary visiting China than that the Chinese should be assured of his influence at home. Count Ito's qualifications from this point of view would be unique.

CURING CRIMINALS.

ONE of the most remarkable conceptions of the time is that which suggested the method now practised in parts of the United States for reforming criminals. Instead of attempting to appeal directly to the moral instincts of the subject, the system depends upon influencing his muscles. The experiment is tried with men who have received "indeterminate sentences;" that is to say, sentences fixing a maximum term of imprisonment, but not forbidding release within that term provided that an apparent cure has been effected. The scientific basis of the treatment adopted is thus described in a home journal:—"The grand moral characteristic of the criminal is his callous insensibility. Body and spirit are intimately related, and it is found by thousands of observations that a callous insensibility is his grand physical characteristic too. The massage and Turkish baths, which play so large a part in the treatment adopted in

the Elmira Reformatory of New York, are intended to give health to the tissues, stimulate the cutaneous system, and develop the nervous organization. And the mind partakes of the effect of these processes. They will not make a man virtuous, but they will help to make him sensitive to the claims and attractions of virtue. And that is just what the ordinary criminal is not—by nature or by habit he is sensitive only to the attractions of self-indulgence. But let us see the theory at work. In 1886 Dr. Wey, of Elmira, selected for an experiment eleven criminals between the ages of nineteen and twenty-nine. In various degrees they were dull of intellect—in physiognomy they showed the well-marked traits indicative of criminal tendencies. Their offences were assault, burglary, larceny, rape. For a period of one to two years they had been in prison and had made no improvement. Now Dr. Wey took them in hand, and treated them with baths, massage, shampooing, and drill—the ordinary schoolwork being continued. That a remarkable physical improvement soon showed itself is not surprising; the flabby muscles grew hard, the shuffling gait became manly and elastic, the dull eye brightened. But with this improvement came a mental awakening, a cerebral activity never before manifested in their prison life. The purely animal man, with his ox-like characteristics, seemed to recede before the intellectual. The improvement was marked in every sphere, moral, intellectual, and physical; and in eighteen months from the beginning of the experiment all but two had been released on parole, and were living by honest industry."

CHINESE MEDICAL PRACTICE.

A MOST interesting idea of Chinese medical practice is given in the following article which we take from the *North China Daily News*:

Many Chinese doctors will remember the cholera of 1860 and 1862. They keep account of both these years as times when this fell disease was most destructive of human life in their country. A leading article in one of the Shanghai daily newspapers in Chinese, written by a well-informed native physician, gives the view of his class on the treatment that should be regarded as most suitable. He starts with saying that men who die from cholera owe their death not so much to the disease itself as to the incompetency of the native doctors in attendance. They do not attend to the real nature of the disease, and they treat only its outer manifestation. Then, he says, in persons attacked there is a lack of healthy strength and a liability to fatigue. They get hot by day by exposure, and sleep in draughts by night unprotected. Such persons if they take food at irregular intervals and sometimes go with empty stomachs, are predisposed for cholera, which may enter with the breath through the lungs and the stomach, thus passing into the intestines. The way he puts it is peculiar. The lungs control the skin and hair. The violent perspiration shows that the lungs are affected, as the vomiting shows that the stomach is disordered. The spasms indicate that the liver is affected, because the muscles are under the control of that organ. If a good doctor is not called soon the liver will be reached and spasms will begin. Should wise treatment still be delayed the heart and spleen will be affected and then the tongue will curl up and death will ensue. Sometimes the process is quicker and death occurs after from two to four hours. This is because the evil influence entering from without strikes directly into the seat of the "cold principle" in the lower intestines.

This physician then proceeds to describe his own, as he says, very successful mode of treating cholera. He notices seven symptoms—vomiting, diarrhoea, low pulse, cold limbs, perspiration, spasms, and exhaustion. He at once orders from the druggist a prepared dose to be heated at the patient's house and taken warm to the extent of a good sized tea-cupful. In this dose the main things are ginger, ginseng, Chinese cardamom, and a sort of caraway seed. After this the patient receives *atractylodes alba*, called *peshu* by the apothecaries, a medicine of which the Chinese think a great deal as an aromatic tonic and stimulant. They use it in cases of profuse sweating and apoplexy, chronic dysentery, and rheumatism. It belongs to the *cyrtaracae* among the species of which are found many plants known in Europe as furnishing useful stomachic and febrifuge medicines. If the disease progresses still into the spasmodic state with numbness of the limbs this physician would use *paonia albilora*, the *pecho* of the native apothecaries, with *boyenia rutacarpa*, and a pepperwort which they call *echuhyu*. Our druggists know it by the name *zanthoxylum piperitum*. It is one of the commoner aromatic stimulants in China and in Japan. To this he adds cinnamon bark.

In 1861-1862, he remarks, when the cholera reached Shanghai, it was at a time when the people were crowded indiscriminately in an insufficient number of dwellings. Refugees had arrived in thousands, escaped from the daily scenes of baning and fighting which were witnessed over all the adjoining country at that time. He notices that the sanitary conditions were such that the people were specially liable to be attacked by cholera. It was then that this physician tried his methods and experience. As he does not mention any preparation of opium or of mercury he is probably a cautious doctor and would avoid strong remedies. We should expect opium to be applied to soothe the extraordinary derangement of the system when under the dominion of cholera. Instead of this he gives pig's liver mix-

ed with brick dust from the inside of a furnace, a mixture honoured with the title *Fu-lung-kun*, "liver of the hiding dragon." To this are added one or two ounces of ginger. This remedy of his has had great popularity with many persons and been very successful. He has had, he tells us, a large practice during the summer of this year, and the effect on patients of his remedies has been such as to give him great satisfaction. He could not secure this popularity without favouring the popular beliefs.

He then tells what other doctors say about the treatment and origin of cholera. Its not being mentioned, that is, under the name *sha*, in early books has excited much remark. It first occurs in a book which recommends in treating it the use of paper from which silk-worms have retired, *ts'an t'ui chih*. The book is probably of the Ming dynasty, for he proceeds to say that the cholera came in the middle of the 17th century with the dynasty from Manchuria spreading from the north southward. He notices the use of the name "Manchurian sickness" and of "the foreign cholera." If this is so it is a curious fact in the history of the disease, and the "Manchurian sickness" needs to be inquired into. It seems more likely that Europe is right in supposing that cholera originated in the hot jungles of southern Asia, and at a more recent date than this account states. The same word *sha* is applied to diphtheria and scarlet fever, which became epidemic in China in the severest form in 1733, and belong to the winter and spring. The word *sha* is applied to some five or six diseases, in part summer and autumn epidemics, like cholera, and in part prevailing in the winter and spring. All have appeared in China in the 17th, 18th, or 19th centuries for the first time. The term *ho lan*, also applied to different kinds of cholera, is an ancient name, descriptive of it in the old times when it was not yet epidemic. The reader will judge for himself as to the drugs the names of which have been mentioned above. They are really not very different from what are found in western practice. Chinese doctors appear from what is here said to be fond of using mild remedies, while they avoid those which are very powerful in their operation; as to the nature of the medicines, they are on the whole much the same as our own.

* Hot remedies must be used. The fire god of whom the "hiding dragon" is one of the titles, is supposed to have put his influence into the furnace brickwork.

MR. KAWAKAMI'S MISSION TO KOREA.

"THE despatch to Korea of Mr. Kawakami, Chief of the Commercial Bureau in the Foreign Office," says the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, "was supposed by us to have been ordered by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, but we are now told that he was sent by direct order of the *Naikaku* (Cabinet). Our Government's request, formally conveyed to the Korean Government, to have a place called Heijo in the Heiando district of Korea opened for trade purposes, has been granted, and Mr. Kawakami is now sent to make a careful inspection of the place, and to investigate what trade advantages it offers. He has besides to confer with Mr. Kondo, Japanese Representative in the Korean capital, on matters connected with the new treaty."

HOKKAIDO.

THE marine products of Hokkaido, says the *Mainichi Shimbun*, amount annually to over 6,000,000 yen, of which some 4,000,000 yen worth consist of herrings. The annual amount of cod fish caught is 10,000 *koku* or thereabouts, valued at sixty or seventy yen, per *koku*. This quantity is caught during a short period of the year by the fishermen of Akita, Sado and Yechigo localities, who come to the fishing ground in wretched boats, the people of Hokkaido rarely attempting this kind of fishing. But the indifference of the local folks is not owing to any scarcity of the fish in the seas off Hokkaido, for competent reports on the subject as well as the actual results of fishing by foreigners and Japanese engaged in the enterprise, show that cod fish abound in the waters near the coast of Hokkaido. Indeed so plentiful are they that there seem to be ample grounds for the prediction that cod fishing will hereafter rank with whale fishing among Japanese marine enterprises. In Europe and America, wherever industries in marine products are well developed cod fish almost invariably occupy the leading position. Especially is this true of America, where coast fishing has attained wonderful development. There the fishermen are now beginning to follow the schools of fish into the Atlantic in addition to searching for them in clusters in the bays and reaches of the Pacific. As an example of this we may mention the case of a party of enterprising Americans who recently captured, in a small space near the Kurile Islands, over ten thousand *koku* of codfish, an amount exceeding the whole annual take of these fish in Hokkaido. Japan makes a good deal of noise

about the seal and otter-hunting clandestinely carried on by foreigners in her northern seas, but such poaching is of small importance compared to cod-fishing on the scale we have just mentioned. If foreigners establish themselves in the possession of this large and profitable business, it will be too late for the Japanese to lament. No remedy will be forthcoming, for international law provides no restrictions in waters three miles distant from the coast. Cod-fishing gives large returns and involves a comparatively small outlay. It is little to Japan's credit that such an important enterprise, promising material additions to the national wealth, should vainly offer itself within sight of her shores, her own people looking on supinely while foreigners come thousands of miles to exploit the resources provided for her by nature

IMPROPER TREATMENT OF JAPANESE FEMALE PASSENGERS IN RAILWAY CARRIAGES BY FOREIGNERS.

A VERY scandalous affair has been brought to our notice. It appears that two foreigners who act as runners for the hotels of this Settlement, are in the habit of visiting the Yokohama station when the up mail train from Kobe arrives, and that, their business being known, the railway officials allow them to go on the platform without tickets. One of these men was convicted in Her Britannic Majesty's Consular Court, some time ago, of creating a disturbance at Totsuka station, and was punished by a fine of 50 yen. The other has now committed a still more serious offence. It seems that on Saturday, the 15th instant, he entered a second class carriage of the 12.45 train for Tokyo, not having provided himself with a ticket. Taking his seat beside a Japanese lady who had evidently attracted his attention, he addressed several remarks to her, but received no reply. Unchecked by her manifest desire to be left alone, he persisted in speaking to her. Presently a railway official came to look at the tickets, and, in answer to his enquiry, the hotel man said that he was going to Shimabashi, and would pay his fare there. This remark seems to have shown the lady that she had entered the wrong carriage, her real destination being Hiratsuka. She therefore alighted, and finding that her train had just started, decided, after consultation with a railway official, to remain in the ladies' waiting room until the departure of the next train for the Tokaido road. The hotel runner alighted also, giving up his Shimabashi trip, and following the lady to the waiting room, began to annoy her again. His attentions are said to have been of the most offensive character, amounting to actual solicitation, with offers of money, and a proposal to travel with her as far as Totsuka in a first class carriage. Fortunately a clerk in the railway office happened to pass. Observing a man in the ladies' waiting room, his suspicions were aroused, and the obvious distress of the lady induced him to interfere. He ordered the hotel runner to leave the room, and the order was obeyed slowly. By and by, however, the same clerk, passing again, saw that the man had resumed his previous importunities. He again requested him to leave, but this time the man refused, alleging that he was waiting for the arrival of some ladies. The station master was called, but even his request was disregarded, and the railway clerk was obliged to remain in the room until the departure of the 3.25 p.m. for Hiratsuka, in order to save the lady from further insult. We learn that these facts were officially reported to the managers of the hotel concerned—we refrain at present from mentioning the name—but that they refused to dismiss the man, who is still in their service. The Railway Authorities inform us that complaints have been several times preferred of Japanese ladies being insulted by foreigners at the stations, and we sincerely hope that an example will be made of the blackguard who committed the offence on the 15th instant. Rudeness to a lady travelling by railway is a thing absolutely unknown among the Japanese themselves, and, apart from the indignation which every decent person must feel against the ruffianism of this hotel runner, there is the additional regret that the good name of

foreigners should be dragged through the dirt by such scandalous conduct. It is too bad that the sense of absolute security felt by Japanese ladies in railway travelling should be destroyed by the unbridled license of vulgar foreigners, and we must confess unbounded astonishment that the offender in this case was suffered to remain for an hour in the employment of a respectable hotel. Of course if a foreigner, misbehaving himself in this manner, received personal chastisement at the hands of a Japanese, we should immediately have an outcry about anti-foreign feeling and Japanese savagery. Nevertheless, we earnestly hope that one of these prurient prowlers will have the lash laid about his ears if such practices are persisted in.

THE FUTURE OF THE PORT OF MOGI.

THE *Daido Shimbun* remarks that the works of the Mogi harbour will be completed by March next year, and that the opening of the port is expected by many to exercise a marked influence on the commercial status of Osaka. The reason assigned is that the chief staples of export, such as rice, coal, &c., are principally produced in Kiushiu, and up to the present these products have been first brought to Kobe and thence shipped for exportation. But when the port of Mogi is opened, it will give great facilities for shipping goods, on one hand, while the Kiushiu Railway on the other will provide good communication with the port. Under these circumstances, some of the rice merchants and coal dealers of Osaka and Kobe have already commenced to take steps for opening branches at Mogi, and some, for instance the Osaka Shosen-kaisha, having bought land for building their offices, the natural result has been a rise in the price of land at Mogi and in its neighbourhood. There are not wanting men who predict that Kiushiu will soon possess in Mogi a second Osaka.

COTTON SPINNING IN JAPAN.

THE *London Economist* has the following:—

In his report on the trade of the Japanese ports of Hyogo and Osaka during 1889, Mr. J. H. Longford, the Acting-Consul, shows that an aggregate decline of £480,000 in most articles of import was nearly counterbalanced by what was the most marked feature of the import trade of the year, the large increase in the import of raw cotton, amounting to £411,000. Mr. Longford says:—"This import was necessitated for the purpose of supplying the various spinning mills in Osaka and elsewhere, and the amount of cotton grown in Japan itself being entirely inadequate to meet the requirements of these mills, it is probable that this import will at least maintain its present value. Hitherto the whole supply has been obtained from China, and, as its import is entirely in the hands of Chinese or Japanese merchants, it is a source of little profit to British trade, beyond that it is, to a large extent, carried here in British ships. The cotton crop in China was last year a short one, and in September prices of Chinese cotton advanced from £2 12s. 6d. (£17) to £3 8s. 1d. (£22) per picul (133 lbs). With the raw material at the last-mentioned price, it was quite impossible for the output of the native mills to compete with Bombay yarn, and as this experience taught spinners that they could not absolutely rely on the Chinese supply of raw cotton in the future, inquiry had to be made as to another source from which their requirements could be satisfied. A commission of experts, including officials of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, was therefore sent to India, with the object of investigating the cotton supply there and its adaptability to Japanese spinning, and as a result of it large importations of raw cotton have during the current year been obtained thence. Small experimental importations of American cotton have also been made, but as yet attempts on the part of the spinning companies to turn out a yarn from the American cotton that can compete with the English imported yarn have only resulted in failure. These companies still entertain the hope that they may ultimately be able to completely oust Bombay yarns from the Japanese market, but it is difficult to see any just grounds for the realisation of these hopes, if, as will probably be the case, India has to be looked to for the supply of the necessary raw material. Many of the spinning companies, for some years, gave every promise of continued success, and rewarded their shareholders with large dividends. But the aspect has lately changed, the market prices of the shares having greatly depreciated, several of the mills being either idle or working half-time, and the question is suggested whether it would not be more to the advantage, both of the people at large and of individual capitalists, for the Japanese to devote both their money and energies to the increased production of staples which are natural to the country and familiar

to the people, rather than to the endeavour to reach a position which will enable them to supply themselves with articles that can probably be always obtained better and cheaper from abroad."

In connection with this subject attention should be drawn to the remarkable statistical tables appended to Mr. Consul Ensley's Trade Report for Yokohama, for 1889. These tables are the most exhaustive and elaborate of their kind hitherto printed; they do great credit to the industry and research of their compiler, and are a valuable addition to our knowledge of trade matters. The statistics relating to the cotton industry are worth re-producing in the context of Mr. Longford's remarks:—

STATISTICS FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER, 1889.

Factories.	Number of Spindles.	Running Time, per month.	Days per month.	Hours per day.	Numbers of yarn turned out.
Osaka Spin'g Co.	39,760	21,310	32	24	16
Temma	4,608	10,528	26	24	10
Miye	4,428	11,800	24	24	15
Kanegafuchi	25,000	—	27	10	16
Tamashima	7,030	4,000	27	24	13
Naniwa	10,700	1,800	24	24	10
Tokyo	6,224	1,800	19	24	13
Dojima	8,408	3,400	23	24	10
Nagoya	1,000	8,000	23	24	16
Hiroshima	3,000	4,000	25	21	14
Wakayama	341	5,100	20	24	13
Hirane	4,092	—	23	23	16
Okayama	6,724	—	20	24	14
Himeji	2,754	3,000	24	24	14
Shimozuke	—	—	—	—	—
Shimonaka	1,800	3,000	23	24	15
Kagoshima	—	—	—	—	—
Yawata	2,000	—	24	13	10
Watanabe	—	3,000	27	24	13
Shimada	—	3,000	27	24	13
Enshu	—	3,000	25	24	14
Kuwabara	—	3,000	27	24	15
Miyagi	—	—	—	—	—
Yamato	—	1,000	25	24	13
Aichi	—	3,000	24	24	16
Nagasaki	—	—	—	—	—
Fuji	1,136	—	23	24	11

Total 97,758 102,792

Note.—* Foreign number. † Japanese number.

Factories.	Amount Turned out by the Spindles.	Ginned Cotton.	Waste.	Thread.	Amount of coal consumed.
Osaka Spin'g Co.	288,215	415,600	277,586	82,383	23,604
Temma	82,000	122,003	94,184	15,751	6,470
Miye	100,635	180,585	341,070	33,439	0,022
Kanegafuchi	194,400	—	258,821	30,005	1,338
Tamashima	237,740	101,245	378,304	27,026	2,336
Naniwa	177,823	115,800	16,300	24	5,513
Tokyo	80,735	12,770	150,303	14,411	5,513
Dojima	126,525	30,766	177,203	14,140	1,515
Nagoya	23,599	90,741	146,843	16,721	2,724
Hiroshima	48,070	55,868	121,678	11,524	350
Wakayama	8,033	73,273	21,017	7,164	2,323
Hirane	130,221	—	166,381	15,404	752
Okayama	163,214	—	188,624	8,741	437
Himeji	52,167	31,700	53,000	6,030	362
Shimozuke	—	—	—	—	—
Shimonaka	35,644	37,651	84,735	5,780	411
Kagoshima	—	—	—	—	—
Yawata	50,505	—	61,150	5,664	770
Watanabe	—	30,221	42,650	1,910	460
Shimada	—	27,310	51,804	3,188	308
Enshu	—	21,435	35,331	2,445	245
Kuwabara	—	23,310	74,366	3,142	235
Miyagi	—	—	—	—	—
Yamato	—	20,523	33,084	2,581	385
Aichi	—	16,190	18,303	2,275	157
Nagasaki	—	—	—	—	—
Fuji	30,543	—	36,934	4,918	96

Factories.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Average Daily Wages.	Price of yarn produced.	Remarks.
Osaka Spin'g Co.	979	1,700	2,679	11.10	92.00	
Temma	182	610	792	10.50	93.00	
Miye	228	738	966	10.30	93.00	
Kanegafuchi	322	1,170	1,492	10.00	93.00	
Tamashima	148	400	548	6.50	92.00	
Naniwa	133	280	413	11.00	92.00	
Tokyo	152	371	523	8.10	95.00	
Dojima	231	426	657	11.90	91.00	
Nagoya	113	208	321	7.20	91.00	
Hiroshima	118	246	364	7.20	92.50	
Wakayama	128	177	305	6.30	92.50	
Hirane	162	295	457	5.05	92.00	
Okayama	94	300	394	8.50	92.50	
Himeji	165	178	343	9.00	90.00	
Shimozuke	—	—	—	—	—	No report.
Shimonaka	77	168	245	8.25	94.00	
Kagoshima	—	—	—	—	—	Repairing.
Yawata	53	126	179	7.70	88.00	
Watanabe	19	71	90	7.61	91.00	
Shimada	19	68	87	8.80	92.00	
Enshu	37	61	98	7.50	92.00	
Kuwabara	23	60	83	9.30	92.00	
Miyagi	—	—	—	—	—	No report.
Yamato	23	69	92	8.00	92.00	
Aichi	20	94	114	9.30	92.00	
Nagasaki	—	—	—	—	—	No report.
Fuji	17	46	63	8.50	91.00	

Total 3,433 7,500

Average 17.53 8.55

THE OPENING OF THE DIET.

SEVERAL enquiries have been addressed to us with regard to the possibility of obtaining orders to witness the opening of the Diet. It is to be feared that this will be a matter of great difficulty. The Authorities are understood to be desirous of granting every possible facility to the public, but the space available is limited, and the programme published in the *Official*

Gazette shows that the number of persons having a right to be present is sufficiently large to occupy the greater part of the strangers' gallery. Considerable discrimination will have to be exercised, and our own information goes to show that invitations will be issued only to those in whose behalf some special plea can be urged. A good deal of disappointment will result, but that is inevitable.

The day for the ceremony has not yet been officially announced, and some surprise is expressed at the delay, but there is no question, we believe, that the 28th will be chosen. The members will take their places for the first time on the 25th, and will at once proceed to the duty of electing a President and Vice-President. This seems at first sight a simple proceeding, but it will be in truth a long and tedious affair. The balloting for each official must take place separately, and a careful estimate shows that to collect, record, and group the votes of three hundred members will occupy a space of four hours. Eight hours will consequently be required to perform this operation in respect of the President and Vice-President, and if, as is not improbable, considering the novelty of the situation, any error occurs in the balloting, so that the votes have to be taken a second time, then the total period will extend to twelve hours. In the latter contingency, supposing that the Diet meets at 10 a.m., it will have to remain in session until 10 p.m., and the President and Vice-President cannot be nominated until the following morning. It is also anticipated that no candidate will obtain a sufficient majority to clearly indicate him as the House's choice. The *Taisei-kai* (Independents), the *Rikken Jiyu-to* (Constitutional Liberals), and the *Kaishin-to* all propose to put forward and vote for their own candidates. Thus nine names will probably be submitted for each post, and it will rest with the Emperor to choose the most suitable person from among the number.

THE AMERICAN BOARD MISSION COLLEGE IN KYOTO.

The college of the American Board Mission in Kyoto, known as the Doshisha, has now become one of the most important educational institutions in the empire. The Japanese people can scarcely fail to recognise the debt they owe to Americans who build, endow, and conduct such invaluable colleges for their use. We read in the *Kobe Herald* that a Science Hall has just been added to the already extensive buildings of the Doshisha. It is a handsome edifice of brick and stone, measuring 113ft. x 58ft., and containing eleven rooms for purposes of recitation, lecturing, apparatus, laboratories, and professional use. Mr. T. N. Harris, of New London, has contributed the munificent sum of a hundred thousand dollars towards the building and endowment of this Hall. It is not improbable that Sir Edwin Arnold may be among the first to lecture in the new building, for we learn that he has consented to deliver a course of lectures at the College during his approaching stay in Kyoto.

THE REV. MR. SYLE.

SCARCELY a week has passed since the receipt of a letter announcing the death of Mrs. Syle, and we now learn that she has already been followed to the grave by her husband. Almost immediately after her funeral, Mr. Syle was struck down by paralysis and passed away quietly. Mr. Syle was widely respected and liked during his residence in Japan. He was a man of large humanity, and his keen interest in everything connected with Japan enabled him to contribute materially to our knowledge of the country and people, and also inspired others to emulate his studiousness.

THE "JAPAN ECHO."

THE second issue of the *Japan Echo* confirms the highly favoured impression conveyed by the first. It is decidedly good reading, but purveyors of literary feasts had better serve it with the cheese. The illustrations are immensely im-

proved. The zincograph process "has not been found in a sufficiently advanced stage in Japan" for the uses of journalism, and the *Echo* has "fallen back upon old fashioned lithography." The results are good. Especially commendable is a chromo-lithograph of one of those Japanese curiosities so admirably described in "Our Neighbourhood" as "a child tied to a baby," or, in the vocabulary of a certain ventilator of facette, "a tot knotted to a totter." We must confess that a decidedly pleased sensation is produced by the novelty of a fresh and by no means shallow thinker discussing Japanese subjects with straightforward vigour and without any shadow of malice. Indeed, the good-humour of the editor of the *Echo* is conspicuous, though how it survives the terrible tussles he is evidently condemned to engage in with his type-setters, we are at a loss to conceive. From certain indications conveyed in his columns we suspect that he is "spoiling" for a fight with the *Japan Mail*, not from perversity, nor yet because he greatly disagrees with our views, but out of sheer youthful love of a "breeze." A little weary of the arena, however, we are disposed to take all that the *Echo* can give us "lying down." At present it gives us only pleasure, and we should be glad to think that some better reward is in store for it than anything discernible on our narrow local horizon. It is true that no one possessing such qualifications as the editor has hitherto tried the experiment of piping in the empty market places of the few exiles who devote themselves to the pursuit of the *yen* in Japan. But the best must fail where success is impossible. Tis sad, but true. We observe that the editor of the *Echo* is slightly ruffled by an allusion of ours to "Don Juan's Grandson in Japan." Well, he ought not to write such things. He can do infinitely better in other lines, and we commend to his notice Fenelon's immortal dictum, "*ne forçons pas nos talents, nous ne ferons rien avec grâce.*"

THE "HOGAKU IN INYU KAI."

We are charged, we observe, with mistranslating the term *Hogaku-in Inyu-kai*, but inasmuch as we have not attempted to translate it, the accusation lacks point. For the information of our readers we spoke of the *Hogaku-in Inyu-kai* as a Society of Graduates, a description quite sufficiently accurate for the purposes of our reference. Literally rendered the ideographs make a clumsy formula, "Society of Friends of the Institution of the Law Institution. The Society consists for the most part, we believe, of graduates of the Institution, and for that reason we adopted the simple explanation, a Society of Graduates; but our critics must suppose our knowledge of Japanese to be exceedingly rudimentary if they imagine that our formula was intended to be a literal rendering of the words *Hogaku-in Inyu-kai*.

STEAMER ON SHORE.

We have to record another shipping casualty, the steamer *Harima Maru* being reported on shore at Inuboye. No details have been received as to the actual position of the ship, but assistance has been sent to her, and it will soon be known whether she is to be a total loss or otherwise. The vessel left here on the 7th inst. for Nemuro, in charge of Captain Kobayashi, and was probably returning to this port when she went ashore in a heavy storm. Although a comparatively small vessel, she is nearly new and of a strong, serviceable type.

It has since been stated that grounds exist for believing that the *Harima Maru* will be got off safely. She is ashore on a sandy beach, and should the weather prove favourable, operations for floating her will in all probability be successful. No definite news, however, has yet been received.

DEATH AT SEA.

An enquiry was held in H.B.M.'s Consulate on Tuesday morning into the cause of the death of John McNair, a seaman of the *Pythomene*,

who died after being two weeks at sea on the voyage from New York to this port. Thomas Dexter, the captain, said deceased took ill on the 21st of June, and died on the 22nd. He was seized with fits, and on the 21st June said he was suffering from chronic rheumatism. Everything was done for him that was possible. He took fits at noon on the 21st, and was not conscious afterwards. The captain thought the deceased was all right when he shipped. Walter Smith corroborated the captain's statement, and said he had known the deceased before, and that he had been ill before he went on the last voyage. Two other witnesses gave similar evidence, and Mr. Troup found that the deceased died from natural causes, apparently epileptic fits.

TEMPLES AND PRIESTS.

In the columns of the *Fumiuri Shimbu* we find certain statistics about Buddhist temples and priests in Japan. They are as follow:—

SECT.	TEMPLES.	SECT.	TEMPLES.
Tendatsu	4,785	Ji	525
Shingon	12,928	Ohaku	577
Sodo	14,334	Shin	19,210
Jodo	8,304	Yuzu Nembutsu ..	267
Rinsai	6,517		
		Total	67,447

The total number of priests attached to these temples is 57,700. It will be observed that the Hokke Sect is omitted from the list. This is doubtless an error, and to it we may attribute the fact that although the temples actually enumerated only aggregate 67,447, the total given by the *Fumiuri* is 84,924. The difference, namely, 17,487, probably represents the temples of the Hokke Sect.

THE BANK OF JAPAN.

The amounts of convertible notes and reserves in the Bank of Japan for the week ended the 15th instant were as follows:—

CONVERTIBLE NOTES.	RESERVES AND SECURITIES.
YEN.	YEN.
Notes (round)	Gold coin and bullion
100,103,468	24,995,710
	Silver coin and bullion
	20,150,000
	Public Loan Bonds
	13,470,450
	Treasury Bills
	29,000,000
	Government Bills
	4,724,000
	Other securities
	14,750,721
100,103,468	100,103,468

Of the above total issue of notes, the sum of yen 4,948,145 is in the treasury of the Bank. 22,000,000 has been transferred on loan to the Government, and yen 73,155,323 is in actual circulation, the latter showing an increase of yen 455,258 as compared with yen 72,700,065 at the end of the previous week.

MR. SPENCER'S PARACHUTE DESCENT IN TOKYO. We learn from the *Mainichi Shimbu* that the Emperor has presented a sum of yen 1,500 to Mr. Percival Spencer, who made a parachute descent in Tokyo the other day in presence of His Imperial Majesty. Mr. Spencer announces a performance for the 24th instant in Uyen Park.

NEEDLESS CORRECTIONS.

THE *Jiyu Shimbu* is at some pains to correct a statement which it professes to have found in the columns of the *Japan Gazette*, to the effect that the Representatives of Great Britain and America have received instructions from their Governments not to proceed with the negotiations for Treaty Revision. Sometimes it seems as though assertions of this class were invented purely for the purpose of making paragraphs. Their originators are the victims either of remarkable ignorance or of an inconveniently lively imagination.

ORGAN RECITAL.

We draw special attention to the second and last Organ Recital which Mr. Griffin has promised to the Union Church, and which will be given as per advertisement on Tuesday evening, the 25th inst. The programme will be published on Monday, and will include a fine selection of vocal music, both solo and choral. We learn that the chorus-work will again be a feature of

the concert, and that when this performance is over the revived Choral Society will at once commence their weekly meetings for practice.

THE celebrated aeronauts, the Brothers Baldwin, arrived here yesterday from San Francisco, and will give one of their sensational double ascents before going south, if sufficient inducement offers. These balloonists are the same who made so many successful descents by the parachute at the Crystal Palace and other places in England.

THE annual harvest thanks-giving Service will be held in S. Andrew's Church, Shiba, on Sunday, November 23rd, at 11 a.m. The sermon will be preached by the Rev. L. B. Cholmondeley, and the offertory will be given to the S. Hilda's Hospital Fund.

DR. MEACHAM will preach to-morrow morning in the Union Church, when his theme will be "God's wonderful love to man."

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The miscellaneous news columns of the vernacular press for the current week have been occupied by reports of the meetings of the members of the Diet, by rumours as to the probable President and Vice-President of the Lower House, by information as to the scheme of reform proposed by the various political bodies, and above all by accounts of interviews with distinguished statesmen and officers on the question of the proposed augmentation of the Navy. There are not yet sufficient materials for a prediction as to the direction which public opinion will take about the last problem. The accounts of the different interviews serve to show that men connected with the Army are in favour of increasing the land forces, while those connected with the Navy lay stress on the importance of improving the means of maritime defence. Equally difficult is it to foretell who will be the successful candidates for the Presidency and Vice-Presidency of the House of Representatives. The principal persons thus far named in connection with the former post are Messrs. Nakashima Nobuyuki, Tsuda Shindo, Kusumoto Masataka, Kôno Hironaka, Kawashima Jun, and Oye Taku; and for the latter post Messrs. Yoshino Seikei, Shimada Saburo, and others are indicated.

The question which has occupied, during this week, the larger part of the attention of the members of the Diet, is that relating to the revision of the provisional Regulations of the Houses. Many of the members of the Upper House have agreed to strike out the article prohibiting the admission of women to the audience gallery. On the 19th instant some delegates from the *Yayoi Club*, the *Taisei-kai*, and the *Gi-in Shukai-sho*, began a series of meetings for the purpose of comparing the opinions held by their respective clubs or associations about the provisions of the Regulations, and, if possible, of elaborating a common scheme of revision. The first conference was productive of eminently good results, as the delegates found that many of their opinions coincided. There is now no longer any doubt that the members of the Lower House representing the Constitutional Liberal party, the *Kaishin-to*, and the *Taisei-kai* (Independents), will form an alliance on certain questions. For the *Yayoi Club* is composed of popular representatives of the *Rikken Jiyu-to*, while the *Gi-in Shukai-sho* is chiefly composed of men belonging to the *Kaishin-to*. A parliamentary alliance of these three parties would determine the political situation, for they would command a majority of at least fifty or sixty in a House of three hundred members.

The opening of the Diet drawing near, the Tokyo papers vie with one another in giving

advice to the members of the Diet and to their electors. The *Fuyu Shimbun* recommends the Peers and the Commons to work peaceably together, and, if the occasion demands it, to present a united front to the Cabinet. The members of the two Houses, our contemporary apprehends, may be inclined to regard each other as if they were hereditary antagonists. The Peers may seem in the eyes of the Commons to be mere instruments of the Executive. Count Itagaki's organ hopes, however, that the members of the two branches of the Legislature will meet in a frank and straightforward spirit, and endeavour to come to an understanding.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* regrets that there is want of harmony among the members of the Upper House, which is divided into as many small factions as there are orders of nobility, and different classes of other kinds. Our contemporary fears that the Peers may, by their internal dissensions, be betrayed into serious neglect of their proper duties as a branch of the Legislature. What are their proper duties? The *Nichi Nichi* says that they are expected to check the extreme opinions of the Commons, if the interests of the country seem to call for such a course, and to defend the prerogatives of the Emperor. In order to properly discharge these important functions, they must be prepared at any time to bring their whole power and influence to bear in opposition to extravagant tendencies on the part of the popular branch of the Legislature. They are, therefore, advised to forget the difference of their social ranks, and to cultivate friendship and unanimity.

The *Nippon* follows a similar line of argument. It observes that the first condition of the success of any new institution, political or otherwise, is that its originators should rightly understand the nature of their responsibility. The question of popular representation having been long before the public, it is not necessary to remind the members of the Lower House of the nature of the duties required of them. But in the case of the Peers, the case is different, because the importance of their existence as a separate branch of the Legislature has not been hitherto adequately discussed. Their duty is, on the one hand, to restrain the violence of public opinion, and, on the other, to check any arbitrary tendency of the Executive. In a word, they have to maintain a strictly neutral and independent attitude in the body politic. They ought, therefore, neither to court popularity with the people nor to flatter those in power.

The *Daido Shimbun* is afraid that the elected members of the Diet may prove to be too eager to distinguish themselves, either at the cost of the expeditious transaction of business, or to the detriment of the interests of their parties. The electors will peruse the journal of the House of Representatives with keen interest, expecting to see their members cut a figure in the Diet. The Representatives know this very well; and in their inexperience, they may cause much trouble and loss of time by zeal to speak. Our contemporary, therefore, reminds them of the practice prevailing in the Parliaments of England and other constitutional countries as to the mode of conducting debates, and recommends them to act like a well disciplined army of modern times.

The relation between the Representatives and the electors forms the subject of a few articles. The *Daido Shimbun* writes at some length about the necessity that support should be given to the members of the Diet by the people at large. At present the powers of the Diet are very limited, and it will be necessary to have frequent recourse to the privilege, guaranteed by Art. XL of the Constitution, of making representations to the Government. But the weight which such representations will have with those in authority, depends upon the degree of harmony existing between the views of the members of the Diet and those of the nation. Our con-

temporary, therefore, urges upon the electors the importance of keeping a vigilant watch over the doings of their representatives, in order to see that the views of the constituencies are rightly interpreted. The *Yomiuri Shimbun* goes a step further. It advises the provincial electors to repair to the capital as soon as possible, so that they may be the better able to supervise the conduct of their representatives. The *Yomiuri* is not sure that there may not be some members faithless enough to deceive their constituents by renouncing the opinions they expressed at the time of their election. A moral obligation rests with the electors to see that their representatives are not guilty of such perfidy. Our contemporary has another object also in view in advising the provincial electors to make haste to Tokyo. Much good was expected to result from the infusion of the robust and simple spirit of the country members into metropolitan society, but the *Yomiuri* declares itself disappointed to find that instead of influencing the city folks the members have been influenced by the latter and have fallen into the effeminate and over-refined ways of the city. The presence of a large number of provincial electors might restore the erring members to their pristine condition.

We may easily imagine Mr. Fukuzawa's satisfaction when he was invited to dinner on the 17th instant by more than thirty of the members of the Diet, all of them his former pupils at the *Keio Gijuku*. The more prominent among them were Messrs. Obata Tokujiro, Fujita Mokichi, Ozaki Yukio, Inukai Ki, Minoura Masaru, and Tanimoto Michiyuki. In a speech which he delivered on that occasion, Mr. Fukuzawa, after expressing his thanks to his hosts, dwelt at some length on the enduring bond which school life engenders among fellow students. The circumstance that they were formerly students at the same school would not, he said, prevent his hearers, from having differences of opinion on important questions of State. But amid all political excitement and party strife, the sweet recollection of their school life should suffice to preserve the friendly relations now existing among them. "For myself," continued Mr. Fukuzawa, "as you all know, I take no part in politics, and at my advanced age, it could be of little benefit to me to win friends and of less to make foes by engaging in politics. Had I, indeed, devoted myself to practical politics, it would doubtless have been my lot to ally myself closely with you rather than with your opponents, who would naturally be my antagonists also. Nothing could be farther from my wish than such an unpleasant state of affairs." He said in conclusion that his only desire was to see his former pupils intimate and friendly in private, whatever differences might separate them in politics.

The island of Kyushu seems to be the hot-bed of every political and social movement in Japan. At the town of Miyazaki there was formed, some time ago, an organization called the *Miyazaki Fichi-kaï*. It was known to include several members imbued with socialist notions. It is now reported that having been thought dangerous to public peace and order, the association has been commanded to dissolve by the local public Authorities. It appears that the society was originally established for the purpose of opposing the municipal council, which was reported to have in contemplation the levying of a kind of house tax. Thus at first it consisted of house-holders, and everything went on in an orderly manner, but when the original object had been attained, these sober members left the association and their places were filled by carpenters, wall plasterers, and so forth. These, under the management of a few socialist leaders, soon became unruly and began to attack the municipal authorities and the wealthier portion of the inhabitants. The latter, on their side, were compelled, in self-defence, to form an association called the *Seigi kaï*. Thus the whole place was divided into two parties, and so-

cial intercourse, as well as business transactions, ceased between them. The socialist party secretly collected clubs and sword-sticks to attack the members of the *Seigi-kaï*, and the Authorities were forced to interfere. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, commenting on this event, calls the attention of the Government and the members of the Diet to the importance of devising some measures for checking the spread of the contagion engendered at Miyazaki. In former times, the comparatively equal distribution of wealth prevented the rise of a socialist party, but signs are now becoming apparent that the poor are growing poorer and the wealthy wealthier.

The *Rikken Fuyu-to's* programme of questions to be brought before the Diet, has evoked various comments. The *Hochi Shimbun* observes that the members of the party have hitherto been distinguished by their proneness to push reforms at a high rate of speed. It approves in theory the programme referred to, but in carrying out the proposed reforms the Constitutional Liberals are advised to proceed deliberately and to entertain no sanguine expectations, for they are more likely to be disappointed than satisfied.

The *Fuyu Shimbun*, the Constitutional Liberal organ, takes a very different tone. It advises the members of its party never to be content with patch-work reform, but to push their views thoroughly and courageously. The *Fiji Shimpō* cautions not only the Constitutional Liberals but every other party to be moderate in advancing schemes of reform, particularly such as relate to financial matters. Some persons advocate the abolition of a few Departments of State and a reduction of the number and salaries of officials, but our contemporary observes that reforms in these directions are exceedingly difficult to carry out with success. The *Fiji* draws the attention of politicians to other changes which they can advocate with better success. For example, they ought to prevail on the Government to reduce the rate (7½ per cent.) of interest on the money (*yen* 10,000,000) due by the Treasury to the Bank of Japan. Cutting the rate down to 5 per cent. would benefit the Treasury to the extent of 250,000 *yen* annually.

The *Mainichi Shimbun*, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, the *Tokyo Shimpō*, and others unite in demanding a speedy statement of the Budget. The House of Peers has to complete all the necessary investigations on the Budget within 15 days after it has been received from the Government. It will be impossible, says the *Nichi Nichi*, to deal thoroughly with such a subject in 15 days, and it would therefore be desirable to have the Budget distributed among the members some days before it is formally submitted to the Diet.

The *Nippon* is still engaged in its interminable essay on the history of finance. The *Tokyo Shimpō* discusses at some length various problems of practical politics, the reduction of taxes among others. The *Hochi Shimbun* has dealt with the questions of national education and the special system of municipal government. The *Fiji Shimpō*, writing on the subject of the coal industry in Japan, refers to the circumstance that the Mitsu Bishi Company has begun to engage in retail sales of coal obtained from mines in its own possession, and predicts that by and by the whole business, wholesale and retail, will be monopolized by that company, while all the coal fields will also fall into its hands. The *Yomiuri Shimbun* and the *Choya Shimbun* have devoted much space to the discussion of constitutional questions. The *Mainichi Shimbun*, in a series of two articles, suggests the formation of a large company for enabling poor people to emigrate to foreign countries. The same paper also advises Count Yamagata to steadfastly pursue his policy of keeping aloof from party strife. The *Fuyu Shimbun* writes on the qualifications requisite for statesmen.

THE TEMPORARY HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT IN TOKYO.

NOT long after the date for granting Japan a constitution was fixed by His Majesty the EMPEROR, the question of a building to accommodate the first national assembly began to be mooted. At the outset, somewhat extensive plans were projected, but the Government prudently determined to be content at first with a temporary building, and to defer the construction of a permanent one until full experience of the needs of the Diet had been acquired. The work of designing and superintending was entrusted to a German architect, Mr. STEGMUELLER, and the whole had to be finished within two years. An excellent site was chosen in Uchi-sawai-cho, in the immediate vicinity of the Foreign Office, and of the district now regarded as the official quarter of the capital. It is true that in such a neighbourhood a temporary wooden building must suffer considerably by contrast, for not only do many handsome edifices in brick and stone already stand in close proximity, but right opposite the Diet's comparatively humble tenement there will soon rise the big, imposing edifices now in course of construction for the Supreme Court of Justice, the Home Office, and the Admiralty. A sum of only eighty thousand *yen* was appropriated for the erection and equipment of the House of Parliament, and in view of its necessarily capacious dimensions, it was very evident that the architect must limit himself to a wooden building of the plainest character. This at once explains the somewhat flimsy and absolutely inornate appearance of the edifice; features which have been strongly criticised in some quarters, but which simply show that the architect's hands were tied, and that he had the good sense to enter thoroughly into the Government's prudent determination not to expend an unnecessary dollar on external decoration. The public further remarked that as the work progressed it assumed a somewhat conglomerate shape, annexes, additions, and supplementary structures cropping up with peculiar pertinacity, until it seemed quite hopeless to look for anything like architectural harmony. For this, too, the gradually developed needs of the Authorities themselves must be held responsible. Mr. STEGMUELLER's original plans, as sanctioned by the Cabinet, took in, we believe, a space of some 2,110 square metres. But from the early stages of the work until shortly before its completion, the Government gave directions that extensive additions should be made for purposes either not originally contemplated, or intended to have been fulfilled by separated buildings in the vicinity. Among such additions we may mention official residences for the two Chief Secretaries of the Upper and Lower House; fire-proof warehouses for archives; boiler-houses for heating

purposes; a large kitchen, together with extensive stables and coach-houses. As the site did not lend itself to an underground storey, no alternative remained but to extend the ground plan by 340 square metres. This involved a corresponding enlargement of the surrounding park, for in obedience to genuine Japanese canons it was decreed that however unpretending and uncomely the building itself, it should not be without a beautiful environment of fine trees, graceful parterres, and limpid ponds. Thus the original plan grew until the original appropriation of eighty thousand *yen* had to be trebled, and it is greatly to the credit of the architect that, though condemned to carry on such piece-meal work, he has nevertheless contrived to invest the whole with a sufficiently imposing and harmonious appearance.

The building faces south-east, the conventional aspect dictated by climatic considerations in Tokyo. In the centre of the façade, which is 121 metres long, and in front of the main entrance, a gently sloping terrace sweeps upwards in a fine curve, passing finally under a spacious balcony supported by columns. At both ends of the building jutties project sharply, imparting an air of vigorous finish. Entering by the main door, we find before us a broad vestibule, leading to a spacious octagonal hall, which occupies the centre of the edifice. Thence stretch away to the right the corridors of the Upper House and to the left those of the Lower. They are very commodious corridors, being 6½ metres broad and of quite formidable length, and the difficulty of lighting them has been dexterously overcome. Following the corridor to the left, we reach the Session Chamber of the House of Representatives. Its section is a parallelogram, 25 metres in length and 16 in breadth. It is a well ventilated and imposing chamber, 16 metres in height, obtaining its light laterally from an almost uninterrupted row of windows placed immediately below the ceiling. The light, penetrating on all four sides, is deadened on the East, South, and West by means of frosted panes, and its entrance at such a height obviates all dazzling effects. In the evening this chamber, in common with the whole building, is illumined by electricity. The decoration is in excellent taste. The pale terracotta colouring on the walls, the doors of dull Russian green, the green leather coverings of the rows of seats, and the light grey balustrades of the gallery, picked out in gold, harmonize admirably. In the centre of one side rises a lofty podium with the table of the President and Vice-Presidents. In front of this, and a little lower, stands the rostrum, from which small flights of steps lead down, right and left, to a semi-circular portion of the chamber, where are placed the seats for stenographers, and the table of the House. Round about this half-circle

rise, amphitheatre-like, 326 padded seats for the 326 representatives. Numerous passages intersect the concentric semi-circles of seats, and provide every member with convenient access to his place. Before each seat stands a little table. A balcony surrounds the chamber on three sides at the height of the first storey. It is divided into boxes in which 400 spectators can easily find room. With respect to size, arrangement and number of seats, the Chamber of the Upper House is exactly like that just described. Here, however, an ingenious provision has in addition been made for solemn State occasions. Behind the President's table and three steps higher than the highest level of the Chamber itself, a large alcove has been built into the wall containing the Imperial throne. The alcove is adorned by a richly decorated baldachin, and is so contrived as to be capable of being shut off by means of a portière draped under the baldachin. On special occasions, when HIS IMPERIAL MAJESTY appears in his Parliament, the curtain will be drawn back, and the removal of the presidential table, the rostrum, etc., which stand in front of the Imperial alcove, will leave an open space, bounded by a richly carved balustrade. By this device an imposing stage for significant acts of State, and a suitable space for the EMPEROR and his suite are provided. On such occasions the outermost semi-circles of the rows of seats will be removed so as to furnish the whole of the members of both Houses with an adequate amount of standing room. We need scarcely say that the boxes of the EMPRESS, of the Imperial Princes and of the Diplomatic Corps are particularly richly decorated. Indeed, there is only one object-calling for criticism, namely, the carpet covering the floor of the Imperial alcove, which is shockingly vulgar and incongruous. The acoustics are really admirable. There is absolute freedom from the jarring resonance so common in wooden buildings, and words spoken in an ordinary tone can be heard distinctly in every part of the Chamber. Both Chambers of Session are surrounded on all sides by corridors leading to the various bureaux, committee rooms, &c. In the outer wings of the building are situated the libraries and refreshment rooms. The total number of such side apartments in the building proper is 109. It can only have been possible to obtain so many rooms by most carefully utilizing every spare corner up to the very roof. Of these, rooms, also, a considerable number are spacious, and all appearance of bareness is removed by rich leather paper and ceiling paintings. Warmth is obtained by means of stoves or fire-places, and electric lights are provided everywhere. Very handsome, considering the nature of the building, are the reception room of the EMPEROR ranging over the entrance hall and the apartments which flank it. The former opens on to a bal-

cony from which a fine view is obtained, in the fore-ground of the tastefully laid out park with its two large ornamental basins, and in the back-ground of the southern and eastern portions of the city with the sea beyond. On the whole, we think that Mr. STEGMUELLER is to be congratulated on his work. No opportunity offered for architectural achievement in the external form of the building, but whatever was possible in the shape of clear contrivance and experienced arrangement has been accomplished in the interior. The building, in fact, while satisfying the first conditions of its temporary existence, cheapness and unpretentiousness, is admirably suited to its purpose, and its general appearance by no means lacks dignity and impressiveness.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

THE rising importance of British Columbia, the largest in area of the confederated provinces of the Dominion of Canada, has a special interest for the inhabitants of these islands. Now that a fleet of fast mail steamers has been built for the trans-Pacific trade, the port of Vancouver will be within eleven days' sailing from Yokohama. Situated between the same parallels of latitude as the northern parts of Japan, British Columbia enjoys a singularly temperate climate. The genial influence of the warm ocean current from these shores, makes itself sensibly felt in the open and humid winters which the province enjoys. Its most northerly harbour, Port Simpson, never freezes, and the mean annual temperature of the coldest month is but 38° F. In this area, equal to the aggregate of France, Belgium, Holland, and Italy, a colony is destined to grow up which will in time rival the older settlements of the Atlantic. It is but four years since the Canadian Pacific line of railroad forced its way through the gorges of the Rocky Mountains and of the Selkirk range, and linked the St. Lawrence with the Columbia and Fraser rivers. The previous isolation of the province in a remote corner of the Pacific, is now a condition of the past. The tourist in his trip round the world finds Vancouver and the Glacier House convenient and attractive resting-places.

In the year 1858, when gold was first discovered in the province, there was a rush of miners to the new fields. Since then the yield from placer mining has steadily diminished, the maximum having been attained in 1863, when a total of nearly four millions of dollars was reached. It is not that the placer deposits are exhausted; but rather that the individual system of working, a system which confines its efforts to the deposits on the banks of large rivers like the Fraser, has ceased to be efficient. Capital is required

for the introduction of hydraulic machinery, which will well repay the cost of the original outlay. Besides the gold mines, there are rich silver mines in the Kootenay district, which lies between the Selkirk Range of mountains and the United States frontier. The branch lines which are in course of being opened by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company will greatly increase facilities of transport, British Columbia having hitherto suffered peculiarly from its disadvantages in this particular. The province has iron ore deposits, principally near the coast, and exports copper and lead, mostly obtained from ores worked originally for the silver they contain. At present it probably exports more platinum than any other district on the North American continent. The coal-mining industry of British Columbia has been steadily increasing for the past thirty years. Although coal-beds occur in various districts throughout the province, there are no coal mines outside the island of Vancouver. On the east side of this island are situated the collieries of Nanaimo, Wellington, and Comox, which yielded for the year 1889 a total output of nearly 600,000 tons. The coal lies at a depth of from 400 to 500 feet, with a dip seaward. Even now the mining is partly submarine, and in course of time it will be considerably more so.

In addition to the exportation of metals and coal, there are the valuable fisheries of the coast, now world-famous. On the Fraser River, there have been established sixteen salmon canneries, on the Skeena River six, on Rivers Inlet two, on the Naas River three, and on Mert Bay one cannery. These establishments showed an output, for the past year of twenty million pounds weight of fish, valued at two million and a half dollars. Sturgeon, halibut, herring, trout, smelt, rock-cod, oysters and other shell-fish abound. Inclusive of the sealskin yield, valued at \$335,000, the whole approximate yield is estimated at over six million and a half dollars. Not only is attention paid to the capture of the salmon, but, in addition, for the past six years, a salmon hatchery has been in operation at New Westminster, which during last year turned out eight million fry for distribution. Salmon are found in the Fraser River as far up as one thousand miles from the sea.

Next in importance to the mines and fisheries comes the timber industry. There are altogether thirty-four species of trees found in British Columbia, no less than eighteen, or more than one half, belonging to the Coniferæ or Pine family. Only seven out of the thirty-four extend eastward beyond the influence of the Rocky Mountains. King of all is the lordly Douglas fir, which often reaches a height of three hundred feet. In the Parliament grounds at Ottawa the section of one is shown, taken twenty feet from the ground, the diameter of which measures eight feet

and a half. Masts one hundred and thirty feet long have been made from these trees. The timber industry is still in its infancy, and has an enormous expansion before it. As facilities for transport increase, the trade, now limited to the San Francisco market, will extend its connections. Already, in the young town of Vancouver, large sawmills have been set up, and carry on a brisk trade. Agricultural development will follow slowly at the heels of these other industries. Much good land exists in the valleys and estuaries, both arable and pasture. Northward, to the East of the Rockies, there is extensive prairie rolling land in the Peace River district; but a long time must elapse before these isolated regions will find a population competent to develop their natural resources.

British Columbia has been described as a sea of mountains, and certainly the province is one of the most mountainous districts in the World. The traveller who approaches it from the east, finds, on emerging from the frightful gorges of the Rockies and the Selkirks, that he reaches, not a sloping plain or broadening valleys, but a series of plateaux or natural terraces which descend abruptly to the water's edge. It is only when he comes to the actual delta of the Fraser River that anything of the nature of plain or prairie appears, though such land, as has already been stated, does exist on the upper reaches of the great rivers. The productive capacity of this river delta is enormous, the ground being constantly enriched by the scouring of the soils of the high lands. Indeed, it would be impossible to find anywhere a more suitable locality for market gardening or for fruit-raising, industries at present wholly undeveloped. The bitter winter of Manitoba, whose merits, sung so loudly by the Marquis of LORNE and others a dozen years ago, attracted a host of settlers to its rich wheat lands, proves too severe for many of the immigrants. These are finding their way to British Columbia, and will help to develop it.

The history of British Columbia does not extend very far into the past. It is originally associated with the name of GEORGE VANCOUVER, one of Captain COOK's midshipmen, who went north in 1792 to receive certain possessions in Nootka Sound ceded by the Spaniards to the British Government. From him the large island, on which is situated the most populous town of the province, has received its name, and it was he who first explored the coast. The Hudson Bay Fur Trading Company came into possession for the next fifty years, receiving from the Government in 1849 a grant of the Island of Vancouver. The enormous influx, nine years later, of gold-diggers to the valley of the Fraser River necessitated the separation of the government of the mainland and of Vancouver Island. United again in 1866, British Columbia and Van-

couver Island became, in 1871, one of the Confederating Provinces of the Canadian Dominion.

The characteristics of the province have been well summed up by Mr. GOSWELL, Commissioner of the Provincial Exhibit Association. "An atmosphere humid with the vapourings of the ocean; a climate beautifully tempered by the sea currents; a vast extent of mountainous surface, intersected with numerous rivers and rich sheltered valleys; a vegetation necessarily rank under certain conditions, producing enormous forests and prolific crops; a remoteness from the rest of America, and until recently a commercial isolation; an undeveloped and almost inaccessible interior; a rugged exterior, rendering communication difficult; a country of long distances and divides; a mining province primarily inhabited by gold seekers. * * * By irrigation in the interior; by the dyking and draining of the overflowing lands of the Fraser and ocean tide flats; by the extension of good roads, the building of branch railways, improvements and increase in navigation, and the systematization of methods in handling produce, and the other benefits incident to internal expansion of industry, all of which are naturally gradual and the result of expenditure of capital and intelligent effort, the province has prospects, agriculturally speaking, equal to any part of the Dominion or even the famed California."

At the nose of a peninsula in the Fraser delta, on the south shore of Burrard Inlet, and some miles to the west of Port Moody, is situated the town of Vancouver, the western terminus of the Canadian Pacific Railroad system. In a few years its population has sprung from nothing to over twelve thousand, and it is now recognised as the rival of Victoria, on Vancouver Island, a city of twenty-five thousand inhabitants. In the Stanley Park lying to the west of the city of Vancouver, there is still to be found an Indian settlement; and across the bay rises the white spire of a Mission Church. The Indians prove useful aids in the fisheries and in the canning establishments, but in other industries the indispensable Chinaman comes as usual to the front, and is assisting materially in the development of the town of Vancouver. There are about a hundred Japanese in the province, many of them engaged in the saw-mills; but they do not enjoy much of a reputation as workmen. In the interior there are several colonies of Chinese miners; and gangs of Chinese navvies keep the great through railroad track in repair. A poll-tax of fifty dollars is laid on each Chinese immigrant, and it is doubtful whether legislation will not proceed further in repressing immigration. Seeing, however, that British Columbia, with its advantages of climate, is the natural habitat of the Anglo-Saxon settler, he has less to fear from the push-

ing Oriental, and may surely make use with safety of the latter's cheap and efficient labour.

Among the more recent items of interest in connection with Vancouver is the commencement, this autumn, of a direct steamship trade with England, the passage being reckoned at seventy-five days. A mine of mineral paint, said to be equal to the imported article from Sienna in Italy, has been discovered at Harrison Hot Springs in the neighbourhood. It is claimed also that a rich coal deposit has been discovered on the north shore of Burrard Inlet, and indeed, croppings in and around the city go to show that the town is actually built upon an immense coal-field. Some of the leading residents of Vancouver are moving in the matter of a provincial University, and a bill, already submitted to parliament, is being drafted in a new form. The city of Victoria has strong rival claims, and the locality of the future institution will not be settled without a keen struggle.

THE NEW STAR IN LITERATURE.

A YEAR ago very few people were acquainted with the name of RUDYARD KIPLING; now he is discussed wherever the English language is spoken. Every one is supposed to have read his "Plain Tales from the Hills," his "Soldiers Three," and his "Phantom Rickshaw;" and his "Departmental Ditties" would be better known were it not for the fact that the Indian edition is hard to get, and no London edition has as yet taken its place. In any case, however, his productions in rhyme would have appealed to a narrower circle than his wonderful prose sketches, which have fascinated readers by their keenness of observation, their irony, and their pathos. They literally brim over with an intellectual effervescence, insomuch that one is apt to entertain a certain feeling of regret that the writer has put so many good things in a form so little solid, so unmonumental. DICKENS and THACKERAY, of course, began in the same way, and so did GEORGE ELIOT; but "Plain Tales from the Hills" reaches a higher plane than "Sketches by Boz," or "The Snob Papers," in the striking variety and originality of the subject-matter, superadded to the masterliness of the treatment. A perfectly fresh vein has been struck; so much so, that these seemingly light, sketchy spatterings from the pen of a youthful writer of twenty-five, have been declared by an experienced old Indian to be "the best book ever written on India." In the United States, in Canada, and at Leipzig, edition after edition is coming out to supply the constant demand. If popularity can settle the question of an author's genius, never has a new writer enjoyed such popularity as this.

The sketches deal with many aspects of

Anglo-Indian life. "Tommy Atkins" in India has received full justice in the pages, which teem with the racy utterances of MULVANEY, who once "was a Corp'r'l—but was rejected afterwards," while other aspects of barrack and camp life are brought out in "Thrown Away" "The Man who Was," and elsewhere. Perhaps for convenience sake the tales may be divided into three classes, those concerned with barrack life, with native life, and with Anglo-Indian Society. A fourth, which we will not touch upon in this article, is his very successful treatment of the supernatural. We agree with Mr. ANDREW LANG that the society tales are the least pleasing; but this is a matter of taste, for they sparkle with the keenest of observation, and the most cutting of satire. To Easterns who are not Anglo-Indians the types are all familiar, the well meaning, clever busybody "Mrs. Hauksbee," to be endured, respected, and even admired; that hateful flirt, "Mrs. Reiver"; the much-worshipped Venus Annodomini; and poor, dear Mamma in her too tight riding-habit. The influences which are so apt to act unfavourably on Society women in the East, the exaggerated importance they enjoy, their lack of social curbs and serious interests, receive a due share of notice. We have "Wressley" of the Foreign Office, who made an idealized goddess of silly Miss "Venner," spent his days and nights in writing, for her sake, the great work of his life, "A gift fit for an Empress," and was utterly smashed by her idiotic reception of it; jealous "Mrs. Larkyns"; poor "Dicky Hatt," who left his wife behind him in London and made such a mess of his whole life. These and other stories, dealing with courtship and marriage, make us feel "the pity of it" in the man's case, where high ideals are broken up, and noble devotion is thrown away. Not that there are no male brutes depicted, with excellent, patient unselfish wives, for example "Brouckhurst," whom "Strickland" exposes and rescues from his own vileness. But we revert again to "Strickland's" own early love story, and the signal heroism he displayed in his courtship of "Miss Youghal." The women of the sketches, with the exception of "Mrs. Hauksbee," are far inferior in character to the men; but then it must be remembered that a life of complete inactivity and pettiness, such as an Anglo-Eastern lady's is apt to be, must fail to develop character; and that Mr. KIPLING is here, as elsewhere, true to life.

Some of the Society stories are particularly good. The crank "Mellish," in "A Germ Destroyer," who spells his name without a final "e," and gets invited, through a mistake, to tiffin with the Viceroy, while the "important Mellish," the real man, is left snorting on the Mall—could anything be better told than his post-prandial introduction of his patent anti-choleric mixture to the Viceroy? The room was filled with smoke from the powder, and the stench was

so pungent and disgusting that the Viceroy fled coughing downstairs. "Mellish" was finally "hauled into the hall." "The Viceroy was prostrate with laughter, and could only wobble his hands feebly at 'Mellish,' who was shaking a fresh bagful of powder at him." The italics are ours; such touches as these instance the marvellous graphic power of the writer. The rough-sketch of "Poor dear Wonder," the Viceroy's secretary, must be left for due appreciation to the reader of the story.

Turning to the tales dealing with native life, we have several intensely pathetic little dramas. It is difficult to read, without a tug at one's heart's strings, the "Story of Muhammad Din." It is a description of a servant's child which waited to say "*Talaam, tahib*" to the foreign master as he returned daily from office, "the little white shirt and the fat little hands rising from the shade of the creeper-covered trellis where they had been hid." A few months of friendship and of mud-palace building in the Sahib's garden, and the honest little fellow sickens and dies. There is another finely told story of the death of a child, entitled "Without Benefit of Clergy," which readers of this journal will no doubt remember. Here again the deadly autumn fever did its work, and little "Tota" went, only too prematurely, the way of all flesh.

But, perhaps, after all, Mr. KIPLING's chief forte lies in his racy descriptions of Indian barrack life. The famous trio, the big Yorkshireman, "Learoyd," the impulsive racy-tongued "Mulvaney," and "Ortheris," the little Londoner, are distinct new creations, revealing the life of "Tommy Atkins" as it has never been revealed before. "Hit a man an' help a woman, an' ye can't be far wrong anyways," a maxim of "Private Mulvaney's," heads the first and by no means the least racy of the stories which give the adventures of these three worthies. The counterplot by which "Mulvaney," in "The God from the Machine," rescues the Colonel's daughter from a runaway match with an ill-conditioned regimental Captain, is, in its conception and execution, a very masterpiece. "Mulvaney's" fine Celtic imagination blossoms forth luxuriantly throughout these sketches. His courtship of "Dinah Shadd" forms the subject of the latest tale in the series. The account he gives of his acceptance by "Dinah" is inimitable. "I kissed her on the tip av the nose an' under the eye, an' a girl that lets a kiss come tumbleways like that has never been kissed before. Take note av that, sorr. Thin we went, hand in hand, to ould Mother Shadd like two little childher, an' she said it was no bad thing; an' ould Shadd nodded behind his pipe, an' Dinah ran away to her own room. That day I throd on rollin' clouds. All earth was too small to hould me. Berlad, *I cud ha' picked the sun out av the sky for a live coal to my pipe*, so magnificent I was."

There are few faults to find with so excellent a literary banquet. Sometimes, however, Mr. KIPLING seems to us to be guilty of a certain flippancy in needlessly parodying the language of scripture, as where he speak of "moving in a barren land where washing was not." On the same page, lower down, occurs an unnecessarily strong phrase. When "MULVANEY" asks the narrator if he had ever fallen in love, there is surely superfluous emphasis in talking of his having preserved "the silence of the damned." Such blemishes are easily removed. We wait to see whether Mr. KIPLING can use his rich material in a less brusque and pungent fashion. His tales, opening abruptly and often allusively, are almost too brilliant; are surcharged with an electricity sufficient to vivify several volumes. Certainly we can feel no surprise at any development in a writer with such rare powers of observation and of description. Our author writes under no pseudonym, his father being Mr. KIPLING, principal of the school of Art at Lahore in India. Born at the very close of the year 1865, he was sent to school in Devonshire, and returned thereafter at an early age to India. Since then he has enjoyed a growing reputation as a magazine writer and journalist. As several of his stories indicate, for instance, "The Broken-Link Handicap," he is fond of horse-flesh; he is also fond of fishing. In the autumn of 1889, after spending a considerable time in America, Mr. KIPLING again visited England, where he enjoys the reputation of being a brilliant conversationalist. Such are a few personal facts regarding the author, facts which are always of interest to the enthusiastic reader:—

"For what's the author, if the man be naught?"

PENSIONS TO TEACHERS.

We hereby give our sanction to the Law concerning Pensions to Retired Teachers and to the Families of Deceased Teachers in City, Town, or Village Elementary Schools, and order the same to be duly promulgated.

[His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.]

[Privy Seal.]

Dated October 2nd, 1890.

(Countersigned)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.

YOSHIKAWA AKIMASA,
Minister of State for Education.

Art. 1.—All regular teachers in city, town, or village elementary schools shall be entitled to receive pensions according to the provisions of this law.

Art. 2.—Teachers who have been in office over fifteen years shall receive life pensions, subject to the following conditions:—

- (1.) That they are ordered to retire after attaining sixty years of age.
- (2.) That they are ordered to retire owing to inability to discharge their duties on account of wounds or sickness.
- (3.) That they retire on account of the abolition of schools, or are ordered to retire in consequence of changes effected in the organization of schools.

Art. 3.—Teachers who come under any of the following conditions shall receive life pensions, and be granted additional pensions up to seven-

tenths of the minimum sum of such pensions, though their years of service may not amount to the term provided in the foregoing article:—

- (1.) That they are ordered to retire from office owing to inability to discharge their duties, having lost the use of one limb or more from injuries received in discharging their duties, or having sustained some other like misfortune.
- (2.) That they are ordered to retire from office owing to inability to discharge their duties in consequence of the loss of one limb or more, or of having sustained other like misfortune, on account of sickness caused in discharging their duties under circumstances injurious to health.

Art. 4.—Art. 5, pars. 1 and 4, and Arts. 6 and 11 of the Law relating to Pensions of Civil Officials shall apply to the pensions mentioned in this law.

The regulations for reckoning terms of service in regard to the granting of pensions, etc., shall be fixed by Imperial Ordinance.

Art. 5.—Persons coming under any of the following conditions shall be disqualified for the receipt of pensions:—

- (1.) If it is proved that they committed during their term of service acts calculated to cause forfeiture of such service.
- (2.) If they are subjected to imprisonment or any heavier punishment.
- (3.) If they lose status as Japanese subjects.
- (4.) If being in receipt of pensions under Art. 2, par. 2, Art. 3, or Art. 7, and again qualified to engage in the calling of teacher, they refuse to re-engage in schools assigned to them by the *Chiji* of *fu* or *ken*; or of those who are in receipt of pensions according to Art. 2 par. 3 refuse to re-engage in schools assigned to them by the *Chiji* of *fu* or *ken*, provided that the amount of salary be not less than that received at the time of their retirement from service, and their age be less than sixty.
- (5.) If they enter the public service without the permission of the *Chiji* of *fu* or *ken*.

If those who are in receipt of pensions come under any of the following conditions, their pensions shall be stopped during the period involved:—

- (1.) If they enter the public service and receive a salary not less than that received at the time of their retirement.
- (2.) If they have neglected to apply for payment of a pension for more than three years.
- (3.) If their public rights are suspended.

Art. 6.—Persons who have retired from the service for their own convenience, before attaining sixty years of age, or who have been dismissed or become liable to dismissal, shall be disqualified for the receipt of a pension.

Art. 7.—Temporary teachers in city, town, or village elementary schools shall, in case of wounds or sickness received or contracted in discharging their duties, and subject to Art. 3 of this Law, be granted life pensions equal to one-fourth of the salary received at the time of their retirement.

Art. 8.—Regular teachers in city, town, or village elementary schools shall be granted a sum equal to two months' salary at the time they retire, in case of retirement after service of more than five years and less than eleven years, and a sum equal to three months' salary in case of retirement after service of more than eleven years and less than fifteen years.

The above paragraph shall not apply to those who are in receipt of pensions under Arts. 2, 3, and 7, or to those who have retired from service for their own convenience, or to those who have been dismissed or become liable to dismissal, or to those who have neglected to claim the right to a pension mentioned in paragraph 1 of this article within three months after it has begun to operate. Should those who have for their own convenience not applied for payment of the bonus mentioned in paragraph 1 of this article, be afterwards re-appointed regular teachers in city, town, or village elementary schools, the period spent in the former service shall be included in reckoning the term of service for granting pensions, etc. But this shall not apply to those who fail to notify that they have not received the bonus within three months after the right to it has begun to operate.

Art. 9.—The granting of pensions and of the bonus mentioned in Art. 8 shall be decided by the *Chiji* of *fu* or *ken* on certificates by chiefs of cities, towns, and villages.

Arts. 16 and 18 of the Law relating to the Pensions of Civil Officials shall apply to pensions mentioned in this law.

Art. 10.—In case a regular teacher in a city, town, or village elementary school should come under any of the following conditions, his family shall have the right to receive "pensions granted to the families of deceased teachers" in accordance with the provisions of this law:—

- (1.) If a teacher die during service after a term of service of more than fifteen years.
- (2.) If a teacher die in discharging his duties after service of less than fifteen years.
- (3.) If a teacher die while in receipt of a pension.

Art. 11.—Art. 4, pars. 1 and 2, Arts. 5 to 10, and Arts. 12 to 16 of the Law relating to Pensions to the Families of Deceased Civil Officials, shall apply to pensions to the families of deceased teachers mentioned in this law.

Art. 11 of the Law relating to Pensions to the Families of Deceased Civil Officials, shall apply to the brothers and sisters legally belonging to the families of deceased teachers, in case there should be no widow, no orphan, no father, no mother, no grandfather and no grandmother of the deceased having the right to receive "pensions to the families of deceased teachers" as prescribed under this law; provided that the said brothers or sisters, being less than twenty years of age, or owing to physical disabilities, are unable to carry on a trade and have none to depend on for their support.

Art. 12.—In case a regular teacher in a city, town, or village elementary school should die otherwise than in the discharge of his duties after service of less than fifteen years, a bonus shall be granted to the family of such deceased teacher.

The amount of bonus in the case of those who die after service of less than three years shall be a sum equal to one month's salary as last received in school, to which a sum equal to two hundredths of the yearly salary shall be added for each full year over three years.

Art. 13.—The granting of pensions and bonuses to the families of deceased teachers and the pensions to be granted under Article 8 and Art. 11 par. 2 shall be decided by the *Chiji* of *fu* or *ken* on the representation of chiefs of cities, towns, and villages.

Art. 14.—Each *fu* and *ken* shall reserve a pension fund for teachers in elementary schools.

Each city, town, or village where a city, town, or village elementary school is established, shall annually pay to the *fu* or *ken* wherein it is situated, a sum equal to one-hundredth of the salaries of the regular teachers in such school.

Each regular teacher in a city, town, or village elementary school shall yearly pay to the *fu* or *ken* wherein he is employed a sum equal to one-hundredth of his salary.

The income derived under paragraphs 2 and 3 of this article shall be reserved by the *fu* or *ken* as a pension fund for teachers in elementary schools.

The interest accruing from such pension fund shall not be appropriated for any purpose other than as pensions to retired teachers, pensions and bonuses to the families of deceased teachers and grants under Art. 11 and Art. 12 par. 2.

A sum equal to one-fourth of the monies received by each *fu* or *ken* in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 of this article, shall be granted to each *fu* or *ken* out of the National Treasury in every second financial year from that in which the above appropriations are made.

The pensions to retired teachers, pensions and bonuses to the families of deceased teachers and the monies mentioned in Art. 8 and Art. 12 par. 2, shall be defrayed from the interest of the pension fund, grants from the National Treasury, and other sources of income. But the deficiency, if any, shall be supplied from the *fu* or *ken* expenditure.

Regulations for the management of a pension fund and for the granting of pensions to retired teachers, pensions and bonuses to the families of deceased teachers and the monies mentioned in Art. 8 and Art. 2 par. 2, shall be fixed by the Minister of State for Education.

All expenses relating to the management of a pension fund and to the granting of pensions to retired teachers, pensions and bonuses to the families of deceased teachers, and the monies mentioned in Art. 11 and Art. 22 par. 2, shall be borne by *fu* or *ken*.

Art. 15.—Articles 1 to 13 in this law shall come into force from and after the 26th fiscal year of Meiji, and Article 14 from the 25th fiscal year.

Art. 16.—In case exceptions to this law be deemed necessary in localities where the Laws for the Organization of *fu* and *ken*, of Cities, and of Towns, and Villages are not practically carried out, these shall be prescribed by Imperial Ordinance.

NORMAL AND MIDDLE SCHOOL SALARIES AND PENSIONS.

We hereby give our sanction to the Law concerning Salaries of the Directors of *fu* or *ken* Normal Schools, and Pensions to Retired Officials and to the Families of Deceased Officials, in Public Schools, and order the same to be duly promulgated.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign-manual.)

(Privy Seal.)

Dated October 2nd, 1890.

(Countersigned)

COUNT YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister President of State.

COUNT YOSHIKAWA AKIMASA,
Minister of State for Education.

Art. 1.—The salaries of directors of *fu* or *ken* normal schools shall be paid out of the National Treasury.

Art. 2.—The directors and regular teachers of *fu* or *ken* normal schools and of public middle schools, shall be entitled to receive pensions according to the provisions of this law.

Art. 3.—Directors and regular teachers who have been in office over fifteen years shall receive life pensions, subject to the following conditions:—

- (1.) That they are ordered to retire after attaining 60 years of age.
- (2.) That they are ordered to retire owing to inability to discharge their duties on account of wounds or sickness received or contracted.
- (3.) That they retire from office in consequence of the abolition of schools, or are ordered to retire from office in consequence of changes in the organization of schools.

Art. 4.—Those who come under any of the following conditions shall receive life pensions and be granted additional pensions up to seven-tenths of the minimum sum of such pensions, though their years of service may not amount to the term provided for in the foregoing article:—

- (1.) That they are ordered to retire from office owing to inability to discharge their duties, having lost the use of one limb, or more, from wounds received in discharging their duties, or having sustained some other like misfortune.
- (2.) That they are ordered to retire from office owing to inability to discharge their duties, in consequence of loss of the use of one limb, or more, or of having sustained some other like misfortune on account of sickness caused in discharging their duties under circumstances injurious to health.

Art. 5.—Art. 5, pars. 1, 4, and 5, and Arts. 6 and 11 of the Law relating to the Pensions of Civil Officials shall apply to the pensions mentioned in this law.

Art. 6.—As regards officials of Government or public schools, who are to be placed on an equal footing with directors and regular teachers in *fu* or *ken* normal schools, and who have been transferred as such to any of the latter schools, the years of service in their former schools shall be included in reckoning the term of service for granting pensions. The regulations for reckoning the years of service and the qualifications of officials of Government or public schools to be placed on an equal footing with directors and regular teachers in *fu* or *ken* normal schools, shall be fixed by Imperial Ordinance.

Art. 7.—In case those who are in receipt of pensions come under any of the following conditions, they shall be disqualified for the receipt of pensions:—

- (1.) If it is proved that they have committed during their service such acts as render them liable to dismissal.
- (2.) If they are subjected to imprisonment or any heavier punishment.
- (3.) If they lose status as Japanese subjects.
- (4.) If those who, are in receipt of pensions under Art. 3 par. 2, Art. 4 or Art. 9 and are again fit to engage in the calling of teachers or directors, refuse to re-engage in schools assigned to them by the Authorities, or if those who are in receipt of pensions under Art. 3, par. 3, refuse to re-engage in schools assigned to them by the Authorities, provided that the amount of salary be not less than that received at the time of their retirement from school, and their age be less than 60.
- (5.) If they enter the public service without the permission of the *Chiji* of *fu* or *ken*.

In case those who are in receipt of pensions

come under any of the following conditions, the pension shall be stopped during the period involved:—

- (1.) If they enter the public service and receive a salary not less than that received at the time of their retirement.
- (2.) If they have neglected to apply for pensions for more than three years.
- (3.) If their public rights are suspended.

Art. 8.—Those who have retired from office for their own convenience before attaining the age of sixty years, or who have been dismissed from service or have rendered themselves liable to dismissal, shall be disqualified for the receipt of pensions.

Art. 9.—Temporary teachers in *fu* or *ken* normal schools or in public middle schools shall, in case of wounds or sickness received or contracted in discharging their duties, and subject to Art. 4 of this Law, be granted life pensions equal to one-fourth of the salary received at the time they retire.

Art. 10.—Directors and regular teachers in *fu* or *ken* normal schools and in public middle schools shall be granted a sum equal to one month's salary received at the time they retire, in case of retirement after service of more than one year or less than five years, or a sum equal to two months' salary in case of retirement after service of more than five years or less than eleven years, or a sum equal to three months' salary in case of retirement after service of more than eleven years or less than fifteen years.

The above paragraph shall not apply to those who are qualified to receive pensions under Arts. 3, 4 and 9, or to those who have retired from office for their own convenience, or to those who have been dismissed from service or have rendered themselves liable to dismissal, or to those who have neglected to claim the right to a bonus referred to in the above paragraph within three months after it has begun to operate.

Should those who have for their own convenience neglected to apply for the bonus referred to paragraph 1 of this article be afterwards appointed directors or regular teachers in *fu* or *ken* normal schools or in public middle schools, the period spent in the former service shall be included in reckoning the term of service for granting pensions, etc. But this shall not apply to those who fail to notify that they have not received a bonus within three months after the right to it has begun to operate.

The sums to be granted under this article and the expenses relating thereto shall be borne by the *fu*, *ken*, *gun*, city, town, or village where the schools are established, to which the retired directors or teachers belong at the time of retirement.

Art. 11.—The granting of pensions shall be decided by the Minister of State for Education on certificates by the *Chiji* of *fu* or *ken*.

Arts. 16 and 18 of the Law relating to Pensions of Civil Officials shall apply to pensions under this law.

Art. 12.—In case directors and regular teachers in *fu* or *ken* normal schools or in public middle schools come under any of the following conditions, their families have the right to receive "pensions to the families of deceased directors and teachers" in accordance with the provisions of this law:—

- (1.) If they die during service after a term of service of more than fifteen years.
- (2.) If they die in discharging their duties after service of less than fifteen years.
- (3.) If they die while in receipt of pensions.

Art. 13.—Arts. 4 to 10 and Arts. 12 to 15 of the Law relating to Pensions to the Families of Deceased Civil Officials shall apply to pensions to the families of deceased directors and teachers prescribed under this law.

Art. 11 of the Law relating to Pensions to the Families of Deceased Civil Officials shall apply to the brothers and sisters legally belonging to the families of deceased directors and teachers, in case there should be no widow, no orphan, no father, no mother, no grand father, and no grand mother of the deceased, who have the right to receive the pension fixed in the present law, provided that the said brothers and sisters, being less than twenty years of age, or owing to physical disabilities, are unable to carry on a trade and have none to depend on for their support.

Art. 14.—In case directors and regular teachers in *fu* or *ken* normal schools or in public middle schools die otherwise than in the discharge of their duties after service of less than fifteen years, a bonus shall be granted to the families of such deceased directors and teachers.

Art. 17 par. 2 of the Law relating to the Pen-

HORSFORD'S ACID PHOSPHATE.
Makes an invigorating Drink with water and sugar only. Delicious.

sions of Civil Officials shall apply to the bonuses to families of deceased directors and teachers mentioned in the above paragraph.

Art. 15.—The granting of pensions and bonuses to the families of deceased directors and teachers and of pensions under Art. 13, par. 2, shall be decided by the Minister of State for Education on the representation of the *Chiji* of *fu* or *ken*.

Art. 16.—Directors and regular teachers in *fu* or *ken* normal schools or in public middle schools shall annually pay to the National Treasury one-hundredth of the salaries.

Each *fu*, *ken*, *gun*, city, town, or village where a *fu* or *ken* normal school or a public middle school is established shall annually pay to the National Treasury a sum equal to one hundredth of the salaries of directors and teachers in such schools.

Art. 17.—Pensions to retired directors and teachers, pensions and bonuses to the families of deceased directors and teachers, pensions to be granted under Art. 13, par. 2, and the expenses of defraying these monies shall be paid out of the National Treasury.

Regulations relating to the defraying of pensions to retired directors and teachers, and pensions and bonuses to the families of deceased directors and teachers, shall be fixed by the Minister of State for Education.

Art. 18.—In case of one and the same person being qualified to receive two or more classes of pensions from the National Treasury, one of these pensions shall be granted, according to the option of such person.

Art. 19.—Pensions and other monies to be granted to retired clerks of *fu* or *ken* normal schools or of public middle schools may be fixed by the *Chiji* of *fu* or *ken*, the *Guncho*, or the chiefs of cities, towns, or villages after consultation with the assemblies of such *fu*, *ken*, *gun*, cities, towns, or villages.

The above paragraph shall apply to the pensions and other monies to be granted to retired officials of public schools other than *fu* or *ken* normal schools, public middle schools, and city, town or village elementary schools.

Pensions and other monies to be granted to retired directors and teachers under this article, and the expense of granting these monies shall be borne by the respective *fu*, *ken*, *gun*, cities, towns and villages.

Art. 20.—Article 1 of this law shall come into force from and after the 25th financial year of Meiji, and Articles 2 to 19 from and after the 26th financial year.

Art. 21.—When exceptions are deemed necessary to the rules laid down in this law, in localities where the laws for the organization of *fu* and *ken*, *gun* or cities, towns and villages are not practically carried out, they shall be fixed by Imperial Ordinance.

CORRESPONDENCE.

"CHASTE AND MODERATE."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—This cursed country! The *Japan Mail* has the temerity to take exception to the careless placing of certain wires and posts in connection with the electric lighting of the Settlement; whereupon its uniformly chaste and moderate contemporary, whose numberless attractions have recently exercised such a potent influence over some of our local capitalists, most sensibly and truly points out that "the telephone and electric light obstructions are only two more drops in a bucket already full to overflowing." Most truly, most truly, thou latter day prototype of that dear old fearless Spanish Knight immortalized by De Cervantes! "Why find fault with the unfortunate telephone posts to the exclusion of other offenders?" For no other reason assuredly, revered critic, than the admitted limitation of the *Japan Mail* editor's knowledge of local affairs. No one who is at all acquainted with the Settlement will for a moment question the justice of your powerful and eloquent arraignment of the Local Authorities. Every point cannot fail to approve itself to every unbiased reader; indeed many will consider you to be guilty, consciously or unintentionally, though without of course a suspicion of any trucking or loyalty to "Japanese authorities,"—no sane observer would pretend to question your absolute independence—many I say will consider you guilty of a needless curtailment of one of the most damning indictments ever formulated. The reproduction and reiteration of this well founded protest against the glaring and high-handed abuses we poor Yokohama folk are compelled to quietly submit to for

lack of due support of the exposures you unearth (reformers never are adequately appreciated during their lifetime), is an act so commendable in itself that neither explanation nor apology is needed. It is high time that some one protested "against the gas and water hydrants and cocks, which stick up all over the streets; the rotten wooden coverings which partially cover the openings to sewers and drains; the stone boundary marks placed just where a pedestrian will trip up against them; the post office receiving boxes erected where they can be most conveniently run up against; the lamp-posts in the middle of the paths; the well of foul water filling the walking space in Honcho-dori; the trees occupying a third of the road already too little for the traffic; with others planted plump across the corners of cross streets; the flooring of Yatozaka Bridge, which has been especially constructed to hold the water in one impartial puddle whenever there has been rain; the choked gutters, and the stinking urinals; and last, but not least, the crowds of jirikisha loafers who obstruct every street corner, and monopolize the walking space left by the other obstructions."

The italics are the only liberty I have taken with this deplorable picture of this unhappy, ill-managed town. How the Japanese who profess to be fixed with a warmth of patriotism rarely equalled, can day by day permit the uninterrupted continuance of such a state of things, much less hesitate or decline to set resolutely to work to remedy it, passes comprehension. If proof were wanted, surely here in unmistakable form we have proof of the deep-seated purpose of this unfriendly people to rid their soil of the hated foreigners. On what other hypothesis, I ask, can one account for this astounding indifference to crying abuses which can only ultimately result in the studied avoidance of such an ill-starred place by every alien. It is unspeakably disgraceful that post office boxes for instance should be "erected where they can be most conveniently run up against;" and that policemen are not stationed near every faulty curb stone and every "stone boundary mark," and in short at all the innumerable things "which stick up all over the streets," to warn pedestrians of a possible stumble. Equally flagrant, too, is the very unfeeling and heartless omission to provide goshoes or clogs for thin-skinned pedestrians at every good sized puddle, and particularly at "the flooring of Yatozaka Bridge, which has been especially constructed to hold the water in one impartial puddle whenever there has been rain." And not one whit less blameworthy is the past failure to erect sign posts on either side of "lamp-posts," "trees," etc., to warn the unwary passer-by that he is approaching a lamp post, or that some over zealous citizens have planted trees by the road side. Especially is some such sign-board or label needed in the case of trees "planted plump across the corners of cross streets." "And last, but not least, the crowds of jirikisha loafers who obstruct every street corner, and monopolize the walking space left by the other obstructions!" Well may it be asked in that grandiloquent strain one looks for in vain elsewhere than in the *Gazette*, "why not call attention to these when dealing with the subject?" An explanation of the practical universality of jirikisha-riding is at last reached! The good people of Yokohama do not walk simply because they can't; they haven't room. No wonder there is such objection to proposed Treaties which would speedily do away with existing Settlement limits! We are abused, crowded-out, ignored now: "choked gutters," foul odours, water hydrants, and any and every inequality in one's roadway, even an imperfectly drained bridge, bad and terribly hard to bear though they are, would be lost sight of entirely in comparison with the inflictions we should have to submit to and endure or flee from them. But enough; the evils we know are overwhelming, and one looks almost with envy at the *Gazette* and its little band of intrepid reformers awaiting with all the composure of men conscious of having acquitted themselves nobly and fearlessly "the coming of the huge wave to roll in and to sweep away these monstrosities." There is but one word more. The monstrosities should include some of the smart features of the *Gazette*, and especially the purblind critic who sees danger where none exists, lamp-posts several feet out of their true position, and obstruction, offence, and sources of peril where his fellows are happy in passing in comfort and perfect safety.

I am, Sir,
Yokohama, November 14th, 1890.

ALBION.

THE ASIATIC SOCIETY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In the account of the proceedings of the recent meeting of the Asiatic Society, as given in the *Japan Gazette*, Professor Chamberlain is reported to have said that "he was sure that Mr. Denning's vast acquaintance with Japanese thought was quite unequalled; that his acquaintance with modern Japanese literature both in newspapers and text better fitted him probably than any man living to guide public opinion in estimating both Japanese character and Japanese current thought."

In the report of the Asiatic Society's meeting which appeared in the *Japan Mail* you omit entirely Professor Chamberlain's high encomium on Mr. Walter Denning.

As Professor Chamberlain is considered by the majority of foreigners in Japan to be about the best foreign authority on things Japanese, I shall be obliged if you ascertain whether he has been correctly reported by the *Japan Gazette* in that part of his speech in which he so highly commended Mr. Denning's abilities.

I am, Sir, yours truly,

WAKARIMASEN.

Yokohama, November 18th, 1890.

[Our report was furnished by the recording Secretary of the Asiatic Society. From our own knowledge of Mr. Chamberlain and Mr. Denning, we think it very probable that the former spoke in the sense noted by our correspondent.—ED. J.M.]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL"

SIR,—In reply to the query of your correspondent who signs himself "Wakarimase," I beg to state that the *Japan Gazette* reported quite correctly my reference to Mr. Denning. At the same time, there is no reason for surprise at the absence of that reference in the summary forwarded to you by the Recording Secretary. That gentleman's duties are already sufficiently arduous, and the Council of the Society does not expect him to give every sentence that is uttered, provided the general sense of each speaker's remarks be retained; and the Recording Secretary did give the gist—the main purport—of my remarks, which were chiefly occupied with an adverse criticism of Mr. Nose's views.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

B. H. CHAMBERLAIN.

November 19th, 1890.

THE MUSIC OF THE JAPANESE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The influence exercised by that European culture which Japan is seeking to adopt entitles us to assume that this influence will extend also to the fine arts. The manner of its commencement, however, is hardly such as to give promise of good fruits in the future, for the Japanese throw themselves into the arms of European music only to forget their own.

In Japan the fact is forgotten that Europe laboured away at her civilization fully a thousand years before she arrived at such results as have been achieved to-day; that the fostering of the fine arts and of the sciences proceeded more or less hand in hand with the general social training, and that at the present day it is an impossibility for Japan to appropriate this perfected art without the requisite gradual progression which would in this country lead, after a considerable period, to the point at which European music has to-day arrived. The manner of thought and sentiment, the habits of life, the climate of Japan, are all far greater impediments than an outsider can possibly imagine. The music of Europe is even to-day incomprehensible to the Japanese, and will remain so to all eternity unless they are led from off the paths followed until now.

The endeavour to foster European music at the expense of Japanese has its origin in incapacity to make anything out of the latter which would be tolerable to European ears.

Wherein lies this incapacity? In the absolute lack of any underlying harmony. Japanese melody is like unto a bird that flutters to and fro in the air without finding any resting place. Such a resting place can only and may only be found in harmony. This alone has power to render Japanese melody worth listening to in Europe also. The proof that Japanese melody can only gain by a judicious harmonizing without in any way losing its melodious characteristic was shown at Terschak's Farewell Concert. Of much greater effect would it have been if the "Academy of Music" had rendered the Japanese choral music as harmonized by Terschak. It would most certainly have been an interesting experiment which the "Academy of

Music" should have attempted "if only from patriotism." There, where the composer thought to be received with open arms, he found only passiveness and jealousy. *Through Japanese music to European music, that would be the only and the right way*, they said. The first and most necessary thing to do is to get hold of a thorough expert to undertake the harmonizing of Japanese melody; this is one of the most difficult problems which can be submitted to the harmonizer. The lack of system with which the melodies are often constructed, the absence of rhythm, augment the difficulties to such an extent that one often grows quite disheartened. Among no people are the melodies so full of defects of this kind as are those of the Japanese, yea, one often imagines that it is the fingers of a little child wandering over the strings of the *koto* and plucking at them, and that somebody or other has set down these plucked tones on paper.

How should a people accustomed to melodies of such a kind comprehend European music, and how should the people take an interest in an "Academy of Music" that produces such a music for them?

The future harmonizer of Japan would be bound to undertake the following:—

JAPANESE MELODIES.

- I.—Part songs for female voices.
- II.—Part songs for male voices.
- III.—Part songs for mixed voices (male and female).
- IV.—An edition for one voice and piano accompaniment.
- V.—An edition for piano solo.
- VI.—An edition for violin and piano.

For the present the above would be the most necessary for the purpose of creating a literature which should be used at the public concerts of the Academy of Music. Prior to the formation of a well supplied library no scheme of the Academy of Music should include more than 50 per cent. of European music in its programme.

European sacred music (Crucifixus, Paulus, &c.), ought not to be rendered by the Academy of Music; an Imperial School of Music is not a missionary establishment and can make propaganda for no religious cult. The period of obligatory attendance at the school must be raised to 6 years. No student should be appointed assistant lecturer until he has attended the school for a period of 6 years.

The Academy of Music must be conducted in a strictly national sense and must, before everything, keep before its eyes the fostering of native music. The humbug which until now has been carried on of bringing the students before the public must be postponed until such time as they are in a position to accomplish something. Of what does the Academy of Music at this day consist? Of a few lady students of the violin, and lady singers. Where are the classes for piano, cello, flute, clarinet, bassoon, cornet, trumpet, horn, trombone? An Academy of Music must, like a university, include all the various branches in its programme. As the Academy at the present time exists it is nothing but an ordinary music school for violin and singing. It is desired to create teachers for the country—well and good. What are they to teach? That which they have learnt at the Tokyo school? What is that? Singing and violin. What do they play? Are they to teach that which they know? The Tokyo school has existed for 10 years,—where are the funds, what are the results? Unless the State wishes to throw away its money uselessly, there must be reorganization and musical material created so as to arrive at a result advantageous to the nation and redounding to the honour of the State abroad as well.

Your obedient servant, X.
November 19th, 1890.

THE ASIATIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

A general meeting of the Asiatic Society of Japan was held in the Society's Rooms, No. 17, Tsukiji, on Wednesday, November 12th, 1890, at 4 p.m., N. J. Hannen, Esq., President, in the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting, having been published in the *Japan Mail*, were taken as read.

The CORRESPONDING SECRETARY intimated the election of the following gentlemen as members of the Society:—Rev. M. C. Munzinger, Rev. W. B. Griffiths, Frank Deas, Esq., O. C. Flemmick, Esq., Rev. T. S. Tyng and Rev. J. M. Francis.

The PRESIDENT then called upon Mr. Dening to read his paper on the mental characteristics of the Japanese, entitled "A study in Japanese Psychology."

Mr. DENING said—The aggregate of circumstances combining to form the character of any fairly educated human being is so complex that anything

like a complete analysis of them is a work of great difficulty and delicacy, demanding intellectual powers of the highest order. Our greatest novelists undoubtedly owed their preeminence to mastery of the art of delineating subtle traits of character, of detecting connection and relation where ordinary observers would never have dreamed of looking for anything of the sort. We realise how difficult is this art when we bear in mind that there is hardly any living person concerning some essential part of whose character entire agreement exists even among his intimate acquaintances. Our observations and generalisations can only be carried on in a rough way. The whole subject of ethnology, or the science of character, is so intricate that even the most expert literary artist finds it necessary to confine his investigations to an extremely limited area. When from the study of the character of individuals we pass to that of nations, we perceive the variety of type to be so great that generalisation and classification become increasingly difficult. It is obvious that little more can be done than to indicate the most prominent and remarkable traits. This we purpose doing in the case of the Japanese; and our excuse, if, indeed, excuse be needed, for drawing the attention of this Society to the subject just at present is that, if we mistake not, these prominent mental characteristics will exercise no small influence in moulding the events of the next few years. Mental habits and prejudices that have taken ages to form are not to be rooted out in one or two generations. No amount of popular representation and parliamentary government will prevent the Japanese from acting as their national proclivities dictate. What the most pronounced of these are we now propose to inquire.

The first prominent mental characteristic inviting notice is the early precocity of Japanese youths. In discussing theories, in advocating political opinions, the Japanese boy of twelve or thirteen shows a proficiency altogether beyond his age. Doubtless various causes have combined to bring this about. The most potent seems to be the nature of the education imparted. The books which infant students have been first taught to read—the Japanese "Peep of Day" and "Line upon Line," so to speak,—have been the Confucian classics. Fancy one of our infants repeating after his teacher at his first lesson such sentences as the following:—"What the great learning teaches, is, to illustrate virtue, to renovate the people, and to rest in the highest excellence. The point where to rest being known, the object of pursuit is then determined; and that being determined, a calm imperturbability may be attained."* We in the West commence to teach our boys and girls simple little facts about cats, dogs, cows, and daisies. Not so the normal Japanese. He commences with abstract ideas. He puts into the young scholar's lips words whose full meaning some of us take more than half a lifetime to acquire, and not infrequently fail to master even then. "Great Learning," "illustrious virtue," "highest excellence," "the point where to rest"—why, these are subjects that occupy our subtlest metaphysicians. This early superficial acquaintance,—for it cannot be more,—with abstract questions and principles, with theories of life and morals, produces a certain kind of mental precocity. We have often been utterly astounded at the logic-chopping power of Japanese youths of twelve or thirteen years of age. But as an educational agency the early study of the sages of antiquity has done more harm than good. It has evolved a theory-loving, unpractical state of mind; a habit of endeavouring to reach abstract truth by other than the proper method—a careful study of the concrete. Forwardness is attained at the expense of thoroughness, which has a decided tendency to produce conceit. Indeed, in a very large number of cases, that proves to be the result. We have repeatedly conversed on this subject with Japanese interested in education, and they seem unanimous in thinking that such early precocity should be discouraged, and that the mental condition of Japanese youths should be brought into greater conformity with that of the Western boy.

The characteristic we are considering is the real source of a good deal of the wild journalism and hare-brained political oratory so conspicuous in this country during the last ten years. No land contains such troops of boy politicians as Japan. One is sometimes astounded on being introduced to individuals who have been figuring as journalists and stump-orators to find that they are of an age when if Englishmen they would hardly know whether they had any political opinions at all; or if they had such opinions, would deem it the essence of audacity and conceit to make them the subject of a public speech or a newspaper article. It is only in Japan that young men are to be found audacious enough to write a lecture to grey-haired statesmen in reference to their foreign policy, such

as the *Kokumin no tamo* contained some time ago. There are few countries where irresponsible flip-pant speech and writing are so much indulged in as in Japan; few countries where men having no practical knowledge of politics can so easily gain a reputation for profundity by the skill with which they theorise.

Allied to the characteristic we have noticed, and for the most part inseparable from it, is another conspicuous quality of Japanese minds—unpracticality. It has often been referred to by both Japanese and foreign writers. Mr. Fukuzawa is of opinion that this characteristic, like the last, is the result of the system of education followed until very recently. He maintains that the lack of interest in industry, agriculture, and commerce, so apparent among Japanese young men, is the outcome of the training they have received. The books that youths have hitherto been taught to hold in high esteem treat of subjects far removed from the every-day life of men of business. It is to be hoped that the educational system now pursued in Government schools will do much to remedy the evil. Certain it is that in the past, agriculture, commerce, and industry have been for the most part handed over to the tender mercies of men whom ignorance, prejudice, and superstition render alien to reform of all kinds. Until a more practical state of mind characterises the educated portion of the Japanese people, the accumulation of national wealth must necessarily be slow.

We pass on to notice a still more fundamental difference between Japanese and foreign minds; a difference the removal of which seems to us absolutely necessary if Japan is to compete successfully with Western nations. We refer to the distaste that men of education and refinement entertain for money-making pursuits. This is something distinct from the characteristics referred to above. To lack the qualifications for business is quite different from holding business in contempt. A man competent to win wealth may yet shrink with repugnance from the attempt. Such is the case with certain typical Japanese. The life of bread-earning appears to them to be a gloomy existence which men may be driven to pass, but would never voluntarily choose. They dream away their days amid dwarfed trees, miniature lakes, and imaginary *Fuji*. They are of opinion that Occidentals are nothing the better for their big machines and appliances; that, on the contrary, by perpetual toil, bustle, and worry they render themselves unfit to enjoy the pleasures which nature places within their reach. They deem it a mistake to suppose that the chief object of human life is toil.

This sentiment the Japanese have inherited from their ancestors; it is far too deeply inherited to admit of speedy eradication. From a philosophical point of view there is much to be said in its favour. Considering the brevity of human life, it does seem an anomaly that of most of us should live at high pressure during the greater part of our existence; that during the time when our senses and our minds are at their best, we should be obliged to spend most of our energy on mechanical work, should have to rush along at railway speed without time to reflect what this life is or is not capable of yielding. Viewed from a philosophical standpoint, the lives which we Westerners lead—have to lead indeed, for the keenness of competition leaves us no choice—will not bear comparison with the life of the Japanese man of taste and quiet pleasure. We grieve at our professions till either physical weakness or mental weariness incapacitates us for the enjoyment of hardly earned leisure. The faculties of enjoyment like all other faculties are apt to grow atrophied by disuse. And so it often happens that even the most successful among us having acquired much to retire upon, have nothing to retire to; our capacity to enjoy the exhaustless loveliness of nature has been irretrievably lost. The spirit of the age forces us to sacrifice life to living—the end to the means. Moderation is forbidden to those who would succeed. Only those who can bear the longest strain stand a chance of rising above mediocrity. Thus amid all our bustle, we are conscious that the Japanese view is right; that our habitual neglect to cultivate the faculty of enjoyment, though a result of events and circumstances over which we have no control, is calculated to transform us into mere machines, warranted capable of being worked so long, but condemned to be laid by at last as so much useless lumber. Every now and again one of our own philosophers reminds us that man is designed for higher enjoyment than he experiences. "That life was given us to be enjoyed," writes one of our modern idealists, "few men in their sober senses, not distracted by unendurable anguish or rendered morbid by a perverse theology, have ever seriously dreamed of doubting. The analogy of the lower animals confirms the consciousness. Human infancy holds the same language. The brutes that perish, but never speculate, and the young

* We quote from Dr. Legge's translation.

whose native instincts are not yet marred by thought, alike listen to nature, and alike are joyous. The earth is sown with pleasures, as the heavens are studded with stars—wherever the conditions of existence are unsophisticated. Scarcely a scene that is not redolent of beauty; scarcely a flower that does not breathe sweetness. Not one of our senses that, in its healthy state, is not an avenue to enjoyment, not one of our faculties that is not a delight to exercise. Provision is made for the happiness of every disposition and of every taste—the active, the contemplative, the sensuous, the ethereal. Provision is made for the happiness of every age, for dancing infancy, for glowing youth, for toiling manhood, for reposing age.¹

So have thought the Japanese from time immemorial, and so they might go on thinking were they content to remain isolated. It is the extreme complexity of our lives, our craving for conveniences and luxuries never missed because never known by the normal Japanese; in a word, the conventionality of our lives, that renders incessant toil an absolute necessity to us. And Japan will have to follow suit in this, as in so many other things. Once having entered the comity of Western nations, she will have to sacrifice her poetry and romance to the stern necessities of the new situation. It is no longer a question of choosing the more exalted, the more desirable kind of life. She has to determine what kind of life is best suited to successful competition with the nations that now control the destinies of the world. Hence the national characteristic on which we have been dwelling is undergoing a process of gradual but sure eradication. For that reason we think it worthy of a place among the archives of this Society.

Our analysis of the anti-sordid characteristic of the Japanese mind would not be complete without showing its connection with chivalry, and without pointing out how it affects the conduct of individuals and public bodies in modern days. Some of the mental characteristics of nations may be called primary, that is they have been prominent ever since the dawn of the history of those nations. "The French of the nineteenth century," Professor Ribot remarks, "are in fact the Gauls described by Cæsar. In the *Commentaries*, in Strabo, and in Diodorus Siculus we find all the essential traits of our national character: love of arms, taste for everything that glitters, extreme levity of mind, incurable vanity, address, great readiness of speech, and disposition to be carried away by phrases. There are in Cæsar some observations, which might have been written yesterday. 'The Gauls,' says he, 'have a love of revolution; they allow themselves to be led by false reports into acts they afterwards regret, and into decisions on the most important events; they are depressed by reverses; they are as ready to go to war without cause as they are weak and powerless in the hour of defeat.'² Unfortunately in the case of the Japanese we have not the advantage of being able to compare observations made by an intelligent foreigner more than eighteen hundred years ago with what we see to-day; but we may safely say that as far back as history carries us contempt for the business of mere money making was a prominent characteristic of the Japanese people. There is hardly an authentic tale of any length that does not furnish facts proving this. The merchant, the usurer, the middleman, were regarded as the pariahs of ancient Japanese Society, to the level of whose life the noble samurai would rather die than descend. An age of chivalry has always produced this feeling; but not in every country has the sentiment shown the same tenacity as in Japan. The prosperous days of chivalry may be said to have closed with the accession to supreme power of the first Tokugawa Shogun. Yet thenceforth, during 150 years, the old spirit lived on, despite a perpetual death of events calculated to preserve it. And to a large extent it has even withstood the influences in operation during the past twenty years.

Associated with this absence of sordidity are some noble traits: a keen sense of honour; great independence; extreme generosity and unselfishness; a taste for simplicity of living; love of espousing the cause of the weak and the oppressed—virtues to all of which in the case of the vast majority we fear we shall have to say *ave atque vale*. For as the spirit of commerce and the thirst for gain become more and more prevalent, such virtues inevitably grow more and more rare. Happily we still encounter instances where the display of these traits is conspicuous. The spirit of independence among a certain class of Japanese is as strong as ever. Numerous are the instances in which it leads men to throw up lucrative posts rather than further policies of which they disapprove. In fact we may go so far as to say that there is no

virtue more highly esteemed in Japan to-day than the absence of servility. A man may have serious defects and still be immensely popular if he will show himself independent. But like other virtuous traits, this characteristic is apt to develop into a vice. When carried to excess it becomes the source of endless dissension, and leads to the formation of innumerable cliques and cabals. The disintegration that Japanese political parties have undergone in late years owing to the undue prevalence of this spirit has been such as to render successful coöperation a task of almost insuperable difficulty.

It should not be forgotten that the contempt which the Japanese gentleman feels for mere money-making finds a parallel to some extent in the aversion with which our country and town gentry in England, to say nothing of our nobility, regard the tradesman who has retired on a fortune. But with us contempt is aroused not so much by the occupation by means of which money is made as by the vulgarity and pompous display too often accompanying its acquisition.

Let us pass now to notice another mental characteristic; which, though partly derived from the trait just considered, has other sources as well. We refer to the *levity* which the Japanese display on occasions when a foreigner would be grave and concerned. They bear great pecuniary losses and sore bereavements with an equanimity that is astounding. Where money is concerned the general feeling in reference to it, as described above, accounts for the unconcern with which its loss is borne. But since the Japanese are by no means lacking in domestic affection, how is it that to us foreigners they appear so stoical when the death of near relatives takes place? Various views on this subject have been held by students of Japanese psychology. Some maintain that such levity in the presence of bereavement is only apparent; that the Japanese feel quite as keenly as we do under reverses, but that they consider it a breach of good manners to be demonstrative on such occasions; in fact, that it is deemed a proof of great strength of mind and character to be able to suppress emotion and show a calm front at times when there is strong temptation to give way. Those who hold this view maintain that there is a marked difference in the manner in which men and women bear misfortune in Japan. Among the latter the display of feeling is quite as violent as that of their Western sisters when similarly circumstanced. But the men have inherited from their warrior ancestors power to control the strongest emotions. Such a power was not one of their original endowments, but was developed by centuries of training; and according to this view the stolidity of the Japanese savours more of the nature of etiquette than of actual lack of emotional feeling. Others there are who maintain that the levity and unconcern so noticeable in the Japanese is real and deep-seated; and that it is the result of the fatalism and scepticism which form so prominent a feature of Japanese thought. The *shikata-ga-nai* feeling, these critics affirm, permeates everything, and reconciles the Japanese to events that would cause Westerners the gravest concern. Moreover, say they, the Japanese, having no belief in a hereafter, look upon death with *sang froid*. Did they, in common with Christians believe death to be but the entrance to another existence, the close of life would be regarded by them in quite a different light.

These considerations, though doubtless they have something to do with the characteristic we are considering, do not seem to us to wholly account for it. The fact is that the tastes, education, and whole life of the Japanese tend to produce light-headedness, and conspire to prevent their taking to heart events which Westerners feel keenly. In the first place, they have cultivated a most intense enjoyment of nature. No people revel in a fine spring or autumn day more than the Japanese. Over many Western minds a gloomy theology and a philosophy that scrutinises closely the darker aspects of human existence have cast a deep shadow. To such influences the Japanese are as a nation entire strangers. The teaching of religionists about a future life possesses little interest for them; no fear of future retribution interferes with their festive mirth. Their speculation has never gone very deep. They have not reached the strata of stern facts on which our best poets and our best prose writers are wont to dwell. The groaning of creation, the disappointed hopes, the melancholy evanescence of all the best of things—these and similar sad features of human existence have not forced themselves imperatively on their attention. They are, in a word, in a state of happy unconsciousness as regards the gloomy aspects of life, and hence are able to enjoy to the full the world's sunshine. How long it is possible for them to retain this childlike simplicity amid the numerous

influences now working in their midst, we can not pretend to say. Being an extremely imitative people, it is not improbable that in a few centuries they will be as grave as we.

An alleged characteristic which calls for a short notice, is *fickleness*. The impression which the Japanese have left on a large number of observant foreigners is that they are fond of new things; that they love change for change's sake. An American observer remarked not long ago that there is nothing fixed in Japan but change. That this is a mental characteristic of the Japanese as we know them to-day we have no doubt; but the question is: how far is it the result of recent events, and how far is it an original trait of national character? We are inclined to think that this peculiarity is accidental, not inherent. For centuries prior to the revolution, the Japanese in all essential respects steadfastly adhered to one mode of life, to one way of thinking. There was no lack of permanency in their laws, institutions, and pursuits in the days of their isolation. They borrowed much from China, but they assimilated what they borrowed with great persistency of character. In modern times they have found themselves suddenly introduced to an entirely new world; it would be perhaps more correct to say, to several new worlds. Their attention has been attracted by such a multitude of things apparently far superior to any thing they already possess that they have found great difficulty in making a judicious selection. Thus the changes succeeding each other so rapidly and in so many directions in this country have not, in our opinion, been usually dictated by mere fickleness, but have resulted from the wish to prove all things with the view of eventually holding fast that which is good. Naturally great difficulty has been felt in adapting foreign systems and institutions to local conditions. Hence when success has not been attained by one method, another has been tried. In endeavouring to decide on what are and what are not national traits, it is hardly fair to take events that have transpired during a period of transition and under extraordinary circumstances as evidence of permanent mental characteristics. In our opinion, therefore, it is premature to say that fickleness is a permanent trait of Japanese national character.

A back number of the Japanese Education Society's journal contains an extremely interesting paper from the pen of Mr. Nose on the subject which we are now discussing. Though we do not in every case agree with the conclusions to which Mr. Nose arrives, we welcome the paper for the sake of the facts it contains, and think it worthy of being reproduced in summary here. As a statement of Japanese national characteristics as they appear to a native well acquainted with Western thought, it has a special value of its own.

After remarking that every nation has distinctive characteristics, produced by its soil, climate, history, and traditional customs—manifesting themselves in physical and mental peculiarities, in different modes of dress, in different diet, and great discrepancy of taste—Mr. Nose observes that it is desirable that every country should endeavour to preserve intact, so far as possible, its peculiarities, its national individuality; since it is for its possession of elements of character not found in the same degree in other nations that it will gain the respect and deference of foreign countries. Independent development of national characteristics and powers is what elicits the admiration of neighbouring countries. The principal national virtues of the Japanese, according to Mr. Nose, are loyalty, filial piety, benevolence, chastity, and personal cleanliness. He maintains that the contention of some writers that these virtues were originally derived from China or India is not warranted by facts. Though the terms now in use to express them are in many instances Chinese in origin, the virtues themselves are national heirlooms. Had there been no national virtues prior to the spread of Buddhism and Confucianism in this country, the writer contends, it would have been impossible for the nation to maintain its independence. For twelve or thirteen hundred years, says Mr. Nose, with the exception of disturbances among the Ainos, there was no rebellion against the established authority, and in those early times emperors with but few attendants frequently travelled long distances with perfect safety. This the writer attributes to the loyalty of the people. It was a long time even after the arrival of Buddhism and Confucianism before those creeds gained any influence over the lower orders; and even after their tenets had been studied and adopted by a large portion of the educated, the latter had a code of honour known as *menboku*, which was quite distinct from the teachings of foreign creeds, and the due observance of which often cost them their lives. Under the Tokugawa régime the Chinese classics were diligently studied, but more for the sake of their

¹ "Literary and Social Judgments," by W. R. Greg.
² Heredity, p. 110.

general teaching on politics than as furnishing a standard of morals. For the latter, Mr. Nose maintains, the Japanese invariably fell back on their national sentiment, on the moral instincts they had inherited from their forefathers. Mr. Nose adds that even those who were best acquainted with Confucianism never regarded its moral precepts with anything like the veneration which the Christian feels for the teaching of the Bible.

The writer next proceeds to define more precisely what he conceives to be the purely national elements of Japanese virtue. These, he says, are extreme aversion to disgrace, and a high regard for unspotted honour, loyalty to superiors, dutiful feelings towards parents, straightforwardness, cleanliness, and chastity. "In other countries," observes Mr. Nose, "ethical terms are derived from sacred writings; the terms in vogue in China come from the classics; those of Europe from the Bible; those of India and Turkey from the Koran or Buddhist scriptures; but in Japan the words which are best known as expressive of moral states, actions and feelings are, with few exceptions, purely native, and have no connection with any religious creed whatever." Mr. Nose gives the following twelve specimens of words not derived from Chinese classical literature and yet expressing moral ideas:—*ai-sunanu* (inexcusable, improper, wrong); *membokunai* (asliamed, crest fallen); *futodoki-senban* (audacious, insolent); *mottainai* (wrong, improper); *kindoku* (concern for others, regret); *appare* (splendid, admirable); *furachi* (unprincipled, lawless, wicked); *kawaii* (lovable, dear, pretty); *otonashi* (quiet, obedient, meek); *muri-no-nai* (just, reasonable, right); *fugyoseki* (wicked or immoral conduct); *taietsu shigoku* (of the greatest consequence, of the highest value); *ieiki* (obstinacy, an unyielding temper); *ritsugisha* (an upright, straightforward person); *buchōhō* (ignorant, awkward, bungling); *kuchi-oshii* (a thing to be deplored or regretted).

This list, it will be perceived, contains words derived from China, but such terms are mere adaptations, in Mr. Nose's opinion. His argument here is far from convincing. It would have been better had he excluded from his list all Chinese words. There would be no surer way of finding out what precisely were the ethical notions of the ancient Japanese than by making an exhaustive list of all the moral terms in use prior to the introduction of writing. This could be done by a careful examination of the *Kofiki* and the book of poems known as the "Collection of a Myriad Leaves." This latter work was published in the middle of the eighth century, and it embodies the most ancient forms of speech. Mr. Nose contends that the above terms refer to no standard of right and wrong outside of the minds of the people who use them; that when, for instance, an ancient Japanese uttered the word *sumanu*, he did not employ it in the sense of our word "un-Christian," nor did he refer to a standard set up by individuals like Confucius or Mencius. He spoke and thought of impropriety in the abstract, in the nature of the action of which this quality was predicated; and when he spoke of himself as *membokunai*, the standard of conduct which rendered him crestfallen was a purely national one, and had no reference whatever to a supposed divine revelation. Mr. Nose asserts that the feelings of ancient Japanese on such matters were well expressed by Sugawara Michizane when he wrote

"Kokoroda ni makoto no
Michi ni kanainaba
Imarazu tote mo kani ya
Mamoranu."

"As long as the heart is in harmony with truth, even though there be no praying, God will protect."

For the chastity of her women, for the loyalty and bravery of her great heroes, for the moral obligations which even the most uneducated of her sons feel themselves under, Japan, Mr. Nose affirms, is indebted to no religious creed, but to those inherent moral sentiments that have characterized her people ever since they have been a nation. He proceeds to show that though the terms for many of her virtues now in use are Chinese in origin, the qualities denoted by such terms are purely native. And he maintains that the loyalty of her sons and the chastity of her women are at once distinct and superior to anything in China. The objection to second marriages, which was so strongly felt by the Japanese women of former days; the native disregard of death when obligations had to be fulfilled, which was so conspicuous in the men—all this the writer contends finds no parallel in Chinese morals. Mr. Nose admits that the ambition to die honourably rather than live in disgrace was in Japan in excess of what is desirable; but nevertheless contends that as an exhibition of strength of moral purpose it was very remarkable, and adds that the determination which enabled men to die without regret when duty demanded the sacrifice of their lives, would,

had it been rightly directed, have sufficed to enable them to bear the shame to which they were exposed and to commence afresh life's battle. He thinks that the fundamental difference between Japanese and foreign mental characteristics is in the value put upon life. He admits that the fortitude which enables a man to survive disgrace and attempt to regain his lost reputation is of a higher order than that which nerves and sustains him in the hour of self destruction, and hence that the foreign view is preferable to that of the ancient Japanese.

Mr. Nose passes on to discuss the vendetta. He does not attempt to deny that this practice received the moral sanction of the nation for many centuries. But this, he says, was owing to the imperfection of the laws of those times. The justice which should have been administered by the State was dispensed by private individuals. But the desire to punish the wicked and to avenge the death of relatives was in itself highly virtuous. After the manner of most Japanese writers on this subject, Mr. Nose dwells on the loyalty to the throne manifested in Japan as something entirely unique.

Mr. Nose, at the conclusion of his paper, laments that there are at present so many signs of deterioration in the moral feelings of the Japanese, and points out that upon the increased cultivation of these depends the future prosperity of the empire. He remarks that the old disregard of death, the willingness to sacrifice life to the country's honour, is occasionally seen now-a-days, but that it no longer gains the respect of the nation, owing to the ignorance and bigotry with which it is associated. Mr. Nose maintains that it is quite possible to find all that is required in the way of an ethical standard in the hereditary moral sentiments of the nation, and thinks that if these sentiments be nurtured in the family and the school, a type of character inferior to none of those said to be the result of religious teaching in the West will certainly be produced.

Mr. Nose, in a work entitled *Kiōiku-gaku*, treats the subject of Japanese mental characteristics at still greater length. His point of view is that of an educationalist, but the conclusions which he reaches are of deep interest to the student of Japanese psychology. The following brief summary of his views taken from a notice of the work which we prepared for the *Japan Mail* some time ago, we think worth inserting in this paper.

The temperature, the climate, the physical characteristics of country, the fertility of the soil—these are all conducive to high development. But unfortunately, for the three hundred years that preceded the *Meiji* era, the beneficial effects of these physical influences were counteracted by the baneful nature of the social and individual agencies at work. Mr. Nose maintains that it was hardly possible to find an atmosphere less congenial to mental development than that which existed under the grinding despotism of the Tokugawa Shoguns. All forms of original thought, all attempts to encourage independent investigations, were suspected and suppressed. He is of opinion that it will take some generations to eradicate the evil effects of the social influences of old Japan. They are still to be traced in the fundamental ideas of the agriculturalist and the mechanic; they account for his lack of enterprise, and for the fatalistic manner in which he clings to his environment, as though it were unalterable. Not less are the effects of these influences manifested in the lives and thoughts of the learned classes of society. With the majority learning is no more than a pastime. It is pursued with no practical end in view, and is valued more as a polite accomplishment than as an organ of enlightenment and a means of ameliorating the condition of suffering humanity. The mental qualities which, according to Mr. Nose, need most cultivation in Japan are tenacity and stability of purpose, and a determination to bring to a consummation that which has once been commenced.

As we have already observed, we are prepared to endorse Mr. Nose's views. We think that his main contention that the fundamental ethical notions of the Japanese were not derived from China is incontrovertible. But the native origin of the ethical ideas of the Japanese is not to be elevated to the rank of a distinguishing national characteristic. When Mr. Nose tells us that the terms in vogue in China came from the Classics; those of Europe from the Bible; those of India and Turkey from the Koran or Buddhist Scriptures, but that in Japan the words which are best known as expressive of moral states, actions, and feelings are, with few exceptions, purely native, and have no connection with any religious creed whatever, he confesses two distinct things, namely ethical notions and the language in which those notions are expressed. It is no distinguishing mark of Japan that she had a stock of

moral ideas long before she came into contact with a foreign civilization. Nobody imagines that the Bible, the Koran, or the Buddhist scriptures could be rendered into the language of a people utterly devoid of all moral notions. The thoughts, in however vague and indefinite a form, must have been present in the minds of the people whom these sacred books have furnished with terms. But this does not make the obligation we are under to the writers of the books anything the less. And the same may be said of Japan. We think that Mr. Nose underestimates the influence which Confucianism and Buddhism have exercised in giving shape and definiteness to the ethical creed of the Japanese as we find it in their best books. The list of what he deems adopted terms might be confronted with a still fuller list of purely Chinese terms. Japanese ethics owes much to China. Had the native system been allowed to develop itself unaided by foreign writers, it would to-day be no less meagre and effete than the Shinto creed.

What we have said about the lack of peculiarity in the ethical language used by ancient Japanese applies to the notions themselves as stated by Mr. Nose. Nations have distinguishing marks, doubtless, but they do not consist of discrepancies in fundamental moral notions. What Mr. Nose designates the principal national virtues of the Japanese: loyalty, filial piety, benevolence, chastity, and personal cleanliness are virtues possessed by all nations who pretend to any kind of civilisation. These qualities are not then to be reckoned as distinctly national virtues. The regard in which the Japanese hold the person of their Sovereign is supposed by Mr. Nose and a crowd of other writers to be unique. But we all know that extreme veneration for sovereignty is a universal characteristic of nations in the earlier stages of their development.

While valuing many of the facts with which Mr. Nose furnishes us, we think that the inferences which he draws from them are by no means warranted.

We have done no more than trace the outlines of a great and interesting subject; confining ourselves for the most part to jotting down the results of our own observations extended over many years. We may return to the discussion on a future occasion. It would be interesting to know how far the views expressed in this paper are shared by other foreign students. We say foreign students, as it is of course plain that distinguishing marks of nationality must be more discernible to a foreigner than to a native, on the principle that to few is it given to see themselves as others see them.

We have purposely omitted from this paper the notice of some traits to which our attention has been frequently called by foreign observers, for the reason that we have our doubts whether the number of cases in which such characteristics are displayed is sufficiently large and sufficiently typical to warrant our including them in a list of distinctively national traits. As we observed at the outset the subject is one that requires very delicate handling, and one in which, perhaps, it is impossible to do more than arrive at an approximately correct opinion. Nevertheless, we think it worthy of the attention of this Society, and trust that since it is a topic on which all old residents must have formed some definite notions, this paper may induce such to give the Society and the public the benefit of their observations.

The President, after conveying to the author the thanks of the Society for his extremely interesting paper, remarked that both the author's views and those which had been summarised from Mr. Nose's essays bristled in points that invited discussion. He did not think that in the desire to utter their political views or lecture the gray-haired statesman the youth of Japan were any more precocious than the youth of our own lands. Our youth, however, have no publications open to them in which to air their convictions. He called to mind a scene in which Pendergast re-read with wonder at his own audacity his sage political councils of many years before. It is in fact only as we grow older and come to understand our ignorance that we cease to teach our elders how to act.

Dr. SEYMOUR, in referring to the early precocity of Japanese youth, noted what seemed to him an early decay of power of acquiring new knowledge. Perhaps it is because the elder men have lost their power and energy that the younger men do the writing.

Mr. CHAMBERLAIN, in his remarks, confined his attention mainly to some of Mr. Nose's views. Mr. Nose had laid great stress upon the moral ideas of the Japanese before the introduction of Buddhism. But of these pre-Buddhist days we know absolutely nothing. The oldest Japanese books were written after the introduction of Buddhism, and all Mr. Nose's remarks

about hereditary and purely native characteristics rest on a pure assumption with no historical foundation. Mr. Nose had referred to the objection of women to being married a second time as an example of a purely Japanese custom. But was it so before the advent of Buddhism? As a matter of fact, the women founded their objection upon a passage in the classics, saying that as warriors never served two lords, so wives should not marry two husbands. Again the word *mem-bokunai* which occurred in Mr. Nose's list, is of distinctly Chinese origin and means to lose face. It is difficult therefore to appreciate the argument that the idea so expressed must be of purely Japanese origin. Mr. Nose also seems greatly to understate the civilising influence of Buddhism in this country. Japan owes her formation as a nation to Buddhism. It was in the train of the priests that all the arts were introduced. In the contemporary notices in Chinese history previous to that time Japan does not appear as a nation governed by a centralised Government. See Mr. Aston's Paper on Ancient Japanese History, Vol. XVI. of the Society's Transactions. Finally, in common with many Japanese writers of to-day, Mr. Nose is very unfair to the Tokugawa régime. Where incessant fightings had been, the Shogun brought peace, and for disorder substituted order; and in organized society there is always less tyranny than where there is anarchy. Modern literature, the theatre, and modern art in all its branches, date from the Tokugawa days. Let us hope that young Japan will soon come to its senses in this matter, and instead of being ungrateful to the Shogunate which alone made a high civilisation possible and so led them to the knowledge that the Mikado was the true centre of power—instead of being ungrateful, may they soon render justice to their past.

Dr. KNOTT thought that the more we considered the matter the more difficult it became to lay down clearly the mental traits that distinguish the Japanese from ourselves. In almost every instance of apparent difference we do not need to go far before we find a sufficient explanation in the different lines of historic development. And this historic development ultimately in great measure is a direct outcome of geographical environment and climatic condition. In its isolation for centuries Japan has passed through an experience very different from that through which all the European nations have passed. With these there has been a continual give and take with a correspondingly rapid evolution of civilisation. During these centuries Japan received practically no stimulus from without. As a consequence her poetry, for example, is really antiquated, and has not had the continuity of development from old through middle to modern which so characterises our English poetry. It is a fact of history that a nation left entirely to itself cannot develop to advantage; and Mr. Nose's idea that Japan should strive to preserve her national characteristics and develop along her own lines seems to be a fair illustration of unpractical and speculative theorising. What philosopher ever formulated such a maxim to his race? What need indeed for such a formula? Except possibly as a conservative watch word, it can have no real influence upon the development of a strong race in the midst of other equally strong races. In a certain sense nations like children do develop along their own lines; but it is never as a result of predetermination so to do. Mr. Denning had made a great deal of the Japanese distaste for money-making pursuits; but seemed to the speaker to be somewhat too emphatic on the materialistic tendencies of the age. It was after all a question of finding scope for individual energies; and when a full commercial life became possible to the Japanese they would be as eager after wealth as any western peoples. England did not begin her commercial career till after the Wars of the Roses had destroyed the last vestiges of feudalism; and Japan is only a generation removed from her feudal times.

Mr. CLEMENT thought that the precocity and conceit of the Japanese student were largely due to over education and high pressure in the schools. For the same reason their logic was all in a narrow groove. There seemed to be too much of the purely intellectual in their training, leading to a cold intellectuality.

Mr. DENNING agreed with the last speaker as to the evil results of the Japanese educational system; and pointed out that one of the defects of the best private school in Tokyo was pushing the student at too early an age into the study of abstruse subjects. In reply to Dr. Knott's criticism that he had emphasised too strongly the Western desire after money making he would point out that his paper did not deal with the Western character as a whole, but was intended to draw attention to the differences between the Western and Japanese habits of

thought. And there is no doubt the average Japanese has less regard for money than the average European or American. They are not troubled over a loss of money as we are. Also they do not regard their debts in the same serious way as we do. Quite recently a prominent politician was highly lauded by many of the journals because, although he was owing money all round, he still refused to accept a Government post.

Mr. LISCOMBE wondered whether the difficulty frequently experienced by foreigners in getting information about places (for instance) from Japanese living in the vicinity was due to a lack of interest in things beyond the usual horizon of their thoughts. He once heard a story of a Japanese, very worldly wise in his own estimation, displaying the lack of this quality in a friend by suddenly asking him the price of rice. Yet when he (Mr. Liscombe) asked this worldly wise gentleman some simple questions about Japanese banks, he got nothing but a shake of the head and an introduction to a banker. This tendency to fall into ruts of every day life, and to see nothing or little beyond, must be a hindrance to progress of every kind.

Mr. DENNING thought that the Japanese do not really lack curiosity. They may not take an interest in things that we are more specially interested in; but they certainly take a profound interest in their own affairs and in their own way.

The PRESIDENT drew attention to what he had often noticed among his own servants. They knew the meanings of pictures and artistic designs, and the names of the painters and artists in a way that is very characteristic of Japan. With us the servant class as a whole is absolutely ignorant of like matters.

Mr. DROPPERS, in reference to the question of the logical powers of Japanese students, gave as his experience in the teaching of political economy that they did not reason in the way that we would regard as direct. From our recognised standards the Japanese seem to argue round a thing and arrive at their conclusions in what is to us an indirect manner.

Rev. CLAY McCauley thought that as regards the radical mental phenomena on which character is based, the Japanese people were to be characterised by emotionalism rather than by intellectuality. They act more upon impulse than from reason. Intellectually they possess intensity of feeling rather than clearness of perception. They have closest affinity with the peoples of the South of Europe.

The meeting then adjourned.

BASEBALL.

The return game of Baseball on Saturday, Club v. U.S.S. Omaha, resulted in a very easy win for the Club. We append scores:—

CLUB.				"OMAHA."			
Pos.	Runs.	Outs.		Pos.	Runs.	Outs.	
Mr. Nash	5	3		Mr. Glendinning	1	3	
Mr. Knox	7	0		Mr. Reeves	5	0	
Mr. Merriman	3	4		Mr. Douglas	5	0	
Mr. McNair	4	3		Mr. Barrett	3	0	
Mr. Tison	1	4		Mr. Cooke	2	0	
Mr. Shireau	0	4		Mr. Baumgardner	2	0	
Mr. Howard	0	5		Mr. Monroe	0	0	
Mr. Macouduy	1	3		Mr. Wright	0	0	
Mr. Crawford	0	2		Mr. Amster	0	0	
	28	24			4	27	
SCORE BY INNINGS.							
Club.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Omaha	3	0	1	0	0	0	0
Club	3	0	1	0	0	0	0

LETTER FROM KOREA.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

SŌUL, November 4th.

It may be interesting to your readers to hear how the Emperor's birthday was celebrated here in the capital of Korea. The Japanese quarter of the city is just inside the south gate, and on the side of Nam San, or south mountain, at least directly at its foot. The white plastered walls of the Japanese merchants' houses are conspicuous in contrast with the dark brown of the native houses. The cleanliness and neatness of the Japanese quarter, commonly called "chiu-go-kai" by Koreans, are a constant object lesson to the natives. The city was kept aware of the Emperor's birthday by the frequent discharge of huge fire crackers, and the display of patriotic bunting throughout this part of the city. The Legation is splendidly situated for such a display. It lies at the back of the Japanese settlement high up on one of the spurs of the mountain. It is the largest and handsomest edifice of the kind in the city, and its white walls, half shaded among a beautiful grove of pines, can be

seen from every part of the capital. The thickly wooded mountain at its back gives an opportunity for some fine landscape gardening and you can well imagine that the Japanese have not been slow to take advantage of this fact.

In the afternoon Mr. and Mrs. Kondo did the honours at a tiffin given to the diplomatic corps. But the principal event of the day was the soiree at which the whole European and American community was made welcome. From sunset until nine o'clock when the guests began to assemble there was a continual explosion of rockets and other fireworks which the whole city could enjoy owing to the conspicuous position of the legation. The flag-pole was decorated with three long graceful lines of lanterns and the approach to the legation was festooned with similar illuminations. As we entered the brilliantly lighted drawing-room a very representative company met the view. There were, first and foremost the ladies, their charms enhanced by pretty frocks and rich jewels. Then there were a number of high Korean officials, conspicuous in their white garments and white mourning hats which they have assumed in view of the decease of the Queen Dowager. They seemed to be enjoying themselves thoroughly. There were also gentlemen from the Chinese Legation and the Customs service. All these together with the Japanese and foreign gentlemen made up a very interesting company. But there was not much time to look around and converse or to admire the beautiful massing of chrysanthemums of all shades and hues with which the rooms were decorated, for at the farther end of the room was a table on the front of which was written in large letters *Legerdemain*, which gave us a clue to the novel entertainment that was to follow. When the ladies were seated the wizard took his place behind the table, and began his mysterious preparations to the music of a Japanese orchestra. The greatest mystery about it was how our host could have procured such a really skilful juggler in this out-of-the-place. He performed in a superior manner. I need not describe to you how he turned cotton to water and then to ink, and then back to water, or how he incubated eggs instantaneously, or how he brought out bushels of things from—well—nowhere. Your readers have seen the same things doubtless, and so it suffices to say that it was done in a very clever manner. After the various performances indicated on the neatly printed programme had been finished, the company adjourned to apartments upstairs and viewed from the windows a brilliant pyrotechnical display, after which they did ample justice to the refreshments served from an adjoining room. It was not until the small hours that the company broke up, delighted, I am sure, with the courtesy of Mr. and Mrs. Kondo, and mentally congratulating His Majesty the Emperor of Japan upon the completion of a year considered by the enlightened world the happiest of his reign, in that it has seen such a striking advance in the general welfare of his people.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF JAPAN.

Before Judge NISHIOKA YUMBI, President of the First Criminal Bureau, and Judges MASATANI SENRI, YAMANE SHUSUKE, KAWAGUCHI TAIGI, and OKUYAMA SHIKETI.

No. 1,593, 1890.

WRONGFUL CONVERSION OF IMMOVABLES. THE PUBLIC PROSECUTOR OF THE NIYASAKI CORRECTIONAL COURT V. SAKAMOTO KUMASHIRO. Principles deduced by the editor of the *Saiban Suishi*:—

As the term "wrongful conversion of property" means infringement of the right of the true owner, such right is held to be infringed by the wrongful conversion of movables or immovables belonging to another, whether or no the true owner can follow and recover such property from the buyer. Wrongful conversion is held to have taken place when land, the ownership of which has been transferred by contract to another, has been sold without the consent of such other, even although the contract has not been publicly registered.

Reference—Paragraph 1, Article 393, Penal Code: "Any person who shall sell, exchange, pawn, or mortgage movables or immovables belonging to another, by wrongfully converting the same, shall be punished as having obtained property on false pretences."

The accused in this case, Sakamoto Kumashiro, and one other were convicted by the Niyasaki

Correctional Court of having attempted to sell immovables belonging to another by wrongfully converting the same, and were each sentenced to 2 months' major imprisonment and to a fine of 4 yen with 6 months' police surveillance, according to Articles 399, 393, 394, 397, 112, and 113, of the Penal Code, and Article 104 of the same Code, the offence being accessory; it being also held that the ownership of the land involved was vested in the plaintiff and not in the defendants, and decreed that yen 3 should be paid by defendants jointly as damages to the plaintiff.

The accused raised an appeal against this judgment in the Supreme Court, contending: (1) that paragraph 1, Article 393, of the Penal Code treats as an offence the obtaining of property by false pretences, because the person to whom property was transferred might be followed by the true owner on some future occasion and compelled to reconstitute the goods transferred, i.e. he was deceived by the offender; (2) inasmuch as the original judgment recognized that the buyer of the land agreed to purchase the immovables in question, which were entered under the name of the ancestor of the accused in the public records, he could not be followed by the plaintiff and compelled to reconstitute the land, so that the offence of wrongful conversion did not exist, for the buyer would not suffer any loss; (3) though the judge of the lower court recognized the ownership of the land to be vested in the plaintiff by oral evidence, the defendants had never transferred the land to the plaintiff, so that such recognition was quite unlawful.

The public procurator of the lower court objected to the appeal as groundless.

The judges of the Supreme Court decided that it was clear from the documents produced in the original trial that the transfer of the land involved in this trial was executed by mutual agreement of the plaintiff and defendant, so that its ownership was already transferred to the plaintiff, though the transfer had not been registered in the public records; that the person injured by the present offence of wrongful conversion was the individual who held the ownership of the land, not the buyer; that the true object of paragraph 1, Article 393 of the Penal Code was to inflict punishment in a case where the right of the owner was infringed, as well as where the purchaser of property was followed and compelled by the true owner to reconstitute the property; that the decisions of the lower court—that the defendants' action in selling to Yegawa Kuni-zo privately and without the consent of the owner, the land which it had been agreed to transfer, taking advantage of the fact that there was no public registration, constituted in the criminal case the offence of wrongful conversion and sale of immovables; and that, the ownership of the land in question being vested in the plaintiff, in the civil case damages of yen 3 must be paid jointly by the defendants—were reasonable, and that the appeal should be rejected as groundless.

APPROPRIATION OF FOUND PROPERTY.

THE PUBLIC PROSECUTOR OF YONEZAWA BRANCH CORRECTIONAL COURT V. HANAOKA SORICHI.

Principles deduced from the following judgment: Concealment of property picked up by another does not constitute the offence of concealment of found property.

The act of using property picked up by another and received in trust from him with the object that it should be reported to the Authorities, constitutes the offence of unlawfully using goods entrusted to one person by another.

Reference.—Article 385 of the Penal Code. "Any person who after picking up any dropped or floating property conceals it, and does not return it to the true owner, nor report it to the Authorities, shall be punished with major imprisonment for not less than 11 days and not more than 3 months, or with a fine of not less than yen 2 and not more than yen 20."

In this case the prisoner was acquitted by the Yonezawa Branch Correctional Court on the ground that his act could not be punished under Article 385 of the Penal Code because it did not constitute concealment of goods picked up by himself.

The Public Procurator of the lower court appealed to the Supreme Court on the ground that as the judgment declared that the prisoner's act could not be punished under the 385th article of the Penal Code, because the property was not picked up by himself, said judgment was a misapplication of law, because in this case the property had certainly been dropped and was not returned to the true owner nor reported to the Authorities; with this aggravation: that the property was pawned and the money loaned on it appropriated, which fact was fully recognized by the judge in the lower court. The prisoner did not produce any statement of defence.

The public procurator of the Supreme Court put in the additional appeal that the act of using privately, by pledging it, any property entrusted to one with the object that it should be reported to the Authorities, must be punished under Article 395 of the Penal Code; but it was quite impossible to investigate whether the act of the prisoner constituted the offence of using secretly what had been entrusted to him, because the judgment of the lower court only noticed the pawning of the property, but not the fact that redemption was now impossible, the property having been hualy disposed of.

The Judges held that as the act of the prisoner was not concealment of goods picked up by himself, and consequently not punishable under Article 385 of the Penal Code, the appeal of the public procurator of the lower court could not be sustained, and was therefore rejected according to Article 427 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. As, however, the original judgment stated that the prisoner had pawned for one year a watch which was picked up by his wife, and had been entrusted to him with the object that it should be reported to the Authorities, the prisoner must, if he finally used such property, be punished under Article 395 of the Penal Code, and therefore the additional appeal of the public procurator of the Supreme Court was reasonable. The judgment of the lower court, being thus defective in reason, must be cancelled, and the case transferred to the Wakamatsu Branch Correctional Court for the proper trial thereof.—*Saiban Suishi*, October 24th, 1890.

THE USE OF CANCELLED STAMPS.

Principles deduced from the following judgment:

—The offence of using stamps a second time consists in using them again by affixing them to objects or materials, on which it would be proper and lawful to affix such stamps if previously unused.

The use of stamps a second time on objects or materials to which it would not in the first place be lawful to affix them, does not constitute the offence, inasmuch as the law does not recognise as a legal act such use of uncanceled stamps.

Reference.—Art. 199, Penal Code.—"The use of postal or other various stamps after the same have already been once erased shall be punished with a fine of not less than yen 2 and not more than yen 20."

The accused, Fukuzawa Iwakichi, was convicted in the Omagari Branch Correctional Court of selling medicines without official licence, and sentenced to pay a fine of yen 30 and to forfeit the medicines. *Kinmeigwan* and *Kinmeisan*, which were seized by the Authorities, and the sum of yen 6 the proceeds of the sale of such medicines; but was adjudged not guilty of having used stamps a second time.

The Public Procurator took an appeal to the Supreme Court, with reference to that part of the decision which dealt with the charge of having used stamps a second time. He held that the law would not allow to go free any one who with a view to his own profit affixed to medicines stamps which had already been used, irrespective altogether of the point whether such medicines were lawfully licensed or not. The *Kinmeigwan* and *Kinmeisan* referred to were pills and powders, and as such undoubtedly came within the scope of Art. 1 of the Regulations relating to the Sale of Medicines. Art. 199 of the Penal Code, must, the Prosecutor contended, be applied to the use of such stamps under such circumstances.

The Bench held that the offence mentioned in Art. 199 of the Penal Code must consist in affixing stamps a second time to materials on which stamps should by law be placed; the use of cancelled stamps on other materials did not constitute the offence. The judgment of the lower court was therefore a lawful and proper decision, and the appeal was rejected under Art. 427 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

LARCENY.

Principles deduced from the following case:—The offence described in Art. 366 of the Penal Code is held to have been committed when plants placed under temporary shelter with a view to their being planted by the owner in another place, are stolen, such plants differing from "products of the farm or field."

Reference.—Art. 366 of the Penal Code:—"Any person who steals the property of another shall be held guilty of larceny, and be punished with major imprisonment for not less than two months and not more than four years." Art. 372 of the Penal Code:—"Any person who steals corn, vegetables, fruit or other products of the field or farm shall be punished with major imprisonment for not less than one month and not more than one year."

The accused was convicted in the Kochi Correctional Court of theft, and sentenced to major imprisonment for one month and ten days, in

accordance with Arts. 372 and 376 of the Penal Code and to police surveillance for six months.

Against this judgment the Public Procurator of the lower court appealed on the ground that the offence came within the scope of Art. 366 of the Penal Code, the conditions requisite to bring it within Art. 372 being absent.

The Supreme Court held that the articles stolen (2,500 young plants of *bronnsonetia papyrifera*) were at the time under temporary shelter prior to being planted out, and therefore did not come within the meaning of Art. 372 of the Code. In this respect then the judgment of the lower court must be reversed. Proceeding, however, on the evidence laid before the lower court, the Supreme Court, under Arts. 366 and 376, imposed sentence of two months' imprisonment with police surveillance for six months.—*Saiban Suishi*.

CONCEALMENT OF FOUND PROPERTY.

Principles deduced from the following decision:—The offence of concealing found property is constituted when property dropped in a place which is in the custody of another is picked up and concealed.

The offence of using for one's own private purposes property held in trust for another, is constituted when property left and forgotten in one's residence is used without the consent of the owner.

Reference.—Art. 385, Penal Code:—"Persons who conceal the fact that they have picked up property that has been dropped or is floating about, and do not return the same to the rightful owners or report the finding to the Authorities, shall be punished with major imprisonment for not less than 11 days and not more than 3 months, or with fines of not less than yen 2 and not more than yen 20." Art. 395, Penal Code:—"Persons who have appropriated and used property lent to them, pawned with them, or otherwise entrusted to them by others, shall be punished with major imprisonment for not less than one month and not more than two years. Should such property be so used and appropriated under false pretences, or with imposition, then the offence shall be held to consist in the obtaining of goods under false pretences."

The accused, Ido Mito, was convicted in the Hikone Branch Correctional Court of having concealed dropped property, and sentenced to major imprisonment for 20 days in accordance with Art. 385 of the Penal Code. The leather purse which formed the subject of the offence was ordered to be returned to Hosoye Tomejiro, its owner, under Art. 48 of the Penal Code.

The Procurator of the lower court appealed to the Supreme Court and pointed out that on the facts of the case the accused found a leather purse containing a sum of money which had been left and forgotten in her house by Hosoye Tomejiro, who called on her on March 16th, 1890; that the accused concealed the fact that she had found the purse, used the money which it contained, and when the owner came again for his property stated to him that he had not left it there. The lower court held this to constitute the offence of concealing dropped property. But the essentials of such an offence were that the owner should not know of his loss at the time, and that the finder should not know who was the owner. But where, as in this case, the owner knew where he had left the property, and the owner was known, the property in fact being in the custody of another, such property could not be regarded as dropped. Here the property was implicitly entrusted to the accused, for the owner knew that he had left it in her custody, and the duty was incumbent on her of taking charge of it. The offence, therefore, was that of appropriating to her own uses and purposes goods that had been entrusted to her—(see Art. 395, Penal Code). The judgment of the lower court was, in these circumstances, a misapplication of law.

The Judges of the Supreme Court decided that the offence of concealing dropped property was constituted when property dropped in a place not under the supervision and control of another was picked up and concealed; whereas property left in a place under such supervision and control must be in the custody of the person exercising such supervision and control, and must be returned to its owner. The using and appropriation of such property therefore amounts to the appropriation to one's own uses and purposes of property entrusted to one. The judgment of the lower court set forth that a leather purse containing a sum of money had been left behind and forgotten in the accused's house by the owner when he called on her, so that the accused had appropriated to her own uses and purposes, without the consent of the owner, property which had been left in a place under her supervision and control, and which it was her duty to take charge of and return to the owner. The offence consequently must come under par. 1, Art.

395, Penal Code, and the judgment of the lower court was a misapplication of law, and must be reversed under Art. 429, Code of Criminal Procedure, a new sentence being passed by this Court on the facts as recognised by the lower Court. The accused was accordingly sentenced to suffer major imprisonment for one month under Art. 395, Penal Code.—*Saiban Suishi.*

THE COTTON-SPINNING INDUSTRY.

The proposed great meeting of the representatives of the leading cotton-spinning mills throughout the country in Osaka has been alluded to on more than one occasion in these columns (says the *Hyogo News*). The prevailing dullness in the trade, and the rapidly accumulating supplies in the hands of the producers, have been the chief causes which suggested the meeting. This dullness has brought about a heavy fall in the stocks of the leading companies. According to one of the native papers the 100-yen fully-paid-up shares of the Osaka Spinning Company, which only a short time ago were quoted at yen 280, are now as low as yen 108. The meeting was opened on Friday last, 15th, in the Osaka Chamber of Commerce, when delegates were present from the Tokyo, Himeji, Senshu, Nagoya, Shimada, Settsu, Hirano, Dojima, Miye, Aichi, Yamato, Hiroshima, Uwajima, Owari, Naniwa, Osaka, Tennoji, Kagoshima, Okayama, Shimomura, Tanashima, Wakayama, Shodoshima, Kinsashiki and Kowabara Spinning Companies. The Kanekin Weaving Company was also represented. No delegates attended from the following companies:—Hachiman, Watanabe, Kurumo, Saitama, and Shimotsuke. The following companies were also unrepresented on the opening day, but it was understood their representatives were on the way:—Kanehachiro, Fujii, Enshu, Miyagi, and Nagasaki. After the agenda papers had been distributed the election of a Chairman and Vice-Chairman was proceeded with. Mr. Okada, of the Owari Spinning Co., was elected Chairman, and Mr. Yamamoto, of the Osaka Spinning Co., Vice-Chairman. Of the subsequent proceedings the reports in the native papers are bald and meagre in the extreme. For instance, we are told that discussion on motion 5 before the meeting was postponed until the following day, but what motion 5 was not a hint is given. The motion that spinners and dealers should form themselves into a union for mutual protection and gain was not passed. The proposal regarding inferior productions was turned over to a committee of five to report upon. The meeting then took under consideration the proposal made to limit the production of the mills, but nothing definite appears to have been arrived at. On the 16th, Saturday, the motion advocating a union between spinners and dealers was again brought forward and referred to a committee. The above is all that the readers of the *Asahi* and *Mainichi* are told concerning deliberations of the Conference. In connection with the meeting one of the papers states that the annual demand for cotton yarn in Japan does not exceed 105,000,000 *kin* (262,500 bales), one bale being equal to 3 lbs. of cotton cloth, whereas the supply, including the native and foreign article, amounts to 390,000 bales, or an excess of supply over demand of 127,500 bales. It is this surplus which bothers the spinners, and how to get rid of it they cannot decide. The only outlet seems to be Korea and Shanghai. The price of Bombay yarn (*hidariyori*) of Japanese make in Shanghai is, we are told, \$85.746 per bale, inclusive of the 83.85 export duty, and the price of the same yarn as turned out by the Shanghai Spinning Mill is yen 81.377. If, therefore, the export duty on the Japanese article is taken off, the stuff can then be laid down in Shanghai at, roughly speaking, only 51 cents higher than the Shanghai product. It is this could be done the Japanese merchants are confident that they would be able to find means to so adjust that extra half-dollar that their sales should be successful rivals against those of Shanghai. It is much to be regretted that on so important a question, and one possessing more than local interest, our native contemporaries are not able to cater for the wants of their readers in a more efficient manner.

Continuing this subject on the 19th inst., the same journal says:—

The native papers publish further particulars of the Cotton Spinners' Conference in Osaka, but of the baldest and most disjointed description imaginable. The delegates met on the 16th (Sunday), at 9 a.m. and proceeded to discuss the motion advocating the abolition of the export duty on cotton yarn in order to facilitate the export of the same. Eventually it was decided, on the motion of Mr. Tanura, that a committee of five should be elected to form a delegation to the Government

praying for the removal of the impost in question. At the afternoon proceedings, however, Mr. Tanura, presumably with the consent of the meeting, withdrew his motion, and moved instead that the committee of three, already elected to interview the Government on the question of removing the import duty on raw cotton, should be entrusted with both matters. This was agreed to. It was then decided that whatever the result of the appeal to the Government to rescind these duties, those delegates present should pledge their companies to the export of their yarn in a manner to be decided by a committee of seven elected for the purpose. This appears to have concluded the labours of the conference on the 16th. On the 17th (Monday) the members again met and adopted a plan, of which no details are given, however, for the export of yarn to Korea and China. The next matter under consideration was an application made by the Naigai Wata Kaisha and the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha for permission to join the Cotton Spinners in their efforts to obtain from the Government an abolition of the duties on the import of raw cotton and the export of yarn. The application was granted. The Conference now appears to have itself discussed the best means of exporting yarn to Korea and China, although it had previously appointed a committee expressly charged with this work. But to attempt to impart any sequence to the proceedings is impossible. The most we can do is to reproduce what appears in the *Asahi* and *Mainichi*, and trust to the prior knowledge of those of our readers whom this matter interests to supply what is wanting. If they decline to do this we must adopt the high ground taken by one of the old dramatic authors, who, in reply to certain criticisms of his piece, said that when he had written his play he had done his work; it was no part of his business to supply his audience with the necessary brains wherewith to understand it. With this digression we will proceed to state the means by which the Conference decided the required export of yarn could best be effected. These are as follows:—The Spinning Companies to pledge themselves to a yearly export of 30,000 bales for five years, whether the duty be abolished or not. Meanwhile samples are to be sent forward at once in accordance with the following plan. The companies in the Union shall export one large bale for every 1,000 spindles in their shed. Those companies whose spindles do not number 1,000 shall use the *shisha go nyu* method of counting. With regard to the number of the yarn and the proportions to be used, 70 per cent. of the bale should be made up of No. 20's (*ni jitte*) both left and right twists (*hidariyori* and *migi-yori*); the remaining 30 per cent. should consist of Nos. 12's, 14's, and 16's. Any company exporting goods differing from the above will do so on their own responsibility and at their own risk. In the event of any profit being made on the above exports, the same to be distributed evenly. If any loss accrues, each company to pay according to its number of spindles. The work of collecting, packing, shipping, and selling in Shanghai to be entrusted to a committee of three, who will be responsible for the whole.

In the afternoon the Conference had under consideration a proposal limiting the import of yarn, and a committee of seven, consisting of the representatives of the following companies:—Okayama, Hirano, Settsu, Owari, Osaka, and Miye, were elected to report on the matter. The proposal advocates the manufacture of Bombay *hidari yori ni jitte* in the following proportion:—Companies having more than 5,000 spindles and under 10,000 should employ 20 per cent. of spindles in the manufacture of this yarn; companies with more than 10,000 and under 20,000 spindles should use 30 per cent. of their plant for the same purpose; companies with more than 20,000 spindles and under 30,000 should devote 40 per cent. to this manufacture; and those companies with more than 30,000 spindles should employ 50 per cent. of them to this end. The price of this yarn shall be arranged, in order that no opening shall exist for competition between the various parties to the Union. This appears to have concluded the labours of the Conference for Monday. It will last, we understand, for two or three days yet.

The *Hyogo News* continues its report of the Osaka Conference as follows:—

This conference was continued in Osaka on Tuesday, but nothing of interest appears to have transpired up to the hour of adjournment for tiffin. In the afternoon, however, the members had under discussion the proposal to establish a Cotton Yarn Exchange (*Yorihitaji*), where both raw cotton and cotton cloth dealers may meet and discuss business matters. Considerable difference of opinion seems to have been elicited on this proposal. One section of representatives advocated the formation of such

Exchanges at Tokyo, Nagoya, and Osaka; another section that Kyushu and Okayama should be the places chosen; while yet others thought it would be best that the first Exchange should be in Osaka, and then if it were found to be of any real service, that the movement should be extended to the other places named. After considerable discussion the latter scheme found most favour with the meeting, and a committee of five was elected to take the initial steps towards the formation of a Yarn Exchange in Osaka. The next matter under discussion was a proposal that an arrangement be made with the Banks by which the latter will consent to accept, as security for money advanced, the receipts furnished by the godown companies for goods stored with them. For this purpose the present system of storing goods would have to be considerably amended, but this could be done, the proposers thought, under the provisions of the new Commercial Code. The opinion of the meeting was so divided on the question that discussion on the proposal was postponed. Mr. Yamamoto then brought forward a motion calling upon the Diet, in the name of the Union, to increase the import duty on yarn. No definite decision on this matter was arrived at, but those in favour of the proposal were instructed to submit a petition embodying their ideas to the Union, which would then deliberate upon it.

The following are some of the remaining proposals before the Conference for discussion:—

(1) A proposal to further the sale of yarns in the Japanese markets.

(2) That application be made to the Minister of Finance to extend the time at present allowed by the Nippon Ginko for the repayment of loans; that the Banks be empowered to lend the Spinning Companies money in proportion to the value of the latter's goods in stock.

(3) That application be made to the Minister of Finance for permission to use commercial bills, and that the Nippon Ginko be instructed to allow a more liberal rate of discount when transacting business with members of the Cotton Spinners' Union.

(4) That permission be obtained whereby securities in the hands of the Nippon Ginko for money loaned may be taken away and others of equal value substituted, should the borrowers so wish; also, that on partial or whole repayment of a loan, the Bank return the interest paid thereon.

(5) That arrangements be made with the Nippon Ginko for the discount of bills at other places.

The foregoing is, we should say, thoroughly in accord with the Japanese idea of the fitness of things. Directly any corporation or any particular branch of trade finds itself in difficulties, it is the Government who must help it out. The idea of the Nippon Ginko paying back the interest received on money loaned as soon as the original loan is repaid seems preposterous.

LETTERS ON LEAVE.—I.

TO LIEUTENANT JOHN MCHAIL,

151st (Kumharan) P.N.I., Hakaiti via Thoranda, Assam.

Dear Old Man,—Your handwriting is worse than ever, but, as far as I can see among the lousies and fish-hooks, you are lousesome and want to be comforted with a letter. I knew you wouldn't write to me unless you needed something. You don't tell me that you have left your regiment, but from what you say about "my battalion," "my men," and so forth, it seems as if you were raising military police for the benefit of the Chins. If that's the case I congratulate you. The pay is good. Unless writes to me from some new fort something or other, saying that he has struggled into a billet of Rs. 700 (Military Police) and instead of being chased by writers as he used to be, is ravaging the country round Shillong in search of a wife. I am very sorry for the Miss. Unless of the future.

That doesn't matter. You probably know more about the boys yonder than I do. If you'll only send me from time to time some record of their movements I'll try to tell you of things on this side the water. You say "You don't know what it is to hear from town." I say "You don't know what it is to hear from the *dehat*." Now and again men drift in with news; but I don't like hot weather *khubb*. It's all of the domestic occurrence kind. Old "Hat" Constable came to see me the other day. You remember the click in his throat before he begins to speak. He sat still, clicking at quarter-hour intervals, and after each click he'd say: "D'ye remember Mistress So-an' So? Well, she's dead o' typhoid at Naogong." When it was "Mistress So-an' So" it was a man. I stood four clicks and four deaths and then I asked him to spare me the rest. You seem to have had

a bad season, taking it all round, and the women seem to have suffered most. Is that so?

We don't die in London. We go out of town and we make as much fuss about it as if we were going to the Neva. Now I understand why the transport is the first thing to break down when our army takes the field. The Englishman is curious in his movements and very particular about his baskets and hampers and trunks—not less than seven of each—for a fifty-mile journey. Leave season began some weeks ago and there is a *barra-choop* along the streets that you could shovel with a spade. All the people that say they are everybody have gone—quite two hundred miles away. Some of 'em are even on the Continent—and the clubs are full of strange folk. I found a Reform man at the Savage a week ago. He didn't say what his business was, but he was dirty and looked hungry. I suppose he had come in for food and shelter.

Like the rest I'm on leave too. I converted myself into a Government Secretary, awarded myself one month on full pay with the chance of an extension, and went off. Then it rained and hailed and rained again, and I ran up and down this tiny country in trains trying to find a dry place. After ten days I came back to town, having been stopped by the sea four times. I was rather like a kitten at the bottom of a bucket chasing its own tail. So I'm sitting here under a grey, muggy sky, wondering what sort of time they are having at Simla. It's August now. The rains would be nearly over; all the theatricals would be in full swing, and Jakko Hill would be just Paradise. You're probably pink with prickly heat. Sit down quietly under the punkah and think of Umballa station, hot as an oven at four in the morning. Think of the dale-glory sloshing in the wet, and the first little cold wind that comes round the first corner after the tonga is clear of Kalka. There's a wind you and I know well. It's blowing over the grass at Dunsinai this very moment and there's a smell of hot fir trees all along and along from Solon to Simla, and some happy man is flying up that road with fragments of a tonga-bat in his eye, his pet terrier under his arm, his thick clothes on the back-seat and the certainty of a month's pure joy in front of him. Instead of which you're being stewed at Hakaiti and I'm sitting in a second hand atmosphere above a sausage-shop, watching three sparrows playing in a dirty-green tree and pretending that it's summer. I have a view of very many streets and a river. Except the advertisements on the walls, there isn't one speck of colour as far as my eye can reach. The very cat, who is an amiable beast, comes off black under my hand, and I daren't open the window for fear of smuts. And this is better than a soaked and sobbed country, with the corn-shocks standing like plover's eggs in green moss and the oats lying flat in moist lumps. We haven't had any summer and yesterday I smelt the raw touch of the winter. Just one little whiff to show that the year had turned. "Oh what a happy land is England!"

I cannot understand the white man at home. You remember when we went out together and landed at the Apollo Bunder with all our sorrows before us, and went to Watson's Hotel and saw the snake charmers. You said: "It'll take me all my lifetime to distinguish one nigger from another." That was eight years ago. Now you don't call them niggers any more, and you're supposed—quite wrongly—to have an insight into native character, or else you would never have been allowed to recruit for the Kumbharsens. I feel as I felt at Watson's. They are so deathly alike, specially the more educated. They all seem to read the same books, and the same newspapers telling 'em what to admire in the same books, and they all quote the same passages from the same books and they write books on books about somebody else's books, and they are penetrated to their boot heels with a sense of the awful seriousness of their own views of the moment. Above that, they seem to be, most curiously and beyond the right of ordinary people, divorced from the knowledge or fear of death. Of course every man conceives that every man except himself is bound to die (you remember how Hallat spoke the night before he went out), but these men appear to be like children in that respect.

I can't explain exactly, but it gives an air of unreality to their most earnest earnestness; and when a young gentleman of views and culture and aspirations is in earnest the trumpets of Jericho are silent beside him. Because they have everything done for them, they know how everything ought to be done; and they are perfectly certain that wood pavements, policemen, shops, and gas light come in the regular course of nature. You can guess with these convictions how thoroughly and cocksurely they handle little trifles like colonial

administration, the wants of the army, municipal sewage, housing of the poor, and so forth. Every third common need of average men is, in their mouths, a tendency or a movement or a federation affecting the world. It never seems to occur to 'em that the human instinct of getting as much as possible for money paid, or failing money, for threats and fawnings, is about as old as Cain; and the burden of their *bat* is: "Me an' a few mates o'mine are going to make a new world."

As long as men only write and talk they must think that way I suppose. It's compensation for playing with little things. And that reminds me—Do you know the University smile? You don't by that name, but sometimes young civilians wear it for a very short time when they first come out. Something—I wonder if it's our brutal chaff, or a billiard cue, or which?—takes it out of their faces, and when they next differ with you they do so without smiling. But that smile flourishes in London. I've met it again and again. It expresses tempered grief, sorrow at your complete inability to march with the march of progress at the Universities, and a chastened contempt. There is one man who wears it as a garment. He is frivolously young—not more than thirty-five or forty—and all these years no one has removed that smile. He knows everything about everything on this earth, and above all he knows all about men under any and every condition of life. He knows all about the aggressive militarism of you and your friends; he isn't quite sure of the necessity of an army; he is certain that colonial expansion is nonsense; and he is more than certain that the whole step of all our Empire must be regulated by the knowledge and foresight of the working man. Then he smiles—smiles like a seraph with an M.A. degree. What can you do with a man like that? He has never seen an unmade road in his life; I think he believes that wheat grows on a tree, and that beef is dug from a mine. He has never been forty miles from a railway, and he has never been called upon to issue an order to anybody except his well-fed servant. Isn't it wondrous? And there are battalions and brigades of these men in towns removed from the fear of want, living till they are seventy or eighty, sheltered, fed, drained and administered, expending their vast leisure in talking and writing.

But the real fun begins much lower down the line. I've been associating generally and very particularly with the men who say that they are the only men in the world who work—and they call themselves the working man. Now the working man in America is a nice person. He says he is a man and behaves accordingly. That is to say he has some notion that he is part and parcel of a great country. At least he talks that way. But in this town you can see thousands of men meeting publicly on Sundays to try aloud that everybody may hear that they are poor down-trodden helots—in fact "the pore workin' man." At their clubs and pubs the talk is the same. It's the utter want of self-respect that revolts. My friend the tobacconist has a cousin who is, apparently, sound in wind and limb, aged twenty-three, clear-eyed and up-standing. He is a "skibbo" by trade—a painter of sorts. He married at twenty and he has two children. He can spend three-quarters of an hour talking about his down-trodden condition. He works under another *Raj-mistri* who has saved money and started a little shop of his own. He hates that *Raj-mistri*; he loathes the police, and his views on the lives and customs of the aristocracy are strange. He approves of every form of lawlessness, and he knows that anybody who holds authority is sure to be making a good thing out of it. Of himself as a citizen he never thinks. Of himself as an Ishmail he thinks a good deal. He is entitled to eight hours' work a day and some time off—said to be paid for; he is entitled to free education for his children—and he doesn't want no bloomin' clergymen to teach 'em—he is entitled to houses specially built for himself because he pays the bulk to the taxes of the country. He is not going to emigrate, not he, he reserves to himself the right of multiplying as much as he pleases; the streets must be policed for him while he demonstrates, immediately under my window by the way, for ten consecutive hours, and I am probably a thief because my clothes are better than his. The proposition is a very simple one. He has no duties to the State, no personal responsibility of any kind, and he'd sooner see his children dead than soldiers of the Queen. The Government owes him everything because he is a pore working man. When the Guards tried their Board school mutiny at the Wellington Barracks my friend was jubilant: "What did I tell you?" he said. "You see the very soldiers won't stand it."

"What's it?"

"Bein' treated like machines instead of flesh and blood. 'Course they won't."

The popular evening paper wrote that the Guards with perfect justice had rebelled against being treated like machines instead of flesh and blood. Then I thought of a certain regiment that lay in Mian Mir for three years and dropped four hundred men out of a thousand. It died of fever and cholera. There were no pretty nursemaids to walk with it in the streets, because there were no streets. I saw how the Guards amused themselves and how their sergeants smoked in uniform. I pitied the Guards with their cruel sentry goes, their three nights out of bed, and their unlimited supply of love and liquor.

Another man, not a workman, told me that the Guards' riot—it's impossible, as you know, to call this kick-up of the fatted flunkies of the army a mutiny—was only "a schoolboy's prank;" and he could not see that if it was what he said it was, the Guards were no regiment and should have been wiped out decently and quietly. There again the futility of a sheltered people cropped up. You mustn't treat a man like a machine in this country; but you can't get any work out of a man till he has learned to work like a machine. D—has just come home for a few months from the charge of a mountain battery on the frontier. He used to begin work at eight and was thankful if he got off at six; most of the time on his feet. When he went to the Black Mountain he was extensively engaged for nearly sixteen hours a day; and that on food at which the "pore workin' man" would have turned up his state-lifted nose. D—on the subject of labour as understood by the white man in his own home is worth hearing. Though coarse—considerable coarse! But D—doesn't know all the hopeless misery of the business. When the small pig, oyster, furniture, carpet, builder or general shopman works his way out of the ruck he turns round and makes his old friends and employes sweat. He knows how near he can go to flaying 'em alive before they kick; and in this matter he is neither better nor worse than a *brunna* or a *havildar* of our own blessed country; it is the small employer of labour that skins his servant, exactly as the forty-pound householder works her one white servant to the bone and goes to drop pennies into the plate to convert the heathen in the East.

Just at present, as you have read, the person who calls himself the pore workin' man—the man I saw kicking fallen men in the mud by the docks last winter—has discovered a real, fine, new original notion; and he is working it for all he is worth. He calls it the solidarity of labour *bundobast*—but its caste—four thousand years old, caste of Menu—with old *shettis*, *mahejuns*, guild toils, excommunication, and all the rest of it. All things considered there isn't anything much older than caste—it began with the second generation of man on earth—but to read the "advance" papers on the subject you'd imagine it was a revelation from Heaven. The real fun will begin—as it has begun and ended many times before—when the castes of skilled labour—that's the pore workin' man—are pushed up and knocked about by the lower and unrecognised castes, who will form castes of their own and outcaste on the decision of their own *punchayats*. How those castes will scuffle and fight among themselves, and how astonished the Englishman will be!

He is naturally lawless because he is a fighting animal; and his amazingly sheltered condition has made him inconsequent. I don't like inconsequent lawlessness. I've seen it down at Bow Street, at the docks, by the G. P. O., and elsewhere. It's chief home of course is in a queer place called the House of Commons, but no one goes there who isn't forced by business. It's shut up at present and the persons who belong to it are loose all over the face of the country. I don't think—but I won't swear—that any of them are spitting at policemen. One man appears to have been poaching, others are advocating various forms of murder and outrage—and nobody seems to care. The residue talk—just Heavens, how they talk; and what wonderful fictions they tell! And they firmly believe, being ignorant of the mechanism of Government, that they administer the country. In addition certain of their newspapers have elaborately worked up a famine in Ireland that could be engineered by two Deputy Commissioners and four average 'Stunts into a "woe" and a "calamity" that is going to overshadow the peace of the nation—even the Empire. I suppose they have their own sense of proportion, but they manage to keep it to themselves very successfully. What do you, who have seen half a country-side in deadly fear of its life, suppose that this people would do if they were *chukkered* and *gabrooned*? If they really knew what the fear of death and the dread of injury implied? If they died very swiftly indeed and could not count on their futile lives enduring beyond next sundown? Some of the men from your—I mean our—part of the world

say that they would be afraid and break and scatter and run. But there is no room in the island to run. The sea catches you, midwaist, at the third step. I am curious to see if the cholera, of which these people stand in most lively dread, gets a firm foothold in London. In that case I have a notion that there will be scenes and panics. They live too well here, and have too much to make life worth clinging to—clubs, and shop fronts, and gas, and theatres, and so forth—things that they affect to despise, and whereon and whereby they live like leeches. But I have written enough. It doesn't exhaust the subject; but you won't be grateful for other epistles. De Vitre of the Poona Irregular Moguls will have it they are a tidy-irregular people. He says that all their visible use is to produce loans for the colonies and men to be used up in developing India. I honestly believe that the average Englishman would faint if you told him that it was lawful to use up human life for any purpose whatever. He believes that it has to be developed and made beautiful for the possessor, and in that belief talkatively perpetrates cruelties that would make Torquemada jump in his grave. Go to Alipur if you want to see. I am off to foreign parts—forty miles away—to catch fish for my friend the char-cat: also to shoot a little bird if I have luck.

Yours,
RUDYARD KIPLING.
—Singapore Free Press.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, November 16th.

It has been stated from several sources that Jamieson, who had bought a girl for the purpose of sketching her, was fallen upon by cannibals and killed and eaten by them.

Later.

A serious crisis in the City has been averted through the Bank of England and others having rendered assistance to a most important financial house.

London, November 18th.

The *Standard*, referring to the recent financial disturbance in the City, says that the crisis was hastened through the Russian Government suddenly withdrawing five millions sterling from Baring Brothers.

Later.

A guarantee fund of thirteen millions sterling was quickly subscribed for the support of Baring Brothers.

London, November 20th.

The Stock Exchange is greatly demoralised, and the dearth of money continues; while fears of impending failures among the banks cause great difficulty in the discount of bills.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki & Kobe.....	per M. Y. K.	Friday, Nov. 28th.
From Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co.		To-day, Nov. 22nd
From Hongkong, per C. P. M. Co.		To-day, Nov. 22nd
From America, per O. & O. Co.		Sunday, Nov. 23rd
From Hongkong, per C. P. M. Co.		Monday, Dec. 1st
From Europe via Hongkong, per M. M. Co.		Tuesday, Nov. 25th
From Europe via Hongkong, per M. M. Co.		Saturday, Nov. 29th
From Europe via Hongkong, per N. D. Lloyd.		Monday, Dec. 8th.

* Strata of Belle left Vancouver on November 1st. * *Alessina* left Vancouver on November 2nd. * *Arctica* left Kobe on November 22nd. * *Arctica* left San Francisco on November 23rd. * *Arctica* left Hongkong on November 24th. * *Djemah* (with French mail) left Hongkong on November 25th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, via Shanghai.....	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Nov. 23rd.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki...	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, Nov. 25th.
For Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co.		Thursday, Nov. 27th.
For Hongkong, per P. & O. Co.		Thursday, Nov. 27th.
For America, per O. & O. Co.		Thursday, Dec. 4th.
For Europe, via Hongkong, per N. D. Lloyd.		Wednesday, Dec. 10th.
For America, per P. M. Co.		Tuesday, Dec. 16th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Wm. H. Conner, American ship, 1,496, Pendleton, 15th November.—New York 15th May, Oil.—Fraser, Farley & Co.
Nautilus, British schooner, 95, Snow, 16th November.—North Pacific, Seals.—Eastern Whaling Co.
Bentansen, Norwegian schooner, 53, J. Johnson, 17th November.—North Pacific, Seal Skins.—Captain.
Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,871, Cuming, 17th November.—Kobe 16th November, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.
Myrmidon, British steamer, 1,815, R. Nelson, 18th November.—Shanghai 12th November, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
China, British steamer, 2,644, W. B. Seabury, 19th November.—Hongkong 13th November, General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Leander (10), cruiser, Captain B. Watson, 19th November.—Target practice.
Admiral Nakhimoff (22), Russian cruiser, Captain Fedotoff, 19th November.—Yokosuka Dock 19th November.
Kamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 19th November.—Hakodate 17th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Mogul, British steamer, 1,634, Johnson, 20th November.—Kobe 19th November, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.
City of Peking, American steamer, 3,129, R. R. Searle, 21st November.—San Francisco 1st November, General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 21st November.—Shanghai and ports 15th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Drummond, 15th November.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 18th November.—Shanghai and ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 18th November.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Thomas Dana, American ship, 1,338, Dow, 19th November.—Kobe, Sulphur.—Smith, Baker & Co.
Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Wynn, 20th November.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,871, Cuming, 21st November.—Kobe, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.
Kamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 21st November.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
China, British steamer, 2,644, W. B. Seabury, 22nd November.—San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Myrmidon*, from Shanghai:—Mr. McKellar in cabin.
Per Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. H. Kume, Mr. and Mrs. Longford and 3 children, Mr. M. Fitzgerald, Miss Anna Gloss, and Mrs. C. M. Jewell in cabin; 3 passengers in second class, and 65 passengers in steerage.
Per British steamer *China*, from Hongkong:—Mr. J. T. Anderson in cabin; 1 European and 5 Chinese in steerage. For San Francisco: Mr. T. B. Cunningham in cabin; 70 Chinese in steerage.
Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from San Francisco:—Mr. Herbert Lewis, Miss Lewis, Miss Hopkins, Miss Sarah Wooding, Mr. Robt. T. Rees, Misses M. A. Evans, S. O. Smith, Lewis, E. Edwards, M. Whitman, and Dr. Monceaux in cabin; Messrs. F. Gonzalez, J. Lamond, P. Rijhart, and R. Kato in European steerage.
Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Governor Hayashi, Mrs. Hayashi, Miss Colgate Baker, Governor Nakani, Captain Sakamoto, I. J. N., Captain Matsumura, I. J. N., Lieutenant A. O. Zane, U.S.N., Messrs. A. H. Groom, D. Sadasue, H. Kumei, S. Sakaki, A. Smith, Colgate Baker, W. Davies, Z. Ogawa, Von Schotel, and S. Arai in cabin; Messrs. Kimura, T. Totsukawa, W. Schneider, K. Takahashi, S. Asanaga, K. Honda, and R. Kobayashi in second class, and 53 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, for Hakodate:—Mr. Atsepin, and Mr. and Mrs. Otsuki in cabin; Messrs. J. Obana, Takano, and Murausa in second class, and 27 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Viscount Nabeshima, Rev. and Mrs. Jordan, Captain and Mrs. Phillips and European maid, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Whittlesly, Miss A. F. Dean, Rev. T. Stacey, Rev. F. Sandford, Dr. Russell, U.S.N., Messrs. Dean, Koehn, Lyon, Sturcke, Meldrum, Miyazaki, Noyes, and Bean in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. Nakamura, Mr. and Mrs. Tanaka and child, Messrs. Yoshii, Onchida, Inouye, Oii, Wilson, Leokoff, Votsmudo, Watanabe, Ishikawa, Path Chung, and Thin Tsai in second class, and 119 passengers in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure \$2,049.45.

Per British steamer *China*, for San Francisco:—

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	533	5	38	866
Nagasaki	—	—	485	485
Hyogo	—	723	1,093	1,816
Yokohama	1,483	87	561	2,131
Total	2,016	815	2,472	5,303

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	183	—	183
Hongkong	—	58	—	58
Yokohama	—	38	—	38
Total	—	574	—	574

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, Captain Wynn, reports:—Left Kobe the 17th November at 6.30; had light E. winds to Oshima, which passed at 9.20; heavy easterly sea with strong head wind with blinding rain, and much lightning to port. Arrived at Yokohama the 18th November at 8 p.m.

The British steamer *China*, Captain Seabury, reports:—Left Hongkong the 13th November at 2.20 p.m.; had very strong N.E. monsoon from Hongkong to middle of eastern sea; fresh E. winds from there to Oshima; Oshima to Rock Island heavy E.N.E. gale with passing rain; thence to port N.N.W. gale.

The Japanese steamer *Kamashiro Maru*, Captain Young, reports:—Left Hakodate the 17th November at 2 p.m.; had moderate and fine weather to Kinkasan, which was passed the 18th at 11 a.m.; weather set in squally and increased to a strong gale from N.E. with terrific gusts of wind and high confused sea, steamer shipping heavy water at times throughout the night; this morning wind and sea took off and weather set in fine to port. Arrived at Yokohama the 19th November at 3 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Captain Kenderline, reports:—Left Kobe the 19th November at noon; had fresh breeze from N.E. and fine weather; passed Oshima at 8.45 p.m.; at midnight strong wind from N.N.W. and clear weather which continued to 6 a.m.; wind shifted to N.E. with fresh breeze to Rock Island; which was passed at 11.50 a.m.; Cape Sagami at 4.25 p.m. Arrived at Yokohama the 20th November at 6.30 p.m.

The American steamer *City of Peking*, Captain Searle, reports:—Left San Francisco the 1st November; San Francisco to 16th meridian moderate winds and fine weather; the 10th and 11th had strong blow from westward with high seas, reducing speed for the two days 158 and 176 miles; crossed the meridian at 40° N.; the 18th, Lat. 36.25 N. and Long. 151 10 E., had fine clear weather; the 19th, Lat. 36.00 N. and Long. 148.10 E., met with violent gale from E.S.E. hauling to W. and N.W. with wind at times blowing at hurricane force; lowest reading barometer 29.20; hove to for 12 hours; distance run in 24 hours—94 miles; thence to port northerly winds with fine weather.

The Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, Captain Swain, reports:—Left Shanghai the 15th November at noon; had light easterly winds with fine weather. Arrived at Nagasaki the 17th at 6 a.m. and left at 5 p.m. Arrived at Shimomoseki the 18th at 8 a.m. and left at 10 a.m.; fine moderate weather through the Inland Sea. Arrived at Kobe the 19th at 8 a.m. and left the 20th at noon; had moderate to fresh N.E. winds throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 21st November at 8.30 p.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There is no change to report in the position of Imports. A few sales of English Yarns at better prices have been reported, but the drop in Ex-

change has made the difference between buyer and seller as great as ever. A few sales of Bombay have been made at former quotations. Piece-goods are lifeless. Prices are quite nominal. Sales for the week amount to 100 bales English Yarns and 150 bales Bombays.

COTTON, PIECE GOODS.

Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 lb, 38 yds, 39 inches	\$1.35	to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9 lb, 38 yds, 39 inches	1.50	to 2.54
Indigo Shirtings—7 lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.15	to 1.47
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 30 inches	1.20	to 1.60
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.20	to 2.00
Cottons—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	0.07	to 0.14
Turkey Reds—14 to 24 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.00	to 1.15
Turkey Reds—24 to 34 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.20	to 1.40
Turkey Reds—34 to 44 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.70	to 2.05
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	4.50	to 6.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 1/2 inches	0.50	to 0.65
Infacholas, 12 yards, 43 inches	0.35	to 0.25

WOOLLENS.

Plain Orleans, 30-42 yards, 32 inches	\$4.00	to 4.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.24	to 28
Medium	0.20	to 24
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.16	to 20
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 32 inches	0.14	to 0.15
Cloths—Pilots, 51 to 56 inches	0.30	to 0.35
Cloths—Presidents, 51 to 56 inches	0.50	to 0.60
Cloths—Union, 51 to 56 inches	0.35	to 0.60
Blankets—Scot and Green, 4 to 34 lb, per lb	0.30	to 0.38

COTTON YARNS.

Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	\$2.00	to 28.00
Nos. 16/24, Medium	28.00	to 29.00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	29.00	to 30.50
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	30.00	to 31.00
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	29.00	to 30.00
Nos. 28/32, Medium	30.00	to 31.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	32.00	to 33.00
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	35.50	to 36.50
Nos. 38/42, Two-fold	34.50	to 36.00
Nos. 42/48, Two-fold	36.50	to 39.50
Nos. 20/24, Bombay	70.00	to 78.00
Nos. 16/24, Bombay	72.00	to 78.00

METALS.

All prices nominal and weak. There is practically no business doing, and the drop in exchange has had no beneficial effect on the market at all.

Flat Bars, 1 inch	\$2.65	to 2.75
Flat Bars, 1 1/2 inch	2.75	to 2.85
Round and square up to 1 inch	2.65	to 2.85
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.	
Nailrod, small size	Nom.	
Iron Plates, assorted	2.80	to 3.00
Sheet Iron	3.20	to 3.40
Galvanized Iron sheets	5.80	to 6.00
Wire Nails, assorted	4.40	to 4.00
Cake, per box	4.60	to 4.80
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.25	to 1.27

KEROSENE.

Holders make a show of strength on a lower rate of exchange, but no sales have been made, and buyers are shy of any advance. Present stock is about 850,000 cases; the *Sophie Richmers* having carried 40,000 cases Russian down to Kobe, thus lightening this market to that extent.

QUOTATIONS.

Chester	\$1.65	to 1.67
Comet	1.62	to 1.65
Heroe	1.60	to 1.62
Russian	1.55	to 1.57

SUGAR.

Still no business worth recording, and prices consequently nominal.

White Refined	\$5.50	to 7.90
Manila	3.60	to 4.30
Taiwan	—	—
Pentana	2.75	to 3.00
Namida	2.80	to 3.00
Cake	3.10	to 3.80
Brown Sugar	4.15	to 4.20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last circular was of the 14th instant, since which date settlements on this Market amount to 500 piculs divided thus: *Hanks*, 70; *Filatures*, 145; *Re-reels*, 222; *Kakada*, 39; and *Oshu*, 24. There have been no direct shipments during the interval.

Our Market has again been disturbed by cables from Europe and the States reporting fresh disasters in the commercial and financial world. News from the Silk centres was also very depressing, and at last holders here have given way considerably in price. This weakening of dollar prices, accompanied by lower rates of Exchange, have enabled buyers to operate to some advantage, and there is plenty of business doing on the basis of our present quotations.

Up to within the last two days business was not

large, but during the last 48 hours some large buyers for the States have entered the Market and purchases have been freely made.

Holders complain of the heavy losses which these figures yield them, but they may consider themselves very fortunate that Exchange has declined so much or they would have had to take still less dollars for their silk. They have struggled on bravely for a long time past, but the heavy stocks and bad accounts of foreign marts have compelled them at last to let go.

It is interesting to compare the present state of trade with that which existed a year ago; our statistics at foot will give comparative settlements and stocks, while as to prices Extra *Filatures*, 13/15 den, were last year quoted at \$815, against \$615 to-day; and No. 1 *Re-reels* worth \$750 last year are to-day worth no more than \$580. With regard to the question of Exchange, we are now down to within 2 per cent. of the rates current on the corresponding day last year.

There has only been one shipping opportunity during the week—the English mail steamer *Verona* on the 15th taking 82 bales for Europe. Present export figures are 8,068, against 27,098 last year and 16,957 to the same date in 1888.

Hanks.—There has been a fair amount of business in these, but the stock is small and well held; consequently prices have not receded so much as in other classes. Good *Joshu* has again been done at \$540 with *Chichibu* at \$530. *Shinshu* has also been done at \$530.

Filatures.—These have seen a marked decline, some holders making up their minds to lighten their stocks; others, who are apparently wealthy men, still hold on to their goods and hold out for their own figures. While willing, some large lines of No. 1 *Shinshu Filatures* in well known chops have been taken at \$590. These Silks, coupled with the present low exchange, should lay down at destination at very favourable rates. In five sizes for Europe very little has been done; one parcel of *Bishu* was noted at \$580 and another parcel at \$585.

Re-reels.—These show a further decline, and considerable business has been done at the lowest point. *Tortoise* chop has brought \$575, as against \$750 same day last year; while *Kite Chop* has passed the scales at \$570.

Kakada.—There has been considerable demand for this, but holders have been more firm in this class and less business has in consequence been done. *Flower Girl*, \$565; *Black Tiger*, \$550, are among the purchases made, owners refusing what seem like very good offers.

Oshu.—The only transaction has been one parcel of moderate quality *Sendai* district at \$550.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No. 14	535	to 540
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	Nom.	
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	535	to 540
Hanks—No. 24 (Shinshu)	535	to 540
Hanks—No. 24 (Joshu)	525	to 530
Hanks—No. 24 to 3	515	to 520
Hanks—No. 3	505	to 510
Hanks—No. 34	500	
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	Nom.	
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	610	to 620
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	610	to 620
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	590	to 600
Filatures—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	580	to 585
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	590	to 600
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	570	to 575
Filatures—No. 3, 14/19 deniers	560	to 565
Re-reels—Extra	560	to 565
Re-reels—(Shinshu and Oshu) Best No. 1	590	to 600
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	570	to 575
Re-reels—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	560	to 565
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	545	to 550
Re-reels—No. 24, 14/18 deniers	535	to 540
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	510	to 520
Kakada—Extra	Nom.	
Kakada—No. 1	570	to 580
Kakada—No. 14	560	to 565
Kakada—No. 2	545	to 550
Kakada—No. 24	535	to 540
Kakada—No. 3	525	to 530
Kakada—No. 34	515	to 520
Kakada—No. 4	500	to 510
Oshu <i>Sendai</i> —No. 24	550	
Hanatsuki—No. 1, 2	540	to 550
Hanatsuki—No. 3, 4	—	
Sodei—No. 24	—	

Export Raw Silk Totals to 21st Nov., 1890:—

	SEASON 1890-91.	1889-90.	1888-89.
Europe	2,336	9,889	8,230
America	5,515	11,497	8,515
Total	7,851	21,386	16,745
Settlements and Direct	8,400	25,400	17,400
Export from 1st July	17,300	6,400	13,700
Stock, 21st November	25,700	31,800	31,000

WASTE SILK.

The good business in this branch continues; settlements for the week being 1,111 piculs divided thus: *Noshi* 276, *Kibiso* 835.

Quotations show no change, and as compared with last year it will be found that they are practically the same as then; thus giving a very marked contrast when compared with the Raw Silk side.

Holders have been very sensible this year and have sold currently; thus keeping in the Market and getting rid of their Stocks at good values.

The English mail steamer *Verona* had a fair shipment both of waste and *Cocoons* for Europe, and present export is 9,746 against 9,752 last year, and 10,365 on the same day in 1888.

Pierced Cocoons.—Nothing done this week; buyers want some reduction in price which at present holders are not willing to grant; should exchange decline yet further no doubt a larger business will result.

Noshi.—Considerable business has again been done, more especially in *Ninshu*; large parcels have been taken at from \$105 to \$120 according to quality. Some business also in *Joshu*, fair assortment, at from \$80 to \$85.

Kibiso.—Demand has revived, and large parcels of *Filatures* have been done, prices ranging from \$100 to \$115. A long line of *Mino* was also done at \$67 with some *Sendai* at \$95.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	\$120	to \$130
Noshi-to— <i>Filature</i> , Best	150	to 160
Noshi-to— <i>Filature</i> , Good	140	to 145
Noshi-to— <i>Filature</i> , Medium	130	to 135
Noshi-to— <i>Oshu</i> , Good to Best	140	to 150
Noshi-to— <i>Shinshu</i> , Best	—	—
Noshi-to— <i>Shinshu</i> , Good	110	to 120
Noshi-to— <i>Shinshu</i> , Medium	—	—
Noshi-to— <i>Bushu</i> , Good to Best	130	to 140
Noshi-to— <i>Joshu</i> , Best	94	to 95
Noshi-to— <i>Joshu</i> , Good	85	to 90
Noshi-to— <i>Joshu</i> , Ordinary	80	to 85
Kibiso— <i>Filature</i> , Best selected	110	to 120
Kibiso— <i>Filature</i> , Seconds	100	to 105
Kibiso— <i>Oshu</i> , Good to Best	90	to 100
Kibiso— <i>Shinshu</i> , Best	80	to 90
Kibiso— <i>Shinshu</i> , Seconds	70	to 75
Kibiso— <i>Joshu</i> , Good to Fair	50	to 40
Kibiso— <i>Joshu</i> , Middling to Common	35	to 30
Kibiso— <i>Joshu</i> , Good	45	to 40
Kibiso— <i>Hachioji</i> , Medium to Low	35	to 30
Kibiso— <i>Neri</i> , Good to Common	15	to 8
Mawata—Good to Best	180	to 200

Export Table Waste Silk to 21st Nov., 1890:—

	SEASON 1890-91.	1889-90.	1888-89.
Waste Silk	8,863	7,605	9,082
Pierced Cocoons	883	2,057	1,283
	9,746	9,752	10,365
Settlements and Direct	13,700	13,150	14,400
Export from 1st July	11,500	11,650	9,300
Stock, 21st November	25,200	24,800	23,700

Exchange.—This has not receded in the same proportion as it should have done to keep pace with the fall of Silver to 45 pence in London.

Present quotations are as under:—LONDON, 4 m/s. Credits, 3/4; Documents, 3/4; 6 m/s. Credits, 3/4; Documents, 3/4; NEW YORK, 30 d/s. U.S. \$81 1/2; 4 m/s. U.S. \$82 1/2; PARIS, 4 m/s. fcs. 4.26; 6 m/s. fcs. 4.28.

Estimated Silk Stock, 21st Nov., 1890:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	420	Cocoons	650
Filatures	10,700	Noshi-to	3,900
Re-reels	4,800	Kibiso	6,360
Kakada	990	Mawata	295
Oshu	330	Sundries	295
Taysam Kinds	10		
Total piculs	17,300	Total piculs	11,500

TEA.

The trade gradually diminishing, rates entirely nominal.

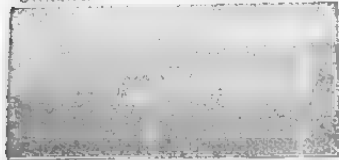
	PER PICUL.
Common	\$14
Good Common	12 to 13
Medium	14 to 15
Good Medium	16 to 17
Fine	18 to 19
Finest	20 to 22
Choice	23 & up/ds
Choicest	—
Extra Choicest	—

EXCHANGE.

Fluctuations continue, rates very unstable.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/4
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/5
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/5
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/5
On Paris—Bank sight	4 1/2
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4 3/4
On Hongkong—Bank sight	100 prem.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	100 dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72
On Shanghai—Private to days' sight	73
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	82
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	83 1/2
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	82
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	83 1/2

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 22.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, NOVEMBER 29TH, 1890.

通信書認可

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"PAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, NOV. 29, 1890.

MARRIAGE.

On the 26th inst., at Christ Church, Yokohama, by the Rev. E. Champneys Irvine, M.A., ROBERT CAMPBELL, to MARIANNE CRAWFORD, eldest daughter of HUGH CRAWFORD Esq., of Hackney, London.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

News of the death of the King of Holland was received in Tokyo on the 23rd instant.

MR. MACHIDA, Consul at Hankow, will return home about the beginning of December next.

A SLIGHT earthquake was felt in the capital on the 22nd instant at 10h. 50m. 31s. p.m.

HIS IMPERIAL HIGHNESS PRINCE ARISUGAWA TARUHIITO proceeded to Yokosuka on the 24th instant.

COMMANDER SAKAMOTO HACHIROTA returned to Japan a few days ago from Russia, where he had been staying for some time.

A TELEGRAM from Nagasaki dated the 21st instant, announces that influenza has again broken out there.

HIS IMPERIAL HIGHNESS PRINCE ARISUGAWA TAKEHIITO, Count Oyama and about thirty field officers left Tokyo on the 23rd instant for Kamakura.

HIS IMPERIAL HIGHNESS PRINCE KOMATSU, who had been in Saitama and Gumma Prefectures for some time, returned to the capital on the 25th instant.

MR. HIRAYAMA, secretary of the Hyogo Prefectural Government, was relieved from his additional appointment of Director of the Imperial Museum at Nara on the 22nd instant.

RAILWAY communication between Horonai and Harubetsu on the line of the Hokkaido Coal Company, was stopped on the 21st instant, for repairs to the line.

At a meeting of shareholders of the Naigai Sekitan Kaisha (Domestic and Foreign Coal

Company) held on the 24th instant, it was decided that the company should be wound up.

A LIBEL action was raised in the Tokyo Local Court on the 24th instant by Mr. Yamasaki Kiyonao, proprietor and editor of the *Heiji Shimpō*, against the editors of the *Ukiyo Shimbun*.

A DAILY newspaper bearing the name of the *Shin Azuma* will be published in Tokyo on and after the 4th December next, as an organ of the *Rikken Jiyu* party.

A MEETING of the Tokyo City Improvements Committee was held in the Home Department on the 21st instant. Marquis Hachisuka, Governor of Tokyo, attended the meeting.

VICE-ADMIRAL ITO, Vice-Minister for the Navy, Mr. Shirane, Vice-Minister for Home Affairs, and Mr. Watanabe, Vice-Minister for Finance, were present at the meeting of the Cabinet held on the 21st instant.

COUNT YAMAGATA, Minister President of State, was permitted by the Decorations Board on the 22nd instant to accept and wear a decoration conferred on him by the Emperor of Austria-Hungary.

THE Koyukai Society, organized by members of the *Rikken Jiyu* party in Kyoto, was dissolved on the 21st instant, in accordance with the Regulations as to Meetings and Political Associations.

A FAREWELL entertainment will be given on the 4th December next at the Koyokan, Shiba, by a number of members of the Asiatic Society to the Chinese Minister, who will leave Japan shortly for home.

AN application by Mr. Yamamoto Hiroshi for permission to establish a private bank under the name of the Yamamoto Ginko, with a capital of yen 30,000, at Horidomecho, Nihonbashi, has been granted by the Tokyo City Government.

AN outbreak of fire took place on the night of the 23rd instant, in a house at Nouchimura, Higashitsugaru-gun, Aomori Prefecture, and sixteen houses were reduced to ashes before the flames could be subdued.

THE Jiji Tsushinsha (Newspaper Correspondence Company) was suspended on the 24th inst. by the Authorities, pending the examination of several of its officers at the Tokyo District Court on a charge of embezzlement.

A STATEMENT showing the settled accounts of the Government for the 19th fiscal year was promulgated on the 22nd inst. over the signatures of Counts Yamagata and Matsukata, by Imperial Ordinance No. 274.

ON learning of the death of the King of the Netherlands, Viscount Okabe, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Mr. Anenokoji, a private secretary of the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, paid a visit to the Dutch Legation.

THE Sanitary Bureau in the Home Department reports that the number of persons attacked by cholera throughout the Empire from the commencement of the epidemic up to the 22nd instant, was 44,502, resulting in 31,012 deaths.

THE first session of the Diet was opened on the 25th instant, at 9 a.m. In the House of Peers there were 38 absentees; in the House of Representatives only 8. After a sitting of twelve hours the House of Representatives chose three members to be submitted to the Emperor for nomination to the post of President, and three for the post of Vice-President. His Ma-

jestly nominated Mr. Nakajima Nobuyuki to the former office, and Mr. Tsuda Mamichi to the latter.

MR. ODAGIRI MASUNOSUKE, clerk of the Japanese Consulate at Jinsen, was appointed secretary of the Japanese Legation at Seoul on the 17th instant.

PROFESSOR NAKASAWA IWATA, of the College of Engineering in the Imperial University, was relieved from his additional appointment of a Judge in the Patents Bureau of the Agricultural and Commercial Department on the 20th inst. at his own request.

MR. ASADA, Governor of Kanagawa, Mr. Tanuma, Secretary, Mr. Mitsuhashi, Councillor of the Kanagawa Kencho, and the members of the Kanagawa Local Assembly, numbering about thirty, met at the Chitoseru, Yokohama, on the 20th instant at a social entertainment.

INDEPENDENT, Constitutional-Liberal and Constitutional-Progressive members of the Lower House to the number of about twenty held a conference on the 21st instant at the Atagokan, for the purpose of discussing the provisional rules of the House.

A DAILY newspaper bearing the name of the *Toyo Shimpō (Oriental News)* will be published on and after the 28th instant, at Owaricho, Kyobashi. The new journal being the organ of the *Kokumin Jiyu* party, Messrs. Yasuoka Yukichi, Suga Ryohio and Ayai Takeo will become editors.

THE ordinary Cabinet meeting was held on the 21st instant. The proceedings opened at eleven in the forenoon, when there were present Counts Yamagata, Saigo, Yamada, Matsukata, Oyama, and Goto. Viscounts Kabayama and Aoki, and Messrs. Mutsu and Yoshikawa, closing at half-past three in the afternoon.

RESIDENTS of Fukushima Prefecture to the number of a hundred and fifty applied to the Minister of State for Justice, on the 22nd inst. asking that those persons who are now in prison for being concerned in the Kabasan affair should be pardoned on the opening day of the Imperial Diet.

A FAREWELL entertainment was given on the 22nd instant at the French Legation to Mr. B. Bedont, secretary, and Capt. Bouguin, attaché of the Legation, who are about to leave Japan for home. Viscount Aoki, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, and several high officials of the Foreign Department were among the guests.

THE daily average quantity of rice that changed hands in the Tokyo Rice Exchange during the first half of the present month was 46,676 *koku* (one *koku* = 2½ piculs), showing an increase of 883 *koku* as compared with the daily average quantity dealt in during the same period last month. The daily average quantities of rice that arrived at, and were sent from the Fuku-gawa Granaries during the first half of this month were 9,439 bales and 9,615 bales respectively, the quantities remaining in stock at the close of each day averaging 153,935.

THE Japanese holidays have brought business to a complete standstill on the import side, and the past week has been all but a blank. Very small sales of English Yarns and Bombays have taken place. Metals have been dull, and in Kerosene nothing has been doing. The same remark applies to the Sugar market. The Raw Silk market has been strong and active, and prices have been maintained at last week's figures. In Waste a large business has been done, the produce going chiefly to Switzerland. Exchange has been very unsteady.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE OPENING OF THE DIET.

THE *Mainichi Shimbun* says that police preparations on an extensive scale will be made for the opening of the Diet, by which we understand the day of the official opening by the Emperor. Thirty constables will be stationed inside the enclosure of the Diet and one hundred and eight outside, in addition to which force there will be a large number of gendarmes. Exceptional measures will also be adopted with regard to traffic. No one will be permitted on any pretence to keep a carriage, horse, or *jinrikisha* standing within the enclosure: all vehicles must be left outside. Throughout the whole district within Atarashi-bashi, Tora-nomon, and Saiwai-bashi, traffic will be temporarily stopped, and the utmost vigilance will be exercised to preserve perfect order and quiet. The crowd is expected to be immense, and the credit of the Tokyo Police is concerned in guarding against accident or disturbance.

On Tuesday the members of Parliament assembled for the first time in their places. The opening of the first really constitutional body of legislators ever called together in Japan, was of course regarded as a great event, and from an early hour in the morning crowds of sight-seers began to congregate in the neighbourhood of the Diet. As usual, however, these inquisitive folks were perfectly orderly. Those assembled opposite the main entrance consented cheerfully to be marshalled in the form of a five or six deep phalanx by the police, and to remain placidly in their ranks, with eyes fixed, for the most part, on the parliamentary buildings and their enclosure, as though they expected the legislative wisdom collected there to take concrete form and rejoice the populace by some striking demonstrations. The weather, perhaps, counted for something in the affair, the day being lovely enough to tempt people out of doors simply for the sake of basking in the autumnal sun. Nine o'clock was the hour fixed for commencing proceedings, but the Japanese being proverbially addicted to anticipating ordained times, a large number of the members entered the building long before that hour, and took their seats under the guidance of the secretaries and clerks. Vehicles were not permitted to remain inside the enclosure, where a considerable force of police was posted. The result of this arrangement was that the sunny sides of the streets surrounding the buildings were lined throughout the entire length by *jinrikisha*—all of them private vehicles, resplendent in black lacquer and mazarin-blue velvet, and aggregating no less a figure than four hundred and forty-one. Carriages were relegated to the wide space between the compound of the Russian Legation and the westerly face of the Diet. Here some seventy of these vehicles stood, not seriously interrupting the traffic, but still forming a motley mass which cannot but have offended the instincts of the police. Doubtless when the official opening of the Diet has taken place and everything is in working order, the conveyances of the members will be allowed to wait inside the enclosure, where a certain amount of shelter is provided for them. It had been predicted by some gloomy folks that this opening day would be made the occasion for a demonstration of some kind by the *soshi*, of whom a considerable number are said to be assembled in the capital. Judging from the abundance of constables and gendarmes stationed within the enclosure and in the vicinity of the Diet, the police were not unprepared for something of the kind, but no *soshi* put in an appearance, and thoroughly good order reigned from first to last. It will be perceived that we speak only of what took place outside the Diet. Concerning the proceedings inside we cannot give any accurate information, as they were of a strictly private character. The officials hold, rightly we think, that until the Diet shall have been duly organised and publicly opened by the Emperor, admission to its Chambers must be denied to outsiders. To

Parliament itself belongs the right of deciding who shall and who shall not have access to its debates, and it is plain that until the President and Vice-President of the House of Representatives are elected and nominated, and until the Sovereign himself announces the opening of the Diet, no proper exercise of that right can take place. Curious folk would have greatly valued the privilege of watching the members take their places for the first time, and address themselves to the discharge of the onerous functions devolving on them as the national representatives. But this was not to be. The preliminary formalities have been performed with closed doors, and before the day fixed for the official opening, everything will doubtless be in excellent order. Judging by external appearances, we should say that in a very short time Tokyo will settle down quietly to the presence of the Diet in its midst, and the Diet itself will fall into harness in a placid and dignified manner. The business to be discharged on the first day was the election of three candidates for the post of President and three for that of Vice-President, which names had to be submitted to the Emperor in order that his Majesty might nominate one for each office. The Rules provide that in the election of these officers at least one-half of the members present must vote for a candidate in order to render him eligible. In the first ballots taken the House failed to comply with this rule, and divided its votes among ten candidates in numbers varying from 131 to 37. It became necessary therefore to take a second ballot for each of the three names at the top of the list, and the final result was that Mr. Nakashima Nobuyuki obtained 161 votes; Mr. Tsuda Mamichi 158, and Mr. Matsuda Masahisa 153. It is generally supposed that the Emperor will be guided in his nomination entirely by the result of the voting, in which event Mr. Nakashima will receive the coveted but difficult post. Mr. Nakashima is a well known politician of the Constitutional Liberal Party. He used always to be closely associated with Count Itagaki, but of late he has separated himself from active party politics, and his comparatively neutral attitude is said to have secured many votes, even the members of the *Taisei-kai* (Independent Party) balloting for him. He is a brother-in-law of Mr. Mutsu, Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, and in former years he served as Governor of Kanagawa, for one of the districts of which he sits in the House. It is a remarkable fact that he professes, and is a staunch disciple of, Christianity. At the time of the promulgation of the Peace Preservation Regulations he was expected to be implicated, but we have never heard that anything could be proved against him. Mr. Tsuda, who obtained the second largest number of votes, was put up by the Independents. He is an ex-Senator, and enjoys a considerable reputation as a student of ancient Japanese literature. The third candidate, Mr. Matsuda, is not well known in Tokyo, but his celebrity in Kiushu is said to have been very considerable when he acted as leader of the former *Kiushu Shimpō-to* (Kiushu Progressionists). With regard to the members chosen for the post of Vice-President we cannot speak, as the elections were not concluded in time for any evening publication.

The first day of the Diet's session was not uneventful, although the character of the business to be transacted did not present much scope for discussion. The Houses met at 9 in the forenoon, and proceeded at once to the programme of the day. In the Upper House Count Ito, the President, called the attention of the members to the provision of the Constitution which requires that the House shall be divided into Sections by lot, and that in each Section a Chief (*Bucho*) and a Director (*Riji*) shall be elected by and from among the members of the Section. In order to comply with this provision, the Count suggested that after the drawing of lots, the various Sections should retire to their rooms, and having appointed the oldest of their members to act as temporary Chiefs, should proceed

to elect permanent Chiefs and Directors, returning to the Chamber and reporting their decisions at the close of the elections. This suggestion was complied with, the result being that the following Chiefs and Directors of Sections were elected:—

SECTION.	CHIEFS.	DIRECTORS.
First.....	Marquis Asano.....	Viscount Nabeshima,
Second.....	Mr. Itami Shigekata.....	Baron Ozawa,
Third.....	Baron Honda (I hikao).....	Baron Shimozu,
Fourth.....	Viscount Kiyo-oka (Kocho).....	Mr. Watanabe Ki,
Fifth.....	Viscount Tani (Tateki).....	Mr. Aoyama Ichi,
Sixth.....	Viscount Hayashi.....	Mr. Ito Mitsuji,
Seventh.....	Baron Senke.....	Viscount Matsudaira
		(Nobumasa),
Eighth.....	Mr. Hosokawa Junjirō.....	Viscount Kageyuki,
Ninth.....	Viscount Torio.....	Mr. Murata Lamoto,

In the House of Representatives 292 members out of the total number of 300 had assembled by 9 a.m., the hour appointed for the opening. The chief Secretary, Mr. Sone, acted as President, and rising in his place immediately after the clock had struck nine, informed the members that their first business was to choose three names to be submitted to the Emperor, in order that His Majesty might nominate a President from among them, and three names for the office of Vice-President. As, however, a detailed method of procedure was not laid down in the Rules of the House, he wished to take the opinion of the members on one or two points. The first was that the election should commence without debate. Thereupon Mr. Suyehiro rose and made the first speech ever delivered in a Japanese Constitutional assembly. It was a very brief speech; merely a suggestion that instead of requiring each member to come for a voting paper to the President's table, the voting papers should be distributed among them, and they should fill in the names in their places. This idea was unanimously approved, and the acting President then propounded his second query, namely, whether in the event of more than three names being written on a ballot-paper, it would not be advisable to take the first three only and reject the rest; and whether, again, if less than three names were recorded, the informality should not be disregarded and the names taken as they stood. Mr. Tanaka was of opinion that a paper containing less than three names should be considered informal, but the House adopted the acting President's suggestion. A further point was made by the acting President with regard to the use of *kun* (Japanese pronunciation) or *on* (Chinese pronunciation) in reading the names written on balloting papers, but this was quickly settled. At this stage the first approach to a scene occurred. Mr. Suyematsu Saburo rose to say that he had some remarks to offer concerning the prerogatives of the members, whereupon the acting President informed him that unless what he wished to say had direct reference to the business of election then before the House, he could not be heard. This ruling was greeted with cries of "hear," and Mr. Suyematsu, with warmth, enquired, first whether the acting President had authority to prevent a member from speaking, and secondly whether the employment of a foreign language within the walls of the House, as in the case of these cries of "hear, hear" ought to be permitted. He obtained no support, however, and his queries remained unanswered. Mr. Inouye Kakugoro now rose, and promising that his remarks had direct reference to the business of election, began to quote the provisions of the Constitution bearing on the privileges of members, and to apply them to the case of Mr. Mori Tokinosuke, who lies in prison charged with misapplying or embezzling property placed in his trust. Mr. Inouye was interrupted in the middle of his speech by the acting President, who ruled him out of order. He attempted to dispute the ruling, but finding the President firm, desisted. Mr. Suyematsu Kencho then pointed out that considerable difficulty might be experienced in carrying out the rule that each of the three candidates submitted for the post of President must obtain a majority of the whole House's votes. He proposed that this rule should be amended so as to read that the candidates obtaining the greatest number of votes should be eligible. The acting President explained that the rule in question had been enacted by Imperial Ordinance, and that the

House was not competent to amend it at that time. Mr. Itakura next proposed that four or five members should assist at the opening of the ballots. He explained that while not desiring to throw any imputation on the integrity of the Secretaries, it seemed desirable to adopt the course suggested by him. The acting President took the sense of the House on this question, but Mr. Itakura found no supporters. The business of balloting for President was then proceeded with, the first ballot resulting as follows:—Mr. Nakajima Nobuyuki, 134 votes; Mr. Tsuda Mamichi, 112 votes; Mr. Kono Hiro-naka, 102 votes; Mr. Kusumoto Masataka, 84 votes; Mr. Yoshino Seikei, 81 votes, and Mr. Matsuda Masahisa, 66 votes. As none of these had obtained the necessary number of votes, a second ballot was taken, when Mr. Nakajima received 161 votes and Mr. Tsuda, 158, but as the two next in order, Messrs. Kusumoto and Matsuda, had only 138 and 111 votes respectively, a third ballot was taken to fill the vacant place on the list of recommendations for the Emperor's approval. Mr. Tsuda was finally successful, obtaining 152 votes.

It was when the House proceeded to choose three names for the post of Vice-President that its troubles began in earnest. No less than six ballots had to be taken before the list could be filled. The first ballot resulted in the following manner:—Mr. Yoshino Seikei (100); Mr. Shimada Saburo (96); Mr. Tsuda Mamichi (87); Mr. Kusumoto Masataka (83), and Mr. Matsuda Masahisa (46). A second ballot was thereupon taken, and then a third, but still no candidate was found to have received the necessary number of votes. In the case of the President's election the Independents (*Tai-sei-ka*) had voted with the Constitutional Liberals, but the latter did not show similar readiness to support the former's candidate, Mr. Tsuda, for the Vice-Presidency. The third ballot having proved abortive, Mr. Tanaka Tetsujiro proposed that as there seemed to be no chance of coming to an agreement, the three names standing at the head of the list should be submitted to the Emperor as the House's choice. To this Mr. Okayama Ken-ichi objected as a violation of the Rules, and proposed that the House should petition for an amendment of the Rules. Several members rose, however, to call for another ballot, and Mr. Suyematsu Saburo suggested that, if a few minutes recess were taken, an agreement might be come to. Mr. Suyematsu Kencho proposed that if the next ballot did not result in the requisite aggregation of votes, the candidates at the head of the list should be submitted as the House's choice, without further query. The acting President also advocated a recess of fifteen minutes, accompanying his proposal with a remark that a little rest would probably serve to cool the members' heads, against which manner of speech Mr. Tanaka Shozo protested loudly. The House having declined to take a recess, the acting President called for a vote about the proposal of Mr. Suyematsu Kencho, whereupon a commotion took place, several members expressing astonishment that whereas the acting President had refused to entertain a proposal made in the forenoon for an amendment of the Rules, he was now willing to put to the vote a proposition which practically ignored the rules. Others urged that the proposal of Mr. Suyematsu did not involve any amendment of the Rules, but was merely directed to supplying a deficiency in them. An hour was wasted over this discussion, but the acting President patiently awaited its conclusion and then summoned the House to hold a fourth ballot, which resulted in Mr. Tsuda's obtaining 169 votes, while the next five on the list, Messrs. Yoshino, Kusumoto, Matsuda, Kono, and Shimada obtained 135, 129, 117, 113, and 67 respectively. Two more ballots were necessary, the first of which gave Mr. Kusumoto 171 votes, and the second gave Mr. Yoshino 141. The names of both of these gentlemen were sent forward, from which we presume that several of the members having left the House before the last ballot was taken

141 votes represented more than one half of those present. The sitting ended at nine o'clock in the evening. No recess had been taken, and the acting President had remained in his place during the whole twelve hours.

NEWSPAPER REPORTERS AT THE OPENING OF THE DIET.

We read in the *Yiji Shimpō* that ten provincial newspapers will be allowed to send reporters to the official opening of the Diet. The names of the gentlemen who are to represent these journals have been sent in, and the names of the journals themselves are the *Chiugai Dempo*, the *Kochi Nippo*, the *Chinsei Nippo*, the *Osaka Mainichi Shimbun*, the *On Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, the *Fukushima Shimbun*, the *Osaka Asahi Shimbun*, the *Shizuoka Taiyu*, the *Kobe Yushin Nippo*, and the *Nemuro Shimbun*.

OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE DIET.

The following Imperial Rescript has been published:—

In pursuance of Article VII. of the Imperial Constitution and Article V. of the Law of the Houses, We order that the Imperial Diet be opened on the 29th day of the present 11th month.

[His Imperial Majesty's Sign-Manual.]

[Great Seal.]

Dated the 27th day of the 11th month of the 23rd year of Meiji.

(Countersigned) The Ministers of State.

THE TONIC OF TREATY REVISION.

TREATY REVISION has certainly acted as an invaluable tonic to Japan, inspiring fresh vigour of reform and supplying a constant incentive to moral and material progress. Its latest influence is to be exercised, apparently, on the Diet. The *Koko Shimbun*, basing its remarks on an erroneous rumour that none of the Western Governments have yet replied to Japan's last proposals for Treaty Revision, says:—"The reason of this reticence is not far to seek. The various Foreign Powers are watching the result of the parliamentary experiment which Japan is about to make. It is true that, from a superficial point of view, Japan has now an excellent constitution and fine law codes; that Christianity is spreading among her people; that she freely employs the products of Occidental civilization; that her educational system is good, and that rapid progress is the prominent feature of her modern history. But one question remains still to be answered, namely, whether her people are competent to exercise the privileges of freedom, and to bear the responsibilities of representative government. This is the problem for the practical solution of which Western Governments are waiting. When it is solved, then they will take action with regard to Treaty Revision. Evidently therefore the Diet, which is to meet on the 25th instant, will exercise a powerful influence on Japan's foreign relations. It will be the duty of the members to keep this fact in view, and to take care that their proceedings do not injure the national reputation."

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It is decidedly reassuring to find such language in the columns of one of the principal organs of the Constitutional Liberals, for on their action will chiefly depend the character of the Diet's proceedings. They represent the Opposition, and it rests with the Opposition to decide whether the business of the House shall proceed with moderation and order, or be interrupted by unreason and intemperance. The *Koko Shimbun* is wrong, as we have said, in supposing that Western States have refrained from giving any reply to Japan's proposals, and therefore wrong also in the inference that they are restrained by a desire to witness the results of her parliamentary experiment. But it is none the less certain that the eyes of the world are fixed upon this experiment, and that Japan's national capacity will be gauged by its success or failure. Critics will not make much allowance for the fact that she is absolutely inexperienced in the methods of constitutional government. They will say that if she was not prepared for the experiment she should

have postponed it, and they will measure the results by the same standard, approximately, that they apply to themselves. We are therefore on the eve of a momentous epoch in Japan's career, and efforts such as those made by the *Koko Shimbun* to secure her against discredit are very welcome and timely.

JAPANESE COSTUME.

SAYS the *Nippon* in its issue of the 17th inst.:—During the absence of Iwakura and his mission in Europe, General Saigo and other leading men incurred in no small degree the disapproval of their colleagues in consequence of their decision to substitute for the national costume of the country the style of clothing worn by Europeans and Americans. Count Inouye also, during his tenure of office as Minister for Foreign Affairs, showed his leaning towards alteration in our manners and customs, and advocated the adoption of the foreign system. Whether Count Inouye and General Saigo were actuated by a similar motive, we are not in a position to say, but we fancy that the latter and other army men were guided by the evident superiority of short sleeves and narrow trousers from a military point of view, which in their eyes was of more moment than the requirements of civil etiquette and ceremonies. Undoubtedly foreign dress is especially suited to the soldier, offering as it does every facility for prompt and rapid movement, but this recommendation can have little effect in respect of court ceremonies. We cannot blame military statesmen for looking at the question from their particular standpoint, though it may be suggested that their civil subordinates should have laid before them the other side of the case. These same civil officers, however, having no doubt heard how Ikeda Chikugo-no-Kami and his attendants were inconvenienced in their movements about Paris by their adherence to the Japanese fashion, and how embarrassed the present Count Katsu was when he had to sit down at table in a foreign steamer in his ceremonial dress, were probably themselves most strongly impressed by a sense of the unfitness for modern conditions of the dress of the Tokugawa period. Though foreign costume has since been formally declared the official dress, and has been worn without remark, a style of attire which seems highly suitable to ceremonial occasions has gradually come into use within the last twenty years. We mean the *haori* and *hakama*. This was the costume ordinarily worn by the better classes, and allowable also on the part of farmers and other civilians, under the Tokugawas, but the cut of the *hakama* has been greatly improved, and the colour of the *haori* definitely settled since the Restoration. In its present form the dress has an agreeable and dignified appearance, and as it is fitted to the habits and customs of our countrymen, and combines elegance with convenience, we hope to see its use become even more general. It is not surprising to find that many persons object to the regulations of the Diet, which prescribe evening dress for ceremonial occasions and ordinary European dress at other times, and are agitating for the adoption of the *haori* and *hakama*. To this exposition of the views of *Nippon* it may be added that the *Choya Shimbun* has written on the same subject and in a similar strain.

A MEDICAL REPORT FROM NINGPO.

IN a report of the Haomeng-fong Hospital at Ningpo, Dr. Daly, as quoted by the *North China Daily News*, writes:—"We have had many opportunities of improving our dental surgery. Chinese teeth are much easier to extract than those of Europeans. In connection with this it may be interesting to mention that the native dentist, possess some wonderful powder, which I have in vain tried to procure. The powers of this are said to be marvellous; it is rubbed on the gum, and after an interval of 3 to 5 minutes the patient is told to sneeze, when out drops the offending tooth. I have offered a reward of \$100 to any one who will bring about such a brilliant result in my presence, on

the condition that I choose the tooth, and am allowed to examine the mouth before and afterwards. No one will submit to such conditions. I trust that some of the doctors in other parts of China will be more successful than I have been in the search for this powder, for whoever gives to suffering humanity a remedy to save them the agony and dreaded sensation of having a huge instrument rammed up forcibly into apparently the middle of one's head, followed by the feeling of having one's head pulled off, and then being told by a general practitioner that one has most difficult teeth to extract and very brittle—which is the gentle way of saying the tooth is broken, and there needs must be a repetition of the operation—will deserve to have his name handed down to posterity as one of the greatest benefactors to the human race." Dr. Daly also says:—"We admitted nine patients suffering from bullet wounds inflicted in nearly all cases by pirates who infest the neighbouring seas and islands. These men are armed with foreign weapons; the bullets are large, but make clean, healthy wounds (*sic*). Foreigners who visit the islands in this neighbourhood ought to be on their guard against such visitors."

COUNT YAMAGATA ON MINISTERIAL RESPONSIBILITY.

A CERTAIN member of the Upper House, having enquired Count Yamagata's opinion about the responsibility of Cabinet Ministers, the Count is reported by the *Fuyu Shinbun* to have replied as follows:—"Various views are held by the public about the responsibility of Cabinet Ministers. The popular idea now prevalent among party politicians is that in a constitutional State the Cabinet should be responsible not to the Sovereign alone but also to the Diet. I do not share that view. If the Cabinet is responsible to the Diet, it is impossible for the Government to have a fixed policy. Changes of Cabinet would be matters of frequent occurrence, and national mistakes would be almost inevitable. Popular controversialists, for the most part, fix their eyes on Western systems, and advocate heroic changes without due regard to their country's national instincts and traditions. I sincerely hope that the members of the Upper House will not lend their countenance to such rashness, or be led away by the opinions prevailing among political agitators."

A NEWS AGENCY AND ITS TROUBLES.

WITHIN the past few days the *Tokyo Koron* has published three items about a news agency called the *Fiji Tsushinsha*, in which the Minister President of State is said, by the purveyors of the items, to be interested. The first piece of news was to the effect that the Agency, finding itself no longer in need of official aid, had asserted its independence, and by so doing had provoked the anger of Count Yamagata, the result being that instructions were given to pay off the proprietor of the agency, dismiss the employés, and reorganise the affair under a new staff. This story passed unnoticed, and was followed, on the 18th instant, by another more detailed narration. This time the trouble with the Agency was attributed to the fact that information about the Cabinet, given directly to Mr. Okabe, the Manager, had been indiscreetly communicated by him to the press, and that when a complaint about this was made to Mr. Masuda Takashi, the proprietor, he declared himself unable to take any action on account of an agreement into which he had entered with the previous Manager of the Agency, and signified that the only course open was to sever the Agency's official connexion. This was done, but after a time a desire to renew relations manifested itself on the official side, and as the Manager of the Agency turned a deaf ear, there was talk of forbidding the various Departments to furnish any information to the reporters of the Agency. It being plain, however, that the whole question turned upon the disposition of the Manager, pressure was brought to induce Mr. Okabe to resign, which he ultimately did, Mr. Fukushima Gizo being appointed in his

stead. But as Mr. Fukushima's appointment did not have Mr. Okabe's assent, a condition stipulated between the latter and the proprietor, the employés rebelled, and it was found necessary to replace Mr. Fukushima by Mr. Takatsugi Chikayoshi. All this was related in the *Tokyo Koron* of the 18th instant avowedly on the authority of the Agency itself, and a prediction was added that further trouble between Count Yamagata and the Agency was inevitable. The next day, however, the Manager of the Agency wrote to say that no such story had been furnished by the Agency, the intelligence sent from it having been confined to a bare statement of the change in the Managership. Thereupon the *Tokyo Koron* instituted enquiries, which revealed the fact that the narrative of the 18th had come from Mr. Okabe's party, in the name of the Agency, and that its columns had in fact been made a vehicle for ventilating private pique. Determined not to be deceived a second time, the *Koron* adds that the contradiction comes from the opponents of Mr. Okabe, namely, the genuine staff of the *Fiji Tsushinsha*. We mention the incident, because it seems to show that happily the business of collecting journalistic news in Japan is beginning to receive the attention it deserves. Certainly during the present year a great improvement has been observable in the quality of the news published by the Tokyo dailies.

THE OLD DELUSION.

THE strange idea entertained by some people as to the incidence of tariff dues crops up again in the following, which we translate from *Nippon*:—"Every day that the present tariff remains unrevised is a day's loss. For many years revision has not been accomplished, and an undue advantage has thus been conferred on foreigners. Revision ought to be effected immediately. The date when the former treaty became subject to revision is now nearly twenty years old. Is this because the strength of the country has not been sufficiently developed, or is it because the nation does not exert itself thoroughly? Our Government, with the view of recovering its tariff autonomy, formerly opened negotiations with the Treaty Powers, whereupon the American Government agreed to a revised treaty of ten articles, abolishing all the clauses relating to customs dues and other taxes in the present treaties and in the accompanying Tariff Regulations; cancelling also the Tariff Convention and Bonded Warehouse Regulations made by the Bakufu with America, Holland, England, and France, and restoring to Japan full tariff autonomy. In April, 1881, ratifications of this new treaty were exchanged in Washington. This was the first achievement of the Meiji Government in respect of treaty making. If it had been possible to conclude similar treaties with other Powers, and to put them as well as the Washington Treaty into force, the profit to Japan by this time would have been very great. It is much to be regretted that such a result has not yet been achieved."

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We may remark, *en passant*, that the *Nippon* is slightly mistaken in its assertion that the Washington Revised Treaty was the Meiji Government's first essay at treaty-making. The first essay was the Austro-Hungarian Treaty of 1869, the most unfavourable compact for herself ever entered into by Japan with any foreign State. This by the way, however. The main point is our contemporary's assertion that every day's delay in increasing the import duties is a day's loss to Japan; that if they had been increased long ago she would have gained largely, and that the failure to increase them confers an undue advantage on foreigners. Who then is to pay the increased import duties? Surely the *Nippon* is not so completely in the dark as to suppose that foreign manufacturers or foreign importers are going to pay them. The Japanese consumer will pay every *sen* of them. No one else will take any part in the operation. Increased import duties simply mean that the Japanese who purchase imported goods must either give up doing so altogether, or consent to defray the additional cost resulting from the

added import. Foreigners will suffer only in the event of the bulk of the trade being reduced by the higher tariff. But in that case the Japanese themselves would suffer equally. It is no doubt very patriotic of the *Nippon* to lament that another source of revenue is not provided for the Government, but the notion that the Treasury's additional receipts, or even the smallest fraction of them, would come out of foreigners' pockets, is singularly erroneous.

HOW TO PREVENT A PANIC.

In its recent numbers, the *Koku-Hon* devotes several articles to the discussion of the unfavourable condition of the country's foreign trade, and to suggesting measures for the prevention of the panic which now threatens the commercial world. After noting that although the plentiful harvest of rice gives hopes of the advent of better times, things in the financial world have come to a difficult pass and the immediate outlook is decidedly gloomy, our contemporary gives the following table, showing the monthly balance of trade from January to September last, inclusive:—

Month.	Excess of Imports over Exports in Merchandise. Yen.	Excess of Exports over Imports in Specie. Yen.
January	724,315	423,712
February	1,487,866	709,480
March	2,938,831	1,678,453
April	3,780,626	1,034,567
May	2,838,260	209,482
June	2,451,487	594,405
July	3,598,957	1,300,028
August	4,454,425	2,943,194
September	3,108,748	1,411,280

Total 25,383,535 10,305,607

The withdrawal of so much money from the country at a time when it has only lately established a system of specie payments, cannot, we are told, fail to be injurious to industrial development and to the smooth conduct of business transactions. According to the latest weekly official report of convertible notes issued by the *Nippon Ginko*, the total amount of such notes in circulation at the time when the *Koku-Hon* wrote, was 69,510,574 yen, and the amount of the reserve in specie and bullion was 43,865,094 yen. The amount of specie in the vaults of the Bank of Japan was said to be less than the amount for the corresponding period of last year by as much as 8,670,000 yen; which circumstance is quoted by our contemporary as one of the results of the unfavourable state of foreign trade during the present year. The specie which the country has lost during the above mentioned nine months—25,383,535 yen—represents 57½ per cent. of the reserve in the *Nippon Ginko*, and 36½ per cent. of the convertible notes in circulation. Such a state of affairs must necessarily produce great disturbance in the financial world. The *Koku-Hon* then goes on to state more particularly the difficulties in which the silk merchants find themselves. Unlike the *Keisai Zasshi*, it approves the measure taken by the Bank of Japan and the Specie Bank in advancing money to the dealers at a low rate of interest, for it is owing to the timely help given by these Banks that the much dreaded panic has not yet overtaken the business world. But has the panic been completely averted? Our contemporary answers in the negative. The interval between the present time and the beginning of March next is the most important period of the year from a financial point of view, for it is during that interval that the annual settling of accounts takes place in the capital and the provinces (in the latter the date of settling is regulated by the old calendar). During the same interval, provincial merchants lay in their stocks of goods for the coming year; dealers in the capital and the large towns make payments to local producers and manufacturers; *saké* brewers purchase rice, and the fourth instalment of the national taxes has to be paid in. An immense quantity of money being required for these various purposes during the coming few months, the Tokyo journal urges that exceptional care should be taken by financiers to secure the distribution of funds in such a man-

ner that the difficulty of attaining money may not lead to a general panic in the commercial world. As to the mode of attaining such a result, our contemporary suggests that works of all kinds already determined upon should be, if possible, commenced at once; that such portions of the public loans as are to be redeemed within the present year should be redeemed as soon as possible; that any loans to be newly raised should be deferred for some months; that the Bank of Japan should be permitted to issue convertible notes to the maximum limits authorized by law; and that the same bank should be allowed to open its treasury and supply, as far as possible, the wants of provincial banks. Such in brief is the outline of our contemporary's writing on this subject.

THE CAPITAL OF THE JAPAN MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

THE *Official Gazette* of the 20th instant contained an announcement that the second article of the Japan Mail Steamship Company's charter should be amended to read as follows:—

The capital of the Company shall be ten million seven hundred and fifty thousand yen, divided into two hundred and fifty thousand shares. Further, the capital may be hereafter increased or diminished on application by the Company, or at the discretion of the Government.

This announcement has caused some surprise. People wondered that such a trivial matter as the reduction of the Company's capital from eleven million yen to ten million seven hundred and fifty thousand should have been thought worthy of official intimation. But the truth is that the official announcement embodies a principle, not a mere isolated fact. When the *Kyodo Unyu Kaisha* and the *Mitsui Bishi Kaisha* were combined to form the *Nippon Yusen Kaisha*, the capital of the united concerns was fixed at eleven million yen; a figure well understood to be considerably in excess of the actual value of the assets, which was estimated at seven or eight million yen. Since that time the Company has paid off all its debts and added to its fleet, yet its property is still below the nominal value. Such a state of affairs is, of course, unwelcome to business men, and the project of reducing the capital to a *bona fide* figure has long been earnestly entertained. Eight million eight hundred thousand yen has been fixed as the nearest approximation to the true value of the fleet and other assets, and with the view of reaching that figure, arrangements have been made for the gradual purchase and amortization of the Company's shares whenever surplus income justifies such a course. The first step has now been made by the purchase of five thousand shares, which are accordingly amortized, the total number of shares standing in the Company's name being thus reduced to two hundred and fifteen thousand. It is this first step and subsequent applications of the same principle that receive publicity and sanction in the *Official Gazette* of the 20th instant.

PROVINCIAL NEWS.

It is reported from the province of Hōki that the inhabitants are exercised about the question of amalgamating the prefecture of Tottori, under which they live, with the prefecture of Shimane. The people of that province have long been desirous of being brought under the rule of the last mentioned local Government. Their present Prefectural Government is situated at Tottori, which is far more distant and more inconvenient to approach than the town of Matsuyama, the seat of the Government of the prefecture with which they wish to be amalgamated. The local newspapers take up the question with great enthusiasm, and the people will, it is said, soon appoint a number of delegates to memorialize the Authorities in the capital.

The people of the province of Iwami in the prefecture of Shimane, are, on the other hand, reported to be desirous of joining the neighbouring Prefecture of Hiroshima. Their delegates came up to Tokyo some time ago, and it was even rumoured that the matter had been referred by the Cabinet to the Senate, and that

the latter had decided in favour of the Iwami folks. This rumour has not yet been confirmed, but there is no doubt that something must be done to satisfy the inhabitants of Iwami and Hōki.

On the 10th instant, the Prefectural Government of Akita was visited by a crowd of rustics numbering nearly five hundred. When they arrived at the gate of the Government building, the day had scarcely dawned, and the porter was rudely roused from his slumbers by the extraordinary noise in the street. The Governor, Mr. Suzuki, speedily appeared on the scene, and demanded the object of this unusual visit. The agitators behaved very well, but it being inconvenient to talk with such a large number of people, a few delegates were appointed on the spot to represent the general view to the Governor. From them it was learned that the five hundred early risers were inhabitants of certain villages, which, for the purpose of carrying out the new system of local government in *gun*, were to be separated from the Rural Division to which they had hitherto belonged and to be amalgamated with a new one. The villagers, entirely opposed to this measure, had come to acquaint the Governor with what they held to be the true aspect of affairs. They soon withdrew, leaving their delegates to see to the accomplishment of their object. A few of the delegates were arrested on the charge of having committed illegal acts, but were quickly set free.

The formation of a conservative party of considerable activity is reported from Matsunoto in the province of Shinano. The most conspicuous promoter of the movement seems to be a certain Mr. Nakamura Daihachiro. Some members of the Local Assembly and leading inhabitants of the neighbourhood are said to be enthusiastic supporters of the scheme. The promoters are making a lecture tour through the province, and they are said to have already gained a considerable number of followers.

It is curious to read the accounts of such agitation as that reported from Hōki, Iwami, Shimane, and Akita, and to contrast them with the idea prevalent among foreigners that the middle and lower classes of the Japanese are down-trodden, submissive folks who never dream of asserting themselves against the Authorities. If such a subservient spirit existed formerly in Japan, a very few years of modern education have sufficed to eradicate it.

THE FRENCH PRINCES.

Our San Francisco correspondent, in his last letter, alludes to a point which has attracted considerable, and in some respects unaccountable, attention. We mean the recent visit of the Comte de Paris to the United States, and the enthusiastic welcome given to him. It appears to have been thought that this welcome had something of an official character, and not only the French Government but also the European public in general attached to the event an importance which it scarcely seems to have deserved. It has been forgotten, apparently, what a characteristic and chivalrous part the Comte de Paris and the Duc de Chartres played at the time of the great War of Secession. These two Princes repaired to the United States just about the epoch when things looked blackest for the Northern cause, and offering their services as unpaid volunteers, were assigned to duty as military attachés on the staff of General McClellan when that distinguished captain was engaged in the organization of the Grand Army. Of the manner of service rendered by the young Princes abundant evidence may be found in the records of the war. They did their duty bravely and efficiently, and were always ready to obey any command whatever peril its execution involved. In the ranks of the Northern forces no names were better known than those of Captain Plon and Captain Chaffers, as they were familiarly called, and nothing could be more natural than that

the Comte de Paris, revisiting the United States twenty-five years after the never-to-be-forgotten events in which he took so active a share, should receive a hearty welcome. To attribute a political complexion to the reception of a Frenchman who had fought side by side with the soldiers of the North in a war for national existence, appears to us to be slightly hysterical.

FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The first half of the present year, for which the official trade statistics have lately been issued, was especially interesting from a commercial point of view, though it was not in every respect favourable. There was a small decline in the imports, a large increase in the exports of home productions, and a small decline in the re-exports of foreign produce. In imports the total amount reached £206,926,758, against £207,934,188 in the first half of 1889. The decrease is thus £1,007,430, and it is more than sufficiently accounted for by the decline in the receipts of raw materials for manufactures (£2,956,723); of chemicals, dye-stuffs, &c. (£478,325), and of miscellaneous articles (£428,125). These items of decrease make all together £3,863,173, but against them are to be placed large increases in the imports of food products, metals, oils, raw materials for manufactures other than textile, and of manufactured merchandise. At first sight a diminution in the imports of raw textile materials seems to indicate diminished activity in the textile industries. But, in fact, these industries have been very fully employed. The decrease in the imports of raw textiles during the last half-year is fully accounted for by the falling off in the imports of cotton, of which only £20,826,860 worth was received against £23,478,633 in the first half of last year. The decline is due, not to lessened home consumption, but to the fact that English textile manufacturers, especially those engaged in cotton industry, had previously imported to a larger extent than usual the raw materials produced last year. The increase in the exports of home productions is mainly the result of the rise in the prices of coal, iron, and steel which took place during the closing months of 1889. In the first half of last year the exports were £119,409,705. During the corresponding six months of this year they amounted to £127,555,965. The increase this year is £8,146,260. Of this large sum not less than £6,000,000 is due to the greater value of the coal, the iron and steel, and the copper which have been sent to foreign markets. Of copper, for example, the exports in quantity are put down at only 199,805 tons, against 200,258 tons in the first half of 1889. But in values the exports which are stated for the first half of 1889 at only £1,187,269, amounted this year to £2,138,982. The exports of coal amounted in quantity to only 2,586,737 tons, against 2,460,310 tons in the first half of 1889, but the declared value reached £14,277,056, against £13,781,639. Thus the increase of exports during the past six months is chiefly the result of an increase of prices in the coal and iron markets. The exports of textile fabrics, which constitute nearly one-half of the total exports of home productions, show only a small increase. The figures are £54,601,998, against £54,120,246 in the first six months of last year, the increase being only £481,752. This has arisen almost entirely from the greater value of the exports of cotton yarns and piece goods, which, however, is not due to larger exports to India. China has taken larger supplies, but for the most part the increase is accounted for by the greater demand from the smaller foreign markets. Of woollen and worsted manufactures the shipments have declined from £10,123,045 to £9,960,453, in spite of a somewhat increased export to the United States, due largely to the efforts which have been made to get forward supplies for the American markets in anticipation of the higher duties which were expected under the McKinley Tariff Bill.

A NEW MISSION IN JAPAN.

PROBABLY not many of our readers know that the Christian forces of Japan have recently been augmented by representatives of the Universalist

Church of America. So quietly did they come and begin their work that a theological school had been started, several publications translated and a church nearly completed before their presence became generally known. This new mission is in charge of the Rev. G. L. Perin, D.D., Rev. J. W. Calt, and Miss M. C. Schouler, all of Boston. The new church which is being erected at No. 7, Shichome, Iidamachi, Kojimachi-ku, Tokyo, is a two storey wooden structure, in size about 40 ft. by 60 ft. While simple in its arrangement, and by no means the most imposing church in Tokyo, it is to be very neat and commodious, and will rank in these respects with the best churches of the capital. It differs from most of the churches of Japan in having two stories under one roof with the main audience room up stairs. The lower storey is to be divided into eight large rooms by sliding doors. These doors may all be quickly removed at any time, thus making one spacious room for social or other purposes whenever much space may be required. We understand that arrangements are in progress to make these rooms a centre of moral and social industry. Among other things the mission proposes to have a weekly lyceum for the free discussion of all subjects relating to religion and the moral and social life of the people, and a free reading-room open probably nearly every night in the week, thus furnishing a pure place of resort for all who may care to avail themselves of its privileges. This is only one of many Christian missions in Japan, but it is perhaps noteworthy in a few regards. First, it has been wise enough to build conspicuously on a busy and much frequented street in accordance with advice given by competent persons. It has also made a considerable outlay of money in Church property before a congregation has been gathered. It is too early to predict whether this is wise or unwise, but, it does at least manifest some faith in the enterprise. Again, this is the first mission of the Universalist Church in Japan, and considering its theological standpoint there will no doubt be some curiosity as to the results of its work. We understand that the mission has strong backing in America and intends to publish a paper and push its work boldly in various parts of the Empire. This makes the third liberal Christian movement in Japan, the other two being the German Evangelical and the Unitarian. The Tokyo church will be finished soon after the 1st of December.

AN ART MUSEUM IN THE IMPERIAL HOTEL.

THE manager of the Imperial Hotel, Tokyo, has placed two rooms in the easterly wing of the building at the disposal of some of the chief dealers in objects of art in the capital, and steps are now being taken to furnish the rooms with what promises to be a choice collection of new and old curiosities. The modern department is under the direction of Messrs. Nami-kawa and Hayashi Kuhei. The former is the maker of the beautiful enamel with invisible cloisons, now of world-wide fame. The latter in the worker in metals who obtained a gold medal at the recent Industrial Exhibition for his wonderfully elaborate and striking figure of Ranryo. It is needless to say that by such experts as these exceptionally fine specimens of modern Japanese art will be furnished, not only in their own lines, but also in lacquer and ceramics. Already some of the remarkable porcelains of Takemoto and Makuzu are to be seen in the show cases. The chief purveyor of ancient objects of art is Mr. Fukui, of Himono-cho, one of the most skilled and trustworthy experts in Japan. We congratulate the manager on having placed this important department in such hands.

AN ITEM.

THE *Nippon*, always prolific in the matter of personal items, has a note about the proclivities of Counts Ito and Yamagata. As for the former, our contemporary says that his tastes lie in the direction of Chinese literature. This is no news, however. Proficiency in Chinese literature is synonymous with linguistic scholarship in Japan, and it is well known that Count Ito is one of the most accomplished living writers of

his own language. His pen has played a conspicuous part in the legislative history of the past fifteen years, and left indelible traces in the national archives. Count Yamagata, according to the *Nippon*, is remarkable for his intimate acquaintance with the ancient annals of his own country, from the "Kojiki" downwards. He believes that such a knowledge is essential in a statesman. Our contemporary further relates, in this context, a story which we consider very apocryphal; namely, that when Viscount Yenomoto was Minister of Education, he advocated the adoption of an educational system based on the principles of Mohammedanism, but was strongly opposed by Count Yamagata. This is about as unlike what we should expect of Viscount Yenomoto as anything could well be.

A NEWSPAPER COMBINATION.

It is announced that Mr. Murayama Ryohei, proprietor of the *Tokyo Koron*, has purchased the *Daido Shimbun*, and that the two journals will henceforth be united under the name of the *Kokkai Shimbun* (National Assembly Newspaper). The new journal is intended to be the *Times* of Japan. Its proprietor declares his intention of keeping it entirely independent of political parties. The public will doubtless receive this news with some surprise, remembering that the *Tokyo Koron* was originally started in the interests of the Radicals, and that the *Daido Shimbun* was regarded, until quite recently, as the organ of the *Daido Danketsu*. Both journals, however, have of late refrained from advocating the views of any party, and occasional editorial notes appearing in the columns of the *Daido Shimbun* led us to be not unprepared for some change in its rôle. The *Kokkai Shimbun* is to make its *début* to-day, simultaneously with the opening session of the body from which it takes its name.

THE JAPAN MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY AND THE "MUSASHI MARU."

It ought to be recorded that the Directors of the Japan Mail Steamship Company have behaved with remarkable generosity to the relatives of the foreigners who were lost in the ill-fated *Musashi Maru*. They have presented a sum of two thousand yen to the widow of Captain Frahm, and have given proportionate amounts to the families of the other sufferers. Such liberality on the part of a shipping company is rare. The total loss of a fine steamer, when nothing is recovered from underwriters, is not calculated to induce a generous mood. This act of the Company's assumes additional grace as a substantial evidence that the Directors are perfectly satisfied with the seamanship of the fine and trustworthy officer who commanded the *Musashi Maru*, and persuaded that no human efforts could have averted the disaster which befel her. It is pleasant to see that the traditions of the old Mitsui Bishi Company are so nobly obeyed by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

THE CIRCULAR RAILWAY.

It may be well to call our readers' attention to the fact that the morning train from Shimbashi to Akabane now starts at the time of the old schedule, viz., 8.10 a.m., instead of 7.30 a.m. We believe that not a few travellers missed the train owing to their ignorance of the fact that its departure had been altered from 8.10 to 7.30, and now that the Railway officials have reverted to the former hour without giving any notice to the foreign public, people may arrive at the station only to find that a forty minutes' wait is before them. It is, perhaps, unnecessary to observe that we refer to the train which connects with the Nikko, Mayebashi, Takasaki, and Sendai lines at the Akabane junction. People desiring to visit Nikko can now leave Shimbashi at ten minutes past eight in the morning, and arrive at their destination in time for tiffin.

THE QUESTION OF PROSTITUTION.

RECENTLY we reproduced a report as to the efforts of the opponents of licensed prostitution in Kyoto to get up a petition to the Diet. We learn from the *Jogaku Zasshi* (Woman's Maga-

zine) that there is going on in Tokyo a similar movement on a far larger scale. The abolitionists recently invited to dinner at the *Fujimiro* restaurant a number of the members of the Diet, and prominent journalists and Christian pastors. Among the members of the Diet there were present Messrs. Shimada Saburo, Yuasa Jiro, Ueki Emori, Nakamura Eisuke, Ebara Soroku, Kato Katsuya, Shimozuka Gonzaburo, Tateishi Ki, and Nagayo Tadaaki. There were also present Messrs. Tokutomi Ichiro, editor of the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* and the *Kokumin Shimbun*; Tsuda Sen, a well known writer on agricultural subjects; Honda Yoichi, Kojima Kango, Takata Koan, and Hiraiwa Tsuneyasu. It is stated that on this occasion plans were considered with regard to introducing in the Diet the question of the abolition of licensed prostitution. Two petitions are preparing, one for abolishing licensed prostitution, and the other disfranchising those engaged in the trade.

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In addition to the report from Kanagawa that the Local Assembly has voted for the abolition of licensed prostitution, statements from the Provinces of Echizen, Hyuga, and Kai, all announce that the abolition movement is gaining ground.

UNMERITED LAURELS.

WE have spoken already of the markedly inferior character of the paintings of Japanese genre now exhibited under the auspices of the *Kanga-kai* in the Fine Art Gallery, Uyeno Park. We have also explained that the exhibition, though ostensibly a mere periodical display of contemporaneous work, was privately understood to have had its origin in a feeling of discontent engendered by the manner of awarding prizes at the Industrial Exhibition, and in a desire to prove that the works exhibited there did not represent the best efforts of living artists. So far as concerns the latter purpose, the *Kanga-kai's* display is a decided failure, the gallery of the Industrial Exhibition having been much better and more copiously furnished. There may have been reasons for this undiscernible by the general public. At all events, the inferiority of these later works need not have caused any regret deeper than that inspired by a mere accident. But the course pursued by the directors of the *Kanga-kai* is another affair. At first it was reported that in view of the unmistakably defective character of the pictures shown, no prizes would be awarded. By this austerity the directors—so said rumour,—contemplated showing that, unlike the jurors of the Industrial Exhibition, they knew how to bestow medals and certificates discreetly, and had sufficient strength of mind to withhold rewards altogether if merit were plainly absent. But if they ever entertained any such design, they have abandoned it incontinently. To the astonishment of the general public and the dismay of all genuine lovers of art, medals and certificates have been scattered broadcast. We cannot tell how many pictures have been thus distinguished, but their name is legion. And truly, in the vast majority of cases, it is quite beyond the capacity of ordinary folks to discover the grounds of these distinctions. The fortunate recipient of the gold medal is Mr. Morizumi Kanyo, who exhibits a picture of the mediæval authoress Murasaki Shikibu. The lady, at an advanced period of her life, is sitting in a meditative attitude leaning on an elbow rest. Before her is one of the low lacquered tables used as desks by the Japanese, and beside her stands a clothes-horse on which several rich garments are hung. The painting of these garments and of the poetess's dress is unquestionably very delicate and elaborate; a fine example of technical skill. But the other merits of the picture, if it has any, are imperceptible without special spectacles. The drawing of the desk does indeed exhibit that extraordinary perverted perspective peculiar to the Chinese, in which the vanishing point lies between the eye and the object. Possibly this is a recommendation according to conservative canons, but plain folks may be pardoned if they fail to appreciate it.

We are strongly tempted to believe that the highest prize has been bestowed on the Murasaki study because it is from the brush of Mr. Morizumi, rather than because it deserves such an honour. Passing to the recipients of silver medals we find quite a number. Perhaps the most justifiable award in this class is that made to two landscapes by Mr. Nomura Bunkyo. Copper medals and Certificates of First, Second, and Third Class have been bestowed so lavishly that to be without some of these marks of favour is to be distinguished. What it all means we cannot pretend to say. Perhaps our perplexity is the outcome of foreign incapacity to appreciate the true inwardness of Japanese pictorial art. There are some conservatives who hold that only a Japanese can understand or pronounce a really intelligent verdict on Japanese paintings. Admitting then that we lay no claim to this peculiar faculty, and that we judge only by Western standards, we venture to assert that the *Kanga-kai's* manner of bestowing rewards reduces the whole question of modern Japanese painting to a farce, and compels all unsophisticated spectators to conclude that the object is, not to distinguish merit, but to encourage mediocrity. It is conceivable that the *Kanga-kai* is influenced by a motive similar to that which induces the Committee of the *Riu-chi-kai* to admit to its exhibitions articles quite erroneously described by their proud owners: a common fear of deterring exhibitors may influence both societies. But with such an apprehension we have no manner of sympathy. If exhibitions can only be furnished on the one hand by allowing exhibitors to pervert them into occasions for misleading the public and flattering their own vanity by showing falsely described objects; on the other, by bestowing honours upon artists whose works scarcely deserve to be "skied," then exhibitions had better be abandoned altogether. True art will never flourish in an atmosphere of sham. The Committee of the *Kanga-kai* could inflict no more fatal injury on the school they seek to perpetuate and promote, than by practising the palpable deception of applauding where condemnation alone is deserved, and seeking by lightly bestowed honours to suggest the presence of merits which no longer exist.

BALLOON ASCENT FROM UYENO PARK.

On Monday afternoon at half-past two o'clock Mr. Spencer made his second balloon ascent in Tokyo. His first performance was given by special desire of the Emperor, and took place in the open space before the main entrance to the Palace. The performance yesterday was of a public character, and the interest excited among the citizens of Tokyo was very great. The Authorities permitted Mr. Spencer to make use of the area immediately in front of the Permanent Museum in Uyeno Park, and as the buildings employed for the purposes of the Industrial Exhibition are still standing, this central court is completely enclosed, thus forming an ideal place for Mr. Spencer's object. The court was divided into three rings, the innermost of which constituted the first class, the middle the second class, and the outermost the third class, the prices of admission being one *yen*, fifty *sen*, and twenty *sen* respectively. Every one of the rings was completely filled, the total number of paying spectators aggregating from four to five thousand. Needless to say that the crowds outside were far greater. The whole of Uyeno Park was packed to overflowing, and from one o'clock onwards no little difficulty was experienced in forcing a passage through the mob to the gate of the inner court. The proverbial good humour and order-preserving disposition of Japanese assemblies displayed itself as usual, however, so that women and children were as safe among the phalanx of people as they would have been in the open streets. Strange to say, very few foreigners were present, a fact to be accounted for only on the supposition that the foreign residents of Tokyo had already witnessed Mr. Spencer's performances in Yokohama, or that the failure to advertise in the English local press had left

people in ignorance of the programme. With respect to the foreign portion of the audience, there is a point which Mr. Spencer, or others who, like him, live by public favour, will do well to note, namely, that the same measure of courtesy meted out to Occidentals on these occasions, must be meted out to Orientals also. It was observed yesterday that every foreign lady or gentleman found admittance without question inside the central ring to the immediate vicinity of the balloon and apparatus, whereas with very few exceptions every one wearing Japanese costume was excluded. Such discrimination can only have the effect of rendering unpopular all exhibitions by foreign performers. Among those present inside the central circle were H.I.H. Prince Yamashina, and their Excellencies Count Kawamura and Viscounts Aoki and Yenomoto. At ten minutes past two o'clock the first pilot balloon was sent up. A grotesque figure of a man without any command of legs or arms, it ascended with limp gravity and occasional disturbances of equilibrium that afforded much amusement to the spectators. The day was beautifully bright and still, perfect Japanese autumnal weather, but the transparent dummy evidently felt a breeze not perceptible by more substantial beings, for it floated off in the direction of Hongo until a reverse current, catching it in an upper stratum of atmosphere, wafted it back so that it finally descended on the margin of the Shinobazu Lake. Another pilot, despatched upwards some minutes afterwards, voyaged off steadily towards Surugadai, the result of the two experiments being that people remained in a state of pleasing uncertainty as to the direction which the aeronaut himself would take. The big balloon was by this time fully inflated, but so still was the atmosphere that not a motion of the silken globe could be detected: it remained straining steadily on its detaining ropes as motionless as though crystallized in its place. The hour fixed for the ascent had now passed, and the crowd, on the tip-toe of excitement, greeted Mr. Spencer with a low hum as he stepped forward and began to untie the cords by which the lower end of the balloon had been frapped round the gas-conducting pipe. Mr. Spencer is of low stature, bandy-legged, light-haired, and resolute looking, but it may be gathered from his mien that he is not without consciousness of the perils attending his exploit. Under any circumstances a parachute descent must be a dangerous business, but where a great number of lofty trees are dotted about the ground, as is the case in Uyeno Park, the chances of accident cannot but be increased considerably. Rumour says, indeed, that the risk run by the aeronaut has attached to him a correspondent of an American journal, who firmly believes that his thirst for sensational copy will be satisfied one of these days at Mr. Spencer's cost. The preparations made by the intrepid performer were few and simple. They consisted chiefly in divesting himself of a gold medal and his watch and chain, exchanging his hat for a tight-fitting tweed cap, filling his pockets with advertisements to be scattered from the clouds, and seizing firm hold of the jacket by which he is attached to the parachute in the descent. Wonder-exciting pictures of the feat, posted in public places, represent the aeronaut suspended from his parachute by one hand and swaying nonchalantly earthwards. But that is a balloonist's license. It is plain that no fingers, however muscular, could be trusted to sustain a man at the moment of more or less rude shock when the swift downward motion of his leap from the balloon is arrested by the expansion of the parachute. The thing is managed by the aid of a jacket or sling passing round the body under the arms. This Mr. Spencer fixes when he has reached such a height that his actions are only discernible by the aid of a glass. The parachute is tied to the side of the balloon by a cord which, being just capable of supporting a weight of sixty lbs., gives way and allows the parachute to become detached when Mr. Spencer consigns himself to it. The descent of the abandoned balloon is ingeniously managed by means of a small weight attached to

the side. So long as the aeronaut is seated on the trapeze this comparatively trifling weight does not disturb the equilibrium of the balloon, but when the man leaps out, the little weight causes the silk globe to tilt over, until, the unclosed end coming uppermost, the gas escapes and the balloon, reduced to the semblance of a long streamer, floats slowly downwards. Contrary to the indications furnished by the pilot voyagers, the balloon yesterday rose at first quite vertically with admirable grace and steadiness, and it seemed for a moment as though Mr. Spencer's hope of descending within the enclosure from which he had ascended would be satisfied. But at a considerable elevation an eastward-setting current of air was entered, and when Mr. Spencer consigned himself to the parachute, he was sailing in the direction of Asakusa, in the vicinity of which he ultimately alighted safely. The ascent lasted, as far as could be judged, about a hundred seconds, and the descent was accomplished in nearly the same interval, some four seconds of which appeared to be occupied by the first rapid fall, preceding any perceptible exercise of the parachute's influence. Balloon and parachute came down together almost simultaneously, and in a quarter of an hour Mr. Spencer drove back to the enclosure, greeted by loud cheers, the crowd calmly breaking through all the barriers that separated it from the inner ring. It is not likely that any aeronaut will again command such a numerous attendance in Japan. Mr. Spencer was the pioneer, and we are glad to think his enterprise has been rewarded so far as Tokyo is concerned. Visits to the other great cities of the empire ought to prove very profitable.

ORGAN RECITAL AND CONCERT.

THE second of these entertainments drew a large audience to the Union Church on Tuesday evening, when the following interesting programme was performed:—

ORGAN Overture ("Occasional Oratorio") HANDEL.
ANTHEM "The eyes of all wait upon Thee" CLARE.
ORGAN Larghetto ("Symphony in D") BERTHOVEN.
VOCAL SOLO "Calvary" RODNEY.
ORGAN Prelude and Fugue F Minor RINK.
VOCAL SOLO "The gate of Heaven" TOURS.
ORGAN Fuga a 5 voci (St. Ann's) BACH.
SELECTIONS from Mendelssohn's "Elijah."
ARIA "Hear ye Israel,"
RECIT. "Night falleth round me."
CORO. "Behold God the Lord passed by."
QUARTETTO & CHORUS "Holy, Holy, Holy."
CHORAL RECIT. "Go, return upon thy way."
RECITED ARIA "For the mountains shall depart."
CORO. "Then did Elijah."
ARIA "Then shall the righteous shine."
ORGAN Offertory in B Flat LEBEURE WELLY.
VOCAL SOLO "Saved by a child" PICCOLMINI.
ORGAN Andantino ("Power of Sound") SPÖHR.
ANTHEM "The Glory of the Lord" GOSS.
ORGAN Waltz March ("Athalie")

MENDELSSOHN.

Mr. Griffin again displayed the powers of the organ as a solo instrument, giving us a fine selection of music "grave, gay, lively, and severe," preludes and fugues of the old German school, arrangements of orchestral scores, compositions of the modern French *genre*, &c. He also accompanied all the vocal music, and in so doing made good use of the charming soft registers which the organ contains. The fine quality of tone was also manifest in the accompaniment to the excerpts from Mendelssohn's *Elijah*. The vocal solos were taken by some of our best-known amateurs, the chorus being supplied by the same body of singers who did such excellent work at the first recital. After the fine chorus work which we have had at these two concerts under Mr. Keil's direction, we shall expect great things of the revived Choral Society which will soon be *en évidence*. All the items in the programme were much appreciated and warmly applauded; and we are sorry that the present series of Recitals is now finished. We would suggest another performance be given about New Year, at which all the organists of Yokohama and

Tokyo (Christ Church, Union Church, Catholic Church, S. Andrew's, Shiba, Hongo Central Mission, &c.) should be asked to lend their aid. Such an array of talent would be a guarantee of a most interesting and excellent performance. We commend the idea to the congregation of Union Church: they have a fine organ, and we hope they will soon give the public a chance of hearing it again.

MISS HELEN E. GREGORY.

ANOTHER writer has come to Japan in search of inspiration. This time the public is to be told what an English lady of quite exceptional attainments thinks of a country and a nation concerning which it ought to have become difficult ere now to say anything new. Miss E. Gregory, upon whom Trinity University, Toronto, recently conferred the degree of Master of Arts, has the honour of being the first "girl bachelor" of that institution. She appears to be the Miss Millicent Fawcett of Canada. The *New York World*, alluding to her musical abilities, writes of her in the following strain:—

Unlike other women composers, Helen Gregory stands almost alone in her profession. She is a writer of the ultra-classical, and enjoys the distinction of having been the first woman to have conferred upon her the dual degree of musical bachelor and bachelor of arts. Few imagine the necessary capabilities required for the attainment of such honours. In the Trinity university, Toronto, Canada, from which she graduated for the degree of musical bachelor, four successful examinations were necessary, each embracing a course in harmony, counterpoint, canon, fugue, form, history of music, and instrumentation.

At the last examination the student is required to write a musical composition with full orchestral accompaniment, one or two choruses of at least four or six parts, a fugue, chorus and solos. In order to keep the standard as high as possible the papers are sent to England and examined by three noted professors of the University of Cambridge. All this Miss Gregory went through successfully, claiming the credit of opening Trinity University to women, which had previously issued only certificates instead of degrees. She then, at the same college, by dint of perseverance, succeeded in persuading the senate of the university to also grant her admission to a full collegiate course, and but a few months ago, after a three years' course of study, she graduated with honours and the degrees named.

Miss Gregory visited Manitoba after her graduation and wrote some excellent descriptive articles of the settlers in that district. In a letter addressed to this journal from the Department of Agriculture in Ottawa, we are told that "her visit to Japan is mainly for the purpose of writing articles for the *New York Cosmopolitan Magazine*, *Toronto Globe*, and other magazines and journals. Miss Gregory was kindly furnished before leaving home (Hamilton, Ont.) with letters of introduction to the Sub-Governors of the Western Canadian Provinces, from the Premier of Canada, the Right Hon. Sir Jno. Macdonald, and the Hon. C. H. Tupper, Minister of Marine Fisheries. Also letters from the Marquis of Salisbury and the Marquis of Lorne, to the British Minister, Tokyo, Japan, and letters to the British and Norwegian Ambassador, and to the Bishop of the Anglican Church in Japan. Miss Gregory is a member of the Press Association (P. of Q.), Canada, and a contributor to several journals and magazines." We do not doubt that this accomplished lady will find much to interest her in Japan. She will probably have to run the gauntlet of the unfavourable local criticism usually penned against the presumption of new-comers who venture to ventilate the results of a few weeks' experience. But the eyes of new-comers see things that have long ceased to attract the attention of old residents, and it is to new-comers that we owe our most delightful and accurate descriptions of the country and its inhabitants. It is probably intentional that the arrival of Miss Gregory has occurred just on the eve of the opening of the Diet, but the coincidence is remarkable in one respect, namely, that it will at once bring into sharp prominence the rule excluding ladies from the galleries of the Japanese Houses of Parliament. We do not believe that a rule so inconsistent with the tendency of Japanese modern civilization can be preserved, but it might have escaped strong Western condemnation but for the arrival of a lady who will naturally be intensely disap-

pointed to find herself prevented from witnessing and describing the most important and memorable event in Japanese history.

THE BANK OF JAPAN.

THE amounts of convertible notes and reserves in the Bank of Japan for the week ended the 22nd instant were as follows:—

CONVERTIBLE NOTES:	RESERVES AND SECURITIES:
YEN.	YEN.
Notes issued 99,136,212	Gold coin and bullion 24,993,710
	Silver coin and bullion 20,183,149
	Public Loan Bonds 13,470,450
	Treasury Bills 22,000,000
	Government Bills 4,734,182
	Other securities 13,750,121
99,136,212	99,136,212

Of the above total issue of notes, the sum of yen 5,534,077 is in the treasury of the Bank, 22,000,000 has been transferred on loan to the Government, and yen 71,602,135 is in actual circulation, the latter showing a decrease of yen 1,553,188 as compared with yen 73,155,323 at the end of the previous week.

A CONSULATE OFFICIAL STABBED.

ON Monday forenoon Mr. W. N. Wright, usher of H.B.M. Court for Japan, was stabbed in the neck by a seaman of the ship *Abbyssinia*, for whom a warrant for being absent without leave had been issued. The seaman, George Seymour, was at once arrested, and brought before Mr. Troup, H.B.M. Consul in the afternoon, and Mr. Wright, who lost a great deal of blood, was taken to Dr. Rokaku, who sewed the wound, being successful in taking up one of the vessels from which the chief loss of blood was occurring. The wound, which was inflicted with an ordinary pocket or pen knife, was almost in a line with the ear, and therefore in a most dangerous place. Though very weak, Mr. Wright is, we believe, out of danger.

ADMISSION TO THE STRANGERS' GALLERY IN THE DIET.

AS we conjectured in a recent issue, the amount of accommodation available in the House of Peers is found so limited where there is question of meeting the requirements of such an exceptional affair as the official opening on the 29th instant, that the privilege of being present can only be extended to a very small number of foreigners. There will be much disappointment, no doubt, but the restrictions imposed are inevitable. We believe that applications made diplomatically for the admission of naval officers of high rank have been rejected.

FAREWELL SERMON.

ON Sunday morning, the Rev. Arthur May Knapp conducted the service at the Unitarian Hall, Azabu, Tokyo, and preached a farewell sermon. The room was so full that a side room had to be utilized; the majority of those present being Japanese. At the close of the service, many bade Mr. Knapp farewell. He and Mrs. Knapp sail on Saturday next, proceeding via Suez to Marseilles, and thence to Vichy, where it is hoped, the mineral waters will restore Mr. Knapp to health.

REJOICINGS IN YOKOHAMA.

THE opening of the Diet was not observed on Tuesday in Yokohama in any official way, but the residents had organized various forms of demonstration, which were duly carried out. Sports took place in the open ground opposite the Post Office, and a procession headed by a band perambulated the streets in the afternoon. The various streets in Japanese town, especially Sakai-cho and Isezaki-cho (the latter of which was lit up by electric lights) were tastefully decorated with flags and lanterns.

DEATH OF THE KING OF HOLLAND.

OFFICIAL intimation having been received in Yokohama of the death of the King of Holland on Monday morning at 6 o'clock, the flags of the various Consulates were hung at half-mast on Tuesday.

According to the telegram published in the

Official Gazette, the death of the King of Holland took place at 5.45 a.m. on the 23rd instant. Court mourning for a period of nineteen days, commencing on the 24th instant and ending on the 12th proximo, has been decreed.

THE PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THE Emperor has endorsed the choice of the House, and nominated Mr. Nakajima Nobuyuki to the post of President, and Mr. Tsuda Mamichi to that of Vice-President of the House of Representatives.

We find that we erred in stating that Mr. Nakajima was imprisoned at the time of the promulgation of the Peace Preservation Regulations. It was rumoured that he had been incarcerated, but the report proved groundless.

A CORRECTION.

IN a letter published in our correspondence columns last Saturday, under the heading, "The music of the Japanese," the writer is made to say in the last paragraph:—"The Tokyo School has existed for years—where are the funds, what are the results?" The word "funds" is a misprint for "fruits." We note the error specially, because the sentence as it stands might create an unpleasant impression.

THE boys of the Victoria School will hold their sports on the ground of the Yokohama Cricket Club on Monday next.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

THE convocation of the Diet, the election of the President and Vice-President of the House of Representatives, and the movements of the various parties in view of these events, form the principal items of news and topics of discussion in the vernacular press during the week. The official announcement that the Emperor was pleased to appoint to the Presidency and Vice-Presidency of the Lower House the nominees who obtained the largest number of votes,—Mr. Nakashima and Mr. Tsuda respectively,—has been received by the whole press with loud approval and warm gratitude to His Majesty for the mark of respect thus graciously shown to the wish of his subjects' representatives. As to the personal qualifications of the new President and Vice-President, the general opinion of the papers is very favourable.

The *Yiyu Shimbun* welcomes Mr. Nakashima to his Presidential post with a high eulogy. A faithful servant of the State for the past thirty years, at first occupying several distinguished positions in the Government and latterly devoting himself entirely to the promotion of the liberal movement, Mr. Nakashima, says the Constitutional Liberal organ, enjoys an amount of confidence and respect from parties outside the Government that will be amply sufficient to make him an effective President of the House of Representatives. The position which he has been called upon to fill is by no means easy. There are abuses to be corrected, and reforms to be carried out, which demand on the President's part an exercise of high moral and intellectual capacities. But Mr. Nakashima's thoughtfulness, his perseverance, and his constancy, will, it is hoped, carry him successfully through the difficult ordeal he is about to undergo.

The *Choya Shimbun*, after expressing its hearty approval of the Imperial choice as to the President and Vice-President of the House of Representatives, proceeds to deplore, for the sake of the Constitutional Liberals, that their conduct in connection with the election of the President was not distinguished by that consistency which might have been expected from them. On the preceding day, they met at the *Payoi* Club and decided on three candidates for the position of the President of

the Lower House, pledging themselves to vote for none other than those thus selected. But on the day of actual election, it was found that many of the Liberal Constitutional votes were cast for other candidates. In this respect, the members of the *Taisei-kai* and of the *Kaishin-to* were more consistent, for they did not desert the candidates selected by themselves. Our contemporary then goes on to state that Mr. Nakashima owes his election not only to the support of his own party, the *Rikken Ji-yu-to*, but also to that of a section of the *Taisei-kai*, of the *Kokumin Ji-yu-to*, of the *Jichi-to*, and of the independent members. As to his prospects as President, the *Choya* says that his success will depend on the skill with which he keeps order in debates, and on the nature of the relations that he maintains with Count Ito, President of the House of Peers, to whom he has hitherto been what a junior student is to a senior.

The *Fiji Shimpō* alludes to the immense difficulties lying before the President of the House of Representatives, for, in addition to the onerous task of keeping order within the House itself, the occupant of that post has to maintain dignified relations with the Ministers of State on the one hand, and with the President of the House of Peers on the other. Moreover he will have to observe strict impartiality between the various political parties in the House. Our contemporary advises the members of the *Rikken Ji-yu-to* not to regard Mr. Nakashima as one of their own party, but to always bear in mind that, in his capacity as President of the Lower House, every party has an equal claim on his sympathy and protection.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* follows a similar line of argument. After alluding to the circumstance that a certain section of the public is inclined to question the perfect impartiality and independence of the President and Vice-President of the Lower House, on the ground of their having formerly occupied official positions, the *Tokyo* journal asserts that for its part it believes these two gentlemen perfectly well qualified for their posts. It suggests the adoption of the practice followed in the English House of Commons as to the introduction of the newly elected President and Vice-President. According to the Japanese Regulations of the Houses, the President and Vice-President are to be introduced to the House by a Secretary. That, thinks our contemporary, is too simple. It proposes that, as in England, one of the members should congratulate the President and Vice-President in the name of the whole House. This suggestion was adopted. The *Mainichi*, the *Tokyo Shimpō*, and other papers all agree with those already quoted in exhorting the President to maintain an attitude of rigid impartiality and independence.

An unexpected move on the part of the politicians connected with the contemplated formation of the National Liberal party has reopened the old question of the amalgamation of the progressive parties. On the evening of the 23rd instant, Messrs. Sassa Tomofusa, Furusho Kamon, Maeda Kagashi, and a few other promoters of the formation of the new party, applied for admission to the *Taisei-kai*. The members of the latter held a meeting the following morning to consider the application. The meeting lasted until late in the afternoon. At one time those in favour of admitting the new applicants seemed likely to carry everything before them, but the debate became more and more animated, and it was seriously apprehended that the *Taisei-kai* might finally separate into two hostile parties. Upon this, those who had introduced the new applicants withdrew the application, and the meeting was adjourned without any serious rupture. But it is stated that the *Taisei-kai* is in a state of great excitement, and that an explosion will take place before long. It is rumoured that Messrs. Sassa, Furusho, and others are in league with a section of the *Taisei-kai* to carry over that association to

the National Liberal party now under formation. The *Tokyo Shimpō* advises the *Taisei-kai* to refuse the application, and carry out its original purpose of maintaining strict neutrality towards existing political parties; for our contemporary believes it highly important for the welfare of the country that there should be an independent association of members of the Diet to neutralize the struggles of the various political parties. The *Hochi Shimbun* takes a more sensible view of the question. It states that intelligent people had from the outset regarded it as extremely improbable that the *Taisei-kai* would maintain a neutral position in practical politics. Being composed of conservative and liberal elements, it is naturally divided into two factions. Rather than persist in attempting what is really impossible, the Independents had better break up their combination and join their respective natural allies. Some of them will no doubt go over to the National Liberal party, some to the *Rikken Ji-yu-to*, and some to the *Kaishin-to*, while others may prefer to keep aloof from any party. The *Hochi* considers the dissolution of the *Taisei-kai* merely a question of time.

As stated above, this unexpected step on the part of the originators of the *Kokumin Ji-yu-to* (National Liberals) has given a fresh impetus to the movement for the amalgamation of progressive parties. The *Rikken Ji-yu-to*, especially that section of it which represents the former *Kyushu Shimpō-to*, is desirous of effecting a union with the *Kaishin-to*, while the leaders of the latter, with the exception of the section under Mr. Ozaki, are said to be ready to move in the same direction. In the event of such a union, a section of the *Taisei-kai* will probably join the amalgamated party. Such a result is likely to be very much accelerated by the intrigues of politicians promoting the scheme of forming the *Kokumin Ji-yu-to*, which, we may mention, will be formally organized, if report can be trusted, in the course of next month.

The question of national defence forms the subject of several leading articles. The *Mainichi Shimbun* is now discussing this problem in a series of articles not yet concluded. From what it has thus far written, it appears, like most of the vernacular papers, to consider that the safety of the country demands an increase of fighting power, both military and naval. How to effect this, is a point which our contemporary promises to examine in future articles. The *Yomiuri Shimbun*, in the course of several essays, approves the rumoured decision of the Authorities not to introduce any bill for raising a loan to augment the Navy during the present session of the Diet. Our contemporary admits the necessity of increasing the naval forces, but suggests that, before asking for fresh supplies, the Government should introduce more economical methods of expenditure. The present appropriations should suffice, our contemporary thinks, to provide the country with a far better navy. It compares the amount of money expended by Japan on her navy with the expenditures of other countries. Japan pays, according to our contemporary, about 126 yen annually for each ton of her war vessels, England 90 yen, France 89 yen, Germany 70 yen, Austria 53 yen, Italy 114 yen, and the United States 229 yen. Making every allowance for the circumstance that, the Japanese Navy being in the course of formation, exceptional outlay is unavoidable, the *Yomiuri* cannot but think that there is something wrong in the mode of disbursing funds voted for the use of the Navy. If the Authorities introduce the proposed bill during the present session, many members otherwise in favour of increasing the Navy may be induced to vote against it. The Government is therefore advised to correct existing abuses in the Admiralty, and then to ask for a further grant of money.

The question of Treaty Revision is not neglected amid the exciting topics of domestic politics. The *Fiji Shimpō* discusses it in two

articles. Our contemporary observes that the efforts of Japan to obtain the recognition of her claims have thus far failed, because hitherto she has relied too much upon the chivalrous impulses of the Treaty Powers, and has courted their favour by adopting their manners and customs. Japanese negotiators of Treaty Revision, like all other negotiators, cannot hope to attain their object unless they have at their back a nation determined and competent to resort to force if necessary. What Japan wants, therefore, is a strong army and navy. Further, our contemporary remarks that, in order to assert the national rights, it is of great importance to encourage navigation, foreign commerce, and emigration to foreign countries, thus bringing the nation into closer contact with the outside world. In conclusion, the *Fiji* on the one hand, advises the Authorities to economize public expenditures as much as possible, applying every *sen* thus saved to increase the Army and Navy, and, on the other, exhorts the people not only to bear present taxes but also to be prepared for new ones.

Mr. Oishi Masami, a distinguished politician of liberal opinions now staying in London, writes in the columns of the *Nippon* on the same subject. His essay is not yet concluded. In the first article, he reviews the international position in Europe, and observes that all the European States being very hard pressed by their neighbours, none of them, not even Russia, could afford or is inclined to fight with Japan on the latter's soil. As to the United States, that Republic is very well disposed towards Japan, and little danger need be apprehended from her. Mr. Oishi therefore recommends the Authorities to push on the negotiations vigorously and resolutely. "There are," he says, "40 millions of brave people only too willing to die for the sake of their country. Should the Authorities prosecute the work of revision with resolution, they will have the hearty and unanimous support of these 40 millions of stout-hearted and loyal people."

The present week has been exceptionally fruitful of changes, actual or contemplated, in the journalistic world. The *Daido Shimbun* and the *Tokyo Koron* have been united under the new name, *Kokkuai*. This journal professes to be strictly independent, and to aim at becoming *The Times* of Japan. The *Hochi Shimbun* also announces great changes in its appearance and in the character of its contents from the beginning of next month. Our contemporary declares that its editorial department will be organized on the model of *The Times*, and that, besides the ordinary editor and sub-editors, fifteen new writers of high excellence have been engaged. It will allow perfect freedom to every one of these writers, so that its columns will become mediums for the ventilation of every shade of opinion, from ultra-conservatism to ultra-radicalism. Amid all these varieties, the *Hochi* promises to maintain strict independence. The *Nippon-jin*, hitherto a monthly publication, has become a weekly journal. The *Yogaku Zasshi* (Woman's Magazine) also promises considerable modifications from its issue of the 29th instant. It has engaged several lady writers. Concerning the two latter journals we shall write at greater length in a future issue.

The *Hochi Shimbun* advises the members of the Diet to effect reforms in the Organizations of Departments and in the salaries of officials, before proceeding to other changes. It has also written at some length about the probable conflict between the Government and the Diet. Needless to say that it recommends both sides to be moderate and reasonable. The *Nippon* has finished its articles on the history of national finance, and, among other subjects, discusses the relations between the Budget and the law. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* writes on the 27th article of the Constitution. The *Tokyo Shimpō* has concluded its articles on reforms in political business.

THE VOTE OF THE KANAGAWA
LOCAL ASSEMBLY.

THE Kanagawa Local Assembly, by a majority of fourteen at a meeting of 52 members, has recorded its disapproval of the system of licensed prostitution, and decided that a memorial shall be addressed to the Prefect asking him to take steps in the sense of the resolution. The control of these matters is now virtually in the hands of Local Assemblies, inasmuch as the proceeds of the tax levied upon brothels is included in the revenues of the local authorities, who in return are bound to contribute to the support of the *police de mœurs* and to the cost of sanitary arrangements. If, therefore, the Kanagawa Assembly is determined to put an end to the system, we see nothing to prevent it from accomplishing its propose. There is much to be said in support of the plan hitherto pursued in Japan, but, on the other hand, there will always be found a number of strong moralists wholly unable to become reconciled to the idea of licensing vice for the purpose of controlling it. We confess that for our own part the difficulty of deciding between the two views seems very great. Reduced to its simplest form, the contention of those who advocate the licensing of prostitution involves the assumption that prostitution is an absolutely ineradicable evil, and that consequently the State must recognise its existence just as it recognises gambling by levying a duty on playing cards, or drinking by imposing a heavy tax on alcoholic beverages. But to admit that any evil is ineradicable must always be impossible to men who believe, as many Christian optimists believe, in the complete regeneration of humanity, and who hold that to concede the necessity of sin in any form is to become indirectly propagandists of vice. As a plain axiom of abstract morality there is no gainsaying this latter view, but when we proceed a step further we find ourselves confronted by inconsistencies. For it is manifest that what is true of prostitution must be true also of drinking, which latter works incomparably more injury to the human race than does the social evil. If Government is bound to declare prostitution illegal and to wage war to the knife against it, prosecuting its votaries and employing the strong arm of the law to close all places where it is practised, surely Government is equally bound to prosecute all vendors of alcoholic averages and abolish all public-houses. It may be contended that the mere act of drinking whiskey is not wrong, unless carried to excess, whereas the practice of the social evil in every form and in any degree is immoral. But is the consumption of alcohol really capable of defence? Will any one pretend to say that, except when taken medicinally, it fails to injure its consumers? It is universally admitted, we presume, that if any nation could be

trained to abstain absolutely from the use of alcohol and tobacco, its advantages in the struggle for supremacy, other things being equal, would be enormous. And if this be granted, there is no escape from the conclusion that the law ought to be invoked to suppress a practice which undoubtedly demoralizes men and prevents them from making full use of their capacities. But legislators have recognised definitely, in respect of the consumption of alcohol, that human proclivities are factors of everlasting activity, and that to establish a certain control over the limits of their exercise is the utmost which a Government can hope to achieve. Does the history of the world justify any different conclusion in the case of the social evil? Can it be asserted that this form of vice is proportionately less prevalent in a country like England, where its votaries are theoretically law-breakers, than in a country like Japan, where the evil is controlled with tolerable efficiency? Judging from externals, we are obliged to confess that the advantage is with Japan. By recognising prostitution and banishing to a distant and secluded quarter those that pursue it professionally, Japan manages to keep the streets and principal public places of her cities absolutely free from everything offensive or suggestive. Far different is the condition of cities like London and Paris, where many of the principal streets become, from sun-down, nothing more than promenades for ladies of easy virtue; where a man may not walk from his club to his house without being solicited half a dozen times; where an immense number of cafés and restaurants throw their doors open to prostitutes, and lend to the social evil whatever aid can be furnished by splendid equipment and brilliant luxury; and where the competition inseparable from the virtually free exercise of private enterprise, leads to practices of the most revoltingly disgusting, demoralizing, and even inhuman character, which have no existence in a city like Tokyo. The system of suppression pursued in Europe is a practical farce, and it scarcely seems difficult to determine whether the evil is more propagated by being thus openly flaunted and rendered attractive, than by being legally recognised, controlled, hidden from public gaze, deprived of all romantic elements, and reduced to a mere matter of uninviting business. If any one nation in the world had ever succeeded in stamping out or even sensibly diminishing the social evil by the aid of repressive legislation, there could be no further question about the duty of all nations to make the attempt. But no nation has succeeded. The lesson taught by history is either that the evil is incapable of suppression, or that some means of suppression more drastic than anything conceived by ordinary legislators must be resorted to. Perhaps in no branch of human experience do theoretical morality and practical utility come into such flagrant

conflict. If this vote of the Kanagawa Local Assembly means that Japan seriously contemplates abandoning the system hitherto followed by her, and adopting the system followed in England and America, it is to be hoped that the question will be maturely considered and exhaustively debated. The Diet's time would be much better spent in discussing such a grave problem than in elaborating impossible schemes for reducing taxation.

WATANABE KAZAN.

ON the 23rd of November in the year 1840, died by his own hand in Tokyo, WATANABE KAZAN, an artist of exceptional talent. WATANABE was a member of the *shizoku* class. During the last two decades of his life Japan had begun to turn slowly but instinctively towards Occidental civilization. We are accustomed to speak of the Restoration of 1867 as the period from which this remarkable change of sentiment first made itself distinctly manifest, but the calculation is nearly half a century late. It is true indeed that officialdom still adhered firmly to the traditional policy of seclusion handed down from the days when the intemperance of Christian propagandists, and the jealousies of warring creeds, lent to foreign intercourse a startling and deterrent aspect. But despite officialdom with its iron rule and pitiless penalties, intrepid reformers among the people stealthily studied Occidental systems, and with wonderful patience struggled to emerge from the intellectual isolation to which their country had been condemned for more than two centuries. WATANABE was among these pioneers. He does not appear to have been swayed by any specially philosophic or philanthropic motives, or to have proposed to himself any deliberate programme of reform. An artist before everything, he thought only of art, and when chance afforded him an opportunity of seeing some pictures and studies by Western painters, he at once appreciated their immense superiority to the pictures of his own country in respect of linear perspective and chiaroscuro. Thenceforth it was scarcely possible for him to paint without suffering some traces to appear of the new inspiration that dominated him, and the public, perceiving the foreign taint, soon began to speak of his productions with bated breath. There was no mercy for political offenders in that era of feudal supremacy. Had WATANABE been a commoner, a heavy fine or a few months' imprisonment might have atoned for his error. But a *samurai* who violated the patriotic traditions of the Government had only one fate to anticipate. WATANABE fell under suspicion. The evidence against him was incontrovertible. His pictures bore witness, eloquent witness too, for he possessed rare skill, and it must have been evident that if

such an artist devoted his talents to popularizing Occidental methods of painting, the wholesome prejudice of the nation would run much risk of being softened, so far at least as pictorial art was concerned. Living in these later and radically changed times, one is puzzled to appreciate the bigotry of national exclusiveness that could ostracise beautiful and instructive objects merely because of their alien affinities. But when statesmen are pledged by their conception of high patriotism to keep the nation's eyes averted from everything foreign, they naturally desire nothing less than that the most attractive results of foreign civilization should be prominently brought into notice. In the eyes of the TOKUGAWA rulers WATANABE was an arch offender. He received the fatal order which every *samurai* was bound to obey unflinchingly, the order to commit suicide. But his work survived him. It would have been more consistent with the heroic methods of those days if every picture painted by him had been burned or buried with his decapitated corpse. The Administration did not, however, proceed to this length, and materials to make WATANABE'S name remembered by many a generation still happily abound. To bring together a number of these and exhibit them on the fiftieth anniversary of the artist's death was an idea which suggested itself to one of his chief modern admirers, Mr. SUZUKI MOHEI, a wealthy oil merchant of Tokyo. This enthusiast had long been a collector of WATANABE'S works, and when, some months ago, the project of an exhibition took definite shape in his mind, he devoted a large sum of money and a considerable amount of time and labour to the task of increasing his collection sufficiently for the purpose he had in view. Remarkable success crowned his efforts. He brought together a large number of finished pictures, studies, sketch books, and scrolls, all undoubtedly from WATANABE'S brush, and having enlisted the sympathies of the priests at that fine temple, Reigan-ji, in the Fukagawa suburb of Tokyo, he was able to have the whole temple devoted during two days, the 22nd and 23rd instant, to the uses of an exhibition. The *Hombu* itself was of course not employed for hanging pictures, but it nevertheless played a part in the ceremony, litanies being chanted there and masses said repeatedly during these two days for the repose of the ill-fated painter's soul. In the *Hombu*, too, at the edge of the dais supporting the high altar, stood an object that attracted no small interest. It was the short sword with which WATANABE had committed *seppuku*, and it rested on the same tray of white pine from which the artist had taken it at the supreme moment. Beside it lay the document written by him on the eve of the final act: a simply worded and brief confession that he had erred in the sight of the law, and that his transgression involved

the further crime of taking the life which he owed to his parents and which filial piety directed him to preserve for their sakes. A strangely sounding voice from the past must this have seemed to many of those who came to burn incense at the painter's tomb; men in whose memory the events of his last days are still fresh, though the epoch itself might be centuries removed from their present experiences. The walls of six chambers, three on either side of the *Hombu*, were completely covered with WATANABE'S works. Of some of them it is difficult to speak in terms of too high praise. The combined delicacy and vigour of their execution, the excellence of their composition, and the marvellous life breathing from their lines, show that the anti-foreign prejudice of the TOKUGAWA days inflicted few heavier losses on the country than the untimely death of such an artist. There is much in the style of WATANABE'S painting that recalls the best efforts of MARUYAMA OKYO. Like his great predecessor of the Shijo School, he excelled in delineating birds and fishes. Half a dozen paintings of this class shown at the Reigan Temple were of the very highest order. WATANABE possessed also, in common with OKYO, a wonderful faculty for depicting the folds of drapery and the lines of the female face. A painting by him representing a girl seated on the mats, leaning on one hand and holding a fan to her lips with the other, ranks with, if it does not surpass, the celebrated OKYO now in the possession of Mr. KUBO, Count MATSUKATA'S elder brother. But undoubtedly the most interesting part of the Exhibition was that which showed traces of WATANABE'S Western bias. Several pictures of this class were to be seen. Except in the case of studies of animals, as lions, tigers, horses, elephants, and so forth, no subjects of distinctly foreign type were displayed, but evidences that the painter had entered into the spirit of Occidental linear perspective and *chiaroscuro* were apparent in many pictures otherwise purely Japanese. This was notably true of a portrait, half life size, of a well-known Buddhist priest, which might have been painted by a Western artist and would have done credit to any European brush of WATANABE'S era. It is fruitless, however, to attempt a description of works which can only be appreciated by sight. Many foreigners interested in the development of Japanese art, would doubtless have seized this opportunity of estimating the possibility of its modification by Western methods had the exhibition been thrown open to the general public, but as admission was by invitation only, and no advertisements were published, the attendance was small. WATANABE solved the first portion of the problem which the Art School at Uyeno is now trying to work out, the problem of preserving the characteristics of Japanese paintings while adopting the technical

methods of the West. A permanent memento of the fiftieth anniversary of the remarkable artist's death now stands in the grounds of the Reigan Temple. It is a massive tomb-stone erected to WATANABE'S memory by Mr. SUZUKI MOHEI, bearing the pithy and singular epitaph "*Fuchu fuko no Watanabe Noboru*" (disloyal, unfilial WATANABE NOBORU). This brief notice tells us the story of WATANABE'S fate: disloyal because he incurred the displeasure of his rulers; unfilial because he took the life which he owed to his parents. A bold conception, truly, to parade these attributes before the eyes of posterity, as though defying men's moral judgment to detract from the painter's artistic merit.

JUDAISM IN ENGLAND.

A JEWISH periodical gives an extremely interesting account of Judaism in England, in connection with the election of a successor to the Chief Rabbi, the late Dr. NATHAN ADLER. The stream of Hebrew (or rather Jewish) migration appears to have flowed into Europe mainly through two channels. There was the North African route and the South European or Mediterranean route, and the colonies shed in every country along the line of march attested its course. Little is known of the English Jews of EDWARD I. except the piteous story of their departure, an exodus in which, as far as "spoil" went, they played the part of the Egyptians. After that there were practically no Jews in England up to the time of CROMWELL, who did not deny them the privilege of settling, and since then they have acquired all the rights of British citizenship. But these centuries of absence had domesticated them in their Continental abodes, and the conditions of Judaism in the Protector's day may fairly be called modern. The chief feature of those conditions was the division of the people into two camps or "nations." The deposits of the human tide from the East had stratified around two centres; one nucleus had been formed in the south of Russia, Poland and Germany; another Jewish mass had acclimatised itself in the Iberian Peninsula, and had sent out offshoots in the wake of the Spanish flag, notably to the Low Countries, where ALVA once ruled. The geography of the Neo-Hebrew was not very scientific, and it identified the former area, more or less exactly, with the heritage of ASHKENAZ, one of JAPHET'S grandsons, while it assumed that the latter was the SEPHARAD mentioned by the prophet OBADIAH, and by him alone of Biblical writers. Hence the Jews of the one part spoke of themselves as Ashkenazim, while their brethren of the other were known as Sephardim. These names corresponded to momentous practical distinctions. A historical phenomenon had happened, for

an analogy to which we must go back to the bi-section of the Hellenic world by Ionians and Dorians. The same race had started from the same aboriginal seat to find new homes in distant lands; journeying through different paths, the two swarms had acquired different customs and laws, a different ritual though not a different religion, a different pronunciation of the mother tongue, a different tone of mind and a different physiognomy—in short, almost every element of a different “cult” rather than a different “connection.” But like was knit to like by an undying brotherhood in face of the rest of the world. Such was the internal economy of Jewry in the Middle Ages, and such it remains at present; and in England at this moment, as in other countries, the Jew groups himself according to the route he or his ancestors took on their way hither, and reads his prayer-book and goes to his synagogue and pronounces his Hebrew according as he is a “German” or a “Spanish” (or “Portuguese”) Jew. A dream of legendary aristocracy still occasionally flatters the vanity of the latter; it is probably a reminiscence of the mediæval brilliancy and prosperity of those whom their most illustrious modern representative has described (in “Tancred”) as “the happier Sephardim, the Hebrews who have never quitted the sunny regions that are laved by the Midland Ocean.” One mark, however, of a superior caste they undoubtedly do possess in England, that is their comparative fewness. They are overwhelmingly surpassed in numbers and *apparel* by the sister organisation. Their ancient fane in Bevis Marks, a worthy cradle of English Judaism, attests early and long attachment to their new country. But this Queen of Synagogues has not sent forth many daughters; one in another part of London, one in Manchester, and one in Ramsgate make up her spiritual family. Yet she is the ecclesiastical home of much that is most considerable in Anglo-Judaism, and of many that are most honoured in England and by the Jews. The Sephardim have many excellent institutions distinctively their own, but freely take part also as individuals in all good works in the community. They lately elected a spiritual chief whom they call traditionally *Haham* (or Sage), and are not therefore corporately concerned in the burning Jewish question of the moment. The other organisation, that of the “German” Jews, includes practically all other Hebrew congregations (with one notable exception) in the British Empire. Its political constitution, so to say, resembles that of a loose confederacy, with the government at the capital highly developed, while the outlying parts are united to the centre chiefly by bonds of affection and sentiment. The supreme spiritual authority resides in a Chief Rabbi, and it is around the Jewish primacy, vacant by the death

of Dr. ADLER, that controversy is raging furiously at the present. Until the formation of the United Synagogue by Act of Parliament in 1870, each congregation of Hebrews, if it did not always dwell under its own tent, did as seemed good in its own eyes in local matters of ritual, ceremonial, or internal arrangements generally. The members might and often did resort to the Chief Rabbi in London for his help or his advice in the interests of their body, or for his decision in questions of orthodoxy or even of conscience. But their appeal was purely voluntary, and if they were not satisfied with his decision they might secede from his authority, though, as a matter of fact, except in one memorable instance, no schism ever took place. Indeed, it was one of the chiefest of the many distinctions of the late Chief Rabbi that he preserved and consolidated Jewish unity within his jurisdiction. But for a long time he was the sole visible link between the isolated settlements of Jews, and in many cases if a provincial congregation which nominally owned his sway registered their allegiance by contributing to the fund which supplied his salary, it was as much as they did. There was no central lay body in London whose supremacy in secular Jewish matters was generally recognised. There was the great Synagogue in Aldgate—the Cathedral Synagogue of the See—which by reason of its long history, its wealth, and its importance, was an imposing figure in the eyes of all British Jews; but this served as a model rather than as a mother to the remoter and less opulent groups. It did, indeed, invite representatives from these to take part in the election of a Chief Rabbi, but this was an act of grace, and not an admission of responsibility. Congregations had sprung up all over the country, especially in the chief centres of population in England and Wales. The Board of Deputies, a body representative of individual communities, sat, and still sits, in London to look after specially Jewish interests of the political sort. The Anglo-Jewish Association, the English branch of the Alliance Universelle Israélite, which has its head quarters in Paris, takes the world for its province, and exerts its great influence on the people and government of Great Britain in the cause of Jewish progress, and especially of Jewish education and liberty, in whatever countries these privileges are still denied to them through the backward condition of their kinsmen or their masters. It has many branches. The Jews’ College is the chief training school for Jewish ministers (and will in the future turn out even Rabbis—a grade in the hierarchy very seldom met with in England except in the person of the Chief, and created at present only by the diploma of Continental Rabbinical academies), and is rapidly replacing the old type of incumbent, who seldom had any secular learning, by

gentlemen with University degrees, in every English-speaking quarter of the globe. The Jewish Board of Guardians, which voluntarily relieves the municipal officials of the burden of the Jewish poor, and copes especially with the notorious “East End” of London, is the envy of the social reformer and of all who have to face practically the problems of pauperism, as its neighbour the Jews’ Free School is the envy of the primary educationalist. These are but one or two of the innumerable philanthropic institutions—industrial, charitable, social, literary, religious—which enrich the communal life, while three newspapers contemplate the universe once a week from an exclusively Jewish point of view. It was inevitable that the growing tendency to solidarity should find a corresponding expression in ecclesiastical terms. Thus in 1870 was incorporated the United Synagogue—in its essence a federation of the London congregations (who still, of course, retained a large measure of local self-government), with power to affiliate other congregations, and with provisions for coöperation with other constituent bodies on the occasion of the appointment of a new spiritual chief. A Council, of which Lord ROTHSCHILD is president, governs the affairs of the United Synagogue, and has been a conspicuous success. From the moment of its foundation it has taken the most prominent place in the eyes of all British Ashkenazim, and has supplied the want so long felt by their provincial congregations, who, without formal adhesion, willingly recognise its preponderating influence. These are now organised much after the pattern of their kindred in the capital; the unit of orthodoxy comprises a Synagogue, a school for sectarian teaching, and an official to celebrate the services. In small congregations this official is generally licensed (after examination by a Board in London) to kill cattle in the prescribed Jewish fashion, a matter of immense practical importance to those whose daily supply of animal food, with the exception of fish, depends on his presence. In larger bodies the same elements are present, developed and reinforced with the usual fringe of “societies,” according to their resources, and generally adorned by the presence of a Minister, preacher, and teacher, the whole being under the supervision and inspection of the Chief Rabbi, who formally “passes” the *personnel*. Such is a rough outline of the domain of “orthodox” British Judaism, divided unequally between Sephardim and Ashkenazim. But there is yet a smaller body of English Jews, whose wealth, weight, and culture is out of all proportion to their numbers, and who have peculiarly to be reckoned with at the present moment. These are the so-called “Reformers,” who number but two or three congregations, the parent body in Berkeley-street, London, and its off-shoots

in Manchester and Bradford, and they are schismatics, whose secession is the only one which has ever rent the Anglo-Jewish body. It took place about 1850, and derived its strength from some of the best blood in both the historic sections of the Jews. Its religious head was, and is, the Rev. D. W. MARKS, Professor of Hebrew in University College, London, and its object was, in the language of its adherents, "to spiritualise the religion." It undoubtedly marked a revolt against the yoke of the Ceremonial Law, though whether the movement preached the gospel of a purer morality is a point still debated amongst the Jews. At any rate, it worked itself out practically in the adoption of a simplified ritual, including the partial use of the vernacular in, and the introduction of music into, public worship, and the formal abolition of the "Second Day," this last institution being a survival from the early days of the Captivity, when the exiles at a distance from Palestine, being uncertain, owing to the difficulty of communication, whether they were celebrating the Holy Days of the Calendar on the exact dates at which they were observed at Jerusalem, decreed in their zeal a doubling of all feasts (though not of fasts) in order to make sure, thus withdrawing the faithful still more from their daily avocations. With regard to these cardinal innovations the public opinion of the community has decidedly followed in the wake of the first, and is, perhaps, ripening in the spirit of the other two. But at the moment of the new departure the seceders were regarded with horror. Excommunication was hurled at the new body. Yet they have steadily thriven, and have individually and collectively adorned the community with many noble undertakings. They have not abated a tittle of their aspirations, but the old feud has quite died out, and the parties to it, or their descendants, labour harmoniously together for the common good. This being the normal state of things in the Anglo-Jewish community, the largest section of it was confronted a few months ago with the question of filling the vacancy caused by the death of Dr. ADLER. As to the man there is no dispute. There is only one possibility. Rabbi Dr. HERMANN ADLER (who is practically an English Jew) is marked out as his father's successor by many titles, of which the chief are that he has for many years been the pastor of an important London congregation, and that for some time past as Delegate Chief Rabbi he has performed all the duties of the post. His ultimate election is certain. But what is agitating the mind of the community is the question as to the conditions of the appointment—what stipulations shall the community make with its new Head? What reforms or concessions shall it ask for? For there is a very different spirit abroad among the people now from that which animated the last electors of a

Chief Rabbi. Five decades of education and political equality have borne fruit, and many even of the orthodox have come to see that not every rite and ceremony of the synagogue is of the essence of true religion. Yet, in the mass, there are infinite differences as to details, and a thousand under-currents of controversy—which were not allowed to disturb the declining years of the late Chief Rabbi—are hastening to swell the rising stream of change. Perhaps, on the whole, the contest which is raging around the proposal to institute a Board (of laymen or clerics, or both) to advise, or, it may be, control, the Rabbinate fairly represents the two main lines of opposing tendency, and is a convenient rallying point for a trial of strength between minor but cognate rivalries. The ultra-orthodox will have nothing but the Rabbinate pure and simple, the Rabbinate as a dictatorship. The more "liberal" minded Jews would put some of its present power into commission. Others think the moment favourable for reunion with the "Reformers," so that the new Rabbi may rule over an undivided dominion; but it is certain that whatever schemes of general reconstruction these might entertain, they will not give up any thing of their independence.

CORRESPONDENCE.

LAND HELD BY FOREIGNERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In your issue of the 17th inst. you state, under the caption "Land held by foreigners in the Settlements,"—"The fact, as we understand it, is very simple. The Japanese Government, having granted one lease of a piece of land, in perpetuity, to a particular foreigner, declines to re-issue the lease in the name of another foreigner, for the obvious reason that by doing so it would take upon itself the responsibility of guaranteeing the correctness of all previous transactions in respect of the land. If Jones, having become lessee in perpetuity of a lot, subsequently transfers it to Brown, Brown to Robinson, and Robinson to Atkins, then if the Government issued a new lease in Atkins' name, it would at once become answerable for the legality of the transfers by Jones to Brown, by Brown to Robinson and by Robinson to Atkins. Such a proceeding on the part of the Japanese Authorities would be decidedly confiding. The absurdity of expecting it must be evident to the most superficial thinker."

Doubtless you will be sorry to hear that so far as Kobe is concerned, and your remarks were intended to apply to this Settlement, your information is most decidedly at fault. It has been the invariable custom of the Government to grant on application, and satisfactory proof of the applicant's title, new leases of lands in the Settlement of Kobe, and the practice has proved satisfactory both to the Authorities, who receive a substantial fee on the issue of each title-deed, and to the land renter, who thus avoids a multiplicity of documents. A similar proceeding obtains both in Osaka and Nagasaki, and from the care exercised by the Local Authorities before sanctioning the issue of a new deed the danger you appear to apprehend has not yet become apparent. In granting new title-deeds the Japanese Authorities may, as you remark, have been "decidedly confiding"—although my own experience in this particular connection has assured me that great care is exercised—but really it is difficult to realize, under the circumstances, the "absurdity" you attribute to a procedure that has existed for nearly a quarter of a century.

The paragraph you quote from the *Tokyo Koron*, which forms basis of your remarks, is certainly very mysterious, but perhaps it has its origin in an innovation attempted here recently by Mr. Hayashi, our present Chiji. The title-deeds

of lands in the Settlement were made out originally in the English language by the Japanese Authorities, and with a single exception that happened ten years since, all new deeds have been so issued, Mr. Hayashi signing one of them himself in February of the present year. A couple of months ago application was made for a new title-deed of some settlement property, and it was actually issued, but the applicant declined to accept it, because the document was in Japanese with a translation in English attached. What Mr. Hayashi's object could be is not immediately apparent, but doubtless he would not have sought to alter the existing procedure without adequate cause; whether the land renter would have benefited by the change that gentleman was not inclined to hazard.

Yours, &c.,

Kobe, 10th November, 1890.

J. C.

(We are well aware that new title-deeds have been granted in many cases, as J. C. explains. But that does not effect the argument advanced by us, and, as a matter of fact, our information is that the practice has been discontinued.—Ed. J. W.)

THE MESSAGE OF UNITARIANISM TO JAPAN.

The following farewell address was given by Rev. ARTHUR MAY KNAPP at the Unitarian Hall, in Tokyo, November 23rd, 1890:—

Past the foot of the hill on which stands my home in Massachusetts, there runs a road, in the history of which there is an interesting fact, which I shall take as the starting point of my remarks to-day.

"Some two hundred years ago," says the chronicler, "commissioners were appointed by the Colony of Massachusetts Bay to lay out a road ten miles west of Boston into what was then the wilderness of Newton, now one of the most beautiful suburbs of the metropolis. The work cost, as such works do now, more time and money than was expected, and the commissioners felt obliged to explain the facts to the legislature, but they triumphantly added, that though it had been an expensive task, yet the Colony was to be congratulated on the successful completion of the work, as there never would be need of a road any further in this direction." Ten miles west of the Atlantic shore was then the utmost limit of imagination for western emigration.

Now mount some eminence and see how far the great sweep of travel of thought, of settlement, of all that makes up civilization has extended. The ten miles have become hundreds and thousands. Wilderness after wilderness has been successfully tracked. Valley after valley has been exalted. Hills that were difficult of access have been laid low. Niagara's terrific flood has been safely spanned. Deserts have been made passable and converted to fertility. The Rocky Mountains, thick-ribbed with the strength of ancient forces, have been surmounted. Faith and persistent courageous labour have literally removed them to prepare the way for the swift onflowing of the new life. And to-day the free soul of man looks out upon the broad Pacific Sea, emblem of the Infinite still beyond, and a highway also over whose free and vast expanse the nations and races and religions of the oldest world and the newest are sailing into neighbourhood and into conditions of mutual regard, fraternity, cooperation, prosperity, progress, peace.

Now during all that period of two hundred years, while this tremendous movement of national life was going on, while the vast continent of America was being shaped and fitted by human hands, while all the multiplying resources and appliances of modern civilization were being brought to bear upon the destinies of a great nation, while the old world of Europe was pouring her surplus millions into the new, and the great industrial army was marching westward; while all this mighty flux and ferment was going on, what was Japan doing? It is scarcely possible in these days of nervous strain to conceive of the profound peace in which she was living. A peace so profound as to border upon stagnation. Indeed, it is the surpassing wonder of her history, that her isolation and peace prolonged for two and a half centuries did not produce actual stagnation and death. But no; instead of dying the slow death of inaction, Japan was living in many respects a wonderfully sweet life, devoted to the cultivation of some of the chief elements of civilization, devoted to the art of refinement, to the promotion of simplicity, and to the study of beauty. While America was going through her toilsome experience, doing the coarse and hard work of clearing a path for future generations, aye even when she was struggling for very existence against internal

and external foes—Japan in her isolation was learning sobriety, calmness, poise, simplicity. Here Buddhist quietism in religion reigned supreme. The Confucian philosophy played its part to add to the serenity of the Japanese mind, while everywhere the wonderful loveliness of nature appealed to eye and heart, weaving its spell upon the thought, and adding its refining and tranquillizing influences to the simplicity and beauty of the world of human life. The result was the unique civilization which here sprang up to be the wonder of the modern world, testifying to the inherent strength, beauty, and dignity of human nature, to an innate force of character in the Japanese able to withstand the deadly influence of isolation, and affording, let me add, to the theological world a direct and striking contradiction to the theory of human depravity, which forms the basis of the popular religious teaching of the West. Japan has conclusively proved what man can do alone without the help of any theological scheme of salvation whatever.

Now while this life was being led here so sweet and idyllic in many respects, and while it grew in refinement, simplicity and love of beauty through more than two centuries of isolation, there was growing up on the eastern coast of America in New England (whence the great westward movement I have described had its starting point)—there was growing up and strengthening a peculiar type of human character strangely similar in many respects yet preventing as many points of striking difference; there was being produced the marvellous combination of sweetness and strength, simplicity and worldly wisdom, love of beauty and vigorous devotion to moral reform represented by the three great names of Channing, Emerson, and Theodore Parker. Inheriting the rugged manhood of their Puritan ancestry; growing up in the atmosphere of the sternest Puritan morality, and showing in the very fibre of their nature the fervent patriotism and devoted resistance to all oppression and wrong which enabled our American forefathers to assert their independence, and to subdue to their purposes the vast wildernesses of a whole continent, they passed their early lives in the idyllic quiet and beauty of those peaceful New England homes, whence the more adventurous spirits had gone out to people the great West and to develop its wonderful resources. These New England homes, which still may be found in that now comparatively restful part of America, were the nurseries of many of the virtues which characterize the Japanese mind, and in their seclusion, in the midst of a nature whose sweetness and beauty in the milder months were only emphasized by the harsh and forbidding climate of the New England winter, these three men grew to manhood, endowed with a passionate sense of the beauty which surrounded them, accustomed to a charming simplicity of life and ways, inured to the strictest economy, and taught the most winning courtesy and gentleness of manners. There was thus a refinement of thought, theirs a simplicity of life, theirs a keen perception of the beauty of nature, theirs such a restful sense of faith in nature's God, that, made thus closely akin to all that is gentle and refined in the Japanese temperament, the type of religion which they represent has peculiar claims upon the attention and upon the reverence of the Japanese people to-day.

In Channing's serenity the Japanese may find all the charm of Buddhist quietism. If ever there was a peaceful soul it was his. If ever there was a voice that spoke peace to others' souls, it was his. And through him rest came to thousands upon thousands of perplexed and weary hearts throughout the length and breadth of America. Many are still living who have been in personal contact with him, under the spell of his serene presence. And you may know them to-day by the serenity of their own faces and by the purity of their own lives.

In Emerson there was a simplicity of life and thought and expression, and so evenly balanced a judgment of men and things, so calm and convincing a philosophy, that had he lived here in Japan, he would have won the heart and the mind of every Confucian in the land. While in the superb patriotism of Theodore Parker, which fought for a time almost single-handed against an evil which he saw was sapping his country's life, inspiring in him a spirit of self-devotion never surpassed by any samurai, there is that which appeals to every patriotic heart, and that means to every heart in this great empire.

Surely, between the religion which these men represent and the real religion of the Japanese mind and heart there ought to be the closest brotherhood and sympathy, and it is as surely no mere chance, which in this great westward movement I have described, has brought their religion to Japan. Whatever may

be the case with Unitarianism as interpreted by the popular thought of the West, the Unitarianism which is by many considered only a modified Orthodoxy, there is no question that the religion taught by these three great souls, or rather the religion which has grown out of their thought, must find a foothold and an abiding resting place among so congenial a people as this. For it comes not as a foreign importation. In its simplicity, in its naturalness, in its broad humanities, it belongs to no special land or nation; it finds a home wherever a rational habit of mind, wherever simplicity of life, naturalness of thought and the spirit of patriotism and self-respect are themselves at home and are cherished. Channing comes here as no stranger. He straightway finds himself among friends, for he appeals directly to those natural instincts of the heart which have here found so unique a development.

Emerson comes here as no stranger or foreigner; no one who knew him or who reads his thoughts could ever dream of Ralph Waldo Emerson coming to a foreign land in a spirit of assumption to make or to count converts. He would find everywhere, and especially here, hands outstretched in welcome as to one instantly recognized to be in sympathy with all who in any way or under any form of religion are trying to live a simple, natural, sincere religious life. The Japanese of to-day, I think it is conceded, if they are to have any Christianity, want a simple Christianity freed from the complicated unnatural and often superstitious doctrines and forms which have so manifestly grown up around and obscured its original natural and beautiful simplicity. There is perhaps no man, no writer, no thinker moulding the thought and the life of the present age who has illustrated so clearly in his own personality, in the calm faith and absolute serenity of his poise, and in the simplicity of his ways, how thoroughly simple and natural a thing real Christianity is, and therefore how entirely possible it is for everyone to dispense with those superstitions which still hamper the religious life and perplex the religious thought of the West. Surely I repeat, Emerson could not by any possibility be looked upon here in Japan as a stranger or as a foreigner. In the life that is lived here, in many respects, though by no means in all, he would recognize much that approaches his ideal, and he would find himself at home and among friends.

And so too would it surely be with Theodore Parker. The man who, though he could be and was ever when occasion required, as bold as a lion, was as gentle and winning and courteous as the sweetest child that ever bowed under the Japanese sun. Read his works and you will see that the very foundation of his religion and his life was his passionate love of the wonderful and beautiful nature which to him, in spite of its sterner and more terrible and even cruel aspects, carried ever the conviction of the abounding love and goodness of God. And were he to come to Japan to-day he could never say to its nature loving people, "Put aside that which you have so earnestly revered in the past, and accept instead the religion which I bring you from afar." Rather would he say, "Here in this very love of nature you have already the foundation of the true religion, yea the foundation of that simple nature religion of him who when he was asked by the people to tell them about God, pointed not to any miracle, not to any jugglery with nature, not to any break or interference in nature's laws, but to the wonderful because ever steadfast and sure working of those laws." "Consider the lilies of the field." "Behold the fowls of the air." "See the seed scattered on the ground." "See the corn ripe for the harvest." Look at these things, Parker would say. See the beauty and loveliness of them. Cherish the thought of that beauty and loveliness, yea even when nature seems most harsh and cruel to you, and from out your love of nature there will come to you the conviction of the love of God. It is this that Theodore Parker would speak to the Japanese as he spoke to the heart of America, and there awoke a sense of God in so many an earnest soul well nigh buried away by the fires of the unnatural and cruel faith in which they had been reared. So none of these men could possibly have come here as strangers or to proclaim an alien faith. They would come to build on all which they could find of the good and beautiful and true in outward nature and in human nature, and greatly would they rejoice at the breadth and beauty of the foundation already established.

But they would not come here at all unless they felt that they had something also to give, something to contribute to your life and thought, to build it up into a higher strength and beauty. Nor does the religion which now points to them as its most honoured teachers and exemplars, come here to Japan without some reason for coming, without some definite and helpful message of its own

to bring, without something to add to what you already have of religion, of character, and of life.

And to what this is, we may find what may serve as a certain clue and vivid illustration, by recurring again to the unique feature of your own history. That long isolation of yours while the rest of the world was engaged in a fierce struggle for existence, enabled you to grow in gentleness, in refinement, in courtesy, in kindness of disposition, and in the spirit of neighbourly helpfulness. But it also had its marked disadvantage, and deprived you of many an opportunity for growth in other directions. As was the case with the ancient nation of the Greeks, whom you greatly resemble, the exclusive cultivation of the arts of refinement inevitably sapped your strength and impaired your stability of character. Again cut off as you were from the rest of the world it was also inevitable that you would lose in great measure that sense of human brotherhood without which no man can feel, or can put forth his own real strength to-day. You were and are kind and helpful to your immediate neighbours to those of your own family, clan, or kin, but you do not yet feel the thrill which comes from the conviction that the whole world of humanity is one great brotherhood. You are patriotic, none more so, but you have not yet grasped the great truth that the nations of the earth are to-day members *one of another*; that the good of each depends upon the prosperity of all; that no nation can live to itself alone, or can possibly dominate the rest. Their interests are mutual; their life is *one*. Japan needs the strength which comes from belief in the unity of man, in the great truth of human brotherhood.

Then, too, in your isolation and because of the cramping of your sympathies, there seems to have come to you in the midst of the loveliness by which you are surrounded, and the refinements by which you have adorned your life, a paralyzing indisposition to look beyond yourselves or your nation to something higher than yourselves, higher than your nation, to the source from which you and your nation have sprung, and from which came all the loveliness and beauty as well as all the wonder and terror of the universe and all the love of your own earth. By your long isolation, in a word, with all that you gained you lost or seriously impaired strength and stability of character, the sense of human brotherhood and the thought of dependence on God, three things without which no nation can hold its place in the modern world of thought and life.

Now for one I know of no teachers or leaders who can so well supply these needs, who can bring you to-day such an influx of genuine manly strength—and stability of character, such a sense of the grandeur of human brotherhood, such a spirit of true patriotism or such a conviction of the reality of God as the three who would here find themselves so much at home and so thoroughly among friends.

For theirs was not only your gentleness of disposition, your courtesy of manner and your refinement of life, but also a rugged and indomitable strength, a magnificent stability of character and purpose, which combined with their simplicity of life and thought enabled them to become the leaders of the life and thought of all America. Theirs too was not only an ardent love of their own country, but an abounding love for mankind, so that now they belong to no one nation, to no one people. They are the world's own.

And theirs above all, with all their conviction of the grandeur of their own human nature, theirs was a sweet and tender humility, born of a sense of dependence upon God—upon the "power, not themselves, which makes for righteousness."

And it was because of this conviction of God, the conviction that they were not alone in the world, but that the strength of God was in the right, in the principle, in the cause for which they fought, that their own strength never faltered, that their love for man never failed, and that the peace of God was in their hearts and showed itself in their lives. Their crowning gift to you, and would that you had it to-day, would be their conviction of the reality of God.

And as I now look back over the time during which it has been my privilege to come to you as the messenger of that religion, or of that which is the outcome and legitimate descendant of their thoughts, and as I stand here at the parting of our ways to speak the word of farewell, my own utmost longing and hope for the Japan which has been so kind to me, and where I have found so congenial a home, is the hope that God may indeed be with you as He was with them; that there may come to you the greatest and most helpful of all the things which your life is now lacking; that there may come to you the conviction of the reality of God in your daily life and thought.

And feeling that this is indeed your greatest need, you may perhaps see why it is that in bidding you farewell I shall not use your Japanese *sayonara*, but rather the strong Anglo-Saxon word *Good bye*. "*Sayonara*" is indeed a softly flowing, tender, and gentle word. Literally translated "if it be so," which I take to mean simply "if we must part, why then we must," it is a word strangely expressive of the tenderness, the patience, the refinement of the Japanese character. Those of you who know me will believe therefore that it is in no spirit of depreciation of these characteristics, but rather with heartiest admiration for and sympathy with them, that my last word to you is not *sayonara*, but that stronger word which exactly expresses my conviction of your greatest need, and my hope that in the thought of God, in the coming day of a high and noble Theism, you will find the source of all true progress, of all true strength, of all true greatness and courtesy. There is no better wish nor hope to which I can give expression, than that which is contained in the simple words "*Good-bye, may God be with you.*"

LETTER FROM SAN FRANCISCO.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

San Francisco, November 1st.

The State elections come off on Tuesday, and the canvass waxes fast and furious. The party which is beaten in the off years usually consoles itself with the assertion that party feeling is not roused oftener than once in four years. But, in fact, these intermediary elections do reflect the drift of political opinion, and foreshadow results for the future.

Public attention is chiefly drawn this year to New York, and to the central grain States. It transpires that Porter's Census gave New York City some 200,000 less population than it really contains. As New York is a Democratic stronghold, a reason for the miscount can easily be imagined. Nothing in Mr. Porter's past record forbids the suspicion that he tampered with the returns from that city in order to reduce its Congressional representation for the benefit of the Republicans whom he serves. But tricks of this kind invariably cut both ways. Mr. Porter's little dodge has had the effect of strengthening the Democracy in New York, and of making it reasonably sure for the Democratic candidate in 1892.

In such interior States as Kansas, the McKinley Tariff Bill is telling against the Republicans. Hard-headed farmers are not deluded by the provisions which levy protective duties on agricultural produce which we do not import; but they see quite distinctly that they have more to pay for their clothing and their farm utensils, in consequence of the advance in prices which has followed the passage of the Tariff Bill. As usual in these States, the prevailing discontent has taken shape in the organization of a Farmer's Alliance, which has formed a fusion with the Democrats. Simultaneously, the U. S. Supreme Court Judges, sitting in Circuit, have decided that the Wilson Act of last session empowering State legislatures to prohibit the sale of liquors under the police power of the State, does not resurrect the existing constitutions and laws which had been pronounced unconstitutional—that the Act merely authorizes the legislatures to go on and pass new prohibitory statutes or constitutional amendments. This blow to the prohibition movement will weaken its partisans and strengthen its opponents. It will cost the Republicans some votes.

In the southern States, the Democrats are confident not only of recapturing, at the polls, the seats which the Republicans awarded to contesting members at last session, but of replacing a number of Republican members, over whose seats there was no dispute, with Democrats. In this way it is reckoned that there will be a clear Democratic majority often or twelve in the next Congress. The prospect has provoked Major McKinley and Speaker Reed to announce the passage of the Force Bill at the next session of Congress, in spite of the warnings of Senator Quay and his prudent friends. It hardly seems likely that such a device can succeed. The presence of federal bayonets at the Southern polls is calculated to exasperate the Southern people to such a degree that it may destroy the Republican party in the South entirely.

In the meantime nothing is heard from the White House. Mr. Harrison is probably reading up the old English humours for neat conceits to be put into his next message. Mr. Blaine has been stump speaking in Ohio. His speeches read as if his mental power was beginning to decay. When a statesman compares the population and wealth of the country in 1890 with its population and wealth

in 1860, and argues that the advance is due to the maintenance of the war tariff, there is a solution of continuity somewhere. The Secretary is not happy in his public functions. He has just had to apologize to the Government of France for quasi-public attentions paid to the Count de Paris, who is on a junketting tour through this country. M. Carnot very properly observed that it was not a friendly act for our Government to pay honour to one who was a conspirator against his own, and who was driven into exile for fear he would do mischief.

Down in New Orleans they are having exciting times over an outbreak of race prejudice—the Italians, and not the negroes, being on this occasion the victims. It is alleged that a branch of the secret society of Sicily, known as the Mafia, had established itself at New Orleans. Some members, charged with crime, were promptly and roughly arrested by the police. A day or two afterwards, the Chief of Police, one Hennessey, was shot dead on his own door-step. The Italians were suspected of the murder, a wild commotion broke out, the Mayor summoned a special meeting of the City Council, red hot resolutions were passed, and nearly every Italian resident of the city was arrested. Up to date, no lives have been lost, but the fury against the poor "*Day-goes*" is fierce.

Slight attention has been paid thus far to vital statistics in this country. The federal authorities collect a few in the decennial census; and in some cities, such as New York, Boston, and San Francisco, statistics of the public health, and of births, marriages and deaths, are regularly gathered. But we have no such regular tabular chronicles of the events of life as are published regularly in Great Britain, France and other European countries. This omission imparts peculiar value to the records which are now being given to the world by Mr. J. J. Goodwin. From them it appears that the average duration of human life is longer in this country than in Europe. In Massachusetts, the average duration of life among the males is 47, in Vermont 51, in New Jersey 48, in Virginia 47, in New York 48, in the Western States 50 years. Women generally live longer than men. Dividing people according to callings, men who are unemployed live longer than men who are employed; which implies that activity of brain and exercise of muscle are consumers of life. Of those who have a calling, judges, bank officers, and farmers live the longest, their average being between 64 and 65; and the shortest lived are telegraph operators, editors, teachers, clerks, printers, machinists, and musicians—among whom the average of life is under 40 years. Among the classes which on the average live to the shady side of 50, are public officials, lawyers, clergymen, physicians, merchants, and a number of mechanics, such as carpenters, masons, tailors, blacksmiths, coopers, and rope makers. Curious to state, in all sections of the country, Jews are longer lived than Christians. Centenarians flourish among the negroes of the South, and in several New England villages. The supply of old women, black and white, who saw George Washington, and some of whom dandled him on their knee is well known to be inexhaustible.

It has been finally settled by the judgment of a Court in Pennsylvania that in that State, and probably in other States with similar codes of law, a man may not sell his wife. The decision was rendered in a case arising from the following facts. A Mrs. Marchell married off with a man named Musker, who was younger than her husband. The latter followed the fugitives, and coming up with them, proposed to Musker not to make it an affair of pistols and coffee, but to adjust the controversy on a business plan. He had lived with Mrs. Marchell for many years, and knew all her good points; he submitted that she was worth \$130 to any man. The co-respondent in the case admitted that the lady had charms, but his two days' enjoyment of her exclusive society had also developed some bad traits in her, and he thought \$100 would be about a fair price to pay. The disputants finally compromised on \$115, which Musker agreed to pay. Instead of doing so, however, he fled again with his innamorata without paying a cent. Once more the bereaved husband sorrowfully packed his grip sack, and started in pursuit. He overtook the quarry at Scranton, and wasting no words in quarrel or argument, he seized the despoiler of his home for \$115. He was a sad man when the judge decided that no suit would lie on a contract which was illegal; and he was still sadder when the court ordered him into custody for having tried to make merchandise of the noblest work of God.

Ex-President Cleveland unbosomed himself yesterday on the political situation. His views are so tersely expressed, and they seem to me to be so accurate throughout, that I append a few extracts:—

The judgment of our countrymen has been so trammelled and their perceptions so clouded by prejudice and appeals to self-interest that their apprehension of the true province of our Government has been distorted, and they have for years been led to believe that the conduct of public affairs might properly minister to their profit, not by securing general prosperity founded on principle, but by giving direct advantage to certain classes.

It is certainly true that in such selfish operations the interests of some of the people must be neglected. Protest on the part of these has been stifled by the most arrant deception and cajolery. At last, however, these neglected ones are aroused, and in spite of the clouds of misrepresentation and delusion which surround them, they begin to see the light. Our agriculturists and others whose interests have been disregarded, while advantages have been accorded to the favoured few, are not to be much longer deceived. I am confident we shall secure a majority in the next House of Representatives. I cannot forget how laboriously a reform moves which must break through selfish interests, strongly entrenched and unscrupulously asserted, and overcome abuses long suffered and arrogantly maintained. I believe all our gains must be the result of a hard struggle against these odds. It is not, however, possible that the complete triumph of the people's cause can be much longer delayed.

The elective collection of the wholesome doctrine which characterizes the Democratic press, through discussion going on in every part of the country, the undisguised schemes at the Republican party to secure its perpetuation in power through reckless enactments which stifle the result of the people's surplus, its brutal methods of legislation, and, above all, positive distress daily threatening our people's homes under the operation of the new and iniquitous tariff law—a law which not only enhances the cost of the necessities of life, but fosters the extortions of trusts and combinations—make certain the advent of a freer, better time, and the ascendancy of true Democracy.

The Director of the Mint has issued his annual report for the fiscal year ending June 30th. He states that the coinage for the past fiscal year was the largest in the history of the Mint, aggregating 112,698,071 pieces. Gold and silver bars were manufactured as follows: gold, \$23,342,433; silver, \$7,045,357, total, \$30,387,791. Gold bars were exchanged for gold coin, free of charge, of the value of \$16,357,677. The exports of gold during the year exceeded imports by \$4,253,047. Silver exports were \$8,545,455 over imports. The total amount of silver purchased during the fiscal year for the coinage of silver dollars was 30,912,111 standard ounces, costing \$26,899,326. From the close of the fiscal year to August 13th, the date the new Silver Act went into effect, the amount of silver purchased was 3,108,199 standard ounces, costing \$3,049,426. The amount of silver bullion purchased under the act to October 31st has been 12,276,578 ounces, at a cost of \$14,038,168.

There was a marked improvement in the price of silver during the fiscal year. The Director estimates the stock of metallic money in the United States on July 1, 1890, as follows:—gold, \$695,563,029; silver, \$463,211,919. The total amount of metallic and paper money in circulation, exclusive of holdings in the Treasury on June 30, 1890, was \$1,435,610,612, a per capita of \$22.09, against \$1,380,418,091 at the commencement of the fiscal year, an increase of \$55,192,521. The number of silver dollars in circulation on June 30, 1890, was 56,278,749, against \$54,457,299 at the commencement of the year. The product of gold from the mines of the United States during the calendar year 1889 was \$32,800,000; silver, 50,000,000 fine ounces, the commercial value being \$46,750,000, and the coinage value \$64,646,464. The product of mines and smelters in the United States during the same year was: gold, 2,327,892 troy ounces; silver, 60,236,469 troy ounces. The total purchases of silver for coinage into silver dollars, from March 1, 1878, to August 12, 1890, was 323,635,576 standard ounces, costing \$308,199,261. The net profit of the earnings over the expenditures of the Mint during the fiscal year was \$9,232,929.

IN H.B.M. COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before N. J. HANNEN, Esq., Judge.—MONDAY, November 24th, 1890.

DEGRON V. GABERETTA.

Richard Gaberetta appeared on a judgment summons taken by Henry Degron for the non-payment of \$20, the instalment for November of the amount for which judgment was given against him in the case of Degron against Gaberetta.

Richard Gaberetta deposed in answer to the plaintiff that a certain sum of money which he had received was got in January—was before the judgment took place. He received the money from Mr. Salabelle on account of the estate of Joseph Ruel. The money had been lent and did not belong to witness, but belonged to a man named Marino Jakoro, a Spanish subject. It was \$1,400, which was lent; it belonged partly to witness's wife and partly to Mr. Mariano, and he (witness) was working with it. The money which was used in purchasing land was his wife's money. When Mr. Ruel died witness lost \$100, having lent him money. The money used in the purchase of land was about \$600, belonging to his wife.

His Honour said he (witness) was ordered to pay \$20 per month. He had done so in September and October. Had he paid the \$20 for November?

Witness said he had not. The reason was Mr. Degron had asked him to transfer No. 500, Bluff. He did so and the transfer expenses were in all \$24. He (witness) only received \$70 per month and had himself, his wife, and five children to support, and if he had to pay Mr. Degron \$20 also there would be only \$26 left for him to support his family, so that he had not enough money to pay \$20 for this month. He had never said Mr. Degron would not get his money; but some people had probably been talking, and had told him so. Witness could not prevent people talking. He got only \$70 a month. They had sold all his tools except about \$25 worth, which were of very little use, and he could not work. He had told Mr. Litchfield that they were preventing him from working. The property was rented at \$15 per month.

His Honour said there was no proof that Mr. Gaberetta had said Mr. Degron would not get the money, and as he had explained he had to pay \$24 for transfer expenses, and therefore for November the instalment could not be paid. But if he was brought up again he would be liable to imprisonment. He would have to pay \$20 per month. It was his first duty to pay that amount before anything else. Mr. Buslie made the order for that amount, and his Honour could not alter that. He was only to see that the \$20 was paid monthly.

The witness said they were nearly starving on \$50 per month, and it was quite impossible for him to keep paying the \$20.

His Honour said he could make no alteration; he only man who could do it was Mr. Degron.

Witness then asked Mr. Degron if he would accept \$10 per month as it was impossible to pay \$20; if he would accept \$10 it would be paid regularly, but if he (witness) had to pay \$20 he would probably be in court again.

Mr. Degron however would not agree.

His Honour said he could only leave it as it was. If Mr. Gaberetta did not pay the \$20 per month they would have again to see what could be done, and to prevent further expense to Mr. Degron his Honour adjourned the case till Monday, December 13th. The defendant would have to pay the money by that time with costs.

TUESDAY, November 25th, 1890.

ASSAULT AND WOUNDING.

Thomas Conway was brought up for trial on a charge of having stabbed and wounded William Kelly, with intent to disable him, on July 29th on board the barque *Abyssinia* on the high seas.

Mr. Litchfield prosecuted for the Crown.

The accused said with respect to the wounding of Kelly he was guilty, but with regard to doing him grievous bodily harm and to disable him he (deponent) deliberately walked over to him and stabbed him. The man was completely at his mercy and was doing nothing. He was completely mesmerized when he (deponent) presented the knife. His right hand fell down by his side and with his left hand he was grasping the ladder, and if he (deponent) had wished to do him grievous bodily harm he could have taken his heart out, for he was completely at his mercy. Therefore he (deponent) did not think the charge ought to be stabbing with the intent to do grievous bodily harm and to disable.

Mr. Litchfield said he was prepared to accept a plea of guilty on the second count without going into the first count.

His Honour said the gentlemen who had been called as a jury would not be required to remain.

Mr. Litchfield, addressing the Court, said it seemed that on 29th July last, while the *Abyssinia* was on the high seas, the master was displeased with the state of the after deck in the morning. He need not trouble his Honour with all the details, but the regulation was that the after deck was to be kept free from excretion. The crew were summoned aft, and the master asked them who had offended. It seemed that an altercation took place between Kelly and the prisoner, and afterwards a scuffle took place, in which the master interfered by tripping up one if not both of the men engaged in it. The two men were separated, and the accused challenged Kelly to have a fair fight on the main deck. The accused then left the after deck and went down, and after a few seconds Kelly followed him. Taking the statement of the accused it seemed that upon reaching the main deck, the accused seeing Kelly following him, drew his knife, turned round, and met Kelly and struck at his face cutting him over the temple, giving him a wound that might have been of a very serious character. So far the accused had committed a very serious offence. Mr. Litchfield went on to say that as the accused had pleaded guilty to the second count, and though there was a further charge against him for stabbing Bride, it was possible if not probable that the ac-

cused did not act with intent when he cut him over the left hand, the wound being according to medical testimony such as would practically disable the arm. If his Honour would look at the depositions he would take into account some of the circumstances that occurred. The accused was violent, and fancied himself very much provoked. After those two men were wounded, and in order to quiet the accused, it was very evident that he suffered some ill-usage. Some of the crew kicked and some struck him, and according to the accused's account the captain struck him with a capstan bar, though that was denied by the captain. It was also evident that for sometime the accused was imprisoned on board the ship. The master in his evidence said, "I tried him up to the mizen stays for three hours until he got a little subdued, and afterwards put him in solitary confinement for a time, after which on promise of good behaviour he was released. After about two weeks, Bride, being in a very weak state, seemed afraid of his being at liberty and he was shut up for about a month." So the accused seemed to have been confined for a month or six weeks. The accused had pleaded guilty, and the stabbing of Bride seemed to have arisen from the same action as that of Kelly, so with his Honour's permission he would accept the judgment from him for the case, without summoning the jury for Bride's case to-morrow.

The accused said he had heard Mr. Litchfield make some remark about the stabbing of Bride, during the scuffle. With respect to that he interfered when he (deponent) fell on the deck with Kelly, and was being attacked and kicked by the others. Whether Bride tried to make himself officious in the eyes of the master or to raise himself in the estimation of the crew he did not know, but when deponent fell on the deck after wounding Kelly he was caught by the arm when he still had the knife in his hand, and tried to free himself. He did not know how the wound was inflicted. Bride was liable to receive some wound when he interfered, but he (deponent) had not the slightest intention of wounding him, and had no idea that he had wounded him till he was put in irons; when Bride asked the master for permission to kick him. The master kept silence, and it seemed that silence meant consent and that the master meant that he could not give him permission to kick him (deponent) but if he did so he would not be punished for it, and he (Bride) did kick him and struck him in the face saying, "You cut me," and a few other uncomplimentary words. Bride had said to the Court that he told him (deponent) to go aft, and said it was very foolish for him to use a knife on Kelly, but that was not a fact. Bride never addressed such words to him or anyone in the vessel. Deponent said it seemed to him that it was a pre-arranged affair, for on previous occasions he had had some words with the captain and officers. One occasion was when he one day fell nearly a hundred feet from a foot rope which was slung in such a way that he could hardly hold it. The deponent went on to say that the Nova Scotia vessels were sent out without good officers; the officers were simply to back up the captain, and if he found fault with a man, to give him the dirty work to do. Another occasion when he had some words was when he was told to splice a rope, and, receiving no particular instructions as to how to do it, he naturally did it the easiest way and cut off some frayed ends, upon which the captain asked if he had cut off any, and, he answering yes, they had some words about wasting the stuff.

His Honour said he did not see what use it was to talk about the general management of the ship. He would willingly hear anything prisoner had to say to better his case about the assault, but that talk was not evidence.

Accused said he thought the matter had been pre-arranged by the master to get him into some trouble. When Kelly interfered between the captain and him Kelly put his hand on deponent's collar. Deponent put up his hand to push him off, and the master then tripped him up. Kelly told the master to let them alone, thus taking it out of his hands, and Bride tried to take it out of Kelly's hands. After cutting Kelly he was instantly attacked by a severe blow on the shoulder from the captain, and by repeated blows from a capstan bar he was kept down till they got the irons on him. He knew nothing about injuring Bride, and if he got into trouble it was his own fault for interfering.

His Honour said he had no doubt the prisoner had some provocation. He would also take into consideration that he was put in irons, and was rather ill used. He did not think that imprisonment here was anything so bad as solitary confinement on board a ship, and under the circumstances he would sentence accused to five months' imprisonment with hard labour.

AFFAIRS IN JAPAN.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

The following able and interesting articles have appeared in recent issues of the *Nation* from the pen of Mr. John H. Wigmore:—

Tokyo, May 1890.

There is an old Japanese saying, once current in Kyoto, "Tenka hatto, mikka hatto" (Government laws are but three-day laws). The accepted import is, that the central Government, its officers and laws, constantly change, and their influence is but a passing one; the true source of social order lies in the customs and regulations of the home, the hamlet, and the city. Whether this was a genuine deduction from experience, or merely an adaptation of the Confucian maxim, "By good morals govern and tranquilize your homes, then govern and tranquilize the country," is perhaps a question. It is certain, however, that the local political life of the Japanese people under the Shogunate was far more active and important than one is allowed to gather from the dry annals of the military aristocracy which form the staple material of the ordinary histories, whether native or foreign.

To comprehend the conditions under which Japan will enter upon parliamentary government, we must have some knowledge of the degree of success with which the nation rules itself in local affairs. To convey some such information is my present object. It will be desirable, however, to glance first at the local political life which has been left behind. The available materials for its study are, unfortunately, not yet plentiful. I rely for such facts as I have obtained upon some translations (recently made for me) of scarce local histories, upon the manuscripts of Dr. D. B. Simmons (an able observer, recently deceased), to which I have had access, and upon some private lectures of Prof. Konakamura, reputed to be the most learned Japanese legal antiquarian.

It is a matter of general knowledge that the administration of the country (confining ourselves to the last 300 years) was parcelled out, under the Shoguns, between themselves, the eighteen greater daimios, and the lesser landed nobles; and that the last two classes maintained a certain amount of legislative independence, and surrounded themselves with a military body, the Samurai, for whose government codes of rules were formed. But these classes of the population (with few exceptions) were consumers only, not producers. In number they seldom, if ever, exceeded one fifteenth of the whole population. Below them a great national life went on. Their particular regulations were but a small part of the usages and rules which secured social order, and formed the characteristic law of the country.

The division of the daimiates for purposes of administration was, in its general features, simple enough. Each was divided into *mura* (villages or townships). Over the *mura* was a *nanushi* (called *shoya*, in the west). The general management of the producing population of the daimiate was placed by the lord of the soil in the hands of an officer called *kori bugyo* (county superintendent), or, in the Shogun's dominions, *daikwan* (deputy). If the district exceeded a certain size, the title was *gundai* (county chief). Sometimes a *gundai* supervised several *daikwan*. Between the *nanushi* and the *daikwan* was often an *o* (chief)-*nanushi*. Below the *nanushi* were various officers—the *kumi-gashira* (company-chief), whose duties were executive, the *toshiyori* (elder), and *hyakusho-dai* (farmer-agent), whose offices were advisory.

In appearance this arrangement was merely a series of subdivisions of executive duties. In fact, there began at a certain point in the scale a vital distinction. Above that point all power was received from above; below it, all came from below. The *daikwan* and the *gundai* were always appointed by the central authority, in Bakufu (Shogunate) districts (*ken*) as well as in the other feudal divisions (*han*). The *nanushi*, on the other hand, were as a rule elected by the people (subject to approval by the *daikwan*). They were identified with the people, protected them against official severity, and were their representatives in all questions arising between the Government and the people. The *daikwan*'s powers involved all that concerned the interests of the central Government. Roughly speaking those interests were that the people should make the land yield the greatest possible returns, though this purpose was seldom carried out oppressively or from a short-sighted point of view. The *daikwan* and his assistants therefore supervised the system of irrigation and methods of cultivation, had full charge of taxation, assessed the lands (a matter of extreme complication), allowed rebates for crop failures, etc., and collected and forwarded the taxes. Besides this he had judicial functions,

fixing land boundaries and hearing appeals from the justice meted out by local authorities. To many sequestered communities he was the embodiment of supreme authority, and Shogun and Mikado were only names.

In the local interests of the people, however, their own usages obtained. They had their financial problems. They repaired roads, each person owing a quantum of service. The *mura* owned grass lands and forests as public property, and made regulations for their use. As a rule all ordinary administration of justice, civil and criminal, began and ended within the borders of the *mura*. It was, to be sure, a life of customs, not codes; of arbitration, not litigation. The officers of the community were advisers, hardly rulers. The *nanushi*, although he was elected, and by ballot, too, was usually some patriarch, marked out beforehand by the general opinion. Spirited electioneering, however, sometimes took place; a tie vote was occasionally recorded. Curiously enough, a mere majority was not decisive; a clear preponderance of favour was required. Owners of land seem alone to have had the franchise, but other considerations were also of importance. To vote for one's self was a breach of good manners; one who once did so has been dishonourably immortalized in one of the old chronicles.

By the seventeenth century, if not before, certain of the local usages, mixed with regulations of the Bakufu and the Emperor, were customarily committed to writing as a sort of constitution. This document was signed and sealed by the head of every *go-nin kumi* (five-person company, a subdivision of the *mura* to some one of which every person must belong). It was called *kumi cho*. Of these documents, Dr. Simmons, in his journeys saw many still remaining in all parts of the country. I know, however, of only four copies which are now accessible—one in the Imperial University Library, one among Dr. Simmons' papers, and two in my possession, sent by courteous officials in Chiba and Kyoto. Future research in this field would be very fruitful.

Such, in outline, was the local self-government of the past. It was not everywhere the same; in details it varied widely. In the cities, particularly, it received a special development. But in general the elements remained the same.

Turning now to the story of local government since the Restoration down through the last twenty-three years, and compressing it into a sentence, it has been a veritable leading of the Israelites out of the wilderness, a deeply interesting instance of the systematic political education of a people. As a matter of course, broad modern influences have contributed much. There have been intervals, too, when other pressing problems forced a suspension of this work. Yet so far as governmental direction is concerned, it has certainly been a difficult task skillfully accomplished.

The period from 1867 to 1889 falls into two parts, dividing at the year 1878. The former was occupied with testing the capacity of the people for self-government; the latter with extending to them a larger and larger measure of power, and in advancing towards a proper degree of decentralization. At the beginning, however, the political situation was such that the establishment of a strong central power was the paramount requirement. The local divisions, as has been said, had been *ken* (Bakufu districts), and *han* (clans), with three *fu*, or metropolitan cities. By skilful management on the part of the Government, their object was gradually attained. The only measures relevant to our subject were the transformation, early in 1869, of *daimio* into temporary *chi-han ji* (clan-governors); and the final substitution for *han*, by decree of August 29, 1871, of a uniform system of *ken*, with *chi-ji* or *ken-rei* (governors) appointed by the Government. There were at that time three *fu* and sixty *ken*.

Meanwhile the foundation of the present system was laid by the decree of February 5, 1869, a sort of constitution for internal affairs. It provided for the uniform administration of *fu*, *han*, and *ken*, and regulated in general terms the principal departments of administration. For a while, at least, the old system was not in practice much altered. At the head of the *mura* was the *ko-cho* (sometimes still called *nanushi*) with his assistants. The popular favourite was usually appointed by the Governor. Several *mura* together formed a *kori* or *dai-ku* (county), under a *ku-cho*, who was usually selected from among the *ko-cho*. The *ken-rei* had charge practically of the entire administration, and served as a judicial officer as well. The police were controlled from Tokyo.

But a step forward was soon taken. The third clause of the decree of February, 1869, read: "Holding of assemblies. When existing laws are to be amended or new ones to be enacted, public opinion shall be consulted, so that legislation may

be impartial and the people may be content." Within two months' time an assembly chosen by popular vote had been summoned in Osaka, and in the course of a few years a system of ward (*ku*) assemblies was added. *Gi-ji cho* (parliament) was at first the general term used, but *swai* (assembly) has since come into general use for local bodies. During the next eight years this example was followed with increasing frequency. The credit of the next assemblies seems to belong to the *ken* of Yamaguchi and Hyogo, and after these to Chiba, Niigata, Oita, and others. In Tokyo no popular assembly seems to have been formed, but only an assembly composed of the heads of smaller districts. Indeed, in Chiba *ken* the members were at first *ku-cho* and *ko-cho* only, but they soon began to be elected by the people. So too, in this *ken*, the presiding officer, at first the *ken-rei* himself, came to be one of the members, chosen by themselves. In this *ken*, it may be added, *ku-cho* and *ko-cho* were chosen by popular election for some years before the law of 1878.

While on the one hand the people were beginning to take part in the management of local affairs, the process of decentralization had begun. As early as 1873 the Government had by a general order recommended the *ken-rei* to establish local school departments, and to have the officials elected by the people; and the measure was very generally carried out. In 1876 the judicial functions (which in 1872 had been in many districts taken from the *ken-rei* and placed under the Government) were vested in a series of courts, one *Dai-shin-In* (Supreme Court), one *Koso-In* (Superior Court) having four circuits, and a *Saiban-sho* (court of first instance) in the capital of each *fu* and *ken*. Justices' courts were afterwards established here and there in the larger towns. The first two had been established in the previous year, but were now reorganized.

Finally, in the early part of 1878, at a meeting of the *Chihō-kwan Kwai-gi* (assembly of local officials) held in Tokyo, the Government submitted a bill establishing popular assemblies in each *fu* and *ken*. A similar bill had been submitted to the same body in 1875, and they had declared in favour of constituting such assemblies of the appointed *ku-cho* and *ko-cho* only; but the Government had concluded that the time was ripe for something better than that. The measure became a law on July 22. It was liberal and modern in spirit and in detail, though it simply introduced the assembly to a share in deliberation, and gave no complete legislative power.

On the same day were published a law naming the various purposes (schools, police, roads, etc.) the taxes for which were to be laid by the local government; and a law dividing *ken* into *gun* (counties) and *son* (villages or townships), and dividing *fu* into *ku* (wards) and *cho* (precincts). A law of July 25 revised the law of 1869, and provided for the appointment of subordinate officers by the Governor. On August 26 it was ordered that the heads of *cho* and *son* should be elected by the people, subject to the approval of the Governor.

The first three of these laws have been called *San Dai Shimpō* (The Three Great Laws). On the same July 22 it had also been decreed that "in each of the *fu* and *ken*, *ku*, *cho*, and *son* assemblies are to be held, as soon as circumstances permit, to determine the amount of taxes for such district." In a few years such assemblies had come into general existence, and uniform regulations dating from 1881, but revised in 1884, modelled them after their provincial predecessors.

In the period beginning with 1878 the local government system has advanced steadily, if slowly, in the direction of greater decentralization and broader popular prerogative. Under the first head we may notice: in 1880, the relinquishment to the local government of taxation for prisons and public works; in 1881, the establishment of local committees (appointed) and assemblies (elected) for agriculture, trade, and commerce, and the granting of the power to establish local educational boards; in 1885, greater freedom in shaping local educational methods; in 1886, a revision of the administrative system, giving wider powers to local officials; in 1888, the surrender of the *fu kin* (licensed-prostitution tax) to the local governments. Under the second head may be noted: in 1879, the exemption of Assembly members from arrest during a session without consent of the President; in 1880, the substitution of the Assembly President for the Governor as the one to pass upon resignations and requests for leave of absence, the grant to Assemblies of the power to expel members for neglect of duty, and to address the Governor; and in 1887, a greater accountability of the Governor to the Assembly in reporting details of work.

Practically a new period begins with 1889. A new and comprehensive law for city (*shi*), town (*cho*), and village (*son*) government was submitted

to the Senate (*Genro-in*) in 1887, and to the Assembly of Local Officials in 1888, and was enacted April 14, 1888, going into effect April 1, 1889. By it the local subdivisions are somewhat changed, a *gun* (county) being now divided into communities of three classes (*shi*, *cho*, and *son*), graded according to population, and each with a popular assembly; and each *fu* consisting of one main "city," with suburban districts. Ward (*ku*) assemblies may be established when desired. A few of the notable features are (1) the use of certain terms new to the language, such as *homin* (citizen); (2) the declaration of the principle that "a city, town, or village shall be considered as a juristic person," that is, as a municipal corporation, not merely an administrative subdivision; (3) the election of mayors (*shi*, *cho*, and *son cho*) by the city, town, or village assembly; (4) the division of the electors into classes according to the amount of taxes paid, each class electing an equal number of representatives—a system similar to that in vogue in Hamburg, Brunswick, and other German cities; and (5) the creation of a second or aldermanic chamber. A similarly comprehensive law reorganizing the *fu* and *ken* governments will soon be issued.

Such has been the progress of local self-government in the Meiji period. The difficulty of obtaining accurate information on the subject is very great, and I can hardly hope that the preceding account is entirely without error. My object has been not to describe in detail the system as it exists, but rather to call attention to the steadiness with which progress has been made, the spirit in which the Government has carried out the work, and the carefulness with which the institutions have been adapted to the condition of the people. How far the people themselves have risen to the occasion I propose to notice in another letter.

There is an amusing illustration of the way in which, in the early days, say 1873, the new ideas were carried out. At an election in Shimane *ken* for school officials, one of the countrymen refused to vote because he knew no one whom he thought worthy. The Governor insisted that he must vote, whereon he cast his ballot for the Governor himself. Enraged at being considered low enough for such a position, the insulted Governor ordered the offender to prison. The man appealed, however, and was released by the Government, who severely rebuked the touchy official. New institutions could not be made to work smoothly in a day, and from the state of things at that period much progress had to be made. Taking our stand at the present time, let us look briefly, first, at the people themselves, secondly, at their assemblies.

In the year 1880, an acute writer, Nishi Sensei, published an essay in which, analyzing the Japanese character, he noted two great influences, one political—the despotism of feudalism—and one moral—the Confucian principle of obedience to superiors; and two minor ones—the fidelity of the *samurai* to his lord, and the national complaisance of behaviour—the combined effect of which was inevitably a deep-seated spirit of political inertness, of obsequiousness to authority, which formed the great obstacle to the success of representative government. That such has been a characteristic of the mass of the people is undoubted. To what extent have they risen out of it?

So far as comparative statistics of elections are of value, we are left with little material to judge from. Strange to say, neither the Home Department nor the *ken* officer have kept a systematic record of the voting figures since 1878. In Niigata *ken*, however, this has been done, and the Governor, Mr. Chida, has kindly sent me these figures:—

	Electors.	Votes cast.	Per cent.
1880	51,088	27,732	54
1889	52,949	22,403	42
1890	48,932	30,122	61

It seems difficult, however, to draw any general conclusions, as the following figures from two *gun* (counties) show: (1.) Percentage in 1880, 22; in 1886, 44; in 1890, 68. (2.) Percentage in 1880, 48; in 1886, 43; in 1890, 29. Probably the explanation lies as a rule in local causes, each community having an electoral history of its own. So far as I can judge from reliable testimony apart from statistics, the last four or five years have seen a distinct advance in the interest taken by the mass of the people in the management of their affairs. Officials from various sections tell me that at present the vote does not as a rule fall below 50 per cent. of the electorate, while in many places, where cause for special interest exists, it runs as high as 60 per cent.

Figures showing the percentage for the whole country are not easily obtainable, as they are not

forwarded from the *ken* to the Home Department. I can judge only by the following figures (election of February-March, 1890) kindly furnished by governors and others, and coming from representative parts of the Empire:—

	Electors.	Votes cast.	Per cent
Tokyo (<i>fu</i>)	12,281	4,845	40
Kyoto (<i>fu</i>)	28,276	9,391	33
Aomori (<i>ken</i>)	18,556	13,394	72
Niigata (<i>ken</i>)	48,932	30,122	61
Chiba (<i>gun</i>)	2,410	1,522	63

There is a marked contrast here between the proportion in the metropolitan cities (*fu*) and that in the provincial regions. The percentage in the latter is on the one hand much better than that in Massachusetts in "off" years (52 per cent. in the period of 1871-'89), but not as satisfactory as that of New Jersey, Michigan, Wisconsin, and some other States (ranging, I believe, from 75 to 90 per cent. in the period 1876-'88). The *fu* seem to be distinctly behindhand in the interest shown by their citizens. Individual wards (*ku*) make an even more deplorable showing. In four wards in Tokyo the percentages were respectively 10, 13, 16, and 17. Indeed, it was only by the aid of the suburban (rural) districts (one of which cast a vote of 75 per cent.) that the average was brought higher than 25 per cent. In Kyoto, matters were little better: three wards returned percentages of 16, 19, and 19, respectively. The same lack of interest may be gathered from what one observes in mingling with people. For example, when inquiring the date of the Tokyo election, I found at least four intelligent and highly educated gentlemen—men, too, who take a deep interest in the national progress—who could not tell me. Another, when I referred to the election in conversation, did not know it had occurred. "The Assembly?" one said; "oh, nobody pays much attention to that." I cannot venture to indicate with certainty the influences that produce this state of things; the fact is there plainly enough. Evidently Japan, like our own country, finds that in large cities the problem of local government develops special phases.

The proportion between electorate and population depends on the pecuniary voting qualification, already explained in your columns by an able correspondent. The notable fact is the repeated fluctuations in the size of the electorate. The figures for the Empire are as follows: 1880, 1,513,308; 1885, 1,637,137; 1887, 1,486,107; 1889, 1,602,249. Of course the causes of this are economic rather than political, and cannot be gone into at length in this place. Apparently the *fu* have on the whole been the losers. Thus:—

	1880.	1884.	1887.	1889.
Tokyo.....	12,100	12,200	12,200	12,300
Kyoto.....	31,100	28,900	28,400	28,300
Osaka.....	48,000	63,200	36,900	39,800

Probably the resumption of specie payments in 1886, the imposition of special taxes, and migration have contributed to the result. I am told, moreover, that in many districts financial distress, arising from various causes, has tended to make the rich richer and the poor poorer, thus thinning the electorate.

The three ranks are represented in the electorate as follows:—*kwaazoku* (nobles), 298; *shisoku* (corresponding to the old *samurai*), 60,337; *heimin* (commoners), 1,541,614. As to their relative influence in local politics, some inference may be drawn from the statistics of membership of the assemblies. This is divided as follows:—*kwaazoku*, 1; *shisoku*, 508; *heimin*, 1,617. But the different sections of the country differ widely, and must be noticed separately. In the metropolitan cities the upper class contingent is 17 per cent. of that of the commoners; in such old homes of clan feeling as Kagoshima (Satsuma) and the neighbouring region, 678 per cent.; in the country districts elsewhere 13 per cent. The whole electorate in these different sections is divided about as follows:—metropolitan cities, upper classes, 2.3 per cent.; Kagoshima, etc., 21 per cent.; other districts, 1 per cent. Making the necessary comparisons, then, we see that in the first section the upper classes, when it comes to the choice of members for the assemblies, wield an influence greater than that to which their mere numbers entitle them by 7.4 times in the first instance, by 34.2 times in the second, and by 13 times in the third. This indicates that, by reason of various historical influences, we cannot expect to find uniform progress throughout the country. It is, too, an instance of what may be frequently noticed in dealing with Japanese institutions, that, notwithstanding the comparatively small area of the country, there exist, as in our own country, in different sections widely different conditions, that in different regions may be found different solutions of the same problem, and that general truths must be laid down with hesitation.

The local political parties furnish another instance of this. In some districts parties exist, in others not. They separate usually on some question of local expediency. Not unlike the Athenian parties of the Mountain, the Shore, and the Plain, the lowlanders are frequently found fighting against taxation for mountain roads, and the mountaineers against the burden of dyke and irrigation expenses. In Gumma *ken*, if not elsewhere also, the abolition of licensed prostitution has created two political camps. In Chiba *ken* for a long time the citizens have been divided over a certain Government-fathered bank, whose affairs were not satisfactorily managed. In Yokohama the merchants and the land-owners have been at odds, the disposition of some public property being at the root of the dissension. As to nomenclature, however, they have in many cases developed the custom, which so hampers our own politics, of fighting local battles under national standards. Partly because the leading national parties have a widespread local organization, partly because prominent partisans become identified with opposing sides in local controversies, partly for other reasons, one finds the *Kaishinto* (Progressists) and the *Fuyuto* (Radicals), for example, contending in Chiba or Yokohama over questions that have not the remotest connection with their national platforms.

Party feeling often runs high, though here too, it is impossible to make general statements about particular provinces, or even counties, much less about the Empire at large. In the town of Chiba, for example, I saw a very quiet and orderly election, while a small town only sixteen miles away has been notorious as one of the most turbulent places in the country. In the past few months the papers have reported at least half-a-dozen instances of violence. In Niigata *ken*, a few years ago, a too outspoken editor was decoyed from his sanctum and ducked in a muddy ditch. In Kagoshima a political murder occurred in March last. The country is troubled in various parts with young harebrained *soshi*—a cross between hoodlum, anarchist, and reformer. Their creed is political liberty, but their methods are detestable and their character misguided.

As for the assemblies themselves, almost everything good can be said of them. To begin with there is, according to universal testimony, none of our cheap jobbery and noisome corruption. What ever exists is as yet sporadic. Tokyo has furnished the only scandal I have heard of, an alleged bribery of members by proprietors in the Yoshiwara to obtain a diminution of the licensed prostitution tax. The members as a rule are of respectable, even of high standing, particularly in the country districts. From an examination of a small book giving the name, age, etc., of every member of the provincial assemblies, I find the average age to be as follows, with no special differences to be noted in different localities: 25 to 30 years 9 per cent., 30 to 35 30 per cent., 35 to 40 46 per cent., 50 to 60 15 per cent. In a country where young men, even youths, are so important an element among the educated classes, and are found so much at the front, this is certainly a very conservative showing. The occupations of the members are as follows (though these returns are not complete):—Farmers 1,227, merchants 309, lawyers 64, physicians 59, bankers and brokers 17, printers and booksellers 3, liquor-brewers and dealers 10, pawnbrokers 11, journalists 10, teachers 16, corporation officers 5, artisans 2, local officials 16, miscellaneous 59, no business 192. The small number of journalists and the large number of those described as having "no business" are peculiar features.

In the general conduct of the assemblies, entire decorum is the rule. Here and there one hears of a turbulent session or factional quarrels. In Niigata *ken* on one occasion a member of the Opposition was unceremoniously ejected by the angry majority. In another *ken* a member, who had fallen out with the presiding officer, took a somewhat erratic method of showing his disrespect by entering the Assembly wearing a mask. A spirited discussion ensued, which ended by the voluntary removal of the mask by its wearer, and the restoration of harmony. *Hara-kiri* has long been abolished, but one notices now and then that, on the occasion of a supposed insult, or at a moment of uncontrollable indignation, the offended member will leave the Chamber, or even resign his seat out and out.

In the majority of cases the relations between Governor and Assembly are harmonious. The popular Governors seem to be more numerous than the unpopular ones. The personality of the official, the temperament of the community, the difficulty of the special problems of the district, all enter into the question. There seems to have been but one genuine failure, Gov. Mishima of Fukushima *ken*, in 1883. It may be noted that the first public criminal trial in the country was that of some

young men who were goaded by his conduct into a defensive league and were charged with conspiracy. Two years ago the Governor of Awamori *ken* (apparently a man not easy to get along with), in a report not intended for the public, referred to his constituents as "doltish." The word got abroad, the provincials stormed, the local officials resigned in a body, and the Governor's recall was demanded. His place is now filled by another.

Outside of the metropolitan cities, the assemblies seem to be really representative—to be, in truth, the mouthpieces of the people. They lead as well as express the public opinion of the community. Considered, too, merely as a measure for keeping the people contented, they are a success. Officials tell me that under the present system taxes are collected of a kind and amount that would otherwise be out of the question. That they are not always representative, however, in the sense of standing for all classes of opinion, is probably true. In some places, one is told, the educated and intelligent do not take part in politics. In some the mere politicians, not the sober citizens, preponderate. There is, however, as yet no antagonism between rich and poor or capital and labour. Great differences in wealth, where they exist, are not politically of consequence.

One characteristic, not easy to set forth briefly, stands out in contrast with the old attitude of thought. The difference between the law and government of former days and of to-day is the difference between precept and legislation. The people have emerged from a communal into a political system. Everything with them now is decision, law, statute—not mere custom or the unfettered discretion of an official. Apparently they are developing that habit of attention to exact expression, of drawing distinctions, of insisting on strict interpretations, which in modern times is characteristic of the Anglo-Saxon race. Take this incident for example. A few years ago, the Governor of an interior province obtained a two-weeks' furlough and was replaced by a deputy. Fretting over affairs, however, he returned unexpectedly in a few days, entered the Assembly, where his deputy presided, and took an outer seat. It chanced that the Assembly was taking the occasion of his absence to criticise his conduct, and that, too, without gloves. Angered at last by a specially severe hit (for the debates continued, unawed by his presence), he jumped up and ordered the speaker to be silent. Nothing daunted, the member craftily inquired:—"Do you speak as Governor or as an individual?" "As your Governor, sir, of course," indiscreetly replied the furloughed official. The debate over, the member made complaint to the Home Department, and the upshot was that the Governor was fined 100 *yen* for assuming to exercise the official prerogative while off duty. Now, the taking of such a distinction may appear to us natural enough, and hardly worth the mention. But here such incidents are much more than trivial. That such lines of reasoning have occurred, and have been accepted, is significant. That they should ever become general would denote a change in modes of thought which would be no less radical than subtle.

In the general management of business, conscientiousness and intelligence usually characterise the assemblies. A journal of the last session of one of these bodies lies before me, and, so far as can be judged from extracts, the debates are sensible and to the point, with perhaps a tendency to go a great deal into trivialities. The best opinion seems to be that the special need, if any, is greater experience and wisdom. Two extremes—a younger generation, visionary and impractical, and an older one, conservative and behind the times—too often find a representation. In an interview with several Governors, which Count Yamagata, the Prime Minister, courteously procured for me, they said:—"On the whole, we are satisfied. The assemblies suit the times. Give us ten years, when the old generation has gone, and the new has grown up. Then we will show you something better."

REPRESENTATIVE INSTITUTIONS.

Tokyo, June, 1890.

Amid the gratulations and plaudits which have attended the grant of the Japanese Constitution of 1889, we must not forget, if we would understand the conditions and historical influence amid which it is to be put in force, that its advent is but the final one of a series of events, the culmination of repeated efforts spread over the years from 1868 to 1881. To attempt to comprehend its significance in history, except in the light of the decree of 1875, the agitation of 1876-81, the decree of 1881, and the attendant circumstances, would be as great a mistake as to ignore, in considering our own Constitution of 1787, the Declaration of 1776, the

ensuing struggle, and the peace of 1783. In the questions at issue there is, of course, no parallel, but in the order and relative importance of events there is not a little resemblance. As no connected account of previous efforts to establish representative institutions has, I believe, ever been published, I will venture to relate the story briefly.

The resignation of the Shogun, November 9, 1867, and the *coup d'état* in Kyoto of January 3, 1868, left the Imperial party in possession of the power for which they had so long schemed and toiled. This party was led by a small band of men, composed of a few leading *kuge* (imperial nobles) and some influential *samurai*, representing three or four of the clans. The whole movement of the Restoration had practically been supported by the general body of the *samurai*, and the reconciliation of conflicting opinions and rival claims was a pressing question for the new leaders. It was just at this time that men began to look to the West for guidance, and to borrow attractive features of its civilization. The Western method of securing political harmony, a representative assembly, seems to have been in their minds and to have suggested the body which was speedily organized. By the famous imperial oath of April, 1868, it was promised that a parliament should be established, and all measures be decided by public opinion (though doubtless at that time the constituency to whom these privileges were to apply did not in their minds extend beyond the *samurai* themselves).

The plan of this assembly was under discussion for some time. The form at last fixed upon involved a representation of the *samurai* only, on the basis of the clan organization. Three *samurai* were to be sent by each large clan, two by each of medium size, and one by each small one. These delegates were appointed nominally by the *daimio*, but in fact by the leaders of the *samurai* of each clan, that is, practically by the public opinion of the clan. Their powers were meagre enough, and were deliberative only. They met first in Kyoto in 1868 and discussed various subjects. The debate on the colonization of Yezo was published in the *London Times*. In April, 1869, the assembly met again, this time in Tokyo. The name *Kogisho* (Office of Parliament) was given to the place of meeting, and *Gi In* (Parliament), afterwards changed to *Shingi In* (House of Commons), to the body itself. They debated the question of permitting partnerships between foreigners and Japanese, and of forming a new constitution, but no decided conclusions were reached.

The future of this body would doubtless have seen the gradual concession of greater powers, but its end came soon, from causes within itself. The debates showed the leaders of the Government that the *samurai* of the time could not be looked to to assist by political action the progress that was absolutely necessary for the nation. On motions, for instance, to abolish *hara-kiri* and the carrying of swords, the figures of the unfavourable votes were respectively 200 to 9 and 213 to 0. In the same year the *Shingi In* adjourned *sine die*, and was never resumed. The truth was, that it had not been created in answer to an explicit demand, either of the people at large or of the *samurai*, for political rights, but rather as a means of uniting the clans by deferring in semblance to public opinion while yielding nothing of the real control; and its existence could, in the nature of things, hardly have been more than temporary.

The principle of consulting outside opinion, however (so it was given out), was to be retained. The place of the *Shingi In* was taken by the *Sa In*, a sort of Senate, created in 1871, whose members were nominated by the Prime Minister. But this was in no sense a representative institution. It was regarded as a home for all kinds of visionaries; its debates were never published, and it was quite without influence. Its successor of 1875, the *Genro In* (usually called Senate), though heralded as marking an important advance, was for a long time of little more than practical consequence, and only within a few years has it shown evidences of an influence on legislation. The next essay at genuine national representation had its beginning in 1873. It came about not so much through the desire of the Government to consult public opinion as through the very need of obtaining information and advice for administrative purposes from various parts of the country. Beginning with 1872, if not earlier, uprisings in different provinces, and other signs of discontent, had made it clear that the new order of things—involving as it did changes in methods of taxation, in political status, in various customs of immemorial validity—was not to be introduced without friction. In April, 1873, Inouye, then acting Minister of Finance, called a meeting of the provincial governors, to listen to their views upon the pressing administrative problems. They seem to have accomplished nothing definite, but this meeting of 1873 was the

germ of an institution which, from 1875 onwards, occupied the place of a national assembly, and, nominally at least, did not end its existence until the present year.

This body was the *Chihokwan Kwaigi* (Parliament of Local Officials). Along with the distress and discontent of the time, there had been naturally some talk of a representative assembly as the balm of all evils. Late in 1873 the resignation of Itagaki, Soyeyama, Gotō, and others, on the question of war with Korea, gave them a chance to utilize the situation, and in January, 1874, they presented a memorial calling for a national assembly as the one means of governing smoothly. They did not, of course, escape the reproach (certainly unmerited by some of them) that their discovery of the crying need of the country occurred strangely soon after their departure from office. But their memorial was widely read, and gave a countenance to the agitation which powerfully assisted it. It is noticeable, however, that the memorialists were unable to take their stand on charges of oppression of any sort, but claimed simply that an assembly would educate the people, concentrate public opinion, and strengthen the Government. The *Kwaigi* was already in contemplation by the Ministry, and early in 1875 came its establishment. When the change of constitution was made by which the *Genro In* took the place of the *Sa In*, and the *Daijishin In* (Supreme Court) was created, the same decree contained the following provision:—"We also call a council of the officials of our provinces, so that the feelings of the people may be made known and the public welfare attained. By these means we shall gradually confer upon the nation a constitutional form of government. The provincial officials are summoned as the representatives of the people in the various provinces, that they may express their opinion on behalf of the people."

The *Kwaigi* (sometimes called *Gi In*) met in July, 1875, at the *Hongwanji* (a temple), and was hailed as a decisive token that the promise of 1868 was in process of fulfilment. It consisted, of course, of appointed officials only, but the Government treated it as the mouth-piece of the people, and undoubtedly regarded the method of selection of its members as only temporary. An imperial speech opened the session, and the able Kido (the "brain and pen" of the Restoration) was appointed *Gi-cho* (President). There were seventy delegates, who were either governors or their deputies. Rules of procedure had already been drawn up by the Government. The results of this first session were not at all promising. The Assembly had no initiative. It occupied most of its time in discussing a system of roads and bridges laid before it by the Government. The meetings were not opened to the public or to the press, and the publication of the debates by the Government did not mitigate the general dissatisfaction which this caused. The Assembly itself showed a conservatism which did not tend to commend it to the people. In a discussion on the proposition to establish a national representative assembly, the vote was to constitute it of *ku-cho* and *ko-cho* (county and town mayors, appointed by the Government). At the same time its influence was weakened by contrast with the action of some of the citizens of local prominence, who had been brought up to Tokyo by the governors to assist with their advice. These met and drew up a memorial asking for an assembly founded on popular election.

These and other events combined to doom the *Kwaigi* from the beginning as a body which would not be accepted by the people in place of a popular assembly, even as a basis for further development. Indeed, the withdrawal of Itagaki (for he had reentered the Government in 1875) for the second and last time in 1875 was upon the express issue whether the *Kwaigi* should be accepted even temporarily, as a substitute. Itagaki thenceforward dedicated himself to the cause of popular representation, and the movement for it now began in earnest. The *Kwaigi* was not called together in 1876, because of the Emperor's extended journey to the north, said the Government; because the Government was afraid to allow the popular discontent to receive utterance, said others. With Itagaki and Saigō in secession, the very existence of the Government—practically made up of the little band of able men who had achieved the Restoration—was threatened. All sorts of charges were rife of official misgovernment and corruption. In the midst of all came the Satsuma rebellion. Every one knows of Saigō's failure. But it was Itagaki who, having no different causes of complaint and standing in no different attitude toward the Government, avoided brave, blunt Saigō's blunder—the resort to arms—and, with Tosa shrewdness, struck a note to which the nation responded as they did not and could not to Saigō's. When the Government sent

to Itagaki, in 1877, at the time that he was raising troops "for the protection of Tosa," as he said, and asked whether his intentions were hostile, he replied: "Not if you guarantee the establishment of a popular assembly."

His society, the *Rissai-sha*, which had been formed in the preceding year and had for its object the establishment of a national assembly, spread far and wide. Its memorial of June 14, 1877, making eight charges of misgovernment and praying for representative institutions, has, by some, been considered one of the most important political documents since the Restoration, and certainly puts the case as favourably as can be for the popular cause.* A society on a similar basis, the *Aikoku* (Patriotic) *sha*, was started by Itagaki in Osaka in 1878. By the next year the *Aikoku-sha* had branches in fourteen provinces, and was said to have over 13,000 members. The agitation went on with the greatest activity. In one district the *Rissai-sha* gave lectures daily to audiences of hundreds. They set songs of the French Revolution to Japanese airs, and even the children sang them in the streets. An old saying was remembered that "Liberty shall spring forth from the forests of Tosa," and its prophetic meaning was now seen.

Amid this fervour of feeling, the second meeting of the *Kwaigi*, in April, 1878, received little attention from the people. On this occasion reporters were admitted, but a new cause of complaint was found in that the President (Ito, then Minister of Public Works) was again appointed by the Government, not chosen by the members. That most important measure, the Local Assembly act of 1878, was passed in this session, but even this proof of the readiness of the Government to establish popular institutions as soon as needed did not satisfy the popular clamour. The *Kwaigi* we may here dismiss from our attention, noting that it met again in 1880 omitting both 1879 and 1881, and that in 1882 a decree provided for the holding of an annual session until the national Parliament should assemble.

The agitation now took (1880) the form of petitions and memorials. From all parts of the country these were showered upon the Government. They bore thousands of signatures, representing all classes. Even women, wives of influential men, employed agents to canvass for signatures. The hotels in Tokyo increased from 413 in 1879 to 1,605 in 1880, owing, it is said, to the presence of so many persons bringing petitions for a national assembly. Some of the nobles began to advocate it. By the end of 1880 it was rumoured that all but two or three of the Ministry were favourable. It is certain that throughout the year the subject had been under discussion in that body, and that there existed a division of opinion. A draft constitution, said to be circulating among the societies was made public. Finally, on October 12, 1881, came the well-known decree establishing a parliament in 1890.

This result was apparently a foregone conclusion, for all the members of the then Ministry, excepting perhaps the Satsuma men, were only delaying matters until they felt sure that the country was ripe for popular institutions. But the circumstances immediately responsible for the decree were as follows:—To Okuma, then Minister of Finance (and undoubtedly one of the four or five ablest of the Restoration statesmen, and in some ways the cleverest of them), the crisis seemed to present a tempting opportunity to gain popularity for himself and at the same time to restore to some extent the waning influence of the Hizen clan in the Government; for now that Ito and Soyeyama were gone, Ōki and Okuma alone represented Hizen, and its power had diminished. Accordingly, just before the Emperor's departure for the North in the fall of 1881, Okuma laid before him a proposition for the establishment of a national assembly within six months. To this, of course, his colleagues would never agree. On the very night of the Emperor's return (till then the subject had necessarily been postponed) a protracted session took place, and at two o'clock in the morning the decree was agreed on establishing the Parliament, but not for nine years to come. But Okuma had gained his point; and, accepting with satisfaction his expected defeat, immediately resigned office, threw himself upon the country, and was able to fulfil his hopes and to form a political party which is to-day one of the most powerful political influences in the nation, as well as his own most efficient ally.

The moving cause of the Constitution seems clearly to have been the agitation of 1876-81. But just how far the clamour arose from a thoroughly national emotion, just how far it was factitious, just how far it was the work of professional agitators—

* There is a translation in U.S. Pub. Decs., Foreign Relations, 1877, No. 204.

on these questions it is difficult to reach a conclusion. It is the opinion of Mr. Fukuzawa (than whom there could certainly be no keener or more impartial observer) that "not only has parliamentary representation not been conceded in consequence of any general demand on the part of the people, but that it has been given voluntarily, so far as concerns the great mass of the nation." That is to say, "the temporary agitation on the subject" was "a display of enthusiasm confined to a very limited circle, being merely a piece of strategy, wrought by various sections of the then unemployed *shizoku* (samurai)." To corroborate such a weighty opinion we have the undoubted fact that the *heimin* (commoners) of Japan have always been politically passive and indifferent, not greatly moved by sentiments of self-respect and self-assertion, and that a recognized problem has been that of educating them up to their rights, private as well as public. Yet, even if we cannot reasonably suppose them to have originated a broad political movement, we can at any rate believe that under the lead of the *shizoku* they would understand the issue and join in the protest. Certainly, to judge by appearances, there must have been a participation of some sort on their part. The Government, too, must have believed to some extent in these appearances, for the promise of 1881 was undoubtedly drawn forth by the agitation.

Mr. Fukuzawa, however, explains their action on the theory that they were aware of the ferment existing among the younger educated men as well as the *samurai* of the Restoration, who had never been admitted to take official power, and were willing to provide a "national palaver" as a harmless place in which their efforts could be expended. Perhaps we cannot, with our present sources of information, venture much beyond this. It should be conceded, on the one hand, that the people as a whole took a real part in the movement; on the other hand, it is probable that the true grievances for the redressing of which a national assembly might properly have been looked to, where those of the *shizoku* alone, and that the mass of the people, harassed by economic difficulties for which the Government itself was not responsible, had no real occasion to demand representative rights, except on grounds of abstract justice and political theory which were not appreciated by them, and *a fortiori* could not be urged in their favour.

The genesis of the Japanese Constitution, then, is not to be explained according to the categories of European experience. It was neither wrested by the nation nor withheld by the Government. The people grew up to it, not the Government down to it. Historically it does not signify a safeguard against oppression, but a means of bringing the methods of government into accord with the popular wish. It was not the surrender of inherited power by an autocrat or an aristocracy to a plebs; it was (in token, of course, rather than in fulfilment) the relinquishment to a people of power hitherto held in trust for them by a self-chosen body of their own number until they should arrive at political majority.

POLITICAL PARTIES.

Tokyo, July, 1890.

In approaching the subject of political parties in this country, one needs to familiarize one's self with two or three general truths of Japanese politics before attempting to gather the significance of individual political sections.

The first is, that their existence is a matter of the last ten years only. No one of the so-called parties (*to*—a word meaning rather "society," the German *Bund*), whatever the ante-natal influences that moulded it, has yet reached its tenth birthday. The second truth is, that the Government is, in fact, not conducted personally by the Emperor, but according to the combined will of a small number of men in official position—a number yearly growing larger, however, and daily more and more restricted in their action to the path marked out by public opinion. These fill the leading governmental posts, and their assumption or resignation of office is determined solely by the exigencies of preserving harmony among themselves and at the same time recognizing each other's relative influence. There can be no doubt, let me hasten to say, that a fair number are entitled to be called statesmen, that they use their power, on the whole, to the best of their knowledge and ability, and that the Government could not as yet be properly carried on by any other mechanism. Like the war-horses of the Republican party in the United States, they rose to their present influence in the revolutionary times of 1860–70, and until within recent years their compact ranks have, with a very few exceptions, held all of the most capable patriots in the nation.

The third follows easily from the second, and is this:—A political party in Japan is, and under hitherto existing conditions could only be, the personal following of a member of this circle who has chance to become one of the "outs." Given the politically apathetic *heimin* (commoners), the intelligent but inexperienced and unorganized *shizoku* (samurai), the wielding of power by an absolutely irresponsible Cabinet having a monopoly of the able men of the country, and the existence of a political party is impossible. Until, as a result of dissension, some leading member of that select circle should be obliged to leave it, should thus be placed in opposition, and should seek popular support, political controversy would be carried on only within the Government itself, not in the arena of popular discussion. This is precisely what has happened. When it has come to pass that one of the more influential members has been forced out of the circle (although a remarkable power of cohesion has made this a rare occurrence), he has become the nucleus of a party. Conversely, no political party has arisen except in this way.

There are a few apparent exceptions to this rule which are easily explained. When Eto Shimpei (of the Hizen clan), in 1873, and Mayebara (of the Choshu clan), in 1876, withdrew in anger, they resorted to arms instead of to peaceable agitation, and were executed as traitors. Kido, one of the greatest statesmen of the nation, retired in 1873, but soon after returned. Saigo met his end on the battlefield in armed opposition. Soyejima (of Hizen), who also went out with Itagaki in 1873, returned soon after as the Emperor's tutor, and still holds an office. Itagaki's large following (the creation of which in 1875–81 I have already described), was a party and something more. But when 1882 came, and other parties arose, this body, too, crystallized into a partisan organization, the *Fiyu-to* (Radicals). Goto, one of the earliest and most influential of the plotters for the Restoration, went out with Itagaki in 1873, and for many years preserved an unaccountable self-control; but some two years ago he, too (then a Count), appeared in the field with a party which finally adopted the name of *Daido Danketsu* (United party). The resignations of Iinoye, in 1887, and of Ito, in 1888, were not followed by the formation of parties; but the truth is that they never really went into the outer darkness. Their retirement was a piece of temporary policy. They are far too strong to bend before any other members of the oligarchy, and to day they represent a dominant, if externally invisible, Governmental influence.

Such are the general truths from which depends the existence of parties to-day in this country. So far as concerns the chronicles of their history, the tale may be made a short one. The period since 1881 divides itself into two parts. In that year the national ferment which resulted in the constitutional decree of October 12 furnished abundant material for the formation of parties. Upon Okuma's resignation, in 1881, he formed immediately the *Kaishin-to* (Progressist party), based on the principle of the immediate enfranchisement of the people. One might have expected a hody of men professing such a principle to join the standard of Itagaki's party, the *Fiyu* (Radicals). But the two sections have ever remained apart, and at one time even found themselves in bitter antagonism on the topic of treaty revision. The same period of ferment (1881–82) saw also the formation of the *Teisei-to* (Imperialists), the *Rik-kensei-to* (Constitutional Imperialists), and numberless minor organizations; but, with the Constitution solemnly promised for 1890, the excitement rapidly subsided, and by 1884 these parties had all disbanded except the *Kaishin-to*, and even from this its leader, Okuma, had nominally withdrawn. Itagaki's own explanation of the *Fiyu-to*'s dissolution, as a personal friend of his informs me, is that the restrictions of speech imposed by the Government made it impossible to conduct constitutionally such an agitation as he wished, and therefore, to rid the party of better heads who, for lack of lawful methods, inclined towards violent ones, he thought it best to disband the party, delaying the reunion of its best elements until the time should be ripe.

Thus ended the first period. From that time until within the last three years, there was almost no partisan activity. The question of treaty revision, however, bringing back Okuma (now Count) to office in 1887, galvanized the *Kaishin-to* once more into life. Count Goto, coming out of his retirement two years ago, took the stump, made a tour of the north-eastern provinces, and formed the *Daido Danketsu* (United party). This party rapidly grew, and to it were attracted so many from the old *Fiyu-to* that Goto, men said, began to reap where Itagaki had sowed the seed. The latter leader now bestirred himself once more. After a year or so of negotiation, the details of

which would be tedious, nearly all the fragments of his old party were in the *Aikoku-to* (Patriotic party). More than this has in effect happened, for an agreement has been reached according to which August next is to see the *Aikoku*, the *Daido*, and the *Fiyu* parties amalgamated, with much ceremony, into an organization to be called the *Ko-in* (United) Club.

But, other than these, are there any parties of note? If the generalization already made is correct, one may answer this by asking, Are there any men of influence who are now to be counted among the "outs" in active opposition? Of such there are notably two—General Viscount Torio and Viscount Tani. The former owns (one cannot help using the term) a little party called the *Hoshu-Chiusei-ha* (Conservative Independents). There is far less conservatism than independence, or let us say idiosyncrasy, in its make-up, and no one seems to pay it much respect. The latter's name has been associated with an organization of real importance, known as the *Kokusui Fuson-to* (Nationalist party). Its motive is a conservative and laudable desire to preserve the National individuality by refusing to adopt indiscriminately the ideas of the West, while keeping pace with its progress. "To adapt, not adopt," might be described as its motto. The real strength of this section, however, is not Viscount Tani, but the influence of leading members who are not partisan politicians, but represent the "Mugwumpism" of Japan.

One will naturally expect to hear something of the principles possessed by the three leading parties, the *Fiyu* (or *Aikoku*), *Daido*, and *Kaishin*. Here, however, there is a striking and somewhat amusing failure to disagree. One must resort to the platform of the Republican and Democratic parties from 1876 to 1880 to find a parallel. The *Kaishin-to* (but within a few months only) has issued a platform of sixteen articles, including reduction of land-tax, retrenchment in expenses, Cabinet by party, treaty revision, educational reform, extension of the franchise, greater freedom of speech, and other praiseworthy proposals. Not to be outdone, the *Fiyu-to* thereupon promulgated a creed of thirty-two articles, including, he it observed, all those of the *Kaishin-to*, with others of a somewhat more radical tendency, such as trial by jury, popular election of the governors of *ken* (counties), limitation of the number of nobles, etc. Within a month the *Daido* has published a platform of thirty articles; but of these, again, none strays far from those already in the field.

There are, however, certain distinctive marks to be seen, chiefly in the manner of men composing the parties. The *Fiyu-to* has from the first been preëminently the party, not of the proletariat, for there is as yet no such class here, but of the common people, of those on whom the taxes fall, of the poor man, of the democrats, of the radical political thinkers. The *Daido* party has to some extent poached on the same preserve; but it has drawn also from the men of the north-east (Aizu and the vicinity), the old partisans of the Shogunate, who have accepted with pleasure the opportunity to attack their old antagonists now in power, the men of the south-west. The *Kaishin* party represents the rich and the influential, but contains also a large number of the younger educated men not in official position. It is credited with moderate feelings, and at the same time with aristocratic proclivities. The *Kokusui-to* includes a number of the best thinkers and educators, of the younger generation principally, and represents the more thoughtful tendencies of the day. Perhaps it will in its present form never actively enter politics as an organization.

The interesting question, of course, is, What general tendency, explicitly recognized or not by one or another of these sections, is to furnish the principle which will divide parties under the approaching parliamentary régime? The measures which the various sections advocate show a striking similarity of aim; it remains to discover whether their existence points to any real issues.

As between any two of the *Daido*, *Fiyu*, and *Kaishin* parties, it seems hardly possible that any issue can be formed. All began as oppositionist parties, and the only pregnant distinction at present is that between the *personnel* of the *Kaishin* and that of the other two. The latter have now practically united, and it seems not improbable that by November the *Kaishin-to* also may have given up its separate existence. The *Kokusui* represents a principle which is of more consequence at present in art, manners, and education than in ordinary political matters, and perhaps not for a decade or so will an issue of broad importance and popular interest arise in which this principle will be at stake. Economic issues, too (I do not say economic problems), at present there are virtually none, if we omit the demand for taxation reform.

There is no rent question, no labour question, no tariff question. What, then, can be prophesied as to the parliamentary parties?

There is one motive which seems to have supplied the very vitality of the three great parties, and it is not unlikely that this will furnish the dominant note in the formation of parliamentary sections. This motive is a simple one—the desire, on the part of a large portion of the *shisoku*, to share in the Government, and not alone in the deliberative functions of the National Assembly, but in the more real power of the Ministry. This is to day the theme which quickest finds a popular response. When Count Goto made his tour of the north-east, he proclaimed himself in favor of government by party, and raised a strong following by attacking the principle of exclusiveness on which the present Cabinet is founded. When Count Okuma was recalled in 1887 to a place among his old comrades, and began to dictate a successful policy of treaty revision, the *Kaishin* ceased to be oppositionists, and loudly supported the Government policy of their leader, for they, too, shared in his success, and therein were tasting the power for which they had sighed. In short, the time seems to be coming when there must be, in part at least, a surrender resulting not merely in a popular Assembly invested with deliberate powers, but in a Ministry more or less responsible to that Assembly. It is this irresponsibility of the Ministry (or, to take the point of view of the "outs," this monopoly of power by a close corporation of the Restoration leaders and their friends), which seems to stick in the throats of the politicians. One cannot help feeling that this question must be solved by the nation in some way before it will be in a mood to take up any other great issue. The sooner it is solved the better. Until parliamentary government by party arrives (even if in a modified shape only), there cannot but be more or less indecision on current questions, more or less fluidity and lack of cohesion in the party materials. Until then there will be only one real party—the Opposition. The journals have already declared from time to time in favour of "*seito naikaku*" (a party Cabinet), mildly depreciating the present system of "*hanbatsu naikaku*" (a coalition Cabinet, holding power *ad libitum*).

Perhaps neither the first nor the second year of the National Assembly will see the issue precipitated. At present it is obscured by the cumbersome party platforms recently put forth. But I have endeavoured to give you some idea of the larger influences and their trend, rather than of the countless minor issues, which are but temporary and superficial.

THE COTTON-SPINNING INDUSTRY.

Continuing its report of the Osaka Conference, the *Hyogo News* of the 21st instant says:—

The Conference of Cotton Spinners in Osaka was continued on Wednesday, when the committee charged with the business brought up their report on the proposal to stop, if possible, the import of yarn. They recommended that the companies turn out a stated quantity of yarn monthly, reporting to the Union their monthly output, and the number of bales (1 bale to contain 40 *tama*) in stock. The figures of each company's output of the Union, but care to be taken that such reports do not obtain publicity outside the members for whose information they are intended. They further recommended that the scheme proposed by them should come into force as soon as possible. Their recommendations were adopted. In the afternoon a committee of five, consisting of Mr. Kawamura of Osaka, Mr. Yamanobe, of Osaka, Mr. Tamura, of the Kanekin Weaving Company, and Mr. Nakahashi, of Sen-shu, were chosen to report on the proposition brought forward by Mr. Yamanobe with reference to an increase in the duty on imported yarn, and the abolition of the export duty. The Conference duly considered and adopted the motion that the receipts of the Godown Companies should be accepted as securities by the banks against money loaned. The delegates of the Osaka and Kurashiki Spinning Companies and the Kanekin Weaving Company were chosen to superintend the export of yarn. The initial steps regarding the formation of a Cotton Yarn Exchange in Osaka were entrusted to a committee of five, viz., the representatives of the Osaka, Sen-shu, Settsu, and Hirano Spinning Companies and the Kanekin Weaving Company. This appears on Wednesday, but the Conference is not yet at the close of its labours.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, November 22nd.

The guarantee fund raised for Baring Brothers amounted to fifteen millions sterling. *The Times* says that the revival of Baring Brothers is probable, with the same partners but fresh capital.

London, November 23rd.

The firm of Baring Brothers will be continued as a limited liability company, with Mr. Thomas Baring as Chairman.

London, November 25th.

Serious floods have been the cause of severe damage to the workings of the Manchester ship canal.

(FROM THE "SINGAPORE FREE PRESS.")

London, November 4th.

Belgium has proposed for the Swiss a renewal of the Latin Union for a period of five years, but the latter desire to prolong the agreement only from year to year.

TIME TABLES AND STEAMERS.

TOKYO-YOKOHAMA RAILWAY.

DOWN TRAINS LEAVE SHIMBASHI Station at 6.05* 6.40, 8.35, 9.30*, 10.25, and 11.45 a.m., and 1.25, 2.30, 3.55, 4.45, 5.50, 6.50, 8.30, 9.55, and 11.15 p.m.

UP TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 6.30, 7.20, 8.10, 9.15, 10.22, and 11.30 a.m., and 12.45, 2.30, 3.45, 5.30, 6.35, 7.50, 9.10, 10.05, and 11.05 p.m.

FARES—First-class, *sen* 60; second-class, *sen* 40; and third-class, *sen* 20.

Trains marked * run through without stopping at Omori, Kawasaki, Isurumi, and Kanagawa Stations. Those marked † run through without stopping at Omori, Kawasaki, and Tsurumi Stations.

TOKAIDO RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA (down) at 6.50, 9.10, 10.20, 11.25 a.m., and 12.40, 3.25, 4.55, 5.35, and 7.45 p.m.; and Kozu (up) at 6.35, 8.40, 9.40, and 11.07 a.m., and 1.17, 2.45, 4.58, 7.25, and 9.46 p.m.

FARES—To Hodegaya, first-class *sen* 6, second-class *sen* 4, third-class *sen* 2; to Totanka, *sen* 18, *sen* 12, *sen* 6; to Ofuna *sen* 36, *sen* 24, *sen* 12; to Fujisawa, *sen* 42, *sen* 28, *sen* 14; to Hiratsuka, *sen* 66, *sen* 44, *sen* 22; to Oiso, *sen* 75, *sen* 50, *sen* 25; and to Kozu, *sen* 93, *sen* 62, *sen* 31.

Down trains at 6.50 a.m. run no further than Kyoto arriving there at 11.30 p.m.; at 10.20 a.m. no further than Nagoya, arriving at 10.10 p.m.; at 12.40 p.m. no further than Shizuoka, arriving there at 6.50 p.m.; and the train at 5.35 p.m. runs to Kobe, arriving at 12.45 p.m. next day.

A tramway runs between Kozu and Yuhoro (distance 4 *ri*). Jinrikisha may be hired between Yumoto and Miyakoshi (distance 4 *ri*).

OFUNA-YOKOSUKA RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE OFUNA (down) at 7.30 and 9.40 a.m., and 12.05, 1.30, 4.03, 6.14, and 8.30 p.m.; KAMAKURA (down) at 7.41 and 9.51 a.m., and 12.16, 1.41, 4.14, 6.25, and 8.41 p.m.; and ZUSHIMURA (down) at 7.50 and 10 a.m., and 12.25, 1.50, 4.23, 6.34, and 8.50 p.m.; YOKOSUKA (up) at 6.45, 8.55, and 11.20 a.m., and 12.50, 3.50, and 7.45 p.m.; ZUSHIMURA (up) at 7.01, 9.12, and 11.36 a.m., and 1.06, 3.16, 5.26, and 8.01 p.m.; and KAMAKURA (up) at 7.11, 9.22, and 11.46 a.m., and 1.15, 3.26, 5.36 and 8.10 p.m.

FARES—To Kamakura, first-class *sen* 9, second-class *sen* 6, third-class *sen* 3; to Zushimura *sen* 15, *sen* 10, *sen* 5; and to Yokosuka *sen* 30, *sen* 20, *sen* 10.

TOKYO-MARUHASHI RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE TOKYO (Ueno) (down) at 6.40, 8.50, and 11.40 a.m., and 2.40 and 5.40 p.m.; and MARUHASHI (up) at 6.55, and 11.50 a.m., and 2.50 and 5.50 p.m.

SHINJIKU-HACHIOJI RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE SHINJIKU, TOKYO, (down) at 6.55 and 9.55 a.m. and 12.52, 4, and 7 p.m.; and HACHIOJI (up) at 5.25, 8.25, and 11.25 a.m. and 2.20 and 5.30 p.m.

FARES—First-class *sen* 90; second-class *sen* 60; third-class *sen* 30.

NAGOYA-TAKETOYO RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE NAGOYA at 9.05 a.m., and 5.05 p.m., and TAKETOYO at 7.50 a.m., and 3.50 p.m.

FARES—Second-class, *sen* 74; Third-class, *sen* 37

TAKETOYO-OFU RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE TAKETOYO (up) at 5.40 and 10.40 a.m., and OFU (down) at 3.55 and 8.55 p.m.

FARES—Second-class, 26 *sen*, third-class, 13 *sen*.

KOZU-KOBE RAILWAY.

DOWN TRAINS LEAVE Kozu at 8.30 a.m., and 12.50, 2.13, 4.57, and 7.10 p.m.; GOTEMBA at 9.52 a.m., and 1.32, 3.35, 6.18, and 8.32 p.m.; NUMAZU at 5.20 and 10.40 a.m., and 2.30, 4.27, 7.09, and 9.24 p.m.; SHIZUOKA at 7.20 a.m., and 12.19, 4.12, 6.50, and 10.59 p.m.; HAMAMATSU at 6.10 and 10 a.m., and 2.40 and 6.45 p.m., and 1.16 a.m.; TOYOHASHI at 7.10 and 11.10 a.m., and 3.39 and 7.45 p.m., and 2.14 a.m.; OFU at 8.59 a.m., and 1.06, 5.22, and 9.28 p.m., and 4.02 a.m.; NAGOYA at 9.45, and 11.50 a.m., and 2. and 6.08 p.m., and 5 a.m.; Gifu at 10.53 a.m., and 1.3.06, and 7.09 p.m., and 6 a.m.; OGAKI at 11.24 a.m., and 1.28, 3.33, and 7.38 p.m., and 6.28 a.m.; MAIBARA at 9.45 a.m., and 1.2.49, 5.07, and 8.55 p.m., and 7.45 a.m.; HIKONE at 10.05 a.m., and 1.18, 3.02, 5.25, and 9.06 p.m., and 7.58 a.m.; BABA (Otsu) at 12.3.15, 4.40, 7.10, and 10.43 p.m., and 9.34 a.m.; KYOTO at 12.45, 4.05, 5.35, and 8 p.m., and 10.14 a.m.; and OSAKA at 2.25, 5.35, 7.20, and 9.50 p.m., and 11.42 a.m.

UP TRAINS LEAVE Kozu at 5.55 and 9.55 a.m., and 1.55, 3.45 and 5.30 p.m.; OSAKA at 7.06 and 11.06 a.m., and 3.06, 5. and 6.36 p.m.; KYOTO at 5.35 and 8.40 a.m., and 12.40, 4.36, 6.40, and 8.05 p.m.; BABA (Otsu) at 6.18, and 9.31 a.m., and 1.30, 5.25, 7.31, and 8.50 p.m.; HIKONE at 7.56, and 11.05 a.m., and 3.03, 7.02, 9.08, and 10.25 p.m.; MAIBARA at 8.13, and 11.20 a.m., and 3.19, 7.20, and 10.42 p.m.; OGAKI at 9.30 a.m., and 12.30, 4.37, 8.46, and 11.54 p.m.; Gifu at 9.57 a.m., and 10.02, 5.04, and 9.15 p.m., and 12.17 a.m.; NAGOYA at 6, and 11 a.m., and 2.10 and 6.20 p.m., and 1.09 a.m.; OFU at 6.43 and 11.44 a.m., and 2.56 and 7.04 p.m., and 1.41 a.m.; TOYOHASHI at 8.30 a.m., and 1.30, 4.42, and 8.52 p.m., and 3.17 a.m.; HAMAMATSU at 6.30 and 9.45 a.m., and 2.45 and 6 p.m., and 4.25 a.m.; SHIZUOKA at 5.15 and 9.07 a.m., and 12.45, 5.20, and 9.45 p.m., and 7.08 a.m.; NUMAZU at 7.03 and 10.46 a.m., and 2.24 and 7.14 p.m., and 8.43 a.m.; GOTEMBA at 8.15 and 11.58 a.m., and 3.38 and 8.28 p.m., and 9.53 a.m.; and Kozu at 9.40 a.m., and 1.17, 4.58, and 9.46 p.m., and 11.07 a.m.

FARES—Kozu to Gotemba: first-class, *sen* 66, second-class *sen* 44, third-class *sen* 22; to Numazu *sen* 1.11, *sen* 74, *sen* 37; to Shizuoka *sen* 2.13, *sen* 1.42, *sen* 71; to Hamamatsu *sen* 3.57, *sen* 2.38, *sen* 1.19; to Toyohashi *sen* 4.23, *sen* 2.82, *sen* 1.41; to Ofu *sen* 5.22, *sen* 3.48, *sen* 1.74; to Nagoya *sen* 5.58, *sen* 3.72, *sen* 1.86; to Gifu *sen* 6.15, *sen* 4.10, *sen* 2.05; to Ogaki *sen* 6.42, *sen* 4.28, *sen* 2.14; to Maibara *sen* 7.05, *sen* 4.70, *sen* 2.35; to Hikone *sen* 7.17, *sen* 4.78, *sen* 2.39; to Baba *sen* 8.10, *sen* 5.40, *sen* 2.70; to Kyoto *sen* 8.40, *sen* 5.60, *sen* 2.80; to Osaka *sen* 9.21, *sen* 6.14, *sen* 3.07; and to Kobe *sen* 9.81, *sen* 6.54, *sen* 3.27.

The down train at 8.32 a.m. runs no further than Kyoto, arriving there at 11.30 p.m.; at 12.12 p.m. no further than Nagoya, arriving at 10.10 p.m.; and the train at 5.30 p.m. runs to Kobe, arriving at 12.40 p.m. next day. The up train at 5.55 a.m. runs no further than Shizuoka, arriving there at 6.40 p.m.; at 9.55 a.m. and 1.55 p.m. no further than Nagoya, arriving respectively at 6.07 and 10.15 p.m.; and the train at 5.30 p.m. runs to Shimabashi arriving at 1.40 p.m. next day.

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

STEAMERS LEAVE the Nippon Hatoba daily at 8.30 a.m., and 12.30 and 3.30 p.m.; and LEAVE YOKOSUKA at 8.30 a.m., and 12.30 and 3.30 p.m.—Fare, *sen* 20.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki & Kobe.....	per N. Y. K.	Friday, Nov. 28th.
From Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co.		To-day, Nov. 28th.*
From America... per O. & O. Co.		Monday, Dec. 1st.†
From Europe via Hongkong.....	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, Nov. 29th.‡
From Hongkong. per O. & O. Co.		Monday, Dec. 1st.§
From Hongkong. per P. & O. Co.		Sunday, Dec. 7th.
From Europe via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd.	Monday, Dec. 8th.

* Straits of Belle Isle left Vancouver on November 1st. † Oceanic left San Francisco on November 15th. ‡ Djinnah (with French mail) left Shanghai on November 25th. § Belgic (with English mail) left Hongkong on November 26th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hongkong... per P. & O. Co.		Saturday, Nov. 29th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki...	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, Dec. 2nd.
For America... per O. & O. Co.		Thursday, Dec. 4th.
For Europe, via Shanghai.....	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 7th.
For Europe, via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd.	Wednesday, Dec. 10th.
For America... per P. M. Co.		Tuesday, Dec. 16th.

FOR INDIGESTION USE HORSEFORD'S ACID PHOSPHATE

Dr. ROBERT POLLOCK SIMMONS, M.R.C.S., Scarborough, says:—"I have used it with marked benefit in a case of indigestion of many years standing and it proved very useful."

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Drummond, 22nd November.—Hakodate 19th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Arctic, British schooner, 49, Pyne, 22nd November.—North Pacific 15th November, Sealing Gear.—Captain.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, Speigalthal, 22nd November.—Kobe 21st November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 436, Miyagi, 22nd November.—Caroline Islands 16th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,878, W. D. Mudie, 23rd November.—Hongkong 14th, Nagasaki 19th, and Kobe 22nd November, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Bentomond, British steamer, 1,752, A. W. S. Thompson, 23rd November.—Kobe 21st November, General.—Comes & Co.

Electra, German steamer, 1,160, P. Moller, 23rd November.—Hongkong 15th November, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,182, Walter, 23rd November.—Kobe 21st November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Brown, 23rd November.—Kobe 22nd November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yorkshire, British steamer, 1,426, Arnold, 23rd November.—Muroran 20th November, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Abyssinia, British steamer, 2,300, G. A. Lee, 24th November.—Vancouver, B.C., 3rd November, General.—C. P. M. S.S. Co.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 25th November.—Hakodate 23rd November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 25th November.—Kobe 24th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hyacinth (8), cruiser, Captain R. W. Craigie, 26th November.—From a Cruise.

Oni Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Wynn, 26th November.—Hakodate 24th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Batavia, British steamer, 1,661, J. C. Williamson, 26th November.—Hongkong 14th and Kobe 25th November, General.—C. P. M. S.S. Co.

Fuyo, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 27th November.—Nagasaki 26th November, Coal.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,357, Drummond, 27th November.—Kobe 26th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, Kenderdine, 22nd November.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, R. R. Seale, 23rd November.—Hongkong, General.—C. P. M. S.S. Co.

Melbourne, French steamer, 3,400, Paul, 23rd November.—Shanghai via Kobe, General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Myrmidon, British steamer, 1,815, R. Nelson, 23rd November.—Kobe, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, Speigalthal, 23rd November.—Shimonoseki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Drummond, 23rd November.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hyacinth (8), cruiser, Captain R. W. Craigie, 24th November.—Toipeda Practice.

Abyssinia, British steamer, 2,300, G. A. Lee, 25th November.—Hongkong via ports, General.—C. P. M. S.S. Co.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Brown, 25th November.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 436, Miyagi, 25th November.—Handa, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 25th November.—Shanghai and ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mogul, British steamer, 1,634, Johnson, 26th November.—Kobe, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 26th November.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yorkshire, British steamer, 1,426, Arnold, 26th November.—Yokosuka.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 27th November.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Batavia, British steamer, 1,661, J. C. Williamson,

28th November.—Vancouver, B.C., General.—C. P. M. S.S. Co.

Electra, German steamer, 1,162, Moller, 28th November.—Kobe, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, from Hakodate:—Mr. K. Mayeda and Mr. U. Murakami in second class, and 19 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Satsuma Maru*, from Kobe:—3 passengers in second class, and 81 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, from Hongkong via ports:—Rev. J. Summers, Major Manners Wood, Mr. and Mrs. Palford and child, Miss Brent, Miss Hellyer, Mr. and Mrs. Apear, infant, and native servant, Messrs. Loh Shun, Wee Show Yee, Woo Pah Kiu, Sum Pah Ping, Chew Chum, Captain W. R. Robinson and friend, Captain James, and Mr. Wing Kow in cabin; 3 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Abyssinia*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Rev. and Mrs. Daniel Nelson and 4 children, Mr. and Mrs. Taylor, Messrs. J. E. Duff, W. Lagerquist, Geo. Marshall, A. E. Thor, Lee Sing Wye, Rev. and Mrs. B. F. Buxton and infant, Miss M. Sander, Mrs. E. Sarrott, Mr. F. Sarrott, Mr. W. Hind, Miss J. Head, Miss S. J. Thompson, Miss E. Moss, Mr. H. L. Dennis, Rev. and Mrs. J. G. Haller, Miss H. E. Gregory, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Lay, Miss F. Pierson, Mr. R. G. W. Wainwright, Mrs. S. Stewart, Mrs. Mason, Mr. Peake, and Rev. Mr. Small in cabin; 400 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Hakodate:—Messrs. Nishioka, Hayashi, Meito, and Uyeno in cabin; 43 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. K. Hara and H. Tanikawa in cabin; 2 passengers in second class, and 66 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Batavia*, from Hongkong via Kobe:—85 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. K. Okazaki and T. Ohashi in cabin; 54 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *China*, for San Francisco:—Mrs. Wakefield, Miss Anna D. Gloss, Mrs. C. M. Jewell, Mr. T. B. Cunningham, Captain Cudner, I.G.N., Mr. T. J. Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Takamine, two children, and native servant, Mr. A. Peine, Mr. H. Slugio, Madame Jacqueson, Mr. A. Jacqueson, Mr. E. Jacqueson, Mr. Colgate Baker, Miss Baker, Mr. Jas. Hayes, Mrs. T. H. Fisher, Miss T. E. Porter, Mr. W. H. Corsar, Mr. G. H. Macouday, Miss H. T. Standcliffe, Rev. C. A. and Mrs. Fisher and child, Mr. A. Sparring, Mr. J. Goodchild, and Mr. J. H. Miller in cabin.

Per French steamer *Melbourne*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. F. U. Hombey, Mr. H. de la Coup, Mrs. Fitz Henry and child, Mr. Baxter Lamondi, Miss Yamada Seki, Messrs. M. J. E. Milleuive Bargeant, Chénard, J. Phugger, A. Shahudin, G. d'Alaya, L. Roux, Singer Imamura, Koichiro Shimizu, and Abel Alexandre in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for Hongkong:—Mr. T. B. Davis, Rev. R. W. Picher, Mr. and Mrs. Onong Man Tai and two children, and Mrs. Saito in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Satsuma Maru*, for Hakodate:—Mrs. Shishitama Shige and Mr. Matsuo in cabin; Mr. Imai in second class, and 45 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. Sarah L. Woodin, Rev. F. S. Woodin, Messrs. Wakamiya, Egoshi, W. A. Stone, Lieut.-Com. R. C. Rich, Mr. Uge, Mrs. Pakenham and infant, Mr. and Mrs. Buxton, infant, and maid, Mr. and Mrs. Parrott, Miss Thompson, Miss Sander, Rev. W. Wynn, Mr. M. Fitzgerald, and Mr. H. S. James in cabin; Messrs. Matsui, Tanaka, Kato, and Hashimoto in second class, and 38 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Batavia*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. Albert Tissandier in cabin; Messrs. G. S. Schneider and John G. Harlow in second class.

CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Melbourne*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Silk for France 565 bales; Waste silk for France 516 bales; Treasure for Singapore \$17,500.

Per British steamer *Batavia*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—

	TEA.	CHICAGO	NEW YORK	PACIFIC	TOTAL.
Hangkong	204	—	5	—	209
Amoy	107	—	—	—	107
Foochow	704	304	—	20	1,028
Shanghai	224	2,005	—	106	2,335

Hyogo	100	—	—	100
Yokohama	1,457	57	220	1,734
Total	2,796	2,366	5	5,153

	NEW YORK.	MONTREAL.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	105	—	105
Yokohama	594	25	619
Total	699	25	724

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, Captain Drummond, reports:—Left Hakodate the 19th November at 2 p.m.; rounded Shirai-saki at 6 p.m.; reached Kuro-saki the 20th at 2.12 a.m.; strong N.W. winds and heavy N.E. swell. Arrived at Oginohama at 1 p.m. and left the 21st at 6.30 a.m.; had light variable winds and heavy N.E. swell; passed Inuboye at 10.5 p.m.; reached Noshima the 22nd at 5.15 a.m.; thence to port fresh N. to N.W. winds and thick rain and dirty weather. Arrived at Yokohama at 10 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Satsuma Maru*, Captain Brown, reports:—Left Kobe the 22nd November at noon; had fine weather and light northerly winds up to arrival at Yokohama the 23rd November at 7.30 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Sagami Maru*, Captain Walter, reports:—Left Kobe the 22nd November at 6 p.m.; had light to fresh north-easterly winds and fine weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 24th November at 2 a.m.

The British steamer *Abyssinia*, Captain Lee, reports:—Left railway terminus Vancouver the 3rd November at 4.20 p.m.; called at Esquimalt and sailed from there at noon on the 5th; passed Kinkasan the 23rd at 10.15 a.m. Arrived at Yokohama the 24th November at noon. Between Vancouver and Esquimalt detained 37 hours owing to dense fogs, and from Vancouver Island to 180 meridian which occupied 10 days, experienced continuous hard westerly gales with very heavy head sea; thence to Kinkasan strong to fresh N.N.W. and S.W. winds prevailing, moderate sea and fine winter weather; Kinkasan to Yokohama fine weather. Time occupied during voyage 18 days. Brings a full general cargo for Shanghai.

The Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, Captain Ekstrand, reports:—Left Hakodate the 22nd November at 2 p.m.; had moderate westerly breeze and fine clear weather. Arrived at Oginohama the 23rd at noon and left the 24th at 5 a.m.; had light southerly winds, fine clear weather, and smooth sea till arrival at Yokohama the 25th November at 7.45 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, Captain Young, reports:—Left Kobe the 24th November at noon; passed Oshima at 9 p.m. and Rock Island the 25th at 11.45 a.m.; had light variable winds, smooth sea, and fine clear weather throughout the voyage. Arrived at Yokohama at 6.10 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Oni Maru*, Captain Wynn, reports:—Left Hakodate the 24th November at 2 p.m.; had fine weather and light winds to Kinkasan; thence strong N.W. winds and fine weather to port. Arrived at Yokohama the 26th November at 1.20 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, Captain Drummond, reports:—Left Kobe the 26th November at noon; had fine weather and light breeze from southward; passed Tomaga-shima at 2.12 p.m.; Ooshima abeam at 8.40 p.m., weather still the same; reached Rock Island the 27th at 11.20 a.m.; thence to port strong S.W. winds. Arrived at Yokohama at 5.30 p.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

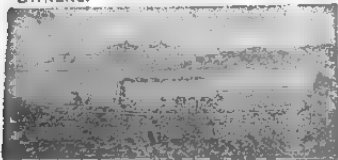
IMPORTS.

Business is at a complete standstill, the Japanese having turned their attention to festivities and general rejoicing over the opening of the Imperial Diet; the past week may be registered as a blank in the annals of the Import business. Not a bale of English Yarns has been reported, and Bombays to the small extent of 35 bales only, and Shirtings 1,250 pieces.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

Grey Shirtings—24 in, 38 1/2 yds, 39 inches	\$1.35	to	1.90
Grey Shirtings—24 in, 38 1/2 yds, 45 inches	1.60	to	2.50
Indigo Shirtings—24 yds, 32 inches	1.15	to	1.47 1/2
Indigo Shirtings—24 yds, 44 inches	1.20	to	1.60
Points—Assorted, 24 yds, 30 inches	1.70	to	2.00
Cotton—Italiane and Saltecas (Black, 32 inches)	0.70	to	0.11
Fuskey Reds—24 to 24 1/2, 24 yds, 30 inches	1.00	to	1.15
Fuskey Reds—24 to 30 1/2, 24 yds, 30 inches	1.20	to	1.40
Fuskey Reds—30 to 40 1/2, 24 yds, 30 inches	1.70	to	2.05
Velvets—Black, 35 yds, 42 inches	4.50	to	6.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yds, 42 1/2 inches	0.50	to	0.65
Halfcheviots, 12 yds, 43 inches	1.35	to	2.25

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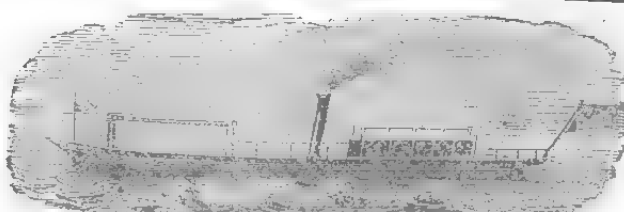
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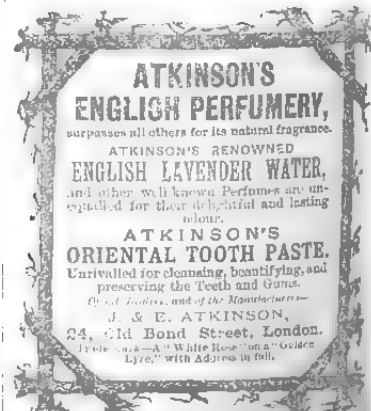
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

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No. 23.]

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AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, DECEMBER 6TH, 1890.

通信書局可

[Vol. XIV.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, DEC. 6, 1890.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE railway between Kusatsu and Yokkaichi will be opened shortly.

COUNT YAMAGATA arrived in the capital on the 1st inst. from Oiso.

THE railway between Osaka and Nara will be opened on or about the 10th inst.

HIS IMPERIAL HIGHNESS PRINCE ASAHIRO started from the capital on the 27th ult. for Kyoto.

FROM the beginning of this year to the present 150,000 tons of coal were raised at the Horonai coal mine.

THE resignation by Count Yanagiwara of his seat in the Upper House, was announced on the 20th ult.

TELEGRAMS from Nagaoka, Yamagata, and Niigata Prefectures report that snow fell there on the 29th ult.

COUNTESS YAMAGATA, who has been at Oiso for some time, will leave for Yamaguchi Prefecture in a few days.

THE association of Christian teachers in Tokyo presented a letter of congratulation to the Lower House on the 29th ult.

THE Government has received intelligence of the arrival at Aden of the *Hiyei Kan* and *Kongo Kan* on the 30th ult.

THE Diet has had several sessions, but its time has been chiefly occupied with preliminary operations of organization and so forth.

COUNT ITO, President of the Upper House, and Mr. Nakajima, President of the Lower House, had an audience of the Emperor on the 1st inst. at the Palace.

THE Osaka Shosen Kaisha has opened a new

route between Osaka and Jinsen, Korea, and the *Sumidagawa Maru* will be sent on the 2nd instant on its first trip.

HIS IMPERIAL HIGHNESS PRINCESS TSUNK, accompanied by her suite, proceeded to the Asakusa Park and paid a visit to the Ryouunkaku Tower on the 26th ult.

A TELEGRAM from Kumamoto Prefecture reports that thirty-four persons were attacked by cholera within 12 days from the 17th to the 28th November last in Kumamoto city.

MR. MORI SHUNKICHI, a civil engineer, who recently returned from Europe, has invented a method of manufacturing smokeless powder, after a long course of experiments.

THE number of persons attacked by cholera throughout the Empire from the commencement of the epidemic to the 30th ult. was 44,657, resulting in 31,199 deaths.

THE Nagoya Rice Exchange gave 1 *sho* of rice to each of the poor to celebrate the opening of the Diet. One thousand three hundred and seventy-nine persons received the dole.

THE *Takachiho Kan* arrived at Shinagawa on the 29th ult. The *Musashi Kan*, training ship attached to the Yokosuka Admiralty Station, left Yokkaichi on the 1st inst. for Shimizu.

THE general meeting of the Nippon Tetsudo Kaisha (Japan Railway Company) will be held on the 19th inst. at the Kosei-Kan, Kyobashiku, Tokyo, commencing at one in the afternoon.

THEIR MAJESTIES THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS were pleased to grant on the 2nd inst. the sum of yen 800 to the Kanagawa Prefectural Government for the relief of sufferers by the fire which took place on the 30th ult. in Yokosuka.

THE Japanese Consul at San Francisco reports that the total value of trade between Japan and that port during the month of August last was \$1,154,570, of which \$38,843 represented exports from Japan and \$1,116,727 imports.

MR. KIGAMI KIZAYEMON started for San Francisco on the 22nd ult. by the *China*, with the purpose of opening trade between San Francisco and Hawaii. He has the support of many of the leading merchants of Osaka and Yokohama.

To celebrate the opening of the Imperial Diet, the Hakubun-sha, Tokyo, liberated about 600 small birds on the 29th inst. A piece of paper was lightly attached to the legs of each, and those who find the paper will receive a book on presenting the same at the Hakubun-sha.

AN ordinary Cabinet meeting was held on the 2nd instant, at which there were present Counts Yamagata, Saigo, Yamada, Matsukata, Oyama and Goto, Viscounts Aoki and Kaba-yama, and Messrs. Yoshikawa and Mutsu. The proceedings commenced at ten in the forenoon.

THEIR IMPERIAL HIGHNESSES PRINCES AKIRA and Yoshihisa, Counts Yamagata and Saigo, Viscount Hijikata, Marquis Tokudaiji, Mr. Shirane, Vice-Minister of the Home Department, and all Governors of Prefectures who are now in the capital, had the honour of dining with the Emperor on the 27th ult. at the Palace.

ACCORDING to a report by the Sanitary Bureau, 1 new case of cholera occurred in Kyoto City on the 22nd ult., 2 new cases and 1 death in Hyogo Prefecture on the 24th ult.; 6 new cases in Chiba Prefecture from the 20th to the

26th ult.; 1 new case in Nara Prefecture on the 21st ult.; and 12 new cases and 15 deaths from the 15th to the 21st ult. in Kagawa Prefecture.

MESSRS. TSUYUKI JUNZABURO, Ishiwata Kayemon, Komatsu Shikichi, and Higuchi Chusuke of Atami, and Messrs. Okura Kihachi, Takashima Kayemon, Miranuma Shenzo, and Mogi Sobei of Tokyo and Yokohama received permission to lay a line between Atami and Odawara, on the 20th ult.

COLONEL OSHIMA, President of the Military Academy, who recently returned to Japan from Germany, delivered an address embodying his observations during his tour through Europe, at a meeting held on the 3rd inst., at which Prince Arisugawa, Commander-in-Chief of the Army, and a number of other officers were present.

A FEW days ago eleven flasks of quicksilver, the property of Takata & Co., were stolen from the Yokohama Custom House. One man was arrested by a detective named Takenouchi, and the property stolen was recovered. The thief is a native of Kagoshima Prefecture, and is believed to have had several accomplices.

A GENERAL meeting of the shareholders of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha was held on the 1st inst. in the office of the company. The receipts for the year were yen 5,962,324.41, of which yen 1,182,500 were set apart as a dividend for the year, to be declared at the rate of 11 per cent. per annum, yen 19,128,738 being carried forward to the next account.

PERMISSION has been granted by the Wakayama Local Government to Mr. Masuda, a diver of Yokohama, to raise the *Ertougrout* at his own expense. Mr. Masuda will start from here shortly. Mr. Omatsu Toyemon, a leading merchant of Kobe, received similar permission at the same time, and in all probability they will work in conjunction.

A SERIOUS fire broke out in the morning of the 30th ult. at Yokosuka, destroying 839 buildings, including the police station, the town hall, a bank, a school, and a temple. One man and two women were caught by the flames and burned to death, and eight persons were injured. The fire was subdued at 10 minutes past eight, having begun at half-past three in the morning.

IN most Imports business is at almost a standstill, as may be judged in the matter of Yarns, of which only twenty bales have been sold. The Metal trade is dull, prices are almost nominal, and deliveries are slow. There has been some enquiry for Kerosene, and 37,000 cases Russian have been taken, also a small parcel of Comet; and, as Tokyo market is said to be improving, holders are hoping that some reduction of the heavy stock may be near at hand. Sugar has met but small demand, but prices continue weak. There is no health in the Silk trade. When exchange moves in favour of holders a few transactions are put through, but these are largely compulsory on account of forward sales. The transactions of the week, however, are in no way proportionate to the stock, which still remains over 16,000 piculs. But little has been done in Waste Silk, though the assortment still remains good and stocks are ample. Buyers, however, are in the market, and are ready to go on when terms can be arranged. There is nothing worth reporting in the Tea trade. Exchange has continued to fluctuate, and the latest movement is a decline in rates.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

FAREWELL DINNER TO CAPTAIN BOUGOUÏN.

ON the evening of the 29th ultimo the Tokyo Club entertained Captain Bougoûin, Military attaché of the French Legation, at a farewell dinner. Covers were laid for over a hundred members, and representatives of nearly all the nationalities resident in Japan assembled to do honour to one of the most popular men ever known in this country. The Ministers of Russia, Germany, Austria, the United States, and Hawaii, Marquis Nabeshima, Viscount Matsudaira, Baron Nagaoka, and a number of other notables were among those present. The chair was occupied by Mr. H. W. Denison, one of the Vice-Presidents of the Club, and the Vice-Chairs by Messrs. E. Dun, T. B. Glover, and W. Heise. Great pains had been taken by the Manager, Mr. C. M. Duff, to have the tables decorated appropriately, and the result did credit to that gentleman's well known taste and skilful direction. Each *ménu* bore a photograph of Captain Bougoûin, some grave, some gay, and some of the caricature genus, and the *ménus* placed before the guest of the evening was in all respects a magnificent affair. It was in the form of an album. In the inside, round the *ménu* itself, were arranged miniature photographs of all the Club rooms, in which Captain Bougoûin has spent so many happy evenings and where he has contributed so materially to the pleasure of his fellow-members, as well as a photograph of the country seat of H.E. Count Saigo, formerly Minister of War, a place associated with many pleasant memories in the mind of the Count's close friend. On the outside Captain Bougoûin's arms and initials were beautifully emblazoned, and the whole was suspended from a frame of milk-white wood fashioned in the shape of a *torii*, the Japanese emblem of peace and good-will. Captain Bougoûin's health was proposed by Mr. Denison in the following terms:—

Your Excellencies and Gentlemen,—Again are we called upon to celebrate the departure from our midst of one of the fathers of this Club. But it is not alone as a Member of this Institution that we delight to do honour to Captain Bougoûin, nor is it alone as a Clubman that we shall miss him. Whether it be at our social gatherings, or at the whist-table, at billiards, or in that little room in which Fuku is the presiding genius and towards which our erring foot-steps perhaps too often turn, he is ever and the same genial companion; the same generous and gallant adversary. And although old Father Time, with gentle hand, is giving his locks a gentler shade, he is always "one of the boys." God bless him!

He has made our lives the happier by his coming; he will make them the sadder by his going.

To say that we shall miss him is but faintly to express the sense of loss we shall all feel when he is no longer with us. To say that we would rejoice if he could return to us, is but to express a sentiment I am sure we all entertain, and I need hardly assure Captain Bougoûin that we shall watch with great interest his advancement in the service of his country, for we have already made him "our colonel."

Your Excellencies and Gentlemen,—The health, happiness, and prosperity of our guest, Captain Bougoûin.

The toast having been drunk amid tumultuous applause, Captain Bougoûin, who was received with loud cheers, replied as follows:—

"I thank you very much indeed, my dear Denison, for your kind words. I wish I were able to answer you in your own tongue, but for some considerable time I have been dining and winning, and the long round of gaiety has interfered so much with my private lessons that I am now a worse speaker of English than I ever was. So please allow me to speak to my friends in French. We translate it:—"You spoil your Colonel too much, gentlemen, and truly I know not how to thank you for the charming proof of friendship that you offer me this evening. You all know with what regret I leave you, and leave this beautiful Japan, where I have passed fifteen happy years and where I have had the good fortune to win such kind friends. I derive, however, some little consolation from the old proverb, too trivial perhaps to be quoted here, which says that soldiers being always on the march, have a good chance of finding their friends again. If any of you come to Paris, I hope you will give me the great pleasure of asking for me at the Cercle Militaire, Place de l'Opéra, and ap-

pointing a place to meet. Be assured that you shall not have to wait long for an answer. But when we find ourselves together once more, do not, I pray you, forget that we are no longer at the Tokyo Club and greet me with one of those jocular cries which we laugh at here, but which might meet there with a different reception. Our agreeable *réunion* might end in the police station, and the promotion which you so kindly wish me, might be compromised. I treasure also some little hope of coming back to see you some fine day; if the opportunity presents itself, I shall not let it escape me. Keep my name, therefore, on the list of absent members, and let me say not "adieu" but "au revoir." I shall write to all my friends in Japan, whom I leave to-day with so much regret and whom I shall always be so charmed to meet again. My hearty thanks and best wishes to you all.—(Loud applause.)

THE MEIJI ART SOCIETY.

THE exhibition of oil paintings by the members of the Meiji Art Society, in the building formerly used by the Nobles' Club in Ueno Park, attracts considerable numbers of spectators, but we cannot pretend to be in any degree enthusiastic about the works displayed. Mr. Harada, who will be remembered by visitors to the Industrial Exhibition as the painter of the large picture of the Goddess Kannon descending on a dragon from the clouds, as well as of an excellent portrait of Prince Mori, has sent on this occasion two heads, evidently from life, which help to enhance his reputation. Undoubtedly he is an artist of great promise, remarkable alike for idealistic and technical faculties. But of the other pictures, with a few scarcely noteworthy exceptions, we are compelled to say that they are marked by a dead level of inferiority. Something is still wanting in the Japanese school of oil painters. Whether it is that the vast majority of them have never had, and cannot hope ever to have, an opportunity of visiting the great galleries of the West, and are consequently without any genuine sense of what is possible in the line of their art; or whether it is, as some assert, that the capacity of pictorial artists is numbed by want of patronage, and that they are unable to achieve anything really good in face of the indifference or economy which closes the market of their country against them, the undeniable fact is that their pictures are still only mediocre and barely mediocre. It had been hoped, and indeed expected, that the display made at this exhibition would quite eclipse that made at the Industrial Exhibition, and that good reasons would be furnished for bestowing marks of distinction which were withheld—unfairly withheld the artists assert—by the jurors on the latter occasion. But there can be no question, we think, that Japanese artists of the Western School did themselves far more justice at the Industrial Exhibition than they have now done themselves under the auspices of the Meiji Bijutsu-kai. Among the pictures shown at the *Hakuran-kai* there were some that suggested high expectations as to the future of oil painting in Japan, but among this new batch we find scarcely any that convey a similar impression. It is terribly uphill work for Japanese artists to contend against existing conditions. Their countrymen refuse, almost universally, to pay anything like a remunerative price for domestic efforts in oils or water colours, and there are in Japan exceedingly few Western pictures fit to be taken as good examples. The former difficulty is illustrated by the mournful paucity of red tickets in the present exhibition: scarcely one picture in every fifty has found a purchaser. The latter drawback may be appreciated by anyone who visits the *Sanko-shitsu*, or gallery of comparative specimens, which has been furnished with some trouble in an upper room of the exhibition building. The foreign paintings hung in this little gallery are much better, taken all round, than their Japanese competitors downstairs, but they are very poor affairs for all that, and any Japanese artist estimating the capacities of his *milieu* by such a display, could hardly find himself inspired or enthusiastic. It is plain enough, therefore, that the Japanese disciples of Occidental art have immense impediments to overcome, and that to pronounce any final verdict about their efforts

up to the present without making full allowance for the obstacles lying in their path, would be a very partial proceeding. We have, for our own part, the fullest confidence in the ultimate success of the school, and though its most recent works do not greatly strengthen our confidence, there remains the reflection that the disciples of the new style are now passing through perhaps the gloomiest stage of their career, where the novelty that lent attraction to their early efforts has worn off and no striking excellence has been developed to re-galvanise public interest. That it retains its vitality, and even develops new strength, under such circumstances, must be taken as a convincing proof of its final victory.

SPEECHES TO BE MADE BY MINISTERS OF STATE IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THE Diet, says the *Hochi Shimbun*, has been organized, and after finishing the election of Committees and officers, the House of Representatives will be opened on the 6th instant to deliberate on the Poor Law Bill, the first measure submitted by the Government to the House. We are told that on that day the Ministers of State will attend the meeting, and before commencing the debate, Count Yamagata, the Minister President, will explain the administration of the present Government, and Count Matsugata, Minister of Finance, will give some explanations with reference to the estimates for the 24th year of Meiji. This is owing partly to a request made by the Chief Secretary of the House, but the Ministers originally entertained the intention of attending in the House and making personal explanations. There were however, some opinions opposed to such a step, on the ground that it would be disadvantageous to make long speeches at the outset or to offer official explanations. The Ministers were more or less influenced by these views, but they finally decided to make brief explanatory speeches. At any rate the constitutional system of government will henceforth become a thing of reality, and the people will be able to learn the motives and methods of the course of administration pursued by the Government.

DISGRACEFUL CONDUCT OF TOKYO STUDENTS.

AN unfortunate occurrence marred the good order of the proceedings in the streets of Tokyo on Saturday. Steps had been taken by the police to stem the streams of traffic flowing towards the main routes along which the Imperial cortège should pass, the result being that large crowds, collecting in the streets thus closed, watched the procession from whatever points of vantage were accessible. This was the case notably in the streets leading from the Nagata and Kojimachi districts to the route between the Sakurada and Tora Gates. When, however, the Imperial cortège had entered the enclosure of the Diet, these crowds were suffered to pass, and it immediately became an object with them to hasten forward so as to witness the exit of the cortège from the Diet. In this effort the Kojimachi crowd, hurrying southwards, impinged upon the Nagatacho crowd, pushing eastwards, and a struggle of some violence ensued at the entrance of the street by which both sought access to the precincts of the Diet. A corner of the Russian Legation enclosure abuts upon the road just at this point, and within the corner is a pavilion, raised some twelve or fourteen feet above the road. Several ladies and one or two children had seated themselves in the pavilion, thus commanding a full view of the Imperial cortège in its passage along the two streets which meet at this corner. When the collision between the two crowds occurred, the police, exerting themselves with remarkable forbearance and judgment, had almost succeeded in restoring order. But at that moment a band of students, coming from the direction of the Sakurada Gate, pushed violently forward, flourishing a towel tied to a stick, and uttering excited cries. It is impossible to say precisely what happened in the *melee* that followed. Certain it is, however, that first one stone, and then a shower of these missiles reached the pavilion in which the ladies were seated, fortunately injuring no one, but none the less capable of inflicting injury. The police are disposed to think that the stones

may have been aimed at themselves, not at the inmates of the pavilion, but we find it impossible to credit such a theory, in view of the height of the pavilion above the road. There still survives among Japanese, especially among hot-headed youths, a notion that to look down from a window or any other artificial height upon the Sovereign as he passes, is an act of rudeness, and we have no doubt that these unruly students sought, by a volley of stones, to signify their resentment against a violation of Japanese ideas of propriety by the occupants of the pavilion. Probably the young roughs would have been satisfied with this exhibition of uncivilized methods. But it happened that some servants of the Legation had established themselves on the roof of a stable, also overlooking the street. These men, observing the stone throwing, immediately began to strip tiles from the roof and aim them at the students, who retaliated with energy. In a moment the disturbance assumed serious dimensions. The students attempted to rush the back gate of the Legation, but before they could effect an entry the police gained the upper hand and made several arrests. As to the injuries inflicted, we are unable to speak with certainty. A groom of the Russian Legation had his face gashed by a stone, and the vernacular press reports that several people in the street were wounded by tiles. The fracas between the students and the servants is, however, a secondary affair. Whatever may have been its nature or origin, it must be separated from the first act of the students in throwing stones at the ladies in the pavilion. Such an outrage is wholly intolerable. It betrays ignorance of the fundamental instinct of civilization that women and children should be at all times and under all circumstances secure against violence at the hands of men. Nothing could be more disgraceful to Japan. We presume that these youths were of the *soshi* class: the vernacular newspapers assert that they were. But the term *soshi* has come to be a convenient appellation for every semi-savage rough who imagines that he has a mission to set all things right by recourse to the methods of barbarians. If Japan is to retain anything of the reputation that her courtesy and kindness have won for her, these public pests must be dealt with sternly and effectively. Should this last incident rouse the respectable citizens of Tokyo to a sense of the nuisance they are suffering to develop in their midst, we shall be disposed to welcome its occurrence. But unfortunately the reports contained in the Japanese newspapers are eminently calculated to obscure the truth, and to suggest that the blame primarily rests with the objects of the outrage. The tact and moderation invariably shown by Russia's Representatives in this country enable us to be sure that the act of a few youthful roughs will not be suffered to disturb the *entente* existing between the Russian Legation and the Japanese Foreign Office. But this very consideration renders it more intolerable that the wife of the Russian Minister and her guests should have been subjected to such an insult, and that the facts should be misrepresented by any newspaper, however insignificant.

RUDE CONDUCT OF JAPANESE STUDENTS TO FOREIGN LADIES.

It has been brought to our notice that as an American lady was driving across Atarashi-bashi in Tokyo a few days ago, she encountered a party of Japanese students carrying flags which they flourished in her face, accompanying the gesture with shouts. This may have been purely an ebullition of youthful spirits, but as it is by no means the first time during recent years that foreign ladies have been subjected to annoyance in the streets of the capital, we desire to call attention to the occurrence. Japanese youths never dream of committing any act of discourtesy towards their own ladies, unless indeed some conspicuous imitation of foreign fashions or foreign costume by the latter attracts the attention of passers by. But in instances now sufficiently numerous to be noticeable, low-class students seem to regard Western ladies as fair game for rude horse-play. Hap-

pily such violations of chivalry and courtesy are exceptional. During nineteen years' residence in the capital, not one has come under our own personal notice. But the time to protest against reprehensible practices is while they are still few and far between. If Japanese lads come to imagine that they are asserting themselves or giving evidence of an independent spirit when they behave rudely to foreign ladies in the streets, they will be labouring under a singular delusion; a delusion only to be accounted for on the hypothesis that their moral sense is gravely defective. In all civilized societies a woman ought to be assured against insult or roughness of any kind. Her weakness protects her in the eyes of chivalrous and educated persons. We do not insist that this rule is universally observed in the West. Low persons of the type recently referred to in these columns, do occasionally annoy and insult women by attentions and solicitations of an offensive character. But the principle is theoretically sacred in every moderately civilized community. The impulse of students or school-boys in America and Europe is not to insult women but to guard them against insult, and those concerned in the education of Japanese youths will do well to inculcate this wholesome feeling in respect of foreign women as well as of Japanese. If the lads who misbehaved themselves in the cases recorded during the past three years should deliberately set about devising some method of bringing their country into disrepute, they could not possibly hit upon a more effective plan than that of treating Western women rudely. It is to be sincerely wished that some of the leading vernacular journals would take up this subject, and use their influence to teach the thoughtless youths of the capital how much they disgrace themselves and their country by such practices.

LORD WOLSELEY AND CHINA.

LORD WOLSELEY also is among the prophets. In the *Review of Reviews* he writes:—

"The Chinese are the coming nation. The Chinese will, I think, overrun the world. The battle of Armageddon will take place between the Chinese and the English-speaking races. There will be, I assume, another war between France and Germany, and it will be about the bloodiest war or series of wars which we have seen in Europe. But, some day, a great general will arise in China, and the Chinese, who have been motionless for three centuries, will begin to progress. They will take to the profession of arms, and then they will hurl themselves upon the Russian Empire. Before the Chinese armies—as they possess every military virtue, are stolidly indifferent to death, and capable of inexhaustible endurance—the Russians will go down. Then the Chinese armies will march westward. They will overrun India, sweeping us into the sea. Asia will belong to them, and then, at last, English, Americans, Australians, will have to rally for a last desperate conflict. So certain do I regard this that I think one fixed point of our policy should be to strain every nerve and make every sacrifice to keep on good terms with China. China is the coming Power."

Naturally his Lordship's very positive words have excited quiet folks in the West. The *Poll Mall Budget* emphasises his prediction by printing it under a half-page drawing of a Chinaman resting his chin on the globe and stretching long-taloned hands over its fairest portions. The face of the Celestial lends itself easily to such caricature as is needed for the purposes of this sketch. A very trifling effort of the draughtsman's art converts the thin-lipped, narrow-eyed, prognathous, and leather-skinned Mongolian visage into a grasping, merciless countenance such as child would shrink from and a strong man dread. But does the future really contain contingencies like those indicated by Lord Wolseley? We do not believe it for a moment. The history of the world offers no example of a nation rising from the ashes of its past glory. Nothing can arrest national descent. Once commenced, it continues as steadily and surely as the movement of the glacier, though sometimes, perhaps, as slowly. Centuries ago the Chinese empire might have supported comparison with that of ancient Rome in extent and magnificence. To-day it has shrunk to relatively small dimensions, and bows its head under the rule of a foreign dynasty. A few years back it was stripped of Tongking as it had been previously stripped of Hongkong, and since then its suzerain claims in Burmah

have disappeared as they will doubtless do in Thibet ere long. Where are the evidences of its future omnipotence? Never, perhaps, was there a better illustration of the old adage *omne ignotum pro magnifico*. China's huge size, her teeming millions, the impressive solemnity of her stubborn conservatism, and the money-getting genius of her subjects, who, like the Irish, succeed better anywhere than at home, all these things combine to strike the superficial observer. But no one suggests that her stupendous career is to commence until she sloughs off her skin of prejudice and consents to take into her hands the same weapons that have made Western nations great. Surely it is over-sanguine to conclude that she will wield those weapons better than their forgers wield them, or that qualities which have lain dormant for centuries, if indeed she ever possessed them, can be revived so effectively as to render her invincible. Lord Wolseley's prophesy seems to us an utter chimera. Rather do we hold with Mr. Fukuzawa that despite the rejuvenating influence of railways and telegraphs, despite her spasmodic schemes of national equipment, and despite the strong blood infused into some branches of her administration by the assistance of able Europeans and Americans, China, continuing to fulfil her downward destiny, will one day yield into other hands the control of the millions whom she so ill knows how to protect against the ravages of flood, famine, and pestilence.

A SOCIETY OF LACQUER MANUFACTURERS.

A PROJECT is on foot, we read in the *Kokkai*, to found a society of lacquer manufacturers. The originator of the scheme is the celebrated artist artisan Mr. Shibata Zeshin, and with him are twenty-three others. There will be honorary members, associates, and ordinary members, and the programme of the Society is given as follows:—To hold one competitive exhibition every year. To publish a magazine for advertising purposes and to promote the interests of the Society. To take all possible measures for improving the art and developing it. To collect books needed by workers in lacquer. To open communications with brother artisans in the various localities. To form a museum for displaying the productions of the members. To organise lectures on subjects that concern lacquer manufacturers. To take steps for viewing and exhibiting works of art so as supply motives to, and increase the knowledge of, workers in lacquer.

GAMBLING IN JAPAN.

THE *Kokumin-no-Tomo* is very much exercised about the spread of gambling among the middle and upper classes. *Hana-garuta*, the national playing cards of Japan, are now, says our contemporary, so much in demand that manufacturers and dealers are scarcely able to comply with orders. The growing prevalence of this vice is attributed by the Tokyo journal to the effect of the general disorganization of society at and about the time of the Restoration. Men who subsequently came to occupy leading positions in the Government had been educated in the immoral school of those unquiet times. Their robes of state, their decorations, their carriages, and fine residences are very imposing, but in times of relaxation and in unguarded moments, unable to conceal their original character, they yield to their unconquerable passion for the pastimes of their youth. There are two sets of men—continues the *Kokumin*—who flatter and encourage the gambling propensity of those high in office; namely, the so-called *shin-sho* (gentlemen merchants) who by their close connections with influential statesmen have enriched themselves out of the national taxes, and young men of education and refinement who do not understand what is meant by unobtrusive virtue and moderation, and who are servile disciples of their official superiors in the vice of gambling. The Tokyo journal contrasts the laxity of principle about gambling among the better classes with the intense and universal disgust entertained towards gambling and gamblers by the lower orders of people. Even Kunisada Chuji, a famous gambler of

former times, is popularly spoken of with disapproval. The characteristic national dislike of gambling finds its expression in the Criminal Code, which makes gamblers liable to major imprisonment of from one to six months, and a fine of not less than 5 yen and not more than 50 yen. Further, at one time the police authorities were even empowered to deal with gamblers at their own discretion. The *Kokumin* finds it inconceivable that uneducated people should be punished for doing that which is openly, and with perfect impunity, indulged in by their betters. The Tokyo journal calls upon the Government and the leaders of the nation to check the growth of a vice which threatens to demoralize society and dissipate the energies of the best portion of the people.

The *Keizai Zasshi* also notices the increasing prevalence of the same vice among the upper classes, and urges the Chief of the Metropolitan Police to take some decisive steps for its suppression.

THE NEW CHINESE MINISTER.

THE *Fiji Shimpō's* correspondent writes from Tientsin that "Mr. Li Ching-fang, who has been appointed Chinese Minister in Japan, is the third son of H.E. Li Hwan-sho, Viceroy of Canton, and an adopted son of H.E. Li Chung-tang. Having obtained audience of the Emperor in Peking soon after his appointment, he ought, according to the correspondent, to have reached Tientsin by the date of writing (October 29th), but it is said that he stays at Peking for the purpose of making a congratulatory call at the Japanese Legation on the birthday of the Emperor of Japan. His suite, accompanying him to Japan, are said to number about 20 persons. As he devoted himself to the study of the Japanese language when he visited Japan some time ago, under private instructions from Viceroy Li, he is now able to carry on conversation in that language.

The *Mainichi* has the following on the same subject:—"We are told by a person who recently returned from China that Mr. Li, who will come over before long as the Chinese Representative at the Court of Japan, was engaged up to the beginning of last month in connection with the raising of a foreign loan for the Manchurian Railway. Having passed a long time in England as Secretary of the Chinese Legation, he speaks English well, and is fully acquainted with the social conditions of the West. He is also a strong advocate of Western customs, but on the other hand he is reported to be no great master of his own national literature, even in the matter of correspondence in prose or verse such as usually carried on among Chinese literateurs. Hitherto Chinese Ministers in this country have constantly devoted their spare hours to associating with our scholars and literateurs, and to exchanging with them essays in prose or poetry, but the new Chinese minister, unlike his predecessors, will most probably be an upholder of Western social entertainments, as balls, charity bazaars, concerts, and so forth. It is doubtful whether he will take much interest in the literary réunions hitherto so much liked by Chinese Ministers. What amount of credit he enjoys among his countrymen it is difficult to tell. As the adopted son of Li Chung-tang, he is of course looked up to in certain circles, and he seems also to be very popular among foreign merchants in China, who generally designate him Lord Li."

THE "CHOYA SHIMBUN."

It is stated by the *Fiji Shimpō*, doubtless on good authority, that arrangements have been made for the sale of the *Choya Shimbun* to gentlemen who intend to conduct it in the interests of the Independents (*Taisei-kai*). The price paid for the paper is put at twenty or twenty-five thousand yen, and the purchaser is either Mr. Arai Mamichi or Mr. Takagi Kiichiro. The title of the paper will not be changed, but its policy will be altogether modified so as to convert it into an organ of the *Taisei-kai*. It

will be owned by a company with a capital of fifty thousand yen in a hundred shares of 500 yen each, a portion of which will be taken up by members of the House of Peers, who are Imperial nominees from among the highest tax-payers, and by members of the *Taisei-kai*, the remainder being offered to the general public. The principal editors will be Messrs. Watanabe Osamu, Kawamura Jun, Kitagawa Reishitsu, and Nishi Shii. It will be remembered that the editorship in chief fell, not long ago, into the hands of Mr. Ozaki Yukyo, a writer of great note, who, with the assistance of Messrs. Yoshida and Inugai, has conducted the paper ably in the interests of the *Kaishin-to*. These gentlemen will now cease to have any connection with it. We learn from the same authority that whereas newspaper editors in Japan have hitherto been, for the most part, men possessing an English education, the new *Choya* will be conducted by writers having a knowledge of French and German, and its directors will endeavour to secure the aid of graduates of the Imperial University. The place of publication has not yet been determined, and depends apparently on conditions which may take some little time to arrange.

In connection with the above the following notice appears in its issue of the 28th ult.:

For no reasons other than those connected with journalism, I have acquired complete possession of the *Choya Shimbun*, and now, from the 29th day of November, the opening day of the Imperial Diet, I publicly declare the fact and enter upon the responsibilities of newspaper enterprise. Many changes will still be effected in the organization of the editorial department, but as this work could only be commenced on the 26th instant, there has not yet been time to complete it, and several days will still be needed. Meanwhile, I crave the indulgence of the journal's readers.

(Signed) WATANABE OSAMU.

For certain reasons we, the undersigned, have this day ceased to be connected with the *Choya Shimbun*:

(Signed)

INUGAI KI.	NAKAMURA TASAŌ.
OZAKI YUKIO.	YAMADA YETARU.
YOSHIDA KIROKU.	HIKIDA CHOSUKE.
MACHIDA CHIUJI.	KOBAYASHI SENTARO.
HISAMATSU GITEN.	

THE ASIATIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

THE periodical publications of the Asiatic Society of Japan continue to make valuable additions to our knowledge of the country, and to furnish a library of reference of the highest importance to students of the people, their institutions, and their customs. The last volume, dated October, 1890, contains three papers of exceptional interest, Mr. E. M. Satow's "Origin of Spanish and Portuguese Rivalry in Japan," Mr. E. H. Parker's "Race Struggles in Korea," and Mr. R. Masujima's "Modern Japanese Legal Institutions." Mr. Satow, with the accurate and painstaking research and scholarship for which he has always been remarkable, traces the story of the ill-feeling that had existed for many years between Spain and Portugal, before Japan became a new arena for its display. This chapter of history has deep interest for students of Japan's foreign intercourse, because there can now be no manner of doubt that her seclusion, during nearly three centuries, had its origin in the quarrels between the Franciscans and the Jesuits, and in the intrigues incident to the rivalry between Spain and Portugal.

Mr. Parker's paper shows extensive reading and contains an apparently accurate record of the outlines of Korean history in early times. But it is difficult to construct any general conclusions from the mass of disjointed annals presented in this essay.

Turning to Mr. Masujima's contribution, we are at once struck by the pessimistic tone that pervades it. Mr. Masujima is one of the very few Japanese who take a thoroughly unfavourable view of the great changes

which their country has undergone during the past quarter of a century. In his eyes the overthrow of feudalism was simply an accident. He believes that the men who combined to drive the Tokugawa Regency out of power, really aimed at nothing better than replacing its military supremacy by that of some other clan, but that, no clan being found sufficiently powerful, all were obliged to combine for the restoration of the Imperial authority. He believes, also, that these men took up Western civilization without due thought; that they were dazzled by its magnificence, and that relying on their own estimate of their ability, they thought they could bring their country to the standard of the Occident. In a word, Mr. Masujima's version of Japan's modern history is the most hopeless and depreciatory ever yet penned. Here is his summary:—

The history of Japan for the last twenty years has consisted of first the destruction of the old, next the wholesale adoption of foreign institutions, and lastly reactionary attempts to undo the work done. The revolutionists imagined that they could buy and import civilization and foreign institutions like any other commodity, and make use of them with the same ease and benefit as do the nations where they are indigenous. Education, the army, the navy, the judicial system—everything was brought bodily from across the seas. True it is that some of these institutions fulfilled the expectations of their patrons; but anything imported by a forced process has serious drawbacks. The total result has not been satisfactory, and we are now beginning to suffer from it. Over-education, over legislation, and over-taxation are the products of wholesale indiscriminate importation. The so-called statesmen of whom we write thought everything foreign was good and would materially aid progress. They had read of foreign countries and institutions, without being able to realize what they were. Education and legislation were thought the best means of fulfilling their eager desire to civilize Japan, and the more generously these two agencies were employed the better. Great expense was a necessary consequence, and more taxation naturally followed. Theorists by thousands, innumerable laws, and excessive taxation were the fruits of the policy adopted at that time. These conditions are furnishing perplexing problems for our thinkers and statesmen. The difficulty is how to select and keep the good and reject the bad or unsuitable. If this matter is not approached with great foresight and judgment, Japan will have in the near future a socialistic class of people, consisting of dreamy, inexperienced youths, who are educated, it is true, but in a way that is of no practical good to themselves and most pernicious to the peace of the State.

These believers in the magic power of great men in office destroyed the whole ancient organization of the Government, along with other departments of social activity. They tried to replace this with what exists to-day in the West, forgetting that there it is the outcome of the life and labours, the thoughts and feeling of many generations.

It is regrettable that such words should be written by a Japanese, and regrettable that they should appear in the Transactions of the Asiatic Society, which now for the first time has opened its pages to political discussion. We admire Mr. Masujima's ability and courage, but we doubt whether he has yet proved himself competent to pronounce wholesale judgment on the statesmen who directed the Restoration and have made Japan what she is to-day. Nor is our idea of his competence strengthened by his analysis of Japanese legal institutions and their manner of working. His historical details, indeed, are of much interest, and his essay possesses undoubted value as an explanation of the legal system now existing in Japan. But the deductions drawn by him are startling and often inconsistent. In one breath he tells us, for example, that "it will require years, perhaps generations, of development before Japanese jurisprudence can meet the needs created by the changes of the past twenty years." In the next, speaking of the present judiciary, he asks:—"Is this old school of judges unsuited to the administration of justice at the present day, as has been sometimes asserted? Far from it. For age, experience, and acquaintance with Japanese human nature they have no equals. * * * Our *Cour de Cassation*, at least, with all its faults and shortcomings, is a judicature worthy of the highest respect. The Yokohama Court, of which Judge Okamura, of the Middle Temple, is the President, is a model to which all courts might well look. It gives us some idea of what a Japanese court may be made with proper management, though it has only been in exist-

ence twenty years." As plain-minded people we are unable to understand how, on the one hand, years, perhaps generations, must pass before Japanese jurisprudence can be competent to meet the needs of the time, while, on the other, the country already possesses a school of judges well suited to administer justice at the present day. Moreover, without any desire to be impolite to Mr. Masujima, we would ask how it happens that he, a Japanese, is so exceptionally qualified to pronounce sweeping verdicts about the unwisdom of his country's statesmen and legislators, the utter unsuitability of the legal system which they are introducing, and the competence of the Japanese judiciary from a Western standpoint. We know Mr. Masujima to be the last person who would claim any monopoly of ability to sit in judgment where such great questions are before the court, but his essay conveys very strongly the impression that everyone engaged in bringing about the changes which he condemns, is at once ignorant, short-sighted, prejudiced, and conceited. Perhaps the most singular feature of his paper is that his prefatory remarks contain an admission which greatly invalidates his whole plea. The one object of his contention is to prove that Japan must not borrow legal systems from abroad but must evolve them gradually out of the circumstances of her own people. Yet he writes at the outset:—"The history of Japan is that of a nation that has never yet had a chance to develop continuously from within on lines of its own, only absorbing such extraneous ideas as are really beneficial." It would seem, therefore, that in acting as she is now acting, Japan merely preserves the continuity of her history, instead of running an unprecedented and alarming risk. But we shall not follow Mr. Masujima farther. It is doubtless wholesome that men like him should be present to apply the brake to the wheel of innovation. The pity is that his mood betrays so much pessimism, and that his criticisms are so sweepingly condemnatory.

KOREA.

A CORRESPONDENT writes from Sŏul, under date November 11th, as follows:—"The word that is in everybody's mouth these days is 'Chiksa,' by which is meant the special envoy who has just come from the Emperor of China to present to the King of Korea that Emperor's commiseration in view of the death of the Queen Dowager. From ancient times there has existed an intimate relationship between Korea and China which can best be described as paternal on the one hand and deferential on the other. Whether this relationship carries with it the idea of vassalage and humiliation is a question that I leave to those who are interested in political problems, and whose training and experience warrant them in expressing a public opinion. Of this one thing I can assure your readers, from personal observation and contact with different classes of Koreans, that the people of Korea look upon this relation as being no more servile or humiliating than that of the son to the father, but as implying thorough reciprocity and mutual good feeling. It may be safely assumed that all discord or chafing that arises is the result of growth in the lesser party. The son eventually reaches the point where in some respects he knows more than the father, and must decide for himself, however it may chafe the elder to see the change. It naturally follows that the elder cannot keep the younger under his tutelage excepting by one of two means, either the elder must keep pace with the younger, or else he must prevent the younger from advancing. But the mathematics of political economy show beyond a doubt that the latter is the only possible way for China to maintain her paternal relation to Korea; for the law of inertia, the fundamental law of Asiatic civilization, says that large bodies move slowly, and that, other things being equal, the velocities of different bodies will vary with their mass. When China therefore gave her consent to the application of an initial force to Korean political and social life in 1882, she laid herself open to the working of inevitable laws. It need hardly be said that those laws are working, and will work, and

consequences will inevitably ensue, but that by no means implies that Korea may not with perfect propriety perform those acts of deference towards China which she has performed from time immemorial, as if, forsooth, a son should show less deference to his father the moment the son has reached an age when he can think for himself, or indeed as if he might not out of deference to that father's mistaken ideas even forego the exercise of certain inalienable rights without being stigmatized as a vassal and a slave! But I have wandered far from my subject. It is in view of the peculiar relations between the two States that whenever a member of the Royal family of either country dies, the other sends an envoy bearing its expressions of condolence. Great preparations were made here for the reception of the "Chiksa." Not far from the great South Gate of Sŏul stands the imposing edifice where all extraordinary envoys from the Court of Peking are entertained. It is a solid imposing structure, built in the best Korean style, and is surrounded as is usual by a great mass of inferior buildings, and around the whole is a high stone wall. This building is occupied only when envoys come from Peking at the time of the coronation or marriage of a King or of a Royal funeral, and consequently on each occasion it requires to be thoroughly overhauled and repainted and re-papered. Had you passed the place a few days since you would have seen a Korean artist standing on a high box against the wall opposite the front gate of this inclosure, painting blue, green, and red lions and dragons on the wall, throwing his soul into yards of blank space with astonishing rapidity, while paper hangers and masons and carpenters were busting in and out with an amount of activity that in Korea is quite remarkable. The mission consisted of two individuals, one a real Chinaman and the other a Manchu. An observer would have been struck by the difference between these two men. The Chinaman was a small delicate man with a rather distinguished air, while the Manchu was a heavy imposing personage with an immense frame and a broad expanse of face. If the difference between these two men illustrates the difference between the pure Chinese and their Manchu conquerors there is nothing surprising in the fact of that conquest. When the envoy was escorted from Chemulpo, twenty-six miles distant, it was found impossible to make the whole distance in a single day, and so the inhabitants of the little village of Oricol, where the half way house is situated, turned out of their houses *en masse* and slept in booths in the fields that the escort might be comfortably housed. The whole road from Chemulpo to Sŏul had been carefully repaired, all the streams were thoroughly bridged and the rough places smoothed. On the day when he was expected to arrive before the gates of Sŏul a large white awning was stretched over the space in front of the residence of the provincial governor; outside the West Gate, where it was intended that the King should first meet the envoy, and at the proper time His Majesty issued from the palace and proceeded to the place of rendezvous, accompanied by his Generals and a number of troops together with the Royal insignia. It was intended that immediately after the salutation the King should return to the palace by way of the West Gate in order to be in readiness to give audience to the envoy when he should enter by way of the south gate. For some reason not generally understood the meeting outside the gate failed to take place, and His Majesty returned to the Palace, where at a later hour he gave audience to the envoy. The envoy was not attended by an escort of Chinese, but only by Koreans, excepting that two Chinese orderlies accompanied him, one walking on each side of his heavy sedan chair. The King's chair was covered with the light brown cloth which is the badge of mourning, and the bearers were clothed in the same colour. The whole dress of the King, though of the finest quality, was of the same colour.

COAL AND IRON.

THERE can be little question that Great Britain

owes much of her mercantile supremacy to her rapid development of her coal and iron works. Present statistics, according to Mr. George G. Chisholm, seem to show that in the rate of expansion of these closely related industries, other countries, especially the United States and Germany, are gaining on the United Kingdom. Thus, if the present average rates of expansion are maintained, it is calculated that in coal production Great Britain will be overtaken by the United States in 1894 and by Germany in 1928. In regard to iron the gain is still more rapid. The growing demand for iron in the construction of extensive railways is the chief reason for the rapid growth in coal and iron industries. In time, when the vaster railway systems are completed, there will be a steadier annual demand for iron; so that the rapid expansion in the production of iron and by consequence of coal will receive a check. There seems no reason to anticipate anything of the nature of a catastrophe from our continual consumption of coal. First the rate of expansion will diminish, then it will become steady, and then begin to decline. The history of the coal industry of any country may be expected to be similar to the history of a single mine—expansion, steady production, decline. It is believed by some economists that the extensive coal fields of China, when once they are begun to be worked in earnest, will be the great source of coal supply for the world. It need hardly be said that such a revolution in things commercial lies very far indeed in the future.

MR. NAKAJIMA NOBUYUKI.

THE *Fiji Shimpō* gives the following brief account of the life of Mr. Nakajima Nobuyuki, who has been appointed by His Majesty's to the post of President of the House of Representatives:—

"Nakajima was born in the 3rd year of *Kōwa* (A.D. 1846), in the town of Kochi, in the Province of Tosa (in Shikoku), and his name in childhood was Sakuraro. In his youth, being told how certain *Rōnin* of the Mito clan conspired and assassinated Ii Kannon-no-kami, Prime Minister under the Tokugawa Government, at Sotosakurada, he was much moved and feeling great admiration for the spirit and energy of the *Rōnin* pledged himself to accomplish something noteworthy, when he reached man's estate. He subsequently became a pupil of Mazaki Tetsuma, of the Tosa clan, a learned scholar renowned for his Imperialist policy, whose school was said to contain many *samurai* of spirit and patriotic feeling. Among his fellow pupils were such men as Ishikawa Seinosuke, Nose Tatsutaro, and Yoshimura Gorotaro, with whom he formed a close friendship and was much respected by them for his high principles. Mazaki and other imperialists having fallen in their patriotic undertaking, and the spirit of the whole clan being greatly broken, Mr. Nakajima is said to have made an oath before his late master's grave that he should labour to revive the chilled enthusiasm of his fellow clansmen. Thenceforth he busied himself forming various plans for the execution of his purpose in conjunction with those who shared his views. Not being rewarded by success for a long period, he left his clan in November of the first year of *Genji* (A.D. 1864) and went to Choshiu. There, fired with admiration for the personal character of Takasugi Shinsaku, a renowned captain of the Choshiu clan, he enlisted in a military company under that leader's flag. At this period, the Tokugawa Government was sending an expedition under the command of the Prince of Owari to punish the disobedience of the Prince of Choshiu, and various opinions prevailed among the latter's followers, several opposing parties being formed. During this disturbance, commonly known as the Choshiu civil war, Mr. Nakajima took an active part in many combats. By and by, having been recognized and his worth appreciated by the famous Sakamoto Riuma of his own clan, who in the prosecution of his patriotic undertakings often visited Choshiu, he followed Sakamoto to Nagasaki, where he joined a company organized for coast defence. Thenceforth he worked always with Sakamoto, and when the latter joined Goto Shojiro (now Count Goto) in advising the Tokugawa Government to restore the administrative power to the Imperial House, Mr. Nakajima was able to render valuable service. The Restoration being at last achieved, in the first year of *Meiji* (1867) he was elected one of the *chōshi* (a limited number of men of conspicuous ability, summoned by the Imperial Government from

each clan) and appointed *Gwaikoku Gon-Hanji* (Vice-Counsellor for Foreign Affairs). Soon afterwards he was nominated Commissioner for Foreign Trade and took charge of affairs connected with the Empire's foreign commerce. In the 3rd of *Meiji* (1870) he was sent by the Government to the United States of America as Commissioner, for the purpose of making investigations into the financial and fiscal systems of the Republic. Immediately on his return, he was appointed an officer of the 6th rank in the Finance Department, and shortly afterwards promoted to be Vice-Commissioner of Revenue. He devoted himself to effecting alterations in the system of land tenure and granting leases, at the same time issuing new fiat notes. In the 7th year of *Meiji* (1874) he was appointed Governor of Kanagawa Prefecture, and, having filled that office for three years, was made a member of the Senate. In the 13th year of *Meiji* (1880) he declared to Prince Arisugawa that it was imperatively necessary to organize the system of *Rikken Daigi* (Constitutional and Representative polity) and to establish a National Assembly. But his views not meeting with approval, he resigned his office and retired from official service. From that time he remained out of the Government, and endeavoured to develop the principle of popular rights. When, in the 14th year of *Meiji* (1881), the Constitutional Party was formed, he was elected by his political friends to be *Sori* (President) of the party. The following year, he travelled with Count Itagaki through the north-eastern parts of the country, and on their return they coalesced with their friends of the Liberal party, Count Itagaki being made *Sori* (President), and Mr. Nakajima Vice-President. On the dissolution of these two political parties, Mr. Nakajima changed his domicile to Kanagawa and lived quietly in Yokohama. But despite his retiring habits, the influence of his presence was always felt among local politicians, and he was returned for the House of Representatives which has now elected him to the honourable post of President.

The same paper gives a biography of Mr. Tsuda Mamichi, Vice-President of the House of Representatives:—

Born on the 6th of December of the 12th year of Bunsei (1829), at Tsuyama, in the province of Mimasaku, he was called in his youth Shinichiro. His forefathers served in the household of the prince of the Tsuyama clan as *Rioriban* (purveyors). When quite young, he came to Yedo and received lessons from Mitsukuri Gempo of the same clan, who was at that period regarded as the best Dutch scholar in the empire. After completing a course of study of Dutch literature, Mr. Tsuda was appointed professor in an institution organized by the Tokugawa Government for the purpose of examining Occidental books. In June of the second year of Bunkiu (1862) he went over with Mr. Nislii Amaneshii (member of the late senate) and others to Holland, under Government auspices, to study the science of law. As there was no one at that time in Japan who knew anything about Occidental laws, Mr. Tsuda and his fellow-students must be acknowledged to have introduced the science of Western jurisprudence into their country. Having studied the science of law sufficiently to be able to understand its general principles, Mr. Tsuda and his companions wrote to their literary friends in Japan explaining that European laws was based primarily on the principle of popular rights. Since, however, the Japanese of that era had no conception of law from the Western point of view, they could not understand the meaning of Mr. Tsuda's exposition, and were unable to translate into Japanese the word used by him (*volken recht*). This was quite natural, for no such words as *jimmin* (people) or *kenri* (right), as understood in the West, were in use in the Japan of those days. Nevertheless, after various essays more or less singular, they succeeded in rendering the words by *min-ken* (people's right), a term used even to this day. Also in his letters, Mr. Tsuda mentioned that civilization consists chiefly in extending communications, but this again greatly puzzled his friends at home, simple as the expression appears to men of the present day. It is interesting to recall these facts for the sake of the light they throw on the condition of Japan in those times. Mr. Tsuda and his fellow-students, on their return, served the Tokugawa Government to the best of their ability, in the rôle of councillors to the administration.

When the Imperial army was about to be put in motion against the Tokugawa Regent, Mr. Tsuda made a proposition as to the step which ought to be taken by the Bakufu. This proposition may almost be said to have foreshadowed his recent election to the membership of the House of Repre-

sentatives and his subsequent appointment to the Vice Presidency. His plan was that a general conference should be held in the Obiroma (the Chamber in the Tokugawa Court where *Daimio* of the first rank used to attend) and in the Hiojoshô (the conference chamber for administrative officers) to decide between war or peace as well as to deliberate on other matters of State. Owing to the anxiety and confusion prevailing at the time among the officers of the Tokugawa Government, this proposition was not carried through, but it shows that Mr. Tsuda, already at that early period, had formed the conception of a parliament. He may justly be considered the first Japanese who advocated the adoption of a parliamentary system in this country. After the Restoration, he served under the *Meiji* Government, and it is said that when the *Shinritsu Kosei* (new penal code law) was completed, he found it very imperfect and condemned it in the presence of Yeto Shimpei (then Minister of Justice) whereupon the latter, became indignant and forthwith took measures to have Mr. Tsuda discharged from office. This incident illustrates Mr. Tsuda's courageous and conscientious character. Subsequently he was appointed to a Judgeship, and after repeated promotions at last entered the Senate, where he remained until elected a member of the House of Representatives. Many other incidents of his career deserve notice, but the above is sufficient for our present purpose.

ITEMS FROM THE "KOKKAI."

THE *Kokkai* has the following interesting items:— "On the 25th ultimo, the Cabinet Ministers attended in the Palace and discussed in the presence of the Emperor, the draft estimates for next year. We are told that His Majesty, while expressing confidence in the painstaking character of the draft, desired the Ministers to be very careful in dealing with the estimates. The Ministers thereupon proceeded to state and explain the comparative increases and decreases in the estimated expenses for the next year. To these His Majesty patiently listened, putting questions about various items. Finally the draft was left with His Majesty, who did not return it approved until the 27th ultimo. According to the usual routine, the estimates should be first discussed in the Cabinet and then submitted to the Houses. After passing through the Houses, they should be laid before the Emperor. But as this is the first session of the Diet, His Majesty was anxious to see the draft before it went to Parliament.

"Some people allege that there are indications of haste and confusion in the Cabinet at present, but we are told that after the problem of Treaty Revision had been discussed by the Cabinet, it was left for further consideration by the officials in charge of the work, and has not been again brought forward in the Cabinet. Moreover, the estimates for next year have been passed by the Cabinet and laid before the Emperor, so there is nothing to worry Ministers at present. They are consequently enjoying temporary leisure after the extremely busy time of the past ten months. It is to be hoped that they will recruit their physical strength and appear on the novel political scene with renewed vigour."

"Different suggestions are made about the appointment of Government representatives in the Diet. We hear that the Authorities have decided to delegate the task to Vice-Ministers joining with them the Heads of the different Bureaux. The Heads of Bureaux will attend the Diet only when questions crop up which the Vice-Ministers are unable to explain. Ministers may themselves appear, however, to give explanations, except in the case of the Departments of Home Affairs, Army, and Navy, the Vice-Ministers of which will hold themselves responsible for all explanations. At committee meetings of the Diet, Heads of Bureaux, Councillors, Secretaries, and so forth will attend, whenever their presence may be required, to answer questions put by the Committee."

"Now that the opening of the Diet is an accomplished fact, everybody is anxious to know in what order the different Bills will be submitted. We are informed, however, that with the

exception of the regulations for the Diet, which will be first discussed and the estimates which will constitute the next business, no order for submitting the Bills prepared by the different Departments has been yet fixed."

"The law of registration now in force was promulgated in the 4th year of *Meiji* (1871), and contains many imperfections. It is said that with the view of introducing a Bill for the amendment of the law Councillor Kuroda and others are engaged in preparing a draft. The principal alterations consist in changing the fundamental principle of the registry system and abolishing the present distinctions between *honseki* (original domicile) and *kiriin* (temporary domicile), thus making the actual place of residence the domicile for registration purposes. Everyone has the right of removing his residence freely according to his wish, as is plainly provided in the Constitution. But according to the present system of registration, a distinction is made between original domicile and temporary domicile, and unless a man goes through the form of changing his original domicile, however long he may have lived in a place he finds in many cases that he cannot enjoy the rights of a resident. For instance, take the case of the law of election of the members of the Diet. It is there required that a man fix his place of original domicile and live in it for a certain length of time. Otherwise he has no right to elect or to be elected. Such restrictions are contradictory to the spirit of the Constitution and should be modified."

THE DIET REBUKED.

"In any meeting," says the *Nichi Nichi Shim-bun*, "despite the opinions held by individual members, all must be bound by the will of the majority. If every member adhere to his own view and, after a resolution is passed, tries to rebel against the result, how can a meeting be conducted and how can a decision be practically reached? On the occasion of the election of the President and Vice-President in the House of Representatives on the 25th ultimo, a member moved that, inasmuch as however often the ballots were taken, it was impossible to get a majority of over one half, the mode of election should be amended and the names obtaining the highest numbers of votes taken in order. The acting President declined to put the motion as being opposed to the law of the House. But when, after balloting more than twice, the majority of over one half could not be obtained, the Chairman consented to submit another proposal for taking the highest numbers as they stood, without reference to the nature of the majority. This caused a commotion. The Chairman was rebuked for acting contrary to the law; a rebuke which virtually nullified the resolution passed by the assembly. Can this be called proper action on the part of the members of the House? We shall not here examine the question of whether the action of the Chairman was improper, but even granting it to have been so, as soon as the motion had been carried by a majority of some two-thirds of the members present, the method of taking the highest numbers in order without reference to the prescribed majority, ought to have been regarded as a decision of the House, and though individual members might object to the action of the President in permitting the motion, they had no business to disobey the important principle that the House is bound by the majority of its members in all matters. If this were not so, what would be the value of a resolution? Were such conduct permitted, order and quietness could never be secured. Some may contend that this was an exceptional case arising out of the improper and illegal manner in which the Chairman admitted the motion. But that is no reason for refusing to be bound by a resolution carried by a majority of the House. A vote of two-thirds of the House cannot be ignored afterwards on the ground of illegality. The only way to render a resolution null, is to pass another resolution in the opposite sense. To disregard what has been voted by a meeting

and set it aside simply as being illegal, is in fact to trample on the first principles of parliamentary procedure. The thing is past now, but we refer to it for the purpose of warning members of the House against falling into a similar mistake hereafter."

A RAID ON AMERICAN BOOK PIRATES.

From the *Nation* we learn that a blow has at length been struck at the American book pirate, from which he is not likely to recover. The catastrophe seems to have arisen from the invention of a cheap process for reproducing books by photography. With this weapon the pirates began an attack on various expensive foreign books. The principal object of onslaught was the "Encyclopædia Britannica," the English edition of which costs \$9, and the American (Scribner's) \$5 a volume, the pirates being enabled by the new process to sell it at about \$1.50 a volume. A swarm of corsairs attacked this devoted work and soon the market was flooded with cheap copies obtained by means of the photograph. But the pirates had overlooked something. The "Encyclopædia" contained among other things many articles and maps by distinguished American authors, and this trifling circumstance enabled the Messrs. Black, conjointly with their American agents, to bring an action in the United States Courts against one of the buccaneer firms, asking that the latter should be enjoined to abstain from further publication, and required to account for the proceeds of past depredations. The pirates claimed that if an American allows his property to be mixed up with a foreigner's property, which his Government does not protect, he cannot complain if they appropriate without discrimination whatever comes first to hand. They even pleaded that the insertion of the American articles was simply a trap set to catch industrious pirates, and that thus the trapper could not expect redress, coming into Court with hands that are not over clean. It has been ruled, however, that an American does not lose his title to his property by mixing it with other property, the lawful plunder of the pirates, and that "a citizen of the United States who is the owner of a copyright can assign the whole of such copyright to a foreigner." Final judgment in the case has not yet been rendered, but the *Nation* opines that under this ruling there can be no doubt as to what it must be. We reproduce the remainder of our contemporary's article:—

From all this is deduced the conclusion that the plaintiffs, by sprinkling American articles over the pages of the "Encyclopædia," meant to impede or hinder the exercise of that sacred right of plunder which Congress meant our citizens to exercise without stint, and have been guilty of an unworthy trick. Therefore, says the pleader—were he in any other calling we should call him a sorry wag—"From the standpoint of sound morals and acknowledged judicial principles, the defendant herein is the meritorious party; the complainant is a Philistine from afar, seeking to reap where he has not sown. The American market was not for him. All his legitimate hope of profit lay in the tillage of other fields. For these, and not for ours, he dug his irrigating ditches and expended his labour. If the overflow has passed his boundaries and by American enterprise is made to fertilize our territory, he is none the poorer, and his claim to control our fields as he would his own is simply the brazen audacity of the buccaneer." These passages are sure to go the round of the civilized world as a huge American joke, but we warn foreigners that they are nothing of the kind. They are sober earnest, as understood in a respectable law office in this city.

We have amused ourselves, after recovering from the reading of them, by putting the argument in the mouth of a Dey of Algiers in the old days addressed to his Christian captives just brought in by one of his corsairs:

"Christian Dogs, what are you whimpering about? You knew when you started on this voyage, with your valuable cargo, for Smyrna, as you say, that you would have to pass through the Mediterranean, and that this sea has been for two centuries infested by my cruisers. You knew that we have practised piracy on such as you for many generations, and that it is necessary to the comfort and prosperity of this State and city. You knew it brought us wealth, and stimulated the energies of our young men and spread the fame of our flag. You knew, in short, you snivelling infidels, that you would probably be captured before you had got half way down the sea. Why did you sail on such a venture if you did not like being captured and losing your goods? You knew perfectly

well, too, that there was nothing wrong in seizing your ship and selling you into slavery, because if there had been anything wrong in it, I or my predecessors should have forbidden it by an edict long ago. There is no law in Algiers against it, and therefore it is right. My captain reports, too, that you had guns on board and used them to resist capture desperately. You actually used weapons and shed blood, besides extinguishing your lights at night, in trying to prevent my subjects exercising their lawful calling, showing what an accursedly wicked and undeserving crew you are. In order to give you a lesson in really high morality, you shall, each of you, have two dozen on the soles of your feet, and be sold cheap, so that poor men may get hold of you."

SHIP LAUNCH.

At 4 p.m. on Saturday last, says the *Nagasaki Express*, the *Dai Ichi Sasebo*, a new steel vessel for the Sasebo Naval Station, was successfully launched from the Mitsu Bishi Shipbuilding yard at Tategami, the christening ceremony being performed by Admiral Tsuboi, I.J.N., representing the Naval Department. There were also present, the Admiral's staff, Captain Ogata, I.J.N., and Mr. K. Yamagata, naval engineer; Messrs. M. Yamawaki (director), J. F. Calder (manager), R. Midzutani (engineer), J. G. Reid (ship constructor), and others; and a large number of native and foreign visitors. At the appointed hour, Admiral Tsuboi was escorted to the platform under the vessel's bow, where he made a short speech, after which the signal was given, and, the vessel being released, she glided gracefully into the water, amidst the cheers of the spectators. The party then adjourned to the moulding loft, where, in response to a speech from Mr. Yamawaki, the success of the ship was toasted, coupled with the name of Admiral Tsuboi. A brief reply from Admiral Tsuboi concluded the proceedings. The following are the dimensions of the new vessel, which is intended to be used as a tow-boat, and for laying torpedoes. Length over all 122 ft. 6 in., length between p.p. 118 ft. 0 in., breadth, moulded, 20 ft. 6 in., depth, moulded, 13 ft. 0 in., displacement about 250 tons, speed 11 knots.

MR. YANO FUMIO.

We mentioned some time ago that considerable surprise had been caused by the public withdrawal of Mr. Yano Fumio from the field of politics. Mr. Yano had long been a prominent member of the *Kaishin-to*. Indeed, after Count Okuma's acceptance of the portfolio of Foreign Affairs, the leadership of the Progressionists was generally considered to be in Mr. Yano's hands, and his retirement consequently took people greatly by surprise. Curiosity will be still further whetted by an announcement in the *Nippon* that he has been appointed, or is about to be appointed, an attaché (*shushji*) of the Imperial Household Department with a salary of three thousand yen annually. This looks as though Mr. Yano were about to return to official life. We cannot suppose that a man of his capacities and ambition contemplates consigning himself to a sinecure in the Household Department.

ANOTHER FIRST FRUIT.

We have now had the first speech ever delivered in a Japanese constitutional assembly, and the election of the first President. The next item in this catalogue is the first mistake. It was made by Mr. Suyehiro, of whom nothing was less to be expected. It appears that in balloting for President two boxes were provided, one to receive the names of the members voted for, and the other to receive the names of the members voting. Mr. Suyehiro confounded the boxes, and put his own name into that for President, and the President's name into the other box. He thus played the curious part of voting for himself. This same Mr. Suyehiro was also the first to make a speech in the House, so that he now enjoys the dual distinction of heading the list of debaters and also the list of blunderers.

A NEW TYPE OF HARMONIUM.

We understand that the Japanese Government has given an award of \$1,000 to Dr. Shohel Tanaka, a graduate in science of the Tokyo

University (1882) and of the Berlin University (1889). In Germany he devoted himself specially to the study of sound and of music, and is no doubt the first Japanese who has obtained an intimate knowledge of Western music on its practical, theoretical, scientific, and historic sides. On the purely scientific side he has added to our knowledge of the laws of vibrations of plates, and has also communicated to musical literature several papers of interest. One of these contains an account of a harmonium which he has devised and which is tuned in practically pure intonation. From a cursory glance at the contents of this pamphlet, it is difficult to pick out the really original matter in it. Judging from the references and foot notes, we may conclude that the author has read widely, and that he is warranted in claiming to be the first who has constructed a keyed instrument capable of giving practically pure chords in all the usual keys and of being played almost exactly as a piano or an organ is played. The manual is, to a first glance, very similar in appearance to the ordinary organ or piano manual. But a closer inspection shows that a short black note is introduced between E, and F, and that the other black notes are divided into two or even three. In all there are 20 distinct notes within the compass of an octave, instead of the usual 12 in our instruments of equal temperament. Dr. Tanaka's white notes are tuned to the perfect major scale of C, the E being therefore considerably flatter than the note of the same name on the piano. If it is desired to play on the scale of D, this E, the true major third to C, must not be used. A slightly but appreciably sharper note must be used, and this is inserted between D and E in front of the ordinary black note known as D sharp or E flat. Strictly speaking, as on Bosanquet's organ for instance, D sharp and E flat are really different notes, but the difference is too slight to be practically appreciable. In Dr. Tanaka's scheme, however, the requirements of modern transpositions in music necessitate a C sharp distinct from D flat. Whatever may be the merits of Dr. Tanaka's "Enharmonium"—so named by Von Bulow—this at least is certain, that any simple method for attaining in keyed instruments a juster intonation than at present holds deserves the strong encouragement of all true musicians.

THE SESSION OF THE DIET.

THERE seems to be a strong probability that the first session of the Imperial Diet, instead of terminating on the 27th of February, as would be the case under ordinary circumstances, will be prolonged until May or even June. The various political parties are understood to be unanimous in desiring a six months', instead of a three months' session, and the Emperor is likely to sanction a prolongation of two months at least. The present idea is that the discussion of the Budget alone will probably occupy some three months of the Diet's time. This estimate appears, at first sight, extravagant, but it must be remembered that the first Budget debated by the first Diet will involve several difficult and momentous questions. At the outset there will be the reading of the celebrated Sixty-seventh article of the Constitution. We may be sure that many members will entertain extremely divergent views about the precise signification of the words "already fixed expenditures based by the Constitution upon the powers appertaining to the Emperor," and that it will be a task of great difficulty to carry conviction to the minds of a majority of the House in favour of any particular interpretation. The competence of Parliament in respect of finance depends largely on the rendering of this Article, and if the Diet is at all ambitious to widen its fiscal functions, it will fight hard for a more liberal interpretation than that given by the Government ordinance according to which the Budget for next year is compiled. This question settled, there will be the problem of reducing taxation and expenditure. Every one of the political parties has pledged itself to the nation in this matter, and there will be a hard fight to redeem the pledge. The first two months of the session will presumably include

a recess of at least ten days at the New Year, and if ordinary and special holidays be further subtracted, it appears that the total number of days available for debate will not exceed forty. That does not seem an excessive time to allow for the discussion of what is incomparably the biggest item on the Diet's programme. Supposing then that the session were limited to the time fixed by the Constitution, only one month would remain for the projects of laws to be submitted to Parliament, according to the Speech from the Throne. As yet it is not quite certain what projects of law are contemplated, but all accounts agree in naming the following, in the order here stated:—(1) A project for the establishment of three new Banks, namely, a Bank of Movable Property, a Bank of Immovable Property, and a Bank of Agriculture. (2) A Bill relating to Local Debts. (3) A project of Poor Laws. (4) A Bill relating to communications. (5) A Bill relating to Registration. (6) A Bill for the parcelling out of Districts. (7) A Bill concerning the examination of Judges of the Courts of Conciliation. (8) A Bill relating to Regulations relating to Barristers. (9) A Bill relating to Weights and Measures. (10) A Bill relating to Sericulture. Four months would scarcely suffice for the discussion of all these measures. Thus, even supposing the session to be extended to May or June, there would be no time for the Diet to inaugurate anything on its own account, unless the Government consented to a wholesale "slaughter of the innocents."

THE PEERS' ADDRESS TO THE EMPEROR.

The following is a translation of the Peers' Address to the Emperor, in reply to His Majesty's speech at the opening of the Diet:—

May it please Your Gracious Majesty:—

We, Your Majesty's (loyal and faithful) servants, the Members of the House of Peers, most humbly and respectfully desire to present an address to Your August and Enlightened Majesty.

Your Gracious Majesty's virtues are daily becoming more illustrious. Your Majesty has been pleased to promulgate a great charter and establish the Diet, thereby to collect the ideas of the many, and to promote, in concert with the people, the progress of the country. And now Your Gracious Majesty has been further pleased to call together both the Houses of the Diet, and to honour the House of Peers with Your Majesty's presence therein for the purpose of celebrating the opening ceremony, and has, moreover, been pleased to do us the honour of addressing to us Your Majesty's benevolent Speech. We, Your Gracious Majesty's servants, wishing with all our heart for the prosperity of the Empire, and praying for the happiness of Your Majesty's subjects, most humbly pray that we may be permitted to offer our advice for Your Majesty's wise consideration, by expressing our humble opinions in strict accordance with the great Charter. Thus most worshipfully have we ventured to address Your Gracious Majesty in reply to Your Majesty's benevolent Speech."

The reply of the House of Representatives was much shorter. It ran as follows:—

"We most respectfully beg to express our unbounded gratitude and satisfaction that Your Majesty has deigned to open the Imperial Diet and to address to us, Your Majesty's subjects, a gracious Message. We humbly assure Your Majesty that no exertions shall henceforth be wanting on our part to fully discharge our legislative responsibilities, and to be faithful to the trust reposed in us by our Sovereign and by the people of His realm."

These Replies were carried to the Palace yesterday by Count Ito, President of the House of Peers, and Mr. Nakajima, President of the House of Representatives. The Emperor's answer was brief, but we have not yet procured an authentic version of it.

THE DIET AND EDUCATION.

THE *Koku-Hon* calls upon educators, especially affiliates of private educational societies, to pay attention to the important educational questions now agitating the minds of the Members of the Diet. All the parties represented in the Diet have been engaged of late in the so-called "in-

vestigation of political affairs," and in constructing programmes of questions to be brought before the Diet. These programmes contain some important topics relating to education. Our contemporary, however, fears that the great majority of the members of the Diet being better qualified to pass judgment on almost any other subject than education, grave and irretrievable blunders may be committed by the first legislature in respect of educational matters. The private educational societies which are found throughout the country, are, therefore, charged at this juncture with a serious responsibility. They are all bodies of men more or less well acquainted with educational matters, and fully competent to form practical and trustworthy opinions about affairs connected with their speciality. These bodies being, moreover, independent of all Government control, are specially qualified to command respect in the eyes of the representatives of the people. They are, therefore, advised by our contemporary to lose no time in preparing memorandums containing their own views on the more important among the educational questions now engaging the attention of the Members of the Diet. Three of such questions are mentioned by the *Tokyo Journal*; namely, first the independence of the Imperial University and other Government schools devoted to special branches of knowledge; secondly, the abolition of the Higher Middle Schools, and the addition of a higher course to the curriculum of the Ordinary Middle Schools; and thirdly, the establishment of closer relations between Ordinary Middle Schools and Ordinary Normal Schools. Private educational societies should discuss these questions and others of like nature, and should make known their opinions to the Members of the Diet. The *Koku-Hon*, by implication, blames the indifference shown by those engaged in education about the fate in the Diet of questions included in their special field of activity.

DEMOCRACY IN JAPAN.

THE *Nippon-Hyoron* maintains that Democracy is not a new thing in Japan. From the time of Jimmu-Tenno until the present day, says our contemporary, the history of Japan has indicated the gradual growth of democracy. At first the Emperor was the sole and absolute ruler of the realm, but soon the house of Fujiwara became so powerful that they put effectual checks and limitations upon the prerogatives of their sovereign. From the Fujiwara, the executive functions passed into the hands of their subordinates, the warrior class. Among the representatives of this class, the Tokugawa dynasty was the strongest and the last. But with the appearance of American vessels in the waters of Yedo Bay, the Imperialist movement began to agitate the public mind. It resulted in the emancipation of the masses from the absolute sway of the military class. The celebrated Satsuma Rebellion proved that the farmers and artisans, when properly trained and disciplined, are not inferior to *samurai* on the field of battle. So much did the popular cause prosper after that war, that in 1881 the people were able to obtain a promise from the Emperor to grant them a constitutional form of Government by the year 1890. The promise has been kept, and the nation is now entering upon its new career of parliamentary progress. Thus our contemporary is of opinion that the ultimate drift of the past history of Japan has been towards the establishment of representative institutions, political power having been gradually and steadily transferred from the few to the many until the whole nation has at last obtained a share of it. "Of the numerous countries of the Orient, is there any," asks the *Tokyo Journal*, "that can show such a history? The history of neither China, India, nor Korea, exhibits the tendencies that are discernible in the history of Japan." The *Nippon-Hyoron*, therefore, considers that Japan is designed by Providence to be the fore-runner of freedom and liberty in the Orient.

Our contemporary seems to go a little too far in saying that the history of Japan has been the

history of democracy. But we venture to think that there is a germ of truth in its opinions. When Yoritomo founded his feudal government at Kamakura towards the close of the twelfth century, he established once for all a kind of crude constitution which none of his successors, even the Tokugawa dynasty, could afford to disregard. We need not now enter into a detailed examination of that constitution. Its principal features were that the Emperor was the repository of the sovereign power of the State, that the Shogun exercised the executive power by virtue of the Imperial commission, that the Emperor was sacred and that the executive responsibility devolved upon the Shogun. These principles of Government were not formally put in writing, but they were plainly established by Yoritomo in practice, and followed in all subsequent ages by his successors. The difference between this form of Government and the modern constitutional system, is that, whereas in the latter, statesmen commanding the confidence of Sovereign and people form the Cabinet, in the former the executive authority was vested in the possessor of the strongest battalions. We may assuredly say of Japan's history that for nearly a thousand years she has had no experience of an absolute or despotic monarchy. Such a state of affairs was certain to lead some day or other to the people's enfranchisement.

THINGS MUSICAL.

We are much indebted to the recent Organ recitals at the Union Church in more ways than one. Not only have they provided us with some excellent performances, but the proceeds have cleared off the outstanding expenses connected with the Organ itself; and the Church now possesses an instrument of which the members may well be proud, which stands entirely free from debt or encumbrance of any kind. But we have something further still: the ladies and gentlemen who gathered as a chorus to support Mr. Griffin's playing with vocal music, have become the nucleus of the revived Choral Society. Our readers will be glad to learn that the renaissance was completed last evening at a special meeting in the Van Schaick Hall; when the Society was inaugurated, confirmed, and thoroughly set going once more. The Constitution and Bye-laws of the old Society were adopted *en bloc* for the new one; officers were elected; the practice night fixed for Wednesday; the *locale* settled as the Van Schaick Hall (where the Society will have the advantage of two instruments, piano and organ); and the first practice will be held next Wednesday, December 10th, at 5.30 p.m. under the direction of Mr. Keil. The following are the officers and Committee elected for the current season:—

President Mr. GRIFFIN.
Vice-President and Conductor Mr. KEIL.
Secretary and Librarian Mr. C. V. SALE.
Treasurer Mr. TOWNLEY.

The other four members of Committee are Miss Moulton, Mrs. Page, Mrs. Poole and Mrs. Wheeler. With such an array of earnest workers at the head of affairs, we have no fear of the society becoming comatose; and we look forward with much pleasurable anticipation to the first performance of the Society. All intending members who are not yet on the roll should lose no time in communicating with Mr. C. V. Sale, at 94, Settlement, or 60, Bluff.

THE DIET.

THE members of the House of Representatives did not meet on the 26th ultimo, but at 10.20 a.m. on the 27th they took their seats in the Chamber. The Chief Secretary, Mr. Sone, then conducted the President and Vice-President to the platform, and introduced the former to the House. The President made the following short address:—"Gentlemen, I esteem it a great honour to have been to-day appointed, by your recommendation, to the honourable post of President. It is my intention to be assiduous in the discharge of my duties, with due observance of the Constitution and of the Law of

the House." At the conclusion of the address the members cheered. A slight mistake occurred here. Before Mr. Sone could introduce the Vice-President, Mr. Masuda Shigeyuki rose in his seat, and in the name of the House congratulated both the President and the Vice-President on their appointment. This error created some merriment, and the members gave hearty cheers. The Vice-President was then introduced. He also made a short speech, and received a hearty reception. Mr. Nakashima then took the chair, Mr. Tsuda returning to his seat below. Mr. Masuda was selected to congratulate the President and the Vice-President, on account of his age. He is the second oldest member. The oldest, Mr. Endo On had excused himself on account of the feebleness of his voice. The House then divided into 9 sections, each section being headed by a Chief and Director as follows:—

Section I.	Chief.....Mr. Maeda Kagashi. Director.....Mr. Matsuo Kagetaka.
Section II.	Chief.....Mr. Ando Kyukwa. Director.....Mr. Ota Munoru.
Section III.	Chief.....Mr. Kinoshita Sukeyuki. Director.....Mr. Maki Bokushin.
Section IV.	Chief.....Mr. Itakura Chu. Director.....Mr. Takata Sanae.
Section V.	Chief.....Mr. Kusumoto Masataka. Director.....Mr. Kataoka Kenkichi.
Section VI.	Chief.....Mr. Inouye Kōkaku. Director.....Mr. Matsuda Kichisaburo.
Section VII.	Chief.....Mr. Kobayashi Kusuo. Director.....Mr. Ozaki Yukio.
Section VIII.	Chief.....Mr. Abei Iwane. Director.....Mr. Suzuki Manjiro.
Section IX.	Chief.....Mr. Masuda Shigeyuki. Director.....Mr. Suzuki Shigeto.

The division into sections was effected according to the order of the members' numbers. The appointment of the Chiefs and Directors was made by vote in the private rooms of each section. After some unimportant debates, the House adjourned at a little past two in the afternoon.

The Diet has been engaged since the day of its official opening in various business connected with its own organization. On Monday, the 1st instant, the House of Peers met and proceeded to elect a Chairman of the Committee of the whole House. The Constitution provides that in each Chamber there shall be Committees of three kinds, a Committee of the Whole House, a Standing Committee, and Special Committees. The first named Committee consists of the whole number of members of the House, and its Chairman is of course an official of great importance. When the House proceeded to vote there were 206 members present, and of these 89 voted for Mr. Hosokawa Junjiro, the next on the list being Count Higashikaze with 33 votes, Marquis Hachisuka with 30, and Viscount Tani with 25. Mr. Hosokawa was formerly a Senator, and acted as *Kanji* of that body for several years. The Standing Committee of 90 members was then elected, and divided in the following four Branch Committees:—First, a Committee for determining the Qualifications of Members (*Shikaku-shitsu In*), consisting of Prince Iwakura and eight others; secondly, a Committee of Finance (*Posan In*), consisting of Marquis Ikeda and forty-four others; thirdly, a Committee of Discipline (*Chobatsu In*) consisting of Viscount Kuroda Kyotsuna and eight others; and fourthly, a Committee for Memorials (*Seigan In*), consisting of Prince Tokugawa Iyesato and twenty-six others. It is stated in well informed quarters that the composition of this Standing Committee is eminently favourable to the Government. The Peers then proceeded to consider the Rules of the House, a draft of which had been in their hands for some days, and had undergone slight amendment by the various Sections into which the members are divided for business purposes. The amendments being accepted by the House, the Rules were passed without further discussion. It was then decided that as no business offered for immediate debate, the House should adjourn until the 4th instant at 10 a.m., when a project of law relating to barristers would be submitted by the Government, and the House would appoint a special Committee to consider the draft. An applica-

tion for leave would also be made by Prince Mori, of Choshu.

The House of Representatives met at 10 a.m. on the 1st instant. The business of the day was to debate and vote upon the Rules of Procedure, a draft of which had been handed to each member on the opening day (25th ultimo) by the Secretaries. Before commencing the debate the President read to the House various congratulatory telegrams received from the electoral districts, and also announced two rules, namely, that any member attempting to speak without the President's permission would not have his remarks entered in the records, and that in the event of dispute or quarrel between members, the stenographers should take down only the circumstances of the affair, not the language employed. The House then proceeded to the business of the day. Mr. Uyeki Yemori rose and proposed that, as the Rules of Procedure had not been passed, a Special Committee should be appointed to examine them. This proposition led to some discussion. The Constitution provides that Bills submitted by the Government shall never be voted upon without having been first examined by a Committee, and since the draft Rules of Procedure had not been compiled by the House itself but by the Secretaries, some members were disposed to regard them as a Government Bill. The majority, however, was opposed to this view. The Rules had been examined by Committees of the three parties, the *Rikken Jiyu-to*, the *Taiseikai*, and the *Kaishin-to*, and various amendments having been made, the Committees had met in the Parliamentary buildings on the 29th ultimo, and had come to an agreement about the draft. The members were therefore willing, for the most part, to pass the Rules without further delay. But many objected. While Mr. Uyeki's motion was under discussion, Mr. Suyehiro Shigeyasu rose, and said that as the session was public, he proposed that visitors be allowed to enter. This led to another discussion, some members urging that until the Rules of Procedure had been passed, no method of controlling visitors existed, and they ought consequently to be excluded; while others argued that as no Bill was under debate, visitors could gain nothing by entering the House. Ultimately it was decided that the doors should be opened, and thirty-four visitors, including newspaper reporters, entered the gallery. The House then resumed its discussion of the Rules of Procedure. Some members maintained that to pass a body of Rules containing over two hundred provisions was a business demanding mature consideration, while others asserted that not even a second reading was necessary. Ultimately the House divided, when 156 voted for the immediate passing of the Rules and 102 for fuller consideration. The President then announced that the business for the next day would be the election of a Chairman of the Committee of the whole House, and the election of the Permanent Committee.

The House of Representatives met at 1 o'clock in the afternoon of the 3rd instant. The President announced that a record of the proceedings would be printed daily and distributed with the *Official Gazette*. The business of electing a Chairman of the Committee of the whole House, as well as a Standing Committee was then undertaken. The question whether balloting should be by name or by numbers led to some discussion, but the latter method was finally decided upon after a division. The voting papers having been distributed, Mr. Aoki Yeiji drew attention to the fact that on the occasion of the ballots for President and Vice-President, some facelike had been written on the papers. He trusted that if anything of the kind occurred again, the papers would not be read aloud. Mr. Matsuo Shinkuro observed that the President did not appear to be voting, and proposed that he should do so in his capacity of member. The House approving, the President was furnished with a balloting paper. On casting up the first ballot, no member was found to have obtained the necessary number of votes—more than one half of all those present. Mr.

Asano thereupon proposed that informal ballots should not be counted in the total of members voting. Mr. Suyematsu Kencho pointed out that the rule, was clear upon this point, and could not, in his opinion, be altered. The President put the question to the House, whereupon the majority voted against Mr. Asano. Another ballot was then taken, but it proved equally unsuccessful. Among the balloting papers five had been handed in blank, and on one two names had been written. The President pointed out that members handing in blank papers were guilty of want of respect to the House, and requested that such a proceeding should be abandoned. Mr. Oyagi Biichiro again raised the question of excluding from the account all informal papers. Mr. Inouye Kakugoro pointed out that if this were done, Mr. Kono Hironaka would be found to have the required plurality of votes. Mr. Seki Naohiko proposed that another ballot be taken, but Mr. Oye Taku urged that the Rule did not speak of three ballots, but only of two, and that consequently Mr. Kono must be considered to have been elected. This gave rise to a discussion. The voting at the first ballot resulted thus:—Mr. Kono Hironaka 130, Mr. Shimada Saburo 101, Mr. Kusumoto Masataka 34, and Mr. Suyematsu Kencho 9, the total number of members voting being 202. On taking a second ballot, the numbers stood:—Mr. Kono 143, Mr. Shimada 141. After a discussion of some length, the House proceeded to a third ballot, the issue being that 149 votes were cast for Mr. Shimada and 136 for Mr. Kono. The former gentleman was therefore declared elected. The House then adjourned.

The Diet can scarcely yet be said to have put on its harness completely. The House of Peers received, on Tuesday, the first Government Bill ever submitted to a Constitutional Assembly in Japan. It was a bill for the amendment and control of the system of weights and measures in Japan. The following day (3rd instant) copies of this Bill, together with the explanatory document accompanying it, were distributed to the members, and they were at the same time furnished with copies of the Rules of Procedure and lists of the Permanent Committee. No debate will take place upon this Bill until it shall have been examined by a Special Committee, as provided by the Constitution, and the same is true of another measure submitted yesterday to the Peers, namely, a Bill relating to Barristers. Mr. Mitsukari, Vice-Minister of Justice, has been entrusted with the conduct of the latter Bill.

The House of Representatives may be said to have opened its debates yesterday. It will be remembered that, on the 25th ultimo, when the business of electing a President and Vice-President was in progress, Mr. Suyematsu Saburo endeavoured to obtain the sense of the House with regard to the case of Mr. Mori, member for the Kitatoshima district of Tokyo, who is now lying in prison charged with embezzlement. The Constitution provides that "the members of both Houses shall, during the session, be free from arrest, unless with the consent of the House, except in cases of flagrant delicts, or of offences connected with a state of internal commotion or with a foreign trouble." Mr. Mori was arrested before the session commenced, and before the date of its commencement had been fixed. But he is still in arrest, and consequently unable to take his place in the House. Mr. Suyematsu sought to raise this question at the time of the election of the President and Vice-President, but he was ruled out of order by the acting President, Mr. Sone; a ruling with which we confess ourselves unable to agree, for assuredly all questions relating to the presence or absence of members have a very direct bearing on the result of a ballot by the House. Mr. Suyematsu, however, had no choice but to bow to the acting President's decision, and to defer his motion until the 4th instant, when it was placed first in the order of the day's business. After this discussion the House was to proceed to the election of a Committee of Qualifications, and then the

following Bills were to be submitted to it by the Government, namely, the ordinary Budget for next year; the extraordinary Budget; a Bill relating to official agreements involving national pecuniary responsibilities; a Bill for the relief of the poor; and finally a draft of amendments of the Rules of the House. It may be added that, on the 2nd instant, the House agreed to amend the second clause of the 30th article of its Rules, so as to read:—"In the event of no candidate receiving more than one half of the total number of votes, the two candidates who have received the greatest numbers shall be balloted for again, and whichever of them obtains the larger number shall be declared elected." This amendment will prevent any recurrence of the difficulties encountered at recent elections.

FACETIÆ IN THE DIET.

DURING the thirteen hours' sitting of the House of Representatives on the 25th ultimo, some of the members appear to have thought that they were entitled to relieve the monotony of the proceedings by writing facetiæ on the balloting papers. It is said that when the Chief Secretary, who acted as President, opened the ballots at a certain stage of the proceedings, and proceeded to read them aloud to the recording clerk, he came to one which, instead of a member's name, contained the words "*chon mage*," a popular expression for the old fashioned queue of pre-Reformation heads. Mr. Yoshino, one of the candidates for the Vice-Presidency, still wears his hair in his style, and the acting President concluded that the vote was intended for him, but of course declared it invalid. Another member wrote "*rokumei tomo teki-sezu*" (the whole six candidates are unsuitable); another, "*rokumei tomo futekito, shoto to mitomeru mono nashi*" (all six are unfit; not one is properly qualified). Yet another discontented member sent in his paper without writing anything at all on it, and finally a fifth wrote "*Kono peke*," which we need scarcely inform pidjin-speaking foreigners means "away with Kono." This incident supplies an answer to the liberals who advocate a reduction of the age of qualification for members of the House of Representatives. Some of those who have been elected are evidently still a trifle youthful for grave legislators.

THE ACTING PRESIDENT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

MR. SONE, Chief Secretary of the Lower House, who as Acting President sat for thirteen hours consecutively on the opening day without taking any refreshment or leaving his place for an instant, has naturally received much praise for this feat of endurance. One of the vernacular journals recalls a still more remarkable instance which it says occurred at Westminster in the year 1742, when the Speaker of the House of Commons remained in his seat for seventeen hours. We cannot recall this incident, but doubtless our contemporary speaks with knowledge. The beginning of 1742 witnessed the stormy debates that preceded the resignation of Walpole, and it may be that on the memorable occasion when Sandys moved for an address to the King to remove Sir Robert Walpole from the councils of the nation for ever, the speaker sat for the time mentioned by the *Nippon*. Be this as it may, Mr. Sone's feat is decidedly worthy of permanent record.

HOW TO KEEP ONE'S AFFAIRS IN ORDER.

WE have received a copy of that most useful publication, Messrs. Kelly and Walsh's "Imperial English and Chinese Diary." It is an old friend, but we always greet with pleasure its arrival in the fall of the year, remembering how immensely serviceable it has been to us in the past. Very few people have the faculty of order, a faculty which helps more materially to success in life than mere ability. We who are lamentably without the gift, appreciate its value, and are correspondingly grateful to this Imperial Diary which has materially helped to supply the deficiency. Any one who keeps the Diary on his desk, and resolutely accustoms himself to

record therein his engagements and intentions, will find the burden of his everyday business immensely lightened.

MISS BIRD IN PERSIA.

MRS. BISHOP, better known as Miss Bird, has been devoting her characteristic energies to the exploration of unbeaten tracks in south-west Persia. After following up the river Karun in Louistan to its source in the Bakhtiari Mountains, she crossed north-westwards over a series of wild mountain ridges and explored several of the tributaries of the Ab-i-Disful. The peaks in this region rise to a height of 15,000 feet; and the lower hill slopes bear heavy crops of wheat and barley. Mrs. Bishop and her party encountered many robber tribes and narrowly escaped extermination on several occasions. After recruiting from an attack of fever and dysentery, she has now proceeded north-westwards through Kurdistan, expecting to reach home next January.

INEBRIETY AND INSANITY IN THE EAST.

THIS was the theme of a paper by Professor E. P. Thwing, M.D., well-known here in Japan, read on Nov. 7th, before the National Society, at Hartford, Conn., for the Study of Inebriety. He first suggested certain physical, psychic, climatic, political, and religious conditions that might naturally be regarded as repressive of growth in these maladies, and then gave his own observations and statistics of the subject. Dr. Thwing is awakening a wide interest in the United States and England in reference to the Canton Asylum, and hopes to go to London next year in its interests. His work is wholly voluntary, and at his own expense, no paid agents being employed by the Committee at Canton.

LAND HELD BY FOREIGNERS IN THE SETTLEMENTS.

THE first utterance of the newly established journal, the *Kokkai*, on the subject of Japan's foreign relations, is peculiar. "The land held by foreigners," it says, "in Yokohama and Kobe has been leased to them in perpetuity and they have treated it as their own property. A selling to B, and B to C at the rates ruling in the market at the times of transfer. Call it leased land as much as we please, the right of possession is with foreigners for all practical purposes, and cannot be disturbed even though the Treaties are revised. The only possible plan is to buy it back from its present holders at its market value."

THE EMPEROR'S REPLY TO THE TWO HOUSES.

THE Emperor acknowledged, in the following brief manner, the replies made to His Majesty's Speech from the Throne by the two Houses of the Diet:—"We recognise the deep respect shown by the House of Peers." The words "House of Peers" were replaced by "House of Representatives" in the answer to the lower Chamber.

THE EXHIBITION OF OIL PAINTINGS AT UYENO.

WE desire to call the attention of our readers to the Exhibition of Oil Paintings now open in the former *Kazoku Kaikan*, Uyeno Park. All the contributors have by this time sent in their work, and the exhibition will well repay a visit.

THE MASTER OF NAPIER.

THE Hon. the Master of Napier, Secretary of H.B.M.'s Legation, accompanied by Mrs. Napier, departed on Thursday by the *Oceanic* for Hongkong, en route to Europe.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The opening of the Diet on the 29th ultimo has elicited from the whole press of Japan loud expressions of joy and gratitude to the Emperor, who has ever since his accession to the throne been so solicitous to promote the happiness of his subjects as to establish of his own accord a system of constitutional Government. It is needless to reproduce in detail what the vernacular papers say on this subject; a few

specimens will be sufficient for our purpose. The *Hochi Shimbun* observes that, while there are some States even in Europe which do not yet possess a constitution, and while none of the continental Asiatic nations enjoy the benefits of a representative form of Government, Japan has been able to put in practice a constitutional system without any of the unlucky friction between rulers and ruled that has attended its introduction in almost every other country. "Is not this," says our contemporary, "a circumstance of which we may well be proud before all the countries of the world? We are glad that it has been our lot to be born in time to witness a happy union between a wise and enlightened Sovereign and an industrious and self-helping people." Further on it says:—"To-day is memorable for the fact that we have been able to enjoy for the first time in the history of the nation a share in the government of the country. It is memorable for the fact that we have been able to receive the light of constitutional government before every other nation in the Orient. It is memorable for the fact that we have been able to demonstrate that the parliamentary system is not indigeneous to Europe and America alone, and that it can be introduced without shedding a drop of blood."

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* is especially grateful to the Emperor for his benevolent intention of governing his people according to a constitutional method. After enumerating the different measures introduced by His Majesty preparatory to the final establishment of Parliamentary Government—from the famous edict of the first year of his reign down to the promulgation of the Constitution—our contemporary remarks that the Japanese nation cannot be too grateful to a Sovereign who has been so devotedly solicitous of increasing the happiness of his subjects.

The *Fuyu Shimbun* alone strikes a different note. The unrestrained rejoicings with which constitutional government has been inaugurated—says the Radical organ—cannot but by contrast recall the memories of the sad history of liberal movements in former days. At present the liberal cause is very popular in the country, but a little more than a dozen years ago its votaries had to bear the opprobrium of the people, and to be hunted down by the Government as if they were traitors against the country. The unfortunate affairs of Kabasan, of Fukushima, of Shizuoka, and of Nagoya are, according to our contemporary, to be regarded as explosions of the long suppressed aspirations for freedom. In conclusion, the radical organ remarks:—"The *Fuyu Shimbun* of former times uttered notes of sadness in response to the troublous state of society. The *Fuyu Shimbun* of to-day utters notes of gladness and sings the triumph of liberty, and we hope that it may not become necessary to change the notes of gladness in those to sadness."

The Emperor's speech at the opening of the Diet is commented upon by the papers in terms of high praise. The *Fomuri Shimbun's* article is perhaps the most interesting of all on the subject. Our contemporary remarks that the speech resembles very much a similar one delivered by the Queen of England on opening her Parliament; and this resemblance is taken by the Tokyo journal as a conspicuous sign of the smooth working of the constitutional system in Japan. Our contemporary is also very glad that His Majesty used the word *kei* (卿) in addressing the members of the Diet. Hitherto the term 卿 has been usually employed by the Emperor when he saluted his Ministers of State and other persons of high standing, as for instance the Representatives of other Sovereigns. In all former Imperial Rescripts on the subject of the establishment of a parliamentary form of government, the characters 汝 or 爾 (*nanji*) were used in addressing the people. These words imply an amount of degradation which cannot be adequately conveyed by any English term. The use of the word *kei* in addressing

the people's representatives is therefore regarded as a mark of signal respect to the persons thus addressed. Our contemporary then explains the full meaning of the various phrases of the speech, and hopes in conclusion that the members of both Houses of the Diet will do their utmost to justify the high expectations entertained of them by the Emperor.

The light-hearted conduct of certain members of the House of Representatives at the sittings thus far held, has called forth the well merited censure of the leading metropolitan papers. The *Nippon* rebukes in strong language those who cast facetious votes at the time of the election of candidates to the Presidency and Vice-Presidency of the House. Our contemporary also describes as defilers of the sacredness of the Diet those members who, forgetting the grave responsibility of their position, only try to cause laughter by saying witty things at the expense of other people, and those who are so vain-glorious as to waste much valuable time of the House by making speeches merely for the love of notoriety. The *Hochi Shimbun* regrets that some of the members of the House of Representatives seem to regard the Diet as if it were a country play-house for the delivery of irresponsible speeches. Such members are, it seems, unable to realize the gravity of the responsibility now devolving upon them. The presence of these foolish members has given to the meetings of the House of Representatives an aspect of confusion and flippancy hardly compatible with the dignity of the House. Happily, as yet members of this class have not had much opportunity to indulge in their folly; but whenever they waste the precious time of the Diet by giving utterance to their usual irresponsible opinions, our contemporary will not fail to condemn them without any forbearance. Most of the other papers write in a similar strain.

The time being near at hand when the Diet shall be called upon to discuss those burning questions which have been engaging the attentions of parties for the last ten years, the vernacular papers show an increasing disposition to consider the present situation in the political world and to offer advice to the various political parties and members of the Diet. The *Choya Shimbun* has on this subject an interesting article which is not concluded, and never will be, for it was evidently the last article written by the former editor, Mr. Ozaki Yukio. Mr. Ozaki and others handed over the editorial department to the new editor, Mr. Watanabe Osamu, in the afternoon of the day on which the article in question appeared. The negotiations for the purchase of that paper had been going on some time, but the actual transfer of proprietorship seems to have been effected quite unexpectedly, at least much sooner than those on the staff had been led to expect. Be this as it may, we very much regret that there is little hope of the article being concluded, for judging from what has already appeared, we might expect an extremely interesting exposition of the ideas entertained by an influential section of the Opposition on the relative positions of those in power and those out of it. The opening of the Diet, said our contemporary, may be regarded as the declaration of the long expected war between the Government and the Opposition. Which side will be victorious, the *Choya* does not pretend to foretell. But it states that "we, the opposition, ought, before opening fire, to try to make sure of the position of the enemy and shape our movements accordingly." The result of our contemporary's observation of the strength of its enemies, is not at all favourable to the latter. The pursuance of the so-called principle of keeping aloof from political parties (*Seito-igai choson-shugi*) on the part of Count Yamagata has been, in the opinion of the Tokyo paper, very injurious to the maintenance of unity among the members of his Cabinet. The Count might have imagined—the *Choya* goes on—that the formation of a Government party would lead to the rise of a reactionary party opposed to it, and that

the absence of such Government party would cause the opposition to divide within itself. There is, says the *Choya*, much truth in this argument, but this policy has not only been unsuccessful in the immediate object of causing dissension in the ranks of the opposition, but it has led to the destruction of all effective combination among the members of the Cabinet. The Premier himself is indeed sincerely convinced of the wisdom of the policy pursued by him; but his colleagues are all persuaded that such a policy cannot be followed under a constitutional system of Government, and each has a party following of his own. "As long"—such is the language used by the *Choya*—"as things go on smoothly, they will assist Count Yamagata and defend the present Cabinet, but as soon as it becomes their interest not to keep on with their chief, they will unite with the parties out of power and turn their bayonets on their old associates." Count Yamagata, however, is not to blame for such a state of things. He is rather to be pitied, continues the *Choya*, for the Government has now been suffering from the same malady for more than ten years. No wonder, then, that, with all his honest endeavours, Count Yamagata has been unable to form a Cabinet which will stand or fall with him. Under these circumstances, our contemporary thinks that the Cabinet will be no match for the united attacks of the Opposition.

The *Koko Shimbun*, under the heading "The Great Wrestling Match of 1890," compares the coming—if it ever comes—struggle between the Government and the Opposition to a wrestling match between two champions. The event of a wrestling combat very often depends upon the amount of sympathy (*hiiki*) manifested by the spectators for the parties engaged. In the same way, the result of the present year's political combat largely depends upon the amount of support given by the people to the respective combatants. Our contemporary does not say to which side such support should be given, but it is taken for granted that the people are to go with the Opposition. In another article, the *Koko* writes on the importance of the combination of the various parties in the Diet against the Government.

Another organ of the Constitutional Liberal party, the *Jiyu Shimbun*, writes in the same strain. Under the heading "Unity in Movement of Parties out of Power," our contemporary strongly advocates the alliance of the *Rikken Jiyu-to*, the *Taisei-kai*, and the *Kaishin-to*, on the several important questions involved in the discussion of the Budget. Thus far these parties have acted in concert, and they have each obtained a due share in the honour of supplying officers of the House of Representatives, the *Rikken Jiyu-to* having obtained the position of President for Mr. Nakajima, the *Taisei-kai* that of Vice-President for Mr. Tsuda, and the *Kaishin-to* that of Chairman of the Committee of the whole House for Mr. Shimada. They have thus, says the *Jiyu*, little to complain of each other. The 67th article of the Constitution, continues our contemporary, is the fortification behind which the Government proposes to defend itself. None of the parties are able single handed to storm this fortification, so they are advised to form an alliance against their common antagonists.

The *Tokyo Shimpō* writes in a different strain. Alluding to the circumstance that among a certain section of politicians the terms "strong Diet" and "weak Diet" are habitually used in the sense that the diet is strong or weak against the Government, our contemporary takes pains to point out the erroneous notions underlying the use of these expressions in such a sense. It is a grievous mistake, says the Tokyo journal, to suppose that the Diet is strong when it turns its brave front to those in power. It may in such a case be strong so far as its relations towards the Executive are concerned, but it may at the same time be weak in its attitude to the mass to the ignorant people, to the *soshi* and so forth. Such a Diet, whatever its attitude towards

the Government may be, can not be said to be strong. A really strong Diet, continues the *Tokyo Shimpō*, is that which courageously discharges its proper functions as defined by the Constitution and preserves its independence alike from the Executive and from the ignorant mass.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* continues its articles on the subject of the military and naval defences of the country. Speaking of the Army, our contemporary observes that much still remains to be done in the supply of arms and ammunition against a war with a foreign country, in the strength of the forces specially detailed for the defences of the outlying islands, and of the artillery for the defence of important strategic points, in the adaptation of the railway system for strategic purposes, and in the number of officers. As to the Navy, our contemporary dwells on its importance both in time of peace and in time of war. The present Navy is not sufficient to give proper protection to the commerce and nationals of Japan in China, Korea, Hawaii, and so forth. The utter insufficiency of the maritime defences in time of war goes without saying. In discussing these topics, our contemporary quotes elaborate statistical tables, and in general shows much research, but its essay is too long to be fully reproduced in this weekly summary.

The *Hochi Shimbun*, in a series of two long articles, draws the attention of Japanese manufacturers and merchants to the importance of utilizing the unique opportunity afforded by the International Exposition at Chicago in 1893, to open up new markets for Japanese products and manufactures. Our contemporary alludes to the importance of the trans-Pacific Republic to Japan from a commercial point of view, and recommends its countrymen to pay attention to the development of the trade between the two countries. There may be some people, says the *Hochi*, who, seeing that Mr. Goward, who is now staying in Tokyo on behalf of the Exhibition in question, pays much attention to art objects, may entertain an erroneous notion that ordinary articles, besides those relating to art, are not in demand in America. There are many articles of practical utility manufactured in Japan—continues the *Hochi*—which are not yet known in America, but which, if properly introduced there, will be sold in large quantities. Hitherto, Japanese manufactures and merchants have relied too much upon the few handfuls of foreign merchants in the settlements; the Tokyo journal advises them to study for themselves the taste and condition of foreign markets.

The *Jiji Shimpō*, writing on the same subject advises intending exhibitors to form an association and send a proper delegate to whom they may entrust their goods. Hitherto the Government has appointed a private firm or individual, to represent the Japanese exhibitors and to take charge of the exhibits, but this system has not worked satisfactorily; so that our contemporary thinks it better both for the Government and the exhibitors to let the latter manage their own affairs, giving due and proper protection in matters of transportation and so forth.

The *Nippon* has devoted several articles to the discussion of the 67th article of the Constitution. The *Jiji Shimpō* discusses at great length the question of the reduction of taxes. The *Choya Shimbun* has a very sensible article on the regrettable occurrence at the Russian Legation at the time of the opening of the Diet. It rebukes, on the one hand those youths who, in their resentment, offered violence to the party within the Legation, while, on the other, it calls the attention of foreign residents to the fact that some regard must be had to national ideas of propriety in matters of etiquette on important occasions. The same journal also has published several articles on the question of whether the Budget is a Law or not.

THE OPENING OF THE DIET.

THE official opening of the Diet took place on the 29th ultimo. There had apparently been some doubt as to the possibility of holding it on that day, and it was considered necessary that not only the election and nomination of the President and Vice-President of the Lower House, but also all arrangements relating to the organization of the Diet should be completed before the official ceremony. By the afternoon of the 27th, however, a definite prospect of putting everything into due order was discerned, and an extra of the *Official Gazette*, issued that evening, announced that His Majesty the EMPEROR would visit the Diet on the 29th, and deliver the first Imperial Message ever addressed by a Japanese Sovereign to a Constitutional Assembly. Various intimations had already been given as to the routine of the ceremony, and the persons who should have the honour of being present, so that the final announcement was of the briefest possible kind, not even containing any statement of the hour fixed for the great event. The latter point did not long remain in doubt. Before night the whole capital knew that the Imperial cortège would set out from the Palace at half-past ten in the forenoon, and the knowledge drew thousands in the streets from an early hour on the appointed day. The situation of the Diet offers exceptional facilities for purposes of isolation. Bounded on the south by one of the moats, on the north by the Hibiya Parade Ground, on the east and west by streets which debouch at one end on bridges crossing the moat, at the other on the Parade Ground, access from every direction can easily be cut off. Full advantage was taken of this on the 29th: Police notices appeared even before the day had been fixed, informing the public that traffic would be entirely suspended within the quarter where the Diet stands, from eight o'clock in the morning until the conclusion of the ceremony, and large forces of constables were stationed at various points to prevent intrusion. No crowd is so easy to control as a Japanese. Moreover, the only directions from which attempts to encroach were likely to be made could be foreseen. Had the Hibiya Parade-ground been accessible, it would doubtless have become the rendezvous for half the citizens of the capital, who from its spacious area might have watched the procession throughout the greater part of the route. But it was rigorously closed, and with the exception of one or two enterprising lads who contrived to climb to the top of some scaffolding and obtain a momentary view of the street before they were descried and summarily dislodged by the police, the immense rectangle occupied by the Parade Ground remained to the end without trespassers. The three directions from which

a distant but commanding view might be obtained were the streets leading from the elevated districts of Nagatacho and Kojimachi. In these streets great masses of people assembled, and during a brief interval the police were obliged to make a demonstrative exercise of authority in order to establish the fact that no spectator might pass a line drawn twenty yards from the points where the streets join the main route leading to the Palace. Once convinced of the reality of this veto, the crowds resigned themselves placidly to the situation, aggregating in denser and denser masses at the limits of the police cordon as the morning wore on, but preserving always the quiet good humour and mutual courtesy seldom absent in any congregation of Japanese. The streams of regular traffic which usually flow towards Shibashi and Kyobashi by the Hibiya routes being thus diverted, all the approaches to the Diet from the direction of the official quarter of the capital remained entirely unobstructed by vehicles of every description until nine o'clock, when the equipages of officers connected with the ceremony began to pass in considerable numbers. An interval of comparative quiet then ensued, but presently large bodies of troops, marching to the music of bugles, began to debouch upon Shibiya from various quarters. About five thousand men, in brigades from five to six hundred strong, were under arms. Preserving the order of march, four deep, they were marshalled so as form a solid fringe bordering the whole route of HIS MAJESTY'S return to the Palace. The route had, of course, been publicly announced beforehand. Emerging from the main gate of the Palace, the Imperial cortège was to turn to the right, and crossing the moat by the Sakurada Gate, was to pass before the Foreign Office and finally enter the enclosure of the Diet by the gate of the House of Peers. Returning, it was to issue from the gate of the House of Representatives, and thence proceeding by Uchisaiwai-cho, the westerly face of the Rokumeikan, the Hibiya Gate, and Yuraku-cho, was to pass by the Babasaki-mon to the outskirts of the Palace and re-enter by the Old Castle Gate. Half-past ten was the hour named for the departure of the cortège from the Palace, and by ten o'clock those privileged to be present at the ceremony were expected to take their places. Briefly speaking, these fortunate persons were officials of and above *Chokunin* rank, and wearers of Third Class or higher Japanese Orders, together with a very limited number of *Sonin* officials. The category included a few foreigners, but owing to the restricted space available the invitation list had to be reduced to the smallest possible dimensions. Only ten representatives of the Japanese press were present, and writers for the foreign press did not amount to more than half of that number. From half-past nine the wisdom of the police

arrangements became very apparent, for the stream of vehicles carrying the possessors of invitations became so thick that had the usual traffic been super-added great confusion must have ensued. Order was perfectly preserved, however, and as each carriage or *jirikisha* deposited its occupants, constables or gendarmes led it to its appointed place and took care that it remained there. Very soon this current of equipages ceased, and the whole route remained in possession of the mounted police and of a line of constables stationed at regular intervals throughout. The EMPEROR, generally punctual, did not keep his faithful and curious subjects waiting long. Precisely at half-past ten the advanced guard of the cortège was called to attention and HIS MAJESTY took his seat in the State carriage. But as the procession moved at a slow foot pace, it did not enter the gates of the Diet until eleven o'clock. After the outriders and advanced guard, came three carriages in which were seated the Princes of the Blood who are of sufficient age to be qualified for membership of the House of Peers. Then followed a troop of lancers, and then the State Coach. Drawn by six handsomely caparisoned horses, their riders resplendent in gold lace, the appearance of the glittering equipage surmounted by its gilded phoenix, elicited bursts of cheering from the crowds packed in each of the streets debouching on the line of progress. But a Japanese crowd has not yet learned how to cheer in the open-lunged, vociferous fashion of Anglo-Saxon and Teutonic gatherings. There is still a certain hesitation to admit the politeness of this noisy foreign method, and still a little doubt as to whether the ears of the Sacred Sovereign should be assailed by the din of a clamorous mob. It must be confessed, too, that the Sovereign himself does not greatly encourage noisy or demonstrative greetings. HIS MAJESTY preserves much of the stately frigidity of Japan's old-time etiquette, and never seems an entirely fitting cynosure of public gaze or vulgar greeting. Partly uncertain, therefore, and partly awed, the populace limited its cheers and suffered the cortège to pass in a manner which to foreign observers seemed somewhat cold. In the State Coach, facing the EMPEROR, rode Marquis TOKUDAIJI, the Lord High Chamberlain, and after it came another body of cavalry preceding the carriages of the Minister President of State, the Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal, the President of the Privy Council and the Ministers of State, a strong body of lancers completing the cortège. At one minute past eleven HIS MAJESTY alighted within the enclosure of the Diet. He was received by the Presidents, Vice-Presidents, Chief Secretaries, and Secretaries of the two Houses, as well as by the members, and through the ranks of these future legislators he passed, escorted by Count ITO, President

of the Upper House, to the Imperial Waiting Room, where an interval of fourteen minutes rest was taken to allow the members to marshal themselves in their places within the Chamber.

Meanwhile, inside the Parliament buildings there had by this time been gathered a great concourse of the notables of all degrees who were privileged to take part in or to witness the coming spectacle. By ten o'clock the commodious gallery surrounding three sides of the Chamber of the Upper House, where the ceremony of the day was to take place, was fairly though not greatly crowded with spectators, excepting only the Imperial box, and these next to it reserved for the Diplomatic Corps, which were not yet occupied. Of the four hundred or so of visitors thus collected, nearly all wore naval, military or civil uniforms, the dark-blue of which, with its more or less rich ornamentation of gold, had an effect fine in itself and well set-off by the quiet, subdued tints of the walls, woodwork, and draperies of the Chamber. The arrangements for the reception and distribution of the visitors left nothing to be desired. From the moment of arrival each person was guided, without fuss or confusion, to his appointed position in the gallery, where the ranks of the groups of occupants of the several boxes were indicated by their distance, right or left, from the central Imperial compartment. Thus, there was one box, next to Royalty, for first-class *chokunin*; another, beyond, for Prefects; others for ex-Senators; another for second-class *chokunin*, and so on, the juniors being at the extremities of the side galleries. Of foreigners there were about twenty, those, namely, in Japanese employ, ranking, and placed, with second-class *chokunin*, and holding third-class decorations, and five or six representatives of the press. Below, the body of the House was empty. From the podium at the head of the Chamber, directly facing the Imperial box, the Presidential table had been removed, and at the back beneath the now raised curtains of the alcove provided for State occasions, was seen the throne from which the EMPEROR was soon to address the whole Diet. Some of the outer rows of the members' seats had also been removed, to provide standing room for the double assembly.

A few minutes before eleven, at the sound of trumpets without, heralding the EMPEROR'S approach, there was an instant hush of expectation. At the stroke of eleven the members of the Upper House, ushered by the Chief Secretary, began to file in slowly to their allotted places in the right-hand half of the concentric semicircles of seats facing the alcove. The Peers comprised three classes—hereditary, who wore the rich robes of their orders; those appointed from official life, who wore the uniform of their respective ranks; and those nominated from among the highest

tax-payers, who were in evening dress. With them came the President, Count ITO, in full uniform, and wearing the wide crimson sash of the Grand Cross of the Pawlownia. He took his stand in front of his fellow members immediately below the balustrade of the podium. A few minutes later, the Upper House having all entered, the members of the House of Representatives flocked in from the opposite quarter, and massed themselves in the left-hand quadrant. There was more hurry and excitement in the movements of this half of the Legislature; and it was not a little interesting to find here, in this very first gathering together of Japan's first Diet, the same contrast between the eagerness of the Commons and the dignity and leisurely ease of the Lords that has been characteristic of such assemblies elsewhere since dual Parliaments began. Nor was this the only contrast on the present occasion. For, while the Commons were in sober evening dress, with the exception of two modest uniforms, the Lords, right abreast of them, were, as we have said, richly uniformed, with a sprinkling only of black coats. To the gravity under brilliant apparel in one half of the Chamber was juxtaposed a livelier demeanour under sombre garb in the other half. Next came the Diplomatic body filling the boxes reserved for them in the gallery. After them, the Cabinet and other dignitaries of Ministerial rank, headed by Count YAMAGATA, the Minister President of State. These entered from the right of the podium, and grouped themselves thereon at that side of the throne. Every one was now standing, and the whole assemblage remained wonderfully silent and still. At exactly a quarter past eleven, as the cannon began to salute and loud cheering was heard from without, the EMPEROR, preceded by the Chamberlains and high functionaries bearing the Imperial Regalia, and attended by the Imperial Princes and the Court, came in slowly and with great state from the left of the podium. Every head was bowed in homage, to which the Sovereign responded as he turned to take his stand before the throne. The Minister President of State, Count YAMAGATA, now advancing and making obeisance, handed to the EMPEROR a scroll, from which HIS MAJESTY read in dignified tones, and in a voice that was well heard throughout the whole Chamber, the following speech to the assembled Diet:—

We announce to the Members of the House of Peers and to those of the House of Representatives: That all institutions relating to internal administration, established during the period of twenty years since Our accession to the Throne, have been brought to a state approaching completeness and regular arrangement. By the efficacy of the virtues of Our Ancestors, and in concert with yourselves, we hope to continue and extend those measures, to reap good fruits from the working of the Constitution, and thereby to manifest, both at home and abroad, the glory of Our country and the loyal and enterprising character of Our people.

We have always cherished a resolve to maintain

friendly relations with other countries, to develop commerce, and to extend the prestige of Our land. Happily Our relations with all the Treaty Powers are on a footing of constantly growing amity and intimacy.

In order to preserve tranquillity at home and security from abroad, it is essential that the completion of Our naval and military defences should be made an object of gradual attainment.

We shall direct Our Ministers of State to submit to the Diet the Budget for the twenty-fourth year of Meiji, and certain projects of laws. We expect that you will deliberate and advise upon them with impartiality and discretion, and We trust that you will establish such precedents as may serve for future guidance.

The speech from the Throne finished, the President of the Upper House, Count ITO advanced, received the scroll from the EMPEROR made obeisance, and withdrew. The whole affair occupied just five minutes. Sovereign, Court, and Cabinet immediately left the Chamber, the rest of the audience remaining a few minutes, till the strains of the National Anthem, played outside, told of HIS MAJESTY'S departure for the Palace. Brief though it naturally was, the ceremonial was, nevertheless, dignified and impressive in a high degree. In every respect—in arrangement, execution and accessories—it was undoubtedly a thorough success, and worthy of the occasion of one of the weightiest episodes in Japan's modern history. The EMPEROR—who, we have omitted to say, wore a military uniform—looked, happily, in excellent health, and discharged his high functions, as HIS MAJESTY always does, with true kingly dignity and ease.

THE FRACAS ON THE 29th ULTIMO.

WE are glad to see that the *Japan Gazette* protests strongly and ably against the unjust and ill-natured language used by a local English contemporary with reference to the stone-throwing at the Russian Legation on the 29th ultimo, and points out how grossly unfair it is to apply opprobrious epithets to the whole Japanese nation because a few youthful roughs behaved improperly. Experience shows that anything like discussion has the inevitable result of raising such matters from their intrinsically trivial position to a place of public importance. At the same time, nothing could be more mischievous than to suffer the Japanese people to imagine that such writing as that of the *Japan Herald* receives the faintest endorsement from thoughtful foreigners. It is little short of a public calamity that there should be published in this Settlement a journal the unvarying rôle of which is to put the worst possible construction on everything done by the Japanese, to misinterpret their motives, to exaggerate and gloat over every fault that can be laid to their charge, and to display towards them an unchanging spirit of contempt and dislike. We do not overshoot the mark when we say that such is the part played by the *Japan Herald*, and the *Gazette* does good service when it protests against the unwarrantable infer-

ences, gross perversions and malevolent denunciations uttered by its local contemporary. If the Japanese people conclude that the feelings of foreigners towards them are reflected in the columns of the *Japan Herald*—and could they be greatly blamed for so concluding?—they, in their turn, must come to regard us with feelings of bitter resentment, if not of active hatred. But nothing could be farther from the truth than to imagine that Europeans or Americans in this Settlement share the envenomed mood of the *Japan Herald*. There are, indeed, differences of opinion, more or less pronounced, about the procedure which should be followed in abolishing Consular Jurisdiction, and these differences have engendered some bitterness, but the most obstinate supporters of a conservative policy are, as a rule, disposed to be just towards the Japanese, and to treat them in a friendly manner. There is no manner of sympathy with the sneering, rancorous tone of the *Japan Herald*. Under whatever jurisdiction we may be, it is not to our interest, still less does it accord with our better nature, to be constantly paraded before the Japanese as acrimonious, surly critics, anxious to put the worst construction upon everything they do, and insolently indifferent about the sentiments of unbrage which such displays of spiteful ill-will must necessarily beget in their breasts. There has been much talk among foreigners about this affair at the Russian Legation. Of course all agree that whatever may be the still surviving strength of the old-time code of Japanese etiquette which forbids the act of looking down on an Imperial procession from an artificial eminence, a protest in the form of a volley of stones is not justifiable. But apart from this, the general sentiment is one of regretful anticipation that such occurrences are certain to be misconstrued abroad to the serious injury of Japan's fair fame. No person with any claim to moderation or common sense imagines that because a party of hot-headed students violently resent what they regard as an insult to their SOVEREIGN, the whole nation must be called uncivilized, or the Authorities pronounced incompetent to preserve order. Even the foreigners who were the victims of the assault speak of it as a paltry affair, and justly regard it as a youthful ebullition which might occur in any city in the West under similar circumstances. Assuredly if any one, foreigner or native, were to remain covered when the QUEEN passes along the streets of London, he would receive a very rough reminder of the courtesy which Britishers expect to be shown to their Monarch. It is worth while to quote here the words used by a Japanese of position and high education, in an English letter which has been shown to us:—"It appears that a number of Japanese in the service of the Legation had been viewing the

Imperial cortège from the roof of a stable or the wall of some out-houses of the premises, while a party of foreign ladies and gentlemen took their position in a raised pavilion at the corner. Now I need not tell you that it is an inexcusable breach of etiquette in Japan to look down on the EMPEROR while he is passing along, much more to look at him over a wall or from roofs. I think that the wrath of the students was primarily directed against their own nationals, who manifested such a signal lack of respect towards their EMPEROR, and that the foreigners were not the real object of resentment. In the case of Europeans and Americans, the Japanese are willing to make allowance for differences of custom in matters of etiquette. Had the Japanese in the service of the Legation been guilty of such imprudence anywhere else, the probability is that they would have fared worse. I do not in the least excuse the youths who threw stones, but I think that the affair is not in any degree to be construed as a demonstration of animosity either to Russians in particular or to foreigners in general." From what we have been able to gather, this letter very accurately represents the view taken by the better classes of Japanese. And on the foreign side, there is certainly no disposition to exaggerate the incident, or to pervert it into a basis of harsh accusation against the Japanese nation generally. It is, we repeat, most regrettable that an English newspaper published in this Settlement should devote itself to creating the utterly false impression that deep-seated dislike and contempt are the feelings animating the foreign residents towards the Japanese. A grosser libel could scarcely be uttered. How much the popularity of Englishmen in Japan has suffered by these unceasing displays of rancour and enmity, we should be afraid to speculate, but that it has suffered very materially there cannot be the smallest doubt. A newspaper cannot go on, year after year, telling the Japanese, almost in so many words, that its nationals dislike and despise them, and are ready to take the most uncharitable view of all their actions, without obtaining some credit and begetting some resentment on the other side.

YOKOHAMA HARBOUR WORKS.

ON Tuesday the trial took place of a new dredger, the *Ayame*, designed for use in connection with the Yokohama Harbour Works. The contract for the dredger was secured by the Naigai Yotatsu Kaisha, and resulted in the launching some months ago from the yard of Messrs. SIMONS and SONS, Renfrew, of the *Ayame*. She is an iron dredger, on the bucket ladder principle, and has hopper capacity for her own dredgings of 400 tons, though of course where that process is preferable she may discharge on both sides into barges.

Working at an average depth of 33 feet, —but practicable also to 40 feet of water, as well as at a shallower depth than the figures first mentioned—she was designed to dredge 350 tons of ordinary mud per hour, and to cut her own flotation in very shallow water. Her engines are on the triple expansion principle, and her dimensions are:—length 145 feet over all, beam 28 feet, depth 12½ feet. She is provided with all the latest appliances to expedite and facilitate the work in which she is to be engaged, has winches forward and aft by which her movements while dredging may be regulated—the vessel usually lying with six anchors out, by means of which she can be moved to and fro over the dredging ground.

The *Ayame* was brought out to Japan under the command of Capt. RUHE, and had a most tempestuous voyage between Singapore and Yokohama, having encountered a typhoon which tried her seaworthy qualities in the highest degree. Though her buckets and the ladder on which they move were duly stowed, and the well closed up by a false stem and false bottom, enough of her dredging works still remained above the deck to render her exceedingly top-heavy, but the manner in which she behaved under most trying circumstances sufficed to show that, properly handled, such a craft need apprehend few dangers from which seagoing ships are ensured.

The trial on Tuesday was witnessed by H.E. Governor ASADA, and among others on board were Major-General PALMER, Superintending Engineer of the Harbour Works; Mr. F. WALKINSHAW, Inspector of Machinery for the Harbour Works; Mr. OKURA and Mr. KIRBY (of the Naigai Yotatsu Kaisha), and Messrs. TSUCHIDA and MITA, engineers of the Harbour Works. The *Ayame* was first moored in an easterly and westerly direction near the P. and O. buoy, where her hoppers were half filled at the rate of about 520 tons per hour, after which she changed position slightly and, lying N.N.E. and S.S.W., filled her hoppers to the hatches, the greater part of the work being performed at the rate of nearly 550 tons per hour. With her hoppers overflowing, the dredger now proceeded to sea and ran a couple of trips between the green lightship and the Homnoku Lightship, attaining a mean of between 5 and 6 knots, the engines working very smoothly. A special feature of the trial was the ease with which the ship was steered: she answered her helm with wonderful celerity, and was yet easily guided on her course while running the distance between the lightships. Finally, in a depth of some 36 feet, outside the harbour limits, her load of dredgings was released by means of six pairs of shutters, and she returned to her anchorage.

Altogether the vessel may be said to have amply fulfilled expectations, her dredging parts working so well as to fully justify the praises awarded to Mr. BOYLE, the

engineer who had charge of her engines during the voyage out, and who put her in order for working purposes here. Running at the rate of 136 to 142 revolutions per minute, her engines, which are designed to work to an indicated horse-power of 300, moved with very little vibration; the operation of the bucket ladder proved that the ship could fill her hoppers in much less than an hour, worked with ordinary skill, and her handiness while under steam was most marked. In respect of dredging power and capacity she manifestly exceeds the limits stipulated for in the contract, and the various means by which her engines may be utilised for raising and lowering the bucket ladder, for working the various mooring chains, driving the bucket machinery, &c., prove her to be a most valuable craft.

The main purpose of the dredger is, of course, the gradual deepening of the shallower parts of the anchorage, an operation likely to take some years. It is understood that this deepening will be from the 26 feet line—*i.e.*, the contour of the seabottom which corresponds with a depth of 26 feet of water at low-water of spring tides—and will be extended in towards the shore so as to add from about one to four or five feet to the present depths over an anchoring ground of nearly a square mile. For this purpose, approximately 3,000,000 cubic yards of mud will have to be removed. As to the rest of the works, they appear to be making solid and satisfactory progress, a few particulars of which have been kindly given to us on enquiry at the office. Of the whole 12,080 feet representing the length at water-level of the two breakwaters, about 7,730 feet will be on a firm foundation, the remainder, *i.e.*, the deeper parts, being founded on mud of varying consistency and depth. The concrete-bag work in the substructure of the former, much of which is already done, is being laid at the rate of about 175 tons per working day, and is expected to be finished by the end of April, after which the building of the concrete superstructure will be begun. We may expect, therefore, to see the breakwaters beginning to rise above the water, from their inshore ends, in the early part of next summer, and it is anticipated that the whole of these 7,730 feet will be finished in about 2½ years. For the breakwaters on soft bottom, the mound substructures and accessory operations are fast going ahead. Some 40,000 tons of material have been already deposited, and at present the dumping of *dotan* (hard tuff) and sand is progressing at the rate of about 800 tons per working day. If, as is expected, this part be finished and got ready for the superstructure in 15 or 16 months, the whole work should be completed for all practical purposes by the autumn of 1893, which was the engineer's original anticipation. During the last month or two the area of operations generally has been a

good deal expanded, and the rate of progress accelerated. After the granting of the first appropriation for the harbour-works, 15 months ago, some time was necessarily taken up in preparations, and in the procuring of apparatus and floating craft. Then, the work being of a kind new to this country, it was necessary to proceed circumspectly and on a moderate scale, while training a nucleus of workmen and staff. This having been accomplished, it became possible a little while ago to expand the operations and distribute the trained hands, by that time expert and quick at their work, and consequently a good show of various craft and working parties, divers, &c., is now to be seen, scattered along the lines of the breakwaters, on days when the weather allows of the operations being carried on. The works for the long iron pier, which is to be built out from the Western Hatoba on screw-piles, will be begun in the spring. It was necessary, before proceeding actively with this undertaking, to make experiments on the bearing power of the mud with a small consignment of piles and screws, &c. For this purpose a spot was picked out where the mud is abnormally deep and soft. The experiments were finished two or three weeks ago, and the results are rather more satisfactory than had been expected. Lastly, the training-works by which the silt-laden water of the Katabiragawa, hitherto the harbour's chief enemy, are to be excluded from the anchorage and guided to sea behind the inner end of the North Breakwater, will also be begun next year.

A CHARITY BALL IN TOKYO.

A new project has been started in Tokyo, namely, to hold a ball in aid of the funds of the Red Cross Hospital, and of other charity hospitals in the capital. The public will remember that a good deal has already been done to assist the Red Cross Society, but the organization of that Society provides that until a certain amount has been accumulated, all monies coming into the hands of the Committee must be added to the capital fund. One consequence of this system is that there are only ten free beds in the Hospital, and as these happen to be occupied for the most part by chronic cases, the institution is momentarily prevented from extending its aid to the public at large. Indeed, the charitable resources of the capital in this particular sphere are manifestly inadequate. The chief source of medical relief is the Tokyo Charity Hospital at Atago-shita, mainly supported, as we are annually reminded on the occasion of the Rokumeikan Bazaar, by the exertions of the ladies of the capital and of Yokohama. In this hospital there are sixty beds. They are always occupied, and every prospective vacancy is eagerly

waited for. The physicians and surgeons who attend the Hospital give their services absolutely without guerdon of any kind, and the same is true of the nurses, except that the latter receive valuable training and are thus equipped for earning a livelihood afterwards. So strictly economical is the system practised, that these nurses are required to pay for their own food, and their only hope of recouping this outlay lies in occasional opportunities of special employment outside the Hospital. Despite all this care the monthly expenditure reaches a thousand *yen*, and sometimes no little difficulty is experienced in supplying funds. Three years ago her Majesty the EMPRESS set a splendid example by contributing the whole of her personal allowance to the Hospital, and remaining for six months without satisfying the requirements to which this money would otherwise have been devoted. Then there is the Hospital in Hongo, which is connected with the Imperial University. Some sixty beds, if we remember rightly, are there available for charity patients. The Red Cross Hospital adds ten beds; the Hongo Hospital for contagious diseases furnishes about thirty, and the Hongo Yoku-in has, perhaps, as many more. The Hongo Hospital illustrates, probably more than any of the others, the insufficiency of the resources now available. It receives patients of the poorest class, and very frequently when these are discharged, though their diseases have been cured they are totally without means to procure food, and sometimes have not even clothes to protect them from the cold. Obviously the charity dispensed by these various hospitals is quite inadequate to the needs of a great city like Tokyo. The Hongo Hospital especially is compelled to be pitifully chary in its methods, and to assist this institution is a secondary object with the promoters of the Charity Ball scheme. The primary purpose is to equip ten beds in the Red Cross Hospital for the space of one year. To accomplish this a sum of a thousand *yen* is required, and hopes are entertained that even more will be obtained by the means now resorted to, in which case the surplus will be devoted to the aid of the Hongo Hospital. The Committee of the Imperial Hotel have most generously placed the building at the disposal of the Ball Committee gratis, and have undertaken to furnish the supper at cost price. The band also will be given free, and as no decorations are required a great part of the money obtained by the sale of tickets will remain available for charitable ends. We need scarcely remind our readers that Japan, indeed we may say the whole Orient, contains no other ball room comparable with the great salon of the Imperial Hotel. It is a superb chamber, spacious, lofty, beautifully proportioned, handsomely decorated, the arrangements for music quite exceptional, and the floor ideally perfect for dancing.

purposes. The time chosen for the Ball is also very happy, so far as foreigners are concerned. If people are disposed to dance at any time in the year, it should be the night before Christmas eve. Of course it will be remembered that an additional reason for charitable effort is furnished by the distress which the high price of rice has caused among the poor of Tokyo this year. A plentiful harvest is now coming in, but the hardships of the past twelve months have left permanent traces, and for some time to come the demands upon charity-hospital accommodation must be very pressing. So far as Yokohama is concerned, we are persuaded that this project need only be ventilated to receive liberal support.

CORRESPONDENCE.

FESTIVITIES AT NAGOYA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Previous to the completion of the Tokaido railway, about two years ago, Nagoya was but little known to the majority of travellers or residents in Japan; but since the line has been opened, the town has come to be recognized not only as a necessary break in the long journey between the Eastern and Western capitals, but as a halting place to be desired for its castle, its potteries, and by no means least, its semi-foreign hotel. The latter will shortly be wholly eclipsed by one conducted entirely on foreign lines, with table and appointments arranged to suit the requirements of even the most exacting travellers, but as it will, no doubt, be liberally advertised, an enumeration of its promised attractions is unnecessary here. Two years ago, those who did chance to alight on this city of the plains—for Nagoya, or rather Aichi Ken, is decidedly flat, although surrounded by an amphitheatre of hills in the distance—voted it a nice, clean town, but uncommonly dull, and not productive of the necessities of life according to a European point of view; now, however, it has advanced considerably. European visitors are a daily occurrence, while the number of Western residents has increased to over 30, which, taken in connection with the taste for Western commodities rapidly becoming widespread throughout the country, has caused the shops to be very largely modernized and most of them to include goods that amply supply foreign wants. Being a garrison town, Nagoya is of course not quite devoid of "life," still festivities are sufficiently rare to arouse no small interest in the neighbourhood, and the city wears a very pleasing air of importance to-day, for we are *en fête* for three days. This is one of the principal annual festivals, and the only one which can be called exclusively military. It is the soldiers' great holiday. Early this morning they all repaired to a temple specially devoted to garrison services, to worship in memory of departed warriors, after which they plunged heart and soul into the sports of the day. The scene of action is the new parade ground and a portion of the old, part of the latter being fenced in preparatory to the erection of more additions to the already extensive barracks. The garrison, with the castle, occupies one of the pleasantest and most picturesque sites in Aichi. It stands in one corner of the raised plateau on which the town is built, and overlooks a vast plain chiefly of rice fields, broken here and there by scattered farms and toy villages, and intersected by one or two broad but shallow rivers. The horizon is bounded by the hills before alluded to; low ranges and sudden peaks, falling away in gentle slopes, and bush-covered sand hills to the plain. To-day, the weather being ideally lovely, the scene is as fair as any artist could desire. Here and there, where vision is almost merged in cloudland, a dazzling point of white bespeaks some distant height already wrapped in the soft pale of winter, while the tender blue, and warmer purple of nearer ranges throw into strong relief the vivid green, gold, and red of the foliage, just now in the full glory of its autumn radiance. Just admiration of the scenery, however, is, to-day impossible, and a full appreciation of the sublime not to be indulged in, surrounded, as we are, by fun and frolic. Not a vacant spot remains on all the parade ground, save in the circle

marked out by a raised platform screened by mats and divided into small compartments, let out to those who can afford to pay for the privilege of privacy. This circle is the race course, for races and steeplechases, with prizes for the lucky riders, form one of the principal features of the day's programme. Of course the jockeys are all military. In another part of the ground wrestling is going forward, while archery and athletic feats of various kinds occupy a third space, the intervals being fairly packed with peep-shows, refreshment stalls, small bazaars, and the like, while thousands upon thousands pass to and fro in the undemonstrative fashion in which Japanese folk take a holiday, and which makes one wonder whether they are really enjoying themselves. They look happy, though, in spite of their quiet demeanour, and their lack of noise is amply made up for by the shrill whistles, drums, and cries of the various showmen on all sides. Here a sort of theatrical performance is going on, there some conjuring, while a third booth is exhibiting an amusing company of dogs and monkeys dressed in "the height of fashion," and a snowy cockatoo. Countless miniature stoves are busily steaming under sundry delicacies of refreshment which make the air redolent of soy to an extent difficult for European olfactory nerves to appreciate. We are greeted with excited whispers of our name, by small fry, as we pass through the motley crowd of "all sorts and conditions of men," composed very largely of the agricultural classes, to whom the first sight of a foreigner will evidently not be the least important or most easily forgotten event of the day. Although a Japanese crowd is by no means a novelty to us, we again experience a sense of fresh interest as our eyes rest on one country group after another, and take in the details of their original costumes, indicating that personal comfort is their only referee, and that the stereotyped conventionality which enslaves us, is at present a stranger to them. Here a middle aged man is trotting along with *kimono* caught up to the waist by the corners, in the manner peculiar to the farmer element, across his white gaitered legs, while by his side two or three little sunburnt maids in all their bravery of scarlet and blue seem half inclined to loiter, in their wonderment at their surroundings; there, perhaps a young fellow is striding along wrapped in a heavy shawl, though the day is warm, but nearly all have brought wraps of some sort with them, and nearly all carry a handkerchief of provisions, and wear odd-shaped felt hats of varied hues. A goodly stream of sightseers is passing into the Castle, this being the one occasion when, its doors being opened to the public, it forms a very important item in the list of attractions.

Near the Castle gate is a species of bird-cage, elevated on high poles and extensively decorated with greenery, flowers, and flags, in which a party of privates are sitting, with several pyramids of oranges in front of them, which they will shower amongst the crowd later in the day. Fireworks are filling the air with quaint little paper figures, and many coloured balloons, and the soldiery are beginning to mingle with the people and infuse into them a little of their own energetic spirits, as we turn from the gay scene and wend our way homewards. We leave the parade ground by one of several roads cut through a grass mound some 20 or 30 feet high, which was doubtless originally the boundary of the Castle grounds, but now just serves to keep the parade ground a little private and separate it from the town. We emerge from the shade of this pine crowned rampart opposite the new gendarmerie buildings, which are one of the latest and most attractive additions to the town, being white plaster and grey granite houses, relieved by touches of brown woodwork, and surrounded by the rich green of pine trees and numerous shrubs; then away we rattle down the principal business street, to-day gay with fluttering flags and overhung with many a graceful garland of ruby coloured lanterns in honour of Nagoya Garrison Festivities.

Nagoya, November 24th, 1890.

FESTIVITIES IN SENDAI.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—That important day in Japanese history, the opening of the Diet on November 29th, was quietly observed in Sendai. The streets presented a holiday appearance with the numerous flags waving on both sides. In the business quarters while the shops were all open for trade the national emblems fluttered as bravely as on any holiday, but they were not so frequently seen before private houses. As a little significant of this great departure in Japanese history the young people were deeply interested. Many of the schools were closed, and in some instances at least, at the

earnest desire of the students. At the normal school some exercises were held in honour of the occasion. Before all the assembled students, the Imperial decree was read, and the usual ceremonial acts were carried out by the schools. Towards the close of the day many of the prominent citizens and of the official class celebrated the event at the Yusuikan, a large restaurant in the city. The proceedings were formal and any one was welcome to attend. His Honour, the Mayor of Sendai, delivered an address. The full-grown birth of representative institutions in the Land of the Rising Sun was heralded with feasting and drinking.

While everything passed off pleasantly and even joyously, there were not any large crowds in the streets. There was earnest feeling as to the importance of the step, but no ostentatious parading. This simplicity of action may be due to the fact that the people of the city had only the week before, on November 23rd, exerted themselves in preparing for the greatest festival they have in their calendar, Shokonsai, the festival in honour of those who died for their country. In the breasts of all the memory of the civil war called up the strongest emotions of patriotism. The merchants shrewdly saw an opportunity for a business venture, and these two sentiments of honouring the occasion and drawing a crowd, contributed to make the town a gala scene for two days. The railways coöperated, fares were reduced, and many visitors came from Ichinoseki, Shiogama, Iwamune, Ogawara, and other points in this part of Japan. The festivities continued for two days, November 22nd and 23rd, and the streets were thronged with people, visitors from neighbouring towns, farmers from the country, soldiers, merchants, students. For several days beforehand nearly all the carpenters were busy putting up scaffolding, booths, arches, *dashi* and other structures necessary for the day. A brass band was brought up from Tokyo, and once it was said the aeronaut, Mr. Spencer, would give an exhibition of tumbling from the clouds, but the arrangement was not carried through. The merchants of one street, Kokkubun-cho, the main business street in the city, bore the expense of the band, while those in other quarters provided for the dancers, jugglers, and other items of expenditure.

The streets were gaily decorated; flags waved in the breeze, and ornamental lanterns hung from the eaves of nearly every house. Rare and valuable old screens, the pride and treasure of families, were placed in the shops in full view of all. Everyone was out in holiday attire, and the bright colours of the children relieved the darker costumes of their elders. Through the streets the children swarmed around and after the *dashi*, and a vast crowd surged and swayed hither and thither.

The garrison here contains several thousand soldiers, and it was only natural they should be foremost in paying respect to their brave comrades. There are one or two hundred of these loyal men buried in this city on the outskirts of the town, and at the top of a hill inconveniently situated for access but for the spirit of the reverential feeling, it mattered not whether the chief ceremony was held at the graves or elsewhere. The space on the west side of the city, between the barracks and the right bank of the Hirose river, called Kawauchi, was chosen as the site for the religious ceremony. In addition to the main bridge, another was thrown across the stream, a few yards lower down for the visitors to return over.

This plot of ground, nearly half a mile long and about a quarter of a mile wide, extends along the river and gently slopes from the foot of the hills, and the old stone wall marking the limits of the western barracks of the city. At the lower end was a large race course, with a grand stand for judges and invited guests at one point, and seats for the public partly round the course. The races were kept up through the larger part of two days. At the upper end of the ground was the ceremonial temple. In front was a large and beautiful arch of boxwood twigs and other evergreen plants, and stretching away towards the garrison entrance was an avenue of lanterns, with a tall, dark green *torii* at the end.

The temple itself was simply a temporary shed, erected of bamboo, and small timber, and covered with canvas, and of course without flooring. At the farther end was the shrine for the act of worship. Thousands of lanterns, with the rising sun on them, hung around the temple and from long lines running to the top of tall poles. A frail fence prevented the curious from intruding into the sacred edifice. A few seats were placed for those of high rank. Flowers, fish, game, animals, *mochi* (rice cake) were reverently offered and on the altar and around it the gifts were laid in profusion, *mochi* cakes of all shapes and sizes being especially abundant. The national flags were crossed over the entrance.

On one side of the temple was an enormous triumphal mound of red and white, over thirty

feet high, the whole topped by a mammoth *mochi* cake of cloth. Just beyond this was "Valour," typified in the struggle between a warrior and a deadly serpent. Still farther were shown for the amusement of the crowd, and booths and stalls to furnish eatables and drinkables for their comfort.

On the other side of the temple was a soldier on horseback with a drawn weapon. Horse and rider were of heroic size, and mounted on a high pedestal which was decorated with the *Kiri* leaf in front.

High in the hill behind this was a very curious object for such an occasion, a very wide spider's web. It was stretched between two tall trees, and may have represented the strength that lies in the union of a number of bonds, each weak in itself.

Between the temple and the race course were the chief means of amusing the thronging crowd. There was a platform for the performance of the *No* dance, which attracted very many. But most gazers were in front of the nimble manipulator of balls, saucers, and knives. He drew a much larger number than the races, and he was very skilful.

During the first day, fireworks were continually let off showing beautiful clouds of smoke of various colours, and occasionally sending out white balloons from the explosion high in the air. At night, from the streets far over in the city the display was witnessed by the people.

During the festival the grounds of the Castle, built by the first *Daimio* of Sendai, Date Masamune, were thrown open to the public, and the old deserted seats of lordly rule were filled. The place is now a part of the barrack enclosure, and, as a rule, the general public is admitted only during this festival. The founder had an eye for strategic points when he chose the summit of this lofty bluff overlooking the whole plain of Sendai. On the river side, wherever nature had not made the ascent too steep for man, he constructed a wall of huge blocks of stone closely fitted together. On the other side back from the river, a deep ravine makes approach difficult, and he strengthened the weak points with high ramparts. On this lofty site it was said Date Masamune built a tower several stories high, in which he kept the cross which his vassal Hasekura Rokuemon brought back from Rome. At present nothing of this tower, or of the old palace, or of any of the houses, remains, not a trace, one stone on another. The yard and grounds where the retainers watched and guarded are largely overgrown with weeds and bushes. Of the ancient splendour and power no signs are to be seen except the bold, precipitous, jutting peak, and the massive walls, with the beautiful view of the broad plain spread out beyond the river.

The main religious ceremony for the souls of the brave soldiers was held in the temporary temple early on the morning of November 22nd. By six o'clock military officers and civil officials began to ride up to the entrance. A Shinto priest read a eulogy for the dead, and placed some offerings on the altar. Then the officers and others offered their respects by bowing at the shrine. Later in the day any who wished could enter and show their devotion. As was natural, numerous soldiers were about, and gave a military air to the ceremony.

But the most popular sights of the whole festival were probably the *dashi*, or floats. There were several of these, but only two were very large or elaborate. All around them the small boy with his sisters, of the city, and the curious visitor from the country, were densely packed. The structures were about thirty feet high, and each had several figures in it. These lofty frames, with a trembling waving top, were slowly moved along two or three of the main streets, Kokkubuncho, Oomachi, and Minami-machi-dori. The closely packed multitude swayed in their wake. Both of them drew on the martial spirit of the warlike past for inspiration. Courage and loyalty, guiding principles in Japanese history, were taught by both.

In one we see a hero, Raiko, a member of the historic Minamoto family, in the act of receiving a commission from his emperor to exterminate the *oni*, or devils on Mount Oeyama. Hell is the home of these evil spirits, and the punishment of guilty men after death is their duty and pastime. In faithful submissiveness, the hero is leaning forward hearing the words of his master. Others had before been sent on this perilous mission, but all had failed. Raiko is successful not only in this, but afterwards in catching a bird of evil that had troubled the palace. It is likely that as a fact he broke up and destroyed a band of robbers on Mount Oeyama. It is said he accomplished his work by giving the monsters wine, and despatching them in their slumbers.

The second *dashi* represented what was more likely a reality than the first. About nine hundred years ago, before the time of Yoritomo, all this country was in a barbarous condition, and probably inhabited by the Ainos. A brave and able man, named Abe, ruled this land. He was bold

and independent, and defied the emperor. So the emperor sent Yoshiie Hachimantaro, a member of the Minamoto family, but of later date than Raiko, to induce Abe to submission. The scene showed him as he heard his lord's order. On the throne above is the sovereign, while Yoshiie is below, and attendants are about.

The valiant soldier sets out on his campaign against the unfaithful steward. Through the long years he grappled with his opponent, and twice was he forced to come from the south to the north in discharging his duty. The first expedition filled nine years, the second, three. At length after many bloody battles, the rebellious subject, Abe, and all his family were despatched, except one that was taken captive to Kyoto. This unfortunate survivor only saved his life by promising vassalage to his captor. But he nursed the flame of revenge and only waited a good opportunity to wipe out the stain on his honour. Yoshiie, however, trusted him so implicitly as to walk out with no other attendant. One day the chance, long looked and prayed for came, when the master fell asleep with none near but the captive vassal. But the captive was touched at this supreme evidence of trust; his spirit of vengeance died out for good, and he became a vassal in heart as well as in name.

Another incident illustrates Yoshiie's nobility and generosity of spirit. When he returned to Kyoto after his success in the north he may at times have talked somewhat boastfully of his battles. One evening at a hotel he was overheard by an eminent scholar, Masafusa Oe, as he told of his battles. This distinguished student remarked in the hearing of Yoshiie's vassal that he was sorry to brave a soldier as Yoshiie had so little knowledge of tactics. The attendant was very angry and wished his master to cut down the *savant* for casting reflections on so great a warrior. But Yoshiie declared himself happy in having his weak points shown to him, and sought instruction from this well-known tactician. C. M.

Sendai, December 1st, 1890.

THE LATE MR. EDGAR ABBOTT.

Many of the leading residents assembled on Sunday afternoon at the General Cemetery to pay the last tribute of respect to the memory of Mr. Edgar Abbott. As already stated in these columns, the remains of the deceased gentleman were, in accordance with his expressed wish, cremated in England, the ashes being sent to Japan to be deposited in the Cemetery where so many of Mr. Abbott's friends lie, and where many others will yet find their last resting place. Two stones of granite, square in form and of massive proportions, had been placed on the upper plateau of the cemetery enclosure, one containing a cavity designed for the urn, and the other to be laid above it and thus to enclose the relics. On the latter was cut the inscription:—

THIS STONE IS TEMPORARILY
ERECTED
IN MEMORY OF
EDGAR ABBOTT,
BORN 25TH NOVEMBER, 1850,
DIED 17TH JULY, 1890,
AT 20, MANCHESTER SQUARE,
LONDON.

BY HIS EARNEST DESIRE
HIS BODY WAS CREMATED IN ENGLAND
FOR HIS ASHES TO REST IN JAPAN.
THEY WERE DEPOSITED
HERE NOVEMBER 1890.

Round the base of the stones lay heaped numerous beautiful wreaths sent by friends of the dead.

The ceremony had been fixed to take place at 4 o'clock, and the sun was sinking to the western horizon when the wooden casket containing the urn was brought up and placed at the base of the pedestal. A few minutes later Rev. E. C. Irwine, the M.A., stepped forward and read a short service, after which Mr. N. J. Hannen, and Mr. M. Kirkwood, two of the most intimate friends of Mr. Abbott, opened the casket and taking out the urn placed it reverently in the cavity. A few handfuls of earth were then thrown in above it.

Mr. Irwine at this point said—My friends, remembering our friend Edgar Abbott as I do, remembering his quiet demeanour while he lived amongst us, and the certain amount of calm reserve which prevented him from as a rule giving his heart to the world wearing it upon his sleeve,—I would merely wish to say such few words as, if he were living, I trust he would like to hear me say. I only express, I am sure, the feeling of all here when I say that Edgar Abbott in making this request of his (the particular form which it did, desired to convey to us

in the most forcible manner possible the fact that this was the home of his heart. Into the causes and reasons why this was so it is not necessary for us to go; it is sufficient for us to remember that a man who has lived more than one decade as he did, interesting himself in almost everything that concerned the place and forming gradually about him those silent links which arise from communion with his fellows,—it is sufficient to know that this was the place on earth dearest to him. The manner of the disposition of his mortal remains is to some new and strange. Yet there is nothing new or strange about it. It was the way adopted by many of the ancient Romans, and this, it is to be remembered, was a boy brought up in one of the great English public schools and imbued very strongly and deeply with all the old Roman spirit, a feeling which to a great extent pervades the education of those schools, and furthermore brought up in after life in the East, where our ideas on this point have modified as years roll on. I must say for myself that I think the form in which his ashes were literally sent to us is one that commends itself to all reason and common sense in the highest degree, when any one wishes the remains of his perished body to be transferred from place to place. There is about this nothing in the slightest degree repulsive. For we cannot think that a man's identity consists in any degree in the mere ashes which constitute his visible body. His identity is something else, filled with human vitality and force, living and taking to himself from time to time different atoms. And I trust you will excuse me if I think and believe that there is no one here that has so little hope in the future life as to believe that the identity of a great, a strong, and forcible soul like this, living here in the sun for 40 years, working, full of taste, energy, courage, and daring—that we are to believe that in this life only there is hope, and that afterwards the man has perished. We believe not, and even if we do not all of us believe not, yet I say it is the noblest thing a man can hope. Hope that in the after life his energy shall not be wasted, that nothing shall be lost or left to perish in the void, but that God at length will make the pile complete, with human life and human energy, strong against disease, suffering and sorrow which He partook, strong to work for His purposes in some better life than this, in some eternal, some heavenly land.

This closed the ceremony, and the upper block of stone was carefully placed in position, sealing up the urn in its receptacle.

Among those present were Messrs. J. P. Morrison, J. K. Goodrich, S. D. Hepburn, W. B. Walter, Hara Rokuro (late president of the Shokin Ginko) E. J. Moss, Paymaster McDonald, Dr. Gravatt, Dr. Hall, Messrs. R. S. Schwabe, H. C. Litchfield, J. F. Lowder, H. M. Roberts, G. H. Scidmore, O. Schiune, C. M. Duff, J. A. Fraser, Dr. de Jongh, Captain Carst, Captain Hanford, the Hon. the Master of Napier, J. H. Brooke, E. Morris, T. H. Box, J. Gibbs, Captain Wilson Walker, J. E. Beale, A. B. Walford, Baird, F. Walkinshaw, C. Gibbins, G. H. Alcock, M. Ginsberg, Marquis Nembrini Gonzaga, Hegt, N. F. Smith, A. L. Robinson, R. Meiklejohn, J. Bunting, &c.

ST. ANDREW'S BALL.

The community of Caledonians have so accustomed their fellow residents in the port to view the St. Andrew's Ball as the event of the year, that little surprise was felt, only gratified expectation, on the fact becoming apparent that the 1890 celebration was even a more pronounced success than its predecessors. St. Andrew's Day has come and gone, leaving none but pleasant and happy memories. Looking at the uniform success which has attended the efforts of the Scotchmen to entertain their friends, it is difficult to believe that any serious desire ever existed to substitute another form of celebration for that which has produced such happy results. It almost seems as if the members of the society are irrevocably committed to a ball, for plainly no other form of entertainment could possibly afford such general enjoyment and pleasure.

As usual at these events the decoration of the hall formed a distinctive and prominent feature of the affair. The system followed by the Committee on this occasion was pretty much the same as in former years, consisting chiefly of the placing at various points of shields bearing the arms of historical Scotch houses, and surrounded by flags, these groups being connected by lines of flowers and foliage. A new feature was the carrying round the walls just under the cornice of a twisted line of foliage, in which were frequent clusters of flowers embosomed in the spikes

of the palm radiating starlike from a centre of colour. At the north end of the hall, between the two entrance doors, was placed a blue shield with a gold chrysanthemum on a white St. Andrew's cross, and having on each side banners bearing the Lion of Scotland, while beneath it was displayed a deer's head. A branch of decoration which last year was much admired had been omitted on Friday evening. This, however, which consisted of long festoons of flowers and evergreens depending from the centre chandelier to the walls, was judged to be unnecessary, the ceiling and interior of the hall generally having been very recently repainted and decorated. As the event proved, this decision of the Committee was a wise one, and when lit up in the evening, the hall presented a very lively picture, the radiance of the ordinary lights being tempered by the warm glow of several coloured lamps placed at different points. Of the arrangement of the various rooms it is only necessary to say that the stage and its adjoining apartments were devoted to the purposes of drawing rooms and ladies' retiring rooms, the former being the uses to which the front and rear part of the stage were put and the latter the functions of the smaller apartments. Flanked by beautiful palms, and fronted by a promenade of red cloth extending across the width of the hall (covering the orchestra floor, which was found impracticable for purposes of dancing) the stage, being ceiled with red and white cloth and hung round with flags, was hardly less pleasant to the eye than the ball room itself with its ever-changing play and picturesque groupings of colour.

Supper was laid in the small hall, seats being provided for about a hundred at a time. No particular attempt to decorate this apartment had been made, but the vestibule was of course furnished with fauteuils half concealed with tall palms. Upstairs were the refreshment and smoking room and the gentlemen's cloak-room, card tables being provided for those who preferred to while an hour away at whist.

Dancing began at nine o'clock to the music of the Marine Band. In previous years the absence from the programme of the national dance, the Reel, had been a cause of much sorrow to all patriotic Scotch folk, and an energetic attempt was made to remedy the omission on this occasion. The movement was a pronounced success, thanks chiefly to the pains taken by a lady whose absence in consequence of illness from the dance was the cause of much regret. Some twenty-six couples took the floor for the "reel," and began threading the mazy intricacies of that festive dance to the stirring strains of "Lady Mary Ramsay." The music was given by Mr. H. M. Arnold (piano) and Mr. D. McLaren (violin), in whose hands the old strathspey, followed by "Mrs. McLeod of Rassay" in reel time received full justice. Perhaps at the next ball (for that the next celebration of the day will be a ball we do not doubt), we may have a Scotch reel danced simply to strathspey and reel music, and the "Reel of Tulloch," occupying a separate place on the programme, to be danced to its own proper air, "Houlachan." But that is a long distance away, and its very thankful we are to have had a Scotch reel what-
 effier. And a very pretty and stirring sight it was, indeed, to see.

Following is the menu card of the supper:—

BEF. TEA.
 HAGGIS.
 GALATINS OF CAPON.
 TRUFFLED TURKEY.
 GAME PIE. YORK HAM.
 ROAST HAUNCH OF MUTTON.
 ROAST BEEF. ROAST PHEASANT.
 ROAST WILD DUCK. ROAST CHICKEN.
 CORNED TONGUE OF BEEF.
 CORNED TONGUE.
 SALADS.
 CHARLOTTE CHANTILLY.
 JELLIES.
 PASTIES ASSORTED.
 ICE CREAM.
 TEA AND COFFEE.

Following were the stewards:—Messrs. J. A. Fraser, W. Gordon, W. Aitchison, E. L. Anderson, J. Johnstone, W. J. Cruickshank, J. A. Jeffrey, M. T. B. Macpherson, A. Patterson, E. W. Ure, F. H. Grant (Secretary).

We append the dance programme:—

1. Highland Schottische.	9. Waltz.
2. Waltz.	10. Caledonians.
3. Caledonians.	11. Polka.
4. Waltz.	12. Waltz.
5. Highland Schottische.	13. Lancers.
6. Waltz.	14. Highland Schottische.
7. Reel.	15. Waltz.
8. Waltz.	16. Waltz.

The following is a list of the invitations:—

Mr. and Mrs. Abbey, Miss Abbey, Mr. and Mrs. Abegg, Capt. and Mrs. Allen, Mr. and Mrs. Arishima, Mr. and Mrs. Averill, Sir Edwin and Miss Arnold, Governor and Mrs. Asada,

Messrs. H. Abegg, L. T. Acevedo, G. Adet, A. S. Aldrich, G. H. Alcock, E. Andries, J. R. Anglin, A. Arneemann, C. W. Arnould, H. M. Arnould, Ayala (Spanish Legation), E. Passey Adams, D. Anderson, R. Abenheini.

Mr. and Mrs. E. de Bavier, Mr. and Mrs. Bayne, Mr. and Mrs. Bird, M. and Mdm. Blanc, Mr. and Mrs. G. Booth, Misses Booth, Mr. and Miss Bourne, Mr. and Mrs. Brearley, Mr. and Mrs. Brent, Mr. and Mrs. Brinkworth, Mr. and Mrs. Brooke, Mrs. Brower, Mr. and Mrs. Bugbird, Mr. and Mrs. Bull, Mr. and Miss Blakeway, Mrs. Bailey (U.S. Legation), Admiral and Mrs. Belknap, Captain and Mrs. Bouguin, Mr. and Mrs. Barrie, Captain and Mrs. Botherton, Messrs. A. Barnard, G. W. Barton, J. E. Beale, E. Beart, E. Berard, F. Biagioni, V. Blad, T. Brewer, T. L. Brower, Dr. Baelz, Bishop Bickersteth, Baron R. von Biegelben (Austro-Hungarian Minister), Mr. H. A. C. Bonar, Captain Brinkley, Mr. W. R. Bennett, Count Bylandt.

Mrs. Cain, Mr. and Mrs. Cain, Junr., Mr. and Mrs. Cameron, Mr. and Mrs. Carew, Capt. and Mrs. Carrew, Captain and Mrs. Carst, Mr. and Mrs. Center, Mr. and Mrs. Chope, Mr. and Mrs. Clausen, Dr. and Mrs. Cox, Mr. and Mrs. Crawford, Miss M. A. Crawford, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Curtis, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Curtis, Prince and Princess de Caristi, Mr. and Mrs. Craue, Misses Crane, Capt. and Mrs. Craigie, Messrs. A. Churchill, S. Cocking, J. Colomb, P. Colomb, J. B. Coulson, B. H. Chamberlain, J. Conder, G. C. Charlesworth, A. Coye, J. Crane, Jun.

Mr. and Mrs. Dare, Mr. and Mrs. Deakin, Mr. and Mrs. Dinsdale, Mr. and Mrs. Dress, Capt. and Mrs. Drummond, Mrs. and Miss Delafeld, Miss Despres, Misses Denning, Dr. and Mrs. and Misses Divers, Mr. and Mrs. Dunlop, Mr. and Mrs. Dabbs, Miss Dinnis, Messrs. F. R. Daniel, Paul de Groote, E. D. de La Penne, P. Duryea, W. Denning, H. W. Denison, Yeend Duer, E. Dum, and Dr. Dowson.

Mr. and Mrs. Edwards, Capt. and Mrs. Efford, Miss Efford, Dr. and Mrs. Eldridge, Miss Eldridge, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Esdaile, Mr. and Mrs. Eugert, Messrs. W. D. S. Edwards, and E. B. Edwards.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Fraser, H.E. Hugh Fraser (H.B.M. Minister), and Mrs. Fraser, Messrs. R. Fachmann, V. Faga.

Mr. and Mrs. Miss Gibbs, Mr. and Mrs. Gillett, Mr. and Mrs. Ginsberg, Mr. and Mrs. Goodrich, Mr. and Mrs. Gorbam, Mr. and Mr. Gorman, Dr. and Mrs. Gravatt, Mrs. Greathouse, Mr. and Mrs. Grosser, Mr. and Mrs. Grunwald, Mr. and Mrs. Gardiner, Messrs. A. O. Gay, C. Gibbens, B. Gillett, C. R. Greathouse (U.S. Consul-General), A. H. Groom, J. T. Griffin, Committee of the German Club, E. A. Griffiths, J. H. Gubbins, G. Gilbert, F. Gil, H. Goldman.

Dr. and Mrs. Hall, Mr. and Mrs. Hannen, the Misses Hannen, Mr. and Mrs. Hartland, Mr. and Mrs. R. Hay, Mr. and Mrs. A. Hearn, Mr. and Mrs. Hegt, Mr. and Mrs. von Hemert, Miss von Hemert, Dr. and Mrs. Hepburn, Mr. and Mrs. S. D. Hepburn, Mr. and Mrs. Hinton, Mr. and Mrs. G. Hodges, Miss Hodges, Mr. and Mrs. Howard, Mrs. Hubbard, Mr. and Mrs. Hutchison, Mr. and Mrs. Holmes, Mr. and Miss Heulein, Messrs. J. W. Hall, F. J. Hall, J. L. Halphen, H. Harding, Dr. Harris, Mr. M. H. R. Harris, Capt. Haswell, Messrs. L. Ph. von Hemert, H. V. Henson, Dr. van der Heyden, A. Hofmann, J. Holm, F. H. Hooper, Dr. Howe, Mr. A. J. Hare, H.E. Dr. Von Holleben (H.I.G.M. Minister), Mr. Heckert, Captain and Wardroom Officers of H.M.S. *Hyacinth*.

Rev. and Mrs. Irwine, H.E. Mr. R. W. Irwin (Hawaiian Minister), Mr. and Mrs. James, Mr. and Mrs. Jensen, Mr. and Mrs. Johns, Mr. and Mrs. F. H. James, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. James, Mr. and Mrs. Jewett, Messrs. E. B. Jones, J. M. James, Sir Allen Johnson, Messrs. J. A. Jark, H. H. Jacobs, W. S. Johnson, and H. A. Jones.

Captain and Mrs. Kenderdine, Mr. and Mrs. Kinney, Mr. and Mrs. Klobukowski, Mr. Köhler, Mr. and Mrs. Kirby, Mr. and Mrs. Kirkwood, Mr. and Mrs. Knapp, Dr. and Mrs. Knott, Messrs. M. Kaufmann, O. Keil, W. J. Kenny, N. P. Kingdon, E. D. Kenyon, Dr. R. Kleffell, Miss Leach, Miss Leslie, Mr. and Mrs. Lindsay, Mr. and Mrs. Lowder, Mr. and Mrs. Loureiro, Miss Loureiro, Prof. and Mrs. Liscomb, Prince and Princess Lobanow de Ratow, Miss E. M. Leimbach, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence, Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Low, Miss Loring, Messrs. H. C. Litchfield, A. Langfeldt, Captain and Wardroom Officers of H.M.S. *Leander*.

Mr. and Mrs. Manley, Mr. and Mrs. J. Martin, Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Martin, Mr. and Mrs. McShane, Mr. and Mrs. Meier, Mr. and Mrs. Merian, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Merriman, Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell, Mr. and Mrs. Mitsuhashi, Mr. and

Mrs. Mollison, Mr. and Mrs. Morris and Misses Morris, Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Morris, Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Moss, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Moss and Mrs. Moss, Dr. and Mrs. Macdonald, Mr. and Mrs. Macnab, Mr. and Mrs. J. Macdonald (Tokyo), Mr. and Mrs. Mosse (R.N.), Capt. and Mrs. Münster, Messrs. J. B. Maxwell, H.E. R. de Martino (Italian Minister), Professor J. Milne, Dr. Mécère, Messrs. T. F. McGrath, M. Marshall, G. K. Mosle, S. Moutrie, A. Mottu.

H.E. and Mdm. Neyt, Miss Nickerson, Mr. and Mrs. Noble, the Master of Napier and Hon. Mrs. Napier, the Captain and Wardroom Officers of the Russian cruiser *Admiral Nakhimoff*, Messrs. J. Naudin, O. H. P. Noyes, E. P. Nuttall, J. Newson, and Marquis Gonzaga Neobrin.

Mr. and Mrs. Olmsted, Captain and Wardroom Officers of U.S.S. *Omaha*.

Mr. and Mrs. Parsons, Miss Patridge, Mrs. Phillips, Mr. and Mrs. Pope, Mr. and Mrs. Pratt, Major-General and Misses Palmer, Mr. and Mrs. Piggott, Mr. and Mrs. Pakenham, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Pownall, Mr. and Mrs. Van de Polder, Mr. and Mrs. Poole, Mr. and Mrs. Page, Capt. and Mrs. Phillips, Messrs. W. T. Payne, A. W. Payne, E. J. Pereira, J. F. Pinn, L. Pollard, E. Powys, J. J. Pearson, Captain and Wardroom Officers of H.M.S. *Pigmy*.

Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Read, Mr. and Mrs. Reimers, Mr. and Mrs. Retz, Mr. and Mrs. Rice, Misses Rice, Mr. and Mrs. Rickett, Mrs. and Miss Robertson, Mr. and Mrs. Robinson, Mr. and Mr. Rohde, Mr. and Mrs. Miss Roux, Lieutenant Reamey, (U.S.N.) and Mrs. Reamey, Messrs. H. de Raasloff, Gower Robinson, A. L. Robinson, Dr. Russell (U.S.N.), W. Rhodes, R. Reiff, and H. M. Roberts.

Mr. and Mrs. Stone, Mr. and Mrs. Sargent, Misses Storm (Grand Hotel), M. and Mdm. Salabelle, Miss Salabelle, Mrs. D. J. Scott, Mr. and Mr. E. R. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. N. F. Smith, Miss Smith, Mrs. Gilmore Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Steele, Mr. and Mrs. St. John, Mr. and Mrs. Strome, Captain and Mrs. Swain, H.E. and Mdm. Schevitch (Russian Legation), Mdlle Schevitch, Rev. Archdeacon and Mrs. Shaw, Captain and Mrs. Squire, Mr. and Mrs. Silver Hall, H.E. Mr. Swift and Mrs. Swift (U.S. Legation), H. E. M. and Mdm. Sienkiewicz and Misses Sienkiewicz (French Minister), Mr. and Mrs. Sykes (Grand Hotel), Messrs. R. S. Schwabe, G. H. Seidmore, W. Shephard, L. Stonebrink, F. Strähler, J. Stürcke, Baron von Siebold (Austrian Legation), Dr. K. Schmidt-Leda (German Consul), Messrs. A. Stein, Captain F. H. Seymour, F. Solomon, and Showler.

Misses Tilden, Mr. and Mrs. G. S. Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. Townley, Mr. and Mrs. Trezize, Dr. and Mrs. Tripler, Mr. and Mrs. Truscott, Mr. and Mrs. Thorn, Miss Thorn, Messrs. F. H. Tanner, W. H. Taylor, E. W. Tilden, W. W. Till, T. B. Clarke Thornhill (H.B.M. Legation), and F. H. Trevithick, Captain and Wardroom Officers of the French cruiser *Triomphante*.

Mr. and Mrs. Varum, Miss Varum, Mr. and Mrs. Vincent, Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Vincent, Mr. and Mrs. Vacher, Messrs. F. Varenne, and F. Vivanti.

Capt. and Mrs. Walker, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Walter, Miss Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Walter, Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Watson, Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Watson, Mr. and Mrs. Weinberger, Dr. and Mrs. Wheeler, Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. W. N. Wright, Mrs. L. Wilson, Miss Weddell, Captain Watson (R.N.) and Mrs. Watson, Messrs. W. B. Walford, N. A. Walter, E. Whittall, C. H. Wilson, R. A. Wyllie, Capt. Wynn, Messrs. T. Wilkin, G. W. B. Watson, and S. Warming.

Capt. and Mrs. Young, Misses Young.

THANKSGIVING SERVICE AT UNION CHURCH.

Thanksgiving Day was observed on the 27th ult. by several in the community. Not a few attended Divine service in the forenoon at the Union Church, where the Pastor, assisted by the Rev. John L. Deering and the Rev. J. H. Ballagh, reminded many of the fitness and wisdom of the observance of one special day of gratitude and thanksgiving. The address was delivered by the latter gentleman. Selecting as the basis of his remarks, passages in the books of Deuteronomy (8 ch. 10 v.) and Jeremiah (29 ch. 7 v.), one from the law and the other from the prophets of the Old Testament scriptures, affording ample warrant for the day's distinctive service, stress was laid upon the essentially general nature of the bounties reserved for man by the world's Bountiful Benefactor. "They are not those of a highly intellectual

or spiritual kind which only the cultivated or devoutly pious can appreciate; they are of the practical kind," being laid in the earth on which we tread, out of whose physical characteristics we derive our nourishment, wealth, and mechanical resources. In this connection unique allusion was made to the stores laid long ago of the essentials for the potters' art at Seta-mura giving the very name to porcelain here, *seto mono*; and to the "scattering of certain productions in separate lands," as for instance the tea leaf and the mulberry in Japan, "two little leaves leading indirectly to all the intercourse with Western nations, and eventually to all their civilization and progress." We are compelled to rest content with little more than a résumé of Mr. Ballagh's strikingly interesting and pertinent discourse. Restricting himself to the consideration of three great evils averted or ameliorated during the year past, and secondly to three particular blessings the land might clearly be held to have received, attention was drawn to the late dearth of food, in connection with which the speaker rightly touched upon the greater danger a country mainly dependent upon one staple article of food ran in comparison with lands having a great variety of articles for food consumption; secondly, to the cholera scourge, which by many was attributed to the inferior and inadequate food supply; and thirdly, to the allaying of the anti-foreign feeling awakened by the apparent opposition to Treaty Revision. Reference was made to the abundant harvest of the present year, notwithstanding the floods which left suffering and want in several localities, still in receipt of the aid and benevolence of the Central Government, the total yield of which harvest is estimated at 43½ million *koku*, or over ten millions in excess of last year's crop; all this store of pearly grains, the speaker continued, "out-rivaling in value and usefulness all the pearls of the great ocean, is the gift of God in blessing the planting, the growth, the ingathering of the husbandman. No wonder God, of old, made the great Jewish festivals agricultural, as well as ecclesiastical and political." Speaking of the alleviation of the hostile feelings prevalent a short time since, the reverend gentleman briefly alluded to the sanguinary death of the Rev. Mr. Large on Good Friday, and the accidents which had occurred to other clergymen; events which might easily have been, but providentially were not, followed by any injurious consequences. And the occasion for gratitude in connection with the peaceable though stern and perilous conflict between capital and labour in other lands was not lost sight of. Passing from the negative to the positive side, emphasis was first laid upon the marvellous and momentous feature of the year in "the nation's realization of its hopes of a Constitutional Government." Is it anything short of the miraculous, Mr. Ballagh asked, "that such an event should take place and in such wise? was ever a Constitutional Government on so portentous a scale, embracing 43 millions of people, inaugurated in such wise as this? No bloodshed, no great dissension nor civil strife, but peacefully as the morning dawn of these beautiful days that have witnessed the people's festivities, or these magnificent moonlight nights that have beamed serenely on their rejoicings." Secondly, though in no wise inferior to the first in the opinion of the speaker, the progress made in moral and social reform should be cited: and the part played by active Christian men in the Local Assemblies, &c., notably in relation to the movement for the suppression of the social evil, was ably adverted to. In speaking of the third especial blessing the year had brought, the continued prosperity and progress of the cause of Christ in Japan, many of the evidences of which were briefly touched upon in treating of the movement for the abolition of prostitution, Mr. Ballagh noted the proportion of Christian men in the Imperial Diet; "thirteen Christian delegates is a vastly disproportionate ratio to the 300 delegates, compared with the forty thousand Christians among forty-three millions of people." In conclusion the reverend gentleman said it was no small matter that these delegates several are leading men; Mr. Nakashima Nobunuki, the President of the House of Representatives, being a member of the church that worships in the Union Church. The prayers of the native pastor of this Kaigan Church for many years that the Parliament when granted should be opened with prayer to Almighty God, if not answered entirely, is at least in part in the presence of two members of his Church in the Representative bodies of the Ken and Empire, Mr. Miyata in the Kanagawa Local Assembly, and Mr. Nakashima in the Diet.

HORSFORD'S ACID PHOSPHATE
Relieves Mental and Physical Exhaustion.

LETTER FROM KOREA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Soul, November 18th.

Immediately on the death of the Dowager Queen, the King, agreeably to established custom, sent an officer to Peking to make the announcement. The funeral over, the absorbing topic for weeks among Koreans and foreigners was the usual visit of the Ambassadors bearing the condolences of the Emperor of China.

Ask the average Korean what relation his country sustains to China and he will promptly tell you it is a dependency or "colony." To such the way for the King was plain enough: let him do "according to the ancient and well established laws." To others, and it must be confessed they are few, the presence of diplomatic officers in Soul suggest new relations and raises the question whether it is proper for the King to do homage to the subject of his powerful neighbour. Great anxiety was felt by both parties at the probable course of the King, the Conservative or pro-Chinese party doing all it could to have the ancient custom observed. They were zealous in giving currency to all kinds of stories of trouble that would follow should there be any new departure. "Will the King go out of the city gate to meet the Ambassadors?" "Will he bow three times as before?" were questions on the lips of all, and no answer could be given for the royal mind had not decided what should be done. Thus the days passed, the Ambassadors left China and word came from the throne, "I will go out of the new west gate." The bearers of the Imperial message arrived in Chemulpo November 6th, and the next day came as far as Mapu, or about three miles from Soul. Here they rested, and the next morning early for such processions, the King came out to the official residence of the Governor of the Kiung Kin province, a few hundred yards outside the west gate. Here he awaited the arrival of the Ambassadors. A large tent was erected near the cross-section of the two roads and some foreign officials pointed out the place where the bowing on the part of the King was to take place. Time passed by, the crowd was great, but it was kept from the streets; the Ambassadors came to the tent, their chairs stopped; every eye was turned in the direction of the Governor's Palace to see the King come forth; a high official came and received a message; the chairs of the Ambassadors turned to go down the street leading to the large south gate—the King and the Ambassadors did not meet. The King immediately returned to the city, and the Ambassadors, entering by the south gate, were taken down to Chong Uo, and in that long roundabout way were led to the Royal Palace, where they had audience with and were entertained by the king.

Both conservative and Progressive parties were disappointed at the Royal doings. The former because he did not do enough, and the latter because he went too far. To speak in warlike figure, the day's encounter was undecisive, and both parties waited for further developments. The streets were full of rumours that the next day the King would call on the Ambassadors, but nothing definite was known. The next day came and went, but the King remained in the palace and the foreigners who agree with Judge Denning that Korea is an independent nation, though paying tribute to China, were delighted. The opposite party were less jubilant. But the time of rejoicing soon ended; the following Monday, that is Monday the 10th inst., the King with his courtiers paid a visit to the Ambassadors in the house where they were entertained, staying there several hours, and the next day when they left for Chemulpo, he again came from his throne and went outside the city to bid the distinguished visitors good-bye. It is generally understood that the pro-Chinese party are jubilant, and without trying to measure Oriental customs or politeness by western ideas of propriety, it does seem that China's claims of suzerainty were publicly admitted by the King. It is said, and I have no doubt justly so, that the King did not go as far as those in the past have done. For example, he did not meet, much less bow to, the Ambassadors outside the city gate. They were not permitted to enter the city by the same gate that the King did; the daily calls of the King were dispensed with; and when the Ambassadors left they went out as they came in—alone. Grant all these things and get all the comfort out of them you possibly can, the Royal actions were not such as become those of an independent sovereign. The young Korean in one of the schools in Soul is probably correct. He began his composition, "Korea is a small country in the eastern part of China."

LETTER FROM SAN FRANCISCO.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

San Francisco, November 13th.

My last was dated November 1st, and I believe I indulged in no rash prophecies as to the result of the election which was to take place on the Tuesday following, though the indications of democratic success were apparent. Election day came, and is past, and now I may state that before the setting of the sun on November 4th, such a political tidal wave swept over the United States as we have rarely known in our history. Its dimensions may be inferred from the fact that in the House of Representatives of the 51st Congress, the Republicans have a comfortable majority of a score or so, whereas in the 52nd Congress the Democrats will have a majority of over two-thirds, so that the members of the party will constitute a quorum without a single member of the Opposition.

Democratic supremacy in the House will be no novelty. Of the thirteen Congresses which have assembled since the war, six have been Democratic. But the Democratic majority has always been so slender that the party required a full attendance of its members to carry party measures, and it has never enjoyed the prestige which accompanies complete success. Now the Democrats are going to be in such overwhelming numerical superiority that it will be hard work for the Speaker to find Republicans enough to constitute the minority section of committees.

The uprising of the people against the abominable legislation of the last session is indicated by the slaughter of almost every member who was prominent in fathering it. Messrs. McKinley, the author of the new tariff; Rowell, Chairman of the Committee on Elections, who stole the seats of democrats to give them to republicans; Cannon, the blatant Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations; Dorsey, Chairman of the Committee on Banking; Hitt, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs; Cutcheon, Chairman of the Committee on Military Affairs; Payson, Chairman of the Committee on Public Lands; Burrows, Chairman of the Committee on Manufactures; Carter, Chairman of the Committee on Mines; Donnell, Chairman of the Committee on Education, and a number of others, who were either chairmen or active members of committees, have all been elected to stay at home. The people evidently had a purpose.

As with the congressional elections, so with the state tickets. Wisconsin has elected a Democratic governor, and a Democratic legislature, ensuring the election of a Democratic senator to succeed Spooner. Connecticut, Massachusetts, Nebraska, Pennsylvania, have all elected Democratic governors. In states where no gubernatorial election was held, the state officials whose terms fell in are generally succeeded by democrats, and where the Republicans did save their candidates, it was by the slimmest kind of majority. Illinois, which was the Republican stronghold in the north-west, appears to have elected the entire Democratic state ticket, as well as fourteen out of the twenty congressmen. So clean a sweep was not in the calculations of the most sanguine Democrat on the evening of Nov. 3.

It is evident that all the way from the Rocky Mountains to the Atlantic coast, and from the Canadian border to Mason and Dixon's line there was an invisible, inaudible, and imperceptible revolution against continued Republican supremacy; and that this feeling controlled the actions of men who lived far apart, did not conspire together, nor act in concert. The popular notion at the present moment is that the McKinley bill did the work. But the bill had only been thirty days in operation, and its mischiefs had not been realised. It had its effect, no doubt. But it is doubtful if it could have caused so widespread a change of political sentiment, had it not been assisted by the disgust created by the pension bill, the silver bill, and the uniformly corrupt tendency of Republican legislation and Republican administration. The public are slow, and they often blunder. But they have a keen eye to detect hoodie schemes, and they saw or thought they saw hoodie in every act of the administration and every measure of Congress. People fell away from the Republican standard as the French fell away from the Imperial Court after Sedan, and for the same reason.

There was one rock on which the tidal wave of Tuesday beat in vain, and that was California. While all the rest of the country was turning Democratic, this state gave a large majority for the Republican state ticket and for the legislature and the congressmen. For this, it is quite easy to assign a reason. The present senior senator from California is Leland Stanford, who was for many years President of the Southern Pacific Railroad Company. Between him and his thirty-years partner, Collis P. Huntington, a savage feud

has lately broken out, and Huntingdon had no hesitation in denouncing him and his senatorial aspirations to all who would listen. Stanford accepted the challenge, and went to work to secure his election by methods he had often tried before. He literally bought up the whole state. How much he paid, no one knows; but those who can form an opinion, guess that from first to last his outlay cannot have been less than \$600,000, while it may have exceeded \$750,000. This is a good deal of money to pay for a seat in the Senate, to be occupied by a man of seventy. But millionaires must find some uses for their money, and the purchase of votes has at least the advantage of distributing the cash so employed. California will re-elect Mr. Stanford, and will send to the 52nd Congress six Republicans, who, one would imagine will feel rather lousy—*ravi nantes in gurgite vasto*.

The excitement of the election had not subsided when a new source of agitation arose in the shape of a panic in Wall-street. The underlying cause of this was the withdrawal of money from the channels of trade by the Government, in payment of taxes, and its burial in the Treasury vaults. The Government income exceeds its expenditure by about \$100,000,000 a year. No trade in the world could stand so heavy and continuous a drain to mitigate its evil effects. Secretaries of the Treasury have been in the habit of buying up bonds at a large premium, merely to release the purchase money; but this resource was fitful in its operation, and did not reassure capitalists or bankers. In October the banks of the grain states began as usual to draw on their New York correspondents for money to move the crops. While the banks were losing currency from this cause, two accidents occurred, which shook confidence. Silver, which had risen from 95 to 120 on the passage of the Silver Act, reacted slowly but steadily to 102, and numbers of operators who had bought at 108 or 110, in the sure faith that the metal was going to 120 without further delay, were seriously hurt. Then the long litigation over the sugar trust culminated in an announcement by Judge Pratt that he should feel it to be his duty to throw the trust into the hands of a receiver. This played havoc with trust certificates, which have been a popular fancy among the Wall-street gamblers. They went down by the run, and more money winged its flight to the vale where the woodbine twineth.

This was the condition of things, and a general feeling of uneasiness pervaded the street last Monday morning, when some leading banks called their loans simultaneously. The result was that everybody wanted his money, and no one had any to loan. People bid 10, 15, 20, and 25 per cent., without finding a dollar. Then they tried to sell their stocks, and the result was a decline of 5 to 10 per cent. all round. Then came a panic, in which brokers have failed, and banks have had to seek assistance from the Clearing House. The crisis has now lasted three days, but it was hoped yesterday that the worst was over.

The general trade of the country is healthy, and in Wall-street there are no balloons floating round which are liable to collapse. Thus the present prospect is that after a few more days of agony, liquidation will be nearly complete, and a period of dullness will ensue. But it is never safe to be sure where an outbreak of want of confidence will stop. There are some 3,300 banks in this country, and nearly all of them, it is to be hoped, are solvent; but if any considerable proportion of them are not, and this proportion should include banks of large capital, the present stock and money panic in Wall-street might develop into a commercial crisis.

Not the least unpleasant feature of the situation is that the Bank of England, and the London Stock Exchange are more or less involved in the flurry. The Bank has been losing gold, and is trying to draw it from the continental institutions which are protecting themselves by raising the rate of interest. They are such conservative financiers on the other side of the Atlantic that they think the end of the world has come when the rate of interest rises to 6 per cent. They would all die in convulsions if loans on call commanded 100 per cent. per annum as they did the day before yesterday in Wall-street.

A case which might engage the muse of a modern Eschylus has just occurred at Kansas City. Twenty-five years ago, two babies, a boy and a girl, were left destitute at the New York emigrant depot by the death of their only parent. Both were adopted; the boy by a man named Barr, the girl by a family of the name of Evans. They took the names of their putative fathers. In course of time, they grew up, in ignorance of each other's existence, met, fell in love, and married each other. They were living happily, with a family of children growing up

round them, when a lawyer hunted up the man Barr, and informed him that a legacy had been left him by a distant relative. The disclosure led to inquiries, and the relationship of the husband and wife came to light. The matter of fact Missourian reporter adds that eminent counsel have been retained to procure the annulment of the marriage.

IBARAKI NOTES.

Mito, November 29th.

The times for celebrating here the opening of the Diet have been various. On the 25th inst., the date of the actual opening, though nothing official was undertaken, a few flags were displayed from stores and houses. Yesterday (28th) the Normal School, and the Common and Higher Primary Schools, took a vacation, but indulged in no special celebrations. To-day, however, although stores are open, is pretty generally a holiday. The pupils of the High School marched out a short distance into the country to Semba Plain; and there, divided into an Eastern and a Western army, engaged in two hotly-contested, but bloodless, battles. The national ensign is flying in all parts of the city. This afternoon a party was given in the First Park; and during the afternoon and evening some other entertainments (social and gastronomical) may be on the programme. But, in fact, although there is here no less joy over the opening of the first Imperial Diet, there is comparatively little demonstration. This may, perhaps, be explained by the fact that it is only just one month since the people of Mito and vicinity were using all their strength, resources, and enthusiasm on the visit of the Emperor and the Empress. They may, therefore, be somewhat excusable for not making a grand demonstration even on this fortunate occasion. They are at least enthusiastic in heart; and there are none more so than the Mito Christians, who rejoice that one of their own faith is President of the House of Representatives, and that a dozen or so of their brethren are members of the Diet. CLEM.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF JAPAN.

Before Judge IWAYA RYUICHI, Acting President of the Second Civil Bureau, Judges MASUDA BUNEI, KOMATSU HIROTAKE, TANITSU HARUZO, and NAKA SADAKATSU.

S. SUGIYAMA V. H. HIJIKATA.

Principles deduced from the following case:—The first day of the period for raising a civil suit shall not be included in reckoning such term. Notification No. 44 of the Judicial Department, issued in the 9th year of Meiji, allows certain days of grace in cases where the period for raising a civil suit has elapsed during the *Kwan-kai** (arbitration) but does not apply to those cases where the period above referred to has been allowed to elapse after arbitration has proved successful.

Reference.—Art. 1 of Notification No. 44, of the 9th year of Meiji:—"Thirty days of grace shall be allowed—from the day following that on which it is shown that the *Kwan-kai* has not been successful in bringing the parties into accord—to parties who have brought forward the case for arbitration, as a period within which they may raise a suit, the original period having elapsed during arbitration proceedings." Article 2 of the above mentioned Notification:—"If a plaintiff does not, arbitration having proved unsuccessful, bring an action within the above mentioned period of grace, he shall be held to have relinquished his right to raise such."

The appellant in this case had sued the defendant for repayment of a certain sum of money, and won his case in the Tokyo Court of First Instance. The latter, however, carried the case to the Court of Appeal. It was contended on the appellant's behalf that the sum of money in question had never been loaned; that, moreover, that the period allowed for raising a civil suit had elapsed; and that the Court below, in holding that the sum was loaned, and that Notification No. 44 permitted the raising of a suit when the original term had elapsed after the arbitration had not been successful, quite misunderstood the Notification, and for this reason an appeal was taken against its judgment.

For the defendant in this appeal it was urged that documentary evidence proved the loan under the signature and seal of the appellant, and that in cases where arbitration was unsuccessful and the period for raising an action had elapsed after

* In Japanese law every plaintiff has (except in mercantile and certain other suits) to submit his case to arbitration (*Kwan-kai*) before instituting a suit in the Court.

such arbitration, a suit might be raised within thirty days of the conclusion of arbitration proceedings.

In the Court of Appeal the Bench (Judges Serisawa Seion, Nagai Iwanajo, and Takano Moku) decided that the appellant had admitted the seal on essential parts of documents A 2 and 3 of the process to be his own true seal; that of the five objections of the appellant—(1) no man lends, without guarantee, money to a man whom he has never seen; (2) the respondent was not likely to loan money to a person who had not repaid previous loans; (3) the appellant being only a student and not a *koshu* (head of a family) was not likely to require so large a sum of money; (4) the fact that the respondent had previously sued another party, Taga Kei, in the Tokyo Court of First Instance for this debt, proved that Taga alone was liable; (5) the whole of the documents A 1—3 in the process were not in the writing of the appellant—the first, second, and third objections were of no value; the fourth did not prove that the respondent had absolved the appellant from responsibility; and as to the fifth the mere verbal statement of the appellant could not outweigh the respondent's evidence, inasmuch as the seal was that of the appellant. It was therefore held that the appellant was responsible for the sum of money referred to in documents A 2 and 3; but as cases where the period for raising a suit had elapsed after the parties had failed to agree by arbitration, could not benefit by Notification No. 44, the sum of money mentioned in the documents above referred to could not be claimed by the defendant in this appeal. On this last point the judgment of the Court below was wrong, and therefore the sum in question must be deducted from the amount to be repaid by the appellant under the judgment of the Court below.

The case was now carried by further appeal to the Supreme Court. For the original plaintiff, now the appellant, it was urged that as to the sum of money mentioned in document A 1, the term for raising an action had not elapsed. The time allowed for repayment of the money expired on the 20th day of the 7th month of the 16th year of Meiji (July 20th, 1883) and the action was raised on July 21st, 1888, the Court of Appeal holding that the statutory period for raising a suit had elapsed. According to Art. 3, Notification No. 362 of the 6th year of Meiji (1873), the time within which an action must be raised is five years; the latest time when the money had to be repaid was 12 p.m. on the 20th of July, 1883, according to the appellant's reading of the phrase "the sum shall be repaid by July 20th, 1883;" the appellant could therefore claim repayment only on the 21st because the use of the money was permitted till 12 p.m. on the 20th; and an action might therefore be raised on the 21st, the latter being the day following which the term for raising a suit began to elapse. If from that day five years were reckoned the term would be found to expire on July 21st, 1888; therefore the case was not raised after the lapse of such term. According to the laws of all countries the first day of a term reckoned by days was not included, and as on this point the laws of Japan must be regarded as identical with those of other countries, the judgment of the Court of Appeal was therefore inconsistent with the true principles of law. The appellant further pleaded that while he had contended in the Court of Appeal that Notification No. 44 must apply to his case, the respondent holding the contrary, the Court of Appeal expressed no opinion beyond stating that Notification No. 44 did not apply to those cases where the period for raising an action had elapsed after the parties had failed to agree by arbitration, the judgment being therefore defective in reason.

For the defence it was contended that the appeal was groundless.

The Judges decided that as the period within which the sum must be repaid expired on July 20th, 1883, the five years ought to elapse on July 20th, 1888, beginning to count the five years from July 21st, 1883. Suppose one were to count one year from July 1st, 1889, the last day of the year so reckoned would be June 30th, 1890. But if the period were reckoned according to the view taken by the appellant—that was to say that from July 21st, 1883, to July 21st, 1888, made five years—a full year would be from July 1st, 1889, to July 1st, 1890. But this period would really be one year and one day. On the point that the first day of the term should not be counted, there existed no written law in Japan. Therefore July 21st, 1888, on which the present suit was raised in the Court of First Instance, was the day following the last day of the five years; the term during which an action might be raised had already elapsed, and the judgment of the Appeal Court on this point was according to law. There was, moreover, no ground for the allegation of the appellant that the Court of Ap-

peal had given no reason for the opinion that this case ought not to be included in those to which Notification No. 44 applies, because, as a matter of fact, the Court of Appeal laid it down that in cases where the period for raising an action elapsed after the parties had failed to come to an agreement by arbitration, Notification No. 44 of the Department of Justice, promulgated in 1876, would not apply, that Notification clearly providing that thirty days of grace shall be allowed in cases when the term for raising an action had elapsed during arbitration. On all points therefore the appeal must be rejected.—*Saiban Suishi*, Oct. 31st, 1890.

Before Judge Y. NISHIOKA, Chief of the First Criminal Bureau; and Judges S. YAMANE, S. KAWAGUCHI, S. MASATANI, and S. OKUYAMA.

INFANTICIDE.

Principles deduced from the following case:—Persons who have been in consultation as to the act of taking the life of another, but have not taken part in such act, shall be held not guilty of the same.

Reference:—Art. 292, Penal Code:—"Anyone who takes the life of another with malice prepense shall be held guilty of murder with malice prepense and be punished with death." Art. 104, Penal Code:—"Where two or more persons actually commit an offence, each shall be held to be an offender in the first degree and both shall be punished."

The accused, Yamaguchi Kameji, and two others were tried in the Kobe Criminal Court, which decided that the accused had rendered himself liable to punishment by death, under Art. 292, Penal Code; but in respect of extenuating circumstances, he was sentenced to twelve years' imprisonment with hard labour, under Arts. 89, 71, and 17 of the Penal Code.

The accused appealed, asserting that the judgment was based on an error in fact, inasmuch as on the day mentioned in the judgment and on the day following he was in the house of Kumataka Shigekichi, in Sakamoto-cho, Himeji, and thus, not being present when the crime was committed, he was not privy to the act.

The public procurator of the lower court opposed the appeal as groundless.

On behalf of the accused it was urged on the facts set forth in the judgment that the three persons (including the accused) mentioned, agreed to kill the child, finding it impossible to bring it up; that one of them, Mise, suffocated it with a large *futon* about ten o'clock at night, the facts, showing, however, that the appellant did not take part in the act. The 104th article of the Penal Code which was applied to the case, should not have been so applied, because such article only refers to cases where two or more persons actually committed a crime together. The judgment therefore was contradictory both of fact and of law. The act of the accused in transporting the body of the child to another place was not an offence, such act having taken place subsequent to the crime under trial.

The bench of the Supreme Court found that the original judgment set forth that the three persons indicted agreed to kill the child on the ground that they could not bring it up; that Mise, one of their number, suffocated it with a large *futon*; that the appellant, with Tsurumatsu, placed the remains in a kerosene box and buried them under a tombstone at Kitayama; and that the lower court awarded punishment under Arts. 104 and 292 of the Penal Code. The judgment, however, was wrong and a misapplication of law, because the accused was only privy to or in consultation as regards the taking of the child's life, which act was committed by Mise, the accused taking no part in it. The transportation of the remains did not render the accused guilty of murder, as that took place subsequent to the crime. The accused must therefore be held not guilty, under Art. 2 of the Penal Code and Art. 401 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, and be discharged, the judgment of the lower court being cancelled under Art. 429 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.—*Saiban Suishi*.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, November 28th.

At the reassembling of Parliament it was announced by the Government that the securities for peace had not diminished, and reiterated that the land purchase and tithe schemes would

be brought forward. Both Houses voted the Addresses unamended.

Mr. Gladstone has published a letter urging Mr. Parnell to resign. Mr. Parnell refuses to comply, and Mr. Gladstone threatens to resign unless Mr. Parnell retires.

London, November 29th.

It is stated that Mr. Parnell has resolved to maintain his position unless his party passes a direct vote of no confidence.

London, December 1st.

Lady Connemara has gained her suit in the Divorce Court, and a decree nisi has been pronounced.

London, December 2nd.

Lord Wenlock has been appointed Governor of Madras.

Mr. Parnell has issued a manifesto remarkable for its disdainful tone towards Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Morley.

London, December 3rd.

Messrs. Dillon, O'Brien, Sullivan, and others have signed a manifesto, which has been issued in Chicago, declaring the continuance of Parnell's leadership to be impossible.

"SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL."

Washington, December 2nd.

Congress met on the 1st December, and President Harrison, in his annual Message to the Congress, in referring to Japan said that, while he would try to prevent undue discrimination against American interests, he hoped the legitimate expectations of Japan regarding treaty revision would be satisfied.

TIME TABLES AND STEAMERS.

TOKYO-YOKOHAMA RAILWAY.

DOWN TRAINS LEAVE SHIMBASHI Station at 6.05, 6.40, 8.35, 9.30, 10.25, and 11.45 a.m., and 1.25, 2.30, 3.55, 4.45, 5.50, 6.50, 8.30, 9.55, and 11.15 p.m.

UP TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 6.30, 7.20, 8.10, 9.15, 10.22, and 11.30 a.m., and 12.45, 2.30, 4.25, 5.30, 6.35, 7.50, 9.10, 10.05, and 11.05 p.m.

Fares—First-class, *yen* 60; second-class, *yen* 40 and third-class, *yen* 20.

Trains marked (*) run through without stopping at Omori, Kawasaki, Tsurumi, and Kanagawa Stations. Those marked (†) run through without stopping at Omori, Kawasaki, and Tsurumi Stations.

TOKAIDO RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA (down) at 6.50, 9.10, 10.20, 11.25 a.m., and 12.40, 3.25, 4.55, 5.35, and 7.45 p.m.; and KOZU (up) at 6.35, 8.40, 9.40, and 11.07 a.m., and 1.17, 2.45, 4.58, 7.25, and 9.46 p.m.

Fares—To Hodegaya, first-class *yen* 6, second-class *yen* 4, third-class *yen* 2; to Totsuka, *yen* 18, *yen* 12, *yen* 6; to Ofuna *yen* 36, *yen* 24, *yen* 12; to Fujisawa, *yen* 42, *yen* 28, *yen* 14; to Hiratsuka, *yen* 60, *yen* 44, *yen* 22; to Oiso, *yen* 75, *yen* 50, *yen* 25; and to Kozu, *yen* 93, *yen* 62, *yen* 31.

Down trains at 6.50 a.m. run no further than Kyoto arriving there at 11.30 p.m.; at 10.20 a.m. no further than Nagoya, arriving at 10.10 p.m.; at 12.40 p.m. no further than Shizuoka, arriving at 6.50 p.m.; at 1.17 p.m. no further than Shizuoka, arriving at 8.48 p.m.; and the train at 3.35 p.m. runs to Kobe, arriving at 12.45 p.m. next day.

A tramway runs between Kozu and Yumoto (distance 4 ri). Jinrikisha may be hired between Yumoto and Miyasaka (distance 4 ri).

OFUNA-YOKOSUKA RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE OFUNA (down) at 7.30 and 9.40 a.m., and 12.05, 1.30, 4.03, 6.14, and 8.30 p.m.; KAMAKURA (down) at 7.41 and 9.51 a.m., and 12.16, 1.41, 4.14, 6.25, and 8.41 p.m.; and ZUSHIMURA (down) at 7.50 and 10 a.m., and 12.25, 1.50, 4.23, 6.34, and 8.50 p.m.; YOKOSUKA (up) at 6.45, 8.55, and 11.20 a.m., and 12.50, 3.50, and 7.45 p.m.; ZUSHIMURA (up) at 7.01, 9.12, and 11.36 a.m., and 1.06, 3.16, 5.26, and 8.01 p.m.; and KAMAKURA (up) at 7.11, 9.22, and 11.46 a.m., and 1.15, 3.26, 5.36 and 8.10 p.m.

Fares—To Kamakura, first-class *yen* 9, second-class *yen* 6, third-class *yen* 3; to Zushimura *yen* 15, *yen* 10, *yen* 5; and to Yokosuka *yen* 30, *yen* 20, *yen* 10.

OYAMA-MAEBASHI RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE OYAMA (down) at 7.15 and 9.45 a.m., and 2.15 and 5.20 p.m.; KIRIU (down) at 5.9.11, and 11.40 a.m., and 4.10 p.m.; MAEBASHI (up) at 6.12 and 10.35 a.m., and 1.55 and 6.35 p.m.; and KIRIU (up) at 5.10, 7.13, and 11.37 a.m., and 2.57 p.m.

Fares—Oyama to Kiriu, first-class *yen* 97, second-class *yen* 66, third-class *yen* 33; to Maebashi, first-class *yen* 1.51, second-class *yen* 1.2, third-class *yen* 51.

KOZU-KOBE RAILWAY.

DOWN TRAINS LEAVE Kozu at 8.30 a.m., and 12.50, 2.13, 4.57, and 7.10 p.m.; GOTEMBA at 9.52 a.m., and 1.32, 3.35, 6.18, and 8.32 p.m.; NUMAZU at 5.20 and 10.40 a.m., and 2.30, 4.27, 7.09, and 9.24 p.m.; SHIZUOKA at 7.20 a.m., and 12.19, 4.12, 6.50, and 10.59 p.m.; HAMAMATSU at 6.10 and 10 a.m., and 2.40 and 6.45 p.m., and 1.16 a.m.; TOYOHASHI at 7.10 and 11.10 a.m., and 3.39 and 7.45 p.m., and 2.14 a.m.; OFU at 8.59 a.m., and 1.06, 5.22, and 9.28 p.m., and 4.02 a.m.; NAGOYA at 9.45, and 11.50 a.m., and 2. and 6.08 p.m., and 5 a.m.; Gifu at 10.53 a.m., and 1.3.06, and 7.99 p.m., and 6 a.m.; OGAKI at 11.24 a.m., and 1.28, 3.33, and 7.38 p.m., and 6.28 a.m.; MAIBARA at 9.45 a.m., and 1.24.9.50, and 8.55 p.m., and 7.45 a.m.; HIKONE at 10.05 a.m., and 1.18, 3.02, 5.25, and 9.06 p.m., and 7.58 a.m.; BABA (Otsu) at 12.3.15.4.40.7.10, and 10.43 p.m., and 9.34 a.m.; KYOTO at 12.45, 4.05, 5.35, and 8 p.m., and 10.14 a.m.; and OSAKA at 2.25.5.35.7.20, and 9.50 p.m., and 11.42 a.m.

UP TRAINS LEAVE Kozu at 5.55 and 9.55 a.m., and 1.55, 3.45, and 5.30 p.m.; OSAKA at 7.06 and 11.06 a.m., and 3.06, 5. and 6.36 p.m.; KYOTO at 5.35 and 8.40 a.m., and 12.40, 4.36, 6.40, and 8.05 p.m.; BABA (Otsu) at 6.18, and 9.31 a.m., and 1.30, 5.25, 7.31, and 8.50 p.m.; HIKONE at 7.56, and 11.05 a.m., and 3.03, 7.02, 9.08, and 10.25 p.m.; MAIBARA at 8.13, and 11.20 a.m., and 3.19, 7.20, and 10.42 p.m.; OGAKI at 9.30 a.m., and 12.36, 4.37, 8.46, and 11.54 p.m.; Gifu at 9.57 a.m., and 12.02, 5.04, and 9.15 p.m., and 12.17 a.m.; NAGOYA at 6. and 11 a.m., and 2.10 and 6.20 p.m., and 1.09 a.m.; OFU at 6.43 and 11.44 a.m., and 2.56 and 7.04 p.m., and 1.41 a.m.; TOYOHASHI at 8.30 a.m., and 1.30, 4.42, and 8.52 p.m., and 3.17 a.m.; HAMAMATSU at 6.30 and 9.45 a.m., and 2.45 and 6 p.m., and 4.25 a.m.; SHIZUOKA at 5.15 and 9.07 a.m., and 12.45, 5.20, and 9.45 p.m., and 7.08 a.m.; NUMAZU at 7.03 and 10.40 a.m., and 2.24 and 7.14 p.m., and 8.43 a.m.; GOTEMBA at 8.15 and 11.58 a.m., and 3.38 and 8.28 p.m., and 9.53 a.m.; and Kozu at 9.40 a.m., and 1.17, 4.58, and 9.45 p.m., and 11.07 a.m.

Fares—Kozu to Gotemba: first-class, *yen* 66, second-class *yen* 44, third-class *yen* 22; to Numazu *yen* 1.11, *yen* 74, *yen* 37; to Shizuoka *yen* 2.13, *yen* 1.42, *yen* 71; to Hamamatsu *yen* 3.57, *yen* 2.38, *yen* 1.19; to Toyohashi *yen* 4.23, *yen* 2.82, *yen* 1.41; to Ofu *yen* 5.22, *yen* 3.48, *yen* 1.74; to Nagoya *yen* 5.58, *yen* 3.72, *yen* 1.86; to Gifu *yen* 6.15, *yen* 4.10, *yen* 2.05; to Ogaki *yen* 6.42, *yen* 4.28, *yen* 2.14; to Maibara *yen* 7.05, *yen* 4.70, *yen* 2.35; to Hikone *yen* 7.17, *yen* 4.78, *yen* 2.39; to Baba *yen* 8.10, *yen* 5.40, *yen* 2.70; to Kyoto *yen* 8.40, *yen* 5.60, *yen* 2.80; to Osaka *yen* 9.21, *yen* 6.14, *yen* 3.07; and to Kobe *yen* 9.81, *yen* 6.54, *yen* 3.27.

The down train at 8.30 a.m. runs no further than Kyoto, arriving there at 11.30 p.m.; at 12.12 p.m. no further than Nagoya, arriving at 10.10 p.m.; at 5.05 p.m. no further than Shizuoka, arriving at 9 p.m.; and the train at 7.10 p.m. runs to Kobe, arriving at 12.50 p.m. next day. The up train at 5.55 a.m. runs no further than Shizuoka, arriving there at 8.40 p.m.; at 9.55 a.m. and 1.55 p.m. no further than Nagoya, arriving respectively at 6.07 and 10.15 p.m.; and the train at 5.30 p.m. runs to Shimbashi arriving at 1.40 p.m. next day.

UTSUNOMIYA-NIKKO RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE UTSUNOMIYA (down) at 5.25 and 10.05 a.m., and 12.25* and 3.05 p.m.; and NIKKO (up) at 7.20 and 11.55 a.m., and 2.25 and 4.55* p.m.

* Through Trains to and from Utsunomiya.

OYAMA-MITO RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE OYAMA (down) at 6.50 and 9.25 a.m., and 2.20 and 5.15 p.m.; and MITO (up) at 6.25 and 10.10 a.m., and 2.05 and 4.55 p.m.

Fares—First-class, *yen* 1.26; second-class, *yen* 84; third-class, *yen* 42.

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

STEAMERS LEAVE the Nippon Hatoba daily at 8.30 a.m., and 12.30 and 3.30 p.m.; and LEAVE YOKOSUKA at 8.30 a.m., and 12.30 and 3.30 p.m.—Fare, *yen* 20.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai,	per N. V. K.	Friday, Dec. 12th.
Nagasaki & Kobe.....		
From Canada, &c.	per C. P. M. Co.	To-day, Dec. 6th.*
From Hongkong,	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 7th.†
From Europe via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd.	Friday, Dec. 5th.‡
From America.....	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Dec. 20th.§
From Europe via Hongkong.....	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 14th.¶

* *Spirits of Belle Isle* left Vancouver on November 1st, † *Perona* will leave Kobe on December 6th, ‡ *General Herder* left Hongkong on November 29th, § *City of Rio de Janeiro* left San Francisco via Honolulu on November 29th, ¶ *Yanguet* (with French mail) left Hongkong on December 5th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, via Shanghai.....	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 7th.
For Shanghai,		
Kobe, and Nagasaki...	per N. V. K.	Tuesday, Dec. 9th.
For Europe, via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd.	Wedn'day, Dec. 10th.
For Hongkong.....	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Dec. 13th.
For America.....	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Dec. 16th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. M. P. Co.	Thursday, Dec. 18th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Sikh, British steamer, 1,736, Rowley, 28th November, —Kobe 27th November, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Yorkshire, British steamer, 1,426, Arnold, 28th November, —Yokosuka Dock 28th November.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 28th November, —Shanghai and ports, 21st November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Djemnah, French steamer, 2,200, Bonnefoy, 29th November, —Hongkong 21st, Shanghai 25th, and Kobe 28th November, General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, Kenderdine, 29th November, —Hakodate 27th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Frigga, German steamer, 1,400, Nagel, 30th November, —Hongkong 23rd November, General.—Siman, Evers & Co.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 30th November, —Kobe 29th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,182, Walter, 30th November, —Kobe 29th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Belgie, British steamer, 2,695, W. H. Walker, 1st December, —Hongkong 26th November, General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Satsuna Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Brown, 2nd December, —Hakodate 29th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oceanic, British steamer, 3,107, W. M. Smith, 2nd December, —San Francisco 13th November, General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Antonio, British steamer, 1,214, F. Marshall, 2nd December, —Kobe 30th November, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, John Wynn, 2nd December, —Kobe 1st December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 3rd December, —Hakodate 1st December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,182, Walter, 5th December, —Kobe 3rd December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Guy Mannering, British steamer, 1,829, D. Ford, 5th December, —Nagasaki 2nd December, Coal.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 5th December, —Shanghai and ports 29th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,219, Barstow, 5th December, —Shimonoseki 3rd December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 5th December, —Nagasaki 3rd December, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

DEPARTURES.

Benlomond, British steamer, 1,752, A. W. S. Thompson, 28th November, —Kobe, General.—Carnes & Co.

Fuyo, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 28th November, —Nagasaki, General.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,878, W. D. Mudie, 29th November, —Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Drummond, 29th November, —Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,182, Walter, 30th November, —Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Leander (10), cruiser, Captain B. Watson, 1st December, —Kobe.

Yorkshire, British steamer, 1,426, Arnold, 1st December, —Kobe, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Abyssinia, British bark, 1,127, Hilton, 2nd December, —Hakodate, Sulphur.—Middleton & Co.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 2nd December, —Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 2nd December, —Shanghai and ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Satsuna Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Brown, 3rd December, —Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sikh, British steamer, 1,736, Rowley, 3rd December, —Kobe, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Oceanic, British steamer, 3,107, W. M. Smith, 4th November, —Hongkong, General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Belgie, British steamer, 2,695, W. H. Walker, 4th December, —San Francisco, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, J. Wynn, 4th December, —Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Antonio, British steamer, 1,242, F. Marshall, 5th December, —Kobe, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Mino Maru, Japanese steamer, 550, Handa, 5th December, —Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,182, Walter, 5th December, —Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 5th December, —Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Frigga, German steamer, 1,400, Nagel, 5th December, —Kobe, General.—Smith, Evers & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Sikh*, from Kobe:—Messrs. Tilden, Duryea, Stone, and Dr. Russell in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. J. L. Jensen, Dr. D. E. Osborne, Mrs. Kaik and child, Messrs. Akizuki, and Shibata in cabin; one Japanese in second class, and 356 passengers in steerage.

Per French steamer *Djemnah*, from Hongkong via ports:—Messrs. Nakajima, Probyn, Smith, H. Cily, Marty, Courtin, Pryo, Tilmont, J. Talters, Colonel Mauduit, Messrs. Retz, Kiaga, Thola, Mrs. Kishida, Mr. Tatters, Mr. Krammer, and Miss Yasu in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. Goffin, Komatsusato, Oi, Pories, Charles, and Perry in cabin; 338 Japanese in steerage.

The British steamer *Belgie*, from Hongkong:—Mr. J. D. Aquino, Captain Bingham, R.N., Mr. Chas. W. Everard, Dr. Geo. R. Brush, U.S.N., Mrs. Loureiro, and Mr. J. Hinrichs in cabin.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, from San Francisco:—Count Toda, Countess Kiwa Toda, Miss Ko Toda, Miss Tone Toda, Miss Taki Toda, Master Ujiori Toda, Mr. and Mrs. Alex. Allan and maid, Miss Eliza Allan, Miss Jennie Allan, Mr. Claude Allan, Miss Yoshi Kuki, Mr. Robt. E. Pettit, Mr. Henry Pettit, Miss Lorraine de Ferris, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Anderson, Miss Florence White, Mr. Haddon, Mr. Griffin, Miss Key Tsuge, Messrs. T. Ruddeman Johnston, C. C. Williams, H. R. Beaumont, L. Barwell, L. Danpier, Arthur Winstanley, Major Yamane, Mr. Geo. W. Tracy, Mr. Henry Binley, Rev. and Mrs. C. H. D. Fisher, Miss Stella Fisher, Master Royal Fisher, Lieut. Com. Jas. Marthon, U.S.N., Mrs. Marthon, Mr. Edward Learned, Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Dunn, Mr. Gorgonio Herrero, Mr. E. H. Tuka, Rev. and Mrs. P. H. Moore, Rev. P. E. Moore, Rev. Langhorne Leitch, and Mr. and Mrs. Bong Tong and 2 children in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, from Kobe:—Rev. J. B. Hall, Mr. T. Amano, and Mrs. Yamanouchi in cabin; 50 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Satsuna Maru*, from Hakodate:—6 passengers in cabin; 2 passengers in second class, and 26 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from Hakodate:—Messrs. S. Glabaw and S. Tsuda in cabin; 5 passengers in second class, and 41 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Miss L. Elton, Dr. Smith, Rev. G. Altchin, and Mr. Diack in cabin; 44 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, for Kobe:—Messrs. Yamaguchi, Mukohama, Ensie, Small, Pick, and Pass in cabin; Mrs. Nakagawa, Miss T. Nakagawa, Messrs. Hoshino and Tei Kaku Ho in second class, and 56 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Knapp, Mr. and Mrs. Lockwood, Mrs. Mosse, Messrs. A. Macmillan, F. Duberly, A. Cronbie, N. Woog, B. H. Chamberlain, Ahmad Hailaba, Sui Wing Ting, Chung Kin Hing, Chun Hon Yow, Chun Hon Sing, Mr. and Mrs. Chun Chuck Tong, and Surgeon Dowson, R.N., in cabin; 21 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. B. Watson, infant, and maid, Mrs. Matsumura, Mrs. Katsu, Mrs. D. and Mrs. F. Matsumura and 2 children, His Ex. Governor Nakano, Mr. Matsumura, Mr. C. Denby, Dr. Fisher, Mr. A. Smith, and Mr. W. Davies in cabin; Mr. Reimers, Mrs. Yoneda, Mrs. Toyama, Mr. Matsuo, Mr. Komori, Mr. and Mrs. Maitai, Mr. Shinowara, and Mr. Takahashi in second class, and 95 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Satsuna Maru*, for Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. Yamao, Mr. Paul Jaluzot, Mr. Hornby, and Mr. L. Litch in cabin; 40 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, for Hongkong:—Mr. D. Nowroze and two native servants, Mr. J. Pestonjee and native servant, The Master of

Napier, the Hon. Mrs. Napier and European maid, and Mr. E. Lutz in cabin.

Per British steamer *Belgie*, for San Francisco:—Mr. J. D. Archibald, Dr. D. E. Osborne, Mr. A. Porteus, Miss Huey, Mr. G. Nagasaki, Mr. T. Morimura, Rev. Dr. Law, Mrs. Law and three children, Mrs. Frahn and two children, Mr. O. A. Poole, Mr. C. Heyman, and Mr. Wm. Robinson in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, for Kobe:—Messrs. Nodzu and Kishi in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. Sengoku, Mrs. Kaga, Mr. Shiraiwa, Mrs. T. Ozawa, and Miss H. Ozawa in second class, and 56 passengers in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Silk for France 123 bales.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure \$3,500.00.

Per British steamer *Belgie*, for San Francisco:—

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	324	—	235	559
Hyogo	—	112	374	486
Yokohama	3,082	360	966	4,407
Hongkong	1,030	800	—	1,830
Total	4,436	1,281	1,565	7,282

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	140	—	140
Yokohama	—	490	—	490
Total	—	630	—	630

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Captain Kenderdine, reports:—Left Hakodate the 26th November at 2 p.m.; had moderate winds from the west, and cloudy weather; passed Shiriyasaki at 6.40 p.m., with fresh wind from S.W. and fine weather. Arrived at Oginohama the 27th at 4 p.m., fresh wind from S.W. and fine weather throughout the passage. Left at 5.40 a.m.; passed Inuboye at 9 p.m.; strong wind from W.S.W. and high sea continuing throughout the passage; passed Noshima at 10 a.m. Arrived at Yokohama the 29th November at 2 p.m.

The German steamer *Frigga*, Captain Nagel, reports:—Left Hamburg the 4th October and Hongkong the 23rd November; had fine weather to Oshima; thence to port strong west and north-east winds.

The Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, Captain Ekstrand, reports:—Left Kobe the 29th November at noon; had moderate S.W. breeze and overcast sky to Oshima; thence fresh northerly winds and overcast to Onai-saki where wind hauled round to the eastward, strong breeze, squally. Arrived at Yokohama the 30th November at 5 p.m.

The British steamer *Belgie*, Captain Walker, reports:—Left Hongkong the 26th November; had fresh N.E. winds and moderate sea. Arrived at Yokohama the 1st December at 1.37 p.m. Time 5 days, 4 hours, 49 minutes.

The Japanese steamer *Satsuna Maru*, Captain Brown, reports:—Left Hakodate the 29th November at 2 p.m.; had strong N.W. winds and heavy snow squalls to Shiriyasaki; afterwards fresh to gentle N.W. winds and fine weather to Oginohama the 30th; had light variable winds and fine weather up to Noshima; thence fresh to moderate northerly winds and fine weather up to arrival at Yokohama, the 2nd December at 6.15 a.m.

The British steamer *Oceanic*, Captain Smith, reports:—Left San Francisco the 13th November at 3.03 p.m.; had light variable winds and fine weather to 37.40 N. and 140 W.; thence a succession of heavy S.W. and N.W. gales with hard squalls, rain and heavy sea, gradually moderating towards port; passed Noshima the 2nd December at 6.48 a.m. Arrived at Yokohama at 9.45 a.m. Time 18 days, 1 hour, 14 minutes.

The Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, Captain Wynn, reports:—Left Kobe the 1st December at noon; had strong head winds and high head sea to port. Arrived at Yokohama the 2nd December at 7.14 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, Captain Young, reports:—Left Hakodate the 1st December at 2 p.m.; had light variable winds and fine weather; passed Kinkasan the 2nd at 11.40 a.m.; weather coming on cloudy with passing showers; passed Inuboye at 2.30 p.m.; winds freshening with long southerly swell and thick rainy weather to port. Arrived at Yokohama the 3rd December at 1.50 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, Captain Haswell, reports:—Left Shanghai the 29th November at noon; had fresh to moderate N.E. winds and cloudy sky. Arrived at Nagasaki the 1st December at 5 a.m. and left at 7.10 p.m.; had

light to moderate N.E. winds and overcast sky. Arrived at Shinonoseki the 2nd at 6.55 a.m. and left at 8.5 a.m.; had weather dull and cloudy with easterly winds; at 4 a.m. came on drizzling rain which continued to port with strong N.E. winds. Arrived at Kobe the 3rd at 4.55 a.m. and left the 4th at noon; had moderate N.W. winds and cloudy weather; passed Oshima at 7.45 p.m.; thence to port fresh easterly winds and very heavy swell with drizzly rain. Arrived at Yokohama the 5th December at 3.15 p.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Business is almost at a standstill. The only sales reported during the week are 20 bales Bombay Yarns and 3,250 pieces 8½lb. Shirtings.

COTTON PICK GOODS.

Grey Shirtings—8½lb, 38½ yds, 35 inches	\$1.35 to 1.50
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds, 35 inches	1.60 to 1.52½
F. Cloth—7½, 42 yds, 32 inches	1.75 to 1.47½
Indigo Shirtings—12 yds, 41 inches	1.20 to 1.60
Prints—Assorted, 24 yds, 30 inches	1.70 to 1.60
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 37 inches	0.07 to 0.14
Turkey Reds—1½ to 2½, 24 yds, 30 inches	1.00 to 1.15½
Turkey Reds—2½ to 4½, 24 yds, 30 inches	1.20 to 1.40
Turkey Reds—3½ to 4½, 24 yds, 30 inches	1.70 to 2.05
Velvets—Black, 35 yds, 22 inches	4.50 to 5.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yds, 42½ inches	0.50 to 0.65
Taffetas, 12 yds, 43 inches	1.35 to 2.25

WOOLLENS.

Plain Orleans, 40 yds, 32 inches	\$4.00 to 5.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches	0.24½ to 28
Medium	0.20 to 24
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches	0.16 to 20
Common	0.14 to 15½
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yds, 31 inches	0.14 to 0.15½
Cloths—Pilots, 34½ to 56 inches	0.10 to 0.45
Cloths—Presidents, 54 to 56 inches	0.50 to 0.60
Cloths—Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.35 to 0.60
Blankets—Scot and Green, 4 to 3½lb, per lb	0.50 to 0.58

COTTON YARNS.

Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	\$25.00 to 28.00
Nos. 16/24, Medium	28.00 to 29.00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	29.00 to 30.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	30.00 to 31.00
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	29.00 to 30.00
Nos. 28/32, Medium	30.00 to 31.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	32.00 to 33.00
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	15.50 to 16.50
No. 38, Two-fold	34.50 to 36.00
No. 42, Two-fold	36.50 to 39.50
No. 20s, Bombay	70.00 to 78.00
No. 16s, Bombay	72.00 to 78.00
No. 10½, Bombay	—

METALS.

Dull and Nominal. Only a retail trade is passing, and deliveries are very slow.

Flat Bars, 1 inch	\$2.05 to 2.75
Flat Bars, 1½ inch	2.75 to 2.85
Round and square up to 1 inch	2.05 to 2.85
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.
Nailrod, small size	Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	2.80 to 3.00
Sheet Iron	3.20 to 3.40
Galvanized Iron sheets	3.80 to 6.00
Wire Nails, assorted	4.40 to 4.90
Tin Plates, per box	4.60 to 4.80
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.25 to 1.27½

KEROSENE.

Some business reported in Oil, 1,500 Comet at \$1.625 and 37,000 Russian at \$1.56. Market in Tokyo said to be improving with the advent of winter and long evenings. Holders are feeling proportionately cheerful.

QUOTATIONS.

Chester	\$1.65 to 1.67½
Comet	1.62½ to 1.65
Eleve	1.60 to 1.62½
Russian	1.55 to 1.57½

SUGAR.

A few inquiries, but actual business very small.

White Refined	\$5.50 to 7.90
Manila	3.60 to 4.30
Taiwanfoo	—
Pentam	2.75 to 3.00
Namida	2.80 to 3.00
Cake	3.10 to 3.80
Brown Talao	4.15 to 4.20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 28th ultimo; since that date settlements amount to 621 piculs, divided thus:—Hanks, 79; Filatures, 423; Re-reels, 113; Kakeda, 6. Direct shipments by Japanese have

been 68 bales, making a total business of the week of nearly 700 piculs.

Our Market has been quiet during the week, but holders have been strong, and have managed to maintain prices even getting some small advance on various parcels. Exchange after advancing a further 2 per cent., has again declined, and seems rather unsettled at to-day's quotations.

Cable intelligence from abroad does not seem very cheering, but there is all the time a steady under current of business going on both for the States and for Europe which serves to hold the Market where it is.

Our stock list shows a slight diminution on the week, and arrivals will now probably fall off as Winter draws near. Should exchange again decline we shall without doubt see higher quotations for Silk in Silver currency.

There have been three shipping opportunities since we last wrote; the Canadian, English and American Mails all taking silk. The *Batavia*, 28th ult, had 619 bales for the States, the *Ancona*, 29th ult, 123 bales for Europe, and the *Belgie*, which left port yesterday morning, had 490 bales for the New York trade. These departures bring the export figures up to 10,253 piculs, against 24,559 piculs last year and 18,840 piculs to the 5th December, 1888.

Hanks.—Considerable buying in these for Europe, and two or three parcels medium *Shinshu* have been taken at \$520. Stock in this class is small, but holders are fairly current, and some very common *Hachioji* have been done as low as \$480.

Filatures.—There was a little sport in this previous to the departure of the *Belgie*, and a few hundred boxes, good to best *Shinshu*, were taken at prices ranging from \$595 to \$605. No. 1 *Kohu* was also done at \$590, with No. 1½ at \$585. For Europe some few parcels of good fine sizes are booked daily at prices ranging from \$570 to \$590, according to quality. Stock in this department is large, but some of the wealthy owners, who are well able to hold, express their intention of doing so.

Re-reels.—These, too, are very strongly held in the higher grades and well known marks. *Kanva* Chop did indeed pass the scales at \$580; and the same price is wanted for *Five Girl*, *Tortoise*, and other similar brands. There has been some business doing to Europe in ultra-common, prices ranging from \$490 to \$510.

Kakeda.—Business in this has been small and holders show a desire to keep moving. It is probable that a bold offer would fetch some of these favourite silks at a low figure.

In other sorts nothing has been done.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 11	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	Nom.
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	\$25 to 330
Hanks—No. 24 (Shinshu)	\$25 to 330
Hanks—No. 24 (Joshu)	\$25 to 330
Hanks—No. 24 to 3	\$95 to 510
Hanks—No. 3	\$95 to 500
Hanks—No. 34	\$80 to 585
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	605 to 610
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	610 to 620
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	610 to 620
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	590 to 600
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	\$80 to 585
Filatures—No. 2, 10/13 deniers	\$80 to 590
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	\$70 to 575
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	\$50 to 560
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Shinshu and Oshu) Best No. 1	\$85 to 590
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	\$70 to 580
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	\$60 to 565
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	\$45 to 550
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	\$35 to 540
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	\$10 to 520
Kakedas—Extra	Nom.
Kakedas—No. 1	\$60 to 570
Kakedas—No. 14	\$50 to 555
Kakedas—No. 2	\$40 to 545
Kakedas—No. 24	\$30 to 535
Kakedas—No. 3	\$20 to 525
Kakedas—No. 34	\$10 to 515
Kakedas—No. 4	\$500 to 505
Oshu Sendai—No. 24	\$50
Hamatsuli—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatsuli—No. 3, 4	\$40 to 550
Sodai—No. 24	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 5th Dec., 1890:—

	1889-90.	1889-90.	1888-89.
	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Europe	3,024	10,437	8,934
America	6,932	13,767	9,664
Total	9,956	24,204	18,598
Settlements and Direct	10,500	26,450	20,050
Stock, 5th December	16,600	7,200	13,650
Available supplies to date	27,100	33,650	33,700

WASTE SILK.

There is not so much business in this branch; settlements for the week being 600 piculs; viz:—*Pierced Cocoons*, 19; *Noshi*, 416; *Kibiso*, 182. The demand of spinners in Europe seems for the

moment to be satisfied, while shippers are busily sorting and packing their recent large purchases. Prices are firm at lowest quotations and the stock is good. Waste is rapidly decreasing, and holders feel themselves capable of carrying what is left without any difficulty, although they will not refuse to sell when buyers are ready.

The English mail steamer *Ancona* took again a large shipment for Marseilles and neighbourhood. Her departure brings the present export figures up to 12,943 piculs against 11,661 piculs last year and 13,050 piculs in 1888.

Pierced Cocoons.—Nothing but a very retail business has been done at previous prices; *Shinshu* of rather poor quality fetching \$112½.

Noshi.—Considerable business in *Joshu*; prices from \$70 to \$87; *Oshu* at from \$135 to \$147, and fine *Hachioji* at from \$138 to \$147. One small parcel of *Filature* was booked at \$152.

Kibiso.—Trade has fallen off somewhat, although there has been some business in *Filatures* at from \$110 to \$120. A parcel of good *Joshu* brought \$45, while some very low *Curlies*, full of dirt and rubbish, brought \$14.

There has nothing been done in *Mawata* or *Neri*, and at closing the Market is quiet with only small sales.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	\$120 to \$130
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	150 to 160
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	140 to 145
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	130 to 135
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	140 to 150
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	110 to 120
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	130 to 140
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	92½ to 95
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	85 to 90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	80 to 85
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best selected	110 to 120
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	70 to 75
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	100 to 105
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	90 to 100
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	80 to 90
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	70 to 75
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	50 to 60
Kibiso—Hachioji, Good	45 to 40
Kibiso—Hachioji, Medium to Low	35 to 30
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	15 to 10
Mawata—Good to Best	180 to 200

Export Table Waste Silk to 5th Dec., 1890:—

	1889-90.	1889-90.	1888-89.
	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Waste Silk	12,027	9,604	11,477
Pierced Cocoons	916	2,857	1,573
Total	12,943	11,661	13,050
Settlements and Direct	17,300	14,500	17,100
Stock, 5th December	9,400	11,900	8,800
Available supplies to date	26,700	26,400	25,900

Exchange has steadily declined from the highest point of the week, and closes as under:—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits, 3/5½; Documents, 3/5½; 6m/s. Credits, 3/5½; Documents, 3/5½; NEW YORK, 30 d/s. U.S. \$83½; 4 m/s. U.S. \$84½; PARIS, 4m/s. fcs. 4.36; 6m/s. fcs. 4.38.

Estimated Silk Stock, 5th Dec., 1890:—

	RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	340	—	Cocoons	430
Filatures	10,400	—	Noshi-ito	2,600
Re-reels	4,800	—	Kibiso	5,700
Kakeda	720	—	Mawata	300
Oshu	330	—	Sundries	370
Taysam Kinds	10	—	—	—
Total piculs	16,600	—	Total piculs	9,400

TEA.

Very little enquiry. Prices nominal but weak.

	PER PICUL.
Common	\$1½
Good Common	12 to 13
Medium	14 to 15
Good Medium	16 to 17
Fine	18 to 19
Finest	20 to 22
Choice	23 & up'ds
Choicest	—
Extra Choicest	—

EXCHANGE.

Continued fluctuations, the latest movement being downward.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/4½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/5½
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/5½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/5½
On Paris—Bank sight	42½
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	42½
On Hongkong—Bank sight	100 to 105
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	100 to 105
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72½
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	72½
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	82
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	83½
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	82
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	83½
Silver	47½

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YOKOHAMA, DECEMBER 13TH, 1890.

通信省認可

[VOL. XIV.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, DEC. 13, 1890.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Saitama Tramway Company has received its charter from the authorities.

H.I.H. PRINCE KOMATSU left the capital for Shizuoka Prefecture on the 6th instant.

THE Chinese Minister, who left Peking some time ago for Japan, is now at Shanghai.

HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR purposes to attend the sessions of the Upper House in a few days.

PRINCES YAMASHINA and KITASHIRAKAWA were present at the sitting of the Lower House on the 8th instant.

THREE lady visitors, the first to be present at a meeting of the Diet, were observed in the Lower House on the 8th instant.

THE Empress Dowager will visit the Nogakudo in Shiba Park on the 13th instant, leaving the Aoyama Palace at 8 p.m.

MR. TATENO GOZO, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at Washington, will not leave Japan for America till February next.

IT is stated that His Majesty the Emperor intends in a day or two to depute Court Chamberlains to attend meetings of the Lower House.

THE PRINCE IMPERIAL paid a visit to the Palace on the 8th inst., at 2 p.m., and was received in audience by their Majesties the Emperor and Empress.

THE telephone exchange between Tokyo and Yokohama will be opened for public business on the 16th instant, between the hours of 7 a.m. and 10 p.m.

AT the exhibition of pictures opened in the buildings of the Japan Art Society in Ueno Park, 718 pictures were shown, of which 231 were sold at an aggregate price of yen 1,402.65.

During 40 days, from the 21st of October to the 30th of November last, 12,076 visitors were admitted.

DURING November last, the income of the Tokyo Basha Tetsudo Kaishaw was yen 13,621.56, showing a decrease of yen 2,160.68 as compared with the same month last year.

FIFTY-THREE thousand nine hundred and thirty-nine visitors, including adults and children, were registered at the Ryo-un-kaku, from the 12th of last month to the 4th inst.

MR. ASADA, Governor of Kanagawa Prefecture, entertained the members of the Kanagawa Provincial Assembly at the Chitose-ro, Sumiyoshi-cho, Yokohama, on the 9th inst.

THE number of visitors to the Botanical Gardens in the Imperial University during the last month, was 1,180, of whom 10 were foreigners, 58 special, and the rest ordinary visitors.

ACCORDING to returns forwarded from Kyushu and Kan-sei to the Sanitary Bureau of the Home Department, some 50 to 70 persons are still attacked by cholera weekly in those districts.

THE number of cremations in the capital during the month of November was 836, 64 of the persons cremated having died from epidemic diseases, and 772 from ordinary ailments.

IT is stated that the Yokohama City Assembly has all but decided to take over the present Gas Works. If this should prove true a fruitful source of ill feeling will be removed.

MR. ALEXANDER MARKS, Japanese Consul at Melbourne, Australia, has transmitted to the Government a report relating to commerce between Japan and various parts of Australia.

AN ordinary meeting of the Cabinet was held on the 9th instant, at which all the Ministers of State were present, the proceedings lasting from the forenoon till half-past four in the afternoon.

THE monthly meeting of the Chigaku Kyokai (Geological Society) will be held on the 16th instant, when addresses will be delivered by Messrs. Taguchi Ukichi and Kishida Ginko.

THE Minister President of State has addressed to the House of Representatives a statement of the Government's general policy, and the Minister of State for Finance has laid the Budget for next year before the House.

AN outbreak of fire took place in the buildings of the Normal School at Nigata Prefecture on the night of the 3rd instant, and the whole premises were entirely destroyed before the flames could be subdued.

AN extraordinary meeting of the Cabinet was held on the 8th instant, at which Counts Yamagata, Saigo, Yamada, Matsukata, Oyama, and Goto, Viscounts Aoki and Kabayama, and Messrs. Yoshikawa and Mutsu were present.

THEIR HIGHNESSES Princes Kitashirakawa and Arisugawa, Princes Sanjo, Kujo, and Tokugawa, Counts Yamagata and Yoshii, Marquises Shimatsu and Saga, Count Itagaki, Lieut.-General Tani, and other nobles had the honour of dining with the Emperor at the Palace on the 9th inst.

THE general meeting of the promoters of a Chamber of Commerce in Tokyo was held at the Tokyo Kosho Kaigisho, on the afternoon of the 6th instant, at which a petition for the esta-

blishment of a Chamber of Commerce in the capital, regulations as to the election of members of the Chamber, and the estimates of preliminary expenses were discussed.

MR. FUJITA ICHIRO sometime ago offered a copy of his work, *Nippon Keikokuron* (How to regulate the affairs of Japan), to the Emperor through Viscount Hijikata, Minister of State for the Imperial Household. His Imperial Majesty has accepted the gift.

ACCORDING to returns compiled by the Authorities, the number of persons attacked by cholera in Tokyo from the commencement of the epidemic to the 6th instant, was 3,986, resulting in 2,874 deaths, and in Osaka 8,315, resulting in 6,687 deaths.

H.I.H. PRINCE KITASHIRAKAWA entertained various Princes and Princesses of the Blood, the Ministers of State and their wives, the Ministers of Great Britain, Germany, and Belgium, and other distinguished personages at his residence on the afternoon of the 9th instant.

ACCORDING to a report to the Agricultural and Commercial Department, the quantity of sugar manufactured in Japan, during the year 1888, was 67,246,071 *kin* (one *kin* is=14lb.), valued at about yen 2,335,259, and the value of sugar imported from foreign countries into Japan during the same year was over yen 6,955,285.

THE branch office of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha at Yokohama has received a telegram to the effect that early in the morning of the 6th inst. the *Tokio Maru*, bound from Oginohama for Yokohama, in consequence of fog ran on a rock at Mirazaki, between Suzaki and Yashimazaki, of Boshu. The company at once despatched the steamship *Kii Maru* to the assistance of the *Tokio*, but latest reports hold out small hope of getting the vessel off.

A FUNERAL which is remarkable for the lavish expense connected with it took place in Tokyo on the 18th inst., when the mother of Mr. Asai Hanichichi, a leading merchant in Hatagocho, Nihonbashi, was interred at the Yeikyuchō Cemetery at Asakusa in accordance with Buddhist rites. Over four thousand persons attended the ceremonies. The extravagant expenditure of money is said to have been in accordance with the wish of the deceased lady.

STAGNATION in the Import trade continues, and no great change can be looked forward to until the new year comes, and even then the prospects are not entrancing. Nothing has been done in Yarns or Piece-goods worth reporting, and the same may be said of Metals and Kerosene. There appears to be no market for Sugar, though there is usually some demand just at the end of the year. The Silk trade has been more active, and 1,000 piculs have been taken. Notwithstanding that arrivals have been small, the stock is not much reduced, and from present appearances a larger quantity of Silk will be carried over into next year than has ever before been the case in the history of the trade in Japan. This is mainly due to the fact that a large portion of the stock belongs to wealthy Japanese in the interior who do not need to borrow from the banks; indeed, some of the strongest holders have been heard to aver that "silk is better than money," and these will be pretty sure to hold on unless an extraordinary change takes place in the market. Waste Silk has been dealt in. There has been a little business in Tea. Exchange has fluctuated, but not violently; rates, however, are decidedly unsteady.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

IMPERIAL JAPANESE DIET PROCEEDINGS.

We regard the proceedings of the Diet as the most important chapter of Japan's modern history, and we therefore propose to publish them verbatim in these columns. But as neither our space nor our resources permit us to keep the verbatim report up to date, and as it seems expedient that our readers should be informed as speedily as possible of the general results of each sitting, we shall in future give separate summaries taken from the vernacular press, reserving the verbatim reports for publication, when opportunity offers. In pursuance of this programme, we now summarize the proceedings, commencing from Saturday, the 6th instant, and publishing elsewhere a verbatim export of the important debate on the 4th instant:—

HOUSE OF PEERS.—DEC. 6.

The House of Peers commenced its sitting on the 6th inst. at fifty minutes past five. The President reported to the House the appointment of the following members as Presidents and Vice-Presidents of the Permanent Committees:—

- Mr. Mitsukuri Rinsho, President of the Qualifications Committee.
- Mr. Ozaki Saburo, Vice-President of the Qualifications Committee.
- Mr. Tani Kanju, President of the Finance Committee.
- Mr. Hosokawa Junjiro, Vice-President of the Finance Committee.
- Viscount Kurada Kiyotsuna, President of the Disciplinary Committee.
- Mr. Obata Miine, Vice-President of the Disciplinary Committee.
- Marquis Hachisuka Mochiaki, President of the Petitions Committee.
- Marquis Nabeshima Naohiro, Vice-President of the Petitions Committee.

The President then announced that there was a question of informal election with reference to the member of the House of the Peers from Wakayama Prefecture, and it had been entrusted to the Qualifications Committee. Leave of absence to Marquis Shotai (of Okinawa Prefecture) on account of illness was granted without any objection. Mr. Mutsu, Minister of Commerce and Industry, addressed the House as the Government Delegate to explain the Bill of Weights and Measures. He first pointed out that the system of weights and measures was as important as the system of coinage, and then proceeded to note various errors and inconveniences of the system now in force. Finally, he gave a full account of the proposed system, and showed that it was based on the metrical system, and that the nomenclature now in use was to be kept. Mr. Shigeno supported the Bill. Marquis Nakayama then proposed that a Special Committee should be appointed to consider the Bill and that such appointment be left to the President. Three or four members seconded the proposition, and though not announced by the President, it became a subject of debate. At this stage, Mr. Murata Mamotsu asked the President how he proposed to manage the prescribed business of the House if this question were suffered to be discussed, and said that he did not consider it a subject for debate. This seemed to perplex the President a little, but with his usual tact he put the point aside without causing any friction. Meanwhile, the discussion of the right to put questions to the Delegate was again revived. Viscount Torio opened the debate, and maintained that the members of the House had a right to put questions, whereupon Mr. Yamaguchi made a speech in opposition. Mr. Kato and Mr. Shimauchi also spoke in favour of the right of questioning. This discussion, carried on in an animated manner, took some time, and ultimately the regular routine of business was resumed. The President put the motion of Marquis Nakayama to the House, and it was carried by a majority. The motion of Viscount Torio as to the right of questioning the Government Delegates was, by a resolution of the House, postponed to the next meeting. After a recess, the members resumed their seats and the President appointed the following members

as the Special Committee, and desired them to elect their President:—Professor Kikuchi, Professor Faruichi, Dr. Nagayo, General Ozawa, Admiral Yanagi, Viscount Naito, Mr. Yamaguchi (Naoyoshi), Mr. Yuri Kimmasa, Mr. Hara Tadayori.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—DEC. 6.

The House of Representatives commenced its sitting at 8 minutes past one o'clock on the 6th instant. The business of the House was, first, the first reading of the Poor-law Bill; secondly, the appointment of a special committee to be entrusted with the examination of that Bill. The President, stating that he had a few matters to report to the House before opening the debate, proceeded to announce that Count Yamagata, the Minister President of State, and Count Matsukata, the Minister of Finance, would address the House with reference to the course of administration to be pursued by the Government, and to the Budget, respectively. Thereupon, Count Yamagata ascended the platform and delivered an address which occupied some thirty minutes, and of which a translation appears elsewhere in our columns. Count Matsukata then spoke. We publish his speech elsewhere. When he descended from the platform, Mr. Kawashima, premising that he had to ask some explanations with reference to the speech just made by Count Matsukata, said that he understood the general bearing of the explanation given by Count Matsukata in respect of the Budget, but he regretted that it was not fuller. He well knew that the Government financiers, since the Restoration, had had an arduous task to discharge on account of the national affairs having been so complicated, especially in the 10th year of Meiji, a period which produced an extraordinary effect on the finances of the empire. But at the same time, those entrusted with the charge of the country's finances are bound to devise remedial measures, and even before the Constitution was established, were morally responsible for the financial condition of the empire. He then dwelt on the draft estimates hitherto prepared by the Government which he said, although cleverly prepared to balance well, always differed from the final accounts, in most cases the latter much exceeding the former, and consequently he apprehended that although the estimate for this year presents a satisfactory appearance, as for instance a surplus of several million yen, in the actual result the amount of the settled account may be found to exceed the estimates. He desired therefore, to have a fuller explanation as to how the differences between the estimated amounts and settled amounts used to occur, as well as how the present estimates were prepared in that respect. (Here several members called out "Unnecessary, unnecessary.") Count Matsukata again ascended the platform and said that Mr. Kawashima's question, having reference to the relation between the estimates and the settled accounts, must be put to the Bureau of Audit, which deals with such matters. He should not attempt to answer the question then and there. The President announced a recess, and the House rose at 2 p.m. At half-past 2 the House assembled again. The President announced that the House would proceed to the first reading of the Poor-law Bill, according to Art. 89 of the Rules of Procedure. Mr. Shirane Senichi, Vice-Minister of Home Affairs, addressed the House as Delegate of the Government. The duty of relieving the poor was, he explained, in the time of the Tokugawa administration, left in certain cases entirely to private individuals, but since the 9th year of Meiji the Government had taken measures to assist the helpless poor. However, this was to a very limited extent. It did not suffice to relieve the numerous indigent folks almost driven to starvation, the only resource being the Famine Relief Funds. The speaker entered into an explanation of the different resources now existing for helping the poor, showing their inadequacy, and concluding by saying that though laws for aiding the poor might be productive of great evils, the principal object of the proposed law was to render help to those who were really needy, with due precautions against

the abuse of extending aid to persons who did not honestly require it. Messrs. Shimizu Sanzo, Amano Saburo, and Watanabe Osamu successively asked for explanations with respect to different articles contained in the Bill. The President asked the Delegate whether he was ready to answer these questions. The Delegate said he should not answer the questions put article by article, but would make a full statement in Committee. Mr. Ishida Kanno-suke said it was the Delegate's duty to answer the questions put with respect to different articles. The President remarked that, as this was the first reading, it was perhaps better not to ask for detailed explanations. Upon this Mr. Kikuchi Kwaji rose and said that the official who was responsible for the explanation of a Bill ought to answer questions put by members. If the Delegate persisted in his refusal, it would be necessary to make a representation to the Government, as this would constitute a precedent for future guidance. The Delegate said he would not hesitate to answer any important questions. But he desired the members as a rule to accept his first explanations. He did not, however, mean to refuse to give any explanations sought. The President put the question to the House whether the Delegate should be required to give the explanations, and the House voted that he ought to answer. The Delegate then stated, in answer to the question whether this Bill would go hand-in-hand with the system of *Shichosensei* (Local Government) that the duty of investigating the degree of poverty of the poor to be relieved would rest with the local authorities, but the manner of giving aid would be fixed by the Bill. Mr. Watanabe Osamu asked whether the Bill was destined to render immediate aid at present, or whether it was to go into operation with the new system of local government. The Delegate stated that it was intended for future operation. Several other questions put by Messrs. Hayakawa Rinsuke, Suyehiro Shigeyasu, Okada Riochiro, &c., as to the scope and extent of the influence of the law, were answered by the Delegate. After some discussion, a motion made by Mr. Kikuchi Kwanji that the Government should be asked for explanations refused by the Delegate was withdrawn. Passing to the election of the special committee, Mr. Suyematsu Kencho moved that at the time of announcing the business of the House or in reporting the result of an election to the House, a rule be made to the effect that the presence of the prescribed number of members was unnecessary. Mr. Horituchi Chuishi and Mr. Sato Riji moved that the election of the special committee be made in each section according to Art. 63 of the Rules. Mr. Nagata Sadayemon moved that the examination of the ballots for the special committee be conducted simultaneously in three places in the House so as to save time. After some discussion, these motions were put to the House but failed to obtain a majority. Accordingly, the balloting for the special committee was commenced and ended by half-past four. By that time, many of the members had left the House, and the President stated that as so many members were absent, he should seal the ballot box in the presence of those in the House, and keep it under his control till the next day when it should be opened. This was put to the House and carried. The President then announced the business of the House for the next day, and also that he had received a communication from the Minister of Justice with reference to the application made by the House. The members present all desiring to hear the communication, it was read as follows:

"To Mr. Nakajima Nobuyuki, President of the House of Representatives.

I have only authority, according to the Constitution, to give force to the decrees of the Judiciary. I have no authority to stop a criminal prosecution already commenced. Whether with or without the consent of any other section of the body politic, I cannot interfere with any process arising out of the due exercise of the judicial power. Therefore I am not in a position to concern myself in any way about the resolution of the House.

(Signed) Count YAMADA AKIYOSHI,
Minister of State.

Dated 6th December, 23rd year of Meiji.

HOUSE OF PEERS.—DEC. 8.

The business before the House of Peers on the 8th December was, (1) motion by Mr. Watari Masamoto for the appointment of a Committee to amend the entire body of the Rules of the House of Peers; (2) motion by Mr. Ozaki Saburo for the appointment of four groups of special Committees. The House assembled at fifteen minutes past 10 a.m. when Counts Oyama, Matsukata, and Awoki were present. The President announced that among the members of the special Committee for examination of the Bill of Weights and Measures Viscount Yuri had been elected as President and General Ozawa as Vice-President. The question of whether the special Committee for the examination of the Barristers' Bill should be allowed to hold its meetings during the hours of the House's session, was referred to the House and decided in the affirmative without a division. Mr. Watari Masamoto then proceeded to explain his proposal. He stated that the Rules of the House had been drafted after the Rules of Upper Houses in European countries, and had been submitted for inspection by the Conference Committee of the different sections of the House. Ultimately the Committee submitted the draft Rules to the House, and suggested that as the Rules were of urgent necessity their reading should be omitted, and a resolution should be passed on the whole body and not on the separate articles. The proposition had been carried by a majority. It resulted that the Rules were not perfect; were unfit indeed to be permanently observed by the House. The speaker could cite many points requiring to be changed, but would not go into them for fear of trespassing upon the time of the House. He desired to have a committee appointed for amending the entire body of the Rules of the House, carefully and gradually employing their spare hours for the purpose; and that three members from each section should be elected, so as to form a committee of 27. Marquis Hachisuka approved the motion in the main, but did not consider that the amendments to be made were of such great extent or that it would be necessary for the committee to be engaged in the work of revision during the whole period of this session. Admiral Yanagi said he agreed with the mover's idea of appointing a committee of revision, but considered that it was too early yet to commence the work as there had scarcely yet been time to see how the rules worked. He desired to postpone the carrying out of the proposal for a month or so. Baron Watanabe Kiyoshi said he seconded the motion, and considered it very necessary to have it put to the House. Otherwise the subject could not, according to the present rules, be brought forward again during this session. He agreed with Marquis Hachisuka in respect of the time to be allowed to the Committee, but thought the number suggested by the mover was too great, and should be made nine instead of twenty-seven. Mr. Watanabe Ki seconded the motion. Mr. Ozaki Saburo said he approved of the motion, but desired to make an addition to it to the effect that the appointed Committee should have power to hold conferences with the House of Representatives so as to obviate differences of opinions between the two Houses hereafter, whenever matters requiring conferences of the Houses should occur. He was also of opinion that the Committee should consist of nine members elected by the House. Mr. Yamaguchi said he supported the motion and thought it should be put to the vote without further discussion, but he considered the appointment of the Committee at the present moment premature, and desired to postpone it until a future occasion, say a month or so hence. Barons Senke and Nishi-itsutsuji supported Mr. Yamaguchi. Viscount Torio also spoke at length, stating that there was not any urgent necessity for appointing the Committee. The House took a recess and resumed its proceedings at one o'clock. Baron Komatsu Yukimasa supported the motion, but would have the number of the Committee limited to nine, and would leave the appointment to the President, accord-

ing to the Second Clause of Art. 36 of the House Rules. Mr. Shimanouchi Takeshige also made a speech in support of the motion. Mr. Miura Yasushi dwelt at great length on the Fifty-sixth Article of the Rules, which had been already much discussed by the members. Viscount Tani Kanjo also supported the motion, and Mr. Watari having further explained his proposal, the President announced that a vote would be taken. The President then called upon those who agreed with Admiral Yanagi in thinking that the appointment of the committee was premature, to stand up, and the result was a minority. In the next place, Mr. Watari's motion to appoint a committee was put and carried by a majority. As to the number of members of committee, the President put aside the motion to elect three members out of each Section of the House as being against the Rules, and asked those who agreed with Mr. Ozaki in fixing the number at nine to stand up. This was carried by a majority. Some discussion then followed as to the method of electing the committee, and it was finally resolved to leave the appointment to the nomination of the president. Proceeding to the next business before the House, Mr. Ozaki Saburo read the following motion:—

"At the beginning of every session a permanent Committee, consisting of the following four sections, shall be appointed for the purposes mentioned:—

Committee for Home affairs, consisting of nine members, who should examine Bills relating to Home Affairs, Communications, Education and so forth.

Committee for Finance consisting of nine members, who should examine Bills relating to financial affairs, commercial and industrial affairs, &c.

Committee for Judicial affairs, consisting of nine members, who should examine Bills relating to Judicial affairs, civil laws, criminal laws, legal proceedings, commercial laws, &c.

Committee for Military Affairs, consisting of nine members who should examine Bills relating to the Army, the Navy, and Foreign Affairs.

He spoke at length in explanation of the object of his motion, saying it was much better to have a standing Committee established so as to be ready for discussing the Bills produced before the House than to appoint Special Committees after receiving the Bills. Marquis Hachisuka, Viscount Sakai, Viscount Tani, and several others opposed the motion. After Mr. Ozaki had spoken again, the motion was put to the House and lost. At thirty-five minutes past three, the House adjourned, and after a few moments reassembled, when the President announced that he nominated the following members as a Committee to amend the Rules:—Mr. Watarai Masamoto, Mr. Murata Tamotsu, Mr. Ozaki Saburo, Mr. Miura Yasushi, Mr. Ito Miyoji, Mr. Kaneko Kentaro, Mr. Hanao Shin, Marquis Nabeshima, Mr. Takiguchi. The proceedings for the day then ended. The House of Peers will not meet again until notice is given by the President.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—DEC. 8.

The business before the House of Representatives on the 8th of December was:—(1.) To open the ballot-box for the election of a Special Committee in connection with the Mori Tokinosuke affair: (2.) To elect a special committee to inquire into the objections raised by Messrs. Arai Shogo, Yamada Toji, and Arai Go as to the qualification of Mr. Akamatsu Shinyemon, member of the House for the 4th section of Ibaraki Prefecture: (3.) A motion by Mr. Ozaki Yukio that "the Government Delegates shall be responsible for their speeches and shall be invested with absolute authority to represent the opinions of the Cabinet or of the Ministers of State in whose stead they attend." The House assembled at fifteen minutes past 1 o'clock p.m. The President stated that the Committee on the Estimates had requested to be allowed to continue their investigations even during the hours of sitting of the House, otherwise it would be impossible for them to finish their task within the fifteen days allotted. He asked the House whether the request should be granted. Mr. Yasuda Yutsumi made an objection, but the President, ruling that the sense of the House should be taken without debating, asked those who were in favour of the motion to stand up.

It was carried by a majority and the Committee on the Estimates withdrew. Proceeding to the question of opening the ballot-box for the election of special committees, Mr. Yokohori proposed that to save time spent in examining the ballots, the examination should be conducted in two or three divisions simultaneously and such divisions should be left to the President to make. Mr. Horikoshi and Mr. Sasaki seconding this, it became a motion, and Messrs. Shimada (Takayuki) and Orita opposed it. Meanwhile, cries of "Divide" being uttered in different places, the President put the proposition to the House, but only a minority rose. The box was thereupon opened and 271 ballots were found. The Vice-President, Mr. Tsuda, taking the chair, announced the following result:—

Mr. Suehiro Shigeyasu	99
Mr. Koriisune Makaji	91
Mr. Tachibana Kiichi	87
Mr. Imai Isotchiro	84
Mr. Yasuda Kun	80
Mr. Tamura Koremasa	79
Mr. Kitagawa Kiichi	76
Mr. Amahara Fumie	73
Mr. Inouye Kakugoro	73

The House took a recess at 4.50 p.m. and assembled again at 5.30 p.m. The President stated that an alteration was required in the prescribed business of the House for the day, on account of an application of leave of absence by Mr. Matsuyama Moriyoshi, and there being no objection raised, it was passed without a discussion. Passing to the second business of the day, Mr. Higashi Heita proposed that the matter of examining into the qualifications of Mr. Nagata should be entrusted to the special Committee previously elected for a similar purpose. After some discussion, this was made a motion, being seconded by Mr. Tominaga Hayata, but Mr. Misaki Kamenosuke opposed it on the ground that entrusting this to a Committee previously elected would amount to converting the latter into a standing Committee. But as his proposition, previously made, for appointing a standing Committee to investigate qualifications was not disapproved of by the House, there was no reason for allowing the proposition, however, convenient it might be.—(Cries of "Divide.") The President put the motion to the House, but it was not carried. Mr. Matsumoto Tei proposed that the election of the special committees should be left to the different sections of the House, according to the second clause of Art. 63 of the Rules of Procedure, as the results of the previous two elections had not been entirely satisfactory, the dignity of the House thereby suffering and valuable time being lost. Seconded by Mr. Tachiishi Kwan, this resolution was put and carried by a large majority. Thereupon, after the business of the House for the next day had been announced, the House rose at fifty minutes past five. The result of the election of the Qualifications Committee by the different sections was as follows:—

1st Section.—Mr. Okayama Kaneichii.
2nd Section.—Mr. Oyagi Bitchiro.
3rd Section.—Mr. Takanashi Teishiro.
4th Section.—Mr. Miyagi Kozo.
5th Section.—Mr. Kusunoto Masataka.
6th Section.—Mr. Hasegawa Tai.
7th Section.—Mr. Tanaka Gentaro.
8th Section.—Mr. Motoda Hajime.
9th Section.—Mr. Yoda Sajitsei.

Dec. 9.

The House met at 1.15 p.m. The President, having announced the names of the members elected to form the Qualifications Committee, declared the debate open for Mr. Ozaki Yukio's motion, namely, that the Government's Delegates shall be regarded as representing the whole Government, and that their qualifications must be fixed. He explained that if the Delegates were to be considered as representing only one Department or one Bureau, various anomalies would be present when the joint responsibility of the Cabinet came to be inevitable. Further, the Delegates must be members of the Government (*seifu-kan*). At present, the distinction between members of the Government and executive officials (*jimu-kan*) is not clearly established in Japan, so that this point could

scarcely be insisted on, but if the House decided that the Delegates should represent the whole Government, it was plain that they must not be officials of low rank. That would be derogatory to the House. Consequently, the best plan seemed to be a ruling that the Delegates must be at least of the rank of Vice-Ministers of State, and that, according to circumstances, a Minister of State himself must attend as the Government's representative. Mr. Ama No-saburo said that, that so far as concerned the question of the Government's Delegates representing the whole Government, there could be no doubt that they did already possess that qualification, and that no occasion existed for the House to formulate any decision on the subject. Mr. Takagi Masatoshi supported the resolution. He thought that a clear understanding should exist as to the fact that the delegates represented the whole Cabinet. Thus, if in respect to the Budget, for example, any mistake were made, the Government, and not the Department of Finance alone, would be responsible. Mr. Suyematsu Saburo opposed the motion altogether. He saw no reason for asking the House to decide such a question. They might speak of having Government Delegates of the rank of Vice-Ministers at least, but the truth was that whatever the rank of an official, for the purposes of the House he was simply the Government's Delegate, neither more nor less. He represented the whole Government. The House regarded him already in that light, and was not called upon to formulate any decision on the subject. Mr. Noguchi Kei said he should vote for the proposition. Mr. Kokure Budayu approved of the spirit of the proposition, and thought that some general definition of the limits of the Delegates' power should be given. He thought, however, that the proposition was too detailed, and the House must of necessity regard Government Delegates as representatives of the whole Government. Mr. Yasuda Yuitsu also agreed with the motion from a general point of view, but objected to its form. The Delegates must of course be individually and collectively responsible, and must be regarded as appearing on behalf of the whole Cabinet. It was clear from the provisions of the Laws of the Houses that a Delegate came before them as the whole Government's representative. He regarded this proposition as the first step towards establishing the principle of the Cabinet's joint responsibility. Mr. Orita Kenshi agreed with the motive of the motion, but did not see any occasion for the House to give a decision. The Delegates of the Government did not come before the House as exponents of the Government's general purpose or policy, but only in connection with some special measure. In regard to that measure they were of course responsible, and equally of course their responsibility extended to the Government. The House was not called on to consider the question. Mr. Ishida Kamosuke said that in the Local Assemblies numerous instances existed of a Prefect being held responsible for the mistakes of his representative. If mistakes were made by a Government Delegate in this House, how would the House proceed? The other day Vice-Minister Shirane attended and gave explanations of a Bill in the capacity of Delegate, but said that his explanation was only of a general nature, and that, in regard to details, the Government had ideas of its own. In view of such an unsatisfactory statement, he thought that the fact of responsibility should be clearly defined. Mr. Watanabe Osamu agreed with the principle of the proposition, but objected to its being brought before the House as a motion. He thought that such a course was injurious to the dignity of the House, for in the Constitution itself mention was made of Ministers of State and Government Delegates, both being regarded as of the same rank. There was no reason, then, to establish this fact by the process of a motion. It would be like voting that white is white. Examples had been cited from Local Assemblies, but Local Assemblies had their own methods. This was the Imperial Diet. It had nothing to do with Local Assemblies. Somebody had

spoken also of collective responsibility. That was not a practical but a political consideration. To make such a point betrayed ignorance of the difference between individual responsibility and collective responsibility. Mr. Nakashima Jun supported the motion. He thought that the responsibility of Ministers of State towards the Emperor and their responsibility towards the Diet should be settled. Mr. Kobayashi Jinno-suke said that the responsibility of the present Cabinet was not collective. In ordinary language it might be called unlimited. There was no occasion for the House to vote. The President put it to the House whether the motion should be proceeded with, and a majority voted in the negative. The President then announced that the House would proceed to the next business, Mr. Shimada Saburo's motion. Mr. Shimada explained that the objects of his motion were to ascertain the views of the House with regard to the answer received from the Minister of State for Justice, and to adopt measures for guarding the reputation and interests of the House hereafter. In reply to an application sent by the House's Committee, the Minister of State for Justice had declared that he had no authority to interfere with a matter lying within the sphere of the Judiciary's power—namely, a matter which had already been decided by a Court of Law—and that, consequently, the resolution of the House did not concern him. What did the House propose to do about this? There were disputes about the meaning of the word arrest as interpreted according to the letter and according to the spirit of the Constitution, but the House had come to a decision, and it behooved them now to determine what value attached to their decision. He thought that a Special Committee should be appointed to formulate some decision, which decision ought to be submitted for the consideration of the House, in order to serve for future guidance. It must be determined whether the term "arrest" used in the Constitution was to be interpreted by the actual language employed or by the spirit of the charter. He believed that it should be interpreted according to the spirit, and that arrest should be taken to mean not only the act of seizure but also detention. This, however, was only his individual opinion. If a Committee were appointed to investigate the matter thoroughly, a clear argument would doubtless be prepared, and full subsequent discussion by the House would lead to a final conclusion. Mr. Yenki Shoji enquired what was the object of the decision of a Committee, and Mr. Shimada answered that it was one plan of procedure unless the House had a better to propose. Mr. Kusumoto Masataka said that the House had already pronounced its decision in favour of interpreting the 53rd Article of the Constitution according to its spirit. But the Minister of State for Justice had refused to assent. The House had considered three or four motions with regard to the interpretation of the 53rd Article, and although there had been differences of opinion, a decision had been come to. That decision must be respected. Under these circumstances the appointment of a Committee as now proposed seemed an extravagant idea, and could serve no good purpose. However often the question might be put to the House, the decision would be the same, and there was no occasion for further inquiry. A decision once come to by the majority of the House must be respected by the whole House, and the only course now remaining was to appeal to the Throne. He thought that the Emperor must be asked to decide whether the interpretation of the Minister of State for Justice or that of the House was correct. Mr. Takata Sanaye was in favour of the motion. In a matter of such gravity he thought that the fullest investigation should be made, and that the sense of the whole House should be calmly taken. Nothing would be lost by delay. Mr. Nishino Denzo agreed with Mr. Kusumoto. A decision once arrived at must not be altered. They must abide by it to the end, and approach the Throne through their President. Mr. Fujita Mokichi said there were two questions now be-

fore the House: first, whether an appeal should be made to the Throne; secondly, whether grave deliberation should be held before making such an appeal. He was strongly of opinion that grave deliberation should be held. Mr. Misaki Kamenosuke said that, with regard to the reply sent by the Minister of Justice, he wished to know what objection the Minister had made. He was unable to see that the Minister had expressed any opinion opposed to the resolution of the House. He had merely replied that he could not take action with respect to it. There was therefore no question of the interpretation of the Constitution, nor did he see that they needed to re-open a debate which had already been held. He moved as an amendment that the House should proceed to appoint the Qualifications Committee. Mr. Seki Naohiko said that he had not agreed with the decision come to by the House on this subject, but that a decision having been arrived at, they had only to abide by it. But to appeal to the Throne on the strength of that decision seemed to him a rather precipitate proceeding, and one which might expose the Diet to criticism. He was therefore in favour of the proposal for a Committee. When the views of the House had been fully determined, further steps could be taken. He begged the members to observe that an appeal to the Throne at the very outset of the Diet's career, was a proceeding to be gravely considered. He thought the House itself should settle this business. Mr. Ooka Ikuzo dissented from the views of the mover of the resolution. The latter did not seem to know his own mind. He had said "unless there is some better plan." Such vagueness was perplexing. There were two courses to be chosen between. An immediate appeal to the Throne seemed very precipitate. The other day when a question of election was before the House it was first decided that the election should be made by the whole House, and the next day it was decided that it should be by Sections. He recommended that the House should be thoroughly assured of its own intentions, and that the greatest deliberation should be observed in this matter. Mr. Miyagi Kozo asked in what law or in what Constitution the idea of lightly appealing to the Throne was to be found. If the precedent of appealing to the Throne about such a question as this were to be established, the House would incur the reproach of usurping the power of the Judiciary and detracting from its own dignity. He thought the project of appealing to the Throne should be maturely considered. Mr. Aikawa Kintaro said that if it came to a question between the decision of the House and the provisions of the Constitution, the Constitution was undoubtedly the more weighty. This decision of theirs was opposed to the Constitution and had better not be acted upon. Mr. Motoda Hajime said that he had been disposed at first to endorse Mr. Kusumoto's proposal of an appeal to the Throne, but that on reflection he remembered that this is the House's first session. To carry such a question at once to the Emperor would show a want of moderation. He thought the interests of the country would be better served by giving effect to their decision at some future date. Therefore he approved of Mr. Shimada's suggestion. Mr. Itakura Naka opposed the motion, and agreed with Mr. Misaki. He found the idea of a committee very strange. Such a course would detract from the importance of the House's decision. A decision of the House included the idea that steps should be taken to give it effect. To appoint a Committee for the purpose of investigating the matter again would be to disturb the decision of the House. Therefore he should vote for appealing to the Emperor. It was absurd to talk of renewed investigation for the purpose of appeal to the Throne. All that need be done was to lay the decision of the House before the Emperor and ask for his approval. Mr. Arai Shozo could not clearly understand the purpose of a Committee. He wished to put three questions to the mover of the proposition. Was the Committee intended to make a reply to the document received from the

Minister of State for Justice? Or was the Committee to carry the thing through to the end? Or was it to give a decision as to the question of appealing to the Throne. Mr. Shimada answered that the intention of the Committee was to assist the House in adopting a wise policy and taking prudent steps with regard to this subject. A member here moved the closure of the debate, and the House supported him. The President announced that he should proceed to put the amendments first. Mr. Misaki's amendment would therefore be put to the vote at once and after it the original proposition. Mr. Ooka opposed this, and asked what should then become of Mr. Aikawa's amendment. Three or four members also stood up and put questions to the President. The President announced that, in accordance with the 126th Rule, he proceeded to put Mr. Misaki's amendment. On the supporters of the amendment being asked to stand, the House appeared to be equally divided and voting by black and white balls was resorted to. Out of 240 members present, 124 voted for Mr. Misaki's amendment and 116 for Mr. Shimada's proposition. Mr. Suzuki Shoji wished to say a word about the Orders of the Day in connection with Mr. Shimada's motion, but the President ruled him out of order as the decision of the House had been taken. Mr. Kanmura proposed that the Qualifications Committee should be nominated by the President. Mr. Itakura Naka was in favour of election by Sections. The question being put to the House, the majority voted in favour of election by Sections. Mr. Suzuki Shoji asked permission to address the House, but as this would have been contrary to the Orders of the Day, the President declined to allow him. The Sections then proceeded to elect a Committee, and the President having announced the business for the next day, the House rose at 5.25 p.m.

Dec. 10.

Business before the House:—(1) First reading of a Bill relating to additional Special Ports of Export. (2) Election of a committee to be entrusted with the examination of the above mentioned Bill. The House assembled at twenty-five minutes past one o'clock. The President announced the names of the special Committee elected in the different Sections of the House on the 9th instant, as follow:—Messrs. Sugita Sadaichi, Matsuda Masahisa, Shida Okuzo, Suyematsu Saburo, Gamo Sen, Kono Hironaka, Sakurai Tokutaro, Suyehiro Shigeyasu, Ooka Ikuzo. It was also announced by the President that a notice had been received from the Government informing the House that Mr. Saito Shuichiro, Chief of the Bureaux of Agriculture and Public Works in the Noshomusho, had been appointed Delegate for the Weights and Measures Bill; and that Mr. Chiba Teitaro, one of the members for Chiba Prefecture, who appeared to take his seat, had been admitted as properly qualified. A motion for amending the Copyright Regulations (*Hanken Jorei*), by Mr. Suyematsu Kencho, and a motion for abolishing the Peace Preservation Regulations, by Mr. Kato Heishiro, had been handed in on the 8th and 9th instant respectively. Mr. Ooka Ikuzo stated that he felt much honoured by being elected from the 9th section, in spite of his being in the 6th, but as he was opposed to the appointment of the Committee and therefore could be of little assistance to it, he desired to decline the appointment. He was requested by the President to submit his resignation in writing. Proceeding to the business of the day, a secretary read the Bill relating to additional Ports of Export. Mr. Watanabe Kunitake, Vice-Minister of Finance, as Government Delegate, made the following explanatory remarks:—The staple to be exported from the part of Kushiro is, as mentioned in the explanatory document, sulphur. According to last year's statistics, the amount of sulphur exported from Hakodate was 24,227,080 *kin* (catties), valued at 220,045 *yen*. It was shipped for San Francisco, New York, Canada, and various places in South America. The direct export of sulphur from the port of Kushiro, instead of shipping it from Hakodate, which is some two hundred *ri* (500 miles) away from the

places of production, would save a sum of 52,000 *yen* in the cost of transportation, warehousing, &c., and would greatly encourage production on account of the Kushiro port being so close to the localities of Nemuro and Kushiro, which are the principal sources of sulphur in Hokkaido, and the output of which already shows a tendency to gradual increase. Mr. Amano Saburo said that according to the explanatory document, it appeared to be in contemplation to admit foreign ships to Kushiro for purposes of exportation. He asked whether the foreign ships mentioned were intended to include war ships, and whether the opening of this port had anything to do with Russian and Japanese relations. Mr. Watanabe answered that Japanese subjects only were to be allowed to export from Kushiro, sending the exports in foreign bottoms chartered by Japanese. War ships were of course not included, nor had the project any connection with Russian affairs. Mr. Sasaki Shuzo asked whether the opening of the port for export would not produce an injurious effect on the general commerce of the country, and was answered in the negative. Mr. Suyehiro Shigeyasu thought that occasion seemed likely to arise for opening some more special export ports, in addition to the nine ports at present open. He asked whether the Government thought it sufficient to open Kushiro, or whether preparations were in progress to open more harbours. Mr. Watanabe answered that the Government considered it quite enough at present to open this one port. Mr. Yokobori Sanshi asked whether the quantity and value of sulphur mentioned in the explanatory document referred to the export from Hakodate alone, and if so, what amount was expected to be exported from Kushiro. Mr. Watanabe answered that the amount mentioned in the document represented the whole export from Hakodate. The sulphur, however, came almost entirely from the localities of Nemuro and Kushiro, and by making Kushiro a place of shipment, it was expected that the export would be increased probably 130,000 *kin* per annum. The Delegate added that the sum of 52,000 *yen* mentioned in the explanatory document had been calculated by taking this increased export into consideration. Mr. Ota Minoru enquired what expenses would be incurred for custom inspection, &c., in opening the new port. Mr. Watanabe said that the expenses for the Customs office to be established there were estimated at 597.02 *yen*. Mr. Nishiwo Denzo asked whether Kushiro was a dangerous harbour, as he had been told; also whether no exportation took place from the port of Otaru, and whether coal was not expected to form a part of the exports. Mr. Watanabe said he did not himself know whether or no Kushiro was a dangerous harbour, but the Local Government of Hokkaido reported it to be safe and tranquil, and a good anchorage for merchant ships whether of Japanese or foreign build. Some exportation, he said, might have been made from Otaru, but at any rate for exports to America the shortest way was from Kushiro. As to the nature of the exports, the Government had sulphur chiefly in view, in opening the port, though rice, wheat, coal, and so forth might also come to be ultimately shipped thence. Mr. Jiumonji Shinsuke asked whether there was any expectation of the Japanese making direct exports if this port was opened and, was curtly answered "There is," in reply which provoked some laughter in the House. The President announced that the explanations required having been given, the Committee for examining the Bill would now be appointed. Some discussion here arose, but Mr. Tominaga Hayata's motion for electing the committee from and in the Sections was carried by a majority. The House rose at 1.50 p.m. and re-assembled at 3 p.m. The President reported the result of the election of the Committee as follows:—

- 1st Section.—Mr. Hayashi Koichiro.
- 2nd Section.—Mr. Ito Sukekata.
- 3rd Section.—Mr. Higashino Heitaro.
- 4th Section.—Mr. Usami Harusaburo.
- 5th Section.—Mr. Hayakawa Riusuke.
- 6th Section.—Mr. Sasaki Shozo.
- 7th Section.—Mr. Kawagoye Susumu.

8th Section.—Mr. Kato Rokuzo.

9th Section.—Mr. Suzuki Shigeto.

The President stated that Mr. Ooka Ikuzo, who had been chosen a member of the Committee to investigate matters connected with the answer received from the Minister of Justice, had tendered his resignation, whereupon Mr. Takatsu Nakajiro asked for the reason of such resignation. Mr. Ooka Ikuzo ascended the rostrum, and stated as his reason for resigning that he did not agree with the resolution of the House based on its construction of Art. 53 of the Constitution, and consequently he could not conscientiously work with a Committee appointed to give effect to the resolution. Besides, the question concerned the dignity of the House, and it was very important that it should be properly dealt with, but he was unable, under the circumstances, to act with vigour, and he considered that the maker of the motion and his supporters were the proper persons to undertake the task. Mr. Hashimoto Kintaro objected to this on the ground that Mr. Ooka's reason was not satisfactory, inasmuch as it involved disregard of the principle that he belonged to a collective body, and should be bound by the decision of its majority without regard to his own opinion. Moreover, to admit such a ground of resignation would be to establish a dangerous precedent. Members would thenceforth be able to decline serving as committee-men on the plea that they individually differed from the purpose of the committee's appointment. The President called upon those who were prepared to accept Mr. Ooka's resignation to stand up, but only a minority rose. Then calling upon those opposed to acceptance, the President announced that by the view of the majority Mr. Ooka's application to resign his appointment had been refused. The House rose at 3.25 p.m. after the business for the next day had been announced by the President.

Dec. 11.

The House assembled at eighteen minutes past one o'clock. The President announced that Mr. Arai Shozo and thirty-nine other members, according to the 46th Article of the Rules of the House, had presented a written series of interrogations addressed to Count Yamagata, Minister President of State, with regard to the policy contemplated by the Government in the following matters, namely, Education, Industries, the Army and Navy, and the Revision of Treaties; that Mr. Inouye Kokaku had handed in an application for leave of absence until the 20th inst., on the ground of illness; and that Mr. Nagai Matsuyemon had given notice of a motion for the postponement of the time of putting into force the Commercial Code, and Mr. Yamada Toji a motion for rescinding some parts of the Rules of the House. Mr. Suyehiro Shigeyasu desired that the Committee for the Poor Laws Bill should be allowed to leave the Chamber and hold its meeting at once, and this being put to the House was carried by a majority. Proceeding to the business of the day, the motion by Mr. Aoki Tadasu was read, proposing the appointment of a special committee to draw up regulations for conducting business between the two Houses of the Diet. Mr. Aoki explained the object of his motion. He expressed the belief that there would be no discussion as to the appointment of such a committee. He wished to explain that it was essential to have the committee appointed at once. The motion directly concerned both the 61st Article of the Law of the Houses and the 223rd Article of the Rules of the House of Representatives. The Law of the Houses provided for the relations between the Houses, but treated the subject in a general and insufficient manner, and the same might be said of the Article in the Rules of the House. Therefore it seemed very necessary to have regulations made by a special committee for the conduct of conferences between the two Houses. Some might imagine that there was no occasion for haste in this matter, and that when any business requiring a conference presented itself, regulations could easily be compiled. He considered such an opinion erroneous, because conferences were to be held when differences of opinion occurred between the two Houses,

and Committees appointed to conduct such conferences could not properly be entrusted with the drafting of regulations to regulate them. Besides, even if the task of making rules of procedure were left to the Committees, the rules must be endorsed by the House before going into operation. Needless delay in holding a conference might thus be entailed. Mr. Konishi Jinnosuke opposed the motion on the ground that it was premature to take such a step before any occasion arose. Moreover, the House of Peers might think the proceeding unnecessary, and in that event the Committee appointed by the Lower House would not be able to discharge the duty entrusted to it. Some other members were about to speak, but at the suggestion of Mr. Uyei Yemori, the motion was put to the House and carried by a majority. Mr. Amano Saburo said that as special Committees would have to be often appointed, some means of saving the valuable time spent in electing them should be devised. He proposed that in electing special committees the balloting should take place in each Section of the House, and the votes reported to the President, who should add the numbers and announce the result. Some members objected to the motion being framed so as to apply to future elections, and it was accordingly amended so as to have reference to that occasion only. The election thus conducted, resulted as follows:—Messrs. Aoki Tadasu, Shimada Takayuki, Takagi Masatoshi, Kono Hironaka, Suyehiro Shigeyasu, Okada Riochiro, Matano Kagetaka, Matsuda Masahisa, and Sasada Tsutomu. Subsequently, an application for leave of absence by Mr. Inouye was granted. The President announced the business for the next day, and the House rose at 4.12 p.m.

JAPANESE DRESS.

Of the national costume of Japan, the *Nippon* writes:—We have often discussed this subject and now record the following remark made by a well known gentleman in Meguro, not as a new opinion, but because it contains some interesting points:—"The first consideration to be observed in deciding upon a national costume is that it should be made of native materials, and in the second place it should be of a style that may be generally adopted. Unless made of materials produced in the country it would be expensive, and unless of a style that might be universally followed, it could not be made uniform. At present, the foreign style of dress is so much in fashion in this country that wearing apparel has lost all uniformity. Foreign costume requires the use almost entirely of materials that must be imported, which is opposed to the first essential; and it cannot be universally adopted, which is contradictory of the second principle. Ladies' clothing, especially if made in foreign style, is very costly, and a lady may spend several thousands on her dress and yet find herself attired no better than her foreign sister of the middle class, and not nearly as well as a lady of the upper classes, so that her dignity will necessarily suffer in spite of the heavy cost. This is felt by all who have been abroad. Besides, the system of costume should be in harmony with the conditions of our homes. Our houses are mostly Japanese, and even in foreign built houses, we very often have the internal arrangements in Japanese fashion. It certainly cannot be convenient to wear a long skirt in our matted rooms, dragging over in its slovenly course everything with which it comes in contact, or to squat on the floor in trousers which must inevitably become baggy at the knees.

THE "ON-GAKU ZASSHI."

We welcome the appearance of the *On-gaku Zasshi* (Musical Magazine), because we believe it supplies a want felt by the constantly widening circle of persons interested in the study of Western music. The new journal is a monthly publication, and its first issue having appeared in September, we have already three numbers before us. The editor is Mr. Shikama Totsuji, an enthusiastic student of Occidental music, and the author of a useful pamphlet called "Guide to the study of the Organ." Besides

teaching music at several public and private seminaries, he is giving lessons at his house to a number of common school teachers and some other devotees. In the opening number, Mr. Shikama describes the growing prosperity of the study of Western music. In this field, as in almost every other, the Government led the way by the establishment, in 1879, of a musical school under the name of *On-gaku Tori-shirabe-gakari*, which developed into the present Academy of Music. There are now a number of private schools in Tokyo specially devoted to giving lessons in music and singing; for example, the Tokyo *Shoka-Kai*, the *Shoka Senmon Gakko*, the *Kyotitsu Shoka Gakko*, and so forth. Music is also taught in most of the educational institutions, from Colleges down to primary schools, while the Christian churches also give practical lessons in music every week to thousands of believers. While the study of Western music is making such auspicious progress, the editor of the new journal thinks it of vital importance to guard against abuses and evil tendencies which inevitably attend the cultivation of the musical art. He takes upon himself the grave responsibility of leading in the right direction the study of Western music in Japan—what particular abuses and evil tendencies he proposes to correct, he leaves us to guess. As usual, the "declaration of object" is rather grandiose in style and vague in terms, but we none the less wish the new magazine every success, as it is the first of the kind that has ever been started in this country.

COUNT YAMAGATA'S SPEECH IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

On Saturday, the 6th instant, the Minister President of State, in accordance with an announcement made to the Lower House by its President, attended in the House of Representatives, and after having duly sought permission of the President, ascended the rostrum and delivered the following address:—

GENTLEMEN:—It is a matter of boundless congratulation for the sake of the country, as it is also a great honour and happiness to me, that we are able to-day to meet together in this hall, in virtue of the great and immutable charter established by the benevolent intentions of His Majesty the Emperor. The present is a fitting occasion for me to make a brief allusion to the course of policy followed by the Government in the domestic as well as the foreign affairs of the State. The policy followed by the Government having been already pointed out in the speech from the Throne at the time of the opening of the Diet, it may seem unnecessary for me to offer any further explanations on the same subject. But there are, Gentlemen, some points concerning which I wish to say a few words for the purpose of eliciting your candid opinion. During the three centuries that followed the adoption of a policy of seclusion by the Shogunate Government, profound tranquillity was preserved throughout the whole country. It is, however, to be regretted that the Government of that time is open to the charge of having run counter to the general tendency of events in the world, and of having thereby retarded the progress of the country during those centuries. At the time of the Restoration, when, considering the altered aspect of things in the world, we changed the course of the national policy, we made it our primary object to redeem, in as short a period of time as possible, this debt of three hundred years' standing. The grave responsibility of which we, in common with you, Gentlemen, still feel the weight, has not yet been half discharged. It has, however, been fortunate that the course and outlines of the policy to be pursued having been moulded by the profound wisdom of His Majesty the Emperor, on the one hand, and by the advice and measures of our distinguished predecessors, on the other, we have been enabled to attain the present stage by a gradual and orderly progress. There may be more or less difference of opinion among you, Gentlemen, as to the relative urgency of particular measures, and as to the mode of carrying them out, but I do not hesitate to say that, so far as concerns the general course of things, we are borne onward by one and the same tide, and that, being equally confined within the limits of its current, we can never stray out of the general channel followed by it. With regard to the Budget, let me mention that we have the responsibility of maintaining the Constitution, the Laws, and the Imperial Ordinances. The Budget for the 24th year having now been introduced by the Government, I rely upon your thorough and candid consideration and advice.

The greater portion of the Budget is taken up with expenses connected with the Army and the Navy. I wish here to draw your attention to the opinions held by the Government on this subject. The administrative and judicial institutions have now to be completed and put in an active condition, while the resources of the country have to be nourished by encouraging and promoting agricultural, industrial, and commercial undertakings. While thus internal administration cannot be neglected even for a day, it is, Gentlemen, our common object to maintain the independence and to extend the prestige of the country. The attainment of this object should not only never be lost sight of by the Government, but also all the subjects of the empire should, whatever changes may hereafter take place in the political world, work in harmony, and, uniting their different paths of progress, should advance along one and the same route, to the end that they may not fail to attain eventually their common object. The independence and self-preservation of a country depend, first, upon the defence of its "cordons of sovereignty," and, secondly, upon the defence of its "cordons of interest." I mean by "cordons of sovereignty" the territories of the country, and by "cordons of interest" the sphere which has the closest connection with the safety of the "cordons of sovereignty." There is not a country which does not defend its "cordons of sovereignty," neither is there a country which does not maintain its "cordons of interest." In order to maintain the independence of the country at the present time among the Powers of the world, it is not sufficient to defend the "cordons of sovereignty" alone; it is also necessary to defend the "cordons of interest." Now if we wish, as we do, to maintain the integrity of the independence of the country by defending not only the "cordons of sovereignty" but also the "cordons of interest," we undertake a task which can be accomplished, not by speculative arguments, but only by constant and persevering efforts within the limits allowed by the resources of the land. Such being the case, it is unavoidable that large sums of money should be required for the Army and the Navy. I have not the least doubt that, with reference to the important points thus far stated, you will upon the whole coöperate and agree with the Government. These points all refer to the grave responsibility which we, in common with you, have to redeem in the shortest possible length of time. For the purpose of discharging this common obligation, we hope that it may not be difficult to obtain harmony of views and unanimity of purpose, provided that we all sacrifice our personal interest in deference to public opinion, and further, that we confer together in an open and unreserved manner.

THE NEW CHINESE MINISTER TO JAPAN.

The *Chinese Times* says:—"Lord Li, the adopted son of the Viceroy of Chihli, the newly appointed Minister to Japan, arrived last night (Nov. 11th) per steam-launch sent by his father, from Peking, where he had audience with the Emperor. He is expected by a great majority to take the place of the late Marquis Tseng in the Diplomatic Service; he is comparatively a young man of about 35 years of age, having an energetic mind to perform the nation's work; with his father's rank and power, he can do more in the affairs of the State than an ordinary official even of high rank. It is said that Lord Li has a fair command of the English language, an invaluable *vade mecum* to a diplomat for the Court of the Mikado, where English is the Court language. The Government has made a wise choice in appointing Lord Li to Japan, for he will surely bring these two sister nations into closer friendship by his genial manner and diplomatic tact, which he acquired while at the Court of St. James's as the Vice-Minister. Many officials—both civil and military—went to P'u K'o to meet him. After visiting his father and mother by adoption, and making his usual official calls, he will proceed south to visit his native home in Anhui prior to his leaving for the 'Land of the Rising Sun.'

NEW SHIPS FOR THE BRITISH NAVY.

DURING the present month, says *Industries* of October 24th, the keels of two vessels, the construction of which was provided for in the last Naval Defence Bill, have been laid in Her Majesty's Dockyards. The *Crescent*, a steel cruiser of the protective deck type, has been commenced in the No. 11 dock at Portsmouth, and a quantity of material for the *Barfleur*, a second-class battle-ship of the barbette type, has been

placed in position on the blocks in the No. 7 slipway at Chatham. The former vessel belongs to a type which is considered to be an improvement on the *Phaeton* class, and will be 360ft. in length by 60.7ft. in extreme breadth, with a displacement of 7,700 tons on a draught of water of 24.7ft. Her normal coal supply is fixed at 850 tons, and she will be fitted with engines capable of developing upwards of 12,000 i.h.p., with which it is expected a speed of 19.5 knots will be realised. The main armament will consist of two 9.25in. 22-ton breechloading guns and ten 6in. guns, while the auxiliary armament will be made up of sixteen 6-pounder and 3-pounder quick-firing guns, and four torpedo tubes. The *Barfleur* will in many respects resemble the class of battle-ship now in process of construction at the various Government and private establishments, of which the *Royal Sovereign* and *Hood*, building at Portsmouth and Chatham respectively, are types. Although inferior in armament, the *Barfleur* will rival her larger sisters both in coal supply and speed. She will measure 360ft. 6in. between perpendiculars, and 70ft. in extreme breadth, with a displacement of 10,500 tons. Her engines, which are of the triple-expansion type, will develop 12,000 i.h.p., from which a speed of 18 knots is anticipated. She will carry in barbettes four 10in. 20-ton breech-loading guns, and will mount, in addition, ten 36-pounder and seventeen quick-firing guns, besides six torpedo tubes for the discharge of Whitehead torpedoes. A sister vessel, to be named the *Centurion* will be commenced at Portsmouth in a few days.

THE PROMOTION OF LI HUNG-CHANG.

We take the following from *Nippon*:—"We learn from Tientsin correspondence that owing most probably to the indisposition of His Highness Prince Jun, father of the Emperor of China, and the consequent inability of that Prince to fill the first seat in the Cabinet, it has been decided that the Viceroy shall be called into the Tsung-li Yamén and appointed Minister of Military Affairs. The successor to the post at present held by the Viceroy is said to be Mr. Liu, who was once Chinese Representative in Russia and is now a high official (*Jumbu*) in Canton. This news is received with some doubt, for from *Jumbu* to Viceroy is a very unusual leap. Liu was only a financial official of Kiangsu before his appointment as Minister to Russia, being on his return from abroad made a *Jumbu*, and if appointed to succeed Viceroy Li, as is rumoured, he would hardly be able to fill the post. It is stated that the proper person to take the place of Viceroy Li would be his elder brother Li Huan-sho, inasmuch as it is believed to be out of the question for any one not belonging to the Li family to control the soldiers who have hitherto been under the Viceroy's banner. If this rumour prove to be true, the policy of the Chinese Government will undergo very considerable change, for with Li Chung-tang in an important post at Peking, and an adviser of the Emperor, the railway to Peking will be completed in a few months, and various reforms carried out. Writing of these rumours the *Hokusei Nippo* (*North China Daily News*) says "should these rumours be true the direction of the policy of the Peking Government will be toward progression, and the military system of China will assume a much different aspect." According to our informant, the death of So Kitaku has hastened the measure above hinted at.

ADDRESS OF COUNT MATSUKATA TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

On Saturday Count Matsukata, Minister of State for Finance, laid the Budget for next year before the House of Representatives, and made the following speech:—

MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN of the House of Representatives. In submitting to the House the Budget for the 24th fiscal year of Meiji, I desire to state the cardinal points of the financial estimates. The Budget and the documents attached to it will show you that the public income for the 24th fiscal year amounts to 83,114,000 *yen*, omitting fractions, and the expenditure to 83,075,000 *yen*, there being

thus a balance of 39,000 *yen* on the revenue side. Comparing this Budget with that of the current year, it will be seen that there is a decrease both on the side of expenditure and on that of income; namely, 1,827,000 *yen* and 1,957,000 *yen* respectively. Doubtless you will be able to arrive at a full understanding of the causes of increase or decrease in the various items of income and expenditure, by the aid of the explanations given at the beginning of the Budget, and in other documents attached for purposes of reference. Further, in order to avoid all misapprehension, still more minute explanations will be duly furnished at the meetings of the Special Committee appointed to consider the Budget.

At this moment I desire to direct your particular attention to the attached Bill, making appropriations for the building of war ships, the construction of railways, and the prolongation of lines of telegraph. Before explaining the source from which these appropriations are to be made, it will be well, perhaps, to enumerate the several amounts and the times of payment. On account, then, of the extension of lines of telegraph, a sum of 180,000 *yen* is appropriated, and will have to be disbursed during the next fiscal year. For railway construction, the appropriation is 24 million *yen*, which will be paid out during the course of the 24th and 25th fiscal years; and for ship-building a sum of 5,210,000 *yen* is set apart, to be spent during the next five fiscal years. These three sums make a total of 7,890,000 *yen*, which represents extraordinary expenditure, and must be obtained from some extraordinary source, since, under existing circumstances, it is scarcely possible for the Treasury to devote any portion of the State's ordinary income to such purposes. What then is this extraordinary source? Fortunately the Treasury's financial operations during the 21st fiscal year resulted in a surplus of 3,620,000 *yen*, and during the 22nd fiscal year there was similarly a surplus of 4,270,000 *yen*, so that the aggregate surplus for the two years amounted to 7,890,000 *yen* in round numbers. These results were due chiefly to the rapid development of industries, and to an unlooked for increase in the country's foreign commerce. The Government desires to appropriate this surplus to the three objects and in the proportions I have stated, and with that aim submits to you the attached Bill. The three appropriations, gentlemen, are really needed in the cause of the nation's interests, and the Government trusts to obtain your approval, especially as these essential undertakings can be accomplished without recourse to borrowing or to increased taxation.

As regards the Budget, I venture to hope that, having subjected it to full and satisfactory inquiry and scrutiny, you will vote upon it without pre-judgment. Further, I wish to make a few statements with respect to the national debts, and the resumption of specie payments, since both of these matters have an important bearing on the management of the country's finance.

From the Restoration in 1868, up to the month of August in this year, the total amount borrowed by the Government both at home and abroad aggregates 399 million *yen*, of which 145 millions have been already re-paid, leaving 254 millions to be still discharged, in which is included 5 millions of foreign debt. Further, the Treasury borrowed this year from the Bank of Japan a sum of 22 million *yen*, bearing no interest, to be applied to the redemption of the paper currency. Thus the whole indebtedness of the Treasury, domestic and foreign, is 276 million *yen*. There is a principle which has to be observed by every financier seeking to manage the monetary affairs of a nation satisfactorily. It is that, in times of peace and tranquillity, expenditure should be economised and the public obligations reduced as much as possible. A Government is bound, I think, to regard the borrowing of money as a last expedient, only to be resorted to for the purpose of meeting extraordinary expenditure which is at once dictated by necessity and too large to be provided for out of the State's ordinary income. This principle has been rigidly adhered to by the Government since the eleventh year of Meiji. The average annual reduction of the national debt since that time has been 10 million *yen*, and if the same principle be adhered to henceforth with similar strictness, the whole national debt of 276 million *yen* will be discharged in less than 30 years.

The abolition of the *fiat* currency constituted, during many years, the most difficult problem with which the financiers of the empire had to deal. Happily the task is now almost accomplished. I beg you to consider for a moment the history of this part of our finance. During the years following the Restoration, the Government, confronted by circumstances of urgent political necessity, put into circulation inconvertible notes to the aggregate amount of 120 million *yen*. Yet it was found possible to issue, in the 19th year of

Meiji (1886), an Ordinance announcing the convertibility of this large sum. This was the result of steps gradually taken with the object of abolishing *fiat* currency. Of the total amount just stated, namely, 120 million *yen*, 14 millions have been converted into Bonds, 43 millions have been replaced by coins, and 24 millions have been redeemed, so that a sum of only 40 millions are to be dealt with. Of this last amount, 8 millions are to be redeemed with subsidiary coins from 50 *sen* downwards. The redemption commenced in the present fiscal year and will be continued every year at the rate of 1 million *yen*, by means of appropriations from the ordinary revenue. The remaining 32 millions consist of notes of one *yen* or larger denominations, and can be redeemed at any moment, as the Treasury holds a corresponding sum in gold and silver coins. Pursuing the present policy, therefore, the complete redemption of the paper currency is now a question of only a few years.

The finance of a nation, gentlemen, must of necessity be in strict unison with all the other affairs of the Government. Moreover, it has to be managed in that most changeable of all spheres, the economical world. Its relations are wide; its influences boundless. Our country occupies at present an economical position different from that in which other civilized States stand: she is not, I am sorry to say, able to exercise the rights of a free State in respect of fiscal measures. Under such circumstances the management of our finance demands and commands the utmost circumspection, while, at the same time, it has to advance with the progress of other affairs, duly and suitably adapted to their developments and improvements. Therefore, gentlemen, it is my earnest hope that your House and the Government will calmly, impartially, and sincerely discuss and deliberate upon this vital subject, each stating its views unreservedly, and exposing mutual plans of future improvement, so that by our united efforts and co-operation the finances of the Empire may be placed upon a more and more solid and immutable basis.

POLITICAL PARTIES IN THE DIET.

THE *Kokumin Shinbun* writes in the following strain:—"The opening ceremony has taken place, the Diet has held its first public meeting, and the time has now arrived when the different political parties may put into operation their schemes and practise their parliamentary tactics to their hearts' content. Before we attempt to forecast the movements of these parties, it is necessary that we should arrive at some idea of the degree of influence respectively exercised by each. The party most prominent in the Diet are the *Rikken Jiyu-to* (Constitutional Liberals); next to them in order come the *Taisei-kai* (Independents); and then the *Kaishin-to* (Progressists). The National Liberal party is as yet in embryo and we are without material on which to form an opinion. There are in the House of Representatives 132 members of the *Rikken Jiyu-to*, which has thus practically, though not numerically, a majority in the house. The most conspicuous figures in this section of the Diet are Messrs. Takenouchi Tsuna, Oye Taku, Hayashi Tsuna, and others whose wide experience is well known; men whose past careers have been full of events and vicissitudes, as Messrs. Kono Hironaka and Suzuki Shoshi; men noted for research and learning, as Messrs. Uyeki Edamori, and Amaharu Fumiye; and Messrs. Gamo Sen and Kawashima Jun, noted for their grasp of constitutional and financial questions. Beyond doubt this party contains most capable men, but we regret to see that there is a want of unity among the members, who are prone to resort to individual action. Moreover, though gathered under one party name, the members are notoriously different in sentiment and form several groups, more or less antagonistic to each other on certain points. This was plainly apparent in connection with the election of a President, when a wag compared them to so many lodgers in the Grand Hotel, such a want of unity and harmony arises not from inexperience in party movements, but from some other hidden cause for which we may at a future day prescribe remedial treatment. The *Taisei-kai* has eighty-five members in the Lower House—all but double the representation of the *Kaishin-to*. It also is a large party, but owing to the inharmonious elements which it contains, it will not easily be capable of united action. Mr. Suyematsu Kencho is looked on

by many as the chief leader of the party, but there are not wanting persons sceptical of his power to do much, either one way or another. The party includes many men of scholarship and ability: Mr. Nakamura Yaroku (skilled in forestry), Messrs. Oyagi and Motoda (learned in legal lore), Mr. Soma (a political economist), Mr. Sugiura (a leading educationalist), and others. The other day thirteen members of the National Liberal Party—if it may be so-called—applied for admission to the ranks of the *Taisei-kai*, and their application gave rise to considerable agitation, which it is apprehended may lead to the dissolution of the *Taisei-kai*. But no one can prophecy with certainty, for the majority of the *Taisei-kai* are easy-going, lukewarm persons who may be willing to admit the applicants. It is stated, however, that the Tokyo, Osaka, and Kyoto members are strongly opposed to any such action. The speeches so far made in the House only indicate the individual action of members; what policy will be unitedly pursued is a serious question for this political section to decide on. Of the *Kaishin-to* there are 43 members in the House, who are formed into a club named the *Gi-in Shu-kaijo* (meeting place of members of Parliament) and they have already distinguished themselves by the skill with which they manoeuvred on the occasion of electing the President of the House. Though constantly engaged among themselves in disputation and argument, the Parliamentary members of the *Kaishin-to* have displayed wonderful power of union in all large and important questions—an excellent and commendable quality. Indeed it has been well said that if the *Kaishin-to* are to be defeated they will, like the Taira, fall together, while the *Rikken Jiyu-to* will be rent by internal dissensions like the Minamoto. The influence of the former in the House may be compared to that of the Irish party in the English Parliament, but as to whether they can move with such power and activity as characterizes the Irish party, we can say nothing. It is said that the power of the party will gradually be assumed by Messrs. Inukai, Ozaki, and their friends. These persons formed a special sect of the *Kaishin-to* and acted somewhat independently from the rest of the party, but they have now come back into the fold. After Mr. Yano's retirement from active political life, this was perhaps to be expected, for, although Mr. Shimada represents the intelligence and prudence, Mr. Fujita the refinement and talent, and Mr. Nakano the experience and good management of the party, yet the task of resorting to different tactics and manoeuvres, and fighting with a small isolated force against powerful enemies, must in the end be entrusted to Messrs. Inukai, Ozaki, and their friends. Whether, however, they will prove to be skilful generals in the Diet, is a different question.

"THE LIFE OF TOYOTOMI HIDEYOSHI."

THE Fourth Part of Mr. Walter Denning's "Life of Toyotomi Hideyoshi" has just been issued from the Hakubunsha press in Tokyo. Containing 79 pages with illustrations of the same character as those rendered familiar by the preceding parts, it carries us down to the period when Hideyoshi had reached almost to the zenith of his power, having avenged Nobunaga's death, triumphed over his own jealous foes Shibata and Katsuiye, assumed the title of *Kam-baku*, and commenced his successful campaign against Shikoku and Kiushiu. A record of this kind cannot be expected to command general interest. In order to make it appeal to the taste of every-day readers, it should be carried into details to furnish which long and wide research would be necessary—details of the kind of arms and armour employed; of the tactical and strategical arrangements resorted to by the various commanders; of the fashion of a soldier's life in the field; of the manner of obtaining supplies of provisions and money; of the legislation resorted to by the various rulers; of the correspondence that passed between them, and of many other things without which no picture of a remote era can rise above the level of a mere outline sketch. Mr. Denning's original scheme did not include all this. He set out to

tell us of Hideyoshi and of Hideyoshi only, and with that object he has followed the famous commander through a series of campaigns and intrigues in which we learn indeed to wonder at Hideyoshi's marvellous foresight, astuteness, and fertility of resource, but at the same time find ourselves longing to know something more about the era of his achievements; longing to read a genuine history of the time and not merely a bald account of how castles fell, camps were broken up, defeated generals committed suicide, and rival leaders devised stratagems of the most treacherous and sanguinary character. There is in fact, little if anything to distinguish this story from a chapter of mediæval European annals, except, perhaps, that the influence of woman appears, according to these pages, to have been utterly absent from the feudal struggles of Japan in the sixteenth century. That woman really did fail to play in those checkered days in Japan the part played by her under similar circumstances everywhere else, we greatly doubt, but the volume now before us leaves this, in common with many other points, untouched. Mr. Denning has not succeeded in breaking away from the trammels of his Japanese originals. He repeats their dry narrative, unrelieved by any of the vivid portraiture distinguishing the modern from the ancient historian, and re-animating figures which otherwise move like dummies across the dim vista of an unappreciated past. Will anyone ever do for Japanese history what men like Motley, Buckle, Taine, Carlyle, Lecky, Froude, and the brilliant school of German annalists have done for the histories of other lands? It would have to be in a great part a labour of love, and perhaps even then the toil of collecting materials would be insuperable. We remember to have heard of a project, conceived some years ago by an enthusiastic student, to write the record of the Tokugawa Dynasty in such a fashion that foreign readers should be able to form a thoroughly clear idea of the civilization which existed in Japan at the time of Commodore Perry's coming, and of the train of legislative, social, sumptuary, administrative, ethical, and religious factors by which that civilization had been evolved. The ambitious scheme never went beyond the compilation of a partial list of books of reference, for the projector found that if he devoted twenty years to the task of translation and collation he would still be only on the threshold of achievement. Buckle, in his opening chapter on the resources for investigating history, sneers at authors who, though, from indolence of thought or from natural incapacity, unfit to deal with the highest branches of knowledge, nevertheless think that they have only to pass a few years in reading a certain number of books in order to qualify for historians of great peoples, and to become authorities on the subjects which they profess to treat. Yet Buckle himself prefaces his wonderful section of a stupendous undertaking by a bewildering list of authors quoted by him; a list filling thirty-two closely printed pages and containing, if we remember aright, something like twelve hundred titles of works. Some discredit, indeed, was thrown on the character of Buckle's work by a story circulated after his death to the effect that his splendid volumes were the outcome of a mere experiment, consisting in a well organised scheme to exploit as many libraries as possible and generalize their materials. Would that we had a Buckle in Japan, all the same, and would that libraries to be thus treated were available. At present, perhaps, we can hope for nothing better than volumes such as those published by Mr. Denning, dealing with a limited class of incidents in the career of some history-making hero of old Japan, or with a particular phase of her former life. Hideyoshi in Mr. Denning's pages becomes an intimate acquaintance, so far as the fighting side of his story is concerned. The wonderful shrewdness and intrepid self-reliance which commanded our admiration in the opening chapters of his biography, grow if possible more and more conspicuous as the tale proceeds, and we are compelled to admit that such a man would have been great in any age and under

any circumstances. Perhaps in subsequent volumes—for we believe that one or two more are to come—the other side of his character will be displayed to our view; his family affections; his artistic instincts; his legislative faculties, and his fiscal ability. Thus far we cannot do better than quote the conclusions drawn by Mr. Denning himself from the materials so carefully and laboriously compiled:—

Throughout his career he trusted quite as much to the moral persuasive power of his generous and brave actions as to the use of physical force. His self-control and forbearance at the Council Board, though they enraged his immediate rivals, whose object was to provoke him to commit some serious indiscretion, tended to raise him in the esteem of the other members of the Council, who regarded them in the light of a sacrifice of personal interests to the maintenance of Oda's supremacy in the state. Moreover, the insults that he received at that time furnished him with an excuse for a display of force at the funeral ceremony and for the hostilities that brought about the overthrow of Shibata and Sakuma. By avoiding precipitancy Hideyoshi made his progress sure. His career was marked by no retrograde movement. It was one steady advance to the goal. Napoleon I. used to speak of himself as "the Child of Destiny" and to attribute his success to "his star." "They charge me," he said, "with the commission of great crimes. Men of my stamp do not commit crimes. Nothing has been more simple than my elevation. It is in vain to ascribe it to intrigue or crime; it was owing to the peculiarity of the times. I have always marched with the opinions of great masses, and with events. Of what use, then would crimes be to me?"

Thus did the "Child of Destiny" whose life we are considering, move on with calmness and self-possession to the zenith of his power—self-denying, self-postponing, sacrificing everything to his aim—never allowing incidents to govern policy, never hurried away from his course by an unlooked-for event, blending and concentrating everything so that it should conduce to the attainment of his one grand purpose, and refusing to admit that any obstacle was too formidable for his genius. "There shall be no Alps," was the motto of his life.

He had no real belief in heaven's help any more than Napoleon, but, like the French hero, he was fond of attributing his success to this source for the sake of inspiring awe among his contemporaries. Though he had never studied the universe scientifically, he was as sure as the most advanced scientist of modern days that no supernatural power interferes with the working of natural laws; that events and achievements which the vulgar attribute to Divine intervention are all explicable by and traceable to the operation of these laws; that success depends on the nicety of combinations. His thorough knowledge of men enabled him to make the most elaborate calculations as to the manner in which they would act under given circumstances, and to adjust his plans with skill and minuteness that was perfectly astonishing.

The sagacity which displayed itself in such a remarkable degree in his later years was the result of the garnered experience of the most observant of minds. Nothing that he personally superintended failed, because before commencing operations his keen foresight had anticipated every difficulty and made ample provision for it; and the stars were not more punctual than his arithmetic.

THE PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THE *Kokumin-no-Tomo*, while congratulating Mr. Nakajima on his appointment to the position of President of the House of the Representatives, frankly avers that it does not think him the best person that could have been selected for that responsible office. When Mr. Mutsu returned from the United States, our contemporary published an article strongly advising him to leave the Government service, and become a candidate for the position to which Mr. Nakajima has now been elected. But Mr. Mutsu's acceptance of a Ministerial portfolio entirely marred his prospects so far as the Presidency of the Lower House was concerned. Of the remaining candidates for that position, our contemporary thought there were some who were better fitted than Mr. Nakajima to discharge the peculiarly difficult duties devolving on the President of the first House of Representatives. The Tokyo journal admits that Mr. Nakajima possesses certain qualities calculated to make him a good President under ordinary circumstances. "He enjoys," we are told, "the reputation of being impartial, and to a certain extent we share this opinion. . . . He also seems to possess a measure of coolness, which is an important qualification in one charged with the keeping of order during exciting debates. He appears to be a man of negative character, and though

something of a hermit in the field of political warfare, this very circumstance may, in some cases, be of advantage at the council board." Further his influence among various political parties, and the prominent position he has occupied in the public mind ever since the Restoration, will, the *Kokumin* observes, be of some advantage to him in the discharge of the duties of his office. But the peculiar circumstances under which constitutional government is now being inaugurated require qualifications higher than these in the President of the first House of Representatives. The *Kokumin* admits Mr. Nakajima to be a competent man, but says that it is somewhat doubtful whether he will be able to maintain dignified relations with the experienced and gifted President of the House of Peers, and to escape being overshadowed by the towering figure of Count Ito. In short, the President of the Lower House must not be an irresolute man, neither ought he to be of a too conciliatory, much less subservient, mood towards either the Executive or the House of Peers. What would be most regrettable is that he should be regarded as a spy of the Government. The *Kokumin-no-Tomo* does not think for a moment that Mr. Nakajima is open to any of these charges, but still advises him to take some decisive steps to dispel doubts that are at present entertained about him.

As to Mr. Tsuda, Vice-President of the House of Representatives, our contemporary is unable to say whether he is fit for his position or not. While he was sleeping in his easy chair at the Senate, the public had even forgotten his name. That he was able to obtain a majority of votes in the Hongo-Shitaya district, was owing, says the Tokyo journal, to the absence of Mr. Taguchi Ukichi on his voyage to the South Sea Islands. Thus our contemporary had not expected to see him in the House of Representatives, much less to find him in the post of Vice-President. But the post of Vice-President is less difficult to occupy than that of President, and the *Kokumin* congratulates Mr. Tsuda on his election to the easier of the two offices.

This is not very sympathetic writing, it must be confessed. Mr. Nakajima ought to be this, and it would be well if he were the other, but doubtless he is everything desirable. Faint praise indeed, damning enough for its faintness, and especially injurious because of the embodied insinuation that Mr. Nakajima's relations with the Government are not above suspicion. It is a pity that such innuendoes should receive publicity in the columns of an important periodical.

AN ANCIENT PICTURE.

READERS of Japanese history remember, of course, that in the year 1274 the Great Mongolian Sovereign Khublai Khan, afterwards conqueror and Emperor of China, sent a large military and naval force against Japan, but that the expedition was wholly unsuccessful, being repulsed with heavy loss at Hakata by the soldiers of Chikuzen and neighbouring fiefs. Kublai took greatly to heart this, his first defeat by land or water, and when firmly established on the throne of China, he sought to re-establish his prestige by despatching a big armada to chastise the contumacious islanders. In the ranks of the invading force, which is said to have aggregated a hundred and fifty thousand men, Koreans, Chinese, and Mongolians were enrolled, and it seemed scarcely possible that Japan could resist effectually. Her sailors, however, appear to have resembled the English in tactical skill and intrepidity. With a comparatively insignificant squadron they managed to hold their own in several fights against the huge Chinese navy, and while these decisive battles were being waged, a tempest came to Japan's aid and wrought among the Chinese warships havoc somewhat similar to that which overtook the Spanish Armada off the coast of Great Britain. How many perished in the storm, the records do not tell, but it is certain that the active, plucky Japanese *Samu-*

rai took full advantage of the event, and, attacking the surviving Chinese ships before they could re-assemble, destroyed them in detail. Chinese history avers that only three men out of the whole force managed to escape to China. It may well be conceived that such an event stirred the pulses of men of the time, and that efforts to commemorate it were made. Among these efforts was a series of paintings by Naganori and Nagataka, two skilled artists of the Tosa School. There seems to be very little doubt that the pictures were finished in the year 1293, and that they were painted by order of and under the direct supervision of Takezaki Gorobiyoye-no-jo Suyenaga, a *Samurai* of Higo, and one of the principal captains of the Japanese forces, in whose family they have been handed down as heirlooms from generation to generation. Contained in two gigantic scrolls with lengthy written accounts of each incident depicted, they constitute a unique historical record of the period. The Tosa artists chiefly devoted themselves, from the time of Takuma Takeuji, the founder of their school, to painting battle scenes. They were seldom happy in their rendering of the human figure, still less so in their delineation of horses, but their work was accurate and minute in other respects. The scrolls of Naganori and Nagataka differ in one respect from the ordinary pictures of their kind: the figures are exceptionally large, and it seems not improbable that the artists sought to produce likenesses of the principal warriors figuring on their canvas. At all events the work is very firm, delicate, and minute, and of its value as a historical monument there can be no manner of doubt. An opportunity of examining the scrolls was lately afforded to several residents of Tokyo, and we believe that there is now a prospect of their passing into the possession of the Imperial Household, the fitting repository of such national relics.

THE SILK TRADE OF BENGAL.

A LONG and interesting report on the recent decline in the silk trade of Bengal, its causes and the remedies, has recently been issued by the Bengal Government. It is written by Baboo Mukerji, who was specially appointed to study the subject, and who spent some time in the European silk districts in the course of his labours. Although the report is a very long one, its general substance can be summarized in a comparatively brief space. The periods in the history of Bengal silk export are as follow:— (1) From 1812 to 1835 the export of raw silk was 972,108 lbs. (2) From 1838 to 1855 it was 1,435,225 lbs. (3) From 1856 to 1870 it was 1,518,592 lbs. (4) During this last period (1856 to 1870) waste silk first began to be exported, the average annual export being 520,750 lbs., making the total of raw silk and waste 2,039,342 lbs. (5) The average annual export of raw silk and waste together from 1874 to 1877 was 1,581,860 lbs. There was thus a steady rise in the export of Bengal silk from the days of the East India Company until the complete revival of the silk trade in Europe. This revival was wholly due to the increased production of cocoons, owing to the introduction of Pasteur's system of drainage, which had made the cocoon crop a certainty. The improvements already introduced with success in other silk producing countries, will have the tendency further to lower the prices of cocoons, and consequently of raw silk. The prices now prevailing in Western markets are the lowest on record. They have been going down steadily since 1876, and as a consequence, with wages rising in Europe, the Baboo thinks that cocoon-rearing will have to be abandoned there and the manufacturers will be dependent on other countries. But, although this might appear favourable to Indian sericulture, it can only be so if Pasteur's system is introduced there and if Bengal silk continues in demand. But it is, he thinks, very doubtful whether Bengal silk of the present quality will be used at all in Europe in future, except for certain particular purposes. Bengal silk has some special qualities, on account of which it may probably always reckon on a small

demand. It is the best of all silks for gloss, elasticity, and for taking the black dye, and no other silk will make better hats than that of Bengal. But taking it all in all, it is the worst silk in the market, and is inferior to European, Japan, and China silks. When these sell at 45 francs per kilo, Bengal silk sells at 32 francs. The reason for this is that it is the worst reeled silk in the market, and it will be impossible ever to reel Bengal cocoons to produce silk like the European, Chinese, or Japanese silk, however the reeling machines may be improved. A European, Chinese, or Japanese cocoon of a good class, contains thread four times longer than a Bengal cocoon, the former giving 800 to 1,000 metres of reelable *bave*, the latter only 202 to 250 metres. This must make Bengal silk at least four times more uneven than other silks, whatever reeling machines may be employed. It is necessary to add Bengal cocoons at the time of reeling four times as often, as is the case with other cocoons for in addition to its other disadvantages the *bave* of the Bengal silk is conspicuously the weak and therefore liable to break. Another source of unevenness in Bengal silk, due to the character of the cocoons, is the lightness of the chrysalid, causing the *telette* to jump up and cause *duets* or *paquets*, whereas the chrysalid of the *Bombyx Mori* cocoons by its own weight helps to break the thread whenever it becomes very fine towards the *telette*. The effect of unevenness is enhanced by the practice of trying to hide it which is prevalent in Bengal filatures. When the skein is taken from the reel, it looks more uneven than when it is packed up. Picking and clipping help to make it look more even; but these processes cause the continuity of the *grege* to be severed in several places. Skeins, in their rough state, are really better than skeins prepared in this manner; but the former look so dirty that in European markets the latter fetch a higher price. This is the excuse for the practice of picking the skeins prevalent in Bengal filatures. When the Bengal *grege* is made into orgazine and trame, it breaks so continually that one girl can manage only 6 to 30 skeins at a time during the process of milling, whereas 100 skeins of European or superior Japanese and Chinese *grege* can work at the same time under the supervision of one girl. This makes it so costly to turn the Bengal silk into account, and where labour is dear, as in America, they will have nothing to do with Bengal. In France and Italy also wages of labourers have been steadily increasing. This Mr. Mukerji believes to be another cause, besides the diminished production of cocoons in Bengal, of the decline of the Bengal silk trade. With increase of production of superior cocoons in China and Japan, and with the enhancement of the manufacturing industries of silk in Europe, a still further diminution in the price of silk may be reasonably expected. On the other hand, of course, an increased production of cocoons in Bengal, due to the introduction of Pasteur's system, will tend to lower the price at which *grege* can be produced, by giving full work to all filatures. But the strain will continue just the same, and even with the introduction of Pasteur's system, if that alone is done and nothing else, no permanent amelioration can be expected. The first and most important measure he recommends is the introduction of the superior *Bombyx Mori* cocoons. When this is done it will be an easy matter introducing improvements in reeling. The reeling machines in use in Bengal now are just the same as those used in the days of the East India Company, with the exception that steam is employed in heating the water in the basin. Great improvements have taken place of late years in this direction in Europe, and not only in Europe, but also in Japan and China the recent inventions have been eagerly adopted. The substitution of *Bombyx Mori* cocoons for the *Bombyx Fortunatus* and the *Bombyx Croesi* will, in itself, improve the reeling of Bengal silk. But to bring it to the standard of European, Japanese, and Chinese silks, improvements in reeling machinery also are necessary. If Bengal can produce silk equal

in quality to European, Chinese, or Japanese, it will always be able to compete successfully with other countries in European markets, for nowhere else in the sericultural countries is labour so cheap. In addition Baboo Mukerji proposes the establishment of a sericultural laboratory in India with trained men to travel throughout the silk districts and instruct the peasants in the latest improvements. From recent information from India it seems that this suggestion is being actively carried out by the Bengal Government.

PATENT MEDICINES.

THE question of patent medicines is to the fore just now—not that these compounds are ever much in the background. The very fishermen on the Thames are now supplied gratis with sails, which bear the name of a well-known patent drug; by which the lover of unalloyed nature is annoyed in a peculiar and distressing way. Captive balloons likewise are made to serve advertising purposes, air, earth, and water being thus brought under subjection. A chemist writing in last month's *National Review*, points out the dangerous nature of many of these drugs, and the need of stricter regulations in their sale. He instances the Sanitary Bureau of Japan as an excellent institution to copy, in the salutary control it exercises over the sale of patent medicines. Proprietors of patent medicines in Japan must present a sample, accompanied by a detailed account of the various ingredients and the proportions used, as well as directions for the use of the drug and an explanation of its supposed curative properties. In France it is said that the deficiency in the revenue is to be met by a tax on patent medicines.

THE "ORIENTAL NEWS."

WE translate from the new journal *Toyo Shimpō* (*Oriental News*) the following editorial by Mr. Suge, setting forth the objects and aims of its conductor:—The past year has been an exceptionally busy one, but what has been the result to us, Japanese, of all the bustle? The quantity of silk exported in 1889 amounted to yen 26,616,541, while the export from the beginning of this year to the 24th of November last is valued at yen 11,735,113. The deficit of yen 15,081,428 represents a reduction in the inflow of money from abroad. Again, rice exported during 1889 amounted to yen 7,434,653, while this year we have imported foreign rice to the amount of yen 12,019,736 which we paid for in cash. Instead of selling we have bought, and thus suffered a two-fold expense. Add to this the decrease in the amount of exported silk, and we have the total amount of our export reduced by over forty millions. Of course, the materials represented by this reduction are still in the country, and therefore we do not say that the amount directly shows the loss sustained by our countrymen; but we can say that this is the principal cause that has brought about the great pressure felt in financial circles in Japan. In fact the past year has been notably one of expenditure and consumption. It is natural that when social affairs are active, consumption should be great, but at the same time we should endeavour to increase our produce and add to our wealth. What we understand by the progress of civilization may be pretty well summed up in those words. To be uselessly busy, to spend our days only in consumption, is most wasteful, and what we earnestly wish to avoid. Accordingly we will give our best attention to industrial and financial affairs, and try to keep the public well informed on those subjects. Again, we have another word to say. The foundation of our people's wealth consists in land, officially valued at yen 1,600,000,000. Adding to this the mines, rivers, valleys, and sea coasts as well as other sources of wealth, our gross possessions should be something over four thousand millions. Under present circumstances, placed as we are in a whirlpool of competition, are we to look unmoved on what is passing around us? We are told that some time ago the United States Government introduced into Congress a bill providing for the development of the navy, but

it was thrown out on the ground that having many millions of wealth, and being separated from the European Powers by the wide ocean, America need not allow herself to be disturbed by the clamour of competition, and can provide herself with sufficient ships and guns when these become necessary. This may be all very well for the United States, but such reasoning cannot be applied to our case. We do not advocate the immediate and extensive strengthening of our navy, but it seems to us that the question of our relations with foreign Powers and the attitude of those Powers towards one another, receive too little attention among our countrymen, and this deficiency we propose doing our best to repair. Further we should not aim only to keep ourselves well informed of the conditions of Occidental countries; our attention should also be given to Oriental States. It is much more easy to get information with reference to European than to Eastern countries. Trustworthy knowledge as to affairs in Peking is more difficult to obtain than news from London; correspondence from Canada is much more easily attainable than news from Siberia or Manchuria. The result of this is that we often know much more of affairs in distant countries than we do of events occurring, so to say, at our own doors. To this point we shall devote ourselves, and hope to change matters in some degree. Nor will the scope of the *Toyo Shimpō* be confined to the things that we have enumerated. We shall endeavour to promote the welfare of Japan, and to strengthen her foundation: these were the main objects of the writer of this article when he laboured to assist Count Goto in forming the *Daido Danketsu*. These aims are not to be inscribed on any political banner, and therefore during this autumn we have withdrawn from party life, and now stand isolated and independent. The views which we have outlined, and the attitude we have described, will be the opinions to be expounded and the standpoint assumed by the *Toyo Shimpō*.

THE "NIPPON-JIN."

AS stated in our last weekly review of the vernacular press, the *Nippon-jin* has become a weekly periodical, and some noteworthy changes have at the same time been introduced into its management. Though not publicly announced, it is understood that the editorial department will hereafter be under the sole control of two writers, instead of a dozen, as heretofore. The two editors are Mr. Miyake Yujiro, a distinguished graduate of the Imperial University, and on the staff of the *Kokkwa Shimbun*, and Mr. Shiga Shigetaka, an equally well known graduate of the Sapporo Agricultural College and one of the most popular writers of the nationalist reactionary school. The rest of the former joint editors—the best known among them being Messrs. Kikuchi Kentaro, Miyake Yujiro, Matsushita Jokichi, and Kon Sotosaburo—will continue to write in the journal, but their essays will henceforth be distinguished from those of the above mentioned two editors by the signature of their names, whereas the editorial articles will be anonymous. The first number of the periodical under its new aspect was issued on the 25th of last month. It is divided into five departments, which are headed, in Carlylean fashion, "Spirit" (*Seishin*), "Private Opinions" (*Ika-gen*), the "Flesh of the Weak, the Food of the Strong" (*Jaku-niku Kyō-shoku*), "Leisure" (*Tsurezure*), and "Public" (*Kōkō*). The import of these curious headings becomes clear as we examine the articles and other matter arranged under each caption. The "Spirit" department comprises two editorial articles, one on the New Career of the *Nippon-jin*, and the other on the Policy of Japan towards Korea. In the first article we are told that the *Nippon-jin* has now entered upon the third epoch of its life. When it first made its appearance in the spring of 1888 the denationalizing tendency of the time had about reached its highest point, and the periodical devoted its whole energies to divert the tide of popular infatuation from slavishly copying every thing Occidental. During the first epoch of its existence, its sole purpose was to

expound the so-called doctrine of *Kokusui-hozon* (the preservation of national points of excellence). In the next epoch, dating from May last year, the *Nippon* took for its purpose to propound the principles of the development of whatever is characteristic and excellent in the national life and institutions of Japan. During the third epoch which it has just entered upon, the Tokyo journal promises to apply its doctrines to the practical questions of the day. In the second article, attention is drawn to the necessity of protecting the Kingdom of Korea. After remarking that it is of paramount importance for Japan to establish once for all a fixed course of policy in her foreign relations, the Tokyo journal goes on to narrate the history of competition between the three great races of Europe, the Latin, the Teutonic, and Slavonic, in America, in Africa, and in Asia. Siam, says the writer, is the point of contact between the Latin and Teutonic people, while the Teutonic and Slavonic races seem to be destined to come to blows in Persia and in Korea. Next our author proceeds to review the salient points in the history of intercourse between Japan and Korea: how the invasion of the peninsula by the Empress Jingō was followed by a rapid introduction of arts and literature from that country; how, after the invasion by Hideyoshi, Korea continued during a long time to pay tribute to Japan; how, during the Tokugawa régime, the Shogunate Government sent succour to Korea on several occasions, when that country was in distress on account of famine or other natural calamities; and how since the Restoration Japan has led the way in introducing the hermit Kingdom to the rest of the world. There are now in Korea 4,800 Japanese, while the other foreigners number in all about 750, of whom 650 are Chinese, and 100 are Europeans and Americans. According to trade reports for 1888, 70 per cent. of the imports and over 90 per cent. of the exports were in the hands of the Japanese. While Japan thus occupies a unique position in Korea, continues the writer, a powerful nation is secretly but steadily trying to bring that kingdom under its own protection. Should Russia declare a protectorate over Korea, would it become Japan to tamely acquiesce? The writer emphatically answers in the negative. It is the duty of Japan, he says in effect, to protect the independence of Korea, for Japan is to Korea what an elder brother is to a younger. But a few lines further on, he throws off the disguise of justice and humanity, and confesses that, after all, what he seeks is simply the interest of his own country. He says in plain language that Japan might perhaps recognize the claims of Russia over Korea, if the former Power would either return Saghalien or cede certain islands to Japan. In conclusion he recommends the augmentation of the military and naval forces, and states that enough money will be obtained for this purpose by economizing public expenditures with the utmost vigilance.

The "Private Opinions" department is entirely taken up by an essay on the Japan of To-day. The writer is Mr. Chikami Kiyoomi, a well known logician in the capital. In the present number he discusses the various theories thus far advanced with regard to the influence which physical and moral environment exerts on a people, and promises in his next article to apply these theories to the present condition of Japan. In the department picturesquely denominated the "Flesh of the Weak, the Food of the Strong," Mr. Kuga Minoru, editor of the *Nippon*, translates Jules Ferry's work on Tonking. The "Leisure" department contains poems (in Chinese as well as Japanese), reviews of books, and dissertations on various literary subjects. The last department, "Public," consists of interesting comments on current political, social, and literary topics.

RUMOURED DIPLOMATIC CHANGES.

THE *Fuyu Shimbun* says:—If the Cabinet should approve of a proposal put before it by Viscount Aoki as to certain changes in the diplomatic service, a very important step will be

taken. The new measure will involve the transformation of the Japanese representatives at the Courts of England, France, Germany, Austria, Russia, the United States, &c., into *Shimin-kwan* (officers appointed directly by the Emperor). Their terms of office will be extended from three to five or seven years, and they will thus be enabled to acquire more extensive and varied knowledge of the countries to which they are accredited, while the heavy expenditure necessitated by frequent changes of Ministers will be avoided. A difficult point will be encountered in finding men suitable for these posts, but it seems that the names of Viscount Enomoto, Viscount Miura, and Mr. Hanabusa have so far been received with approval, and in all probability two members of the present Cabinet will be deputed to represent their country abroad, so that indirectly the change will create vacancies in the Central Government.

"GILDED ARROWS."

THE query oft repeated, "is life worth living?" will probably in a short time be no longer answered by an allusion to the "liver," but by "it depends upon the microbes." The virulent microbe threatens to assume such gigantic proportions as to make death itself a puny terror compared with an existence in which every hour, nay every moment, is recklessly wasted unless devoted to solving the problem how to dodge a possible germ of hideous disease. We have been warned in sepulchral tones to flee the cushioned seductions of railway carriages, cabs, and theatre stalls, yea even the *jurikisha*; we have been cautioned to eschew the circulating library, nor even borrow from a friend a coveted tome without first inquiring whether his eldest, intermediate, or the baby, has had, has, or is likely to have, any of those infectious ills which infantine flesh is hereditarily addicted to. Further, we have been taught by the well informed 19th century Job's comforters that undreamed of horrors may be inoculated by incautiously receiving goods from the tailor, the laundress, the wine merchant, or the butcher, till our bodies have waxed faint, and our spirits waned from the high tension of apprehensive dread to which our nerves have been screwed up. Surely we had been fully charged with precautionary instructions as to what we should eat, drink, and avoid, when lo! another microbe "medium" has been discovered, and another channel laid bare through which fell disease may march, and claim us for its own. This new "scare" is one that will cause our formerly luke-warm regard for German bands to approach considerably nearer frigidity. The microbe, the consumptive microbe, has been discovered in the recesses of a trombone! How disturbing to one's peace of mind these modern scientific discoveries are! Romance and poetry are being deliberately trodden out of everything. Once there was a thrill of delicious idealism in the word "duel," but now, the most romantic mind is obliged to remember that swords and bullets are septic, and one vaguely hungers for the traditions of one's youth when love was depicted as daring any and every evil for its mistress, a passion that would have scorned a septic sword. Music used, too, to be credited with a tendency to allay unruly inspirations of the wayward breast, but surely its present mission—per wind instruments at least—will be rather to arouse anticipations of deadly parasites and fatal diseases.

And so that little domestic scheme in Utah has fallen through! The Mormons, too, have evidently been considering the marriage-a-failure question, and being so very much married, have had an incomparably wider sphere for their investigations into the subject than ordinary folk. If they have found it does not answer, we can hardly presume with our solitary experiences to assert a contrary opinion, though we may permit ourselves a certain sense of gratification at their being obliged to return to our system. Evidently we have the best of it. Mrs. Mona Caird will doubtless be able to throw a little light on the subject. It

seems a pity that the conclusion Brigham Young's followers have arrived at, did not steal upon them more gradually, so that the number of ladies forming their domestic circle could have been lessened by units instead of tens, and an off-hand dissolution thus avoided. One naturally feels curious as to what will become of the wives thus suddenly disengaged. Will they emigrate to some colony where feminine charms are rare? That would be one solution of the difficulty, and assuredly a safer one than allowing all these disaffected widows to circulate freely among their innocent sisters the "failure" doctrine. Then think of the fatherless offspring! that is if they are retained by their respective manmas. On whom will devolve the privilege of these babies' maintenance. If on paterfamilias, will there not be a virtual repetition of "Rachael weeping for her children," and an anything but blissful interlude with the youngsters bereft of motherly care. Some little intricacy will also envelop the matter of which wife shall be selected to be the "one wife" of respectability. This, supposing the sweet plurality of better halves to number many "fair" among them, will give an opportunity for Solomon-like discernment, and call for a display of Spartan-like unimpressibility.

In spite of the riotous agitations and tempestuous discontent supposed to be rampant among British workmen, it appears that the year of grace 1890 has been marked by a very appreciable decrease in the number of emigrants. This does not look as if things were so very bad in the old country. Someone will perhaps suggest, with that gloom which always endeavours to take the sunshine out of every body's sky, that things are so very bad that poor folks have not had the wherewithal to flee. But we look on the bright side of the picture, and maintain that so long as the rats continue to live in the hold, there is very little fear of the ship sinking, and so long as a grumbling man continues to use his tools, it is very evident there is not much wrong with them. The strikes and troubles which, during the last 18 months, have shaken England like an earthquake, dislocating her commercial system and convulsing her civil organization, have probably been her greatest safeguard. They have been so many outlets for the spirit of grumbling inherent in every man, and especially in Englishmen, and are not so much the outcome of an existing wrong, as a momentary bubble caused by the agitating influence of men to whom notoriety at any price is better than no notoriety at all. These men to gain their own ends have made poor Hodge their unhappy tool, placing in his mouth complaints it never would have framed without aid, and gorging his mind with food it is incapable of digesting, leaving him in the end to chew the bitter cud of reflection over savings wasted, promotion forfeited, and the unsatisfying result generally of socialistic strife. We fully believe that few voluntarily join in a strike more than once, unless it be those sharper members of it, who somehow always contrive to come out the richer from every storm.

In connection with the subject of the British workman, another instance is furnished that discontent only forms a superficial crust to much that is sterling in his composition, much that savours of staunch loyalty and love for his Queen and country, rather than of republicanism or socialism. Things were in a sad state at Aber-gavenny; platform orations from members who had more interest in their own verbosity than in Wales' happiness, had laid the train for an outburst of socialistic ruffianism, a train which a taste of hard times quickly fired. Discontent and murmurs spread like a contagious disease among the ignorant masses, till the news was flashed among them that their Prince's eldest son was coming to visit the land of Bards. Like clouds before sunshine the revolutionary germs were scattered, and all that is noblest and best in England's roughest sons, rose to the surface in a glad, genuine welcome to H.R.H. the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, carrying away

in its hearty sincerity all traces of an evil genius which had been threatening unpleasant times for Wales. Surely this is a very notable proof that the old spirit which has tended so largely to make England what she is, has not died, nor is in any danger of dying. GRENON.

OCTOBER'S OBITUARY.

DURING the month of October two names well-known to the literary world passed over to the majority. The professor of political economy at Oxford, Mr. J. E. Thorold Rogers, who had been in failing health for some time, died on the 10th October at the age of sixty-seven. Mr. Rogers has been long before the public as a thorough-paced Free Trader, an energetic member of the Cobden Club, and an advanced Radical in Parliament. A graduate of Magdalen's, Oxford, he began life as a clergyman of the English Church, but relinquished orders in 1880 to enter Parliament, where he sat for five years as member for Southwark. He was re-elected in 1885 for the Bermondsey division of Southwark, but in 1886 lost his seat to a Conservative, Mr. Rogers having followed Mr. Gladstone to his Home-Rule camp. For many years Mr. Rogers was engaged on a valuable work, "Work and Wages in England during the past six centuries," the last volume of which appeared only this year. A few days later another Oxford scholar passed away, Professor W. Y. Sellar, who for the past twenty-seven years held the chair of Latin Literature at Edinburgh. His works on Virgil and the Latin poets gained him a high reputation. Before this, he had been for six years professor of Greek at St. Andrew's University. Professor Sellar's father was for many years factor to the Duke of Sutherland, and carried out the unpopular "deportations" or "evictions," which stirred up so much bad blood in the Highlands some forty years ago. His brother, Mr. Craig Sellar, is a distinguished lawyer, and has published an authoritative work on the Scotch educational code.

THE TREATIES AND OPINION IN ENGLAND.

THE London correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* writes as follows:—

I hear on excellent authority that in diplomatic circles here and on the Continent the latest Japanese proposals for a revision of the treaties with Western nations are not taken seriously. The view is that the new Japanese Foreign Minister was forced by circumstances to follow the abortive treaties of last year by other propositions, and that in doing this he elected to make those which would embody the extreme demands, and therefore be popular at home. They are therefore framed (I am now repeating the current diplomatic view) with an eye to catch the breeze of popular favour in Japan rather than to meet with approval and success abroad. The circumstances which impel the Minister to this course are that the present Government, which came into power after a crisis which overthrew a very strong ministry, is not in a very stable condition, and that it is about to pass through a Parliamentary session, which is a novel experience to a Japanese Administration; and besides, the new House, as far as its complexion can be judged, is not over-favourable to the present Ministry. The particular point which renders the proposed scheme for revision unacceptable is that it contemplates immediate and absolute control by the Japanese authorities over Europeans, and offers no security or guarantee such as that given by the treaties of last year, which provided that European judges should sit on the bench in all cases in which Europeans were concerned. The European Powers are willing to take a tentative and guarded step in the direction of giving the Japanese control over their subjects, and signed the recent treaties with this view; but the Japanese want full and immediate control with no guarantee whatever. Moreover, it is said that, seeing Japan was the party to draw back from her own previous propositions after they had been accepted, it is rather precipitate to come forward now after a few months with a brand-new scheme in which all the safeguards that made the former one palatable are omitted. It will be seen, therefore, that the alarm of the foreign residents of Japan, who lately met to protest against the new project, is needless. Another very interesting piece of diplomatic information which comes to me at the same time has reference to the attitude of Germany in this matter. For many years Germany and the other Powers worked harmoniously with England in Japan. Two years ago Prince Bismarck, possibly thinking that the time for this diplomatic co-operation had come to an end, and that every Power should look out for itself in Japan, signed a treaty with that country while Lord Salisbury was negotiating one. It was generally said at the time that the Chancellor had stolen a march on us; but it was of little use to him, for the treaty, like others of a similar character with other nations, was not ratified. Nevertheless it was a distinct breaking away from the old system of friendly co-operation with England. I hear now that General von Caprivi, taking advantage of the new Japanese proposals, has returned to the old *entente cordiale* on this subject, and has brought Germany into line with England on Japanese questions.

The London and China Express, evidently

deriving its information from the same source, writes:—

So far as the present move of the Japanese Cabinet on the treaty revision question is understood in this country, the new proposal—that is, presuming it is the late draft, less the provision for foreign judges—is not considered at all acceptable. We believe, also, as the *Manchester Guardian* states, that the proposals are not even taken seriously, but have been mooted by the Japanese Cabinet to catch popular favour in Japan, in view of the near assemblage of the first Parliament. It was evident that all the European Powers and the United States were willing to agree to the proposals as made, and we know treaties on this basis had been signed, but the withdrawal of the one safeguard has completely altered the aspect. We can thoroughly appreciate the feelings of foreign residents, and the wherefore of the late meeting at Yokohama, the full report of which should shortly be to hand. It is not that the codes are not excellent, nor that the majority of the judges are not morally upright; it is the necessary experience to administer the laws that is lacking. Excellent codes are of no avail in the absence of the necessary highly-trained and competent judiciary.

Both the *Manchester* journal and its London contemporary are very ill posted in this matter, the latter newspaper especially. Their statement of the scheme put forward by Japan is seriously misleading, inasmuch as no idea was ever entertained of bringing any class of foreigners at once under Japanese jurisdiction, and their further assertion that Japan's proposals have not been taken seriously in Europe is diametrically opposed to facts. We have ceased to look forward where Treaty Revision is in the vista, but we have a shrewd suspicion that the two journals from which we have quoted will find themselves badly "left" one fine morning.

THE NEW YORK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

In a report of a recent meeting of the New York Chamber of Commerce, we find the following:—

W. B. Thurber, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Commerce and the Revenue Laws, offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Whereas, It is reported that negotiations are now pending between the Government of Japan and the United States Government for the revision of existing treaties between the two nations, which contemplate among other provisions, relinquishing extra-territorial rights now existing by which foreigners resident in Japan are subject to the laws of their own country; and

Whereas, The foreign residents in Japan are a unit in opposition to the relinquishment of such rights, as is shown by a mass meeting of foreign residents of all nationalities held in Yokohama Sept. 11, 1890, at which over 400 foreign residents were present, and resolutions opposed to this feature of such revision were unanimously adopted; and

Whereas, In the judgment of this Chamber such relinquishment would imperil the interests of American citizens, many of whom own real estate and other property in the treaty ports of Japan,

Resolved, It is the judgment of the Chamber that such action at the present time would be inexpedient and unwise, and we respectfully but earnestly protest against such action being taken.

Resolved, That a copy of the foregoing preamble and resolution be forwarded to the Secretary of State, with request for his immediate consideration.

CAPTAIN BOUGOÛIN.

On Saturday Captain and Mrs. Bougoûin left Tokyo by the 4.45 p.m. train, en route for France. The great popularity of Captain Bougoûin was evinced by the crowd of Japanese and foreigners who assembled at the Shimbashi terminus to bid him farewell. Among those present were the Minister President of State, the Minister of State and Vice-Minister of State for War, the Minister of State for the Navy, the Representatives of France, Germany, Austria, the Netherlands, and Hawaii, besides a large number of officials of high rank. During his fifteen years' residence in Tokyo Captain Bougoûin endeared himself to all with whom he came in contact, and few have ever left Japan more sincerely and generally regretted.

THE DERIVATION OF "MATSURI."

A WRITER to *Notes and Queries* of October 18th signing himself "A. Hall" refers to the long account which Sir Edwin Arnold recently gave of the Jours des Morts at (*sic*) Japan. The Japanese, he says "derive their custom from India by means of Buddhist missionaries; this is proved by linguistic evidence, for their term is *Non matsuri*, or Festival of the Dead. Compare *Matsuri* with Latin *mors*, morior, Hebrew *muth*, Arabic *mout*, Sanskrit *mar*, *mri*, *mrita*, Greek *μῆρος*, *μῆρας*, and our check-mate; while the Japanese King of the Dead is Enma San, where *Emma* is the Hindu *Fama*."

YOKOHAMA SKATING CLUB.

The annual general meeting of the Skating Club

was called for on Wednesday, but a sufficient number did not appear to constitute a meeting. It was decided by those present, after waiting a considerable time, to send round a circular inviting opinion as to whether the Club should be continued, or the proprietor of the ground, Aoki, be allowed to run the skating pond himself, with the disadvantages certain to result from such a course. The following are the accounts:—

SEASON OF 1889-1890.—J. O. AVERILL, HON. TREAS'R. IN ACCOUNT WITH YOKOHAMA SKATING CLUB.

To Balance from 1885-1889 \$ 20 57
To Subscriptions 34 @ \$1 \$ 34 00
To Subscriptions 3 @ \$4 12
114 00

1889. CR. \$134 57
Dec. 28. By first payment to Aoki on account of rink \$100 00

1890.
Jan. 8. By advertising annual meeting, "express," &c. 7 00
July 28. By Balance to Aoki for rink 25 00
By Balance carried forward 2 57

To Balance at credit of Club in Treasurer's hands \$ 134 57
E. & O. E.

Yokohama, December 10th, 1890.

J. O. AVERILL,
Hon. Sec. and Treas.

TICKETS FOR THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

EVERY member of the House of Representatives is entitled to procure admission for one friend daily, which means that three hundred visitors may be admitted by the members alone. This is of course inevitable. Admission is by ticket. Without a ticket one cannot even enter the enclosure where the Houses stand. Now it goes without saying that a Parliament being an absolute novelty in Japan, all sorts and conditions of people desire to make their way into one or other of the Chambers, and there, seated comfortably in a well cushioned gallery, to look down on a scene at once unparalleled and impressive, and to listen to a debate which is nearly always enlivened by the cropping up of some interesting point, or by a display of Japanese oratory. The consequence is that tickets are in great demand, and the *Mainichi Shimbun* says that some of the members from distant districts, who have no special friends to accommodate in Tokyo, have conceived the prudent plan of selling their tickets for a yen or two. This device might add a very pretty penny to the eight-hundred yen stipend of the members, many of whom are far from rich. But if some of the austere members come to hear of their needy colleagues' economical methods, there will be an unpleasant scene, we expect.

NEWSPAPERS AND THE DIET.

OURSELVES groaning under the weight of the extra and unremunerated burden thrown on our shoulders by the Diet, we read with envy that one effect of its opening has been to add largely to the circulation of the vernacular newspapers. The *Fiji Shimpō* says that in Osaka alone the post offices had to transmit the following increased numbers of newspapers:—On the 30th ultimo, 4,971; on the 1st instant, 4,450; on the 2nd instant, 9,711; on the 3rd 8,314; and on the 4th, 9,547. These additions mean that the total number of journals coming into Osaka has been nearly doubled by the opening of the Diet. Of course nearly the whole of this increase falls to the lot of our Tokyo contemporaries.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The collision between the House of Representatives and the Department of Justice, resulting from the detention of Mr. Mori, a member of that House, now occupies the most prominent place among the questions discussed by the vernacular press. The steps taken by the Lower House on this subject have met with the almost unanimous disapproval of the Tokyo papers. The circumstances relating to the ori-

gin of this controversy have already been recounted, and need not be repeated here. The communication which the House of Representatives sent to the Minister of Justice, embodying the resolution passed in that House, elicited a very decisive answer from the Minister to the effect that, as he has no authority to suspend a criminal proceeding unless in virtue of the express provisions of the Constitution, he had nothing to do with the resolution of the House of Representatives, the inevitable implication being that the Minister of Justice does not read the 53rd Article of the Constitution in the sense attached to it by the Representatives. After discussing various proposed modes of procedure, the House at last appointed, on the 9th instant, a special committee for the purpose of taking further steps. The matter stands now at this stage, and nothing is yet known as to the course to be pursued by the House.

As stated above, all the journals of the capital, with one or two exceptions, regret that the House of Representatives has taken at this important juncture a course of action that must inevitably cause friction between the Legislature and the Executive. A few quotations will illustrate the spirit in which this topic is discussed by the vernacular papers. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, after summarizing the facts bearing on the subject, observes that the term "arrest" (*teisho*) in the 53rd Article of the Constitution, does not include any idea of detention, and that consequently the case of Mr. Mori does not fall within the scope of that article. Why—asks our contemporary—did not the House of Representatives resort to its undoubted power of legislation to pass a special enactment securing the privileges of its members, instead of founding its protest on a doubtful interpretation of the Constitution? Had the House adopted this course, the *Nichi Nichi* would not have hesitated to give it hearty support. The House will not be able, with any show of fairness or reason, to deny the justice of the answer given it by the Minister of Justice. In conclusion, the *Nichi Nichi* hopes that some happy method may be found to extricate the House from its embarrassing situation without compromising its dignity.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* deprecates the course taken by the people's Representatives as being at once unreasonable and impolitic. Our contemporary reminds them that they have no authority to determine the meaning of the provisions of the Constitution. In the case of a difference of opinion between the Legislature and the Executive concerning the interpretation of any article of the Constitution, the question can only be settled by appealing to a third power in the State. In the face of this plain truth, and in the face of the equally plain fact that the Judicial authorities took a different view of the case of Mr. Mori, the House of Representatives rashly adopted a suggestion of some of its members and formally notified the result of its resolution to the Minister of Justice, as if it were fully competent to decide a question of the interpretation of the Constitution. No wonder, then—continues our contemporary—that the House has received a decisive rebuff from the Minister of Justice. Important as is every point relating to the privileges of members, the *Mainichi* thinks this particular point nothing compared with the questions relating to the Budget and the "already fixed expenditures." When the House comes to discuss these questions, it will be found of vital importance to preserve a good understanding between the Legislature and the Executive. In view of this circumstance, nothing, concludes the *Mainichi*, can be more impolitic than to beget ill-feeling between the two for the sake of such a matter.

The *Nippon*, the *Hochi Shimbun*, and most of the other leading papers take a similar view. The only journals which seem to support the action of the House of Representatives are the *Fiji Shimbun* and the *Kokkai*. The former journal publishes an elaborate article on this subject from the pen of Mr. Ueki Emori, one of the

best known members of the *Rikken Ji-yu-to*. He makes much of the spirit of the 53rd Article of the Constitution. The *Kokkai* does not pronounce any opinion as to the constitutionality of the course followed by the Lower House, but seems to tacitly approve of it. As to the steps which the House may hereafter take, our contemporary observes that the next measure should be to make representations to the Emperor; and should His Majesty decide in favour of the Minister of Justice, it would then be necessary to enact a special law securing the privileges now claimed by the members of the House.

Count Yamagata's speech in the House of Representatives on the 6th instant has been a source of disappointment to the organs of the Opposition. The *Jiyu Shimbun* is glad that, while hitherto the lack of opportunity or inclination to publicly announce the policy followed by the Government has engendered feelings of mutual doubt and suspicion between those in power and those out of power, the Cabinet has now broken its silence and undertaken to make its ideas generally known. But our contemporary regrets that the Premier's speech only touched on the fundamental principles of the national policy, and that not a word was said as to the course which the Cabinet proposes to pursue in regard to important questions of practical politics. Passing on to consider the speech more particularly, the *Jiyu* takes up the question of national defence, on which so much importance was placed by Count Yamagata. Everybody is desirous of increasing the nation's fighting power, and of thus securing the independence of the country, but that is not, says the *Jiyu*, what it had expected to hear from Count Yamagata. The country must be informed whether the present Cabinet purpose to follow an offensive or a defensive policy. Judging from what the Premier said about the importance of defending what he termed the "cordons of interest," the Constitutional Liberal organ is inclined to conclude that the Cabinet is resolved to pursue an aggressive policy in its foreign relations. Should such be the case, our contemporary declares that the party it represents cannot support the Government. As to internal affairs also, the *Jiyu* regrets that the Minister President did not deign to declare his policy. In conclusion, the Government is invited to take an early opportunity of announcing more definitely the policy pursued in the foreign as well as the domestic affairs of the State.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* adopts a similar line of argument. It complains that the speech was too short and simple, but hopes that Count Yamagata may, to use his own words, "in a frank and unreserved manner," give the nation an opportunity of hearing more minute details of his policy in the course of the present session of the Diet.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* and the *Tokyo Shimpō* are, on the whole, satisfied with the speech. But the tone of these papers, especially the latter, is too apologetic to command the attention of the public.

The *Jiji Shimpō* writes in its usual half-sarcastic tone. Count Yamagata having alluded to none of the important topics of current politics, his speech, says our contemporary, might as well have been delivered twenty years ago, and would be equally appropriate a hundred years hence. But under the present circumstances, our contemporary thinks that the Premier has done well to confine his remarks to such features of the national policy as cannot fail to be approved by every patriotic Japanese. It will, avers the *Jiji*, be best for the interest of the country that the Diet should, during the first years of its existence, confine its efforts to mere formalities, and commence its real work after some experience has been acquired of the constitutional system of Government. The *Nippon* expresses similar views on this subject.

Of the bills thus far introduced into the Diet by the Government, that relating to the relief of

the poor has attracted the largest share of journalistic attention. The Budget, which was laid before the House of the Representatives on the 6th instant, has also been commented on, but for the present the press keeps, with regard to this topic, silence which may be regarded as the calm before the bursting of a violent storm. As to the project of the Poor Law, the papers all recognize the importance of giving relief to the destitute, but unite in condemning the Government's project, the only journal defending it being the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. The project consists of twenty-four articles, and minute provisions are made for the mode of giving relief, for the classification of distressed people (*kyu-min*), and for the teaching of the poor while receiving relief. The money required for the purpose is to be defrayed out of either communal rates or the local taxes, according to the kind of persons receiving alms. The objections raised by the papers against the bill are, first, that it is opposed to the object of local self-government to introduce a uniform system of relieving the poor throughout the country, whereas the customs prevailing in this matter differ in different localities; and, secondly, that it is extremely difficult to distinguish between those who ought and those who ought not to receive alms, and that the inevitable consequence of the Law would be an increase of the poor throughout the country. Most of the papers, therefore, recommend leaving the matter to the management of each locality. The *Kokumin Shimbun* suggests the adoption of the system of compulsory saving followed in Germany, thus enabling the poor to help themselves. As to people who cannot be thus relieved, our contemporary recommends them to the charity of private individuals. The *Kokumin* further observes that the members of the Diet are in an embarrassing situation; for if they vote the bill, the Government will get the credit of caring for the poor, while if they reject it, they will be marked by the lower class as wanting in the sentiment of humanity. The only exit from this dilemma, in our contemporary's opinion, is to follow the example of Germany as above stated.

Another bill relating to Barristers has also provoked much unfavourable comment. According to the bill, barristers are to plead before the local Courts of Law for five years before they may practice in the Courts of Appeal, while another term of five years in the latter Courts is required before they can appear before the Court of Cassation. Moreover, they are required to pay 500 yen to have their names registered in the Court of Cassation, 300 yen in the Court of Appeal, and 100 yen in Local Courts. These two features of the bill are the principal points attacked by the papers. They say that the effect of the first provision will be to create a sort of monopoly among the lawyers, which cannot but be extremely injurious to the interests of the general public, while, as to the second provision, the journals fail to see any sufficient reason why barristers should be required to pay such heavy fees, or why the amount of the fee should vary according to the grade of courts of law. Another provision to which objection is raised, is that of the 45th Article, by which barristers already in practice are allowed the special privilege of having their names registered in any kind of courts they may choose, without having conformed to the above mentioned restrictions as to the term of practice in special courts of law or any other restrictions mentioned in the 8th Article. If it be really the object of the new law to improve the status of barristers, then nothing—the papers say—could be more injudicious than to give such a privilege to present barristers, for, the standard of examination having been formerly much lower than at present, there are many among those now in practice who do little honour to their profession.

The *Kokkai* takes the lead in discussing questions which bear either directly or indirectly on Japan's prestige abroad. We notice in a series of essays the racy and picturesque style of Mr. Shiga, one of the co-editors of the *Nippon-jin*, who was recently engaged on the staff

of the *Kokkai*. There is a lengthy article on Korea, which, however, we need not reproduce here, as it is substantially the same as an essay recently alluded to in these columns in reviewing the *Nippon-jin* of the 25th ultimo. Speaking of Japan's diplomatic officials, our contemporary recommends a thorough change of personnel in order to secure better efficiency. Speaking of the island of Saghalien, to which the attention of the Japanese people has recently been attracted by the report that Russia had established there six new convict stations, our contemporary advises the nation to turn its attention more to the north-eastern shores of the Korean peninsula, where the Northern Eagle is waiting for a favourable opportunity to fly at its prey. The *Nippon-jin* also directs the attention of its readers to the important strategical situation of the island of Rishiri off the Province of Teshio in Hokkaido. There is a fine harbour on the north-eastern part of the island, capable of giving safe shelter to ships of war. Wonder is expressed at the indifference which manifested by the nation to an island of so much importance. Writing on the seal fishing in the neighbourhood of Chishima (Kurile Islands), the same paper strongly recommends the authorities to send up a war vessel to protect the interests of the Japanese engaged in the business. There are now only three Japanese vessels engaged in the seal fishing, all belonging to the Japanese Marine Products Company. The Government is further advised to establish convict stations on these islands as a means of opening up communications between the capital and the outlying frontiers of the Empire. Writing on the Siberian Railway, the *Kokkai* assures the Japanese that, important as the opening of the line is from a commercial as well as a military point of view, there is nothing which justifies the extraordinary apprehensions apparently entertained by a section of the nation as to the effect of the completion of the line on the position of Japan vis-à-vis Russia. For the track being narrow, the line single, and many of the rivers and lakes which connect it being frozen during the greater part of the year, it would not be an easy task to despatch any large bodies of troops over such a road to so great a distance.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* continues its essay on the deficiencies of the country. Our contemporary writes of the insufficiency of the navy for the protection of the country. It then passes on to consider the question as to which ought to be principal and which auxiliary in the defence of the Empire, the Army or the Navy. It concludes that the Army should be principal, but that does not prevent the *Mainichi* from advocating the importance of giving attention to the naval equipments of the country. It considers the Navy to be at present utterly insufficient to do its work in the event of a foreign invasion. The *Kokkai* also devotes a long article to the discussion of the augmentation of the Navy, and heartily supports the project said to be contemplated by the Naval Authorities.

The *Hochi Shimbun* has published two essays from Mr. Sawai and Mr. Ishibashi proposing to employ an electric apparatus for the purpose of taking votes in the Houses of the Diet. The two plans slightly differ, but it is very curious that the *Hochi Shimbun* received the two essays almost simultaneously, as if each had known of the other's intention. The *Hochi* advises these scientific experts to complete their apparatus, and hopes that the Diet will adopt the new mechanism.

The *Jiji Shimpō* has commenced an extremely interesting series of articles on the future prospects of parliamentary institutions in Japan. The *Choya Shimbun* writes on several constitutional subjects, especially with reference to the Budget. The *Nippon* devotes several articles to the discussion of the question of party organization in Japan, and remarks that the time has arrived for the formation of true parties.

MR. MORI TOKINOSUKE AND THE DIET.

THE judgment delivered by the Tokyo Criminal Court in the case of MORI TOKINOSUKE, one of the members of the House of Representatives for the City of Tokyo, has been published. It runs as follows:—

Mori Tokinosuke, *shisoku*, occupation farming, of No. 179, Nippori-mura, Kitatoshimagori, Tokyo City, aged 58 years and 8 months, is arraigned at the instance of the Public Prosecutor on a criminal charge of unlawfully making away with funds entrusted to his keeping, according to the finding of the magistrates at the preliminary examination. The judgment of the Court is that the said Mori Tokinosuke, while he held the office of President of the Sixtieth National Bank and had control of the property of that Bank, received, on the 2nd of July in the 20th year of Meiji, while travelling in Fukushima Prefecture, the sum of six hundred yen on account of the said Bank from its Wakamatsu Branch, and instead of employing that money for the purposes of the Bank, expended it for his own use. Further, the Court finds that the accused, Mori Tokinosuke, while holding the office of President of the said Sixtieth National Bank and having control of the property of the Bank, did, on the 3rd of July of the 22nd year of Meiji, when visiting the Yamagata Branch of the said Bank, receive by process of transfer account and expend for his own use the sum of 2,530 yen, then lodged in the Seventy-second National Bank, in current account, to the credit of the said Mori Tokinosuke, being the proceeds of a portion of the property of the Seventy-second National Bank of Sakata which had been purchased by the Sixtieth Bank in the name of the accused. These facts are fully proved by the evidence of the complainants Takahashi Steroku and another; by the results of a search conducted at the residence of the accused; by the testimony of the referees Murakami Mitsuo, Miura Tokujiro, Okabe Yeiiji, Tsuge Katsuya, Shibata Kat-uhumi, Toki Yasuaki, Uyeda Meitetsu, and Mori Shozayemon; by the exhibits Nos. 2, 9, 14, 17, 20 to 25, and 27 to 33, produced by the complainants; by the letter of Okabe Yeiiji addressed to the accused; by the deposit notes for the sums of 2,820 yen, 2,530 yen, and 9,749 yen; by the letter of consent given by Honma Kokuo to Sekioka Koji; by a copy of the cash accounts of the Seventy-second National Bank of Sakata, and by the accounts of travelling expenses of the different branches of the Sixtieth National Bank during the presidency of the accused. The above two acts of the accused constitute the offence of illegally making away with funds held in trust, under the provisions of Article 395 of the Penal Code, the first clause of which directly applies to the case, and also under those of Article 100, which applies in respect of the simultaneous discovery of the two acts of fraud, and according to which the penalty is determined by the heavier of the two offences. The accused, Mori Tokinosuke, is therefore sentenced to one year's imprisonment with hard labour.

The documents and books used in evidence shall be returned to those who produced them.

It is further adjudged that the sum of 3,130 yen, being the total of the two sums of 600 yen and 2,530 yen, which is claimed by the prosecutors in the civil action, namely, Tanami Bengo, President of the Sixtieth National Bank, and Nishikawa Kambei, representing the Directors of the said Bank, being the amount unlawfully expended by the accused on the two occasions in question, shall be restored to the said prosecutors by the said Mori Tokinosuke. The costs of the civil suit shall be borne by Mori Tokinosuke.

Delivered on the 5th December of the 23rd year of Meiji in the Tokyo Local Criminal Court, in the presence of the Public Prosecutor Yamamoto Tetsugoro.

(Signed)

IHARA MORITOSHI, Chief Judge.
MOCHIZUKI GENJIRO, Assistant Judge.
HIDESHIMA KOICHI, Assistant Judge.
KOGA TARUICHI, Clerk of the Court.

It will be perceived from the above that MORI TOKINOSUKE was found guilty and sentenced to a year's imprisonment with hard labour on the very day after a motion relating to him was made in the House of Representatives. Now the Law of the Houses, which forms an addendum

to the Constitution, provides in Article 77, that "when a Member of the House of Representatives has lost any of the qualifications of eligibility mentioned in the Law of Election, he shall be considered as retired." Turning to the Law of Election, we find two articles bearing directly on MORI's case. The fourth clause of Article 14 says that persons who have been sentenced to confinement shall be disqualified until three years shall have elapsed since the completion or remission of their sentence; and the 17th Article says that any person against whom a criminal prosecution has been brought, and who is in detention or is under bail, shall be disqualified until the completion of the proceedings. It appears to us perfectly plain that, under these provisions, MORI TOKINOSUKE, on the 5th of December, lost the qualifications necessary for election, and consequently ceased to be a member of the House—became, in fact, "retired." It appears, further, that this was true not only from the 5th of December, but also from the day when MORI's guilt was sufficiently established at the preliminary examination to justify sending him forward to his trial. From that moment he became the subject of a criminal prosecution and his disqualification was established and remained effective until the completion of the proceedings. The proceedings ended, as we have seen, in a sentence of one year's imprisonment with hard labour, and from the time when the sentence was pronounced MORI forfeited his qualifications for an apparent term of four years. Summing up the situation, then, we have these facts, directly deducible from the Constitution and its appended Laws:—first, that a member of the Diet is free from arrest during the Session; secondly, that if he has been arrested and held for trial on a criminal charge while the Diet is not in session, he temporarily forfeits his qualifications and becomes "retired;" thirdly, that being thus retired, he ceases to possess the privileges of a member, and cannot claim the protection of the House to which he has been elected. The interesting point of all this is that, if we accept the provisions of the Laws appended to the Constitution, the motion made by Mr. SUYEMATSU SABURO with reference to MORI TOKINOSUKE is completely disposed of. Mr. SUYEMATSU contended that though MORI's arrest before the House was in session, nay even before it was constituted, might have been lawful, his detention without the House's permission became unconstitutional so soon as the Diet's session commenced. There was no question that the words of the 53rd Article of the Constitution refer, so far as the act of arrest is concerned, only to arrest during the session, and not to arrest before or after the session. This, indeed, goes without saying, for it is obvious that the or-

dinary course of justice cannot be delayed until the Diet assembles to set it in motion. But Mr. SUYEMATSU contended, and the House supported his contention, that the spirit of the Constitution is violated when a member of the Diet is held in detention during a session without the permission of the House to which he belongs. It is impossible to accept this view of the spirit of the Constitution simultaneously with the provisions of law which we have quoted above. Certain circumstances are distinctly enumerated, the occurrence of any of which disqualifies a member, and "retires" him from the House to which he has been elected. If these circumstances occur during the Diet's session, the privilege of freedom from arrest enables the member to temporarily avoid their consequences. But if they occur while the Diet is not in session, and if their disqualifying results become accomplished fact before the Diet assembles, then the member is *de facto* withdrawn beyond the pale of the Diet's privileges. This is precisely what happened in the case of MORI TOKINOSUKE. Arrested on a criminal charge before the Diet assembled, and before the date of its session was fixed, he underwent preliminary examination, and sufficient evidence of his guilt was adduced to warrant the magistrate in remanding him for trial. Then and there he temporarily lost his qualifications of eligibility for membership, and in consequence became a "retired" member, over whose fate the Diet ceased to be able to exercise any control. But here the great question arises—is the Constitution to be interpreted by the light of the Laws accompanying it, or is it to be interpreted by reference to the undoubted spirit of similar charters elsewhere. If we hold that the prime purpose of the 53rd Article of the Constitution is to ensure a member against all interruption at the hands of the Judiciary in the discharge of his parliamentary functions, then the Laws appended to the Constitution and quoted above are in apparent conflict with that purpose. The problem does not lend itself to easy solution. It is undoubtedly a matter for congratulation that the House should show itself jealously watchful of its privileges, and should stoutly resent anything resembling an attempt to ignore or transgress them. But the well wishers of parliamentary institutions in Japan cannot but regret that a question of such difficulty and demanding so large an exercise of dignity, judgment, and self-restraint, should have been offered for discussion by the Diet at the very outset of its career.

FOR OVERWORKED BRAINS USE HORSFORD'S ACID PHOSPHATE.

Dr. ED. T. JOHNSON, M.R.C.S., 121, Rice-lane, Walton, Liverpool, says:—"I have used it with very good results in cases of overtaxed and overworked brains, one in particular, a schoolmaster, where it acted like a charm."

THE SEISMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

THE last volume of Transactions of the Seismological Society of Japan is more than usually bulky, and contains a large number of maps and diagrams. The first essay, by Mr. L. F. BERTIN, describes the double Oscillograph and its employment for the study of rolling and pitching. This instrument is a very pretty contrivance by means of which curves are automatically traced, showing the motion produced in a floating body by the waves. The results obtained are not very remarkable, though decidedly useful to Seismologists, who have to measure waves of terrestrial motion by the aid of similarly traced curves. The second paper is on the "Seiches" of lakes. It is by Dr. F. A. FOREL, and has been translated and communicated to the Society by Professor C. D. WEST. "Seiches" are variations which take place in the level of lake waters. The surface of the lake is observed to rise slowly throughout a period varying from five minutes to half an hour, then to fall, and then to rise again, as though affected by a tide of low amplitude and short duration. They are due to a disturbance produced by atmospheric pressure on one part of the lake, and communicated gradually to the whole body of water: the lake, in fact, is shaken by a storm, and its waters throb just as the water in a basin which has been suddenly tilted. The interesting point about this matter is that Dr. FOREL has succeeded in investigating a formula connecting the time of oscillation of a demi-seiche with the greatest length or breadth of the lake, and the mean depth. Any two of these quantities being given, the third can be found. The accuracy of the formula has been remarkably verified by application to the seiches of Lake George in New South Wales.

We have then a short and clearly conceived description by Professor JOHN MILNE, F.R.S., of the remarkable instrument invented by him for measuring and recording the oscillatory movements of railway trains. Our readers are already familiar with this instrument, but the function that it is destined hereafter to serve in connection with railway travelling seems so important that we reproduce Mr. MILNE'S summary of its capabilities:—

1. As Train Timers.—Inasmuch as vibrations only occur while a train is in motion, portions of a diagram when no vibrations are recorded indicate the time that a train has stopped. The length of these blank spaces shows, in minutes or fractions of a minute, the duration of stoppages. By inspecting a diagram we can determine how long a train was on a given journey, whether it stopped at stations or signals, and from the length of the diagram on a known line it can be seen where the train went quickly and where it went slowly. The train is automatically timed. As the distances between stations are known it is an easy matter to determine average speeds. The speed at any position of a journey requires a mark to be made on the moving band of paper, say at every hundred revolutions of a wheel of the carriage in which the machine is placed. This is done by a simple contrivance now being applied to instruments in Japan. When passing curves, if the train is running at a speed

exactly suited to the cant of the rails, the diagram is written to the right and left of a central line. If it is going too slow, the diagram is written on the left of such a line, but if it is going too fast, or, in other words, if the speed is dangerous, the rollers are thrown outwards and the diagram is written on the right of the central line.

Grades are indicated by the tipping of the fore and aft rollers, and therefore they are shown by deviation to the right or left of the path traced by the writer when on a level track.

2. As the Recorder of the Condition of a Line.—No matter what the speed at which the train is travelling, or in what character of carriage it is placed, any abnormal motions show themselves as excursions on the general diagram. For instance, the jolts at facing points are particularly well marked. Irregularities due to variations in gauge, want of ballast, springy portions of the road, faults in ties or sleepers, irregular motions on bridges,—are all faithfully recorded. Sometimes movements are recorded which cannot be felt by passengers. For example, in crossing the Kawasaki Bridge, on the Tokyo-Yokohama line, it was noticed that on the down track on or about the second span there was always one large vertical movement recorded. The bridge, which is of iron, consists of a number of 100 ft. and a long series of 40 ft. spans. The movement, inasmuch as it could not be felt, must have been of the nature of an easy spring like bending.*

From the long series of diagrams which have been taken in Japan, America, and in England, it is clear that the diagrams give a report on the state of a line, and if these are repeated at intervals they show if changes are taking place.

3. As a Means of Testing Locomotives and Carriages.—For testing locomotives and carriages they should be run under similar conditions over the same line. The diagrams are drawn upon a band of paper running at a rate of about 1 inch per second. The result of this is that the vibrations are drawn out as a series of successive waves; with this diagram before us, we can measure not only the range of motion of any given wave, but also the time taken to describe this wave. Having measured these quantities, it is an easy matter to calculate the suddenness with which each movement commences to be made, and this is a quantity which may be taken as a measure of the jerks which are experienced.

Mr. W. B. MASON contributes a paper, accompanied by carefully compiled tables, demonstrating the importance of elaborating some uniform system of time-keeping for the purposes of seismological observation. At present a signal is sent every day at noon from the Central Telegraph office in Tokyo to stations throughout the Japan. By this means stations on the main circuit obtain accurate standard time, but for stations on branch lines manual operations intervene, and no certainty can be secured. The matter is one of great importance because, without mutually regulated time-recorders, the velocity with which earthquakes travel cannot be determined by direct observation. Following Mr. MASON'S paper is an essay by Professor C. G. KNOTT on earthquake frequency. We learn from this contribution that there is no truth in two notions long entertained, namely, that earthquakes are more frequent during the night than during the day, and that their periodicity is connected with lunar culminations. Mr. N. OTSUKA gives an interesting account of the great earthquake that visited Kumamoto in July of last year, and Mr. J. E. PEREIRA contributes a carefully compiled record of all the earthquakes noted by him in Yokohama from March, 1885, to December, 1889. Then we have an interesting dissertation on earthquakes of non-volcanic origin, by Mr. W. E. FORSTER. It has long

* The cause of this movement has been discovered and the necessary repairs made.

been known, or at least generally surmised, that earthquakes are the result of an underground displacement or explosion. Mr. FORSTER suggests that landslips on the surface of the earth may also be responsible. Dr. KNOTT, commenting on Mr. FORSTER'S theory, put the case very clearly:—

Honey-combed sea bottoms, overhanging ridges, steep descents, and broken contours seem to be a feature of certain seas and oceans; and there certainly landslips will occur from time to time, causing earthquakes throughout the surrounding material. Of course there is the more ultimate question as to the origin of this peculiar structure itself. Probably the crust of the earth is honey-combed and vesicular more or less all through; and it is easy to see that subterranean collapses and landslips might readily enough occur in the more unstable regions, started possibly by a volcanic explosion. We should naturally expect such vesicular structure to be more pronounced in regions that have been or still are volcanic. Every such change of configuration must result in the falling of material to lower levels, that is, if we neglect direct volcanic agency. Mr. Forster considers that, as such material near the surface of the bed of the sea falls in, its place is filled by water, causing a sinking of the sea-level. Hence will result an apparent rising of the land. However true a description this may be of what may be taking place in the Ionian Sea, it would be difficult to apply it generally to the great fact of the increase of land area throughout geological time. The ordinarily accepted view that the sea-level is a steadier surface than the surface of the dry land, and that the continents have risen as the ocean beds have sunk and the ocean channels contracted, is one of those very rational scientific views that took long to penetrate the mind of man; but once there, it will not be easily dislodged.

The remaining portion of the Transactions is occupied by essays by Professor MILNE, who displays the same untiring energy and industry that have always distinguished him. His diagrams of earthquakes recorded at the *Chiri-kyoku* in Tokyo, and his report on earthquake observations made in Japan during the year 1889 show how the Society's debt to him grows continually. More interesting, however, is his essay on the connection between earthquakes and electric and magnetic phenomena. It appears to be pretty well established that the approach of an earthquake is often, if not always, signalled by a strong electric disturbance, sometimes so strong as to break wires or interfere seriously with the transmission of messages. The cause of this curious fact still remains more or less obscure, but Mr. MILNE, with apparent reason, attributes the production of these electrical currents to mechanical motion caused by steam, chemical action, or other agencies in the solid matter of the earth's crust. With regard to atmospheric electricity, however, it is not so easy to arrive at a conclusion, and the same seems to be true, in a still greater degree, of magnetic disturbance. Professor MILNE'S paper is full of suggestions and ideas, and Professor KNOTT spoke truly when he said that "the Seismological Society and science generally are distinctly benefited by Professor MILNE'S peculiar faculty of ever opening up new lines of research." The observations of Professor KNOTT himself, in the discussion provoked by Professor MILNE'S paper, well deserve to be quoted. "There was not the least doubt," he said, "that the Krakatoa eruption had pro-

duced magnetic disturbances; and Professor SCHUSTER's recent discussion of the diurnal variation in the magnetic force at any point on the earth's surface enables us pretty well to explain the effect. It is well known that every day the magnetic needle moves first to this side, and then to that of its mean position. In Tokyo the amplitude of this diurnal oscillation is sometimes as much as 11 minutes of angle. Now SCHUSTER has shown, by an elegant discussion of GAUSS's theory of terrestrial magnetism, that this diurnal change is due to causes above us—electrical currents, say, brought into existence by the sun's action on a heterogeneous atmosphere. In the Krakatoa eruption immense clouds of dust were driven off into the higher atmosphere, and soon drifted round the whole globe, causing the remarkable sunset glows of the autumn of 1883. This dust, shot forth with immense velocity, would almost of necessity be electrified; so that we have the conditions for the existence of a highly electrified cloud of particles drifting along in the upper regions of the atmosphere. Such an electrical movement would have the characteristics of an ordinary electrical current, which might well affect the delicate magnetographs in India and Europe. But such an explanation cannot be applied to earthquakes. Professor MILNE, in his historical sketch, mentioned a hypothesis brought forward by an Italian, which seems capable of development into a plausible enough explanation of a relation between earthquakes and atmosphere electricity. It must be remembered that when we say the air becomes more negative, we might as truly say the earth becomes more positive. It is the *difference* of electrical conditions between the earth and air that is measured. Now any sudden change of state from liquid to aqueous we know to be accompanied by electrical change. Hence an explosion in some earth cavity might easily change the electrical condition of the earth in the vicinity. This electrical change on reaching the surface—it might be a little ahead of the shock—would affect the electrometer. It was, however, too soon, perhaps, to suggest explanations before the facts had been thoroughly established.

THE FATE OF A JAPANESE REFORMER.

MR. PERCIVAL LOWELL'S account of Viscount MORI's fate has no doubt attracted a good deal of attention, having been published originally in a widely circulated magazine, and reproduced by two of the local newspapers of this settlement. It is a prettily written essay. Mr. LOWELL always manages to state his facts or fictions and to advance his theories in an attractive guise. But like many another literary artist, he thinks of his art before everything.

It is in some respects unfortunate to have earned, or to be seeking to earn, the reputation of a picturesque writer. Such a man finds himself more or less in the position of the impressionist painter. His work must be always striking and always subjective; at once sparkling and original. The obligation is onerous, and its fulfilment frequently leads to such a profuse application of colour that the result dazzles and perplexes sober folks. We doubt whether due allowance is made for all this by critics of letters and essays about Japan which appear in Western papers and periodicals. The critic forgets that the first object of the essayist or correspondent is to paint a pen-and-ink picture. It is not a photograph that he seeks to present, but an attractive study. The subjective elements may be as much in excess of the objective as he pleases, provided only that the sum total is pretty and impressive. We do not think of taking Mr. LOWELL seriously when he sets himself to write contemporaneous Japanese history or to dissect Japanese character. A man of his subtle fancy and skilful pen is pretty sure to lay bare some truth and carry some conviction, but after all it is a glimpse of Mr. LOWELL'S mind that we get, not a presentation of things Japanese. The tragic fate of Viscount MORI was precisely the kind of subject that such a writer would be likely to take up, and it must be confessed that from a purely artistic point of view, Mr. LOWELL has not squandered his materials. We doubt, indeed, whether the fitness of things is not a little violated when such a story told in such a fashion, less than two years after the occurrence of the tragedy to which it refers, is committed to the pages of a sober magazine. A volume of semi-historical dramas would more fittingly contain the highly coloured and fanciful picture. As a dramatic work we should have nothing to charge against it except prematurity.

To one feature only of Mr. LOWELL'S conspicuously misleading account does it seem worth while to refer in detail. We mean that part of his picture where the homage paid to the grave of NISHINO BUNTARO is represented. This phase of the tragedy has never been fully comprehended by foreigners. Mr. LOWELL is conspicuously in the dark, and in his own light-hearted fashion he seeks to spread the same pall of misconception over the minds of his readers. He is convinced, or rather the exigencies of his art compel him to seem convinced, that virtually the whole of Japanese society secretly applauded NISHINO'S act, and that a considerable section of the population of the metropolis, not attempting to conceal their admiration, made pilgrimages to the assassin's tomb and burned incense or laid garlands before his sepulchre. Were Mr. LOWELL'S facts correct, the notes of admiration interlining his account would not be misplaced. But facts are dry, unattractive

elements in the eyes of the literary impressionist. Nothing is easier than to analyse the feelings that actuated Japanese Society when the tale of NISHINO'S deed and its results was first told. Mr. LOWELL himself has the materials at hand for such analysis, but does not think of making it. NISHINO BUNTARO was a youth educated as a gentleman. Up to the very eve of his murderous act he had led a life distinguished by more than ordinary traits of filial piety and moral regularity. Not the smallest taint of ruffianism disfigured his record. His family relations showed all the beauty of genuine domestic affection. The letters that he wrote to his younger sister and brother, as well as to his parents, on the threshold of the assassination, were touchingly simple and sincere. Beyond the fanaticism that drove him to shed blood, he was in all details a respectable and well-conducted unit of the population. So too of the purpose to which he sacrificed his life—the faith he had been taught to honour not only as the indigenous creed of his nation but also as the basis of his EMPEROR'S Sovereignty. Finally, he succeeded. Nothing succeeds like success, and nowhere is this truer than in Japan. That a solitary and physically weak youth, armed with nothing better than a kitchen knife, should make his way into the house of a Minister of State and stab to death one of the leading men of the empire, and that the deed should have been so timed as to coincide with the greatest event in Japanese history, the promulgation of the Constitution—here were elements to strike the imagination of any nation. NISHINO became not a hero but a marvel. The distinction is vital. It was clearly drawn by the leading Japanese journals at the time, though the clumsy language of some minor sheets may have created confusion. In any part of the world the burial of such a fanatic would have attracted crowds. In any part of the world, people would have visited his grave. In all this there is nothing surprising. We are far enough now from the event to speak of it without reserve. At the moment, however, there seemed some danger in so speaking of it. For though much of the attention concentrated on NISHINO might be referred to the working of nature's commonest emotions, a portion of it had evident connection with the still lingering creed of feudal times, that any deed of blood might be condoned by the voluntary sacrifice of one's own life. That is a dangerous doctrine anywhere, but especially dangerous in Japan, where the equilibrium between the old and the new has been temporarily disturbed, and where the youths of the country occupy for the nonce an exceptionally irresponsible position. The young men who carried NISHINO'S body to the grave undoubtedly lacked moral ballast. Like Mr. LOWELL himself, they preferred picturesqueness to decorum, and forgot that the new régime

for which they professed to be fighting could not retain its attachment to the old by links such as fanatics like NISHINO forged. But what a mountain Mr. LOWELL constructs out of this mole-hill. His airy edifice is graceful enough, and will doubtless strike the ignorant and thoughtless, but it is a pity that men of his ability should set themselves to mar history instead of helping to make it.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

[VERBATIM REPORT.]

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House of Peers assembled at sixteen minutes past ten o'clock on the 4th instant. The business before the House was, first, the first reading of the Barristers Bill; secondly, the appointment of a Special Committee to consider the Bill; and thirdly, to consider an application for leave of absence presented by Prince Mori of Choshu.

The PRESIDENT, Count (Ito), announced that the House would proceed to consider the Barristers' Bill, and directed Mr. Yashiro, one of the Secretaries, to read the Bill, to which were appended the signatures of the Minister President of State and the Minister of State for Justice.

The Minister of State for Justice, Count YAMADA, who attended in the House to explain the Bill, said:—"The general purpose of this measure is set forth in the explanatory document accompanying it, but I desire to add a few words in order to make the principle of the Bill clearer, and to place you in possession of the object contemplated by its drafters. The Bill is framed for the better carrying out of the purpose underlying the revised system of organization of the Law Courts, and is laid before you in accordance with the fifty-seventh article of the Constitution, which provides that the organization of the Courts of Law shall be determined by law. In order to afford full protection for the person and rights of the subject, it is advisable that trials should be conducted not by a Judge alone, but that the assistance should be afforded of barristers rich in learning and experience and of high moral principles. To secure these essential attributes, to provide adequate means of determining the qualifications of legal practitioners, to guarantee their rights, and to contrive that their conduct shall be exemplary, are objects of national importance, as you all, my Lords and gentlemen, will, I am confident, agree. The details of the measure will be fully explained by the Government's delegates.

Marquis HACHISUKA, addressing the Government's delegates, said:—"I do not now desire particularly to know on what Occidental country's system this Bill has been founded. I wish to go a step farther, and to seek a full explanation of the reasons that have suggested this alteration of the Regulations for Barristers, hitherto in force.

Mr. KATO HIROYUKI:—"I have no doubt that Marquis Hachisuka's enquiry will elicit full reasons for the rescinding of the former Barristers Regulations, and the substitution of the present measure. But I find that the Bill provides for license fees and security money; that, in consequence, barristers practising in the Supreme Court and the Appeal Courts will require considerable funds. Looking at the question from the point of view of one not versed in legal affairs, I am disposed to doubt whether the number of barristers may not be inconveniently reduced by the operation of such a law. In the case of physicians it is possible to form an estimate of how many there should be for a given population, as, for example, one or two to every hundred persons. With barristers the question is doubtless different, but it seems possible that this difficulty may arise. Then again, I am perplexed as to the object of making distinctions in the cost of licence fees for practising in the different Courts, namely, the Supreme Court, the Appeal Courts, and the Courts of First Instance.

The PRESIDENT here reminded Mr. Kato of the limit of time allowed to each speaker.

Mr. KATO continued:—"Will not these distinctions prove vexatious to barristers? What necessity is there for such a classification? If barristers are to be divided according to the rank of the Court in which they practise, will not

a corresponding graduation of importance result? I desire to ask whether any reasons exist for distinguishing between the importance of the various Courts."

Mr. MURATA TAMOTSU:—"I desire to make one inquiry with regard to the Rules of Procedure of this House. The Rules state that at the First Reading of a Bill it shall be read clearly to the House, after which the Minister of State, the delegates of the Government or the proposer of the Bill may offer explanations. It may be owing to my own want of discernment, but this is not clear to me. The rule may be interpreted to signify that at the first reading the members cannot ask the Government's delegates for explanations. But it may also be interpreted to mean that they can ask for such explanations. It does not follow, therefore, that this right is denied to members, but I think that possibly the rule may be construed in the negative sense. Especially am I led to this conclusion by the words of the Minister of State who introduced the Bill, for he said that the details would be fully explained in Committee, from which I infer that these explanations are to be given, not to the House but to the Committee. The truth is that if the intention of the rule is that explanations may be sought by the members in session, there are many points in the Bill concerning which I have opinions to offer, and numerous features about which explanations are desired. Not only this, but in several respects the Bill is unintelligible to me. With reference to these various points I desire to put some questions, but it seems to me that if each member is permitted to prefer any queries he pleases to the Government's delegates at the first reading, much confusion must result. I have therefore refrained up to the present, but since I now observe that in both Houses questions are put to the Government's delegates and answered by them, I venture to ask you, Mr. President, whether it is within the competence of this House to seek further explanations at the present stage."

The PRESIDENT:—"With regard to Mr. Murata's enquiry, the words of the Fifty-sixth Rule are that explanations may be given by the Ministers of State, the delegates of the Government, or the member introducing the Bill. Nothing more is said. I conclude, therefore, that the rule does not contemplate the formulation of detailed inquiries or the holding of minute discussion at this stage. In the Forty-fourth Article of the Law of the Houses it is laid down that a Committee in meeting may, through the President, demand explanations from the delegates of the Government, from which it is plain that the intention of appointing a Committee is to have all the details fully examined, and to subsequently report to the House. It is for the Committee to make a thorough investigation of all the minutiae of a measure. The Bill now before the House has been read, and a general explanation of it has been given by a Cabinet Minister. In accordance, therefore, with the Thirty-sixth Article of the Law of the Houses, the business now before the House is the appointment of a Special Committee."

Mr. MURATA:—"I fully comprehend your explanation, Mr. President. I myself imagined that the rule must be interpreted in the sense you give to it, and your decision confirms my views. It is therefore understood that hereafter questions may not be addressed by members to the Government's delegates at the first reading of a bill. I pass now to another point. You have ruled, Mr. President, that the House should now proceed to elect a Special Committee, and referring to the Rules of Procedure I find it laid down in the first clause of the Thirty-sixth Article that the nine Committee-men shall be balloted for by the members, the voters' names not being written on the balloting papers; while the second clause of the same article provides that, on special occasions, the Committee may be nominated by the President and not chosen by the House. Doubtless the method prescribed in the first clause is natural and proper, but under certain circumstances the alternative method of the second clause may be desirable, and I venture to think that such circumstances exist now. I desire to propose that on this the first occasion of appointing a Special Committee, the task of nominating the Committee be entrusted to the President of the House. My reasons for making this proposition are that the operation of preparing and presenting balloting papers with nine names on each, and the counting of the votes in order to determine who has a majority, will involve a serious loss of time. Farther, the House has only just come together and the members cannot yet possess any intimate knowledge of one another. You, Mr. President, are more favourably circumstanced, and can make a fitting selection. Doubtless as a general rule, the House having been divided into Sections, it would be most convenient that each Section should choose one mem-

ber of Committee, since by that means due consultation and wise selection would be possible within the limits of Sections. But on the present occasion I would propose that you, Mr. President, should make a selection of any members you think fit, and I trust that the House will support my proposition."

Marquis NAKAYAMA:—"I wish to second the proposition made by Mr. Murata, as it seems to me a wise suggestion."

Viscount TORIO:—"I understand it to have been decided that questions cannot be put to the Government's delegates at the first reading of a bill. Such a decision appears to me very incorrect. This House has to be guided by two things only, the Law of the Houses and the Rules of the House of Peers. It is for the delegates of the Government themselves to determine whether or no they will answer questions. They are not obliged to answer, but to rule that questions must not be put at the first reading is very inadvisable. It seems to me that this is a point which concerns the prerogatives of the House. I protest very strongly against its being settled merely by a statement from the President and from the delegates of the Government. This is the first session of the first Parliament held in the Empire. I myself have no questions that I am specially anxious to put to the delegates of the Government, but I hold it to be exceedingly undesirable that a hard and fast decision should be recorded depriving members of the privilege of putting questions to the delegates of the Government at the first reading of a bill, and I have thought it right to bring this point to the notice of the House."

Mr. OKAUCHI SHIGETOSHI:—"It is plain that this point has a grave bearing on the interpretation of the Fifty-sixth Article of the Rules of the Upper Chamber, and that it also involves the question of whether this whole House shall or shall not abide by the rules. I therefore beg to suggest, Mr. President, that you give another distinct ruling. My reason for asking is that, according to my reading of the Fifty-sixth Article, it undoubtedly permits members to put what questions they please to a Minister who has charge of a bill, or the delegates of the Government. This view of mine is confirmed by the fact that, a short time ago, when Marquis Hachisuka and Mr. Kato put questions, the President did not rule them out of order, from which I infer that he did not consider their action a violation of the Fifty-sixth Article. The ruling made in answer to Mr. Murata's query seems to gravely affect the competence of the House. Replying to Mr. Murata's interrogation, the President ruled that questions could not be put, and Mr. Murata accepted the ruling as final. I cannot but think, however, that the Fifty-sixth Article confers the right to put questions, nor am I able to see that it admits of any second interpretation. When the rules were in draft this Article was numbered sixty, and it was amended to read that although members might put questions, they must not raise a debate. But the language was subsequently changed on the ground that the right to put questions did not require to be stated, being a matter of course. If members are puzzled about any point in a bill, it seems essential that they should be at liberty to put questions either to the Minister in charge of the measure or to the delegates of the Government. Of course the brevity or prolixity of a question depends upon the methods of the person putting it, just as the curtness or fullness of an answer is determined by the Minister in charge of the measure or by the delegates of the Government. The privilege of putting questions, the method of putting them, and the manner of answering them, must all, I think, be left uncontrolled. I beg therefore, Mr. President, that you will give the House fuller instructions about the import of the Fifty-sixth Article of the Rules."

The PRESIDENT:—"The member who has just spoken claims that as I did not prevent Mr. Kato from speaking, therefore the privilege of putting questions is accorded by the rules. But it was necessary to understand clearly the purport of Mr. Kato's speech, after which I proposed to state my views, and consequently I suffered the matter to pass for the moment. If this fashion of strict control is to be exercised in the Diet, the dignity of both Houses must suffer seriously. I therefore allowed the discussion to proceed. But when Mr. Murata put the point directly to me, I had no choice but to state my opinion. I do not wish to be understood as ruling that under all circumstances the questions referred to are out of order. Being asked to explain how I, as President, interpret the Article, I gave my view of the matter. It is in my province to do so. The Tenth Article of the Law of the Houses provides that the President of each House shall maintain order therein, regulate the debates, and represent the House outside its pre-

cincts. Again, the Hundred and forty third Article of the Rules of this House lays down that the President is competent to decide points of order. In the exercise of these powers I have declared my opinion. The speeches of Viscount Torio and of Mr. Okouchi have been delivered after my ruling that the business before the House is the election of a Select Committee. The matter had better rest there for the moment. With regard to Mr. Murata's proposal in relation to the election of a Committee, since it has been duly seconded, I purpose to proceed now with the business of election.

Mr. SHIMAUCHI TAKESHIKE said:—"I, too, Mr. President, desire to express my opinion about this matter of questions. The Minister of State for Justice has given us a general explanation in his speech, and further particulars are furnished in the explanatory document accompanying the Bill, but there are still many points that I do not fully understand. I should have liked to put questions about the most important of these points and to receive an explanation, for though there is to be a Special Committee to inquire into the details of the measure and to report to the House, I fear that we shall not by that process arrive at a thorough comprehension. It is doubtless an excellent plan that a Committee should be appointed to inquire into the details of the Bill, and indeed it is not probable that the members, were they allowed to put questions to the officials having charge of the Bill, would be ready to pronounce an immediate opinion. But it seems to me most desirable that liberty should be accorded to put brief questions of a general character and to receive explanations. The questions I should like to put are not long. I merely wish to know whether this Bill has been framed upon a foreign model, and whether in Western countries—"

The PRESIDENT:—"As I have already announced that the business before the House is the election of a Special Committee, I must ask you, Mr. Shimauchi, to postpone the remainder of your remarks."

Mr. SHIMAUCHI:—"Is it not permissible to express my opinion at present?"

The PRESIDENT:—"In the exercise of the powers vested in me for the purpose of preserving order and regulating the debates in the House, I have already announced that the business now in hand is the election of a Special Committee, and I must beg your attention to my ruling."

Mr. SHIMAUCHI:—"It is my opinion that by permitting questions to be put with regard to important points, the President's function of regulating the debates will be facilitated."

The PRESIDENT:—"I have not ruled that you must refrain from expressing your opinion, Mr. Shimauchi, but only that you must postpone doing so."

Viscount MATSUDAIRA NOBUMASA:—"I understand that the question before the House is the election of a Special Committee, and that we are asked to decide whether the election shall be by ballot, or whether the President shall be asked to nominate the Committee. I am opposed to the proposition made by Mr. Murata in the latter sense. I do not think that the nomination should be left to the President. Election by ballot is the course contemplated by the rule under ordinary circumstances. Nomination by the President is an alternative course. I do not like the notion that at the outset of this House's proceedings, we should make celerity our principal object, and for its sake adopt the alternative rule. Already for the sake of despatch we entrusted to our President the reply to the Imperial Message, but in a matter of this kind, it is more proper that our Committee should consist of members chosen by the majority of the House. Experience shows that people are ready to put more or less confidence in work done by their own nominees, but prone to question the work done by the nominees of others. I therefore prefer that the election be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the first clause of Article 36."

Baron WATANABE KYOSHI:—"I entirely agree with the views expressed by Viscount Matsudaira. I do not approve at all of resorting to alternative rules at the commencement of our parliamentary career. It seems to me that the time to resort to abbreviated methods is when the House finds itself confronted by an accumulation of business, and when despatch becomes essential for the sake of getting through work. At this early period of the session, I think that we are bound to follow the full routine prescribed by the rules. I endorse Viscount Matsudaira's view."

The PRESIDENT thereupon called upon the members who approved of Mr. Murata's motion to stand up, but only a minority rose, and Viscount Watanabe's proposal, being then put, was carried.

Mr. MURAKAMI KEISAKU:—"The House being now about to proceed to business under the pro-

visions of Article 56, is it permissible to express an opinion? May members address questions to the Delegates of the Government, or must they abstain from doing so?"

The PRESIDENT:—"The House cannot hear you distinctly. Will you please ascend the rostrum."

Mr. MURAKAMI:—"Marquis Hachisuka and Mr. Kato preferred some enquiries a short time ago under the Fifty-sixth Rule of this House's procedure, and the President ruled that the discussion must be deferred. I desire to put a question on that subject. Mr. Shimauchi propounded some queries, but was stopped by the President as being out of order. It has now been decided that the business before the House is the election of a Special Committee, and it appears to me that the convenience of the House will be best consulted by determining now whether questions can or cannot be put by members to the Government's Delegates at a First Reading."

Mr. YAMAGUCHI SHOHU:—"A good deal of discussion has been raised about the reading of the 56th Rule of the House, despite the fact that the President has given a ruling about the business in hand. I am sorry to trouble the House, but I feel it necessary to speak a few words. The 56th Article says that at the first reading, when the contents of a bill have been clearly read to the House, a Minister of State, the Government Delegates, or the member introducing the bill may explain its object. There the article stops, and passing to the next article, we find it provided that at the conclusion of the process described in the preceding article, the bill, whether it emanated from the Government or in the House, should be entrusted to a Committee. In accordance with these articles, the President has already ruled that the business before the House is the election of a Committee, but in the face of this ruling a discussion has been raised by members desiring to put questions in relation to the bill. Now I think it is plain that the privilege of putting questions is neither withheld nor granted by the latter of these Articles, but it appears to me that if we consider the spirit of the Articles they must be held to interdict such questioning. Provision is made for the putting of any number of questions in Committee, but the House is not the place to put such questions at this stage. As to whether they ought to be put in Committee or in the House, if they are preferred in the House, Mr. Murakami—"

The PRESIDENT:—"If you are about to speak at length, please come to the rostrum."

Mr. YAMAGUCHI:—"It is unnecessary."

The PRESIDENT:—"Then I have to warn you."

Mr. YAMAGUCHI:—"I will say nothing more, Mr. President."

The PRESIDENT:—"The House will proceed to elect a Committee. It will be well perhaps to remind you that the rules of Procedure were determined by the House itself, and the President equally with the members has to obey Rules thus enacted. The 86th article says that the interpretation of the rules rests with the President. In the exercise of the authority thus vested in me, I have replied to queries put by members. I bring this to your notice, as I am anxious that I should not be supposed to have acted in excess of the powers entrusted to me. We now proceed to the business of election as already determined. Has the House any opinion to offer with regard to the number of the Special Committee?"

Viscount MATSUDAIRA NOBUMASA:—"I propose that the number be twice nine, namely, eighteen. Nine is no doubt a convenient number, but as Mr. Murata has explained, the members have not yet any thorough knowledge of each other's qualifications. I think therefore that two members from each Section would form a suitable and convenient Committee. As a general rule one member from each Section would suffice, but since want of mutual knowledge renders selection difficult, I propose that the Committee consist of two members from each Section, or eighteen in all."

Mr. OKAZAKI SABURO:—"With regard to this discussion about the number of the Committee, I am of opinion that nine will be sufficient. You do not ensure greater accuracy of investigation by bringing together a greater number of persons to conduct the inquiry. I think that even nine is too many. The Thirty-sixth Article gives nine as a minimum below which we cannot reduce the Committee. I propose that we adopt that number, and I trust that the House will accept my view. I think there is a slight error in the statement just made by Viscount Matsudaira. He has probably thought of a process of election similar to that hitherto pursued by the Sections, namely, balloting for one name at a time. But if the Sections have to choose two members each, as is the case in electing a Committee, you are not likely to obviate the difficulty of mutual ignorance by making each member write two names on his balloting paper instead of one. Of course if you do not care what

time you devote to the business, you can vote for one name at a time, but I see no necessity for that, and I therefore propose that we make the number nine, as provided in the Thirty-sixth Article. I trust that the House will approve my suggestion."

Mr. SHIMAUCHI TAKESHIKE:—"I am of opinion that eighteen is a better number, and therefore second Viscount Matsudaira's proposal. I shall state my reasons for this view, because otherwise I should not be doing justice to Viscount Matsudaira's suggestion. Since it is not provided that the Committee, whether nine or eighteen, must be chosen from the whole House, we may assume that it must be elected from among and by the Sections. Now if we could be sure of having good men only from each Section, then we might be content with the small number of nine. But if there happens to be one incompetent member among so few, the thoroughness of the Committee's investigation may be impaired. I therefore support the motion for a Committee of eighteen."

Mr. MURAKAMI KEISAKU:—"I shall vote for Mr. Ozaki's proposal, and I trust that the method of balloting prescribed in Article Thirty-six will be adopted, namely, that each Section shall choose one member, and that the Committee shall consist of nine."

Mr. YAMAGUCHI SHOHU:—"I am in favour of adhering to the Rule and electing nine Committee-men. My reason for opposing Viscount Matsudaira is that if we are to elect eighteen members we shall be obliged to give the whole day to the task. It is a matter of arithmetic. There are two hundred and fifty-two members present, and even if they elect only nine Committee-men they will have to write 2,268 names, and these names will afterwards have to be read over and their votes reckoned up. Do what we may we shall have to devote the greater part of the day to this task, and for that reason I think that the proposal made some time ago by Mr. Murata ought to have received more consideration from the House. That, however, cannot now be helped. But as the House is commencing its first session I think that, apart from the question of time, the letter of the rules should be adhered to as strictly as possible. If there were any imperative reason for electing eighteen members, the case would be different, but since there is not, let us follow the rule and elect nine Committee-men. It is enough, too much indeed, that we should spend a whole day over such a task."

The PRESIDENT:—"What does the House think? Would it not be better that the voting should proceed without prolonging this discussion? Of course it is for the House to decide. It is merely a question of wasting time."

Viscount NAGAOKA MORIYOSHI:—"Let us settle the matter at once."

The PRESIDENT:—"Then I will ask those who approve of Viscount Matsudaira's proposal to stand up."

(A minority rose.)

The PRESIDENT:—"The proposition is not carried. We proceed—"

Count HIGASHIKUZE:—"Mr. President."

The PRESIDENT:—"Have you a question to ask?"

Count HIGASHIKUZE:—"I understand that we are about to proceed with the ballot. It will take a long time and carry us considerably past noon. It is very nearly twelve o'clock now. Perhaps it would be better that the House should postpone the ballot until one o'clock, or half-past twelve. I beg to suggest that course."

The PRESIDENT:—"I adopt the suggestion as to the ballot. It will be postponed until the afternoon. But as there is still some time before noon I call upon Mr. Murata."

Mr. MURATA:—"I did not say anything just now, but I was much surprised at the idea of appointing an even number of Committee-men. Unless a Committee consists of five, nine, or some uneven number, it may be equally divided on any question, and the result would be embarrassing. It has always been the habit to make Committees consist of an odd number of members, and I trust that a custom dictated by experience will not be departed from in future. That was all that I wished to say."

Mr. OKAZAKI SABURO:—"Count Higashikuze suggested just now that as it is nearly noon the House had better adjourn until after luncheon. It is within the competence of the President to decide such a question, and if the balloting which we were on the point of undertaking must be deferred until the afternoon, nothing more need be said. But it still wants forty-five minutes to noon, and I cannot see any necessity for taking so long a recess. I propose, therefore, that arrangements for the balloting be commenced at once. There is other business which I wish to bring before the House, but I have postponed doing so, and it appears to me unadvisable to devote more than an hour to luncheon."

I would urge the expediency of going on with the balloting. If the House desires to take a recess at once for luncheon, that settles the question, but if there is any doubt about the point, I beg to suggest that the opinion of the majority be taken.

VISCOUNT HIRAMATSU TOKIATSU:—I also trust that the business of balloting will be proceeded with, as Mr. Ozaki suggests.

THE PRESIDENT:—If you desire to have it so, then I revoke the decision made in compliance with Count Higashikaze's suggestion, and we shall proceed forthwith to ballot.

MR. MITSUKURI RINSHO:—As the House is about to ballot, Mr. President, I ask your permission to take my place as a member, though I appear to-day as a Government Delegate.

THE PRESIDENT:—Are you a member of the House.

MR. MITSUKURI:—I am.

THE PRESIDENT:—Then there is no objection.

MR. MITSUKURI proceeded to his Section, and the Secretaries distributed balloting papers. The papers having been collected, the President ordered Mr. Yashiro, one of the Secretaries, to read out the names.

The result of the ballot was as follows:—Mr. Murata Tamotsu (121 votes), Mr. Hozumi Chinchō (121), Mr. Ozaki Saburo (113), Viscount Kano Hisayoshi (95), Mr. Kato Hiroyuki (77), Mr. Okanishi Shigetoshi (67), Mr. Hosokawa Junjiro (63), Viscount Kyōka Kocho (61), Mr. Imamura Waro (57).

THE PRESIDENT:—The above members have received a majority of votes. The names next on the list have received so few votes that it is unnecessary to read them to the House. These nine are therefore elected to form a Special Committee. The next business before the House is an application for about fifty days' leave, on account of sickness, from Prince Mori. According to the Eighty-first Article, leave of absence for more than a week can be granted by the House only, but I presume that it will scarcely be necessary to put this question to the vote. If no member raises an objection, I shall assume that the House is agreed. In the afternoon it will be necessary to elect from among the Committee-men a President of the Special Committee just appointed, after which the Bill will be entrusted to the Committee in accordance with the decision of the House. To-morrow there is no Bill to be considered, and the House will consequently adjourn until the day after to-morrow, the 6th instant, at one o'clock in the afternoon. I now proceed to announce the order of business for that day:—First, an application for leave of absence from Prince Shotai; secondly, the first reading of the Weights and Measures Bill submitted by the Government; thirdly, the election of a Special Committee to take charge of the Bill.

VISCOUNT TORIO:—I desire to make a brief statement of a subject calling for discussion, so that it may be taken whenever the order of daily procedure gives an opportunity. A law, of which I do not recall the number at this moment, has been promulgated fixing the penalties to be imposed for breaches of Ordinances. In my view that law is distinctly contrary to the Constitution. The Seventy-sixth Article of the Constitution says that "existing legal enactments, such as laws, regulations, Ordinances," or by whatever names they may be called, shall, so far as they do not conflict with the present Constitution, continue in force." It appears to me, judging by this Article, that if the Constitution is to have any force, any law conflicting with it must cease to be operative so soon as the Diet is opened. The Ninth Article of the Constitution says that "the Emperor issues or causes to be issued the Ordinances necessary for the carrying out of the laws, or for the maintenance of the public peace and order, or for the promotion of the welfare of his subjects," and it may be that the Government, regarding the law to which I refer as issued in accordance with the provisions of this Ninth Article, considers it to be in accordance with the Constitution. But if the law be put into operation, it will conflict with the Constitution, and the Government will be in the position of having enforced a law opposed to the Constitution. That would be a very serious matter, and before it happens—

THE PRESIDENT:—Are you making a representation, or in what sense are your remarks preferred?

VISCOUNT TORIO:—I propose to make a representation, and I desire to have my intention included in the orders of the day.

THE PRESIDENT:—Do I understand that you wish to make a representation to the Government?

VISCOUNT TORIO:—Certainly. I purpose making a representation and also bringing the question before the House. I shall also propose an amendment of the law to which I refer, so that it shall no longer be in conflict with the Constitution:

THE PRESIDENT:—In that case I refer you to the Fifty-third Article of the Rules of the House, where it is provided that if a member wishes to bring in a bill relating to laws, or to make an address to the Emperor or a presentation to the Government, he must hand to the President a draft of his proposal, together with a statement of his reasons, signed by the prescribed number of supporters, whereupon the President shall cause these documents to be printed and copies handed to each member. It will be necessary to conform with that procedure.

VISCOUNT TORIO:—I shall do as you direct.

THE PRESIDENT:—The House will now adjourn. The House rose at 1.49 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The debate opened at 55 minutes past 1 o'clock p.m. on the 4th inst. The business before the House was, first, the case of a member of the House arrested before the session, and kept in jail after the session had been commenced (motion by Suyematsu Saburo); secondly, the election of a committee for determining the qualifications of members.

THE PRESIDENT:—I have to report to the members that according to a notice from the Minister President of State, Mr. Shirane Senichi, Vice-Minister of Home Affairs, acting as the Government's Delegate for the Poor Laws Bill ("please speak louder, Mr. President") and Mr. Mitsukuri Rinsho, Doctor of Law, and Vice-Minister of the Judicial Department, as Government Delegate for the Barristers' Bill, will attend in the House. I have also to report that two members, Messrs. Hoki Hatsu and Chiba Teitaro, have not come up to Tokyo on account of illness, and that Mr. Mori Tokinosuke does not attend on account of being in jail. I also wish to draw the attention of the gentlemen of the Standing Committee to the duty of electing a Chairman of Committee, which is a matter of urgency.

MR. SUYEMATSU SABURO:—I learn that there was a notice from the Minister of State for Justice with reference to Mr. Mori Tokinosuke's being kept in prison. I request that the notice be read.

THE PRESIDENT:—In accordance with the request of Mr. Suyematsu, the notice from the Minister of Justice will be read by the Chief Secretary.

MR. SONE, the Chief Secretary, reading:—"To Mr. Sone Arasuke, chief Secretary of the House of Representatives. I give you notice that Mori Tokinosuke, an elected member of the House of Representatives, is now under trial and in jail in the Local Court of Tokyo, being charged with unlawfully making away with articles entrusted to him. 24th November, 23rd year of Meiji. (Signed) Count Yamada Akiyoshi, Minister of Justice."

MR. SUYEMATSU KENCHO:—Before the debate commences, I wish to make a statement about the orders of the day. Have I permission to do so?

THE PRESIDENT:—Is it solely about the routine of procedure that you wish to speak, Mr. Suyematsu?

MR. SUYEMATSU KENCHO:—Yes; I have no other point to discuss.

MR. SUYEMATSU SABURO:—As I am to open the debate, I beg to express the hope that the member may be permitted to speak if his object is to discuss the orders of the day only.

MR. SUYEMATSU KENCHO:—What I have to say refers to the procedure as daily announced. In the notice I find a simple mention of the fact that a member is detained in prison. I am unable, therefore, to comprehend what sort of motion is to be made. As the subject of the motion is not recorded, it is impossible to form any opinion either in favour of or against it. The notice may suffice on this occasion, but with such a vague record there is no advantage gained by giving an intimation beforehand. In future, I propose that the subject of each motion be recorded in the daily statement of business. Also with reference to the Committee for Qualifications, it is simply recorded that a Committee is to be elected. But there must be somebody to make the motion. Unless the name of the mover is given, the orders of the day will not effect their purpose.

THE PRESIDENT:—In the preceding session, Mr. Suyematsu Saburo made a motion, which was seconded. I call upon Mr. Suyematsu Saburo to open the debate to-day.

MR. SUYEMATSU ascended the rostrum and said:—I made a motion at the last session, and was directed to send in the subject of the motion to the Chief Secretary. I did so. It is contained in the orders of the day. But as no precise statement of the motion is given, Mr. Suyematsu Kencho's objection seems quite reasonable. I think it better to read my proposal first, and then to speak to it. I will first read my proposal, then give an ex-

planation, and finally state my views, which I hope you will endorse. My motion is that the member of the House of Representatives—

MR. OYE TAKU:—Reading to the House is against the regulations. I hope the member will be stopped.

MR. SUYEMATSU SABURO:—The duty of keeping order rests with the President. If three hundred persons all undertake to regulate the meeting, it will be impossible to have any approach to order. You say that the reading of a proposition is not admissible. Do you then say that Bills cannot be also read? What I am doing now is the same as reading a bill, for I am reading to the House a proposal upon which it has to decide. Where is there any regulation forbidding such a proceeding? I ask for the decision of the President. If you insist on stopping my reading, I should like to know by what regulation you do so. It seems to me very singular that such an opinion should be advanced by a member. If we are forbidden to read we can of course resort to speaking, but it suits my convenience to read, and whether to read or speak is strictly within my right.

MR. YAMADA TOJI:—I think that reading should be stopped according to Art. 112 of the Rules of the House.

THE PRESIDENT:—It is my ruling that according to Article 112 of the Regulations an opinion or explanation cannot be read, but a matter for purposes of reference or report may be read.

MR. SUYEMATSU SABURO:—I consider this restriction very inconvenient, but I bow to the President's decision for the moment.

MR. SUYEMATSU KENCHO:—I disagree with the objection just made, and ask the President to permit the reading. This is a matter affecting the rights of members. There is no reason why a proposition, equally with a bill, may not be read. In my opinion, any written proposal, that is to say, a document containing matter to be decided by the House, can be read. Indeed, it ought to be read, because should there be occasion to amend the words of the proposal, accuracy of amendment would be out of the question if a mere verbal statement had to be depended on. Therefore a proposal, equally with bills to be considered by the House, should be read. A motion is always required to be made in writing and that fact alone points to the natural consequence, namely, that it should be read. I urge this point, as it touches the privileges of members of the House.

MR. TANIMOTO MICHIOYUKI:—Article 112 cannot be altered. We should be controlled by the Rules of Procedure. It is not proper to alter them so suddenly, without sufficient cause. The reading should be forbidden in accordance with Article 112.

MR. OKA JIRO TARO:—I second the opinion of Mr. K. Suyematsu. Art. 112 refers to an opinion or explanation. I consider that there is no objection to reading a proposal.

MR. YAMADA TOJI:—The President just now—

THE PRESIDENT:—Wait a minute. I ask Mr. Suyematsu whether he means to say that what he is about to read is neither an opinion nor an explanation.

MR. SUYEMATSU KENCHO:—It is neither an opinion nor an explanation.

THE PRESIDENT:—With regard to the reading of an opinion or explanation, the provisions of Article 112 of the Regulations are conclusive. Mr. Suyematsu Kencho's motion to allow the reading of the resolution has been seconded. I will put the question to the House without debate. Those who are in favour of allowing the reading will stand up.

(At this point some confusion ensued, and members called out that they did not understand.)

MR. TAKATA SANAYE:—According to the regulations of debate, more than one person at a time is not allowed to speak. But now Mr. Suyematsu is in the rostrum, while other persons are making speeches, and the President calls for a division. This is incomprehensible. I think that Mr. Suyematsu should resume his seat.

THE PRESIDENT:—I repeat my request that those who are in favour of Mr. Suyematsu's motion for allowing the reading will stand up. (Renewed cries of "I don't understand.")

The majority rose.

THE PRESIDENT:—I find that the majority has voted in favour of the motion. (Here a member protested against the decision as illegally taken.)

MR. SATAKE GIWA:—Mr. Suyematsu Saburo was not in his seat but remained standing where he is now, when the question was put to the vote. Is that correct?

MR. SUYEMATSU SABURO:—Where is the law that I should not have stood here?

MR. SATAKE GIWA was proceeding to discuss the point, when he was interrupted by cries of "Order."

THE PRESIDENT:—Mr. Suyematsu Saburo.

Mr. SUYEMATSU SABURO:—Shall I continue my address?

The PRESIDENT:—Yes. You may read your resolution.

Mr. SUYEMATSU SABURO:—I have at length received permission to read my proposition as I wished to do. I do not wish it to be understood that without reading it I could not have spoken, but as I have the right to read it I was about to do so when the President stopped me. The House, however, has supported my view, and I proceed to read:—"A member of the House of Representatives arrested before the House is in session cannot be kept in arrest after the session commences without the permission of the House." That is my motion. You are acquainted with the provisions of the Fifty-third Article of the Constitution. I might read it to you for purposes of reference, but it is unnecessary to do so, since you all know that it says that the members of both Houses shall, during the session, be free from arrest, unless with the consent of the House, except in cases of flagrant delicts or of offences connected with a state of internal commotion or with a foreign trouble. A case directly connected with this Fifty-third Article presents itself for your consideration. I imagine you have heard about Mr. Mori Tokinosuke, one of the members for the City of Tokyo. As you were informed by the notice just read by the Chief Secretary, the Minister of State for Justice reports that Mr. Mori Tokinosuke is imprisoned on a charge of unlawfully making away with property entrusted to him. The notice is dated the 24th of November, and addressed to the Chief Secretary, who was then Acting-President. This affair seems to me to gravely affect the privileges of the House. I consequently sought to make it the subject of a motion on the 25th ultimo, but was not allowed to do so. Not only was I ruled out of order by the Acting-President, but the majority of the House supported his ruling. I confess that this caused me much surprise. I deemed it very strange that this House should thus, of its own accord, surrender its privileges, but of course the voice of the majority silenced me. And now again when I renewed my motion of the 25th, I was stopped by the President, so that only at the present moment, a week after the opening of the Diet, I am enabled to bring this most important question before the House. The sin of such delay does not rest with me. Possibly the annals of the House will record that the crime is not mine but that of another member. I have become an object of suspicion in connection with this motion. Some petty persons say that I am acting in Mori Tokinosuke's behalf, or that I have been asked by his friends to contrive his release from prison. I have heard that something of the kind has appeared in the public press. There can scarcely be any necessity to dispel that suspicion. All those who have any knowledge of me will easily understand that I am not such a member of the Diet as these imputations indicate. Nevertheless, to remove all question, I wish to tell the House that I have never met Mori Tokinosuke but once.—(Cries of "Never mind that.") It is not for members to cry "Never mind that." The President alone is entitled to do so. Such a proceeding is allowed in provincial assemblies, but not by the rules of this House. I have only met Mori once. I have had no intercourse with him, not even of a political nature. If you ask me why I make this motion, I reply that it is not for the sake of Mori Tokinosuke, but because Mori Tokinosuke is a member of this House. It is within the privilege of this House to permit or not to permit his detention. What course do you purpose taking, gentlemen, about your privilege? This question I wish to propound, and I have also to remind you that it is a question of great importance. You know that the Fifty-third Article of the Constitution says, and you can scarcely doubt that the detention of Mori is a violation of it. I will explain the point more fully. In the first place, it is perfectly clear from the Fifty-third Article of the Constitution that a member cannot be arrested during the session without the permission of the House. Some, however, will perhaps say that a member may be arrested before the Session commences, or that, if arrested before it commences, he may be held in custody afterwards. Now I think that before the Diet was called into existence, and consequently before its permission could be given or refused, the judicial authorities had power to make the arrest. I raise no question whatsoever about the act of arrest. But after the Diet has commenced its session, to keep one of its members in arrest because he was arrested before the session began is to violate the spirit of the Constitution. I do not know whether there be among the members of this House any hairsplitters disposed to rely on the mere verbal question of "before the session" and "during the session," but the spirit of the Constitution is not

that kind of thing. The Constitution says "during the session," and there can be no mistake about its meaning. If there be any question of mistaking the language, what do you suppose the spirit of the Article to be? How do you interpret the spirit of the Constitution that fixes the privileges of the Diet? We have a guide to the spirit of the Constitution. True it is only the view of one person, but it nevertheless enters into the spirit of the Constitution more or less on public principles. I refer to Count Ito's Commentary, which I have here with me, and from which I shall read for purposes of reference. In relation to the 53rd Article it says:—"The two Houses of the Diet cooperate in the important affairs of legislation. Accordingly, special privileges are granted to the members during the session, so that they may maintain an independent position, and be able to discharge their important functions." Of course this interpretation, being that of an individual, cannot be accepted as final, but in my opinion it is the true interpretation, and in accordance with the spirit of the Constitution thus interpreted I seek to preserve the independence of the House and to guard its functions against interference. The Diet has to cooperate with the Legislature, and neither the Executive nor the Judiciary should exercise its power so as to interfere with the Diet's functions. If the opposite view be held, namely, that which relies on the arrest having been effected before the session began, then there will be nothing to prevent the arrest of ten or even fifty leading members of the House during next year while the Diet is not sitting, and their detention pending a decision of the Court of First Instance during the three months of the Diet's session. I do not suggest that any such improper use of the executive power is likely to be made by the present Government, but it is impossible to say what kind of Government would never resort to such an abuse of its authority. To prevent anything of the kind is the purpose of the Constitution.—(Hear, hear.) If the other view be held, the privileges of this House will be very trivial. We shall always have to be watching the Executive, and living in apprehension that this or that may happen. I do not suppose that any member of this House will interpret the article in such a sense. I should be greatly surprised to find that there is any such member. Without entering into any minute argument to controvert the opposite view, I am entirely persuaded that very few members will be disposed to rely upon the mere phraseology "during the session." At the same time, some may say that the Constitution is not clear; that it contains nothing to forbid the continued detention of a member arrested before the Diet came into session; and that some addition to or amendment of Article 53 should be made. This is practically the same view. The contention that the Constitution ought to be amended and a supplementary law passed, is not unreasonable in its way, but I am persuaded that no necessity for anything of the kind exists in a case like the present. What we have to do in interpreting the Constitution is to consider its spirit before everything. I do not think we shall be wrong if we make the spirit of the charter, and the spirit alone, our guide. It is not written in the 53rd Article that members shall be free from arrest before the session commences, and on this negative evidence an argument in support of such arrest may be based. But it would be an argument opposed to the spirit of the Constitution. That spirit, as I have explained already, is perfectly clear, and I do not imagine that those opposed to my view will be able to found any contention on the mere text of the 53rd Article. It is perhaps unnecessary that any precedents from the annals of foreign countries should be cited before this Imperial Diet, but I may nevertheless be permitted to lay before you one or two pertinent examples. France being a republic, its administrative methods may be very different from those of our country, but this point is distinctly provided for in the 14th Article of the French Constitution of 1875. Again, in the 84th Article of the Prussian Constitution of 1850, it is laid down that a member arrested while the Diet is not in session, must be released if the Diet in session requires his presence. In the Austrian Constitution it is provided that even if a member be undergoing a term of imprisonment, he must be conducted to the Diet on the latter's demand. There are examples are sufficient for my purpose, and I do not doubt that fuller examination would furnish others. The spirit of the Constitution being such, and the precedents contained in foreign annals being as I have described, I am entirely persuaded that the privileges of this Chamber are deeply concerned in the decision we arrive at. Moreover, it is not I alone who entertain this view. I have heard privately

that in the Government itself similar representations have been made. I do not purpose to let the matter pass with this attack. The privileges we possess as members are not of such a trivial character that we can stop here, no do I think that the members assembled in this Chamber are the sort of men to adopt such a course. I take it upon myself to tell you that the question you have to decide is whether a member arrested before the Diet assembles can or cannot be detained in custody after the Diet is in session, without its permission. You have heard read the notice sent by the Minister of State for Justice, and you have learned that the arrest took place under magisterial authority. I do not profess to have any suggestion to offer as to the course that should be pursued with respect to that. I merely point out its practical bearing, namely, that this House is distinctly competent to give or withhold its consent for the continued detention of its members. This is no party question, gentlemen. We are members of the Imperial Diet, and as such we have privileges. Whatever may be the political opinions of the party to which I belong, whatever may be your political opinions, we have to forget parties and politics and remember that this is a matter affecting the privileges of our whole body. I pray you to consider it fully, and to give me your support. If you decide that the arrest cannot be continued, then with regard to the steps which ought subsequently to be taken, my opinion is that the House should convey, through the President, an intimation to the Minister of State for Justice, requiring the release of the member. Probably this will lead to the member's release by the Department of Justice. But without assuming that, the House will have to decide whether it will give or withhold its consent to continued detention. This, of course, is only my own view of the proper procedure. Doubtless the House will have opinions of its own as to this latter point, and I trust that after they are made known, a decision will be come to. I have only to ask you to support my resolution, namely, that although a member may be arrested before the Diet is in session, his detention after the session has commenced violates the privileges of the House.

The PRESIDENT:—Mr. Suyematsu Saburo's motion has supporters, but it has also has opponents.

Mr. HASHIMOTO KIOTARO:—Has it the number of supporters required by the Laws of the House?

The PRESIDENT:—As it is a motion, it can be debated if it has one or more supporters.

Mr. HASHIMOTO:—It must have twenty supporters, I think. Yesterday or the day before, I forget which, Mr. Suyematsu Kencho mentioned (cries of "Order")

Mr. KONISHI JUNNOSUKE:—Judging from the President's statement that Mr. Suyematsu Saburo's motion has supporters and opponents, I am led to doubt whether a matter which had not been duly made a subject of debate has not been included in the orders of the day, and whether Mr. Suyematsu Saburo has not been allowed to ascend the rostrum and speak about it.

The PRESIDENT:—It has already received the support of Mr. Inouye Kakugoro. Mr. Shimizu Sanzo having first signalled to me, I call upon him to speak.

Mr. SHIMIZU SANZO:—I merely wished to say a few words about the orders of the day, much in the same sense as the remarks of Mr. Suyematsu Kencho. I have nothing to offer in opposition to Mr. Suyematsu Saburo's motion.

The PRESIDENT:—I imagined that you intimated your intention of speaking in opposition to Mr. Suyematsu Saburo's motion.

Mr. SHIMIZU:—No, my object had reference to the orders of the day only. I do not oppose Mr. Suyematsu Saburo in that respect, for I have no knowledge of his views.

Mr. OOKA IKUZO:—I do not agree with the views of Mr. Suyematsu, but as they have found no supporters I have kept silence. Since, however, the motion is entered in the orders of the day, I presume that it is a subject of debate, and therefore declare my opposition. But I am not clear about this matter of the orders of the day. Is it necessary that, in order to become a subject of debate, a proposition must have supporters not only when it is entered in the orders, but subsequently also?

The PRESIDENT:—I merely explained that the proposition of Mr. Suyematsu Saburo has the necessary number of supporters to become a subject of debate—supporters originally.

Mr. OOKA:—Then whether it has or has not supporters now, it is a subject of debate, inasmuch as it appears in the orders of the day. Am I right, Mr. President?

The PRESIDENT:—Yes. Mr. Okayama Kane-

kichi has intimated his desire to address the House on the other side. Mr. Okayama.

Mr. OKAYAMA KANZUICHI:—Having received permission to address the House, and having ascended the rostrum for that purpose, I crave your attention, gentlemen, for a few minutes. If I, who ardently support the interpretation given to the Constitution by Mr. Suyematsu Saburo, am nevertheless standing here in the attitude of an opponent, it is because I have good reasons for my action. From the point of view of a proper rendering of the Constitution, not only is the opinion expressed by Mr. Suyematsu perfectly just, but if his reading were not enforced in practice, what would be the result? We are interpreting the Constitution, and the interpretation we give to it will go down to posterity for all ages. For all ages it would stand that a member arrested before the House was in session could be detained in arrest after the House came into session. Were that so, an unprincipled executive might, on the strength of some pretext, cause the arrest of all the members before the session began, and since the Constitution provides no protection, it would be impossible to hold a Parliament at all. To read the spirit of the 53rd Article in that sense, would be to deny any efficacy to the Constitution. Mr. Suyematsu has given a just interpretation, and I deem it incumbent not alone upon us, members of the House of Representatives, but also upon the members of the House of Peers, to maintain that view stoutly, and to establish firmly the privileges of the Diet. I offer no opposition to the correctness of that interpretation. Nevertheless, I hope that you will record your decision against the bringing forward of this motion to-day. I do not, I repeat, question for a moment the correctness of the views advanced by the maker of the motion. It is only in respect of the fact of the motion that I invite your dissent. Mr. Suyematsu endeavoured to raise this question before the House had been duly constituted, and when we were engaged in the business of electing a President and Vice-President. He was restrained from doing so, and he complained that he was improperly restrained. I think, however, that it was quite proper to restrain him in the interval before the Diet was legally constituted. But when the Diet was constituted and he was given the right to speak first, he was obliged by the House to defer the subject, and now two or three days have elapsed since the House was opened for the transaction of business. What are we to say about this interval? If the interpretation given by Mr. Suyematsu to the 53rd Article of the Constitution be accepted, then I think that this House should not have suffered Mori Tokinosuke to remain for three days in the hands of the Judiciary. Even though the question had not been raised, you all, gentlemen, knew about the affair. Yet, so knowing, you took no steps. You made no effort to assert the privileges of the House, and I cannot, under such circumstances, suppose that you interpreted the 53rd Article to mean that a member arrested before the session began might not be detained in arrest after it had begun. A notice was sent to this House by the Minister of State for Justice that Mori Tokinosuke was held in custody. The 53rd Article of the Constitution says "unless with the consent of the House." There are two kinds of consent. There is declared consent and there is tacit consent. For three days you have given tacit consent to the detention.—(Cries of "No, no.") The members who cry "No, no" cannot escape the imputation of having left this vital matter untouched for three days. I do not imagine that we are the kind of people to be guilty of such a singular, such an absurd proceeding. When Mr. Suyematsu first brought this question forward, he had no more ardent supporter than I. But you stopped him, gentlemen, and you therefore stand in the inevitable position of having tacitly consented to the abuse he complained of. Having, then, given your tacit consent already, it seems to me unnecessary that the present motion should be brought forward. If the motion be pressed now, and if it be successful, we, members of the House, cannot escape the disgrace of having lightly suffered this vital question of privilege to remain disregarded for three days. I pray you, gentlemen, to look carefully at this 53rd Article of the Constitution. Mr. Suyematsu has undoubtedly interpreted the spirit of the Constitution correctly, but since this is a question of its practical application, I will read the Article to you:—"The members of both Houses shall, during the session, be free from arrest, unless with the consent of the House, except in cases of flagrant delicts, or of offences connected with a state of internal commotion or with a foreign trouble." You will observe that we have here the words "in case of flagrant delicts." Unless a member is taken, we are told, in *flagrante delicto* he cannot be arrested without the consent of the House. What are we to infer from this phraseology?

The word "to arrest," to "seize" (*torayeru*) does not include the significance of "detention." It refers only to the act of apprehension. The proof is here. If there were any question of detention, then there would have been no occasion to make an exception in respect of flagrant delicts. This, gentlemen, is merely a hasty interpretation derived from the mere wording of the Article. But suppose that the Judiciary does not endorse your view of the spirit of the Constitution, what then? The House must insist upon its decision to the bitter end. If the Judiciary disagrees with your ruling, you will have to go to the House of Peers, and the House of Peers may take the view I have suggested, namely, that as there is mention in the Article of flagrant delicts, the word "arrest" cannot be intended in the sense of detention, but must only be taken to mean the act of seizure. The House of Peers may hold this improper view, and what would then be our next step? We should have to appeal to the Emperor, and if the Privy Council took the same view as the House of Lord we should be utterly discomfited. That we the members of this House, should be discomfited, would not greatly signify, but there would be another result to the controversy, namely, that an unalterable rule would have been established, and that we should have forfeited in perpetuity the privilege for which we contended. We cannot undertake to say that the mistake will not be made of interpreting the 53rd Article according to its exact phraseology. I am a barrister, and have had to deal with questions of this kind in Court. Cases have often come within my experience, where, without referring to the spirit of the law, the meaning of the Chinese ideographs used in translating it has been taken. I do not suppose that anything of the kind would occur in respect of such a grave matter as this, but if it did, we of this House would certainly be inscribed forever in the annals of the Diet as members who took a step that led to the forfeiture of a most important parliamentary privilege. Never to all time could we escape that imputation. It would be most regrettable that members should in future be deprived of this privilege. Having remained silent so long, I think we should be committing an error never to be remedied if we raised this question now. Therefore it is that while I agree with Mr. Suyematsu's interpretation of the spirit of the Constitution, and while I ardently desire to see that interpretation carried into practice, I nevertheless for that very reason ask you to withhold your consent from Mr. Suyematsu's proposition.

The President:—Mr. Nakamura Yaroku.

Mr. SUYEMATSU:—I wish to explain that the word I used was the "consent" (*kyodaku*), not the "permission" (*kyoka*), of the House. Some of the members seem to have understood the latter.

(Here some question was raised with respect to the order in which applications had been made for permission to speak, but the President ruled in favour of Mr. Nakamura Yaroku.)

Mr. NAKAMURA YAROKU ascended the rostrum, but Mr. Inouye Kakugoro, rising in his place, said that he had already given notice of his desire to speak in support of the motion, and, his claim being admitted by the President, he took Mr. Nakamura's place.

Mr. INOUE KAKUGORO—I support Mr. Suyematsu Saburo's motion. My chief reasons for taking this view being the same as those that Mr. Suyematsu has already submitted to you, there is no necessity for me to repeat them. I beg you therefore to take the repetition for granted. The privilege of a member is the privilege of the Diet. The privilege vested in the whole body is the sum of the privileges enjoyed by its units. The members are the representatives of the nation, and upon them devolves the function of consenting to the exercise of the legislative power. If even one of them is deprived of his privileges, the whole Diet is wounded through him. If there is nothing in the Constitution to warrant the detention of Mori Tokinosuke, you will all agree that not a day should be lost in setting him free. If, on the other hand, there is warrant for his detention, then this House desires that its permission for holding him in confinement should be obtained. Mr. Okayama has just told us that, in regard to the rendering of the Constitution, he is at one with Mr. Suyematsu. He agrees that the detention of members without due Constitutional warrant would interfere with the exercise of this House's legislative power. Yet he thinks that as the House has given its tacit assent to the proceeding, there is no help now. This is a mere pretext. The House cannot be said to have given its tacit assent. On the 25th of November, when the Diet first met, I, Inouye Kakugoro, rose and formulated a question about Mori Tokinosuke, but I was ruled out of

order by the Acting-President. Yet again I attempted to bring the matter forward, but again I was prevented on the ground that the Rules of Procedure had not yet been passed. When the Rules were passed, what ensued? Mr. Suyematsu Saburo's motion ensued. Not for a single day did we forget this matter. We never gave our tacit assent. To be told that we did so when we have never done so can only be called a pretext. Mr. Okayama has been a barrister for some time, and has often conducted cases in Court. He has won victories, no doubt, and he has also met with defeats. Frequently when he has lost a suit, he has appealed, and possibly the appeal has not been allowed. It is absurd, he says, to go into a fight when defeat is inevitable. If one keeps out of the fight, one can at least claim not to have been beaten. If one goes into it and is beaten, there is no resource. I confess myself unable to comprehend such talk as that. His words have been entered in the records of the House. He is down as having said that we had better not fight lest we be defeated. Do you think that the reputation of this House can be established for all time by following such a doctrine? Whether victory or defeat be in store for us we have the honour of this House to guard. We shall carry our claim to the Minister of Justice; we shall carry it to the Government; and if we fail with them, we will go on to the Emperor himself. In such circumstances as these we have to remember that we are the representatives of thirty-nine millions of people. To imagine that the honour of this House will be vindicated by suffering it to be entered in the records for all time that we deemed it better to keep silence lest we might suffer defeat, is a notion which I do not believe that any one of the three hundred members of this House approves except Mr. Okayama himself.

Mr. OOKA IKUZO—I am entirely opposed to Mr. Suyematsu Saburo's motion, and in agreement with Mr. Okayama. But I am not going to raise any paltry issue as to whether I endorse or do not endorse Mr. Suyematsu's views. What I have to say to you is that I am a subject of this empire. I am not a foreigner. I cannot consent to have the laws of foreign countries cited as means of determining the laws of Japan. If precedents are to be taken from foreign countries and applied to strengthen the powers given to the Diet by the Japanese Constitution, why should we stop half way in the process? We may carry it farther even than Mr. Suyematsu does. I will show you how. The 53rd Article of our Constitution says that except in cases of flagrant delicts, or of offences connected with a state of internal commotion or with a foreign trouble, a member must not be arrested during the session. But in the French Constitution no exception is made in respect of such offences. No offence, light or serious, can make a member liable to arrest during the session without the consent of the Chamber. If we are to adopt Mr. Suyematsu's idea; if we are to say so and so is the case in France, such and such is the fashion in Austria, and if we are to apply these precedents in Japan, why not go a step farther—

Mr. SUYEMATSU (loudly)—I never spoke of "applying"—(cries of "Silence" and "No one but the President has a right to interrupt the speaker.")

Mr. OOKA—I stand here by permission of the President, and I have a right to express my opinions fully. Laws are not to be interpreted by such methods, and we have no business to apply to our own laws precedents drawn from foreign countries. I am persuaded that you will agree with me in this. Mr. Suyematsu put various arguments before you, and so did Mr. Inouye. I shall refer to the principal of them only. You have been told that in Count Ito's Commentary the expression "not to be arrested during the session" is employed, and on the strength of that, or of some other statement of members of the House of Peers, an interpretation has been offered to you. But if you go to the root of the matter it is this. A thousand years, hence—a long time, that, gentlemen—a thousand years hence we may have a very wicked Executive, and it may happen that five or six days before the meeting of the House, twenty or thirty of its most powerful members, opponents of the Government, will be arrested and detained on some criminal charge, so that the independence of the Diet will be an impossibility. That, gentlemen, I think, is the principal point that has been hammered into your heads by the supporters of this motion. Gentlemen, the proposer of the resolution did not tell you so himself, but I suspect that he is the victim of a foreign bugbear. In France, Napoleon did so and so; somewhere else, such another affair occurred. By these events he is governed. You are all well acquainted, with the 53rd Article of the Constitution, but I would ask you to look at it once more. This very day, if the Government believed that any of you who are sitting here had committed an offence connected with internal commotion, and if the

Courts could obtain a single proof of it, you might be arrested at once and you would be helpless to resist. The Imperial Diet would be helpless to resist. Do you imagine that, such being the case, the Government is likely to provoke the censure of the House by such a paltry procedure as an illegal arrest? (cries of "Government supporter"). You can be arrested at any time on a charge of having committed an offence connected with a state of internal commotion or with a foreign trouble. If arrest is to be used as a political weapon, the Government need not be embarrassed for lack of opportunity. All that need be done is to put the offence in one of these categories, internal commotion or foreign trouble, and arrest becomes clearly legal according to the words of the Constitution. And now suppose that the state of affairs apprehended by Mr. Suyematsu and Mr. Inouye became a practical reality. Suppose that an evil man controlled the Executive, and that the Judiciary worked with him. What would such a time mean? Think, gentlemen. Would it not be a time like that which overtook France more than once when the Government—pardon, I should say when the State—suffered serious reverses; a time of national cataclysm? Surely it cannot but be called at least unseasonable that at this moment of profound peace, at this moment of the Diet's inauguration, we should look forward to such a time of cataclysm, such a time of war, such a time of national disaster. If you propose to busy yourself about expedients for checking abuses of the Executive power, the nature of the task will be plain to you when you remember that you are helpless to prevent the arrest of one of your members in case of an offence connected with a state of internal disturbance or foreign trouble. Here let me call your attention to another point. I think that the meaning of the Constitution—doubtless the mover of the resolution will regard my opinion as that of a very crude jurist—its meaning I think is that except in the case of offences connected with internal or foreign trouble, the power of the Judiciary cannot be employed to arrest a member unless he is taken *flagrantis delictu*. In respect of the propriety of arrest while the House is not in session, Mr. Suyematsu and every one else are quite agreed that the power of the Judiciary may be set in motion. Now the Judiciary has been acting in this matter—I speak of actual facts—since the beginning of July. During all that time the Judiciary has been pursuing a proper procedure, and in the course of that procedure the trial of the accused was going on yesterday and is going on to day. The proposer of this resolution seems to think that the notice given to the House by the Minister of State for Justice indicates that the Department of Justice is perplexed how to proceed. Nothing of the sort. The regular routine of legal procedure is being duly adhered to. If it comes to a question of the spirit of the law, if it is simply the interpretation according to the spirit, then I too am of your opinion. But when Mr. Suyematsu tells us that the object of the Article is simply to guarantee us against being subjected to an arbitrary and vicious Executive, I cannot for a moment agree with him. Once more, gentlemen, I beg you to consider the matter. A flagrant offender is excepted from the privilege. By the French Constitution even a flagrant offender may be arrested. What is meant by "may be arrested"? Not that the man must be seized at the very moment of committing the crime. The law makes it quite plain that he may be pursued and arrested even the next day. What then is the import of flagrant offence? It means an offence concerning the actual commission of which there is certain proof, and no doubt whatever. In case of such an offence the arrest of a member is allowed. Reason back from this meaning and you will see that if a person has been arrested before the opening of the Diet's session, and if proofs have been accumulated against him until his guilt is established, he is undoubtedly in the position of a flagrant offender who may be held in arrest without any parliamentary permission even after the Diet is in session. Another point. In interpreting the Constitution, we are of course bound to make the independence of the Diet our aim; bound to maintain its prestige. But we are also bound to take care that we do not interfere with the independence of the Judiciary. Gentlemen, the supporters of this resolution, the men who have suggested doubts as to what will happen if arbitrary and evil Ministers chanced to be in power, stand virtually in the position of having asserted that the Japanese Judiciary is not independent; have beyond question distinctly announced that Japanese Judges do not possess independence. If the Judicial officers have a proper sense of their independence, if they refuse to obey the direction of the Executive, then we shall be secure from arrest however arbitrary and wicked may be the Ministers of State. The arrest of offenders is the act of

the Judiciary, which is not controlled by the power of the Executive. Such being the case, I would bespeak your attention to an important point.—("Understood," "understood.") If you pass this resolution the result will be that you charge the Judicial Authorities of Japan with having acted in ignorance of the law, and fiction will immediately ensue between this House and the Judiciary. That is the second point about which I am uneasy. For that reason I shall to the end oppose the proposition now before the House. I am at one with Mr. Okayama in regarding it as a useless proposition.

Mr. AYAI TAKEO—I am one of those who agree with the maker of the motion, Mr. Suyematsu Saburo. It may seem that I reiterate what Mr. Suyematsu has already explained to you, but Mr. Okayama Kanekichi and Mr. Ooka Ikuyo have stood here, the former telling you that he agreed with our views theoretically, the latter that he was opposed to them throughout, and I confess myself unable to understand the reasons of his opposition. It is not enough merely to declare oneself opposed to a measure. The reasons of one's opposition must be stated, and I therefore propose to tell you why I support the motion now before the House. You have it in the Constitution that except in case of offences connected with a state of internal commotion or foreign trouble, members cannot be arrested without the consent of the House. Mr. Suyematsu has told you that an arrest cannot be made without parliamentary permission, and Mr. Okayama has admitted that he too takes the same view. Nevertheless, a member has been arrested and held in confinement until this day. A short time ago we received an intimation from the Minister of State for Justice that such is the case—an intimation merely that the state of arrest continues without any question of the Diet's consent. Such an intimation is in itself a conclusive proof that the Constitution has been violated. It is absolutely established that the arrest having taken place, we must have the Constitution vindicated by the production of the member before this House. I imagine that Mr. Okayama also will be of the same opinion. If that be the case—"settled," "settled," "leave that alone"—it is incomprehensible that the Judiciary should persist in maintaining the state of arrest. It is for us to oppose this mistake of the Judiciary's. There is no question that our member, having been arrested without our permission, must be produced to the House. There being no question about that, the notice sent to us is indefensible, and we have thus a distinct violation of the Constitution in actual fact. If the member is to be held in detention, our permission must be sought. Either our permission must be obtained, or we must take the necessary steps to assert ourselves. That is absolutely settled, and for that reason I support the motion.

Mr. OYAI BUCHIRO—I am entirely opposed to the resolution. A short time ago, when a member opposing the resolution was addressing the House, I heard cries of "Government supporter," and others have attacked the Opposition on the ground that they cannot understand its arguments or reasons. But I understood them perfectly, and if you, gentlemen, cannot understand them, you must be decidedly slow of comprehension from my point of view. The mover of the resolution told you that if we chanced to have a wicked Government which arrested a number of the members, the independence of the House could not be preserved; that, therefore, such arrest must not be permitted to continue during the session, and that the spirit of the Constitution justifies us in requiring the release of our member. That is a very proper view on his part. I too should be most pleased to have that course followed if the 53rd Article of the Constitution lent itself to such an interpretation. As a member of the Imperial Diet, when you come to speak of maintaining the independence of the Diet, I am entirely at one with you. But when you come to twist the law merely because you wish to have it interpreted in a certain manner, I part company with you. I would have you distinguish clearly between what you wish yourselves and what the law signifies. The 53rd Article of the Constitution says that during the session a member shall be free from arrest. Do you hold that the word "arrest" includes the larger meaning of "detention," or do you consider that it refers merely to the act of seizure? You must go to other laws for an interpretation of the word if you want to arrive at the truth. How is this word arrest (*teido=oi tora-yeru*=to follow and seize) used in other laws? If the word is employed anywhere, either in the Criminal Code or in the Code of Criminal Procedure, in the broad sense of to seize and detain, then we cannot attach to it that significance here. But the words to seize and to detain are distinguished in their employment. It does not follow that if a man is arrested he is also kept in detention. That would be to deprive him of his freedom. "Arrest"

and "detention" are used separately. We are compelled, therefore, to conclude that the Constitution cannot be interpreted to mean that a member must not be kept in detention during the session. Another point. In one of the Laws of the Houses—seventy-something, I forget the exact number—it is provided that when a member has lost any of the qualifications of eligibility, he shall be considered as retired. Now these qualifications, by the loss of which a member is considered to become retired, are enumerated in another section of the laws. The third chapter of the Law of Election gives the qualifications of eligible persons, the fourth chapter gives the rules applicable in common to electors and eligible persons. You will find it there stated that any person against whom a criminal prosecution has been brought, and who is in detention or under bail, shall be incapable of exercising the right to elect or be elected until the completion of the proceedings. Coupled, thus, with the seventy-something Article of which I have just spoken, it is plain that such persons are in the position of retired members. It follows then, from a comparison of these provisions, that the Constitution does not forbid the arrest or detention of a member out of session. The Law of the Houses gives you a distinct clue to the interpretation of the spirit of the Constitution. According to the laws of Japan, though a man is an elected member of the Diet, he may be arrested and held in detention while the Diet is not in session. Having been so arrested and held in detention, he loses the qualifications of an elector and becomes a retired member. Therefore Mori Tokinosuke has lost the qualifications of an elector, and become a retired member. That is the law of Japan.—("No, no.") You surely ought to be able to understand this. It is a very great mistake to claim that because you wish the law to read in such and such a fashion, therefore you can twist it to bear that interpretation. Compare the provisions of the Constitution with those of the laws accompanying it, and you will see at once that the interpretation attached to the former by the mover of this resolution is inadmissible. Yet another point I wish to put before you. It relates to the proofs adduced by the mover from foreign laws. He argued that because in such and such a country it is provided that a member arrested and held in detention while Parliament is not sitting, must, if the House when in session so desires it, be produced by the Judiciary, and because, in such another country, he must be released, therefore the spirit of the Japanese Constitution also must be interpreted to mean that the detention of a member during session is illegal. But the production of such proofs tells in a sense precisely opposite to that intended by the maker of the motion. For since it is clearly laid down in the Constitutions of foreign countries that a member arrested and held in detention before the session must be released when the session commences, then it follows that the contention of the mover is not established by the Japanese Constitution where no distinct provision of the kind is made. I should very much like to interpret the spirit of the Constitution in the sense of the proposer of the resolution, but I am unable to do so in the face of the Japanese Constitution and its appended laws.

Mr. SUTSUIRO SHIGERU—I am a supporter of the member who made this motion. Mr. Suyematsu Saburo exhausted the subject so completely that it is unnecessary for me to go into any further details, but there have been singular arguments advanced by the Opposition and the replies made to them seem to me to leave something to be desired. I propose therefore to collect these points briefly and submit them to you. Mr. Okayama's contention was the most difficult to comprehend. He approved and he didn't approve. It was a flitting kind of speech. "I want to oppose," he seemed to say, "but if I openly oppose I shall be said to belong to the Government's party or to be of the Government's policy, and that would be disagreeable." The best that can be said of his speech is that it was the speech of a politician, but candid criticism will pronounce it just a little too adroit. He told us that he agreed with our interpretation of the spirit of the Constitution, but—since the House had taken no action in the matter until now, might not its reputation for regularity be impaired by taking the thing up now? But this is not the fact. There has been no time to discuss this question since the Diet was constituted. It was impossible to put its discussion in train. And then he went on to a particularly strange argument. If the Judiciary, he said, happened to put an extravagant construction on the spirit of the Constitution, we should be in a difficulty. What is an extravagant construction? A construction that does not accord with reason is above all extravagant. Nothing could be more permanently opposed to the Diet's purpose than the principle that it must give way before injustice. Mr. Okayama's experience in the Law Courts may have

left on his mind the impression that his own views of what is correct must yield to the unreasonable of the Judicial Authorities, but he is greatly mistaken if he expects to find any such mood in this House. It is not convenient to raise this question now! Better keep silence and not wash our dirty linen in public! If we keep silence, how can we arrive at any interpretation? Our member has already been arrested and is in prison. Our member is in prison, and we are told that the Diet may go on taking no notice of the fact. To say to the Diet that after it has assembled in its chamber and commenced its deliberations, it is to keep silence when a wrong interpretation is put on the Constitution, is tantamount to telling it plainly that its members may be arrested without its consent even after its session has commenced. The Diet, in fact, is to destroy its own privileges. You must see that Mr. Okayama's contention will not stand for a moment; that it is utterly opposed to reason. Then came Mr. Ooka, who persisted in discussing the 53rd Article. He did nothing else. His argument was simply that the 53rd Article is the 53rd Article. He did nothing but ask you in a general way whether the text of the 53rd Article was not clearly so and so. Men are gifted with the faculty of judgment. They are gifted also with the faculties of supposition and conjecture. If the meaning of the Constitution is not plain, we have recourse to foreign precedents, and to the principles of right to aid our comprehension. To assert that the words and the words only are to be our sole guide in interpreting it, is an astonishing doctrine. Accordingly, the mover of the resolution adduced cases from foreign systems, and said that these must be taken as proofs. Whereupon he is told that his brain is under the influence of foreign ideas. And while condemning recourse to foreign precedents, Mr. Ooka himself resorted to them several times subsequently. Surely that is a little too much. He is of opinion that it is not necessary for this House to guard the privileges of its members, as we claim that it is. Why so? Because, flagrant delicts and offences connected with a state of internal commotion or foreign trouble being excepted, members may be arrested for any of those crimes and the Diet has no means of protecting them. We have the clear text of the Constitution. With that text we cannot interfere. But it is at all events our duty to take every possible measure for guarding the privileges of members who are not offenders under the category of flagrant delicts, internal commotion or foreign trouble. To say that because we are deprived of seven-tenths of our privileges, therefore we must politely return the remaining three-tenths as useless, is the contention of men who attach very little value to their privileges. Mr. Ooka told us also that while we seek to maintain our own power, we must also maintain that of the Judiciary, and assured us with much insistence that as the Judicial authorities are such correct people, we must hold our tongues and let the matter alone; must let them seize our members just as they please. What is the original object of framing the Constitution? Not to day in the present Diet, doubtless, but in the course of one or two hundred years, some question may crop up and members may be arrested, and surely it is to guard against such a calamity that the 53rd Article has been inserted? Aye, in truth, if the judicial posts are to be filled for all time with upright, honourable men, this Article must be pronounced unnecessary. In such a perfect state of society Constitutions and laws might all be pronounced useless. Then came Mr. Oyagi, who shared Mr. Ooka's views. He told us that if an evil Government arose the Diet could not be maintained, and that consequently our interpretation was conceivable, but that we must not interpret laws according to our own fancy merely because we wished to have them so. I venture to think that even the supporters of this resolution would not perversely put an impossible interpretation upon the Constitution for the sake either of an evil Government or for the sake of its oppression. Mr. Oyagi asked you what "arrest" means. He told you that it means to be seized, and that it is different from being detained in arrest; that to be detained is to be imprisoned. He told you, in effect, that a member may not be arrested but that he may be kept in a state of confinement. For my own part, I fail to see how you can put a man into confinement unless you first arrest him. Mr. Oyagi's argument is as though one should forbid a man to come inside the gate of one's compound, but permit him to enter the hall of one's house. At the end of his speech he told you that a person in confinement loses his qualifications as an elector, and that consequently Mori Tokinosuke has lost his qualifications to be a member of this House. Surely this is not the kind of argument that might be expected from a barrister of reputation. If a

man is arrested before his election, he undoubtedly loses the qualifications of a member, but in what law, of what month, is it laid down that after a man has been elected he loses the qualifications of a member by being arrested? We must go to Mr. Oyagi, I think, to find such a law. There is not one just point in the arguments of the Opposition. The whole of their contention fails, I think, to affect our position. Therefore I will support the mover of the proposition throughout, and I only regret that when he commenced his argument a clearer statement of the final issue was not made. Should the Minister of State for Justice, as has been stated, approach you through the President with reference to the fact that Mori Tokinosuke has been arrested and is in confinement, there may be a doubt as to whether you will consent to the arrest or not. I think, then, that if you decide on the necessity of recognising the arrest, and if an answer that the House consents were returned without further debate, we should avoid discussion and at the same time the privilege of the House would be completely established. If the House is approached, and if its consent is advisable, then I think that an answer in that sense should be given. But when the main question is settled, the various steps to be subsequently taken can be fully considered. I trust that the House will endorse our view of the case, and appoint a special Committee to manage the details.

Mr. KUDO KOKAN—In accordance with the 116th Article of the Rules of Procedure, I move that this debate do cease here, and that the House proceed to vote.—(Applause.)

Mr. AIKAWA KIUTARO—I beg to offer a very few remarks—

Mr. UKKII YEMORI—The question of closing the debate is before the House and must be decided first.

Mr. KUDO KOKAN—My motion, made under the 116th Rule, has found supporters, and I claim that it be decided first. Subsequent debate is another matter, but I beg that my proposition be decided.

The PRESIDENT—Mr. Kudo Kokan has moved that the debate be now closed, and his motion finds supporters. All who are in favour of the closure of the debate will stand.

The majority rose.

Mr. IYENAGA YOSHIKO—I wish to ask a question, Mr. President. In Mr. Suyemitsu's speech he spoke of a special committee. What of that point?

The PRESIDENT—That is a matter for subsequent consideration.

Mr. IYENAGA TESHIMORI—If supporters are required, I beg to support it.

The PRESIDENT—Mr. Suyemitsu Saburo, I wish to ask you something. I understand that I am to make an application to the Minister of State for Justice for the release of Mori Tokinosuke. If you have prepared any written form, I will examine it and inform the House.

Mr. SUYEMATSU—I should like to have copies distributed among the members before the division.

The PRESIDENT—Before asking for the House's decision, I will repeat the proposition once more:—"A member of the House of Representatives arrested before the session of the Diet, and remaining in arrest after the Diet assembles, cannot be detained without the consent of the House." This is Mr. Suyemitsu Saburo's motion. All who are in favour of it will stand.

A majority rose.

The PRESIDENT—The motion is carried. The next point is the proposal that a Special Committee be appointed. Those who are in favour of this will please stand.

A majority rose, and the President declared the proposal carried.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE EMPEROR AND FOREIGNERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—It may not be out of place, under present circumstances, to make public the fact that his Majesty the Emperor, while on his way to the Parliament House on Saturday last, graciously responded to salutations made to him by two foreign gentlemen, unknown to him, who were standing, almost unaccompanied, at the way side. The act has its significance in relation to the great political change which has just been begun by the inauguration of a popular parliament. It indicates as well the thorough courtesy and kindness which characterize Japan's Sovereign.

Very truly yours,
Tokyo, December 4th, 1890.

THE RUSSIAN LEGATION AND THE TOKYO STUDENTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—On the principle of better late than never, and to correct some slight mistakes in the account of the stoning of the ladies at the Russian Legation on Saturday last, I send you the following as the account of an eye witness. So far I know, a friend and myself were the only foreigners who saw the beginning of this unpleasant episode. We had watched the Imperial procession as it left the Palace from a spot just in front, and then we slowly followed in its wake to the Sakurada Gate. Here we were caught in a tide of humanity that swelled up against the outer gates, which had been closed by the police. They were shortly after opened to admit the passage of a regiment returning towards the Palace. After it had passed and before the gates could be closed, we were able to pass out with the first wave of the crowd (I do not know that the gates were closed the second time, but the attempt was being made when we passed). We then walked leisurely towards the Russian Legation. As we neared it, the denser crowd made progress slow. Many were returning, others like ourselves, who had come from the Palace grounds, were pressing to the front only to find the street leading to the Diet closed by a double line of police and gendarmes. In front of them were single police arguing with persons who under one pretext or another were trying to pass the line. Among these were some students who were more or less noisy. We two went a little up the hill to see if there was any possible chance to pass nearer the Legation wall, and stood a moment or two watching the line of police just below us in their efforts to keep the street barred. All this occurred before the stoning, and took some time. The Emperor must have entered the Diet some minutes before. For this reason, I cannot believe that the stoning was directly due to anger at the elevated position in which the ladies were sitting! There may be comments on this expressed before we came, and the anger may have taken all this time to rise to the stoning point, but this hardly seems probable when joined to what follows. This reason doubtless occurred to many after the affair began, but as far as I could judge, those who did the stoning at first had but a minute or two before come from farther down the street and did not know whether the ladies were there or not when the Emperor passed.

As we stood watching the struggle with the police, a little puff of something like smoke in front, followed by a slight noise, made those around us jump, and then there was a laugh at the wag who had exploded a fire cracker when every one had "dynamite" on their minds. One of the ladies in the pavilion started, and the others laughed. Whether they saw what we did, or whether the start was connected with the puff of smoke, I do not know, but the laugh, as far as I could see, first called the attention of the crowd to these ladies. Not two minutes after, a single pebble was thrown at them; then another, then two or three. The stones did not come in a volley at first but the throwing rapidly spread. For the first minute or two, the party in the Legation did not seem to, (nor did we) realize that they were being stoned. As the throwing became more general, more than half the stones fell short of the mark and on the police who were below the wall, and below the level of the throwers, and who consequently did not notice the first volley, and might well have suspected that they were the object of the attack. The stone throwing was all in front of where we stood, and the Legation servants were on the walls some distance in our rear, so it is simply impossible that the crowd intended their missiles for them, as suggested by your Japanese correspondent. As the throwing became more general, and the reality of the situation came to me, I saw a gentleman I knew (who was in the pavilion), as I thought beckoning to me. I interpreted it to mean that I was to try to stop the throwing, which I had rapidly made up my mind could be quickly done if I could secure the attention of the police, who from their position had not yet, it seemed, been able to discover what was going on. I rushed forward as a large stone sailed up, saw it just miss one of the ladies, and looking quickly down saw the thrower picking up another. I broke through and grabbed the wrist of the thrower, only to find that it was a little dirty *kono* of about 8 or 10, so small, that I could not help smiling as I gave his arm a gentle twist with a fierce *do shita*? I turned to grab something larger but the crowd was dense, and the throwers were scattered through it. Just at this time, a large tile sailed by my head, and looking up I saw that the servants of the Legation were shelling the crowd where I stood, evidently as tit for tat. Then for the

first time, the throwers turned and began firing at the servants, who replied in a shower of tiles. The ladies had left the pavilion and my friend and myself found our position shelled by our friends so to speak, so we concluded (those tiles were "abunai") to make a retreat forwards, and with about a dozen or more Japanese we went helter skelter through the line of police around towards the front of the Legation, willing enough to leave the matter where it properly belonged. We saw nothing further except the police at the gate of the Legation, trying to get near enough to persuade those within to cease firing, while others were "running in" throwers whom they caught in the act.

Had the Legation servants restrained themselves but a few minutes, I am sure the whole thing would have been stopped by the police, and a large number of arrests made. As it was, the Legation folks made such a fight and widened the area of conflict so much, that it was only at the risk of a broken head, one could see who in the crowd was throwing.

And now as this has been made so much of, speaking with as full a knowledge as possible of such an affair, it seems to me that the explanation is not far to seek. Some one, it may have been the little scamp I saw, for he was handy with a stone, out of wanton mischief threw a pebble at the ladies. Another took it up and the *sashi* in the crowd, ever ready for such things, joined in. Having witnessed one or two stonings in Japan and one in a "civilized" land, under almost similar circumstances, I do not see that this affair was a whit different. Among a large crowd, some rascal, generally a small one, begins it, and in such a crowd in any country there are always enough of a rabble to keep it up. There is only this difference, that once commenced here, other motives than pure mischief may add to the disturbance, and also that bystanders in Japan are passive: they as a rule never interfere but leave it all to the police.

Hoping that this lengthy account may throw light on the affair.

I am, very respectfully yours,

HATA NO HITO.

December 6th, 1890.

THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Perhaps I ought to ask your pardon for asking space in your valued paper, because the Church with which I am labouring is so small and its name so little known among the people of Japan, but as you have so kindly given your columns to the various missionaries, I hope I may not be considered an intruder in presenting a few thoughts concerning our own work. The Christian Church of America sent its first Missionary to Japan in 1837, and another in 1889, and because of the disadvantages of obtaining residence outside of Treaty limits the work has not been very extensive, but something has been done and we hope to do more in the future.

At the recent Quadrennial Session of the American Christian Convention, held in October, 1890, at Marion, Indiana, the following circular was presented, adopted, and ordered to be published. I would esteem it a great favour if it can have a place in your columns for the information of the workers in Japan, and also for the purpose of seeking a closer union with all Christians.

Yours faithfully,

H. J. RHODES.

Tokyo, December 4th, 1890.

It is becoming more and more apparent that Christ established but one Church, designing that all his followers, as members of that one body, should harmoniously work together for the salvation of the world. We are of the opinion that the present division of the Church into sects and the attitude of these sects toward each other is wrong, and impedes the reformation of the world.

II.—It is our belief that entire unanimity of opinion upon matters of theological doctrine and ecclesiastical polity is unattainable so long as "we see through a glass darkly," but that a unity of love, forbearance and co-operation is fully within the reach of all true Christians.

III.—There is a widespread and increasing desire among God's people to come into a closer relationship with one another, manifested in various ways. Churches are springing into existence in various localities, composed of Christians who are tired of sectarian intolerance, and desire to manifest their essential unity; and that "doubtful dispensations" are sinking into disuse, while the great points of faith common to all Christians are rising into due prominence.

IV.—As an organization, it is and has always been the chief object of the Christian Church to labour for the conversion of the world, to bring together all true Christians upon a platform of mutual forbearance, common sympathies, and fraternal love. We, therefore offer the hand of fraternal greeting to all true followers of our blessed Redeemer, assuring them of our profound interest in their welfare, and soliciting their kindly sympathies and prayers. Holding these views and aims, we hereby declare our desire to cooperate with any and all those who love our

Lord Jesus Christ, in performing the great work which he has assigned his church. The Christians formed an organization merely to make their labours more effective, and they are ever ready for union with any body of Christians upon the basis of those great truths which underlie the religion of Christ, belonging only to those fundamental truths, without which Christianity could not exist, the Christians are ready to submit all minor matters to the decision of the individual conscience. We suggest the following as a basis of union:—

- (1) Belief—(1) In God, as our Creator and lawgiver.
- (2) In Christ, the son of God and Head of the church, as our divine Mediator and Redeemer.
- (3) In the Holy Spirit as our Comforter and Sanctifier.
- (4) In the Bible as inspired by God and the supreme standard of appeal in all matters of religion.
- (5) That love to God and men is the whole duty of man.
- (6) With a view of forming and cultivating fraternal relationship with all Christians who are tired of sectarianism, we invite correspondence.
- (7) In putting forth this circular address and manifesto we but repeat in part the language and sentiments expressed by the members of the Christian denomination.
- (8) May the God of all grace direct his people into a closer and more perfect unity, that the Saviour may be glorified and the world regenerated.

THE ASIATIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

A general meeting of the Asiatic Society of Japan was held in the Society's Rooms, No. 17, Tsukiji, Tokyo, on Wednesday, December 10th, 1890, at 4 p.m., N. J. Haanen, Esq., President, in the Chair.

The Minutes of last meeting having been published in the *Japan Mail* were taken as read.

The PRESIDENT, in opening the meeting, remarked that it was probably beyond the memory of a good many present that the late Dr. Syle had for many years been an officer in the Society. Those who had known him, however, knew with what devotion he served the Society in its earlier days in Japan, and what a constant interest he took in its proceedings after he had left Japan. Quite lately he had offered his services to act as the Society's deputy in important gatherings in England. He was the Society's first Secretary, and subsequently filled the offices of Vice-President and President. In 1877 he read a paper before the Society "On Primitive Music; especially that of Japan" (see Vol. V. of Society's Transactions). He died in London, October 4th, 1890, a very few weeks after the death of his wife. It must be with sincere regret that the Society chronicles the death of one of its founders.

The PRESIDENT then called on Professor Wigmore to read the joint paper by himself and the late Dr. Simmons entitled "Notes on Land Tenure and Local Institutions in Old Japan."

The Paper was a very lengthy one, and the author confined himself to reading several extracts bearing more especially upon the organisation of village communities.

The Paper was based on the posthumous papers of the late Dr. Simmons. Its character the subjects touched on, and the conclusions arrived at, may be gathered from the following abstract of Professor Wigmore's summary:—

The problem of the source of the primitive Japanese people has been examined from many points of view,—from the archaeological by von Siebold, to name one name only; from the zoological, by Blakiston; from the geological, by Milne; from the mythical and traditional, by Chamberlain; from the philological, by Parker; from the anthropological, by Baelz. But from what may be called the institutional standpoint, it still remains to be considered. Yet this aspect must ever be an important one. Take the single set of facts upon which Dr. Simmons is the first to lay proper emphasis,—the facts relating to early serfdom. The existence of serfdom among primitive peoples points almost always to a greater or less difference between the stock of conquerors and conquered. Given, as in this case, the fact that there was a conquering of Japan by certain primitive immigrants, and we know that there must have been some difference of stock between the invaders and the opposing inhabitants. Further investigation of the nature of the serfdom which ensued would help to decide whether the subjected classes were strictly aborigines, or were merely descendants of earlier immigrants from the home of the invaders. A study of the later development of the serfdom would make it clear whether the common people of to-day are to be identified with the primitive serfs. Furthermore the history of European tenure may be of assistance. In the case of some of the early Germanic tribes, for instance, we find them with families and slaves, settling in new territory, and out of their own numbers populating districts and developing into communities. In the case of the Saxon and the Norman conquests of England, on the other hand, we find bodies of warriors descending on an insular population, preserving the existing com-

munities, but bringing them into subjection. It is obvious that the relative number of the serfs and the servile mode of life would differ in the two cases. These instances and others furnish several different types of early communities, in which the history of the conquest and settlement are more or less intertwined with the nature of the serfdom. Given the facts bearing on the kind of serfdom and we may be able to reconstruct the course of previous history. In the case of Japan, for example, the number of serfs makes it necessary to suppose that the conquest of the country resembled that of England by the Angles and the Saxons. At the same time, we may find, in the history of a given people, that it has at various times partaken of various types. One of the interesting features, in the present instance, is that we find traces in Japan at one time of a development like that of England, at another of a practice of colonization such as characterized the early Germanic tribes, at another of a system resembling the Roman provincial administration. The possibility of reasoning from a tooth or a vertebra to an entire skeleton is not peculiar to zoology alone; and the proper investigation and comparison of the facts bearing on early serfdom in this country would yield rich results to the ethnologist.

An illustration of the way in which the facts of primitive institutions must be used to verify inferences resting on other grounds is furnished by the consideration of a conclusion reached by Dr. Baelz ("Körperlichen Eigenschaften der Japanischer," *Mittheil. der D. Ges. Ost. Hft. 28, s. 330*). These are, briefly, that three ethnical elements are represented among the Japanese people: 1. The Ainos, the original inhabitants of Middle and Northern Japan, but very sparsely represented in the people of to-day; 2. A Mongoloid tribe, resembling the better classes of Chinese and Koreans, immigrating from the continent across Korea, first settling in the south-western part of the main island, and thence spreading over it; this class possesses a slender figure, narrow face, dolichocephalic skull, a fine curved nose, and a small mouth; 3. Another Mongoloid tribe, bearing a distinct resemblance to Malays, first settling in the southern island of Kyūshū, then crossing to the main island and conquering it; this class has a stout frame, short skull, broad face, flat nose, and large mouth, and is preponderant among the common people; it is most purely represented today in Satsuma; and includes also the Imperial family.

These opinions involve the conclusion that substantially the entire present people of Japan are descended from the immigrant invaders. Yet, once it is established that the common people of to-day represent the serfs of the first five centuries of this era, and that the serfs of that day must have been a conquered aboriginal people, an hiatus occurs in the analysis; for the race of the common people is not accounted for. His identification of the Satsuma type as that of the Imperial family and of the Izumo dynasty is doubtless sound; but the reference to Satsuma only serves to show the necessity of some modification; for it was precisely in Satsuma that the emphasis of class-difference was greatest, that serfdom continued longest, and was most pronounced, and the tracing of the type of the ruling classes in Satsuma leaves the lower classes still unaccounted for. Moreover, the early difference of status being so great between the upper and the lower classes, is it likely that the type of men who became the conquerors of the main island and to-day are found in the Imperial family would also occur most largely among the masses,—in other words, would become at the same time conquerors and serfs? On the other hand, anthropological data, when interpreted according to the facts of early institutions, may be found to tell a different story. Two immigrations by two stocks of invaders are clearly indicated; the conquering of the northern settlement by the southern certainly followed; but perhaps both had originally been conquerors of a native people; and though the two immigrant tribes probably made some kind of a compromise or division of authority, it seems likely that neither was subjected to the other, and that the mass of inhabitants remained below both. If this was so, the apparent anthropological resemblance between the Satsuma type and the type common among the people must be again examined.

As regards the growth of land tenure and of feudal, local, and family institutions, these "Notes" only introduce us to the subject and suggest clues. But even these clues lead us into topics of the deepest interest and importance. We are tempted by what is here given us to speculate on what is not given. The number of analogies that may be traced between the growth of institutions in Japan and in Europe as well as in India and China, while it does not necessarily indicate ethnological relationship (though that aspect is not without some importance in view of the Accadian kinship

ascribed by Baelz, Garczynski, and others to the Japanese, portrays a parallelism of development which cannot fail to be of great consequence to the European student of feudalism, land tenure, and local institutions.

It is of course not to be expected that we shall find specific resemblance in the land system, early or late, so far as that depends on methods of agriculture. Rice-culture and wheat-culture are essentially different in their requirements. Maine's remark, made in reference to India, is here applicable. "The conditions of agriculture in a tropical country are so widely different from those which at any period can be supposed to have determined cultivation in Northern and Central Europe as to forbid us to look for any resemblances, at once widely extended and exact, to the Teutonic three-field system. Indeed, as the great agent of production in a tropical country is water, very great dissimilarities in modes of cultivation are produced within India itself by relative proximity to running streams, and relative exposure to the periodical rainfall." Though Japan is by no means a tropical country, it is characterized by an abundant precipitation of rain, and water is here, as in India, the great agent in rice-cultivation. For any marks of early customs which would have been a result of the three-field system or of the use of the plough, we need not look.

In the early division of land the lowest units were all square, as was the Roman provincial unit. We do not find an oblong measure of land until we reach the *tan* (.245 acre), the sides of which were in the proportion of 30 to 12 (later, 30 to 10), and this was composed of a number of these square units. The latter apparently had their origin in the length of a measuring rod used in the setting off of land. This length was no doubt determined, just as was that of the European rod, by some peculiarity of the early system of cultivation which made a certain implement of nearly fixed dimensions preeminently convenient as a measure of length. The balk, however, was an exigency under either system of cultivation, and this we find in Japan, under the name of *ase*. This, as in Europe, was often cultivated. It appears that there were rules determining the appropriation of the grass grown upon it. Whether, as in England, the lord ever claimed any right to its product, does not yet appear. But no one who has seen a Japanese field of to-day can doubt that the balk, which varies as much in size and direction as it did in England, must have played an almost equally important part in the agricultural economy.

Each portion enclosed within certain of the larger balks bore a name, and such a piece was called "name-land" (*myōden*, *meiden*, *na*). The name once was that of the occupying family. A piece of land, for example, was called "Takehisa-na" or "Nagashira-na," after its reclaimer. The name did not shift with the occupant, and each owner, no matter how many pieces he possessed, still distinguished by their titles the different "name-lands." That such separate entity should continue for a long space of time is *a priori* probable. Dr. Simmons was told that no "name-land" could be mortgaged or subdivided by will. In the *Minji Kwanrei Ruishū* there is mentioned the *ge-fuda*, a certificate copied from the land-register (*na yoseshō*), showing the total possessions of each individual. "In the *ge-fuda*," it is said, "a person's property is recorded as a whole. The different pieces of land do not have each a separate *ge-fuda*. When therefore the owner of several portions of land wishes to sell a single one, it is impossible to do so at short notice, for as the transfer of the *ge-fuda* is necessary, a new *ge-fuda* must be made out, and this can only be done at the time of the revision of the land-register, which ought to occur every March, but in practice takes place only once in about three years." This custom is related of the province of Suwo, and indicates that to a very recent date the "name-land" there preserved its integrity. We are here reminded of the fact that the English virgate was often known by a family name, and that it was probably at one time indivisible by succession.

We do not yet know the size of the Japanese "name-land," but it is likely that it was much smaller than either the hide or the virgate, perhaps smaller than the acre. From the records available for the purpose it is by no means as easy as in the case of the English records to determine the size of the original "name-land" unit, if indeed there was a uniform size, and a thorough collation of various sorts of evidence will be necessary for the purpose.

The "name-lands" in the possession of a single owner, it should be added, were scattered about within certain limits, and it is in this respect that

the Japanese system draws near again to that of Western Europe. It is true that the three-field system is in the case of the latter partly responsible; but even within the single field this scattered ownership appears, and its kinship with the similar phenomena occurring in Japan is not unlikely. What is here needed is the careful examination and collation of as many field maps as possible. It was the custom in the middle ages, with many large landowners, to make a map of their possessions and transmit it with the title-deeds, and many of these should be available. The study of the arrangement of fields at the present day in the more secluded parts of the interior would afford complementary data of great value.

As regards the early distribution of land among the immigrant tribesmen, we find back of the manorial system of *shōen*, which was a later development of the ninth and tenth centuries, an account of a method of allotment indicating an earlier stage of tenure similar to the earlier stages traceable in Europe. This was the allotment of *ku-bun-den* (mouth-share-land) described in the code *Taihō Ryō*, published 702 A.D. and summarised in the Society's Transactions (vol. VIII. part 2) by Mr. Tarring. This system, as promulgated in the *Taihō* code, was evidently not merely a new one, but the final stage of a system already passing away. At successive periods in the next two hundred years proclamations commanding an allotment were made, but they seem to have been carried out for a short time and in scattered regions. Probably in the epoch before the seventh century, where records are not plentiful, the system of allotment was in full force; and the *Taihō* legislation was merely a strong effort to preserve from dissolution a system against which circumstances were too powerful. Certainly at that time a process of change was going on. The smaller freemen were falling into the power of the local chiefs. Oppression by subordinate officers and the necessity arising from scanty resources was driving the body of the people into subjection to the powerful landholders. "Many officers of provinces (*kunitsukasa*) gave waste land to the people, while they kept the good land. Officers and rich men forced others to exchange good land for poor," &c. (*Fudōsan*). The central Government made decree after decree, denouncing these practices, but without success. After the period Engi (901-922), *ku-bun-den* distribution seems not to have been heard of. Meantime a new impulse was given to the tendency towards the acquisition of large properties and the subversion of small ones. The temple lands, too, increased enormously by gifts of land, the owners transforming themselves into tenants. All these influences militated against the *ku-bun-den* distribution, and it disappeared entirely. The most probable view of its significance, as it appears in the *Taihō* code, is that it was the early system adopted for the division of lands among the members of the various tribes, that the circumstances mentioned in *Fudōsan* had before the eighth century begun to weaken this early custom, and that we see it in the *Taihō* code at a time when its dissolution was becoming apparent, and when the vain attempt was made by legislation to prop a practice which when it was in full force lay only in custom,—in other words, a time when the tendency, seen in early communities, of such a re-distribution to become theoretical only, was beginning to be clear.

What is needed is a careful comparison of the distribution systems already known to us in other early tribes with that of early Japan. One collateral benefit of such a comparison will be the necessary abandonment of the ideas of pomp and regal sovereignty which are associated with the early history of the Japanese conquerors. Much harm has been done in this respect in the way of obscuring the true paths of investigation and of concealing important clues. It is not necessary to declare, with the Philistine, that the so-called Emperor Jimmu was only a Tartar pirate: but it is indispensable to recognize that early Japanese history deals with the doings of tribes and clans of primitive habits and institutions, that the leaders were chiefs and not emperors, and that their annals have as much human interest and are as capable of rational explanation as are the records of the European tribes whose story is better known to us. It is for this reason that one may regret the use, in Professor Chamberlain's translation of the *Kojiki*, of such terms as "Prince," "Suzerain," "Duchess," "Grandee," "Departmental Suzerain," as representing certain elusive terms of the original. Difficult as the task of establishing a nomenclature must be in such a case, one result of the system adopted is to add a glamor of grandeur to the history which cannot but obscure the true simplicity of the records, and may perhaps mislead one who is not constantly on the watch to make the necessary mental correction.

Whether or not the distribution of *ku-bun-den* was made on the principle of distributing, not equally, but to each head of a family according to the number of slaves, *pro numero cultorum*, is another of the interesting questions. It seems clear that the total holding of each family was made up of the several amounts of land due to each man and woman therein; that is, if there were five men and three women the total holding would be 12 *tan*, and this would be the property of the family as a unit. The same principle was also followed with reference to the holdings of the slaves of the family; in fact, it is out of the question that these can be supposed to have possessed a separate interest in land. The "public slaves" who received the full share of a freeman would seem to have been communities of the conquered native tribes, settled probably in villages of their own, who, submitting in large numbers at one time and by treaties of peace, had not been appropriated by individual invaders, as were those who resisted in battle; and these, though they remained serfs, yet lived in their own communities, and were naturally given a larger share of land. This supposition would help to explain the fact that the land of public slaves could not be alienated. It was quite unnecessary to say that slaves of individuals, living in or about the master's homestead, and palpably *adscripti glebas*, could not dispose of land; but it would be important to declare that those who were left in their original communities and were not attached to the household of a freeman should not dispose of their land. The distinguishing mark of such serfs would be, not their mode of residence, but their inability to deal with their land.

A portion of the system of distribution recorded in the *Taihō* code is quite distinct in principle from the *ku-bun-den* allotment, and seems to be the growth of a later time (perhaps at the period *Taihō* it was comparatively new) when the conquest of new regions placed a larger territory at the disposal of the conquering race. It would seem that the same invaders, who in a simpler stage of development employed the *ku-bun-den* system, were later required to administer a large conquered territory, and that certain measures were then adopted, perhaps from China, which resembled the Roman provincial land system and ended in similar results. Large shares of land were given to the administrators of the provinces, and also large discretion in management. To the soldiers were granted amounts of land varying with the grades of service. This land and that given to officials was free from taxation. The new settlements of the north and east made *shin-den*, a term which might almost be rendered *latifundia*. The same growth of large estates, and the same oppression by the provincial officials characterized each country. Just as, in the *ager publicus*, the relative standing of the occupants came to be *veterani*, *coloni*, *laeti*, so there was a tendency for the land-endowed soldier to rise in importance as the free owner of a small plot degenerated. The survey of the land, too, based on rectangular units, here resembles the systematic, artificial arrangement of the Romans.

The tendencies alike of the system thus applied to the newly settled *ager publicus* of Japan and of the *ku-bun-den* system in the old land were not different from those which appeared under like influences in Europe. If we do not find, in the condition of affairs which followed, a method of tenure corresponding exactly to the type known as the manorial system, it is at least certain that similar causes were at work, and that the result as regards the distribution of land and differentiation of the classes of population was almost precisely the same.

In the first place, the strife between local chieftains and the fortunes of war led to the conversion in many regions of free proprietorship into tenancy. The same result came about in other and perhaps more numerous instances through the stress of taxations, which forced the owners of small holdings to better their position by the process of surrendering and receiving back their lands, well known as "commendation." The familiar immunity of nobles and large landholders from taxation was here as common as in Western Europe; and beginning with the ninth century we find a continual effort, and a successful one, by holders of *shōen* or untaxed land to increase their tax-free-holdings by every means in their power. The corresponding distress on the part of the smaller proprietors is also clear. Another of the parallel traits is the frequency of gifts to temples and the extent of the acquisitions made by ecclesiastical bodies. One deed of the year 1323 shows the process in a nutshell:—"This land has been hitherto cultivated by the owners as *ku-bun-den*, but henceforward it is to belong to the temple Tōdaiji, and the cultivators are to render *chishi* (a rent in kind)." One result of this is that here as in Europe some of the richest sources of material

1 *Myō* and *mei* are the Sinico-Japanese, no the Japanese pronunciation of the same character, meaning "name;" *den* means "wet cultivated land."

for the reconstruction of mediæval institutions are the collections of documents carefully preserved in the temples.

What was the result upon the classes of the population? On the one hand the landed nobles came to draw practically the whole revenue of the country. The taxes rendered by the mass of the cultivators were now due to the territorial lords, not to the central Government. This seems to have been the immediate cause of the decline of the Mikado's power. Among the territorial aristocracy thus formed no equilibrium was permanently attained until the genius of Iyeyasu established it; and this endured until the advent of the foreigners in the present century supplied the shock necessary to destroy it.

On the other hand the classes below the territorial nobles and independent landed proprietors were constantly assimilated, to a greater or less degree. The small free proprietors became free tenants; the serfs became servile tenants. The freemen degenerated in position; the serfs rose somewhat. A general class of cultivators arose, single in being separated widely from the landed noble, but multiple in that it contained well-marked subdivisions, resting more or less distinct.

One of the subjects which, if thoroughly known would contribute great light in the verification of this description, is that of manorial service. Obviously the distinction between free and servile tenancy must rest almost entirely on the nature of the services rendered, and it is just here that at present but little information can be offered. In the Japanese literature of taxation, however, a large amount of material is waiting, and the documentary sources will also prove abundant. Even as it is, many familiar traces may be detected. The services of mediæval times in Japan were rendered with money, with the products of the soil, and with labour. There were *precariae* as well as fixed services. One cannot expect to find the same products rendered or the same labours performed as in Europe. *Mutatis mutandis*, however, the general nature of the duties and the methods of performance were entirely parallel.

Each *han* or daimiate seems to have developed, in later times, a system of labour services by which land of a given area or assessment was to furnish the labour of one man for a given number of days in each year. These services included, besides the ordinary work of cultivation, the furnishing of transportation, the repairing of roads and buildings, the manufacture of cloths of different kinds, and other incidents found also in the European manors and fiefs. A commutation of personal services into the payment of money or of cloths and other articles also took place in the later periods. It is reasonable to suppose that farther investigation would reveal a development similar to that which occurred in the history of European services, a progress from continuous and indefinite amounts and kinds to periodical, limited, and definite amounts and kinds, from incommutable personal labour to labour commutable into monetary units and payable in money. At an earlier period, too, we see traces of another interesting phenomenon in the history of services,—the change from voluntary offering to regular obligations.

In each *han* of any size there was a central administrative office controlling the various *bugyô* (=*seneschals*) and other officers, and a study of this central system has yet to be made. It was the chief counsellors and managers of these central offices who took such a leading part in the efforts which resulted in the overthrow of the Shogunate, and the sterling capacity for government which they have since exhibited may be ascribed in some degree to their training and experience as administrators of the fiefs.

The Notes of Dr. Simmons, so far as they relate to the interior life of the *mura* are concerned with the facts of a comparatively recent period and of districts where the greatest movement towards independence had occurred. Whatever may have been the case in those regions where the incidents of feudalism remained longest, in the Tokugawa dominions,—the principal field of observation for both Mr. Ootomo, Dr. Simmons' chief informant, and the author himself,—where the Government had become really only a great landlord and where there had been a strong tendency towards uniformity of tenure and services, we find that the old distinctions between classes, so far as they had been clearly marked by different relations with the territorial lord, had disappeared, and the class differences had become essentially social. The traditional position of certain families was now seen in the predominant influence which they enjoyed in directing the affairs of *mura*. The order of precedence was distinctly marked and strictly preserved. In the *yoriai* or assembly it determined the seats of the various members. It had weight in the decision of debated points. We cannot now certainly distinguish the descendants of freemen

and those of serfs, nor the villages of freemen and those of serfs; nor can we estimate the relative numbers of each. In the class distinction (*osa-byakushû, nooi, kiu-ka*, etc.) we are strongly reminded of the structure of the village communities in the Punjab and elsewhere; and it can hardly be doubted that we shall find these and other terms to be more or less connected with historical differences between freeman and serf, proprietor and tenant, family or clan villages and colonies.

This material of recent times becomes important in its bearings on the subject of communal property. In one sense the facts of Japanese village life have a special importance; they show how many communal customs, apparently purely local in origin, were the result of superimposed laws. It is possible that the numerous instances of this sort may be suggestive and helpful in the examination of Western village communities. Take, for example, the cultivation of the land of a deserting farmer by his *kumi* or by the village. Nothing could at first sight point more clearly to a certain community of property, a corporate holding of land by the village. But on further examination this custom proves to have been commanded by the Government, with the object of preventing a diminution of revenue.

We must, too, draw a distinction, here as elsewhere, between earlier communal customs arising from family, house community, or tribal life, and later ones arising from the existence of a superior authority, that is, from the corporate responsibility imposed in many ways by the manorial or feudal lord upon the communities of cultivators. These include all those customs which flow from the fact that the *mura* was from the standpoint of the lord the producing unit. The necessity of the *mura*'s consent for the use of forests and for the sale of any part of the common forest, the local settlement of local taxes, the power of returning confiscated land to a repentant deserter,—these were some of the more direct results. Perhaps the only custom, mentioned in the Notes, which might be claimed as a distinct mark of the early tribal community is the necessity of the consent of all the farmers to the settling of strangers on village land. But even this case is not an unmitigated one and at best throws no light on the question whether the land was merely held in common in undivided shares or was held by the village as a corporate body. There are as yet no data sufficient to assist in the mooted question whether the community of property of later mediæval villages is a result of other later influences or is a remnant of an earlier tribal communism.

It remains to call attention to a few customs of a miscellaneous character, which may serve to show that the interest of the material we are considering is broader than the subjects that have been touched upon.

The family was of course the unit of social life, and the coherence of the family, with the practices and institutions involved in it, was still a marked feature. Although there existed a Government prohibition against the sale of land, there was as Dr. Simmons states, a strong dislike to alienate a family inheritance,—a sentiment noticed particularly in India and elsewhere. We find, too, that, in this respect a distinction was made, as in India, between inherited property and property reclaimed or acquired from others. A similar characteristic sentiment, the unwillingness to alienate to strangers, has already been noticed in the practice of requiring unanimous consent for the admission of new reclaimers of *mura* land; and in Ebeling's alienation of land to fellow-villagers alone was allowed.

The distribution of a patrimony during the life of the father was quite common in mediæval, even later times. The retirement (*inkyo*) of the father followed as a matter of course, and in the account of the Hida House Communities is noticed a peculiar consequence of this, that the father thereafter eat *hiye*, with the rest of the family, while the son alone eat rice.

Upon the question of primogeniture there is no clear information. It may be noticed, however, that, as has been observed in India and elsewhere, the eldest son often takes not the whole, but only the largest share of the patrimony. The frequency of adoption suggests interesting questions. It seems hardly possible to explain it entirely on grounds of the desire for the perpetuity of the family. More than one fact—for instance, the occurrence of laws forbidding adoption just before death—points to the desire to evade customary restrictions on alienation as an important influence.

The strength of the ties of what has been called Literary Fosterage, observable alike in Japan, in India, and in early Ireland; the existence here as in India of an hereditary class of persons outside the social pale—the *yeta*—whose touch was impure and who followed special occupations and lived in

separate quarters; the widespread employment in later times of a system of suretyship not based on family; the *go nun gumi* system, which seems for the past three hundred years to have been not much different in principle from the Anglo Saxon *frith guild*; the system of long term mortgages, closely paralleled in India, and suggesting the *beklemregt* of Groningen; the *yei kosaku*, or emphyteusis, a variety of a tenure well known in Europe;—these and numerous other customs and institutions, as yet almost wholly unexamined, may be cited as evidences of opportunities that exist here for the student of comparative institutions.

What is now needed is the utilization of the stores of original material to be found in the temples, a few libraries, and numberless family treasure-chests. It must be admitted,—and without discredit to Japanese scholars,—that the volumes written upon the subject in Japanese are beyond a certain point useless. Learned and accomplished as their authors are, they have never looked at the subject from the standpoint of the European scholar, for their training had made it impossible. The solution of the problems on modern scientific lines can be attained only through the younger generation, trained under modern methods, or through foreign students having before them the material to be investigated. That this result in no way casts disparagement upon the enormous industry and the vast acquisitions of the older generation of Japanese scholars need hardly be said. That it is inevitable, they themselves are the first to admit. It is to-day a subject of deep regret to more than one of the most eminent that it is too late for them to attempt to make acquaintance with European scientific literature. Coöperation in work between the older and the younger generation would seem to be the only method of utilizing fully their accumulated stores of learning. It is to such of the younger scholars as Kaneko, Miyazaki, Matsuzaki, Suzuki, and others that we must look for immediate and strenuous efforts to make accessible the material that exists so abundantly. It is not unlikely that the Japanese Government will come forward in a liberal spirit and give official assistance in the rescue and preservation of the documentary treasures. If, as in the case of the treasures of art, a commission could be appointed to visit the temples to collect, examine and classify the records they contain, and to publish translations of a part or of the whole, the first and most important step will have been taken towards the solution of the historical questions that are forcing themselves upon our attention, and a lasting benefit will have been conferred upon science.

The PRESIDENT, after thanking Professor Wigmore in the name of the Society for the great trouble he had taken in editing Dr. Simmons' full and valuable notes, and generally in preparing the paper portions of which they had just heard read, said there was one point about these notes which made them less valuable than they might otherwise have been. He referred to the fact that Dr. Simmons had often omitted to give authority for his statements. Many of these had been gathered in conversation with his Japanese friends; and a doubt naturally arises in one's mind as to how far these are reliable. All that can be said is that many of the views expressed in Dr. Simmons' notes were entertained by the Japanese themselves. What was desiderated in these notes was a clear reference in every case to the source of information, whether documentary or oral. This, he understood, had not been done by Dr. Simmons. It was interesting to note how in some respects the same thing cropped up no matter where we went. Similar circumstances gave rise to similar facts. For example it had been noted that those who conducted legal affairs in these communities were not supposed to receive any fees. The same rule held in Rome; and in England a barrister's payment is in the eyes of the law an *honorarium* not a fee. Interesting as the extracts read had been, he was sure that members would find in the paper when published a collection of still more interesting facts and opinions.

Dr. AMERMAN said that, although he quite agreed with the remarks made by the President, he thought it well to point out that, however much Dr. Simmons had relied on his conversations with Japanese, he had not relied altogether on such. He had collected quite a library of books both printed and in manuscript. Some of these had been very difficult to obtain, being collections of traditions which had come down for centuries before being put down on paper. It was matter of deep regret that some of the more valuable of these had quite disappeared since Dr. Simmons' death, and could not be traced anywhere.

Professor WIGMORE said that in the preface (which he had not read to the meeting), he had catalogued all the sources of information used by

Dr. Simmons; and that wherever it was possible he had obtained corroborative or contradictory evidence from trustworthy sources. In all such matters there are two distinct sources of information, documentary and oral. Where a written law exists nothing more is to be done. But there are many traditions and customs for which no written law exists; for these information must be oral. From some old book a written law might be unearthed and translated, which a short conversation with an intelligent Japanese would prove to have fallen into disuse many years ago. In fact information derived from written law was of little value; while information derived from unwritten custom was of supreme importance. In the paper he had indicated where documentary or oral would be best.

Professor DROPPERS remarked that having come late he had possibly missed portions bearing more particularly upon land tenure, that is upon the relation of tenant and landlord in regard to rent, taxes, and so forth. The portions he had heard dealt rather with village customs than with land tenure. Accordingly he wished to know if Dr. Simmons had collected any information calculated to throw light on a very dark subject indeed.

Professor WIGMORE replied that as the subject was not one which Dr. Simmons had given close attention to, his notes bearing on it were naturally incomplete. In a part of the paper which had not been read, he had himself tried to draw some conclusions, guided in large measure by what is known to have occurred in Europe. The subject of land tenure in Japan is an exceedingly difficult one. The customs and laws no doubt varied greatly from daimyate to daimyate. A very elaborate study of the numerous records preserved all over the country would be the first step in attacking the problem. Perhaps fifty years hence, the Asiatic Society may be prepared to give the subject a lucid discussion.

The meeting then adjourned.

UNION CHURCH.

Few if any more enjoyable gatherings have been celebrated here than that held on the 5th inst. at the Mission Home, No. 212, Bluff. Upwards of one hundred and twenty of the members and congregation of the Union Church availed of the general invitation kindly extended by the Ladies of the Home, and it is safe to affirm that no Church Sociable has previously been given in Yokohama which at all approaches it in all the features of a successful meeting. The meeting opened with the well-known hymn "Blest be the tie that binds," and prayer. After the chair had been taken by Mr. W. F. Page, who in a few well-chosen remarks explained the business of the evening, and touched upon the occasion for gratitude the Church and congregation undoubtedly had in connection with the unlooked-for success the undaunted efforts put forth by certain of their number, notably Mr. C. V. Sale, had called forth, the Rev. E. S. Booth rose and read the following report of the Committee appointed early in the year for the consideration of the proposal for the purchase of a pipe organ.

The committee appointed at the meeting of the Church held on 31st January last to consider the suggested purchase of a pipe organ have now the pleasure to report that over 500 dollars was collected or promised during the first three days' canvass, and that it was consequently decided to accept Mr. Griffin's very kind offer to select an instrument on his visit to England.

After much research involving the inspection and trial of over 50 Organs one was purchased from Messrs. Conacher & Co., of Huddersfield, for £200. It arrived here in July per steamer *Pak Ling* of the C.S.M.S.N. Co. to whom we are indebted for a very substantial reduction in freight, and was opened as you are all aware on the 9th October by a first recital and concert.

Its cost has been defrayed by subscriptions and by the proceeds of two Recitals given with the kind aid of several of the leading vocalists of Yokohama, and a choir of about 35 of our fellow-residents. The treasurer's statement of account is in your hands.

It would be impossible to acknowledge in detail the many kind proofs of interest and sympathy which the undertaking has called forth, but the committee desire especially to express their thanks to Mr. Griffin, whose share in bringing the matter to a successful issue is known to you, and it is owing to his goop judgment that they are able to congratulate the Church on having obtained so excellent an instrument at so low a cost.

EUGENE S. BOOTH,
Chairman of Committee.

UNION CHURCH ORGAN FUND.—TREASURER'S STATEMENT.

Subscriptions received per list	1,714.00
Proceeds of first concert	22.00
Proceeds of second concert	185.00
Received for ship damage	15.00
Cost of organ including freight and insurance	
£100 @ 3/6	574.84
£100 @ 3/6	751.76
Duty	54.57
Landing	11.80
Fire Insurance to July, 1891	25.41
Night watchman, 3 months	18.40
Foundations and blower's room	81.75
Platform and repairs to roof	25.00
Carpenters, cordies, and sundries	75.50
Expenses, first concert	55.62
Expenses, second concert	40.34

E. & O. E. 1,708.00 1,708.00

Yokohama, 1st December, 1890.

CHARLES V. SALE, TREASURER.

Examined with vouchers and found correct.

L. POLLARD,
W. D. S. EDWARDS, } Auditors.

LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

C. B. Allen, Esq.	100.00	Mrs. Noble	10.00
A. S. Amund, Esq.	10.00	E. P. Nuttall, Esq.	10.00
J. R. Anglin, Esq.	10.00	W. F. Page, Esq.	50.00
Mrs. Ballagh	15.00	F. W. Palmer, Esq.	25.00
O. Balk, Esq.	15.00	Miss Paulsen	3.00
W. Barrie, Esq.	25.00	Mrs. Poole	10.00
Rev. E. S. Booth	25.00	L. Pollard, Esq.	5.00
G. Booth, Esq.	25.00	Mrs. Van Petten	15.00
G. C. Booth, Esq.	5.00	T. Rose, Esq.	50.00
R. W. Bowthick, Esq.	5.00	C. V. Sale, Esq.	100.00
Mrs. Brower	5.00	F. Truscott, Esq.	30.00
W. G. Cameron, Esq.	40.00	Captain Swait	5.00
E. B. Clarke, Esq.	5.00	Miss A. Thompson	5.00
A. W. Curtis, Esq.	1.00	W. Thompson, Esq.	5.00
Miss Deyo	1.00	E. V. Thorn, Esq.	5.00
W. D. S. Edwards, Esq.	55.00	F. Truscott, Esq.	5.00
E. B. S. Edwards, Esq.	10.00	Mrs. Welsh	10.00
Captain Esford	45.00	A. J. Wilkin, Esq.	10.00
F. O. Eastace, Esq.	5.00	Miss Winn	10.00
J. T. Griffin, Esq.	30.00	Captain Young	10.00
M/31	184.00	A Friend	1.00
Captain Gorham	30.00	A Friend	10.00
J. C. Hepburn, Esq.	10.00	A Neighbour	15.00
M. D., LL.D.	100.00	W. L. M.	10.00
A. Hearne, Esq.	5.00	J. N. A.	10.00
J. Johnstone, Esq.	10.00	L. H. P.	5.00
Rev. H. Loomis	10.00	A Friend	5.00
Mrs. Meacham	25.00		
Miss Moniton	25.00		
J. North, Esq.	5.00		
		Total	\$1,708.00

The report was carried unanimously. Immediately those present had resumed their seats the Pastor, Rev. Dr. Meacham, addressed the meeting as follows:—

Our two Organ Recitals and Concerts were successful because we had so much help from friends who are not members of our church. Acknowledgment of our obligations has been made time and again to these ladies and gentlemen. I have something else to speak of. There is a gentleman, unhappily not present with us to-night, to whom we are indebted for services beyond our power of recompense. Those concerts would not have been held; Mr. Griffin's transcendent mastery of the organ would not have been exhibited; Mr. Keil's consummate ability as a conductor (by many of us) would not have been known; the fine execution of the talented vocalists we should not have heard, but for the genius and self-sacrificing labours of Mr. Crane. It is true that sometimes he was assisted by Mr. Griffin, more frequently associated only with our young and promising organist, Mr. C. V. Sale, to whose popularity and business ability we are indebted for so excellent a report from the Organ Fund Committee. It is not known, I am sure, but by very few how much time was given and how severe and protracted were the labours cheerfully undergone by Mr. Crane in bringing our organ, which reached Yokohama in July in a state of partial wreck, into good form for church service. It will be fresh in your memory how many Sabbaths the frame of the organ stood apparently complete before we could hear it, and judge of its merits. It was thought by some that the time was needlessly prolonged between its arrival here and the public Recital. Yet all that time Mr. Crane was employed five evenings out of six for weeks together, yes, for three months (giving up not only his evenings but his summer holidays and his Saturday afternoons), in the arduous task of getting our noble instrument into a state of preparedness for the work to which it is consecrated. Mr. Crane's fine mechanical skill, his great musical talent, his time and labour have been given freely and rejoicingly—for it has been a labour of love—to the end that we might have an organ which would better help us worship God in the service of song. We are forbidden to give expression in some tangible form to the feelings of gratitude which swell in our hearts and which are entirely unsatisfied with the utterance of mere words. We submit, however, with the best grace we can to the restraints which are put upon us. But all the more we crowd into our words all the meaning that these words can convey. It is therefore with the liveliest feelings of appreciation that I move, that the hearty, unanimous, and standing vote of thanks of this Church Meeting be given to our dear friend, Mr. Crane, for services which we can never repay, but which we pray the Great Head of the Church will abundantly reward in the day of eternity.

This motion was seconded by Mr. Sale, and carried amid applause, every one standing in token of the high appreciation in which Mr. Crane's rare and self-denying labours were held. Regret was expressed that Mr. Crane had made it quite clear to his fellow-Committee men that more tangible evidence of the Church's gratitude would only fail in its avowed purpose. The Chairman alluded to the very considerable part Mr. Crane's family had played in the arduous work, though mostly in an indirect way. One other duty of a less agreeable nature concluded the purely business part of the meeting. A successor, pro tem. was chosen in the place of Mr. W. Hoggan, who for about two years had, despite great occasional inconvenience, discharged the work of Treasurer. Mr. Wilkin moved a very warm vote of thanks to Mr. Hoggan for his generous and patient help, in the course of his few remarks alluding in terms of high commendation to the assistance rendered the Church. The motion was promptly seconded and carried unanimously. This proved the signal for the retirement of a large number to the capacious school rooms, where during the rest of the evening all who could made merry, recalling only in a slightly less degree to the bystanders than to themselves, old days at home when surroundings often conducted to sunny and unrestrained mirth and festivity. The gathering broke up at 10.30 o'clock.

THE BARRISTERS BILL.

Art. 1.—*Bengoshi* (Barristers) shall carry on the following business in compliance with applications made to them, or in accordance with the orders of Courts of Law in cases provided by law.

(1.) Making statements and arguments in ordinary Courts of Law on behalf of parties concerned therein.

(2.) Drawing up petitions, preliminary documents, and other documents necessary for legal proceedings.

Art. 2.—Barristers may not carry on business until they have had their names registered on the rolls of *Chiho Saibansho* (Local Courts), *Koso-in* (Appeal Courts), or the *Daishin-in* (Court of Cassation).

Art. 3.—Those who desire to apply for registration of their names on the roll of Barristers in the *Daishin-in*, shall send in their applications, addressed to the Minister of State for Justice, to the *Kenji Socho* (Prosecutor General), while those who desire to apply for registration of their names on the roll of Barristers in *Koso-in* or Local Courts, shall send in their applications to *Kenji Cho* (Chief Procurators).

Art. 4.—The application for registration should be accompanied by a document certifying the following items, and such document should be supported by the guarantee of two or more Barristers:

(1.) That the applicant has successfully passed the examinations according to the Rules for the Examination of Barristers provided by the Minister of State for Justice.

(2.) That before making the application, he has been studying in the office of a Barrister, or in a court of law for a period of one year and a half or over.

(3.) That he has attained the age of 25 years.

(4.) That his mental and physical conditions render him capable of carrying on the profession of Barrister.

(5.) That he has never committed any act of felony (such as have committed offences against the State, and have succeeded in recovering their public rights, are excepted) nor any act of misdemeanor punishable with hard labour, and that his general conduct is good.

(6.) That he has never been legally declared insolvent or bankrupt, or if so declared, that he has since discharged his liability to his creditors.

(7.) That, in case of applying for registration on the rolls of an appeal court, he has been a Barrister practicing in a local court for 5 years or more, and in case of applying for registration on the rolls in the *Daishin-in*, he has been a Barrister practicing in an Appeal Court for 5 years or over.

Art. 5.—Graduates of the Law Department of the Imperial University or of the late Tokyo University can use their certificate of graduation in place of the certificate mentioned in Article 1. Those who have been judges, procurators, or professors of law in the Imperial University, or who are qualified to be judges or procurators, can apply for registration on the rolls of local courts by simply certifying to the above facts as well as to items No. 4, No. 5, and No. 6, mentioned in the preceding article.

Candidates who have been judges, procurators,

or professors of law in the Imperial University for five years or more, can apply for registration on the rolls of Appeal Courts by certifying to the above facts as well as to items No. 4, No. 5, and No. 6, mentioned in the preceding article.

Candidates who have been presidents of local Courts, or Judges of Appeal Courts, or Judges of the *Daishin-in*, or judges, procurators, or professors of law in the Imperial University for ten years or more, can apply for registration on the rolls of the *Daishin-in* by certifying to the above facts as well as to items No. 4, No. 5, and No. 6, mentioned in the preceding Article.

Art. 6.—Any Barrister whose name has been removed from the rolls of a Court at his own request, can apply again for registration on the same or other rolls, and if he proves his former registration he need not certify to items No. 1, No. 2, and No. 3, mentioned in the 4th article.

Art. 7.—The processes relating to registration shall be in accordance with the orders of the Minister of State for Justice.

Art. 8.—Persons whose applications for registration have been granted, shall, before such registration, pay into the courts where their names are to be registered, the following fees:—

500 yen for the *Daishin-in*.

300 yen for *Koso-in*.

100 yen for Local Courts.

Art. 9.—Courts having such rolls under their control shall advertise the fact of registration in the *Official Gazette*.

Art. 10.—Barristers who have obtained registration shall give notice of the same to the Association of Barristers to which they belong, and shall deposit the following securities with such association:—

Barristers belonging to the *Daishin-in*, 200 yen.

Barristers belonging to *Koso-in*, 150 yen.

Barristers belonging to Local Courts, 100 yen.

Art. 11.—Any Barrister who has been registered on the rolls of a local court, can carry on his business in such court as well as in *Ku saibansho* (district courts) within the jurisdiction of such local court.

Any Barrister who has been registered on the rolls of an Appeal Court, can carry on business in such Appeal Court as well as in the lower courts within its jurisdiction.

Any Barrister who has been registered on the rolls of the *Daishin-in* can carry on his business in any court of law.

SHIKATA GA NAI.

Lecture delivered by Mr. F. T. PROGOTT, at the English Law School in Tokyo:—

On the last occasion when I had the honour of addressing you, I spoke at some length concerning the reasonable man. To-day I propose to talk to you about the position which another prominent person in everyday life holds in English law. Him I call the Unknown Workman.

In my former lecture I endeavoured to show you that the English Common Law, unscientific, chaotic, as many of its critics contend that it is, does rest, if we tread the track through a very forest of decisions, on a substantial basis of principle. On this basis all the great edifice of our case law has been reared: to this principle all the appalling array of our rules has an ultimate reference. The English law, in establishing its great canon that all men must at all times and in all seasons conform to the standard of reason, and in leaving the standard itself to be determined by twelve men drawn promiscuously from the reasonable community, endeavours to fulfil the great function of law; in order that the right or the wrong of any human action may be determined, to appreciate the springs of human actions in general, and above all to study the weak side of human nature as well as the strong. And so our law requires conformity to a standard which is no utopian ideal, but is based on the common course of conduct among the community to which the person belongs whose action has to be judged. A deep insight into the lives ruled can alone give satisfactory rules of living. This intimate connexion between law and life it is which gives vitality to the law, a vitality evidenced not by the multitude of the occasions on which its majestic existence is made manifest by rigorous enforcement, but by the silent unconscious every-day obedience to it. A closer connexion between the springs of law and the springs of life it is impossible to find, look we the whole world over, than in the great Common Law of England.

It is on the silent obedience to the spirit of the law that I dwell to-day, on its necessity in all the unobserved, the unseen actions of the work-a-day world, and on the complete dependence of the well-being of the community upon it. The

consideration of this question brings into very strong relief the weakness of the law: its powerlessness to enforce obedience to its rules on a thousand occasions on which disobedience to them may work incalculable harm, may bring death or disaster to many. In cases innumerable the actual wrong-doer cannot be discovered; he is one among the hundred who have contributed to the creation of the machine, for example, which has suddenly broken down, but it would pass the wit of man to discover him and bring his negligence home. So the wrong-doer goes unpunished, and if there is no vicarious liability in another person, or if some other negligent person has not intervened to change the natural or probable current of events, the person injured has no redress.

This weakness is common both to codified and uncodified bodies of law, and the one is not more elastic than the other.

I pause for a moment to correct in anticipation an erroneous conclusion which I know that some of you will draw from some of my remarks, and to refute a statement which has recently appeared in print. You know at once to what I allude: it is inevitable that I should touch incidentally upon it; it is the attitude of English lawyers towards Codification.

A learned author has said by implication—something irrelevantly it must be confessed to the question then in hand—that English lawyers oppose codification because it would touch their pockets. From so wise a mouth never yet came so unwise an utterance. It will not be out of place, however, that you, students of English law, should fully understand the opinions of English lawyers on a subject which is of such importance to your own country.

A lawyer would forfeit his claim to sanity if he opposed codification simply. The merits of codification are not to be discussed generally, but specially with a view to the necessities of any given country. Now with regard to codification for England, there are some who doubt whether it is practical, and there are others who doubt whether any specific good would come of it in the way of making the law clearer or reducing the amount of litigation; for a code after all is not a royal road for making people behave themselves and preventing them quarrelling. Well, as I say, some English lawyers may hold strong views on the subject of codification for England; but that subject has no interest at all for you: it has nothing whatever to do with the question of codification for Japan. And if your admiration for English law is so great as to lead you to think that at this momentous time of your national history it would have been better to do without Codes, that you might now safely wait till a fabric of law like our Common Law has been built by your diligence and erudition, believe me you are profoundly in error. Codes in Japan were inevitable, and not regrettable. But what I said to you before, I say to you again: the virtue of what you are so intelligently learning, the efficacy of the skilful training you are receiving in English law, will reveal themselves when the good time comes, and the joy of argumentative strife waxes fast and furions round the articles of your Codes, and the big briefs roll in upon you.

Let us now go back to our subject—the unknown workman—and study some familiar illustrations of the consequences of his carelessness, and the way in which the law deals with them. You are walking in the street; a cask rolls out upon your head from the upper window of a godown. As you are going into a shop a pile of packages set up in the doorway tumbles down upon you, or a piece of glass falls from the window of a neighbouring shop which has been broken by a ladder falling against it. Some one evidently must have set the cask down, or piled up the packages, or left the ladder standing carelessly; or some one must deliberately or negligently have knocked them down. The chances are that in such case it was some careless workman who has gone home to his dinner, and it is beyond your power to find him. Well, the law helps you to redress by making an assumption. Neither barrels, nor cases, nor ladders fall of their own accord: there must have been negligence somewhere. Therefore where it is reasonable to assume that this negligence was that of the servants of the owner of the premises, the law says "the thing speaks for itself;" it holds the master liable unless he can rebut the presumption, as by showing that an earthquake had tumbled them over. This is the principle *res ipsa loquitur*; and its application to the three cases just mentioned is as follows. The owner of the godown will be liable because his servants only touch the barrels stored there. For the same reason the shopman will be liable, because no one but his servants can have stacked the cases at his door. But the owner of the adjoining premises whose windows were broken by the falling ladder will not be liable, for some one else over whom he had no control, for whose

acts he is not vicariously liable, may have left it in an insecure position or kicked it over: the ladder was not necessarily used in his own business, and therefore the assumption of law cannot be applied, the facts of themselves do not warrant any definite conclusion. You have no redress unless you can find the wrong-doer. Here then is an instance of the unknown workman going scot free, and no one being liable on his behalf.

Let us take another case which is dealt with on another principle. A man is walking along the highway and passes under a railway bridge. A brick falls out of the bridge and injures him. It may have been loosened by frost, but it must have been the frost of many nights, not of one, and therefore only one conclusion is possible: the railway company were bound to keep their bridges in repair; the bridge was out of repair and caused damage; therefore they must take the consequences. This is another example of *res ipsa loquitur*. But the company works through inspectors, foremen, common workmen, often by contractors, and they in their turn by foremen and workmen. The brick is loose owing to the negligence of one of more of these many subordinates, but which will remain unknown. The negligence of the unknown workman is covered by the breach of the initial duty laid on the company. Thus in this case redress to the injured party is granted not by reason of any assumption of vicarious liability, but by an appeal to the broad duty laid on the company which excludes any consideration of the actual wrongdoer, whether he be a servant, an independent contractor, or a contractor's servant. The books are full of such cases; the chapters on the laws of Negligence and of Master and Servant teem with them; it is unnecessary for me to elaborate them for you. I have given you sufficient examples of the first principle which deals with the unknown workman. If it can be assumed that he was the servant of another, and was engaged in his master's business when he acted negligently his master is liable. And again if it can be shown that there was a duty to do without negligence what the unknown workman has done negligently, or to do what he has failed to do, then he will be liable on whom the duty falls. The unknown workman is ignored. But because he is ignored he is none the less liable for his own misdeed, only he cannot be traced. We know that someone has blundered, but we cannot find the blunderer.

The second principle which affects him tells in his favour, and would protect him even if he were not unknown. It springs from the operation of the law of Remoteness of Damage. Known or unknown, a man's liability for the consequences of a negligent or any other wrongful act ceases at a certain point. When these consequences, causes and consequences, have ceased to follow one another in a natural, probable, or reasonably-to-be-expected manner, the act which set them in motion ceases to be considered in the eye of the law as the cause. That which has unexpectedly intervened and directed the sequence of events into a new channel is the cause, and again the unknown workman drops out of consideration. The intervening cause may be inanimate, and then the unknown workman goes scot-free; or the intervening cause may be an animate being whence arises some chance of redress: for the new act may be itself negligent or otherwise wrongful, and then its author is liable. Curiously enough the law does not discriminate between the two wrongful acts, attributing the effects carefully to their two authors, but in many cases makes the later wrong-doer responsible for all. Take this case. The workmen of a carriage-builder fit the parts of a wheel together negligently. A coachman drives it negligently and runs over some one, but the injuries are considerably aggravated, by the fact that the badly-made wheel breaks down at the critical moment. The coachman, or his master, is liable, although the unknown workman has very materially contributed to the disaster.

It would occupy all the time allotted to me if I were to trace these principles by example through all their ramifications: two more well-known cases will be quite sufficient. There is a potico in front of a railway station; its roof is being mended; through a hole in it a plank and a roll of zinc fall on an unsuspecting passenger much to his hurt; at the moment of the accident he looks up and just catches sight through the aperture of a man's legs. Both parties to the quarrel seem to have taken it for granted that the plank and the zinc fell in consequence of something this man did upon the roof: but the man himself had passed among his fellows and had become the unknown workman, whom neither lawyer nor layman could discover. Once more. A ship is in dry dock having her hull painted; the dock-owner supplies the staging and all the necessary appliances; the ropes of the staging give way, and one of the painters is thrown to the bottom of the dock and suffers grievous bodily harm. It is not difficult to see the unknown work-

man scamping his work, talking politics perhaps to his mates, instead of seeing that the ropes were sound before they were handed over. But who he was, by reason of his being one of the great unknown, has become as unimportant as the matter he was discussing. The question of redressing the wrong has to be fought on other grounds: relief has to be given, if at all, as against somebody who did not do the actual wrong. Now see how fine a distinction separates the case in which relief is given from that in which it is withheld. Arguments of the subtlest kind evolved out of the facts of the ship case a duty on the dock-owner which he himself had broken. A duty on the dock-owner mind you. Intervening contracts removed the question of vicarious liability as between master and servant. The duty on the person who had supplied the dock owner with the staging to supply it sound and good according to his contract, and its evident breach, was passed over. The dock-owner had practically invited the person injured to use the dock appliances provided for the work as incident to the use of the dock; the invitation raised the duty of taking reasonable care that the appliances were in a state fit to be used: and the findings of the jury showed that this duty had been violated.

Arguments no less subtle failed in the railway case either to evolve out of the facts any breach of an analogous duty on the railway company or to attach to it vicarious liability.

Think then, with regard to the actual cause of all the mischief, how powerless the law is: technical objections innumerable stand in the way of launching writs promiscuously and fishing for causes of action: the barriers between the unknown workman and his unfortunate victim are almost insuperable. The question underlies the whole course of daily existence; but the law reaches only the fringe of the difficulty, applying to it principles which do not even consider the actual wrongdoer. The unknown workman touches us at every point. How many do you think have assisted in bringing me from my house to this lecture hall? How many in making the journey from Tokyo to Yokohama as easy as it is? How many in constructing the ship that will shortly take me home to England? Five minutes careless work on the part of any one of them might do incalculable harm to those who have to rely upon their work; perhaps bring swift destruction upon them. And yet though the remedy is imperfect, we accept the risks every day without thinking, basing our acceptance on nothing but a reliance on the steadiness of a hundred and more workmen of whom we know absolutely nothing.

There is, however, a compensating element to this incapacity of the law to reach the actual wrongdoer. The British workman in spite of certain curious crooks in his character is a most estimable person. Take him all round he is not a careless workman: accidents will happen of course, but he never yet was known deliberately to scamp his work. If he were going out on strike at noon, he would be found doing his best work at half-past eleven. And why? Because he knows, it has been drilled into him from the earliest days of his apprenticeship, that human lives may depend on the excellence of his work: he knows that the public have confidence in him and feel that they travel with security. Not one of ten thousand artificers who have helped to build a train, the carpenters, the joiners, the ironsmiths, but knows what depends upon him, and works with a direct sense of individual responsibility, in spite of the fact that he knows too that a fault can never be brought home to him. And we, the public, know of this sense of responsibility and acquire corresponding confidence. And thus out of the very powerlessness of the law have sprung, by action and reaction, that sense of responsibility, and the feeling of confidence which are absolutely essential to the well-being and security of the community.

I speak now through you to a wider audience. Can you not see the connexion between this branch of the law of Negligence and the phrase I have taken as the text of my lecture, *shikata ga nai*? English children are told in their earliest years of a certain man who was called "Don't care," and who ultimately came to a bad end—he was hanged I think. And "Don't care" had a numerous family about whose fate nursery history is not so precise, though there can be little doubt that they too suffered the extreme penalty of the law, for their deserts were no greater than their father's. They were christened "never mind," "what does it matter?" "Can't be helped," and many other similar names. One of them was born in France; he had a nasty trick of shrugging his shoulders, and was called "*Tant pis*." But this expression *shikata ga nai* the world has come to take as representative of one queer side of the Japanese character; and there is not much difference between not caring for consequences

after they have happened and not caring for consequences before they happen. For all observers they stand in the same plane.

The march of Japan from her own civilization to the civilization of the West is marked by the usual incidents: steamboats, railways, omnibuses, telegraphs, electric lights, have appeared one after the other. But something more is necessary. The repose of Western civilization depends on that perfect confidence I have been talking to you about: the perfect confidence of the public in the unknown workmen on whom the safe conduct of these vehicles, the safe transmission of these dangerous elements depend.

This confidence can only be bred of the experience of many years. Does it exist in Japan? It is for you to answer, not for me. If I had to answer I do not think it would be in the negative. Indeed, I am disposed to say that the wonder which Japan has forced from the nations of the West arises not from the mere adoption of their appliances but from the fact that, certainly with regard to all public works, this confidence and this repose have already come into being. Does it extend any deeper? It would be premature as yet to insist upon an answer. It is for the unknown workmen to determine whether by-and-by it shall be yes or no.

But just as the law of negligence covers more than mere negligence in the ordinary sense, and includes neglect of proper precaution, recklessness, and heedlessness; so the feeling which *shikata ga nai* expresses may engender all the different forms of disregard of consequences. And just as the duties which the law of negligence deals with are precisely identical in point of principle with the duties which, under more definite names, are scattered through the whole law, dealing with every phase of life, and concerning every incident of it; so the spirit of *shikata ga nai* may influence for evil any and every action wherein care is necessary, forethought, right dealing, scrupulous behaviour, honesty of purpose, and consideration for others. And this whether in the narrow spheres of individual life, or in the wider scope of public duty.

Young men of Japan, I have something to say to you before I leave your shores. In your hands lies all the future destiny of your country. The generation that is passing away has begun the work: it is but begun, and it is for you to carry it forward to its legitimate end. Are you fit, are you fitting yourselves, for the task that the old men have laid upon your shoulders? Or is your work cramped by that influence for evil of which I have just been talking? Again it is not for me to find the answer; it is for you to be prepared to give it when the nation asks it of you.

There is a cry current among you, Japan for the Japanese: it is for you to show that it is not a mere empty babbling to the air. It springs from the best spirit in the world; it is one with which an Englishman must always be in sympathy, for in many a page of his own history the city of England for the English is written larger than life itself. But perverted, it will hurl the shouters into a sea of troubles. It is well for you that you should know that even in the minds of those foreigners who have your country's best interests at heart—believe me they are many—those who see the springs at work beneath the surface, there is a doubt whether the young men of Japan are equal to the stress and strain of the days that lie ahead. They see young men full of high purpose sacrificing themselves and their careers to the cause they have at heart; they see others sacrificing the public good to serve their own ambition! Among your younger officials are many who have realized that a career of usefulness cannot even be begun until they have been as little children in teachableness. But there are others, full of the pride of a newly acquired but somewhat slender stock of learning who rebel at the presence of foreign advisers in their midst, whose years of study number more than the months of those they have come to guide. There is a magnificent conceit about the possessors of a little knowledge: above all they court public recognition of it; they would be amusing fellows, and an interesting study were they not so dangerous. They at least will never consent to be among the unknown workmen.

But in the work which any State demands, many must be content to remain unknown: and in this State, more than in any, it is necessary that what the unknown workmen do should be done thoroughly, with earnestness of purpose, with a view to the public good, and with a complete effacement of the private aim.

Remember that here, of necessity, young men undertake offices which, in the countries lying to the far east of Japan, are filled by men only after they have reached their riper years of learning and experience. There is no one but wishes success to attend their labours.

As I come to this sheet of many notes I find them much scored and corrected. I had in my mind many harsh and critical things to say; but they are better hinted at than said; for it is ill to leave a country wherein one has been at least half guest with an ungracious word upon the lips. But the other, the adviser half of me, would leave a duty unfulfilled, if I did not pray in aid of the good work which so many of your young men are doing, a little less self-assertion on the part of some, a little more restraint of that spirit of *shikata ga nai* which must deflect the good from its ultimate aim, the better. What Japan has done in the past, what she is doing to-day, is enough to make her wonder whether it is really nothing to all those who pass by. The nations of the West are very busy with their own affairs, but they are watching, and are ready to admit that it is indeed something to be proud of. But what Japan will do to-morrow concerns her and them more. The time to serve up butter before you on a lordly dish has passed away; it is the time for criticism of the hardest, sternest sort: criticism, not of what the old men have done but of what the young are doing. Men of the greater sort never yet shrunk from criticism, never yet regretted to admit that they were for the better for it.

Students of the English Law School of Japan, you too will soon have your part to play in public life. When you come, as some of you must come, to administer the laws of your country, I trust you will never shake off the influence of the great Common Law of England whose principles you have been so eager to understand, nor forget to follow in the footsteps of the great Judges who have established them.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, December 6th.

Professor Koch has discovered remedies for the prevention and cure of diphtheria and tetanus.

London, December 9th.

A resolution has been introduced in the House of Representatives ordering the Treasury to buy at the market price 13,000,000 ounces of silver now, the United States Government to afterwards confine itself to monthly purchases of silver of home production.

London, December 10th.

Mr. Parnell is going to Ireland to address meetings in the chief towns.

The adjournment of Parliament has taken place, and the House will not meet again till the 22nd of January.

In consequence of the stringency of the money market and a great depression in stocks, it is feared that a financial crisis must result; the Cabinet has met to discuss the situation.

The commercial crisis in the United States continues, and further failures are reported.

Later.

The feeling in regard to the American financial situation is more confident.

Mr. Parnell has arrived in Dublin, and has been received with extraordinary enthusiasm.

(FROM THE "SINGAPORE FREE PRESS.")

London, November 22nd.

His Majesty the King of the Netherlands expired peacefully at six o'clock on Sunday morning; the sudden appearance of uræmia the previous evening hastened death. A Cabinet Council has been summoned, all public buildings have been closed, and other tokens of mourning are being observed.

London, November 24th.

His Imperial Highness the Czarevitch has arrived at Cairo.

The Italian elections have gone in favour of the Government.

Michael Davitt, it is reported, demands the retirement of Mr. Parnell, M.P.

London, November 25th.

The Court of Queen's Bench has fined Miss E. J. C. Cobden £125 and costs for sitting in the London County Council for Bow and Bromley Division.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki & Kobe	per N. Y. K.	Friday, Dec. 19th.
From America via Hongkong	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Dec. 20th.
From Europe via Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 14th.
From America via Hongkong	per O. & O. Co.	Wed. day, Dec. 24th.
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 21st.

* City of Rio de Janeiro left San Francisco via Honolulu on November 30th. † Yagui (with French mail) left Shanghai on December 9th. ‡ Taitis left San Francisco on December 6th. The English mail is on board the steamer Oxford.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Dec. 16th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, Dec. 16th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. M. P. Co.	Thursday, Dec. 18th.
For Europe, via Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 21st.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Dec. 17th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

General Werder, German steamer, 1,820, Eichel, 6th December.—Hongkong 29th November, General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.
Parthia, British steamer, 2,035, J. Pantton, 7th December.—Vancouver, B.C., 20th November, General.—C. P. M. S.S. Co.
Radnorshire, British steamer, 1,889, F. K. Dames, R.N.R., 7th December.—Hongkong 30th November, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.
Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Brown, 7th December.—Kobe 6th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Verona, British steamer, 1,878, F. H. Seymour, 7th December.—Hongkong 28th November, Nagasaki 3rd, and Kobe 6th December, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Wolf (4), German gunboat, Captain Credner, 7th December.—Kobe 4th December.
Telamon, British steamer, 1,555, H. F. Jackson, 8th December.—Hongkong 1st December, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Straits of Belle Isle, British steamer, 1,580, Grigs, 8th December.—Vancouver, B.C., 1st November, General.—C.P. M. S.S. Co.
Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 9th December.—Hakodate 6th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Oanfa, British steamer, 1,987, W. S. Thompson, 9th December.—Kobe 8th December, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.
Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 10th December.—Kobe 8th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,197, Gosch, 10th December.—Yokosuka Dock 10th December.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, J. Wynn, 10th December.—Hakodate 8th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Glenochil, British steamer, 1,537, Hay, 11th December.—Kobe 9th December, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Straits of Belle Isle, British steamer, 2,484, Grigs, 11th December.—Put back.—C. P. M. S.S. Co.
Sikh, British steamer, 1,736, Rowley, 12th December.—Nagasaki 9th December, Coal.—Adamson, Bell & Co.
City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, R. R. Searle, 13th December.—Hongkong 6th December, General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Pigny (6), gunboat, Captain H. Hewett, 13th December.—Target Practice.
Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 13th December.—Shanghai and ports 6th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Milverton, British ship, 2,112, Hansford, 6th December.—Yokosuka Dock, Ballast.—Captain.
Wakansura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, Kendeine, 6th December.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Djemnah, French steamer, 2,200, Bonnefoy, 8th December.—Shanghai via Kobe, General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.
Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 9th December.—Shanghai and ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Brown, 9th December.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
General Werder, German steamer, 1,820, Eichel, 10th December.—Hongkong via ports, General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Parthia, British steamer, 2,035, J. Pantton, 10th December.—Hongkong via ports, General.—C. P. M. S.S. Co.
Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 10th December.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Straits of Belle Isle, British steamer, 2,484, Grigs, 11th December.—Kobe, General.—C. P. M. S.S. Co.
Pigny (6), gunboat, Commander H. Hewett, 11th December.—Target Practice.
Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 11th December.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Josephus, British ship, 1,397, T. Rogers, 12th December.—Kobe, Ballast.—Smith, Baker & Co.
Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, J. Wynn, 12th December.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Radnorshire, British steamer, 1,889, F. K. Dames, R.N.R., 12th December.—Kobe, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.
Omaha (12), U.S. flagship, Captain Cromwell, 12th December.—Kobe.
Oanfa, British steamer, 1,987, W. S. Thompson, 13th December.—Kobe, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.
Telamon, British steamer, 1,555, H. F. Jackson, 13th December.—Kobe, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Verona, British steamer, 1,878, F. H. Seymour, 13th December.—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per German steamer *General Werder*, from Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. Theodor Hake, Mr. and Mrs. E. Gordon Lowder, Mr. and Mrs. E. Mullendorff, child, and European nurse, Mr. C. E. Rothe, Colonel Tanner, Messrs. Kamsrup, Tchan Ming Shan, Sego Iguchi, Dr. M. Koike, Dr. E. Nori, Dr. Suzuki, Mr. Hing Kee, Mr. Mishima, Mrs. Elisabeth Kopper and Mr. Kufferrath in cabin; 1 European and 19 Chinese in steerage.
 Per British steamer *Parthia*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Dr. Laning, nurse, and three children, Miss Laning, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Baker, Mr. Douglas Dick, Capt. Grant, Mrs. A. H. Rennie, Mr. I. B. Fisher, Mr. Jas. Johnstone, and Mrs. Jas. Strotthof in cabin.
 Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Hakodate:—Messrs. Sugiyama and Oligata in cabin; 22 passengers in steerage.
 Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. P. A. Nicolle, F. Shigihisa, and G. Yamashita in cabin; 3 passengers in second class, and 56 passengers in steerage.
 Per Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, from Hakodate:—Messrs. Sonoda and Nakagawa in cabin; 5 passengers in second class, and 94 passengers in steerage.
 Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from Hongkong:—Captain C. F. H. Davidson in cabin; 2 Chinese in steerage. For San Francisco: Major E. Watson in cabin; 2 Europeans in steerage.
 Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. F. Gillett and infant, Miss C. Rice, Messrs. H. A. Scheuten, W. Darlington, F. Darlington, Mizagawa, and Kiang Hang Lung in cabin; Captain Nicol and Mr. Itohida in second class, and 41 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, for Kobe:—Messrs. Nodzu and Kishi in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. Sengoku, Mrs. Kaga, Mr. Shiraiwa, Mrs. T. Ozawa, and Miss H. Ozawa in second class, and 56 passengers in steerage.
 Per French steamer *Djemnah*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Mr. Geo. Sale, Mr. W. Callers, Mrs. Ford, Lieut.-Com. and Mrs. J. Marthon, Miss Werner, Messrs. G. Herrero, Bonnat, Alex. Park, Robert Henkel, Minollo, Dr. E. Monceaux, Messrs. la Conture, Mallet, Le Bourgne, Lasbleiz, Rubel, Leca, Miss Taki Suyeyoshi, Messrs. H. O. Newland, A. D. Smith, L. G. Probyn, J. Callers, Bedout and servant, Colcombet, A. Delecraz, James Winstanley, and Captain and Mrs. Bougouin and child in cabin.
 Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Rev. Langborne Leitch, Mr. and Mrs. W. V. Drummond and child, Mr. C. W. Everard, Mr. J. Newcome, Captain R. Crawford, Messrs. C. Denby, Jun., R. Ide, J. Arikawa, H. Shiginobe, K. Yabe, Learned, and T. Darlington in cabin; Mr. H. Sue Heng and Mrs. and Miss Ide in second class, and 44 passengers in steerage.
 Per German steamer *General Werder*, for Hongkong via ports:—Messrs. W. W. Wells, F. O. Halifax, S. Akashi, Dr. S. Torii, Messrs. S. Kashimura, F. Schmucker, P. Aug. Holst, Takatsu Goro, and Hugh Fisch in cabin; 13 Chinese

in second class, and 3 Europeans and 31 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, for Hakodate:—Messrs. Nishioka and S. Hayashi in cabin; Messrs. Saiki and Sawamoto in second class, and 42 passengers in steerage.

CARGO.

Per French steamer *Djemnah*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Silk for France 416 bales; Waste silk for France 371 bales; Treasure for Singapore \$100,000.

REPORTS.

The German steamer *General Werder*, Captain Eichel, reports:—Left Hongkong the 29th November at 2.50 p.m.; had through the Formosa Channel strong breeze from E.N.E. and N.E. with rough sea; thence to port with light variable winds and very high easterly swell; delayed outside Sagami through dense fog from 9 p.m. on the 5th until 10 a.m. on the 6th December. Arrived at Yokohama at 1.10 p.m.

The British steamer *Parthia*, Captain Pantton, reports:—Left Vancouver the 20th November at 11.20 a.m. Arrived at Victoria at 5.45 p.m. and left at 6 p.m.; had moderate S.E. winds and fine weather; the 22nd moderate S.E. gale with very heavy sea; engines eased down for 10½ hours; the 23rd to 26th inclusive, moderate westerly winds with heavy head swell; the 27th fresh N.W. gale with very heavy sea, engines eased for 11 hours; the 29th crossed meridian in 49 N., fresh westerly winds and showers; the 30th fresh S.W. gale with very heavy sea, slowed for 15½ hours; the 1st December moderate westerly winds with heavy head swell; the 3rd and 4th moderate westerly winds and fine weather; the 4th passed *Batavia* at 5.50 a.m.; the 5th light southerly winds with heavy swell; at 2.45 p.m. passed O. & O. steamer *Belgic* bound east; the 6th light winds with passing rain; made the land at 3.40 p.m. Arrived at Yokohama the 7th December at 1.35 p.m. Actual time on voyage 16 days, 8 hours, 45 minutes.

The Japanese steamer *Satsuma Maru*, Captain Brown, reports:—Left Kobe the 6th December at noon; had fine weather and light northerly winds; passed Oshima at 9 p.m.; thence moderate N.N.E. winds and head sea up to Rock Island; afterwards light northerly air and fine weather up to arrival at Yokohama, the 7th December at 7.30 p.m.

The British steamer *Straits of Belle Isle*, Captain Grigs, reports:—Left Nanaimo the 4th November at 12.15 a.m.; experienced strong westerly gales right across. On the 23rd passed through fierce typhoon; vessel heave to for 36 hours, lowest barometer reading 28.69. On the 30th heavy W.N.W. gale; vessel heave to for 12 hours.

The Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, Captain Ekstrand, reports:—Left Hakodate the 6th December at 2 a.m.; had fresh S.E. breeze, overcast, with rain and heavy head sea in Tsugaru Straits; at 4 a.m. on the 7th wind and sea moderating and weather getting fine. Arrived at Oginohama at 1.45 p.m. and left the 8th at 5 a.m.; had light breeze, overcast sky, and easterly swell; at 8 p.m. wind and sea increasing rapidly with passing rain squalls; midnight fresh gale from south blowing, and heavy sea running, much water on deck; strong breeze and rainy weather continuing to Kanon-saki, when weather moderated. Arrived at Yokohama the 9th December at 10.45 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, Captain Young, reports:—Left Kobe the 8th December at 0.45 p.m.; had weather cloudy with heavy rain, strong S.E. gale with high sea in the Kii Channel; with heavy squalls; passed Oshima the 9th at 0.20 a.m. wind shifting to the S.W. and taking off a little; weather clearing but heavy sea continuing; passed Rock Island at 3.20 p.m., moderate and fine weather from thence to port. Arrived at Yokohama at 10 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, Captain Wynn, reports:—Left Hakodate the 8th December at 2 p.m.; had light easterly winds to Shiiya saki; thence strong S. to S.W. with rain and heavy head seas to Kinkasan; thence to port light northerly winds and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 10th December at 5.45 p.m.

The American steamer *City of Peking*, Captain Searle, reports:—Left Hongkong the 6th December; had fresh E. and N.E. winds and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 1st December.

The Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, Captain Swain, reports:—Left Shanghai the 6th December at 5.50 a.m.; had light E. and N.E. winds with fine weather. Arrived at Nagasaki the 8th at 1 a.m. and left at 5.50 p.m.; had light N. winds with thick rainy weather. Arrived at Shimomoseki the 9th at 2 p.m. and left at 2.45 p.m. Arrived at Kobe the 10th at 3 p.m. and left the 11th at 2.30 p.m.; had light winds and fine pleasant weather to Rock Island; thence strong N.E. winds to port. Arrived at Yokohama the 12th December at 0.30 p.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The Import trade still continues in a lifeless and depressed condition. Sales reported during the week only amount to 110 bales English Yarns, 30 bales Bombays, and 2,500 pieces glb. Shirtings.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ yds, 39 inches	\$1.35 to 1.90
Grey Shirtings—9 lb, 38½ yds, 45 inches	1.60 to 2.50
1. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.15 to 1.47
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 43 inches	1.20 to 1.60
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 38 inches	1.70 to 2.00
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	0.07 to 0.11
Turkey Reds—1½ to 2½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.00 to 1.15
Turkey Reds—2½ to 3½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.20 to 1.40
Turkey Reds—3½ to 4½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.40 to 2.05
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	4.50 to 6.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.50 to 0.65
Taffetas, 12 yards, 43 inches	1.35 to 2.25

WOOLLENS.

Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches	\$4.00 to 5.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.24 to 28
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.20 to 24
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.16 to 10
Mousseline de laine—Craps, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.14 to 0.15
Cloths—Prints, 54 to 56 inches	0.10 to 0.45
Cloths—Prints, 54 to 56 inches	0.30 to 0.60
Cloths—Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.35 to 0.60
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3½ lb, per lb	0.30 to 0.38

COTTON YARNS.

Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	\$2.00 to 28.00
Nos. 16/24, Medium	28.00 to 29.00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	29.00 to 30.50
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	30.00 to 31.00
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	29.00 to 30.00
Nos. 28/32, Medium	30.00 to 31.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	32.00 to 33.00
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	15.50 to 30.50
Nos. 38/42, Two-fold	34.50 to 36.00
Nos. 42/48, Two-fold	36.50 to 39.50
Nos. 20s, Bombay	70.00 to 78.00
Nos. 16s, Bombay	72.00 to 78.00
Nos. 12/14, Bombay	—

METALS.

Market unchanged. Business dull and likely to continue so until the turn of the year.

Flat Bars, 1 inch	\$2.65 to 2.75
Flat Bars, 1 inch	2.75 to 2.85
Round and square up to 1 inch	2.65 to 2.85
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.
Nailrod, small size	Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	2.80 to 3.00
Sheet Iron	3.20 to 3.40
Galvanized iron sheets	5.80 to 6.00
Wire Nails, assorted	4.40 to 4.90
Fin Plates, per box	4.60 to 4.80
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.25 to 1.27

KIROSENE.

There are some enquiries for Oil as the winter draws on, but so far no great sales have been made. Dealers generally seem to be in want of money, and there is not likely to be much trade until the yearly settlement is over.

QUOTATIONS.

Chester	\$1.65 to 1.67
Comet	1.64 to 1.65
Devoe	1.60 to 1.63
Russian	1.55 to 1.57

SUGAR.

*[Very little enquiry, and less business. Prices are nominal for want of quotable values.]

White Refined	\$5.50 to 7.90
Manila	3.60 to 4.30
Taiwanfoo	—
Pentama	2.75 to 3.00
Namida	2.80 to 3.00
Cake	3.10 to 3.80
Brown Taka	4.15 to 4.20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was dated the 5th inst. since then settlements amount to 1,000 piculs divided thus:—Hanks 31, *Filatures* 559, *Re-reels* 204, *Kakada* 171, *Oshu* 35. There have been no direct shipments during the week, the total business remaining at 1,000 piculs as above.

Our Market has been fairly steady during the week, holders being encouraged by the amount of daily trade. Exchange too has been fairly steady; the fluctuations not being large.

The principal buying of late has been decidedly for Europe; shippers picking out suitable parcels and operating currently at quotations; more es-

pecially in *Filatures* and *Re-reels*. Cables from abroad are still dull in tone and report some financial uneasiness again both in New York and London. Some large holders here are strongly inclined to keep their silk locked up till next year. Other and smaller men will probably want money for the end of the year and may sell their goods at some reduction on present quotations.

The stock list shows a further diminution of 500 piculs, which decrease is likely to continue, as arrivals will now become smaller as the winter season advances.

There have been two shipping opportunities since our last, the French and German mails; the former, *Djemnah*, on the 7th inst., took 416 bales for Europe. The latter *General Werder*, took no Raw Silk. Present export to all parts is now 10,676 piculs, against 24,730 piculs last year and 20,555 piculs on the 12th December 1888.

Hanks.—Not much business in these during the week; the only purchases being two or three parcels of common *Hachoji* at \$472½.

Filatures.—Steady buying from day to day for the Continent of Europe, and prices on the whole have been fairly well maintained. Good *Mino* and *Usen* sorts with some prime *Koshu* have brought \$605, \$600 and \$595 respectively according to chop. In second grades many parcels at about \$570 have passed the scales. For the United States but little has been done; some medium *Koshu* at \$585, with some good *Shinshu* at \$592½, but only in small quantities. The large *Filature* owners of *Shinshu* and *Koshu* are wealthy men and do not seem at all disposed to part with their silks at the present low rates.

Re-reels.—Some fair purchases have been made in this, principally in medium kinds at prices ranging from \$525 to \$540. One parcel of fair *Yoshu* was noted at \$570, with *Shorusha* at \$555. Also one small lot of good *Oshu* at \$590.

Kakada.—Some fairly large purchases in this department at prices ranging from \$520 to \$575; holders in this class have been fairly current, not having loaded themselves with dear cocoons as did the *Filature* men some months ago.

Oshu.—The only business in this class has been two parcels of medium *Sendai*, which were taken for Europe at \$500 per picul.

In Sundries no business for export.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 14	Nom.
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	Nom.
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	520 to 525
Hanks—No. 24 (Shinshu)	520 to 525
Hanks—No. 24 (Joshu)	510 to 515
Hanks—No. 24 to 3	500 to 505
Hanks—No. 3	490 to 495
Hanks—No. 34	475 to 480
<i>Filatures</i> —Extra 10/12 deniers	Nom.
<i>Filatures</i> —Extra 13/15 deniers	605 to 610
<i>Filatures</i> —No. 1, 10/15 deniers	600 to 605
<i>Filatures</i> —No. 1, 13/15, 14/17 deniers	590 to 600
<i>Filatures</i> —No. 11, 13/15, 14/17 deniers	580 to 585
<i>Filatures</i> —No. 2, 10/15 deniers	580 to 590
<i>Filatures</i> —No. 2, 14/18 deniers	570 to 575
<i>Filatures</i> —No. 3, 14/20 deniers	550 to 560
<i>Re-reels</i> —Extra	Nom.
<i>Re-reels</i> —Shinshu and Oshu Best No. 1	585 to 590
<i>Re-reels</i> —No. 1, 13/15, 14/17 deniers	570 to 580
<i>Re-reels</i> —No. 1, 13/15, 14/17 deniers	560 to 565
<i>Re-reels</i> —No. 2, 14/18 deniers	545 to 550
<i>Re-reels</i> —No. 3, 14/20 deniers	535 to 540
<i>Kakadas</i> —Extra	Nom.
<i>Kakadas</i> —No. 1	550 to 570
<i>Kakadas</i> —No. 14	550 to 555
<i>Kakadas</i> —No. 2	540 to 545
<i>Kakadas</i> —No. 24	530 to 535
<i>Kakadas</i> —No. 3	520 to 525
<i>Kakadas</i> —No. 34	510 to 515
<i>Kakadas</i> —No. 4	500 to 505
<i>Oshu Sendai</i> —No. 24	550
<i>Hamatsuki</i> —No. 1, 2	540 to 550
<i>Hamatsuki</i> —No. 3, 4	540 to 550
<i>Sodai</i> —No. 24	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 12th Dec., 1890:—

	SEASON 1890-91	1889-90	1888-89
	BALES	BALES	BALES
Europe	3,440	10,610	9,584
America	6,952	13,767	10,702
Total	10,392	24,377	20,286
	PICULS	PICULS	PICULS
Settlements and Direct	11,500	27,500	23,600
Export from 1st July	—	6,750	11,200
Stock, 12th December	16,100	—	—
Available supplied to date	27,600	34,250	34,800

WASTE SILK.

Trade in this branch continues on a moderate scale, settlements for the week being 550 piculs divided thus:—*Cocoons*, 92; *Noshi*, 78; *Kibiso*, 320; *Mawata*, 60.

Buying has not been very extensive and remains in three or four hands. Purchases appear to be, as before, mostly for Swiss account and prices for good quality are well maintained. This latter is

getting scarce, and the stock is decreasing both in quantity and quality.

The French mail steamer *Djemnah* took 308 bales of Waste and 63 bales Pierced Cocoons. The German mail steamer *General Werder* took 66 bales Waste for Italy. These departures bring the present export up to 14,386 piculs, against 12,623 last year and 14,791 at the same date in 1888.

Pierced Cocoons.—Buying in this class has not been large and consists principally of *Nafiko* at \$80 and \$70 per picul. Some common *Sakusan* brought \$25.

Noshi.—Business in this class has been small; good qualities being now very scarce. Some parcels of fine *Bushu* were done at \$130, but there have been no transactions in the great staple *Foshu*.

Kibiso.—Large business continues in *Filature* sorts; prices ranging from \$98 to \$113 for good *Shinshu* stock. Nothing done in *Hira* sorts except one lot *Mino* at \$62½.

Mawata.—This class has long been neglected, but during the past week about 60 piculs of *Irikin*, said to be mixed with old staple, has passed the scales at \$185.

No business in *Neri* or sundries.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	\$120 to \$130
Noshi-ito— <i>Filature</i> , Best	150 to 160
Noshi-ito— <i>Filature</i> , Good	140 to 145
Noshi-ito— <i>Filature</i> , Medium	130 to 135
Noshi-ito— <i>Oshu</i> , Good to Best	140 to 150
Noshi-ito— <i>Shinshu</i> , Best	—
Noshi-ito— <i>Shinshu</i> , Good	110 to 120
Noshi-ito— <i>Shinshu</i> , Medium	—
Noshi-ito— <i>Bushu</i> , Good to Best	130 to 140
Noshi-ito— <i>Bushu</i> , Best	92 to 95
Noshi-ito— <i>Bushu</i> , Good	85 to 90
Noshi-ito— <i>Bushu</i> , Ordinary	80 to 85
Kibiso— <i>Filature</i> , Best selected	110 to 120
Kibiso— <i>Filature</i> , Seconds	100 to 105
Kibiso— <i>Oshu</i> , Good to Best	100 to 105
Kibiso— <i>Shinshu</i> , Best	80 to 90
Kibiso— <i>Shinshu</i> , Seconds	70 to 75
Kibiso— <i>Bushu</i> , Good to Fair	50 to 60
Kibiso— <i>Bushu</i> , Midding to Common	35 to 40
Kibiso— <i>Hachoji</i> , Good	45 to 50
Kibiso— <i>Hachoji</i> , Medium to Low	35 to 40
Kibiso— <i>Neri</i> , Good to Common	15 to 20
Mawata—Good to Best	180 to 200

Export Table Waste Silk to 12th Dec., 1890:—

	SEASON 1890-91	1889-90	1888-89
	PICULS	PICULS	PICULS
Waste Silk	13,247	10,566	12,744
Pierced Cocoons	1,121	2,057	2,497
	14,368	12,623	14,791
Settlements and Direct	17,800	15,400	18,300
Export from 1st July	—	—	—
Stock, 12th December	9,200	11,700	8,300
Available supplied to date	27,000	27,100	26,600

Exchange has seen slight fluctuations during the week closing as under:—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits, 3/6½; Documents, 3/6½; 6m/s. Credits, 3/6½; Documents, 3/6½; NEW YORK, 30 d/s. U.S. \$85½; 4 m/s. U.S. \$86½; PARIS, 4m/s., fcs. 4.40; 6m/s., fcs. 4.48.

Estimated Silk Stock, 12th Dec., 1890:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	330	Cocoons	360
<i>Filatures</i>	10,170	<i>Noshi-ito</i>	2,618
<i>Re-reels</i>	4,680	<i>Kibiso</i>	5,615
<i>Kakada</i>	620	<i>Mawata</i>	238
<i>Oshu</i>	30	<i>Sundries</i>	369
<i>Taysam Kinds</i>	3		
Total piculs	16,100	Total piculs	9,200

TEA.

A little stirring in Tea, but prices are somewhat irregular.

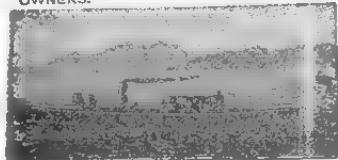
	PER PICUL.
Common	\$1½
Good Common	12 to 13
Medium	14 to 15
Good Medium	16 to 17
Fine	18 to 19
Finest	20 to 22
Choice	23 & up'ds
Choicest	—
Extra Choicest	—

EXCHANGE.

Continuous though not large fluctuations, and steadiness in rates is now hardly looked for.

Sterling—Bank Bill on demand	3/34
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/6
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/6
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/6
On Paris—Bank sight	4/33
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4/36
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1/2 dis.
On Hongkong—Private to days' sight	1/2 dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72
On Shanghai—Private to days' sight	72½
On New York—Bank Bill on demand	83½
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	85
On San Francisco—Bank Bill on demand	83½
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	85
Silver	48

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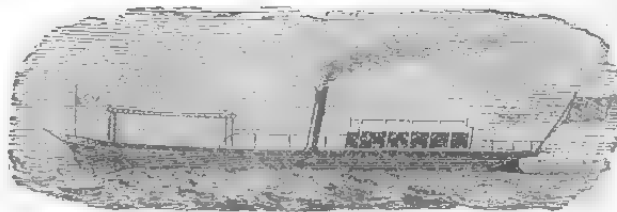
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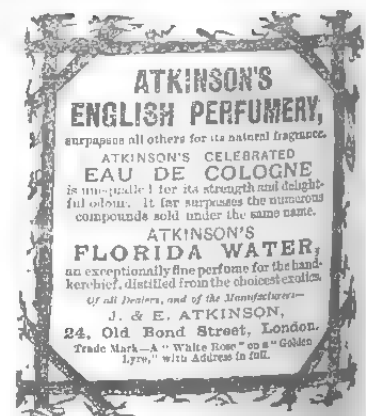
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No. 25.]

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AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, DECEMBER 20TH, 1890.

通信書簡可

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVISER QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, DEC. 20, 1890.

BIRTHS.

At No. 5, Katamachi, Iigara, Azabu, Tokyo, on the 12th inst., the wife of Mr. W. BARRIE of a Daughter.
On the 17th instant, at No. 65, Settlement, the wife of BARTIN H. PRATT of a Son.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Yokohama Telephone Exchange has been opened for business.

H.I.H. PRINCE YAMASHINA left the capital on the 13th instant, for Kyoto by train.

IMPORTANT speeches have been delivered in the House of Representatives by various Ministers of State.

H.R. IMPERIAL HIGHNESS PRINCESS KUNI ARIKO arrived at Shimbashi Station on the 16th inst., at 3 p.m. from Kyoto.

At the end of last month, there were 741 schools in the capital, of which 298 were public and 443 private.

THE Government granted on the 9th instant permission for the establishment of a Chamber of Commerce at Kobe.

INFLUENZA of a malignant type has prevailed in Yokohama lately, more than a thousand persons having been attacked.

It is reported that the *Tsukuba Kan*, which left Japan in June last for Hawaii, will return here on or about the 20th instant.

It is rumoured that important official changes will take place in the Kanagawa Prefectural Government before the close of the year.

MR. MIYOSHI TAIZO, Vice-Minister of the Judicial Department, who had been in Europe for some time, will arrive here on the 22nd or 23rd instant.

DURING last month, 1,372 patents were applied for at the Patents Bureau of the Agricultural and Commercial Department, of which 536 were granted. As compared with the pre-

vious month, this shows an increase of 66 applications, and a decrease of 394 patents granted.

A LARGE number of members of the House of Representatives visited, on the 14th instant, the *Takachiho Kan*, which is now lying in Tokyo Bay.

A GENERAL meeting of shareholders of the Tokyo Bay Steamship Company was held at the office of the Tokyo Shoko-kai, Kyobashi, on the 15th instant.

A VIOLENT storm swept over Shimohoyo-mura, Nishimuro-gori, Wakayama Prefecture, on the night of the 8th instant. Several houses were destroyed, 3 persons being killed, and 20 injured.

We learn that while the various parties in the Diet are of different opinions on political questions, they are all agreed as to one reform, namely, the abolition of the Metropolitan Police Bureau.

THE contract for the buildings of the Administrative Court, which it has been decided to erect near Kioizaka, Akasaka, was obtained by the Nippon Doboku Kaisha on the 15th inst. The work is to cost yen 27,160.

THE House of Representatives has voted, by a large majority, that the date of operation of the new Commercial Code should be postponed until the date fixed for the operations of the new Civil Codes, namely, January 1st, 1893.

A GENERAL meeting of Tokyo bankers was held at the Bankers' Club on the 15th instant at 5 p.m. Messrs. Minomura, and Yamamoto of the Bank of Japan attended the meeting. The proceedings lasted till half-past eight p.m.

MR. TSUTSUKI, a Private Secretary of Count Yamagata, who had been in Europe and America for some time, had audience of the Emperor at the Palace on the 13th instant, and reported as to the observations he had made in the West.

MR. TATENO, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Washington, has left for his post, had the honour of an audience with their Majesties the Emperor and Empress at the Palace on the 14th instant at 11 a.m.

AN exhibition of plants, consisting of varieties of pine, bamboo, plum, and other trees suitable for New Year decorative purposes, will be opened about the end of this month in the buildings of the Japan Art Society in Ueno Park.

AN earthquake was felt in the capital on the 11th instant, at 5h. 34m. 53s. p.m. The duration was 30 seconds, and the direction from S.E. to N.W., the maximum horizontal motion being 0.2 millimetre in 0.3 second. The shock was a sharp one.

URGENT telegraphic messages may now be forwarded at all hours by the following offices:—Tokyo, Osaka, Kyoto, Yokohama, Kobe, Niigata, Nagoya, Sendai, Okayama, Sakata, Hakodate, Nagasaki, Hiroshima, Kanagawa, Aomori, Kumamoto, Akamaga-seki.

AN ordinary Cabinet meeting was held on the 16th instant, at which all the Ministers of State were present. The proceedings lasted till a little past 1 p.m., when the Ministers of State for War, the Navy, and Education had to leave to attend the sitting of the Lower House. On

the following day, Count Oki, President of the Privy Council, and Viscount Tanaka, Superintendent-General of the Metropolitan Police, were present at a Cabinet meeting.

At a meeting of members of the Osaka Young Men's Christian Association held on the 17th instant, it was decided to present a memorial to the Imperial Diet in favour of the abolition of public prostitution.

MR. NARIKAWA YOSHITARO, eldest son of Mr. Narikawa Naoyoshi, Prefect of Miye, who graduated some time ago in the Law Department of an American College, has gone to Scotland to pursue his law studies in the University of Edinburgh.

ACCORDING to returns compiled by the Sanitary Bureau in the Home Department, the number of persons attacked by cholera throughout the empire from the commencement of the epidemic to the 16th instant, was 44,978, resulting in 31,414 deaths.

A TELEGRAM from Kuwana, Miye Prefecture, despatched on the afternoon of the 13th instant, reports that the laying of the line of the Kansai Railway Company between Kusatsu and Yokkaichi has been completed, and the road will be opened for traffic about the 20th of the present month.

CONSIDERABLE damage was caused in various parts of the country by the storm on the night of the 8th instant. In Nakahoyo-mura and Shimohoyo-mura, Nishi-mura, Wakayama Prefecture, the gale raged most severely, 3 men being killed, 10 men and women injured, 73 houses entirely destroyed or damaged, and 11 boats swept away.

THE members of the Kanagawa Prefectural Assembly had decided to erect the new buildings of the Kanagawa Normal School at Odawara. This decision has now been altered, for at the third meeting of the Assembly held on the 11th inst. it was decided to build the new school at Kamakura, ground for the purpose having been secured near the Tsuruga-oka Temple.

MR. YASUDA MOTOTARO, a resident of Hiroshima Prefecture, who had been engaged for many years in the study of engineering, has invented a new kind water-wheel, with which experiments were made on the 11th instant, at Kasugacho, Koishikawa, Tokyo, in presence of Marquis Asano and various distinguished military officers.

FOR a long time the belief prevailed among the fishermen of Hokkaido that the success of the herring fishery was due to the presence of whales, whose appearance on the coast heralded the approach of the herrings. For this reason the whale has been called *Fuku-no-Kami* (the God of Happiness). The notion now proves to be a mistaken one, for a small whale caught the other day was found to contain 16 *koku* (one *koku* = 2½ piculs) of herrings.

THE condition of the Import trade remains unaltered, and business is much the same as last reported. There have been very small sales of Yarns and Shirtings, other branches of the Manchester trade being entirely neglected. Low bids for small parcels of Iron are made, but the trade is inanimate. A parcel of Russian oil—25,000 cases—has been taken, but American is neglected. Sugar is dull. The Silk trade is spasmodic, according to the rise and fall of exchange, and rather more has been done in Waste Silk. The Tea trade is about finished. Exchange has again fluctuated.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

IMPERIAL JAPANESE DIET PROCEEDINGS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12TH.

Business before the House, a motion by Mr. Yamada Toji to rescind a portion of the Rules of the House of Representatives. The House assembled at fifteen minutes past one o'clock. The President announced that Mr. Takara Sanaye had presented a Bill to amend the Law of Procedure, and Mr. Ito Daibachi a Bill to amend the Regulations for Public Meetings and Political Associations, and that Viscount Aoki Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, would make a speech in the House on the 17th inst. with reference to the course to be pursued by the Government in respect of Treaty Revision. He also announced that the Memorials Committee had a report to make. Mr. Inukai Ki, acting for the Committee, then reported that there had been ten memorials presented to the House, but that all except two had been returned on account of not being prepared according to the forms prescribed in the Rules of the House; that of the remaining two one was a memorial relating to national affairs, presented through Mr. Yanagiwa Shichishi from Ogino Samon and 979 other inhabitants of the Prefecture of Niigata—the objects advocated being the conclusion of Treaties with Foreign Powers on equal terms, the improvement of domestic administration by simplifying documents, dispensing with superfluities, and reducing expenses of administration, and finally the development of the national resources—the other was a memorial presented through Mr. Kashima and three other members from Kono Binji, a native of Hingo Prefecture, praying that the Law of the Houses should be amended in respect of the election of the members of the Lower House, the methods suggested being to change the electoral districts by making each City or Prefecture into an electoral section; to reduce the qualifications of electors and eligible persons so that the inferior limit of age should be 25 years and of taxation five yen annually, and finally to fix the representation on the basis of one member to every hundred thousand units of population. The House then proceeded to the business of the day. The motion by Mr. Yamada Toji having been read, that gentleman explained that, recognising the necessity of removing at once from the 147th Article of the Rules of the House the six words relating to rank, occupation, and age, he had brought this motion as an urgent matter. On account of the provisions of this Rule the memorials signed by persons not possessing the prescribed qualifications had to be dismissed, and it might thus occur that matters of great importance were suppressed. In fact some ten memorials had been presented up to date, but most of them had been dismissed on account of not satisfying the provisions of the Law. He considered that the disabling qualifications should be removed so as to afford greater facility to the memorialists in accordance with the spirit of the Constitution, which allows memorials to be presented. Moreover, as the Rules of the Lower House, had not been publicly notified, the memorialists omitted to comply with their provisions through ignorance, and it seemed very hard that memorials sent from districts some hundreds of miles away from the capital should be dismissed on account of the omission of some intrinsically needless items. An alteration in the 153rd Article would also be necessitated if the 147th Article were amended. Mr. Takagi Masatoshi opposed the motion on the ground that unless the occupations and ages of memorialists were recorded, the House had no means of knowing whether memorialists were competent to claim a hearing about the subjects of their memorials. Mr. Kageyama Hideki moved that the proposition was of a nature not calling for debate, and that it should be put to the House at once. He was supported by Mr. Misaki and Mr. Hayakawa. The House voted for immediate decision, and Mr. Tachiiri Kiichi then moved that the Bill be dealt with off-hand, without proceeding to the second reading. The President, according to the 90th Article of the

Rules of the House, asked the House whether the second reading might be dispensed with. Objections were raised, and some discussion followed. The President gave notice that he should follow the Rules, and in reply to a question by Mr. Hotta Chiushi, said that if the House decided not to proceed to the second reading, the motion should of course be considered as dismissed. After allowing the discussion to go on for some time, the President called upon the House to determine whether the Bill should go to a second reading or not. A minority rose, and the motion was therefore dismissed. The President then stated that Mr. Nagaya Tadaaki had applied for leave of absence on account of illness, and the House agreed. The business for the next day having been announced, the House rose at 2.30 p.m.

HOUSE OF PEERS.—SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13TH.

The Special Committees on the Barristers Bill and the Weights and Measures Bill assembled in the House of Peers at 10 a.m., and proceeded with their investigations. The Heads and Managers of Sections also attended and transacted business. The Committees remained in session until 4 o'clock in the afternoon, and the President left the House at 5 o'clock.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House of Representatives did not meet on the 13th instant, but the President, Vice-President and Secretaries attended at 9 a.m. The Committee on the Budget also assembled at that hour, and proceeded with its investigations. Count Matsukata, Minister of State for Finance, and Count Oyama, Minister of State for War, were present as Government Delegates. The Vice-Ministers of various Departments also attended for the purpose of answering questions put by the Committee or giving explanations. Business continued until 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

HOUSE OF PEERS.—MONDAY, DEC. 15.

Business before the House was as follows:—To consider applications for leave of absence presented by Mr. Kokushi Yorimasa, Mr. Iwamura Michitoshi, Count Ogasawara Tadanobu, and Mr. Shibusawa Yeichi. The first reading of the Bill for amending the system of Registration, and the election of a special Committee to investigate the Bill. The House assembled at 10.30 a.m. The President announced that a change in the order of the members' seats had to be made on account of Professors Toyama and Kikuchi having received an increase of official rank, and a Secretary read out the new order. The President then reported that Count Ohara Shigetomo had been elected a member of the Memorials Committee, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. Iwamura Waro, and that the standing Committee on Finance had distributed itself in the following divisions and elected a chief in each division:—(1) Annual Income division, Mr. Tomita Tetsunosuke (chief), Count Hirohashi Masamitsu, Messrs. Shimogo Dempei, Obata Tokujiro, Yamada Jo, Yoshida San'yemon, and Kuwada Tojiro. (2) For the Departments of Foreign Affairs and Justice, Mr. Su Kōhei (chief), Viscounts Satake Yoshitada, and Seki Hironao, Messrs. Hosokawa Junjiro, Watanabe Ki, Murata Tamotsu, and Ito Miyuji. (3) For the Departments of Home Affairs and Education, Viscount Yuri Kimmasa (chief) Viscounts Tachibana Taneyasu, and Matsudaira Noritsugu, Messrs. Yamaguchi Naoyoshi, Uyemura Masanao, Kato Hiroyuki, and Hamano Shin. (4) For the Department of Finance, Marquis Ikeda Akimasa (chief), Viscount Matsudaira Nobumasa, Messrs. Shibusawa Yeichi, Hirata Tosuke, Kawada Koichiro, Furuichi Kei, Midzunoye Ko, Kage Nobumori, Sakurai Ihei, and Takizuchi Yoshinaga. (5) For the Departments of War and the Navy, Viscount Miura Goro (chief), Viscounts Tani Tateki, Toriwo Koyata, Yonetsu Masatoshi, Watari Masamoto, Mayeda Masana, and Mr. Kikuchi Dairoku. (6) For the Departments of Agriculture and Commerce and Communications, Mr. Itami Shigekata (chief), Barons Senke Takatomi, Nagao Moriyoishi, Messrs. Kaneko Kenaro, Hodzumi Nobushi, and Watanabe Jinkichi. The House then proceeded to the business of the

day. The applications for leave of absence were granted, no objection being raised. Passing to the first reading of the Bill for amending the system of Registration, Mr. Shirane Senichi, Vice-Minister for Home Affairs, acting as the Government's Delegate, stated that the law of Registration now in force was promulgated in the 4th year of Meiji, soon after the Restoration. Its principal purpose was to facilitate the preservation of public peace and order by assisting the identification of the outcasts and vagrants who were to be found all over the country, remnants of the feudal system then just abolished. Naturally, therefore, the law was of a special and imperfect character, not altogether suited to ordinary circumstances. The Government has been for years engaged in investigating the subject, but owing to the grave effects of any change in such a law, no thoroughly satisfactory system of amendment had been devised. Laws dealing with civil and criminal affairs were applied only when cases arose calling for their exercise, but the Registration Law had to be daily and hourly put into operation among our forty millions of people, since it covered the sphere of such constant incidents as marriages, deaths, births, changes of domicile and so forth. When the new Civil Codes come into force, the certificate of status (*Mibun shosho*) provided for in them will have to be in accordance with the law of Registration. Among European nations the individual is the basis of everything, but in Japan the family is generally considered for the purposes of certificates of status; and it is a difficult problem to decide which of the two methods is the more beneficial. The speaker believed that the family system would best meet the requirements of the people of this country. Marquis Hachisuka, pointing out that the election of committees took too much time and was troublesome if made according to the prescribed process, asked whether it would not be well as a general rule to trust the President to nominate them. He further proposed that the election of a Committee on that day should be made by balloting as usual, but that the examination of the ballots should be conducted by the secretaries in four groups, each group with a certain number of members to oversee it. Mr. Miura Yasushi seconded this proposal, and Marquis Daigo suggested a slight addition to it. Mr. Shimanouchi moved that the President be entrusted with the appointment, and was seconded by Mr. Yamaguchi Naoyoshi and Viscount Hayashi Tomoyuki. Viscount Fukuba Bisei said that, the Bill being very important and requiring careful investigation, the election of the Committee should be made in accordance with the method prescribed by the Rules of the House. Viscount Komatsu Yukimasa and Admiral Yamaji spoke in support of Mr. Shimanouchi's proposal. Viscount Ogiu Tsune then ascended the rostrum and spoke at length, stating that to entrust the President so frequently with the nomination of committees was improper. He therefore supported the proposition to proceed in accordance with the Rules of the House. The President commented on the vagueness of the statements made by some of the members, and asked them to be more explicit, so as to facilitate the process of taking votes. After some little discussion, the President called upon those to rise who seconded Mr. Shimanouchi's proposal to leave the appointment to the President; and a minority rose. Marquis Hachisuka's motion was then put and lost. The President thereupon announced that the election should be made by voting according to Article 36 of the Rules. The balloting was then proceeded with by the 182 members present, and the ballot box having been sealed, the House took a recess at 12.15 p.m. On its re-assembly at one o'clock, the ballots were examined, and the following members were found to have been elected:—Baron Makimura, Marquis Hachisuka, Viscount Hotta Seiyō, Mr. Miura Yasushi, Count Hirohashi, Mr. Oki Morikata, Mr. Murata Tamotsu, Mr. Hodzumi Nobushige, and Viscount Okochi Masatada. The President reminded the members that although the Committees appointed were not limited as to time in investigating the matters entrusted to them, yet they should remember the advisability of finishing their tasks

early, so as to avoid the inconvenient contingency of their not being ready when the House required their reports. The House then rose.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—MONDAY DEC. 15.

The business before the House was a motion by Mr. Nagai Matsuyemon to postpone the date of operation of the new Commercial Code and of the Regulations relating to it. The House assembled at 1.40 p.m. The President announced that Count Oyama, Minister of State for War, Viscount Kabayama, Minister of State for the Navy, and Viscount Yoshikawa, Minister of State for Education, would speak in the House on the 16th with reference to the interrogations presented by Mr. Arai Shogo, and that Mr. Mutsu, Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, had intimated that the question put by Mr. Arai was of too vague a nature to be answered; also that the Government had appointed Mr. Shirane, Vice-Minister for Home Affairs, as Delegate for the Registration Bill, and Mr. Mitsuoki, Vice-Minister of Justice, to represent the Government in respect of the motion to postpone the enforcement of the new Commercial Code; finally, that a motion to rescind Ordinance No. 84 of this year, by Mr. Watanabe Matasaburo, a motion to change the term of collecting the land tax, by Mr. Okada Rioichi, and a motion to appoint a Special Committee to conduct investigations with reference to a reform of the system of land taxation, had been presented. The House proceeded to consider the motion for postponing the date of enforcing the new Commercial Code. Mr. Nagai Matsuyemon, the mover, ascended the rostrum and made a brief statement to the effect that the Commercial Code ought to be put into operation simultaneously with the new Civil Code, whereas the Government had decided to put the Commercial Code into force on the 1st of January, 1891, and the Civil Code in the beginning of 1893. This was the first point to which he objected. Secondly, the new Commercial Code contained many unsuitable provisions, and abounded in peculiar phraseology. Its operation could not fail to produce great inconvenience in the practical transaction of business. His original idea was to introduce a Bill for amending these defects, but as the date of the Code's operation was near at hand, he had no choice but to move for postponement. Were postponement granted, he purposed bringing in a Bill to amend or rescind the Commercial Code. His address was short and disappointing, for the members had expected to hear a long argument from him as mover. Mr. Toyoda Bunzaburo, a member from the city of Osaka, which is regarded as the place eminently anxious for the speedy enforcement of the new code, then spoke in opposition to the motion. He said he knew very well that the new Commercial Code was not free from defects. The use of unusual and difficult words and the presence of conflicting provisions might be cited against it. But no law could be perfect from the outset. Alterations and corrections must be gradually made in accordance with the results of practical experience. He did not see any necessity for the simultaneous enforcement of the Commercial and Civil Codes. He should like to be shown any reason for such necessity. With regard to the argument that the date of operation should be postponed in order to give more time for studying the Code, he should say that the two years asked for would be hardly enough for the general public, whereas persons interested in the matter had already studied the measures sufficiently. These were the points he urged in opposition to the motion. He then proceeded to state the reason why the speedy operation of the Code was of the utmost necessity. During the past few years the financial condition of the country had been gravely impaired by the ruinous and demoralizing effects of huddle companies, an evil which threatened to develop still more in the future. The only remedy was to enforce the new Commercial Code, especially the part relating to companies. It was true that the laws of Insurance and Bankruptcy were by some considered too strict, but they were essential for securing the safety of commerce

and promoting credit in business circles. Many points might be enumerated to show how much the enforcement of the Code would benefit commerce, but he would refrain from going into them. Lastly, he declared that those who were anxious to have a postponement were people engaged in transactions of a speculative nature, who apprehended that the operation of the Code would put an end to their cunning and deceitful schemes. Mr. Motoda Hajime, who is known to be one of the warmest advocates of postponement, ascended the rostrum and spoke in support of the motion. He said that he should first refute the arguments of Mr. Toyoda. The latter had admitted that the new Commercial Code was imperfect, and therefore there was no occasion to insist on that point. He would proceed to briefly answer the preceding speaker's query as to the reason why the Commercial Code should be enforced simultaneously with the Civil Code. That reason was to be found in the first article of the Commercial Code, which provided that all deficiencies in the Code should be dealt with according to the general principles of the Civil law. This would clearly show that the former should not precede the latter. Mr. Toyoda had asserted that two years would be of no practical value for the study of the Code, but even in the case of laws like the Penal Code and the Local Government enactments, periods of more than one year were allowed for purposes of study, whereas for the Commercial Code which contained a greater number of articles, only a few months had been given. This was in fact imposing laws by force on people who were ignorant of them. To those who maintained the opinion that the people did not need any thorough acquaintance with the law, he would say that if such was the case there was no necessity for making Codes of Law at all. On the other hand, where was the necessity for putting the Commercial Code in force from the beginning of next year? Some might say that it was necessary to enforce it on account of Treaty Revision, but it was simply absurd to pretend that Japanese Codes were dependent on the course of diplomacy. There could be no valid reason for enforcing a law which, however appreciated by foreigners, would be productive of great inconvenience to, and confer no signal benefits on, a nation of over forty millions. It might be urged that the defective points could be corrected as occasion presented itself, but that would be making the Japanese people a *corpus vile* for experiments in law. Codes inviting correction would be valueless as Codes. The sudden enforcement of the Commercial Code would give a great shock to the mercantile world of Japan, and might produce disastrous effects. Mr. Suyematsu Saburo spoke in opposition to the motion. He explained that the civil law referred to in the first article of the Commercial Code did not mean the Civil Code to be enforced in 1892, as interpreted by the supporters of the motion, but meant the unwritten civil law now in force. The other side asserted that the time allowed was too short for the necessary preparations to be made before the enforcement of the Commercial Code. What preparations were they, he should like to know. The provisions contained in the Rules for carrying out the Commercial Code, from Article 5 to Article 20, showed that no special preparation was needed. The Government had been engaged in drafting the Commercial Code since 1875, and no doubt due account had been taken of Japanese customs and conditions. Some of the old customs were quite unfit to be any longer followed in the present advanced stage of society, and the Commercial Code would remedy these. The phraseology of the Code was criticised, but so long as the spirit of the laws embodied in it was sound, the language did not matter materially. Similar complaints had been heard when the Penal Code went into operation. Finally, on account of the want of a definite Code the judges did not give similar judgments in the same suits. The future commerce of this country must gradually have closer and closer connection with foreign countries, and

therefore the new Commercial Code was imperatively needed for the guidance of business men. Mr. Okayama Kanekichi, in support of the motion, declared it unreasonable to say that as commerce was cosmopolitan, the Commercial Code should be put into force even if the nation had to suffer more or less by the process. For his part, he thought that since the Commercial Code would affect Japan's relations with foreign States, it should be well considered and made as free from defects as possible. Nothing could be more disadvantageous to the Japanese, inexperienced as they were in the provisions of the new Code, than to ask them to compete under the same laws with foreigners who were well versed in such matters. It was contended that the words "civil law" in the Commercial Code did not mean the Civil Code to be enforced from the 26th year of Meiji, but what then could they mean? It was impossible to distinguish anything that could be defined as civil law from among the mass of laws now operative in this country. If it was felt necessary to give time for preparation by issuing regulations relating to the enforcement of the Commercial Code, why should such a necessity apply only to a limited section of the mercantile classes and not to the entire body? Why not postpone the enforcement altogether until a fit occasion? The Commercial Code provided for customs that did not yet exist in Japanese mercantile circles. If it was considered necessary to provide for things that might occur in the future, possibly the country might one day discover occasion to make provisions for commerce with the inhabitants of the moon, or for navigation by balloons. Commercial law was a private law, and should not be too much interfered with by the legislature. It was improper on the part of the Government not to have submitted such an important enactment as this new Code to the Diet. From every point of view, therefore, the enforcement of the Code should be postponed until the 26th year of Meiji, so as to give full time for people to consider it maturely. Mr. Rikuchi Kanji opposed the motion. The grounds relied on by the supporters of the motion, he said, were only two, namely, that the Commercial Code was difficult to comprehend and that certain provisions in it were opposed to the tradal customs of this country. These points might, perhaps, be advanced as reasons for rescinding the Code, but certainly not for postponing its operation. If the supporters of the motion really meant what they said, two years' postponement would be of little use to them. At present, owing to the want of a standard law to be applied by the Judges in the Court, different judicial views were often held on the same points of law according to the different schools of jurisprudence to which the Judges belonged. Therefore it was most advisable to enforce the Commercial Code at once so as to supply the Judges with a standard. The opinions of Tokyo merchants who carried on their business under the protection of the Government, did not represent the general opinion of merchants of this country. The merchants of Osaka, the acknowledged centre of commerce in Japan, were unanimous supporters of the speedy enforcement of the Code. Mr. Konishi Jinno-suke then spoke in favour of and Mr. Inouye Kakugoro against the motion. Mr. Oyagi Bichiro said that he should vote for the motion. He was of opinion that no imperative need existed for hastening the enforcement of the Code, whereas good grounds for postponement until 1893 had been adduced. Undoubtedly the Company and Bankruptcy laws were much needed by commercial society, and might well have been separately put into force. But there was surely no reason to promulgate a Commercial Code in its entirety simply on account of the necessity felt for a part of it. As to the alleged want of unity in judgments, the enforcement of the Commercial Code could not remedy it, since the points where the opinions of judges differed were not distinctly dealt with in the Code. Mr. Miyagi Kozo, in opposition, said that the supporters of the motion criticized the phraseology of the Code, but from the nature of the Japanese lan-

guage it was impossible to avoid the use of such phraseology, imperfect as it might be considered. If the phraseology were considered a reasonable ground for objecting to the Code, the enactment of new laws in modern Japan would be virtually impossible. The Code was condemned as having been compiled without due regard for Japanese commercial customs, but such an assertion betrayed ignorance of the true facts. The drafters had taken every means of ascertaining the customs of this country, and had paid most careful attention to them in preparing the Code. Besides, although people talked of Japanese commercial customs, it would be a very difficult task to point to any customs that could be regarded as established. In point of fact, trade customs had differed appreciably in different localities until some twelve years ago. It must not be forgotten that nearly twenty years had been spent in the careful preparation of the Code. The original draft by Dr. Roesler, compiled on purely scientific principles, had passed through repeated revisions before being completed, so that the Code now promulgated was quite different from the original draft. It was impossible to give sufficient time to enable the general public to thoroughly understand the Code. Most probably they would take pains to do so. The seven months allowed were enough for those directly interested in the provisions of the Code. Lastly, the subject should not be considered a question between the Government and the Diet. The House must not forget that it concerned our relations with foreign nations. Mr. Tanaka spoke at length in support of the motion. When he descended the rostrum the President announced that as many members had expressed their desire to speak on the subject the session would be adjourned till next day. After the Orders of the Day had been read the House rose at 6 p.m.

DECEMBER 16TH.

The House assembled at 5 minutes past one o'clock. Counts Saigo and Oyama, Viscount Kabayama, and Mr. Yoshikawa, Ministers of State, were in the seats at the right of the President, and Counts Yamada and Goto, and Viscount Aoki in those on the left. Prince Kitashirakawa and Count Ito, President of the House of Peers, were present. The President announced that before opening the debate Count Oyama, Minister of State for War, Viscount Kabayama, Minister of State for the Navy, and Mr. Yoshikawa, Minister of State for Education, would address the House. Mr. Arai Shogo asked leave to make a short address to the Ministers, and ascended the rostrum. He believed, he said, that the presence of the Ministers for War, the Navy, and Education, was owing to the request that he and his fellow members had made to the Minister President of State for an explanation of the policy of the Administration, and therefore he should briefly state the principal points of the request. They had listened to the speech made by the Minister President of State some days ago, and had not been able to consider it as a speech explanatory of the policy of the Administration.—(Hear, hear.) That the Minister President should make a speech on the policy of the Administration was necessary not only on the Diet's account but also on that of the Government. If the policy of the Administration was approved by the people, well and good, but if otherwise the Government would have to change its methods. As it was customary in the countries of Europe and America that the Prime Minister should explain the policy of the Administration on the opening day of parliament, they had expected that the Minister President would do so, but finding his speech too vague, they had formulated certain interrogations. In making these interrogations, they did not think of asking for the details of the Government's policy, but wished to be told the general lines only. They had thought that the Minister President would comply with their request, and had felt much regret at his not speaking in the desired sense. However, the Ministers of State had a joint responsibility with the Minister President in respect of their administration, and the House would

be satisfied with their explanations. He would therefore ask Ministers to make speeches for which they should hold themselves responsible, and if any point in the speeches were found incomprehensible the House would trouble the Ministers to answer such questions as might be put to them. Count Oyama, Minister of State for War, then ascended the rostrum and spoke as follows:—"Mr. President and Gentlemen—Certain enquiries having been addressed to the Minister President of State by Mr. Arai Shogo and 32 members, I propose to answer that portion of the interrogations which applies to the Army. The Minister of State for the Navy will reply on behalf of that Department. In respect of the military equipment of this Empire, its purpose is clearly understood to be defensive and self-protecting. But in carrying out that purpose it is impossible to rely upon one policy only. Until we are confronted by an emergency and called upon to obey the exigencies of the moment it is not within our power to decide whether offensive or defensive strategy ought to be adopted. The Army and the Navy, like the wheels of a carriage or the wings of a bird, cannot be mutually independent. Neither can one be regarded as the principal, the other as the auxiliary. Having regard to the present condition of the country, I believe that the system of organization now enforced in the Army represents the most suitable military policy. The completion of that system is now a question of a short time, but the manufacture of naval weapons of defence and the military survey of the country, works of great magnitude, are still only half accomplished. It is the earnest hope of the Department over which I have the honour to preside, that with your approval, gentlemen, these works may be gradually accomplished in so far as the resources of the country permit." Viscount Kabayama, Minister of State for the Navy, next addressed the House. He said:—"Gentlemen—Mr. Arai and thirty-two other members addressed certain interrogations to the Government on the 9th instant. First on the list was a question about the object of the country's military equipment. As the Minister of War has just told you, the purpose of both branches of the service is defensive, and in carrying out that purpose it is recognised that we must be guided by circumstances as they arise. It is unnecessary to say that the chief aim of our military defences is to secure the peace and prosperity of the empire. With regard to the question whether the Army or the Navy is the principal arm, no decision can be pronounced. Sometimes the Army may play the chief rôle; sometimes the Navy, and sometimes both have equal functions to discharge. Now the one branch will be the principal, now the other, and as the Minister for War has told you, the same policy must be observed with respect to each. Coming to your last enquiry, however,—whether it is intended to increase the Army or the Navy—I reply that, according to my view, the Navy must be increased. The Government entertains the same opinion. Doubtless you are well aware, gentlemen, that apart from the Navy's indispensability in time of war, the duty devolving on it in time of peace is far from light. The protection of the country's commerce and sea fisheries, and the task of succouring vessels in distress are among the functions that the Navy has to discharge. Considered from the point of view of the relative duties of the two services, I think you will all agree that the progress of the Navy development has been slow. It is my earnest desire that, in so far as the resources of this empire permit, the Navy may be increased in the future. I think that I have now given general replies to the three interrogations addressed to me. But I take the opportunity of adding a word with reference to this increase of which I have spoken. Looking carefully at the state of our domestic and foreign affairs to-day, the strength of the Navy appears exceedingly insignificant. To establish a due balance of comparative strength between the naval force of this Empire and those of foreign States, the Navy must be raised to one hundred and twenty thousand tons. Otherwise I believe that the

security of our country cannot be guaranteed. To bring the Navy to this strength, twenty-five new ships of war are needed, apart from those already in course of construction at home and abroad. Ships are perishable commodities. If you add yearly to the number of your men-of-war, you add also to the number of vessels that yearly need repairs or become unserviceable. You are aware that in the Budget for next year an appropriation is made for the building of ships, but that will not bring our naval forces even to the threshold of the tonnage which, in my opinion, is indispensable. We shall not be far wrong if we regard the appropriation simply as a means of supplying the deficiencies that now arise owing to wear and tear or casualties. In asking you to vote the sum of five million two hundred and ten thousand yen appropriated in the Budget, we are not asking you to increase the Navy, but merely to avert its decrease. The building of new ships is the most important item of naval affairs, but if you increase the number of your vessels, you must proportionately increase your naval stations. Next year's Budget provides for the carrying out of certain works at Kure and Saseho, involving a considerable expenditure. Similar works must be undertaken at the naval stations of Maizuru and Muroran. In connection with these various works conning stations are needed. I ought to explain, perhaps, that when I speak of conning stations, I refer to towers of observation constructed in the vicinity of lighthouses, intended for purposes of protecting life, for meteorological observations, and for rendering assistance to vessels in distress, in time of peace; and for observing the movements of the enemy and conveying information of them in time of war. On account of these works, however, no very large sum is required. For the rest we need gun-cotton to use in torpedoes, and this cannot be made in Japan, we have to purchase it abroad; an uneconomical proceeding, to remedy which steps must be taken as our naval force increases. Again, so small is our strength at present that the Navy does not possess even one transport vessel, and it was consequently necessary in the past to make an agreement with the Kyodo Unyu Kaisha, at the time of its establishment, that it should supplement the wants of the Navy; an agreement in pursuance of which, as you are doubtless aware, a certain subsidy is now granted by the Government to the Japan Mail Steamship Company. You may possibly think that these various measures suffice to bring the Navy to a satisfactory state, but, so far as I am concerned, my warm hope is to see the naval forces of the empire increased to seventy-five ships, with a tonnage of a hundred and twenty thousand tons. With such a force at the country's command, we should be able to make our own choice between a defensive and an offensive policy. The resources of the country to-day do not permit us to adopt this limit at once: it is an achievement for the future. I hope that a period of seven years will suffice for its attainment, and indeed I should like to have provision made for it in next year's Budget. But, as you know, the import of rice this year has been large, the money market is greatly disturbed, and the people have suffered heavy losses from storms and floods. Out of consideration for the state of the nation, a sum of some five millions only has been included in the Budget for next year, but to limit our work to that amount is much against my wish. It is not permissible to make an immediate appropriation in pursuance of this plan of raising the Navy, in the course of six or seven years, to the strength I have indicated, but I beg you, gentlemen, to take the matter into your consideration and to spare no effort towards carrying out the scheme. If we have that force, the balance of strength to which I alluded just now will be tolerably established, and the functions devolving upon the Navy can be discharged. I do not hesitate to tell you that the Navy is thus insufficient. Those to whom the various duties of the service are entrusted will not shrink from laying down their lives in behalf of their country and their homes. That

is only as it should be. But I have grave doubts whether they can achieve their purpose. If the Navy is destroyed, the Army still remains to protect the forty millions of our countrymen against mischance. Yet how if it chanced that a shell from one of those huge hundred-ton guns ranging ten thousand metres, with which the navies of foreign countries are now supplied, burst above this House of Parliament? Would it be possible for us, your protectors, to escape the responsibility incurred on that day towards the Sovereign above and his forty million subjects below? I pray you, gentlemen, to enter into the feelings of us who are charged with the duty of defending you, and to aid us in developing the naval forces to the limit of the nation's ability. If, as I hope, you approve of the appropriation in next year's Budget for the building of two cruisers and three torpedo boats, and if we are enabled to raise the tonnage of the Navy to a hundred and twenty thousand tons in the course of the next six or seven years, the defence of the country will be for the first time in a satisfactory condition. I have taken the opportunity afforded by the last of Mr. Arai Shogo's questions to lay before you the scope and spirit of the policy I entertain in respect of the Navy. I earnestly hope that for the sake of the country's future, you will give the fullest consideration to the subject of the Navy, and enable us to carry out such measures as shall maintain the peace and security of the empire. I have to apologize for speaking at such a length." Mr. Yoshikawa, Minister of State for Education, finally spoke. He said: Gentlemen—Mr. Arai and thirty-two other members of the House, presented to the Government, on the 9th inst., a document asking about the tendency of the educational system, and whether high-class education or ordinary education is made the principal aim of that system. I therefore attend to-day, and will trouble you with a brief explanation of the Government's educational policy. It is unnecessary for me to undertake here any special demonstration of the fact that education is all-essential to the country, and that it must not be neglected even for a single hour. The purpose of the ordinary education provided for children from the time when they become capable of receiving it, is to improve their morals, to develop their intellectual faculties, and to teach them such sciences and arts as are necessary for self-support. This is the foundation of a nation's tranquility and the source of its prosperity. The Government, therefore, ever since the Restoration, has made education a daily care, and has sought to extend its benefits as widely as possible to children throughout the country. Such will be its object in the future also, and no less will be the industry with which it pursues that object. Ordinary education of this nature being the general aim, provision has also to be made for the wants of students who advance to the higher standard. Constitutional government has now been established in Japan, and a share in the legislative function has been given to the people. The duties devolving on individuals are thus rapidly increasing, and the growth of industries has received large development. What sort of men are they who will know how to make use of the opportunities thus placed within their reach, and who will be competent to discharge those legislative duties as well as to devise plans for the prosperity of the people? I believe that they will be men who have received a medium education, and I think that the Government policy henceforth will be to provide additional means for obtaining such an education. That ordinary education is of the greatest importance, and must not be for a moment neglected, you will doubtless be agreed from what I have already said. But high-class education is no less essential from a national point of view, as a means of promoting science and art and developing special capacities. The Empire's foreign relations are daily extending and society is daily feeling new wants; at such a time it is all important that measures should be taken to assist the progress of the country and promote its prosperity by fostering the people's talents and adding to their ability so that the nation's status

may be raised and such accomplishments developed as are likely to increase its wealth and strength. Middle-class education is the means of achieving this. The Government, regarding high-class education as no less essential than ordinary education, is resolved to take steps for the increased provision of both. Ordinary education and high-class education having an equally important bearing on national affairs, the Government makes no distinction between them, and shows no preference for one above the other. Such has been the spirit of its policy since the Restoration. I trust that this explanation will prove satisfactory to Mr. Arai Shogo and the other members." Mr. Arai Shogo then asked a few questions with regard to the speeches of the Ministers for War and the Navy, and was briefly answered by the Ministers, who did little more than repeat a part of their previous speeches. It was then half-past two. The President announced that the debate should be resumed on the motion for postponing the operation of the Commercial Code. Mr. Iyenaga Yoshihiko made a speech opposing the motion. Mr. Suyematsu Kencho said in support of the motion that in regard to the question whether the Commercial Code ought to be enforced at the same time with the Civil Code, the construction of the First Article of the Civil Code had been much discussed, but he considered that the words "Civil law" mentioned there, meant the Civil Code and not the Civil law now in use, inasmuch as certain provisions in the Commercial Code, such as those relating to the common property of husband and wife, referred to matters having no existence in the present Civil law. The new Commercial Code was not suited to the condition of the people. He quoted as instances of its unsuitability the method of keeping books prescribed in the third part, which he declared to be quite inappropriate in the case of merchants in general. He further criticized the phraseology, and pointed out several questionable provisions in the Code. He concluded by saying that the postponement was essential in order to make the necessary amendments. Mr. Takanashi Tetsuhiro was opposed to the motion. He said that the principal points raised against the enforcement of the Commercial Code were, first the necessity of the Commercial Code being enforced simultaneously with the Civil Code, secondly that sufficient time was not given to the people to study the Code, and thirdly that the Code was in opposition to the customs of this country. The first point, he thought, was groundless. A special code could be enforced independently of other codes. Such had been the case in respect of the Penal Code. Put into force independently it had never caused any serious inconvenience. As for saying that there was no civil law in force, the assertion was almost ridiculous. Secondly, he contended that it was extravagant to look for any clear understanding of the Code by the public at large. Such a prospect could never be realized. It was now the age of division of labour, and the subtle provisions of law should be left to the decipherment of specialists. It sufficed for the general people to know the outlines. He further claimed that should it be considered necessary for the general public to master the Code fully, no amount of time allowed for the investigation would suffice. The brief postponement contemplated was useless for such an object. Thirdly, the contention that the Code conflicted with established customs was, if true, the only ground worthy of consideration. If the supporters of the motion had plainly indicated the points of conflict he should willingly side with them. But they had not done so. They had simply criticised the Code in a cursory manner. In short, they had not sufficiently proved their assertions. Mr. Suyematsu indeed had referred to the non-existence of the system of common property between husband and wife, but he was strangely mistaken in that idea, for although no such expression as "common property" was in use, the fact itself certainly did exist. The speaker dwelt on the objections raised by Mr. Suyematsu and refuted

them. He concluded by saying that the demoralized and corrupt state of commercial circles was greatly to be lamented, and could only be remedied by the speedy enforcement of the Commercial Code. Several speeches followed, and the House finally divided on the motion, 189 voting for it and 67 against. The second reading of the Bill was then proceeded with.

DECEMBER 17TH.

The House assembled at 1.15 p.m. Mr. Arai Shogo asked permission to say a few words with reference to the speech which the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs was about to deliver. The purpose of his remarks was to define the points concerning which he, and the thirty-four members who had supported him in preferring that interrogations, desired to have information. He alluded at some length to the exceedingly difficult nature of the problem of Treaty Revision. For years the statesmen of Japan had devoted their best energies to its solution. Time after time a settlement had seemed to be in sight, and time after time the nation had been disappointed. He believed that the true cause of these repeated mishaps was the Government's failure to work in concert with public opinion. The people had never been taken into the confidence of the negotiators, and thus the latter had not only lacked the support of national endorsement, but had even found themselves opposed by those who should have been their chief supporters. He was aware that various reasons were adduced in support of the theory that secrecy must be preserved in diplomatic affairs, but he failed to appreciate the force of those reasons. He asked the Government to consult the people frankly and to work in concert with the nation at large. To that end he hoped that the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs would tell the House clearly in what position the question of tariff autonomy stood; whether judicial autonomy was to be recovered simultaneously with the opening of the country to foreign residence and trade; whether, if the country were opened, foreigners would be permitted to own real estate; and, in short, to give full information about all the vital points of the problem. Viscount Aoki then ascended the rostrum, and spoke at great length, his speech lasting an hour and forty minutes. He gave a careful *resumé* of the manner in which Japan's treaties with foreign Powers had been concluded, and the circumstances that had led to their obnoxious provisions. He also entered at length into the story of Japan's endeavours to effect revision, and explained the urgent necessity for accomplishing it. But he declined to enter into a detailed account of the negotiations now in progress, on the grounds, first, that the Treaty-making power was an Imperial prerogative in which the Diet did not share, and secondly, that he was bound, *vis-à-vis* Western Governments who were parties to the negotiations, to preserve towards his own countrymen the silence which they had pledged themselves to preserve towards theirs. One or two questions having been put by members and answered by the Minister, a desultory discussion ensued, in the course of which Viscount Aoki withdrew. The House discovering that he was no longer present, several members commented severely on his withdrawal while questions remained to be asked, and it was finally decided by vote that he should be invited to attend again on the following day. A motion was then made and carried to postpone other business until the Treaty Revision discussion had been concluded, and the House rose at 5.30 p.m.

DECEMBER 18TH.

The House of Representatives met at 1.15 p.m. on the 18th inst. Much interest was felt in the proceedings as the House had voted on the preceding evening that the reply given by the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs to the interrogation of Mr. Arai was, in the opinion of the members insufficient, and had instructed the President to convey that resolution to the Minister, accompanying it by a request that his Excellency would attend again and answer questions put to him. It was doubtful whether in taking this action the House had fully con-

sidered the situation, for though the Laws accompanying the Constitution provide a means for obtaining information from the Ministers of State in person, or, failing information, an explanation of the reasons for withholding it, they do not invest the House with any authority to keep a Minister under cross-examination after he has replied to their original queries, and still less do they warrant the address of a summons to a Minister in the name of the House. There was little difficulty, therefore, in foreseeing that Viscount Aoki would refuse to comply with the intimation given to him, but what people were curious to learn was the course that the House would take under the circumstances. The President being indisposed, the Vice-President, Mr. Tsuda, took the chair, and immediately read to the House a reply received from the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, to the effect that he regretted his inability to comply with the House's request, inasmuch as, in his speech the preceding day, he had given the fullest information permitted by his position, and had answered the queries of Mr. Arai and the other members with as little reserve as possible. The House at first seemed unprepared to deal with this phase of the situation, though undoubtedly it must have been foreseen. Several members expressed dissatisfaction in general terms, but no definite proposal was made until Mr. Arai Shogo ascended the rostrum, and moved that as the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs had failed to give satisfactory replies to the interrogations addressed to him by over thirty members, in due accordance with the provisions of Parliamentary law, and as, further, he had disregarded the request of the House, conveyed through its President, that he would attend again and give fuller information, a representation should now be made to the Government setting forth these facts, and desiring that the Minister for Foreign Affairs should be directed to comply with the House's desire. Mr. Arai spoke at some length and with all his usual fluency. He pointed out that long as the Minister's speech had been, it had contained no really full information about the points of inquiry, and he insisted that as these points had been submitted in due form, and as the Minister President had directed Viscount Aoki to answer them, the House had an undoubted right to expect that the Minister of Foreign Affairs would remain in his place until the projected investigation was completed to the content of the House. He urged the necessity of vindicating the importance of the Diet, and not suffering its wishes to be slighted by any official. Mr. Misaki proposed as an amendment that instead of attempting to secure the attendance of the Minister in connection with the series of questions submitted on the 9th instant, the House should proceed by the route clearly indicated in the Laws, namely, should formulate anew any queries it desired to have answered, and having affixed to them the necessary number of names should address them to the Minister President of State, leaving him to determine the vehicle of reply. Mr. Misaki said that while the House had an undoubted right to formulate questions and to expect that a Minister of State should either answer them or give sufficient reasons for refusing to do so, it had no right, so far as its Laws or Rules indicated, to require the renewed attendance of a Minister after he had replied to its questions and left its precincts. It was true that the speech of the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs had not contained information so full as the House desired, but it had probably contained as much as the Minister was at liberty to convey in connection with the questions originally addressed to him. It was not advisable, under such circumstances, to set up needless friction between the House and the Administration. A plain and simple course was open, namely, to draw up a more detailed series of interrogations, and submit them in the regular way. This proposal evidently pleased the House much better than the headstrong method advocated by Mr. Arai Shogo. But at first considerable discussion took place. Several members spoke, the majority in favour of Mr.

Misaki's motion. It was forcibly pointed out that although Viscount Aoki's speech had been lacking in, detailed information, there had evidently been no groundless wish on the Minister's part to keep the House in ignorance, and moreover the speech had contained much that ought to give great satisfaction to the members. The Minister had explained, for example, that the Constitution could not possibly be carried out while the present Treaties remained in force, and from that it might be distinctly inferred that the Government was resolved to spare no effort to recover the nation's tariff and judicial autonomy. He had also stated and re-stated, most emphatically, that the Government considered it an imperative duty to revise the Treaties, and that the country had an indisputable right to demand their revision. He had not told them what course was contemplated with regard to the ownership of real estate by foreigners, or with regard to the coasting trade; but he had promised that every method should be employed to bring about an arrangement satisfactory to the people in these respects. Mr. Arai and his supporters, seeing that the House was drifting away from them, now endeavoured to re-enlist its sympathies by reminding it of the resolution voted the preceding evening, and asking the members whether they intended to treat that resolution as a thing of no value twenty-four hours after it had been recorded in the annals of the House. They had voted that the Minister for Foreign Affairs should be invited to attend again in the House in order to answer questions raised by the members in connection with his speech, the information already given by him being considered insufficient, and they would be stultifying themselves if they now bowed tamely to the Minister's refusal to comply with their request, and suffered the incident to rest there. The other side replied to this by asserting that the course suggested by Mr. Misaki was not inconsistent with the vote of the preceding evening, but was in fact the natural consequence of that vote. The House had voted that it required fuller information, and had attempted to procure that information in direct sequel to the interrogatories of the 9th instant. It had, however, been found impossible to accomplish this without undue efforts, and the House accordingly reverted to the regular course indicated in the Law. The Vice-President, in response to a generally applauded motion that the debate be closed, announced that Mr. Misaki's motion having obtained the necessary number of supporters, should be put to the House, but that Mr. Arai's motion had failed to receive the necessary support. Just as the motion was about to be put, however, a member rose and called the Vice-President's attention to the fact that Mr. Misaki had made not a motion, but an amendment to Mr. Arai's motion, and since the latter had not obtained the prescribed support and could not be submitted to the House, it seemed entirely out of order to take a vote on the amendment. The Vice-President thereupon asked the House to decide this point, and called upon those to rise who thought that Mr. Misaki's motion should be put to the vote. Only five or six members out of the number stood up in response to this summons, and the Vice-President accordingly announced that neither the motion of Mr. Arai nor that of Mr. Misaki was any longer before the House. He therefore ruled that the House should proceed to the Orders of the Day, and the House, evidently quite content to close the incident, set itself quietly to consider the other Bills before it. Mr. Arai Shogo and the little band of agitators who follow his banner thus suffered a signal defeat.

"LE JAPON."

The new French journal, which is to make its regular appearance on and after the 1st of January, has taken the very practical step of issuing a specimen copy. It is a small paper—just one half of the size of the *Japan Mail* and two-thirds of the size of the other local English journals—yet its rate of subscription is \$24 annually. This is certainly an immense price,

and that it should be necessary to make such a charge suggests a very strong doubt as to the permanent vitality of the new journal. We cannot but remember that two French newspapers have already figured in the list of Yokohama publications and died of inanition, and while we wish every success to the new venture, we are puzzled to conceive why its prospects should be brighter than were those of either of its predecessors. However, that is a matter for the proprietors alone to consider, and doubtless it has received their full attention. *Le Japon* is the property of the Yokohama Printing and Publishing Company (Limited), an association called into existence by the events of the past half year in connection with Treaty Revision. It has consequently an influential and opulent backing. The specimen number is necessarily a simple statement of intentions—a very moderate statement, too, justifying the expectations which we have already expressed with reference to journals published under the auspices of the new Company. In respect of politics *Le Japon*, announcing itself as the "organ of the French colony," promises to sustain the interests of the colonists and to "exert itself to contribute to the realization of the wishes recently evinced by them." That is a very commendable purpose, no doubt, but we cannot help thinking that these latter-day champions have entered the lists a little too tardily. The battle is practically over. No fighting that can be done at this end of the line will influence the situation materially, except in the sense of still further exciting the Japanese. The anti-revision rôle is obsolete. The mutterings and grumbings heard from the cave of the little band of Adullamites who still try to forget that time passes, and that the world moves, have a melancholy, antiquated sound well suited to the moribund cause they represent. The *Japon*, of course, is not to be anti-revisionist. Its proprietors have protested against being described by any such epithet, assuring the public that they are essentially pro-revisionists, and that they hesitate only over the question of terms. Therefore we say that the new journalistic campaign is commenced too late. The question of terms has been under international discussion for ten years, and the margin of compromise has been narrowed until it affords standing room for statesmanship only, and none whatever for suspicion and prejudice. Every strong effort made after the manner of last September's meeting, can only narrow that margin still further. We imagine that the projectors of the re-juvenated *Japan Gazette* and of *Le Japon* appreciate this, and that instead of throwing down any fresh gage of defiance to Japan, the newspapers under their control will help to smooth away difficulties and to promote a mutually satisfactory settlement of a question which, all reasonable persons are agreed, must be settled somehow without much longer delay. Still, it is late for such an effort. The fight is practically fought.

CHINA.

THE *Kokumin Shimbun* records some statements with reference to China, obtained by interviewing a Japanese who lived for a time in that country, and who is said to be competent to express an opinion on the subject:—"As to Chinese customs I brought with me several illustrations designed to indicate their leading features, but having given most of these pictures to my friends, I have only a few to show you," said he, handing me three pictures. The first showed a room used by the higher classes for smoking opium, with a man and woman lying in it smoking; the second was a representation of a nobleman going in a litter, and the third a drawing of a one-wheeled cart like a *jinrikisha*, and two men riding on it, pushed by a coolie. Looking at these, anyone could easily imagine how slowly things move in China, and how leisurely are the habits of the people. Then he referred to opium smoking. The poison of opium, he said, has already entered so deeply into every part of the vast empire of China that no law or punishment of whatever nature seems to be able to eradicate it. Many statesmen are apparently endeavouring to

get the virus out of the country, but they themselves are smokers. Only the famous Chang Chi-tung, who is a man of strict principles, never smokes, and is most earnestly engaged in trying to check the further extension of the evil habit. But his efforts are almost fruitless. If the Government put a prohibitory tax on imported opium, the people could cultivate the plant themselves to such an extent as to satisfy their own requirements, and thus defeat the purpose of the Government measure. It is not on account of any peculiar taste that opium is so much liked by smokers, nor is it on account of its affording such a pleasurable sensation during intoxication as many Japanese imagine. The true reason of its use is its stimulant power acting as an excitant. Politicians before going to a discussion, professors before delivering a lecture, merchants before opening negotiations, resort to the stimulating drug, and having once appreciated its effects, cannot give it up and become more and more its slaves. For these reasons, it is as much valued in private as it is denounced in public. High and low, the people all use it. It is an important means of social intercourse among the better classes, and an opium smoking room is considered indispensable in the houses of ministers, landed gentlemen, scholars, merchants, and so forth, who have any claim to be hospitable or to treat honoured guests properly. Under such circumstances it is natural that the use of opium cannot be checked in China."

Passing on to speak of Chinese characteristics, the traveller said:—"The Chinese are often regarded as conservative, obstinate, avaricious, and greedy, but that is only true as applied to a portion of them. In such an old nation as China, where officialdom is so highly esteemed and the people are so indifferently treated, the disparity between the poor and the rich cannot but be great. The poorer classes have no choice but to go wherever work may be found, there to toil with a degree of penuriousness that suggests avarice, and of industry that implies greed. But if we look at the condition of wealthy Chinese, we find a very opposite state of affairs. There being no such thing as a middle class, the members of the higher class are generally very wealthy and extravagant in their manner of living. They have ample means to satisfy their desires, and they are not at all given to grudge expenditure. Restrained by the administrative policy and social customs observed in their country for so many centuries, they do not suddenly adopt the externals of Western civilization. But this is only outwardly so: privately they are disposed to abandon their old ways of life. Thus, in respect of ornaments for head, neck, hands, and so forth, imported goods are more and more coming into use, the most conspicuous of such adornments being made into forms dictated by national fashion so as to escape attention. In fact, the adoption of Western civilization in Japan began with the Government, and therefore its roots do not strike so deep. But the reform in China is destined to commence in society, and therefore so soon as it has really commenced, it will go on without interruption. Japanese merchants projecting, or engaged in, trade with China, should closely watch the changes impending for China and the Chinese."

Of the foreigners engaged in trade with China, the English assuredly exercise the greatest influence. Indeed it seems quite natural that the English should wield most influence in the China trade, for it was England that first opened that trade; but if we look a little closer, we find that the real cause lies in the earnestness and energy with which the English Government and people promote and encourage commerce with China. The English Government delegates to the Hongkong Government all affairs connected with the trade with China, and the Hongkong Government causes the various Consuls to work along with English merchants for the furtherance of their common object. They take all means to win the good will of the Chinese

officials and merchants, and go into various undertakings, as the establishment of banks, of shipbuilding yards, railway construction, and various other industries in conjunction with the Chinese, either on an agreement for sharing profits, or on the principle of contributing towards capital or labour; and they thus endeavour to obtain commercial influence by convincing the Chinese that the English people are trustworthy and impartial partners in business. In starting any new undertaking the manner in which the English Consuls cultivate the Chinese officials and the English merchants win over the Chinese merchants fills the bystanders with admiration for their cleverness and industry. They employ all the tact acquired in dealing with other civilized nations in transacting business with the less civilized and less experienced Celestials, and leave no means untried to attain their objects, whether of pleading, intimidating, persuading, recommending, bribing, or cheating. They inevitably succeed in what they attempt, and thus gain ground inch by inch. Germany is a new comer in the commercial field as compared with England, but the Germans often surprise the English by their employment of effective and adequate means in dealing with the Chinese. The English resort to the expedient of entering into partnership with the Chinese, but the Germans effect their purpose by gaining over the Chinese through interest. The German Government deals directly with the Chinese Government and, gaining over the influential members of the latter, recommends and supplies competent Germans when any changes in military or naval systems, &c., are made by the Chinese Government, or through the hands of interested officials cause German timber or other articles to be bought by the Chinese merchants. In short, while England tries to bind the hands and feet of China, Germany attempts to make use of her head, and they are doing their best to overcome each other in the combat."

But another party aims at competing with these two peoples for the coveted object. That is Japan. Before going into this subject, we should make some observations as to the foreign trade of Japan. Hitherto the Japanese have depended on tea and silk to maintain an equilibrium in their annual exports and imports. The Japanese tea trade has been gradually declining and has become so dull lately that a Government subsidy has been obtained for establishing the Japan Tea Manufacturing Company (Nippon Seicha Kwaisha), but even this does not seem to effect much, so that the tea trade of Japan will in all likelihood give place to the Indian tea trade. Almost a similar fate seems about to befall the silk trade. Japanese silk has also its competitors, but owing to the failure of the industry in Italy or to a similar result in America, the trade here for some time prospered. This however, was but temporary, and depression having set in the trade gradually came to present the miserable aspect of the present year. In fact, the tea and silk trades of Japan are subject to annual fluctuations, and show a general and gradual decrease in annual export. Consequently they cannot be taken as permanent and representative products of this country. On the other hand, if we look at the state of our trade in marine products we see that this branch of trade shows a steady and remarkable increase in the export to China, and are convinced that it will eventually take the place of tea and silk as staple products of this country. Our marine products have no rival. Their supply is inexhaustible, and the demand from China is also limitless, but it is vain to hope for their production in the barren seas of China. The Chinese cannot do without our marine products, but so far the supply only extends to a small portion of the vast Celestial empire. We do not go beyond the mark in saying that our trade in marine products with China means an inexhaustible supply and a boundless demand. We must add to this the export of goods produced by handicraft, such as matches, soap, &c. Our countrymen's skill in handicraft is so far above that of the Chinese that there can

be no fear of competition in that respect. The Germans are endeavouring to introduce their home-made matches into the Chinese market, but here we have a great advantage over them in respect of our natural position. We can always make a better article at less cost, and it may be asserted that if we persist in endeavouring to develop our trade in these goods with China, we will succeed in monopolizing the Chinese market. There are numerous sources of wealth yet undeveloped in the interior of China. The Chinese have not yet gained any profit from their mines, and shrewd Englishmen have already begun to work them. In China the soil is comparatively poor, but it is good enough for the cultivation of the cotton plant. The Chinese have hitherto pursued this industry to a certain extent, but their efforts are confined to only a small portion of the waste tracts, and produce a limited quantity. This industry properly managed would be an important undertaking. Again, the transport business on the famous river Yangtze is so great that eighteen large ships, owned by three companies, running constantly on its waters, are scarcely enough to carry the goods that are heaped up in the warehouses. If such a powerful company as the Mitsu Bishi Kwaisha were to secure the necessary vessels and piers, &c., and enter the field of competition, the results could not fail to prove profitable. In short, China is a country with which we must be closely related in trade and industries, and we ask those who are interested in these matters to direct their attention to the quarter we have indicated."

THE COST OF STEEL RAILS.

ACCORDING to the new American Tariff Bill, says *Industries* of October 10th, it is proposed to reduce the duty on steel rails from \$17 per ton to \$13.44. It is of interest, therefore, to note that in a report recently published by the Administration of the United States, the maximum difference in the cost of producing steel rails is only three dollars per ton in favour of Europe. The official summary showing the average cost of a ton of steel rails is as follows:—

	United States. Dollars.	Great Britain. Dollars.	Continent. Dollars.
Material	21.209	18.588	18.101
Labour	1.540	2.548	2.689
Officials	—	0.049	1.376
Fuel	1.000	0.571	0.170
Supplies and repairs	1.000	0.675	0.552
Taxes	0.050	0.006	—
Total	24.799	21.907	23.190

In the American estimate the salaries of officials and clerks are included with supplies and repairs.

JAPANESE CHRISTIANITY.

We have from time to time endeavoured to familiarize our readers with the opinions of the so-called new school of theology in Japan, whose primary object seems to be the harmonizing of Christian teachings with the peculiarities of the Japanese national genius. In the last number of the *Rikugo Zasshi*, we find an interesting article on this subject by Mr. H. Onishi, a prominent thinker of the rising generation among Japanese Christians. Mr. Onishi does not agree with those who think that the Japanese Christian world in general is agitated by the new ideas of winnowing and adaptation, but he holds it to be a fact beyond any manner of doubt that such ideas are fermenting among a certain section of the Christian community. The origin of the new tendency is ascribed by some persons to the influence of the recently introduced creed of Unitarianism. This assertion, however, is pronounced entirely erroneous by Mr. Onishi, for the new school of theology began to appear several years ago. "Those," continues the writer, "who are now advocating the so-called new doctrines are men who long since began to watch with interest the progress of modern theological tendencies in Europe and America. . . . Is it more correct to say that, in certain respects, these men, in common with Unitarians, are under the influence of the new ideas of Europe and America, than that they have been swayed directly by the Unitarian theology lately introduced into this

country. This is a plain fact, which nobody acquainted with the past history of Christianity in Japan can fail to recognize." Mr. Onishi then goes on to observe that, besides the above mentioned school of thinkers in the orthodox church, there are in Japan two bodies which profess new religious opinions, the Unitarians and the German school of progressive Christians. The two latter already possess a visible organization, but the first has not yet assumed definite shape, and its ideas have still to be reduced to the form of a creed. The German school and the Unitarians have their own religious organs, namely the *Shinri* (Truth) and the *Unitarian*. The adherents of the new school among Orthodox Christians ventilate their opinions through the columns of the *Rikugo Zasshi*, but that journal cannot by any means be considered their organ. It may be stated, however, in behalf of this school, Mr. Onishi continues, that while most of the principal articles in the *Shinri* and the *Unitarian* are written by foreigners, the opinions advanced by the supporters of the national movement emanate entirely from Japanese. The writer then passes on to note that two cardinal motives inspire the modern tendency among Orthodox Christians; first, to strike out a new phase of Christian theology; and secondly, to promote the religious development of the Japanese race along a special and independent path. "Anybody," says Mr. Onishi, "who proposes to take a new departure in religious matters naturally thinks of adopting a line suited to the genius of his nation; and when a man desires to adopt such a course, he becomes inevitably dissatisfied with the Orthodox theology brought from the Occident and wishes to strike out an independent path of progress." As to the points of difference between the new school and the ordinary Orthodox believers, the writer says:—"It is evident that the new school maintains, on several points, opinions which are at variance with the creed of ordinary orthodox believers. In the doctrines of the Trinity, for instance, of Redemption, and of Inspiration, there is an undisguisable difference of opinion between the two parties. * * * In short, men of the new school make it their object to do away with the antiquated theology, and at the same time to preserve the vital force of religious belief. How to solve this difficult problem, is the point engaging their serious attention. They do not insist upon disavowing the supernatural elements of Christianity—miracles for example; neither do they attach paramount importance to the belief in such elements as articles of faith. They give greater weight to good conduct in practice than to belief in theological dogmas." With reference to the origin of the nationalistic movement among Japanese Christians, Mr. Onishi thinks that it is erroneous to identify it with the conservative reaction represented by the *Kokusui Hosen-to*. He maintains that the true explanation is to be found in the general awakening during recent years of the national consciousness, as a natural consequence of the progress and development of the Japanese people during the last two decades. In conclusion, he declares himself in favour of the new movement in question, "because the destiny of Christianity in Japan, at least in so far as concerns the educated section of the nation, is bound up with the future of this recent tendency." Should the Orthodox church be foolish enough to disown the new school, nothing could be more deplorable for the sake of the future position of Christianity in this country. Should, on the other hand, that church be ultimately superseded by the new school, its decline will not be matter for regret." Certainly it is a conjuncture of immense interest.

THE BUDGET.

It would appear from a statement in the *Mainichi Shimbun* that the Committee on Finance in the House of Representatives is unable to come to any satisfactory conclusion with regard to the Budget. Knowing persons predicted that despite the large measures of retrenchment which figured in the programmes of the various

political parties, very little could be accomplished when the practical means of carrying out these projects came to be discussed. This prophesy appears to be on the eve of fulfilment. The *Mainichi* says that the representatives of the various political parties in the Finance Committee all advanced their own special views, and declined to strike out a common scheme. The *Taisei-kai* had a *Taisei-kai* plan; the *Kaishin-to* folks had their own hobby, and the *Yifu-to* were bent upon pushing another special device. The result is that the only point of agreement yet discovered is said to be the abolition of the Metropolitan Police Bureau, which is now on an independent basis. Presumably what is contemplated is the attachment of the Bureau to the Home Department. This step would doubtless lead to a certain reduction in the number of officials, but it would be a paltry measure at best. We do not envy the Committee its task. The country constituencies are of course incompetent to form any clear opinion about the possibilities of effecting financial retrenchment on a large scale. They have, however, returned their members in the belief that retrenchment is to be among the very first feats achieved by the Diet, and that it will be retrenchment of sensible proportions. The members, on the other hand, when they come to face the problem in earnest, find that financiers, at least as clever as themselves and far more skilled, have for years been vainly trying to effect the very reforms which they have pledged themselves to their constituents to accomplish. They find, too, that what is true of an ordinary household is equally true of a nation; each must live up to its station. Japan cannot disband her troops, lay up her ships, close a number of her Government offices and become semi-*inkyo*. She has to pursue precisely the opposite path, and the trouble with the Committee on the Budget is that while this patriotism prompts them to one course, their supposed responsibility to their constituents dictates another. It is a very old story. The *Mainichi* suggests that the issue will be a fight over the 67th Article of the Constitution, which, according to the Government's rendering, so curtails the sphere of the Diet's financial control, that its capacities of retrenchment are practically inconsiderable.

THE NEW YORK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

THE resolution passed by the New York Chamber of Commerce has fallen very flat. Even those who might have been expected to throw their caps into the air about it, maintain a discreet silence. The truth is that the good folks of the American capital have placed themselves in a somewhat comical situation. The language of their resolution betrays a blissful ignorance of the whole subject. "It is reported," they say, "that negotiations are now pending between the Government of Japan and the United States Government for the revision of existing treaties between the two nations, which contemplate, among other provisions, relinquishing extra-territorial rights now existing, by which foreigners resident in Japan are subject to the laws of their own country." It is reported that negotiations are pending! What a startling item of news has reached the ears of these commercial Rip-van-Winkles! They are evidently quite oblivious to the fact that their Government actually concluded with Japan, nearly two years ago, a revised treaty of the nature to which they objected. But they have been suddenly roused from their slumber, and induced to pass a resolution bearing all the traces of the intellectual confusion that generally attends waking moments. They talk of "extra-territorial rights," an obviously absurd formula, since foreigners possess no "rights" whatsoever in this country, but only privileges, and then they proceed to define the so-called "rights." "Foreigners resident in Japan are subject to the laws of their own country." This is the interpretation of extra-territoriality gravely and publicly advanced by the New York Chamber of Commerce. The inmates of the sleeping palace are profoundly ignorant that the most prominent and distinctive feature of their country's policy

towards Japan for the past twenty years has been recognition of the obligation incumbent on United States citizens resident here to observe and obey the laws of the country. In short, if the New York Chamber had deliberately proposed to itself the task of demonstrating its entire want of acquaintance with the subject of Treaty Revision, it could not have succeeded better than it has by voting this resolution. Its action must be taken as simply the bow of a polite but nebulous colleague to Yokohama's challenge. It is sublimely oblivious of the very rudiments of the subject. It does not even know that no one objects to Japanese laws. It has not grasped the beginning of the question, and its voice can have no manner of influence with the responsible negotiators. An international difficulty of such a character as that which Japan is seeking to deal with cannot be disposed of by the airily ignorant pronouncements of men who obviously have not taken the smallest trouble to descry even the outlines of the matter. The Japanese will naturally accept this as another example of the disposition to treat their claims with arbitrary nonchalance. They will justly say:—"If the New York Chamber of Commerce regarded its own resolution as a matter of any importance, then, before passing judgment in an international suit of such long standing and involving such important issues, it should at least have taken the trouble to learn what the case is."

MR. RUDYARD KIPLING WITH THE CRITICS.

THE story of Mr. Kipling's interview at New York with Messrs. Harper Brothers, the publishers, and their contemptuous dismissal of his now famous sketches, is going the round of the newspapers. Author and wouldn't-be publisher (who did afterwards publish), do not seem to have hit it off. Perhaps the reason may be found in the presence at headquarters of that sarcastic Ohio Bostonian, Mr. W. D. Howells. This clever novelist, as readers know, occupies the editor's study in *Harper's Monthly*, and, being a man of theory and special views in regard to the story-telling art, he is difficult to please. Lighter literature in Great Britain seems to Mr. Howells to be in a bad way—æsthetically considered, to be in a state of "effete Philistinism." Mr. Howells aired his views on this subject several years ago, and displayed a good deal of bitterness at the vogue of a school of London writers, whose art he despised. He applies the term "printing in colours" to Mr. Kipling's jaunty, hat-cocked-on-one-side, wink-tipping sketches. The whole performance seems to him to be in bad taste. We fear a change to Mr. Howells might not be a change for the better. When he leaves the airy semi-nothingnesses of the drawing-room and polite "parlour," to give us realistic touches of the saloon and the street, he scarcely keeps free of the coarse. It is an easy task to make a comic scene out of a drunkard's idiocy; but as soon as it is made comic the sketch becomes more or less disgusting. In almost every one of Mr. Howells' tales that we recall to mind, the folly of a drunken man is made the material for a comic incident. To instance three only—the would-be suicide, Hicks, in the *Lady of the Aroostook*, a pretty tale otherwise; "Bartley Hubbard" in *A Modern Instance*, and "Silas" himself in *The Rise of Silas Lapham*. In lightness of descriptive touch, in the reproduction of the airy play of drawing-room conversation, in the dissection of motive, we think Mr. Howells is surpassed by Mr. W. E. Norris; and this is his recognised forte. His comparatively clumsy attempts at realism, in the department where Mr. Kipling has scored so marked a success, show his incapacity to appreciate the latter's genius. We fail to see any essential or appreciable bad taste in Mr. Kipling's sketches. With the toning down of a few expressions, all objections would disappear. Howells is hypercritical. Many take umbrage at Mr. Kipling's excessive use of local Indian terms, which makes us often wish we had a copy of Colonel Yule's dictionary conveniently at hand. *Thampanies*, *hamals*, *khilmatsars*, *chaprassis*, and all the rest of them are apt to

bore conscientious readers. Perhaps there is something in this objection; a writer in last month's *Cornhill* makes the most of it. This writer, who revels in badinage, attributes Mr. Kipling's popularity to four causes. Firstly, he punctuates his writing so as to make his sentences read like actual conversation. Secondly, he uses mysterious terms, and the public like to be mystified. Thirdly, the public do not like good men, nor do they like bad men, but they do like the man-who-has-some-good-in-him-after-all. And such Mr. Kipling, like Dickens and like Bret Harte, is fond of depicting. Fourthly, for his subject matter he has chosen what the world never wearies of—soldiers, horses, and flirts. Mr. Julian Hawthorne, in *Zippincott*, refuses to be cynical, and goes in with the current. He compares Mr. Kipling with Bret Harte in the self-possession and sagacity of his style, and grants him the true, mellow, literary touch. He believes him to possess, like Mr. Thomas Hardy, the power of depicting femininity, his women having all the distinction of sex. And his people are real people, he gives us nothing false or artificial. Such is Mr. Julian Hawthorne's verdict, a verdict in which the American public is pretty sure to acquiesce. Mr. Howell's vinegary censures will not carry much weight. His own literary work is growing thinner and thinner in quality; his last novel was almost a failure. In classing Rider Haggard and Rudyard Kipling together, although admitting the superiority of the latter, he commits a great injustice. For Mr. Haggard's imaginative faculty is of a crude, every-day sort, to be found in any school dormitory or ship's fore-castle, a "yarning" imagination, indeed; Mr. Kipling's is of a subtle kind, found rarely more than once in a generation. What faults he has are faults of youthful mannerism not faults of taste, which go deeper. As Mr. Julian Hawthorne observes with justice, he never makes a mistake of tact—whatever he writes becomes literature by his way of putting it.

RURAL LIFE IN ABERDEENSHIRE.

We publish elsewhere the first of a series of sketches which, unless we are greatly mistaken, will be read with hearty appreciation. They bring back once more vivid memories of life in that far-off land to which our hearts cling so fondly after all these years of absence. Amid such quiet scenes as those described by the writer many a dear friend is preparing to spend the Christmas that finds us here struggling with the old problem, and toiling to acquire the means of spending our remnant of years in just such a village at this of East Aberdeen. It is good sometimes to travel back in imagination to the restful days of the mellow past, and to see again, even on paper, the places and people of our childhood; to recall "the sober comfort, all the peace that springs from the large aggregate of little things."

THE CABINET AND THE DIET.

WITH regard to the interrogations addressed by certain members of the House of Representatives to the Cabinet, the vernacular papers state that those relating to industries are not likely to receive any answer, the Minister of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce (Mr. Mutsu) holding the opinion that none should be given. The ground he takes up is said to be that matters relating to industries call for different measures according to different circumstances, and as some from their nature and relations would require treatment based on a negative principle just as others would fall to be dealt with on positive principles, it would be impracticable to determine beforehand any definite course to be pursued in dealing with industrial affairs in general. Mr. Mutsu, as we now know, has justified this prediction by declining to answer the question, but the reason assigned by him is the vagueness of the inquiry.

The Judicial Department, says the *Yomiuri*, is busily occupied with matters relating to the Diet. The three Departments of Communications, Education, and Agriculture and Commerce are at the moment enjoying a respite, as the

Houses have not yet commenced to discuss their estimates, but the Judicial Department is the object of present onslaughts. The problem of how to interpret the 53rd Article of the Constitution, and the question of Mr. Mori Tokinosuke's detention have already come up, and the questions of postponing the operation of the Commercial Law and amending the Law for the organization of Law Courts are being brought forward. Meanwhile, another important measure has made its appearance, namely, a Bill for the revision of the whole body of the Criminal Code. The Bill has been drafted by Messrs. Miyagi Kozo and Kameyama Sadayoshi, assisted by Mr. Kawatsu Suke-yuki, and has already been presented to the Cabinet, and approved of by the Ministers. So that before many days are over, it will be submitted to the Diet. As the Code contains many articles and would require at least six months to be fully and minutely investigated, the debates over this Bill in the House will be of an animated kind. Add to these the Barristers Bill, and the question of rescinding the laws as to the appointment of Judges by examination, reducing or increasing the annual expenses of the Judicial Department, &c., and we shall find that the session of the Diet this year will be almost entirely occupied with judicial questions, so that Count Yamada's anxiety may be imagined.

The postponement of the operation of the Commercial Code will, says the *Hochi Shimbun*, if agreed to, gladden alike wealthy merchants, the so called genteel class of merchants, and the members of small mercantile associations. That the Houses should contain many advocates of postponement is something we cannot understand, and still more are we surprised to be told that on the side of these are Cabinet Ministers. If the Commercial Code is considered unnecessary, the House had better conclude to rescind it; if it is imperfect, the House had better amend it; but there is no reason for resorting to such a temporising measure as postponement. If, however, it is said that the Commercial Code is necessary, and its articles unobjectionable, but that the different companies and firms now in existence are not yet prepared to observe it, we would ask them how many years do they think will be necessary for preparation. For at least ten years it has been known that the Diet would be opened in 1890, and yet the preparations for it are not complete. Would it have been different with the Commercial Law?

Numerous motions have been made and discussed in the House of Representatives, but in the House of Peers there have been so far none except those made by Messrs. Watari and Ozaki with reference to the Rules of the Diet. We are told, says the *Hochi*, that a proposition to recover tariff autonomy is about to be brought forward in the House of Peers. Mr. Tomita Teisunosuke and some others are the principal supporters of the Bill, which will be handed to the President for submission to the House. This measure, which seems to have many supporters in the House of Peers, aims at first recovering tariff autonomy and thus obtaining material benefits for the country. The customs duty at present levied in Japan is limited to 5 per cent., and cannot be altered, which fact subjects us to a heavy disadvantage. According to the report by Mr. Tomita and others to the Society of National Economy, in the articles as to trading accompanying the treaties with eight Powers concluded in the time of the Tokugawa Government, the tariff was of four classes; i.e., no duty on gold, silver, and three other articles; five per cent. on articles required on ships and other twelve articles; 35 per cent. on spirits; 20 per cent. on all other articles not specified above, and the method of levying was on the invoice prices. Ten years later an amended agreement with reference to Customs duties was entered into with the delegates of America, England, France, and Holland, by which the former system of *ad valorem* dues was abolished in favour of two methods, specific and *ad*

valorem according to the class of commodity, and the limit of five per cent. was adopted. This has been continued for twenty-five years to this day, working greatly to the damage of the national interests. For instance, if we had continued to observe the rates of the first agreement for twenty-two years the import duties received by this country would have amounted to 150,000,000 *yen* instead of the 29,000,000 *yen* actually received by our Government. If we recover our customs rights and can apply rates similar to those in force at first, our annual income may be increased by 10,000,000 *yen* at least. Such being the case we should endeavour to avoid the loss we annually suffer from. Some of the supporters of the motion are firm in their intention to push this matter to the last stage with the coöperation of the people at large.

The *Koko Shimbun* mentions, with reference to the speech to be made by Viscount Aoki in the House of Representatives on the subject of Treaty Revision, that Count Goto is said to have remarked that as the negotiations for Treaty Revision now in operation are of a more advanced nature than those dealt with by Count Okuma, even the *Kaishin-to* would not offer any opposition but would support them, and that while among the Constitutional Liberals some small section might complain, the majority would make no objection. Consequently as there will be but little opposition from without, the negotiations will in all probability meet with little obstruction.

The *Nippon* writes, in anticipation of the speech to be made by the Minister of Foreign Affairs:—"Matters connected with diplomacy are mostly kept secret, but unless they refer to a policy that cannot prudently be revealed, there is no reason why any secret should exist. Under despotic monarchies the people have no responsibility as to political affairs, and therefore the officials entrusted with such affairs keep them secret so as to avoid idle comments by irresponsible people. But this cannot apply to countries under the constitutional system, where such affairs as treaties of foreign commerce, or of navigation, the permission of mixed residence in the interior, &c., affect the responsibilities of the people, who are therefore entitled to know what concerns them. Those in charge of the Government of this country are well aware of this fact, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs has decided to address the House of Representatives on the subject of Treaty Revision. This is a noteworthy event, and shows that the Cabinet of Japan is that of a truly Constitutional Government. We were much disappointed however, by the speeches of the Minister President and the Minister of Finance. To what extent Viscount Aoki intends to express his views we do not know, but we should regret if his speech simply consisted in a recapitulation of the history of diplomatic affairs, and in expressing hopes of avoiding results similar to past failures, &c. We therefore should like to have the following questions thoroughly explained by him:—the principal points requiring revision in the Treaties; the stage to which the negotiations have been carried; his views as regards the permission of mixed residence and the abolition of the Consular Courts system; his views as to restoring our tariff autonomy; the conditions if any to be allowed to foreigners; if these matters have been already determined by the Cabinet, whether they are to be submitted to a Conference of the Treaty Powers, and whether such proposals are to be amended or to be pushed on without wavering a step in case of being objected to by the Powers; whether it has been determined to go to the extremity of declaring the present Treaties void if that is found necessary, &c. These are the points we would ask the Minister to explain, although we assuredly should not place before him questions the answers to which would necessarily disclose his diplomatic policy. Foreign commerce, navigation, and mixed residence directly concern the interests of the people, and should not be decided according to the individual views of any states-

man. We do not ask him to place the draft of the Revised Treaties before the Houses for debate, but as to those parts of the Treaties that directly concern the people, we think he should explain them to the Houses, and by ascertaining the tendency of the people's thoughts be enabled to form his own plan of decisive action."

THE BALDWIN BROTHERS AT UYENO.

A SECOND balloon ascent and parachute descent took place at Uyeno on Monday. The performers were advertised as "the Baldwin Brothers," but this phraseology was somewhat misleading, inasmuch as the elder brother's share in the proceedings appears to be limited to the measures for the inflation of the balloon, and to general superintendence. Like Mr. Spencer, the Baldwins were fortunate enough to secure the use of the excellently suitable space immediately in front of the Permanent Museum in Uyeno Park. Enclosed by the buildings which flank and face that edifice, this position enables the preparations for the ascent and the start to be entirely hidden from persons who do not pay for admission, but of course so soon as the balloon ascends above the roofs it becomes visible to everybody. Care had been taken to advertise the affair thoroughly, and the impression had been skilfully created that Spencer was only a pupil of the Baldwins, and that the performance of the latter would throw the former entirely into the shade. The consequence was that large crowds assembled in the park, and that some five thousand bought tickets at rates varying from one *sen* to ten *sen*. It was announced that the ascent should take place at 2 o'clock, but the Baldwins gave themselves no concern about punctuality. So long as there seemed to be any prospect of selling tickets, they kept the wicket open, and people had no resource but to wait until it suited the convenience of the management to make a beginning. The balloon differed materially from that employed by Spencer. The latter was of silk, its dimensions comparatively small, and the means employed to inflate it were tedious and elaborate. The Baldwins' balloon was a big, snuffy affair, made of red and white strips of coarse, strong cotton, sewn together alternately. Observing it, as it lay upon the ground, the centre slightly raised by means of a rope rove through pulleys, the spectators imagined that they were looking at the cover of the balloon only. But they were by and by undeceived. Conjecture was rife as to the means of inflating the balloon. At the Spencer performance an elaborate arrangement of barrels and pipes indicated the brewing of gas, but the Baldwins had provided themselves, apparently, with nothing more than a pile of fire-wood and a can of kerosene. In short, it is impossible to conceive anything rougher than their whole system. They had not so much as an instrument to open the oil can. The operation had to be performed eventually with a hatchet, and when it came to laddling out the kerosene, a considerable delay occurred while somebody ran to borrow a tumbler from the nearest restaurant. These details, however, did not disturb the spectators. On the contrary, they gave a certain air of impromptu to the performance. Just beside the place from which the balloon was to ascend, a wooden frame-work, 75 feet high, had been erected. At its base a net was stretched tightly some six feet above the ground. The first idea suggested by the tower was that it had been raised to serve as a hoarding for advertising the *Jiji Shimpō*, its waist being encircled by a broad belt of red cotton on which the ideographs "Jiji Shimpō" were conspicuously blazoned. But the real purpose of the edifice became apparent when the younger Baldwin, dressed in highly coloured tights, ascended to the top, and having scattered some bundles of advertisements among the crowd, proceeded, at a loudly shouted word from his brother, to launch himself into space, and crash down on the net, from which his body rebounded to a height of five or six feet. It was not a very graceful or edifying feat, but the apparent recklessness and peril of

such a leap pleased the multitude. Then followed the business of inflating the balloon. This was accomplished by means of heated air. Briefly speaking, a strong fire was lit at the mouth of a flue passing under the ground, and the balloon, or rather the big cotton bag, being held over the exit of the flue, gradual inflation resulted. It was a rapid process, occupying not more than fifteen minutes, and the interest was heightened by curiosity as to the fate of an aristocrat named Smith, who remained inside the balloon while it was being filled, and seemed to be in imminent peril of asphyxiation. Presently an order was given to shut off the supply of hot air, and immediately afterwards the balloon sailed upwards. People rubbed their eyes, wondering whether this big affair could only be intended for a pilot after all, but presently a kind of wailing whoop called attention to the fact that the balloon was dragging up with it the younger Baldwin. In all the glory of acrobatic tights he clung to a loop at the end of a rope hanging to a distance of perhaps fifty feet from the bottom of the cotton bag, and went swinging upwards in this decidedly perilous connection. The balloon shot up quickly enough at first, but at a height of about a mile its capacity of ascension appeared to be exhausted, and it drifted horizontally to the north-east. Meanwhile the aeronaut had climbed up his rope, hand over hand, to a bar on which he performed sundry gymnastics, the last act being suspension by the feet, head downwards, amid a chorus of horrified ejaculations from the thousands assembled below. Then came the parachute descent. The interval of sheer fall before the parachute expanded was $4\frac{1}{2}$ seconds, but the subsequent progress earthward was slow and easy. The balloon itself turned over immediately on being freed from the aeronaut's weight, and collapsed incontinently, discharging a trail of grey smoke as it tumbled from the clouds. The cream of Tokyo's curiosity about balloons has now been skimmed, and if Spencer and the Baldwins have successors, the financial results will probably be very different.

THE FIRST CHALLENGE ADDRESSED TO THE CABINET.

"WHEN Count Yamagata made his speech in the House of Representatives" says the *Hochi Shimbun*, "we expressed in these columns our regret that his statement simply embodied the general outlines of the Administration's views, and did not enable the public to obtain any real insight into the policy of the present Cabinet. As was to be expected, Mr. Arai Shogo, a member of the House of Representatives, with thirty-one other members sharing his views, has formally presented a written series of interrogations in respect of the policy of the Government. A mere document, to be sure, is Mr. Arai's catechism, but if we regard it in the light of the first challenge addressed by the House of Representatives to the Cabinet, it becomes an affair of no small importance. We are told that extraordinary meetings have been held by the Cabinet for determining the measures to be taken in dealing with the Diet, and that certain among the younger statesmen in the Government's ranks have been called in to give their advice. What do our readers think of this? We have received more information on the same subject, but we are not at liberty to publish it. We think that the interrogations formulated by Mr. Arai are not unreasonable, because a politician who wants to discuss the administration of his country must know on what policy the Cabinet is conducting that administration. Reviewing the history of the Cabinet, we see that the policy adopted in respect of education, although comparatively fixed, still presents a wavering appearance; that the policy pursued towards industrial affairs has been subject to changes corresponding with changes in the chief official controlling it, and that the policy followed in regard to the Navy and Army is so obscure that no one can discern which of the two is meant to be the principal and which the auxiliary branch of national defence. As to Treaty Revision, we have repeatedly opened negotiations and repeatedly been

obliged to withdraw from them. How does the Cabinet intend to deal with this difficult problem? These points, the people are naturally anxious to receive information about, and Mr. Arai has now opened the path of public instruction. What answers will the Yamagata Cabinet make to these queries? Its replies will be the first pledge given by it to the people; in other words, the first admission of its responsibility to the nation at large. What will be the answers? They may serve to indicate whether it is to be peace or war between the Yamagata Cabinet and the people."

* * *

The *Toyo Shimpō* writing on the same subject, says:—We know very well that the Minister President's speech was not exhaustive, and we consider it quite reasonable that questions should be formulated for the purpose of elucidating the points left obscure by Count Yamagata. But when the members propounding the questions assert that it is of the utmost importance to them to know the policy of the Cabinet in order to discuss the bills submitted by the Government to the Diet, we fail to appreciate their meaning. The function of the Diet is oversee the Administration. It is not required to work under the direction of the administrative officials. The administration may have its opinions and so may the Legislature. They may both obey their own convictions in dealing with national affairs, and it is open to them to discuss their respective opinions. There is no reason whatsoever for saying that unless it is in accord with the leading principles of the Administration's policy the Diet cannot discharge its function of advice and consent. To admit such a hypothesis amounts to a recognition that the Diet is not free to entertain independent ideas; that it is not called upon to oversee the administration, but is expected to behave as though subordinate to the latter. Subordinate administrative officials may very well say that they cannot discharge their duties intelligently without knowing the ideas of their chiefs, but such a suggestion should never be found on the lips of members of the Diet. We believe in the integrity of the Diet, and do not doubt that its views are independent and unfettered. Yet it would now appear that the Diet takes a very humble view of its own position. It is impossible not to heave a deep sigh over such a spectacle. The opinions of Count Yamagata may be of any kind. The Diet has nothing to do with them. It should form its own idea as to the course to be followed and the methods to be adopted in dealing with matters relating to education, industry, the army and navy, or Treaty Revision, taking the national circumstances and the people's condition as its guides, and according to the estimate thus formed, it should proceed steadily to discharge its duty. Nothing can be gained by first ascertaining the views of the Prime Minister and then slowly pondering over them. The principle at the root of Constitutional Government is that the wisdom of the many is collected and employed in the direction of national affairs, and it is therefore essential that every educated man should form his own opinions, since in this way only can the aggregate of opinions represent a maximum of wisdom. We think that the speech of Count Yamagata was profound and pregnant; so also are the questions now proposed. It is in the nature of human affairs not to admit of uniformity. They cannot be shaped according to one universal pattern by any theoretical process. In education neither the higher system nor the average system can be taken as generally applicable, and similarly industrial affairs may not be regulated by any hard and fast rule. Things differ in their tendencies, no less than in their aspects, and the methods of managing them must vary equally. If the Diet seeks to establish fixed principles for itself and the Government alike, it will be passing from the domain of administration and legislation to that of philosophy. We do not expect that constitutional Japan will produce students of philosophy instead of practical politicians and legislators, or that the first Japanese Parliament will devote itself to philosophical discussions

rather than to legislative and administrative debates.

There is a curious difference between the writings of these two journals. The only feature which they have in common is that neither is pro-Government. The *Hochi Shimbun* represents the Cabinet as not a little perturbed and perplexed by the queries of Mr. Arai and his supporters. The *Tokyo Shimpō* thinks that there need be no agreement between the Cabinet and the representatives of the people, but that each side may hold its own administrative views in absolute independence. A strange notion this latter, surely, and difficult to reconcile with any Western conception of Constitutional Government. If it be a matter of indifference that the Diet and the Administration hold different views as to the proper manner of conducting the national affairs, then we must abandon the theory that without agreement between the Cabinet and the majority in Parliament, the people's share in the Government is a myth, and the purpose of representative institutions fails.

Nothing could be more natural than that the Diet should seek to be informed of the Government's policy, and nothing more consistent with reason than to say that, failing such information, an intelligent conception cannot be formed of the Bills submitted by the Cabinet. The Diet is not in a position to judge the Cabinet's measures justly until it knows what is the general motive underlying those measures. It was to be expected that the step now taken by Mr. Arai would be among the earliest incidents of the Diet's career. The Law of the Houses provides that when a member in either House desires to put a question to the Government, he shall be required to obtain the support of not less than thirty members, and having obtained that support, he has to commit his question to writing and submit the memorandum to the President. The Law of the Houses also provides that a Minister of State shall then either immediately answer the question, or fix a date for making such answer, or shall explicitly state his reasons for declining to answer. Finally, on receipt of the answer, any member is entitled to move a representation concerning the affairs touched upon in the question. It is tolerably certain that the Diet will avail itself largely of this means of obtaining information of, and criticising, the Cabinet's policy.

THE "JOGAKU ZASSHI."

THE *Jogaku Zasshi*, as stated in one of our recent weekly summaries of the vernacular press, entered upon a new career of enterprise on the day of the official opening of the Diet, the 20th nitmo. Mr. Iwamoto Zenji had previously held almost sole charge of the editorial department, but henceforth much of the editorial work will be undertaken by lady writers, eight of whom have been newly engaged. The discussion of current topics will be in the charge of Mrs. Nakajima, wife of the President of the House of Representatives. It will be seen that she has every facility to be well acquainted with the passing questions of the political, no less than of the social and literary world. Moreover, she will publish from time to time short poems especially addressing herself to her own sex. Miss S. Wakamatsu, and Miss Tanabe will devote themselves to the writing of novels. Miss Ogino, who is well known as a distinguished graduate of the Female Normal School, and as the first lady physician in Japan, will write on the subjects of hygiene and the nursery. Scientific subjects will be treated of by Miss Yoshida, also a well-known graduate of the Female Normal School. Miss Ando, one of the first graduates of the shorthand writing department in the *Meiji Yo Gakko*, will have the charge of the reporters' department, while Miss Kojima, who is said to be an enthusiastic student of domestic economy, will discuss subjects relating to her speciality, and will write religious stories for children. Lastly the editing of the paper will be under the general superintendence and responsibility of Miss T. Shimizu. Mr.

Iwamoto, we are told, will continue to have connection with the journal. In announcing these changes, our contemporary reviews its position in the past and declares its policy in the future. The object of the *Jogaku Zasshi* has been, ever since the commencement of its existence, to be a reformer and leader among all the periodicals devoted to the interests of the fair sex. It has never sought a large sale by catering to the prejudices of society. This object, we are assured, will never change, but a critical moment has arrived in the history of the movement for the elevation of women's position in Japan, and a new responsibility has developed upon the *Jogaku Zasshi*. At one time female journals numbered more than ten in the city of Tokyo alone, but they have disappeared one after another until now there remain only three. One of these is Buddhist in principle, while another is entirely literary, and has no fixed principle. It is scarcely necessary to add that the third is Christian. Simultaneously with this decline of the female cause in the journalistic world, things have been taking a similar course in the sphere of female education. Under these circumstances, the *Jogaku Zasshi* thinks it necessary to return to the first days of its existence, and repeat what it then wrote as to the vital importance of promoting female education and elevating the position of women. Our contemporary also promises to publish a large monthly supplement containing elaborate essays on various subjects interesting to women. Judging from the numbers before us, the columns of our contemporary have become far more interesting in many respects, and we hope that its disinterested enthusiasm may meet with the warm support of every one in sympathy with the cause it champions so stoutly.

QUESTIONS ADDRESSED TO THE GOVERNMENT.

MR. ARAI SHOGO, a member of the House of Representatives, availing himself of one of the privileges granted by the Law of the Houses, has drawn up a series of questions and handed the memorandum to the President for submission to the Government. The questions are four:—First, whether, in educational matters, the national system is to aim at higher education or at ordinary education. Secondly, whether a positive or a negative policy is to be pursued in respect of industrial affairs. Thirdly, whether the increase of the country's military armament is to be limited to defensive requirements, whether the Army or the Navy is to be regarded as the chief branch, or whether both branches are to be increased. Fourthly, what stage has been reached in respect of Treaty Revision, and what policy the Cabinet intends to pursue towards it in the future. To these very important queries answers will doubtless be given in a few days, and we may then anticipate debates of high interest in the Diet.

MESSRS. HARPER AND RUDYARD KIPLING.

THE following article in the *New York Times* throws a new light on the recently much discussed relations between Mr. Rudyard Kipling and Messrs. Harper and Brothers:—

A recent number of the London *Athenaeum* contained a very perversely account of the relations of Messrs. Harper & Brothers with Mr. Rudyard Kipling, an account so perversely that it could scarcely have proceeded from Mr. Kipling himself. Mr. Kipling, however, returned the honorarium of £10 which the Harpers sent him upon the publication of their collection of his stories, and this seemed to give his support to the accusation against them of unfair dealing. It appears that the volume of Mr. Kipling's stories issued by Messrs. Harper & Brothers was made up, with a single exception, of stories that had already been bought by them in the form of advance sheets, from Mr. Kipling's agent in this country, on his own terms, and published in the Harper periodicals. The exception had already been published in several American newspapers. This story will be omitted, we are informed in subsequent editions of the Harper collection, and its place supplied by another story, the advance sheets of which have been bought at the price asked by Mr. Kipling's agent, and the publication of which will be begun in the next number of *Harper's Weekly*. Now, obviously, if Messrs. Harper & Brothers had not a moral title to this literary property, in the absence of the international copyright that alone could give them a legal title to it, they at least had a better

title than anybody else could show to literature which they had bought and paid for. Of course, they could not can any American publisher, pay a fair equivalent for the value of a book which can safely and will surely be reprinted by other publishers as soon as it is shown to be successful. But the amount received by Mr. Kipling from Messrs. Harper and Brothers on account of the stories published by them, instead of being £10, as would appear from the account in the *Athenaeum*, was, in fact, £88, including the £10 paid by way of honorarium for the story not already paid for by them. It is quite impossible to see in this case, when it is fairly stated, any excuse whatever for the spiteful suggestion made by a correspondent in the *Athenaeum*, of Oct. 25, that the British public should revenge itself for the wrongs British authors are assumed to have received at the hands of Messrs. Harper & Brothers by boycotting the English edition of *Harper's Magazine*. "Let us agree together," says this correspondent, "to have no more dealings with such firms until the offence be fully purged. Let us, in particular, decline to write for their magazines, to advertise in them, to notice them in our review columns, to accept them in our advertisements, or to allow them in our houses." Certainly this proposition does not lack vindictiveness, but if it be tranquilly examined in the light of the facts its silliness will appear even more conspicuous than its spitefulness.

A MISSIONARY ON THE SITUATION.

THE following extract which appeared some time ago in a home journal, appears worth reproduction; it is from the pen of the Rev. J. H. de Forrest, D.D., of Sendai:—

Last spring Mr. Large, a Canadian Methodist missionary, was murdered in Tokyo. Shortly after that Mr. Summers, an Englishman, was knocked over by a lancer while awaiting, with his hat on, the passage of the Empress Dowager. A little later Rev. Dr. Imbrie, of the Presbyterian Mission, was assaulted, beaten, and cut, by some students of the Government College in the capital.

These three occurrences have led people into wild surmises. "Are the missionaries all going to be killed out there?" "Will you all be driven from Japan?" "Hada't we better be getting some gunboats around there?" These and other equally panicky questions are often asked me since my return to the States. The following brief points may be helpful to an understanding of the situation:—

1. According to the present treaties, foreigners are allowed to reside in only half a dozen ports now open to foreign commerce. No residence in the interior is allowed, save as the foreigner is employed by Japanese. All missionaries, therefore, in Kyōto, Okayama, Sendai, Nagoya, etc., are there in virtue of some contract to teach. They hold a resident passport which gives them the liberty of the city and neighbouring country. As a rule persons thus employed, whether male or female, cannot travel to an open port without a special passport. The treaties do not allow foreigners to hold property outside of the open ports. It follows, therefore, that all missionary houses with their lands, and all schools built with foreign money, are held legally not by the foreigner, as many people suppose, but by some trusted Japanese. Outside of the concessions, there are dwellings, schoolhouses, and churches that cost hundreds of thousands of dollars, all contributed by various mission boards, but not one inch of land, nor a tile on the houses, is held in a foreigner's name. In most cases the Japanese in whose name the document is made out passes it over to the missionaries and it is kept in the mission safe.

2. No foreigner is subject to Japanese law, whether he be in the open port or employed in the interior. Though Japan has a well-organized army and navy, a thorough system of police, court-houses, and jails, the Japanese Government cannot try any foreigner for any crime whatsoever. Western nations have transplanted their courts of justice to Japanese soil, and have built their own prisons there. One of our missionaries was once on a jury to try a citizen of the United States for murder. The accused was found guilty and was condemned by our consul and his jury to be hanged.

Now if any European power should attempt to arrest and try one of its citizens in the United States for the murder of an American, the whole nation would rise as one man to resist the invasion of our independence. And is it fair for Christian nations to do in Japan what they would not suffer Japan for a moment to do in our land? Would it not be far more just to abolish the old treaties that for one full generation have kept the hated extraterritorial clause in operation, and to treat this great and progressive nation as an equal? However warmly one may sympathize with Japan, in order to give an intelligent reply to these apparently simple questions, it is very necessary to understand

3. The judicial system of that land. While we heartily rejoice in the progress of this great nation in all governmental and educational lines, few people in the States are aware that trial by torture was abolished only a few years ago, and that not until this year did Japan have a published code of criminal and civil laws. Now, then, is it possible for the most friendly Western nation to make a treaty with Japan that shall give her judicial autonomy? What nation is there that is willing to pass her citizens over completely to Japanese

jurisdiction before there has been fair trial of five or ten years of these newly published codes? The only nation that has done this is Mexico. The three great nations that were willing to accept to accept the proposed revision—Germany, Russia, and the United States—were not asked by Japanese statesmen to put their citizens at once under Japanese law, but it was planned to continue some form of extraterritorial privileges for a few years. In other words, the statesmen of Japan, in consultation with the statesmen of Western nations, felt that it was wise, in revising the treaties, to give foreigners the benefit of the presence of foreign judges in all cases in which aliens were brought into court.

The politicians of Japan, however, are bitterly hostile to any revision that does not recognize her full judicial and tariff autonomy at once. They demand perfect equality with all treaty Powers. And the large Conservative party, playing on the intensely patriotic spirit of the people by means of influential journals and lectures, joins with the politicians in the cry of "Japan for the Japanese." This combination was powerful enough last year to defeat the proposed revision. They are asking what the most friendly foreign power, save such as Mexico, would be unwilling to grant.

4. Under these circumstances it is impossible but that an anti-foreign feeling should arise, and it is natural that among a people aroused and excited there should be individuals who will magnify personal grievances into national ones and be led to acts of violence and even of murder. If anything should now occur to inflame the people and to deepen this feeling of hatred, in all probability some foreigners would be assaulted and killed. And as missionaries are more scattered and exposed than any other class of foreigners, some of them would be among the victims. But it should be understood that the Government of Japan would do all in its power to protect all foreigners, and there is no likelihood of any wide attack or conspiracy against us.

5. This feeling has deeply affected missionary work. Missionaries are foreigners. They are not citizens of Japan nor are they subject to her laws. And though in many cities they are received with politeness and even cordiality, in other places, where the anti-foreign feeling is strong,—for example, Tōkyō,—they meet with indifference, and even with signs of dislike from the people. But in the churches and Christian schools, while some missionaries who lack in tact are disliked, others have the high regard and confidence of the Christians, and no political movement will ever break the sacred friendships that exist between scores of missionaries and those whom they have led to their great moral and spiritual decisions. And yet, in the practical work of missions, our best friends in Japan are telling us frankly that they understand Japanese character better than we do, and that they desire to have every important place filled with Japanese as soon as practicable. They say they now have the Bible and the beginnings of the various forms of Christian work in the shape of independent churches, schools for boys and girls, missionary societies, young men's Christian association methods, publication houses, and a Christian press. For all that we have done in starting these they give us generous credit. But they now have among them Christian statesmen, philosophers, authors, preachers—men who are accustomed to do their own thinking, and who, with the best of motives, wish to make a Christianity that shall belong as essentially to Japan "as New England theology does to New England or German theology to Germany."

This is no new movement on the part of the leaders of Christian thought in Japan. It has been in their minds and in ours for years. What encouragement we have given to it may be partially estimated from the fact that out of the twenty-six boys' and girls' schools in connection with our work, twenty-four are headed by Japanese. But the anti-foreign feeling has given occasion for a free and frank expression on the part of the Japanese leaders that the time has come when foreigners should cease to write home about "our churches," "our schools," and "our helpers." They do not wish any foreign name fastened to their church. They are not Congregational, but *Kumiai* churches. They do not want foreigners to be heads of Christian work, nor to regard themselves as such, but to be avowedly co-labourers or helpers. Those who express these views are, as a rule, among our most trusted friends, and there is no shadow of bitterness in what they say. They ask for more missionaries to help them occupy six new stations, and for some of the experienced ones to tour with them and aid in the formation of new churches.

6. There are some discouraging elements in the present situation, but more, I believe, that should inspire us with hope. This almost passionate desire, on the part of the Christians to develop a Christianity that shall form an integral part of Japanese civilization, may perhaps promise more for the future of Christianity than any plan of civilization led by foreigners. We carry to mission fields the burden of sectarian rivalries, and the deeper divisions of Protestant, Catholic, and Greek. Suppose now that in the near future political complications should render it impossible for us to labour in Japan, the same political situation would tend to bring all Christians into harmony, under the magic of that cry, *Japan for the Japanese, and a Japanese Christianity for Japan*. And since Protestants are much stronger than

all others combined in intellectual power and popular influence, the trend of Christianity would naturally be towards liberty of thought, based on the open Bible. There would be no persecution, for the Constitution guarantees religious freedom. Very likely there would arise sects, but they would not be imported ones.

7. That our Japanese friends mean to be worthy of the highest places in the evangelization of their forty millions is seen also in this fact—that they are coming more and more to the United States to take post-graduate courses of study. Many of their best preachers and teachers are now in our universities, winning honours and praise. Their young ladies, too, are planning to be principals of Christian girls' schools, and are coming to Wellesley, Mt. Holyoke, Mills, and other colleges. There cannot be found on any mission field more remarkable and conspicuous proof of success than is seen in the fact that Japanese are already at the head of every department of Christian work in their country. In this movement the missionary will often feel deeply hurt at words that may be uttered and by actions that leave him out in the cold. But he will rejoice that Christ is being preached, and he will excuse slights on the ground that there is no more of unchristian spirit in the Japanese brother than he has seen among mission circles. The missionary must decrease in every successful and abiding work, while the native must increase. Missionaries in the pulpit, missionaries as principals of schools, missionaries as evangelists, missionaries as editors and creators of Christian literature—these are not signs of success; rather they are sure signs that success has not yet been reached.

I chanced to see a quotation recently from *The Medical Record*, written with no reference to mission work. It is so strikingly applicable to the science of missions that I give it entire, leaving the application to the reader:—

"The basis of scientific medicine is the same for all lands and all peoples, but the superstructure must vary with the varying conditions of conditions of constitution, climate, etc. In all new countries the fundamentals of medical science must be taught by foreigners, but when the natives are themselves proficient in these, the farther development of the science in their own country must be left to them. They know their own people and they know the general principles of the healing art, and it is for them to apply their knowledge in such a way as to obtain the best results. The foreign physician has then fulfilled his mission and can safely turn over farther development of his art to the natives."

To sum up, Japan desires the abolition of extraterritoriality. The necessary delay on the part of Western Powers in agreeing to this natural desire has caused a growing dislike of all foreigners. This strong national feeling penetrates even into Christian work and gives occasion for the frank desire that extraterritoriality in mission work also should be abolished. The transplanting of foreign sects with their inherited quarrels, presided over by aliens, does not meet with favour among the men whose ability and zeal are making Christianity a moral power in Japan. Missionaries will be welcomed as helpers on of a great work, the main direction of which henceforth belongs not to foreigners but to natives. This necessary step towards a completed missionary work will furnish new grounds for friction, and will therefore, for the next and last generation of missionaries, require from both sides an especial exaltation of the Master's ever new command, "Love one another."

Mr. de Forrest is no doubt correct in his account of the estranging effect produced by perpetuating the present system in Japan. He is also right, we believe, when he hints that the desire of the Japanese to see their country relieved from her present international disabilities has become so morbidly intense as to intrude itself into spheres where it is at once incongruous and mischievous. We believe that no small part of the tendency to strike out a form of Christianity which shall be free from all alien stamp except in its prime essentials, is to be traced to this exaggerated sentiment of nationalism. But Mr. de Forrest falls into three conspicuous errors of fact. The first is his statement that "no foreigner in Japan is subject to Japanese law." This singular definition of extraterritoriality was given recently by the New York Chamber of Commerce also. It shows how very little is really understood about the judicial phase of the subject, even by persons who, like Mr. de Forrest, are sincerely anxious to be just and accurate. Still more remarkable, however, is the reverend gentleman's assertion that "not until this year did Japan have a published code of criminal and civil laws." Can Mr. de Forrest really be ignorant that the criminal code now in force was published in 1881, and came into operation on January 1st, 1882? Presumably he is ignorant, incredible as it seems, and presumably he has also taken his idea of the Japanese proposals for Treaty Revision from the exceedingly incorrect statement made to the

Yokohama meeting of September 11th. The meeting was told that the Japanese Government had asked for the immediate submission of all foreigners outside the Settlements to Japanese jurisdiction, though the Japanese Government had never asked for anything of the kind, and Mr. de Forrest heightens the blunder by saying that "the politicians of Japan are bitterly hostile to any revision that does not recognise her full judicial and tariff autonomy at once." In what this grossly mistaken notion had its origin we cannot conceive. It has been repeated on several occasions, yet its flagrant incorrectness ought to be well-known. There is not and never has been any question of the immediate recovery of Japan's tariff and judicial autonomy.

MR. GLADSTONE'S APPEAL TO HIS OPPONENTS ON HOME RULE.

Subjects for the Day is the title of a quarterly magazine lately projected in London. It is published by Messrs. Routledge, edited by Mr. James Samuelson, and its distinguishing characteristic is that it discusses only one subject in each issue, but that is discussed by different writers, and as far as is possible from all points of view. The November issue of this periodical treats of Home Rule, and opens with a paper by Mr. Gladstone entitled "Home Rule for Ireland." Mr. Gladstone's paper is calm and unimpassioned in tone; it is closely reasoned in substance, and as it gives in the most authoritative way all that its greatest advocate can say in favour of Home Rule to his political enemies, a general summary of its contents will interest our readers. "Often," says Mr. Gladstone, "meditating on the Irish question, I as often ask myself why the Tory householder should be an opponent of the Irish claim. The Tory householder fears Radicalism. Why should he persist in securing for it within the walls of Parliament 85 Irish allies, who must be radical as long as they are nationally discontented? The Tory householder likes a quiet life, but as long as Home Rule is denied he can have nothing but an unquiet life. The Tory householder likes ancient institutions, but it is back towards her ancient institutions that Ireland wishes him to travel, and he is fighting for a novelty. Our demand upon the Tory householder is a very simple one. We only ask him to think. With this simple demand the bulk of the Tory and anti-Irish voters have not yet largely complied. The greater part of the Liberal successes has been due to the rallying of our forces, not to acquisitions from theirs. But a sprinkling of them we have gained, and the sense of refreshment from it makes us wish to help towards a right conclusion those who feel themselves to be sorely shaken in one conclusion but have not yet taken to another, and those forming no small fraction of the crowd who have thus far declined the trouble of thinking at all. My question, then, on which I ask them to think, is why should they continue to deny Ireland the one and only thing she seeks from them, that is to say, the gift of a measure of self-government, central in that it should be carried on in Dublin, but local in that its power should be confined to purely Irish affairs, and subject, like all the other local legislatures of the Empire, to the supremacy of the Imperial Parliament at Westminster. Shall the answer be this: We vote against the Irish because the educated or upper classes are in overwhelming majority against them. I admit and lament the fact; I deny the reason. You may safely follow the educated or upper classes now if on looking to the past you find that you might safely have followed them upon the other great controverted questions of which the last half-century has been full. But you will find that if you had so followed them it would have been to the detriment or even to the ruin of the country." "You have a great trust in your Parliament, a painful apprehension that in some way it has broken down, and a lively desire that it should be again made competent for its work and should do it thoroughly. I tread here upon ground which you will admit to be solid, for the things which I have last been saying are in truth the commonplaces of all men

and all parties. Every observer, the commonest and the closest alike, is aware that the affairs of Ireland engross an inconvenient amount of Parliamentary time. The population of Great Britain is to the population of Ireland as eight to one. The time spent on the affairs of Great Britain is to the time spent on the affairs of Ireland as three to one. We should at once reduce by one-fourth the load that is pressing our Parliament to the ground could we get rid of Irish affairs. Now this, as far as it goes, our Tory friends must admit to be a strong practical reason for Home Rule. I will not push it too far. If we could point to a prosperous and happy Ireland, I for one should admit that it might be worth our while to spend much of our time in this redeeming the faults, the follies, and the cruelties of former years and centuries; but it is not so. At present we spend, relatively to population, much more than twice as long in keeping Ireland unhappy as we spend in keeping Great Britain contented. "We are assured by bodies of gentlemen residing in the North that the proposal to let Ireland manage Irish affairs puts them in fear for their life, their property, their religion. For their religion? This is, indeed, a singular charge. This Roman Catholic people who so bitterly hate Protestants are led by a Protestant, Mr. Parnell, a Protestant of Protestants, I suppose, for he was chosen after the disestablishment to represent his fellow Protestants (of the diocese) in the Synod of his Church. Before Mr. Parnell they were led by Mr. Shaw, another Protestant. Before Mr. Shaw they were led by Mr. Butt, still another Protestant! In fact, nearly all their leaders have been Protestants, and many of their martyrs, such as Lord Edward Fitz-Gerald and Wolf Tone. There was a time when persecution, which has as many forms as Proteus, took the form of burning. Were the Irish particularly fond of burning for religion's sake? Were they as fond of it as the English? We have heard that in the time of Queen Mary the English burned Protestants pretty freely, I think about two a week while the fury lasted. In Ireland the Protestants were far weaker, and might have been burned more safely and more easily. Not one of them was put to death. Nay, English Protestants fled from Chester and from Bristol into Ireland because they knew they would be safe there. Three hundred and more years ago all the world was for persecution except, it seems, the Irish. So far, then, the Irish taught the world the canons of justice and of freedom, and the world has now at length in great part learned the lesson. Can we suppose that the teachers have renounced their own teaching, and having been the first to discern the light, with no one to keep them in countenance, that they are now, when all our eyes are at last opened, bent upon shutting theirs?" "How shall we probe this question to the bottom? Hardly by the case of Ulster, for there the population is almost equally divided between Protestants and Roman Catholics, so that the Protestants can hold their own. But in the other three provinces, as a whole, the Roman Catholics are, speaking roughly, five to one. In some counties they are ten to one, or even twenty to one. If the Roman Catholics had this horrid propensity to persecution it must have come out disagreeably in social forms, especially in those places where the Protestants are too weak to make head. Are these scattered Protestants of the three provinces, then, annoyed by the Roman Catholic masses among whom they live? I call a recent witness into court. Mr. Irwin, a Presbyterian minister and a declared friend to the Union, published last June a history of Presbyterianism outside Ulster—the very thing we want. He gives us the testimony of the Presbyterians on this subject. "Their uniform testimony is that they, a small minority, have been treated with kindness by the great mass of the population among whom their lot is cast." "What is the case of the Anti-Irish party on their own showing? Mr. Bright said, and other leading Dissenters have repeated, that two millions of the Irish were opposed to Home Rule. The friends

of Home Rule, then, according to their estimate, are but two millions and three-quarters. To make up for the odd three-quarters the anti-Home Rulers have behind them thirty-three millions of people in Great Britain, overwhelmingly Protestant, and ready, as they know, to defend them if unjustly attacked with their numbers, their wealth, their determination, with their Government, their army, and their navy, the Irish Roman Catholics not having a soldier or a ship, and it not being proposed to give them right to create either the one or the other. Was there ever a more astonishing case of groundless if not simulated apprehension? Was there ever a better case for applying the dictum of Dean Swift, who sarcastically said that "ten men well armed will commonly find themselves able to overcome one man in his shirt?" After maintaining that the present method of governing Ireland does not suit our purse, promote our honour, or augment our military strength, Mr. Gladstone goes on:—"We are not, however, the first country or the first dominant portion of a country which has been asked from a conjoined and incorporated section of its territory to concede Home Rule and has refused the request. Holland was asked for Home Rule by Belgium and refused it. Belgium is now independent of Holland. Denmark was asked for Home Rule by Schleswig-Holstein and refused it. Schleswig-Holstein is now independent of Denmark. Turkey refused Home Rule to her European provinces. Five-sixths of them have now got quit of Turkey. In the case of Lombardy Home Rule was never tried by Austria, and she has lost it altogether. Russia no doubt has denied Home Rule to Poland and yet has continued to hold it, but holds it as a danger from without and as a drain on her resources within. Such with respect to the denial of Home Rule are the teachings of experience. But Home Rule has often been conceded; and as the denial has in no case been attended with success, so the concession has in no case been attended with failure. Sixty years ago we governed our own British colonies from Downing-street. The result was controversy, discontent, sometimes rebellion. We gave them Home Rule, with the same reconciling results as have followed elsewhere, and with this result in particular, that what was denounced here beforehand as separation has produced a union of hearts between us and the colonies such as had never been known before. The claims of Ireland to self-government as compared with the colonies of British blood are in one point of view very much higher indeed. In the colonies one and all, with a weaker case, we gave it. By so doing we averted danger, escaped embarrassment, secured content, and raised our reputation throughout the world. It remains to apply to Ireland the same medicine, with stronger reasons but in a milder form, and with a confidence of success such as can only be attained in cases like this, where the entire force of reasoning is confirmed by the unbroken results of analogous experience." These extracts it should be mentioned are not at all continuous, though they may appear so as given above. An attempt has been made to give the substance of Mr. Gladstone's arguments in Mr. Gladstone's own words and it has been necessary in order to do this to omit many of the illustrations, and qualifications, and many of the quiet gibes at his opponents which are characteristic of all he writes or speaks.

THE "JAPANESE BOTANICAL MAGAZINE."

The *Japanese Botanical Magazine* has reached its forty-sixth number, and continues to sustain the reputation acquired in its early days. The list of contributors includes many of the best known names among Japanese scientific men, as Professor Yatabe, Messrs. Tanaka, Tashiro, Miyoshi, Sawada, Hori, Makino, Yamamoto, Okada, Yoshinaga, and so forth, and the contents indicate a wide range of research. It is evident that this magazine is destined to play a most important part in the history of Japanese botanical enquiry. To any one who as a writer has to translate the names of Japanese plants and trees into English, or who being fortunate enough to possess the means and the leisure to

cultivate a gardening taste, wants to know something of the botanical resources of the country, the lists contained in the magazine will be simply invaluable. To exemplify this we quote, at random, a portion of one of these lists:—

Stock. Acaseito.	Sweet-scented Vernal-grass. Haru-gaya.
Stone crop. Benkeiso.	Sweet Sedge. Oni-zeki-sho.
Strawberry. Oranda-ichigo.	Sweet Verbena. Boshu-boku.
Strawberry-bush. Mayumi.	Sweet Violet. Nioi-sunibe.
Strawberry Geranium. Yuki-no-shita.	Sweet William. Amerika-nadeshiko.
Strawberry Tomato. Hozuki.	Sycamore. Botan-no-ki.
Striped-grass. Shimagaya.	Tacamahac. Dero.
Succory. Kiku-jisa.	Tamarisc. Goryun.
Sugar-Cane. Sato-kibi.	Tansy. Yomogi-giku.
Sumach. Haze-no-ki.	Tape-Grass. Sekisho-mo.
Sundew. Monegoka.	Tate. Kusa-fuji.
Sunflower. Hinawari.	Tea Plant. Cha; chano-ki.
Supple-jack. Kumayanagi.	Tear-Thumb. Unagitsukami.
Sweet Acorus. Onizekisho.	Teasel. Oni-nabena; chosel.
Sweet Basil. Mehoki.	Thistle. Azami.
Sweet Cicely. Yabuninjin.	Thorn-Apple. Mandarage.
Sweet Clover. Shingawa-hagi.	Thoroughwort. Hiyodori-bana.
Sweet Flag. Oni-zeki-sho.	Three-leaved Nightshade. Enreiso.
Sweet Gale. Ezo-yamamomo.	Thyme. Hyakuriko.
Sweet Gum Tree. Fu.	Tickseed. Kinkei giku.
Sweet-Leaf. Hai-no-ki.	
Sweet Potato. Satsuma-imo.	

It is plain that, by and by, these lists will constitute an immensely valuable addition to Japanese-English lexicography. The contents of the magazine are, of course, for the most part in Japanese, but occasionally we come across an excellently written and interesting essay in English. Such, for example, is Mr. Tanaka's account of *Hatsudake* and *Akahatsu*, two edible Japanese fungi well known to every foreigner who keeps house in Japan. The writer concludes that it is an error to confound either of these fungi with the *Lactarius deliciosus*, as has hitherto been done, and that they both belong to new species. We quote a portion of his paper for the purpose of illustrating the style of the magazine:—

In Japan, *Hatsudake* has a very wide range of growth, and is one of the common edible fungi, highly appreciated almost all over the country. It appears chiefly in pine woods, and in great abundance in early autumn, previous to many other edible species; hence the name of "*Hatsudake*" or "first fungus." In the vicinity of Tokyo it grows abundantly at Matsudo and Kogane in the province of Shimosa. In its season it is sold in vegetable markets in small shallow baskets made of bamboo. In preparing it for the market the lower portion of the stalk is cut off, and the pileus placed upside down in the basket. Each basket contains about twenty or thirty of the fungi, and the whole is covered with large fresh leaves, such as those of *Lappa* major, to prevent the fungi from drying. Of these fungi thus exposed to sale we can distinguish two different species, one of which is the ordinary *Hatsudake* and the other, an allied species commonly called "*Akahatsu*." They are often put together in one basket and are collectively called by the common name of "*Hatsudake*"; but they can easily be distinguished one from the other by the difference in colour of their gills. *Akahatsu* is much inferior in its taste to *Hatsudake*; hence its market value is also much less than that of the latter.

Although these fungi were already described by our old writers in many botanical works, yet their systematic position has yet been unsettled. *Hatsudake* and *Akahatsu* can easily be recognized to be species of *Lactarius* by their general characters and especially by their milky gills. On account of this well marked character and its esculent nature, *Hatsudake* has been confounded with *Lactarius deliciosus* (L.) Fr. by different writers.

The "*Botanical Magazine*" is published under the auspices of the Tokyo Botanical Society, No. 6, Minami-Senju-machi, Tokyo.

* *Ato*, red; *hatsu*, first. The fungus described under this name in Sakamoto's "Kimpu" (*Fungus Flora*) seems to be a different species.

RUSSIA IN ASIA.

The *Nippon-jin* discusses in recent issues the position of Russia in Asia, especially in her relation to Japan. To some of the views expressed by our contemporary, we must be allowed to take exception, but we confess, at

the same time, that the articles before us show more than ordinary research and command of facts. The Tokyo periodical thinks that many of its countrymen over-rate the effective strength of Russia as an Asiatic Power. To disprove this erroneous notion is the task which the *Nippon* sets itself in the present essay. There are, says our contemporary, three things which, of all others, excite feelings of alarm and terror in the minds of the Japanese, namely the mighty and well disciplined army of the Czar, the construction of the Siberian railway, and the colonization of Saghalien. As to the fighting capacity of Russia in Asia, Japan need not, we are told, be afraid of the great Northern Power, because, in addition to Russia's financial embarrassment, her position in Europe and in the south and west of Asia is such that she could not spare troops to operate effectively against any country in the Far East. The *Nippon-jin* writes at great length, elucidating these points with copious references to statistics and historical facts, but we cannot follow it into such minutiae. As to the Siberian railway, our contemporary observes that its completion will go a great way towards developing the natural resources of the regions through which it passes, and that it will furnish new markets for Japanese and Chinese products. In this respect, the line deserves the closest attention of the Japanese nation. But its military value is comparatively small, when we remember that the gauge is narrow and the line single; that many river passages interrupt the continuity of the route, and that these rivers are frozen during several months of the year. Thus to entertain serious apprehensions, from a military point of view, about the consequences of the completion of the road, would be, we are told, to entirely misunderstand its true functions. Lastly, as to the colonization of Saghalien, our contemporary attaches little weight to it. Quite an excitement seems to have been caused in certain quarters by the report of the establishment of convict stations on that island in the course of the present year. Saghalien is extremely poor in soil and has no natural products except coal of doubtful character. Nor does it contain any harbour that can be used as a naval station. The colonization of such an island need not, says the *Nippon-jin*, attract the attention of the Japanese in any extraordinary manner. Our contemporary ends its essay by a strong appeal to the nation to cast aside the absurd notions at present entertained as to the power of Russia in Asia.

PIRACY IN CHINA.

A TELEGRAM in the *N.-C. Daily News* reports the piracy of a Hongkong steamer, the *Namoa*, one of the Douglas Company's ships. This vessel has been on the Hongkong-Poochow line for a great many years, and was commanded by Captain Pocock, the oldest master, with the exception of Mr. S. Aston, in the company's service. The Hongkong papers received to-day do not contain any information in regard to the affair, but as the vessel cleared at the Harbour Office on the 8th inst., the piracy probably occurred on the 9th, as the telegram states that it took place "near Hongkong." The most lamentable part of the business is the death of the captain and two others. The old trick was resorted to by the pirates of taking bents on board the steamer in Hongkong as passengers, and arranging signals to the piratical junks at sea at a spot agreed upon. It must have been a deep laid scheme, however, and boldly carried out, for precautions are taken both in regard to armament for such a contingency and in the scrutiny of the passengers, and Captain Pocock was endowed with more than ordinary courage and caution. Piracy is still common enough in the waters round Hongkong, as the Police records of the Crown Colony testify, though of late years the attentions of the pirates have been mainly directed to the large junk trade sailing out of the port. In the sixties probably half a dozen similar cases occurred, but since that of the *Spark* in 1874 and the *Greyhound* eleven years later no foreign steamer has been seized and robbed

on the high seas. Captain Pocock leaves a wife and several children to bewail his sad and untimely end, and as all the deck officers and engineers were Europeans, the two others mentioned as killed are doubtless some of these.

GOLD AND SILVER RATIOS.

THE *Official Gazette* gives the following table of comparative values of gold and silver coins and of the pound sterling for the week ended the 13th instant, as derived from the returns of the Bank of Japan and the Yokohama Specie Bank:—

Days	Gold Coin. (Per yen 100) Silver Yen.	Pound Sterling (Per £1) Silver Yen.
8th.....	120.000	A.M. 5.8536 P.M. 5.8536
9th.....	118.800	A.M. 5.9259 P.M. 5.9259
10th.....	119.500	A.M. 5.9259 P.M. 5.9259
11th.....	119.500	A.M. 5.9259 P.M. 5.9259
12th.....	119.000	A.M. 5.8536 P.M. 5.7831
13th.....	117.500	A.M. 5.8536 P.M. 5.8536
Averages.....	119.050	5.8779

The above averages show for gold coin an increase in value of yen 0.750 per cent., and for the pound sterling an increase in value of yen 0.0265 as compared with the previous week.

THE BANK OF JAPAN.

THE amounts of convertible notes and reserves in the Bank of Japan for the week ended the 13th instant were as follows:—

CONVERTIBLE NOTES.	RESERVES AND SECURITIES.
Yen.	Yen.
Notes issued.....100,095,548	Gold coin and bullion.....24,903,710
	Silver coin and bullion.....10,200,480
	Public Loan Bonds.....13,476,455
	Treasury Bills.....—
	Government Bonds.....33,000,000
	Other securities.....4,712,181
	Commercial Bills.....15,600,721
100,095,548	100,095,548

Of the above total issue of notes, the sum of yen 4,681,545 is in the treasury of the Bank, 22,000,000 has been transferred on loan to the Government, and yen 73,412,003 is in actual circulation, the latter showing an increase of yen 812,247 as compared with yen 72,599,756 at the end of the previous week.

THE MORI TOKINOSUKE AFFAIR.

MR. SUYEMATSU SABURO, who has suddenly sprung into parliamentary eminence as the chief mover in the first collision between the Administration and the House—namely, the affair of Mori Tokinosuke—was formerly called Komijoji Saburo. Before he changed his name to that by which he is now known, he held a position of some importance in the Judicial Department, and of late years he has been regarded as a leading member of the *Daido Danketsu* party. It is not yet by any means certain that his effective and strenuous action in the case of Mori Tokinosuke will earn for him the lasting gratitude of the House of Representatives. On the contrary, a suspicion is gradually coming to be entertained that the House has thrust itself into an embarrassing position, and that to emerge from it with dignity will be a difficult feat. It will be remembered that after the resolution adopted on the 4th instant—i.e. the resolution declaring that a member arrested while the House was not in session could not be held in arrest without parliamentary consent after the House had come into session—a special committee was appointed to consider and advise upon steps proper to give effect to this resolution. The Committee recommended that the resolution should be communicated to the Minister of State for Justice, and the Minister, replying, said that he had no power to interfere with the proceedings of the Judiciary, except in the event of a distinct violation of the Constitution. This reply plainly involved the idea that the Minister himself did not agree with the House's rendering of the Constitution, and if the Minister of Justice took that view, obviously the Cabinet did so also. What then was the House to do next? Another Committee was the easiest refuge, and another Committee was accordingly nominated. This second Committee has not yet presented its report, and

people naturally infer that it finds some difficulty in deciding between the two courses which offer themselves. The first Committee was elected at 10 o'clock p.m., and by the following day at noon it was prepared with its report. It incurred some censure for this seeming precipitancy, and possibly the second Committee may have taken warning by its example. However this may be, the task before the second Committee is quite sufficiently puzzling to warrant delay. The Committee has to choose whether the House should address the Throne, thus appealing, as it were, from the decision of the Government to the Sovereign; or whether it should content itself with passing a supplementary law by which the privilege asserted in its proposition of the 4th shall be placed beyond the reach of all misconception. The latter plan would simply amount to an announcement that in the opinion of the House the Law is incomplete, and that while no question is raised as to the legality or illegality of the Judiciary's proceedings in the case of Mori Tokinosuke, occasion is considered to exist for the enactment of a statute which shall completely secure the privileges of members. If this course be adopted, the House of Representatives will effect its purpose directly and quietly, for it will not only ensure the practical operation of its rendering of the Constitution, but will also avoid an unnecessary collision with the Administration and the Judiciary. The choice between the two courses is sufficiently important to justify very grave deliberation on the Committee's part, and moreover, it seems to be pretty generally understood that the House is in no hurry to have a report submitted to it. The members, it is whispered, are beginning to perceive that they might have been better advised, and that their former haste may now be fitly replaced by leisurely reflection.

DR. D. BRAUNS ON JAPANESE POETRY, MUSIC, AND TRADITIONS.

AMONG the publications of the Parisian press for the current year appears a brochure by a professor in the University of Tokyo who left Japan half-a-dozen or more years ago. It is published by Maisonneuve, and is entitled, *Traditions Japonaises sur la Chanson, la Musique, et la Danse*, forming Volume IV. of a series on *la Tradition*. It is a pity that Dr. Brauns has not seen fit to conform to the Romaji spelling, and also that greater uniformity is not shown in the spelling throughout. For instance Mr. Greby's name, frequently quoted throughout, appears as Greay or Greey, but never exactly as spelled on that author's own title pages. The brochure is divided into three chapters, the first treating of Japanese poetry, music, and dancing, the second of traditions relative to these, the third of an examination into these traditions. While in Japan Dr. Brauns devoted a considerable time to folk-lore, and the last two chapters are evidently written *con amore*. They contain, however, little that is new, as the appearance of the admirable Kobunsha Fairy Tale Series has anticipated their information. Dr. Brauns seems not to be aware of the publication of these attractive little books.

THE LATEST TELEGRAPH CODE.

COMMERCIAL telegraph codes continue to be improved, especially in regard to elaboration of detail and economy of expenditure in the transmission of messages. The latest addition to these valuable works has just been issued by Mr. T. H. Box, of this port, and is intended for the use of firms engaged in the export of silk handkerchiefs and manufactured silk and crape piece-goods of every description. It is in folio form and contains 80 pages, and about 50,000 words, but by an ingenious arrangement of terminations is brought to the equivalent of 150,000 words. It is extremely simple in working, and provides for every description of material manufactured in Japan, giving under separate headings, very distinctly arranged, all the lengths, widths, weights, qualities, and quantities known in the business. The work, which will be found indispensable to all engaged in this branch of the export trade and their agents and

customers abroad, is published at a very moderate price, is well printed on good paper and strongly bound.

INFERIOR POSTAL STAMPS.

THE recent issue of postal stamps by the Communications Department shows an economical disposition as far as mucilage is concerned. Should the buyer of one of these little pieces of paper, which are supposed to have adhesive qualities, carefully lick the envelope, and then apply the stamp, the possibility is that it may stick. There is about an even chance, however, that it may prove recalcitrant, and kick up its heels. If, after purchase, he licks it with his tongue, and so deprives it of some of its virtue, it behaves most viciously. The public must be a long suffering public that will endure licking and stamping of this nature. Moral: let the Communications Department call in the whole vile issue.

THE HIGHER FEMALE SCHOOL, TOKYO.

WE learn that the Misses Prince, who have done such excellent work for some years past in the Higher Female School, Tokyo, will retire from that seminary at the close of the present year, when their contract expires. The valuable services of these ladies, however, are not to be lost to Japan, as they have been invited by some of the highest educational authorities to remain, and have decided to do so. Very flattering acknowledgements have been received by the Misses Prince of the success of their connection with the establishment which they are about to leave, in addition to which they were entertained at a banquet given in their honour.

YOKOHAMA LITERARY SOCIETY.

THE Society held its 84th meeting in Van Schaick Hall, 178, Bluff, on the 12th inst., and was favoured with a short and most interesting lecture on Astronomy, by the Rev. E. S. Booth, who gave many amusing illustrations showing the relative distances of various planets, with their sizes, as compared to the one we inhabit. After an interval of half an hour for refreshments and sociality, the second portion of the programme was proceeded with, which consisted of music, songs, and readings. At the close the President announced that the next entertainment would take place on the 2nd proximo, when the evening will be devoted specially to music and recitations.

S. HILDA'S HOSPITAL.

THE sale of work in aid of S. Hilda's Hospital took place last Saturday at S. Andrew's school-room. The sale was opened by Mrs. Fraser with a few words setting forth the object of the Hospital, and the urgent need of funds for carrying on the work, closing with an earnest appeal for subscriptions to support free beds, which are much needed. The needle-work, a large portion of which had been sent by the friends of the mission in England, was quickly sold, and by the kind patronage of friends, both Japanese and foreign, the sum of \$300 was realised.

SIGNS OF THE NEW YEAR.

THE approach of the New Year is heralded by the appearance of the calendars so widely circulated at that season. The first to arrive is Messrs. Kelly and Walsh's "Imperial English and Chinese Date Book," a very convenient form of calendar which has already done good service in many a study and office in the East, and is always welcome as an old friend.

DEPARTURE OF MR. GREATHOUSE.

MR. C. R. GREATHOUSE, lately United States Consul-General at Yokohama, and recently appointed adviser to the Korean Government, left on Friday by the *Yamashiro Maru* for his new field of work. Mr. Greathouse's popularity in Yokohama was strongly evidenced by the cosmopolitan character of the attendance at the farewell dinner given to him, but if further confirmation were required it was found in the large

company who gathered at the Haloba to see him off. Among those present were Governor Asada, Mr. Mitsuhashi, the local Superintendent of Police, the Marquis Nembrini-Gonzaga and others.

THE P. AND O. STEAMER "HONGKONG."

WITH reference to the reported wreck of the homeward bound steamer *Hongkong*, the Agent at this port knows nothing, and there is consequently a ray of hope that it may be founded on a rumour which is incorrect.

ORDINATION.

TO-MORROW, Sunday, Dec. 21st, the Bishop of the Church of England in Japan will hold an ordination in S. Andrew's Church, Shiba, to admit Mr. W. T. Austen of the Seamen's Mission to the Order of Deacons. Morning prayer will be said at 10.30. The offertory will be given to the Seamen's Mission.

THE REV. DR. MEACHAM will preach on Sunday morning in the Union Church, when the subject of his discourse will be—"The End which Christ had in giving Himself for us."

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

THE greatest events of the week have been the speeches delivered in the Lower House by the Ministers of War, of the Navy, of Education, and of Foreign Affairs, in response to the interrogations of Mr. Arai and some thirty members of that House. How these speeches have been received by the people, as reflected in the press of the capital, will be dealt with later on, so as to place before our readers the latest utterances of the vernacular journals on this subject. Meanwhile, we turn to what the Tokyo journals say about some of the more important of the questions now engaging the attention of the Diet, namely, those relating to the postponement of the date for putting the Commercial Code into operation, to the Budget, to the reduction of public expenditures, and so forth.

The Bill relating to the postponement of the operation of the Commercial Code, introduced by Mr. Nagai Matsuemon, was passed in the House of Representatives by a large majority on the 16th instant. The date fixed in the Bill is the 1st of January, 1893, when the Civil Code is to come in force. This resolution of the people's Representatives is applauded by almost the whole press of Tokyo. The *Tokyo Shimpō* is, so far as we know, the only paper that has expressed faint disapproval of the conduct of the Lower House in this matter. But as to the mode of procedure adopted, the action of the Representatives has not escaped criticism. The *Mainichi Shimbun*, for instance, is of opinion that, though the provisions of law fall within the scope of the Diet's legislative power, the promulgation and carrying out of the laws are prerogatives of the Emperor, and that since the date for putting the Commercial Code into operation is specially mentioned in the preamble to that Code, the Diet has no right to alter the preamble by any exercise of its ordinary legislative power. The preamble says:—"We hereby give our sanction to the Commercial Code, and order it to be promulgated. We also order the said Commercial Code to be put into operation from the 1st day of the 1st month of the 24th year of Meiji." The *Mainichi* maintains that the date having been thus fixed in the preamble, the Bill, if it has obtained the approval of the Diet,—our readers will note that we quote remarks penned before the passing of the Bill,—may be rejected by the Government on this ground, and in that case the Diet will be placed in an extremely awkward situation. Our contemporary, therefore, advises the Diet to take some method of expressing its views other than by passing a special Bill. The Representatives may make known their wishes either by memorializing the Government or addressing the Emperor. They are recommended to adopt the former method,

because the latter ought not to be employed except in extraordinary cases.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* devotes two articles to the purpose of exposing the fallacy of the argument employed by the paper just quoted. The *Yomiuri* admits that it is the prerogative of the Emperor to order the carrying out of laws, but questions whether it be also his prerogative to fix the date on which any law is to go into operation. In all the projects of laws thus far introduced in the Houses of the Diet by the Government, the dates of carrying them out are mentioned in one of the articles in the body of the laws. From this circumstance, our contemporary concludes that the Government does not consider the Diet incompetent to fix the date when a law shall come into force. Moreover, the contention that the Diet has no such power leads to very absurd consequences; for then the Government might, if such a course suited its convenience or caprice, defer for any length of time the carrying out of a law passed by the Diet.

The *Jiyu Shimbun* heartily approves the action of the House of Representatives on this question.

The *Kokkai* also supports the Bill. Our contemporary, though originally an advocate of the codification of the laws, approves the action of the House of Representatives on two grounds; first, because the Commercial Code, being the work of only a few legal experts, contains provisions difficult to comprehend, and antagonistic to existing business customs; and secondly, because it would be extremely inexpedient to enforce the Code as originally intended in the face of the universal complaints of men of business, of legal practitioners, and of the community in general, to say nothing of the opposition of an influential section of officials. As to the provisions which relate to bankruptcy and to companies, the *Kokkai* thinks it expedient to make the necessary revisions and carry them out as separate laws earlier than the rest of the Code.

What will be the fate of the bill in the House of Peers? Most persons seem inclined to think that the Upper House will concur with the Lower House's decision. The *Chusai Nippo*, Viscount Torio's organ, is very glad that the Lower House has so far appreciated the tendency of public opinion as to pronounce in favour of the postponement of the date of the Commercial Code's operation. The Conservative paper believes that the members of the Upper House are not so unwise as "to suffer the Japanese people to be experimented upon with a code which is based, not upon the national customs of the country, but upon the customs of foreign States, and which, moreover, has been enacted in obedience to diplomatic necessity." There are, our contemporary goes on, many ex-Senators in the Upper House who are staunch opponents of the Code, while most of the other members of that House are also reported to be opposed to the carrying out of the Code on the date at present fixed. Should the Peers pass the Bill, our contemporary believes that the Emperor will not depart from his usual gracious custom of granting the wishes of his beloved subjects.

The Budget is now under the consideration of a Committee consisting of sixty-three members of the House of Representatives. It is not yet known whether or no the Committee will be able to report the results of its researches to the House before the end of the year; but the papers report that certain members of the Committee have under contemplation drastic changes in the Organization (*Kwansei*) of the Departments of State and in the salaries of officials, the amount to be thus saved being estimated at from five to six million yen. It was at one time reported that the Committee, at least some of its members, advocated the abolition of the Departments of Education, of Agriculture and Commerce, and of Communications. The scheme now announced in the papers does not go so far, but several bureaux are to be abolished

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in every Department, while the salaries of officials are to be reduced by about twenty per cent.

The *Kokumin Shimbun*, writing previously to the public announcement of the above mentioned plan of reduction, indicates a manner in which the items of expenditure in the Budget may be reduced. Premising that the bitterness of the impending struggle between the Government and the Opposition over the Budget may easily be imagined, when it is remembered that the fate of the Budget will determine the relative position of those in power and those out of power, our contemporary proceeds to examine the particular items of expenditure that may be reduced. It observes that the salaries of officials, amounting in all to 19,291,292 yen, may be cut down by twenty per cent. or 3,858,258 yen. The item of miscellaneous salaries, 1,985,757 yen in amount, should be decreased to 1,000,000 yen. Other items to be reduced are office expenses, (3,363,502 yen), travelling expenses (2,074,558 yen), secret service fund (270,152 yen), pay of persons on the retired list (174,603 yen), subsidies to steamship companies (850,000 yen), the salaries of Privy Councillors (140,000 yen), the expenses of the Metropolitan Police Board, and so forth. The aggregate amount of reduction to be effected in the items thus far mentioned reaches about ten million yen. In conclusion the *Kokumin* exhorts the people's Representatives to carry out their financial reforms boldly and without fear.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun*, reviewing the Budget, states that it indicates much care and research on the part of the officials engaged in its compilation. "But," says our contemporary, "however plausible the Budget may look, the Diet will not be satisfied with it, and it is our hope that the Diet may not be too easily satisfied with it. The decision of the first Diet on the Budget will become a precedent for future reference, and it is consequently important that whatever items admit of reduction should be decisively cut down without any regard to personal consideration (*jōjitsu*). But it is equally important to bear in mind that to attempt reduction where reduction ought not to be made is as bad as to pass over items which ought to be decreased. The Diet should consider these two phases of the question and proceed in a fair and impartial manner."

As to the above mentioned financial reforms proposed by some members of the Committee on the Budget, certain leading papers, notably the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* and the *Toyo Shimpō*, question the constitutionality of the course contemplated, and apprehend that serious and highly undesirable consequences will follow the adoption of such a plan on the part of the Diet. Article 10 of the Constitution provides that "the Emperor determines the organization of the different branches of the administration and the salaries of all civil and military officers, and appoints and dismisses the same." The *Nichi Nichi* cites this article and warns the proposers of the scheme above alluded to that they are contemplating a course which interferes with the prerogatives of the Emperor, and which, consequently, may possibly lead to the dissolution of the Diet. They are advised to adopt some other method of accomplishing their object. They may, without fear of exceeding their functions, declare their inability to vote for the Budget unless so many million yen are reduced in the aggregate, and they may request the Government to recast the Budget on that basis. Another thing about which the *Nichi Nichi* entertains serious apprehension is that the House of Representatives may offend the Peers by its ostentatious zeal to be independent of the other branch of the Legislature upon the question of the estimates. The consequence of such an attitude on the part of the Representatives, may be the rejection by the Peers of the amendments sent up from the Lower House. In such a case, there will arise a contingency provided for in Article 71 of the Constitution, which says that "when the

Imperial Diet has not voted on the Budget, or when the Budget has not been brought into actual existence, the Government shall carry out the Budget of the preceding year." Our contemporary, therefore, hopes that the Representatives will be prudent and sagacious enough to avoid any of the disastrous consequences above described. The *Toyo Shimpō* writes in the same strain.

The question of reforms on land taxation is discussed by some papers. In fact this has been one of the stock questions of the Japanese journalistic world for the last few years. A motion having been announced in the House of Representatives for the reduction of the land tax, this question will be widely discussed in the press before long, and until then we refrain from reproducing any of the articles now appearing on the subject.

It is now time to speak of the comments made by the papers on the interrogations of Mr. Arai and others, and on the speeches delivered by certain Ministers of State in reply to those interrogations. The report that the challenge of the Representatives had been accepted by the Cabinet, awakened widespread interest and curiosity. From the first, however, the language in which the interrogations were couched was criticised by the papers as too vague and ambiguous to elicit any plain and definite answers from the members of the Cabinet. Indeed, the *Kokkai* of the 18th instant anticipated the answers of the Ministers of State, almost in identical terms. The only question to which this journal attached any importance was that relating to the policy pursued by the Government about the Revision of the Treaties. The *Hochi Shimbun* of the same date spoke of the interrogations in more favourable terms, and observed that Mr. Arai and others had given expression to what had long been present in the mind of every intelligent Japanese. Whatever answers the Ministers might choose to give to these questions, the inevitable effect would be, wrote the *Hochi*, that their answers would be received by the nation as pledges of the Yamagata Cabinet. The public was disappointed by the report that Mr. Mutsu, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, who is regarded as the most eloquent member of the Cabinet, had declined to answer the interrogation relating to the policy to be pursued in agricultural and commercial affairs, on the ground of the vagueness of the language of the question. And the public, if we may judge from the utterances of the press, has been almost equally disappointed by the brevity and generalities of the speeches delivered by the Ministers of War, of the Navy, and of Education on the 16th instant. But Viscount Aoki's speech, delivered on the 17th instant, though not giving full satisfaction to the public, has, from the nature of the subject dealt with and from the manner of treatment, called forth a large amount of newspaper comment.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun*, writing of the speeches of Count Oyama, Viscount Kaba-yama, and Mr. Yoshikawa, remarks that, considering the responsibility of the positions of Ministers, it is quite natural that they should try to be as simple and concise as possible in their speeches; but that it is, nevertheless, regrettable that the vagueness of their speeches has left the public in as much darkness as before with regard to the policy really pursued by the Government. In short the Cabinet Ministers are declared to be too prudent and timid in their relations towards the Diet. It being thus impossible to have the policy of the Cabinet explained on the floor of the Diet, the *Yomiuri* advises the Ministers to start a responsible organ through which they can ventilate their views without the fear of committing themselves in public.

With regard to the Foreign Minister's speech, the *Nippon* observes that it has been enabled by that speech to know something of

the policy pursued by the present Cabinet in the Revision of Treaties. Our contemporary thinks that, judging from Viscount Aoki's speech, the present Government contemplates (1) the abolition of Consular jurisdiction simultaneously with the opening of the interior for mixed residence; (2) the omission from the treaties of the provisions relating to the ownership of real estate by foreigners; (3) the omission of diplomatic notes as proposed by Count Okuma, and (4) the recovery of tariff autonomy. With regard to tariff autonomy, the *Nippon* remarks that public opinion is now more and more directed to this question. Last year, we are told, attention centred on the question of judicial autonomy, because Count Okuma's programme was judged by the nation to contain stipulations seriously interfering with Japan's sovereignty in matters of justice. But it would be a grievous mistake, says the *Nippon*, to suppose that the nation will support the Government if only the points to which objection was offered last year are all removed or amended in the new programme of Revision. Last year the magnitude of the threatened danger to the judicial independence of the Empire, left little time for the discussion of the economical phase of the question. No programme, however, concludes our contemporary, will be approved by the nation except a programme including the complete recovery of tariff autonomy.

The *Toyo Shimpō*, while admitting the importance of maintaining secrecy about every thing relating to treaties of alliance or to the actual process of negotiations in concluding ordinary treaties, declares it incumbent on the Ministers of Foreign Affairs to acquaint the Representatives with the general nature of the proposals presented by the Imperial Government to the Governments of foreign countries. It also strongly criticizes the assertion of Viscount Aoki that the Revision of the Treaties is not his principal business. Further, referring to his remark that it is important to take care not to offend the feelings of the treaty Powers in conducting the negotiations for revision, the *Toyo Shimpō* says:—"It is of course important to take care not to injure the good will of foreign Powers, but points which have a direct bearing on the future of the country must be contested with foreign Governments, even though such a course should hurt their friendly feelings. The former Ministers of Foreign Affairs made it their principal care not to offend the treaty Powers, and in consequence their programmes contained stipulations injurious to Japan. The Present Minister being desirous of following their example, it is not difficult to guess the character of the policy pursued by him."

The *Kokumin Shimbun* also complains that Viscount Aoki did not explain the points about which his interrogators were most desirous to know his opinions. The *Yomiuri Shimbun* regrets that the Foreign Minister did not concisely state his opinions on the principal points of the interrogations, instead of inflicting on the Representatives a long and tedious dissertation on secondary points.

There are other questions of importance discussed by the metropolitan papers, but space does not allow us to allude to them in detail. The question of the defences of the country still occupies the attention of the *Mainichi Shimbun*, while the augmentation of the Navy is advocated by the *Hochi Shimbun*. The *Fiji Shimpō* continues its interesting essays on the prospects of parliamentary institutions in Japan. Thus far it has been engaged unfolding the history of the gradual development of the liberal movement in the country. The *Hochi Shimbun* discusses the question of an alliance between Japan and China, and sets forth the opinions for and against such an alliance, but does not pronounce a final decision. The *Kokkai*, as usual, writes on various questions relating to the defence and foreign relations of the country. The same paper also writes on the subject of the "Representative system of a yellow coloured Race."

THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE DIET.

WE shall only be repeating something tacitly acknowledged by every one of our readers if we say that Japan is at this moment undergoing a trial, the issue of which must practically settle her claim to rank above the general category of Oriental nations. At the root of the distrust entertained by the foreign residents towards Japan, at the root of their reluctance to commit their persons and properties to Japanese tutelage, lie two things, ignorance, and the fact of Japan's Orientalism. There is no denying, it would be childish to attempt to deny, that the term "Oriental" carries with it a sense of opprobrium. The Oriental is a man of an inferior race in Occidental eyes; a man not fit to be treated as an equal, and still less fit to be entrusted with the discharge of functions involving control of Western persons and Western belongings. It has often been urged that the Japanese is not an Oriental according to this significance of the word, but the plea carries no weight, being addressed to people who know practically nothing of the Japanese, and who, up to the present, could justly assert that means of acquiring knowledge were not easily accessible. What, after all, is the measure of the average foreign resident's acquaintance with Japanese character and Japanese moral competence? To Japanese society, to Japanese domestic life, to Japanese thought, and to Japanese converse he has no access. With commercial Japan his acquaintance is limited to a little section of traders, who, whatever be their recently developed merits, were undoubtedly for a long time regarded with contempt by the respectable classes of their own countrymen. Japanese legal tribunals he only knows through the medium of a class of cases in which he always believes himself to be an aggrieved suitor, and through the medium of laws which undoubtedly provide improper facilities for defaulting debtors. It cannot be laid to his charge that his ignorance is due to his own want of energy, neither can he be greatly blamed if, being ignorant, he has also been distrustful. But the time has passed when the avenues to knowledge were closed to all except devoted students. Japan, of her own choice, is undergoing an ordeal which must be conclusive in many senses, and which takes place in full view of foreign observers. Elsewhere, representative institutions have been slowly and gradually evolved, each stage of their development adapted to a corresponding growth of popular intelligence. Here, they are suddenly called into existence with little if any apparent preparation, and the nation is required to prove its capacity for them by actual practice. It is certainly a tremendous ordeal. Not, of course, by the results of the first Diet's doings shall we be able to decide whether this novel system is fully

suited to Japan's circumstances and capacities. It is more than probable that the electors have not exercised full discrimination in their earliest use of the franchise, and that their future delegates to the legislative assembly may, in many cases, be men of a different type from those now sitting in Uchisaiwai-cho. Still, this Diet may be expected to furnish interesting and almost conclusive data, and what its proceedings will undoubtedly do is to give us such an insight into the character and capacities of the Japanese as we have never before enjoyed. We shall discover whether they are adapted for the task of self-government. We shall see what moral qualities are evoked by the novel problems with which they are required to deal. We shall learn whether they are really gifted with the legislative faculty; in other words, whether the principles of justice and the dictates of impartiality appeal to them effectively. We shall detect whether they have sufficient breadth of mind to grasp the leading features of a question, or whether their intellect tends to lose itself among quibbles and trivialities. We shall perceive whether public duty is honestly recognised by them, or whether personal ambition is their only incentive. We shall find whether they possess the faculties of organization, subordination, and fidelity to a cause, or whether their political parties must be mere cabals and their representative government a patchwork of incongruous elements. Their press has helped us during the past fifteen years to form a limited conception of the bent and range of their genius, but to the vast majority of us their press, in its published form, is a sealed book, and such translations of it as reach us are little more than a weak echo of the original. The proceedings in their Courts of Law would have been most valuable as a test of their judicial capacity, but we know nothing of these proceedings except in cases where, being ourselves suitors, we have had experience, not of the incompetence of their judges, but of the incompleteness of their laws. In short, it is not too much to say that in the story of the Diet's every-day sayings and doings, we find ourselves furnished for the first time with an intelligible and trustworthy clue to the character and capacities of the Japanese. Not the aggregated results, remarkable as they are, of the past twenty years' progress can be weighed against the records of the Diet as a means of teaching the world what Japan really is, and how far she deserves the consideration claimed by her from Western States. Every one, therefore, who has any honest desire to know whether his faith in the Japanese is well founded, or whether his doubts of them are justified, will welcome the detailed report of the Diet's proceedings as a simply invaluable clue. Fortunately the most thorough measures were taken before the Diet assembled to organise a competent staff of short-hand

writers, and a verbatim report now appears daily in the *Official Gazette*. Sometimes, as is the case with all legislative assemblies, the proceedings present few features of special interest, but there has not yet been a day when they failed to justify, in a greater or less degree, the estimate we here place on them. We cannot for a moment conceive that the foreign public would endure to be left without a full translation of the reports. Any indifference on this subject would betray marvellous carelessness about the affairs of the country in which our lot is cast, and would go far to justify the charge sometimes preferred against the foreign residents in the Settlements that they are ignorant of the Japanese, not because they cannot know them, but because they have no wish to know them. This is undoubtedly the crisis of Japan's modern history. She has reached the point where the ways divide in her path of progress, and we have to observe closely which direction she tends to take. Many eyes in Europe and America will also watch her with keen interest; eyes of men who recognise that the experiment she is making ranks among the notable incidents of the nineteenth century, and that its result concerns the world at large, not as a mere problem of constitutional history, but as the crucial stage in the career of the leading nation of the Orient.

AN ILL-STARRED CAUSE.

IT is usually the case with events of importance in this Settlement that a reflected image of them is presented to us four months later, and the reflecting medium being the partial information and cloudy notions of outsiders, the image often appears curiously distorted. We expected that this would be the case with the Meeting of September 11th, and our expectation is amply verified. The *London and China Express*, with becoming docility, has set itself to blazon abroad Yokohama's doings, and Yokohama does not gain much by the process. Even in the presence of other feelings which we shall not attempt to describe, it is impossible to avoid a pang of sympathy with the hard lot of Yokohama's heretofore champions. Coldly indeed for them blows the wind of ingratitude. To be abused is at least exciting, to be attacked is sometimes amusing, and to be denounced is occasionally comforting. But to be ignored altogether, that is in truth bitter. We have never ourselves supposed for a moment that the ranting, railing champions who professed to represent the views of this community, held a commission from anyone but themselves. Nevertheless, we confess that we overrated the probable effects of their clamour and persistence. We were not prepared to find that the outer world did not even acknowledge

their existence, and that their useful functions as directors of public opinion might be measured by the tail of the proverbial *Manx cat*. Such is the fact, however. This community, we to-day learn, has hitherto been without any sort of mouth-piece. It has had nobody to fight for it; nobody to correct the falsehoods told about it, and nobody to state its case. The irony of fate is sometimes marvellously keen. The man who at the meeting of the 11th of September, received and obeyed the mandate of the promoters to proclaim Yokohama's forlorn condition and to tell the community that they were without anything resembling a worthy public representative, this very man had for years been proclaiming himself as the one and only competent exponent of his fellow residents' views and champion of their interests. It is pitiful that he should have been compelled to make a suicidal confession at the eleventh hour, and it is even more pitiful to find, as the *London and China Express* tells us, that outsiders accept his confession without a word of protest. Yokohama, in short, has hitherto been entirely without an anti-Treaty-Revision mouth-piece, and the effects of her silence are now lamented all too late.

But if silence has cost the anti-revisionists dear, speech does not seem to have served their purpose better. At all events, the speeches made at the meeting on the 11th of September have not enabled their friends to understand the situation. The leading agitators explained that last year, when one great Power after another was giving its consent to Count OKUMA'S proposals for Treaty Revision, Yokohama made no move because it was well persuaded that Great Britain's consent would never be secured. Yokohama in fact was just as much opposed to last year's scheme of Revision as it is to this year's. So at least said the Yokohama's agitators themselves. But in the reflected image of Yokohama's proceedings we find that the agitators object, not to both schemes equally, but to the difference between them. They were with Count OKUMA; they are against Viscount AOKI. We have more than once pointed out that the statement of their own views made by the agitators left the public in a state of exceeding doubt as to what really was objected to and what really was intended. But we were not prepared to find, despite this great obscurity, that their ingenious explanation of their silence last year in the presence of an imminent catastrophe would fall upon entirely deaf ears, and that their new champion, the *London and China Express*, would represent them as having been last year in agreement and this year in opposition. Evidently some very mischievous fate has been entrusted with the control of this Settlement's anti-Revision champions. After having occupied the lists noisily for

years, their most stubborn leader is obliged to stand up and publicly confess that he and his followers have had no existence whatever, so far as useful results are concerned; and now, when an apparently influential effort is made to supply this unhappy deficiency, the immediate issue is renewed misunderstanding, increased misrepresentation, and intensified confusion. Truly something is amiss in this little Anti-Revision world of ours, and that it will ever be unriddled we begin to feel hopeless.

Apart from the muddle it produces as a reflecting medium, the *London and China Express* is delightfully nebulous on its own account. It takes a great deal of pains to show that Japan lost credit by the proceedings of last year. Indeed it goes so far as to call her change of front an "utter and undignified fiasco." There is no denying that when a Power recedes from a position voluntarily taken by itself, its steadfastness of purpose is seriously impugned in the eyes of the world. This is what happened to Japan last year, and she must take the consequences. But such things do not happen to Japan alone. We need not travel beyond the records of Great Britain herself, nor need we go farther back in those records than fifteen years, to discover a case where a treaty proposed by England and concluded by her Plenipotentiary after months of negotiation, was finally rejected because the British Chambers of Commerce did not like it. By the light of this precedent we do not find it so heinous that Japan should have altered her proposals in deference to a wave of popular agitation such as no Government could afford to despise. The *London and China Express*, with pretty naïveté, declares that Japanese public opinion is nothing to Western statesmen. Nothing indeed! What then is something? At this side of the water we are constantly assured that public opinion in Japan is not really moved by the topic of Treaty Revision, and that the problem may very well be left for solution at the Greek Kalends. At that side we are told that Japanese public opinion does not matter two straws, and that Western statesmen have nothing to do with it. There is no word to describe the mental condition of journals like the *London and China Express* in regard to this matter. Their writings are a mixture of frivolous chatter and stupendous ignorance. The most prominent and important point of difference between the situation in Japan to-day, and the situation 5 years ago is that, whereas her statesmen were then able to direct intelligent public opinion and to ignore that which was not intelligent, they are now obliged to pay to both classes the same deference that the views of a nation in civilized Europe receive at the hands of its Government. This is where the Japan of 1890 presents such a strong and striking contrast to the Japan of 1885, and anyone who fails to appreciate the change

must be indeed a blind reader of contemporary annals.

But even though this salient fact had not penetrated the crass atmosphere of the *London and China Express'* perception, it might still have avoided the silliness of asserting that national opinion is a quantity of no account in international compacts. A lively stretch of imagination is needed to conceive the reception the House of Commons would give to a Foreign Secretary who should rise in his place and declare that in negotiating a treaty with Japan, British statesmen are not required to take any account of Japanese public opinion. Truly this Anti-Revision campaign abounds in marvels. Long ago we imagined that the limit of startling surprises had been reached. But when a performer like the *London and China Express* steps into the arena, the farce recommences in a new and unanticipated direction. There is little occasion, we imagine, to pay attention to our esteemed contemporary's statements of fact, seeing that its deductions and arguments so far exceed the bounds of ordinary intelligence. Yet Yokohama must have learned with a gasp of relief how narrowly it last year escaped an irreparable calamity. Actually while it was hugging itself in the belief that whatever Germany, Russia, or the United States might do, Great Britain at all events would stand firm—actually while it was hugging itself in this belief, and remaining confidently silent, Great Britain, according to the *London and China Express*, was "on the point of signing" the obnoxious Treaty. It was a narrow escape, and instead of abusing Japan for suspending the negotiations, we should be exceedingly grateful that she thus afforded us an opportunity to break a silence which might have sealed our fate for ever. People who saw clearly behind the scenes last year, believe that England's hesitation was the real crux of the situation, and that had she acceded at a tolerably early stage, public opinion in Japan would never have attained embarrassing dimensions, nor would the Tokyo Cabinet have thought of revising its proposals. But this is evidently a misconception. The *London and China Express* has spoken, and History must be re-written.

ECONOMICAL PROBLEMS.

NOW that questions of nationality have lost their acute character and are in fact slowly passing away, economical and social problems loom up on every side and refuse to disappear at the voice of the charmers, charm they never so wisely. One of these problems, how the vast resources and the growing wealth of the New World will finally affect the commercial and agricultural systems of Europe, is, owing to the MCKINLEY Tariff, a theme at present more freely discussed than formerly. Yet the question had always been in the minds of thoughtful men long before

recent legislation gave it a temporarily more prominent character. Some seven years ago the Prussian Government ordered Dr. M. SERING, of the University of Bonn, to investigate the causes and probable effects of North American and Indian competition upon the economic condition of Europe, and with the consent of the then Crown Prince, who took as great an interest in economic questions as he did in war, science, and literature, the money necessary for this inquiry was drawn from the FREDERICK WILLIAM-VICTORIA Funds.

Dr. SERING accordingly visited Canada, the United States, and the more important parts of South America, in order to discover how far and how long the resources of these countries might be expected to compete with those of the old World. What Europe had suffered was beyond doubt, and recent reports enable us to gauge with some accuracy the extent of the changes brought about by this competition. In the United Kingdom the continually falling prices of cereals have, according to statistics lately published in *The Times*, led to a signal reduction of the corn and green crops area. In 1869 of every 100 acres cultivated, 8.7 were in wheat; in 1889 only 5.3, a decline of 3.4 acres, with correspondingly diminished percentages for barley and oats. Rotation grasses and permanent pasture showed a more than proportionate increase, especially in Ireland, where over four-fifths of the country is in grass, a change that could not, however, fully counteract the loss otherwise sustained. These changes in cropping have during the last twenty years extended the cultivated area of Great Britain by 2,394,079 acres, but this otherwise satisfactory increase is poorly proportioned: corn and green crops show a decline of two, grasses an increase of over four and a half, million acres. The hope of stable and normal prices, now that the world forms one vast corn market, has also not been realized, and between 1877 and 1886 a heavy fall all round was experienced, the over-supply from abroad preventing a rise when the home crops were poor, while good harvests naturally caused a further and ruinous decline. Germany, too, found no compensation for the crop failures of 1875, 1876, 1877, 1879, and 1880; all her agriculturists were bitterly disappointed by the steady decline of the market, and the farmers in her northern districts could scarcely meet their financial obligations. In France, Austria, and Italy the low price of wheat is in like manner the chief cause of the present depression, and thus the question as to the future is everywhere one of the most vital importance. On it, according to Dr. SERING, depend the further cultivation of the soil of Europe, and a possible social displacement that may shake the national organism of Germany to its very foundation. On this

point, however, Dr. SERING is optimistic and, as he thinks, with very good reason. America, and India also, might produce still more in the future, and the prairie lands might by railways be brought into still closer connection with the Atlantic sea-ports, but it must, according to our authority, be borne in mind that the conditions of settlement in the United States have with every year become less favourable; that the soil, now mostly in the hands of private owners, has greatly risen in price; that the land still available is either poor or, owing to climatic conditions, difficult to cultivate; that the immigration of agriculturists is less rapid and numerous; that the increasing population consumes a larger percentage of the products of the country; that at normal rates the raising of corn and other cereals yields at best but small returns; and finally, that the low prices, together with the appreciation of the land and the consequently higher rent, have led to a reduction of the corn area not merely in the United States but in India, Russia, Chili, Argentina, and Australia as well. One event, and one event only, could retard the speedy coming of a better time for the tiller of the soil: the sudden opening up of new and remote but very fertile wheat districts by means of cheap and easy communication with the great commercial centres of the world, an event not likely to take place suddenly, and unlikely to prove a disturbing factor in the remedial process now at work.

The present depression, then, the joint result of the rapid colonization of very fertile parts of the world and of the unprecedented facility of communication, finds its remedial features in the facts that the crisis has affected all corn producing countries in a very similar manner; that it has equally shaken the economic foundations of agriculture in every civilized nation (witness for instance the Farmers' Alliance in the United States), and that the colonization of every part of America is attended with an annually increasing outlay of money and labour, as is evident from the proposed irrigation works west of the Mississippi. The present depression being merely temporary, Germany's protective tariff can, in Dr. SERING'S opinion, be only justified as a transient measure of self-defence: should the low prices of cereals continue, then the general depreciation of her agricultural property could be averted only by a permanent but finally unendurable taxation of all other interests. As it is, the taxing of the people's bread is always a serious measure, but if a merely temporary resort to such a policy can permanently save the most numerous and representative class of the nation, the State should not shrink from making the sacrifice. Whether when prices rise again the few but powerful land owners of

Northern, and the numerous but well united small proprietors of Middle and Southern, Germany will follow Dr. SERING'S advice and consent to a lowering or abolition of the present duties, is perhaps problematical; but that Great Britain, despite HOWARD VINCENT'S call for protective measures, will maintain her present fiscal policy is undoubtedly certain, for according to *The Times* she is now in a much better position to compete with the United States in every foreign market, than she was some years ago, and if prices beyond the Atlantic continue to rise at their present rate, the prospects even in the States are not at all unfavourable, while the difficulties raised by the new tariff are nothing new in themselves, and have on a smaller scale been overcome in the principal European countries as well as in most of the self-governing British colonies.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

[VERBATIM REPORT]

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4TH.—(Continued.)

THE COMMITTEE ON QUALIFICATIONS.

Mr. WAKI YETARO, having explained that he had some suggestions to make about the Committee, ascended the rostrum and said—Mr. Suyematsu Saburo has moved that certain steps should be taken with reference to the arrest of Mori Tokinosuke, and a decision is now about to be given on the subject of a Committee. I beg to say a few words on that point. The Rules provide that a Special Committee must consist of at least nine members, but I wish to propose that the Committee we are now about to elect should number eighteen. As the Committee has to be elected in equal proportions from the various Sections, this would give two members to each Section. Doubtless there are various opinions on the subject of Committees, but I trust that the House will consent to this without discussion.

Mr. ORITA KENSHI—Allow me to make an inquiry. We have just come to a decision about a Committee, but I do not understand what the Committee is for. Is it to enquire into the causes of Mori's arrest or into the offence which led to his arrest? I do not in the least understand what the Committee is for. I have to apologise for making these remarks after the House has voted, but as they have reference also to the election of the Committee, I trust that an explanation will be given.

Mr. SHIMIZU SANZO—I understand clearly what the proposal of Mr. Suyematsu is. The Committee is to take proper steps for communicating with the Judicial Department on this subject. On looking at the Orders of the Day, I find that the election of the Qualifications Committee is the second subject. It is therefore necessary that we should first of all change the Orders of the Day, in accordance with the 82nd Article of the Rules of Procedure. Otherwise the regularity of the House's proceedings cannot be preserved. The Orders of the Day are published in the *Official Gazette* and known throughout Japan. A Qualifications Committee is provided for in the Law of the Houses, and in the Rules of this House, and I see no reason why we should elect the Committee now proposed. The second item of business for to-day is duly fixed in the Orders which have been distributed to all the members, and if we do not carry out the programme we shall be violating the rules. I think we had better erase No. 2 in the Orders of the Day, and entrust the duty of determining qualifications to the Committee now proposed.

Mr. MATSUTOMO KANAYUKI—I myself had intended to make the same proposal as has been made by the member who has just sat down. The Qualifications Committee must be elected under the Rules, and I think we should proceed to its election.

The PRESIDENT—If you wish to speak about the election of that Committee, please wait a moment.

Mr. SUYEMATSU SHIGETASU—Various opinions

are entertained about the Committee. Some say it ought to be elected by the Sections; others, that we need not elect it at all on the present occasion. I myself am of the opinion that there is no need of so large a number as eighteen. I think that nine will be sufficient, and it would be well if the President selected men of legal attainments to form the Committee.

Several members expressed approval of this proposal.

The PRESIDENT—Mr. Suyehiro's proposal has found supporters and therefore comes before the House. Those who agree with his proposal will please stand.

A majority rose.

The PRESIDENT—The proposal is carried.

Mr. OKAYAMA KANEKICHI—I wish to ask a question. I understand that the proposal of Mr. Suyematsu is to be acted upon. Am I right, Mr. President?

The PRESIDENT—Yes.

Mr. OKAYAMA—Then this House has decided that Mori Tokinosuke has been declared by this House to be unconstitutionally held in detention. If that is so, his case is different from that of a member absent through sickness, or some other unavoidable reason. He was in fact illegally prevented from exercising his right of election at the time of the appointment of the President and Vice-President. Is not the appointment of these officials affected by his absence.—(Cries of "Unnecessary.")

The PRESIDENT—The President was elected by the vote of the majority.

Mr. SHIMIZU SAKZO—Is there no change in the Orders of the Day?

The PRESIDENT—We will consider that afterwards. I proceed to name the Committee, according to the wish of the majority of the House:—Messrs. Suyematsu Saburo, Ayai Taken, Inouye Kakugoro, Suyehiro Shigeyasu, Misaki Kamenosuke, Sakura Kanji, Suyematsu Kencho, Yendo Shuker, Mayeda Kagashi. These nine names will form the Committee.

Mr. SUYEMATSU SABURO—The Committee which you have just named wish to retire to the Committee-room of the House and commence their business. Am I right in supposing that this will be in accordance with the wish of the House?

The PRESIDENT—The House has heard the member's question—

Mr. INOUE KAKUGORO—I understand the motion just made to mean that the Committee should come together at the time of the House's closing. I do not see any occasion to put that question to the House.

Mr. SUYEMATSU SABURO—Not so. The proposal is that the nine members of the Committee should retire to the Committee-room while the House is in session and carry on their business there.

Mr. INOUE—In that case, as I have still matters to submit to the House, and as I am willing if I become a Committee man to sit up half the night, or even all night, I must object to leaving the Chamber at present. I cannot agree to forfeit my privilege of sitting in the House for the sake of conducting the duties entrusted to the Committee.

Mr. TAKAGI MASATOSHI—I am of the same opinion as the member who has just spoken. If the business of the Chamber is to be interrupted while Committees are at work, I do not see how the duties of the House can be discharged.—(Cries of "Unnecessary.") and "The business will go on all the time.")—Therefore I desire the Committee to commence its duties after the Chamber has closed.

The PRESIDENT—Under these circumstances, I shall proceed with the business of the House. The next business is the election of a Qualifications Committee. I have here certain questions to be submitted to the Committee, and its immediate election is desirable.

Mr. KUDO KOKAN—You have just stated, Mr. President, that there are certain questions to be submitted to a Qualifications Committee. May I ask to whom these questions apply?

The PRESIDENT—They apply to members of the House, and have been presented through members of the House for the consideration of the Qualifications Committee.

Mr. MATSUMOTO KANAYE—A short time ago a member made some remarks (with which I agree) about the Orders of the Day. They were to the effect that the proper routine has been seriously departed from. Even if no departure had been made from the routine in respect to the Qualifications Committee, what the President has just stated with respect to questions propounded as to the qualifications of members seems to call for notice. The 78th Article of the Laws of the Houses provides that "when an objection is raised in the House of Representatives as to the qualifications of any of its members, a special Committee shall be appointed to examine into the matter upon a specified day, and the resolution of the House shall be taken upon the receipt of the report of the said Committee."

With relation to the announcement of the President, I wish to enquire what objections have been formulated as to the qualifications of members.

Mr. KUDO KOKAN—I understand you to say, Mr. President, that objections have been raised to the qualifications of some of the members. Unless we know to whom these objections apply, it is difficult for us to elect a Committee. As has just been pointed out, it seems advisable that you should give us accurate information about these objections.

Mr. KIKUCHI KANJI—I think the point raised by Mr. Matsumoto is very proper. From what you have just said, Mr. President, I understand that these objections are raised, not by members, but by persons introduced by members. Now the Law of the Houses speaks of objections raised in the House of Representatives, and again, in the Rules of Procedure, I find it stated that when an objection to the qualification of a member is raised by one of the members, he must submit the objection in writing in duplicate over his own signature to the President. If questions as to the qualifications of members are to be received from outsiders and submitted to a Committee, there will be no limit to the process. Moreover, as the friction of parties increases there is no knowing what numbers of objections may not be submitted. It is impossible that we should be expected to elect a Committee on account of each of these objections, and it therefore seems to me unnecessary to entertain any objection not contemplated by the law of the House and the Rules of Procedure,—namely, objections arising in the House itself and from the members. I therefore oppose the election of the Committee now announced by you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT—Am I to understand that you second Mr. Matsumoto's proposal?

Mr. KIKUCHI KANJI—Yes.

The PRESIDENT—Then I have a question to put to Mr. Matsumoto. Messrs. Saito Kanshiichi and Takeishi Keiji, themselves members, have submitted objections. I apprehend, therefore, that this is an occasion for electing a Qualifications Committee, and for that reason I have brought the matter before the House without loss of time.

Mr. MATSUMOTO KANAYE—Whether put forward through the medium of one or two members, the objections come from outsiders and are valueless. Unless by a decision of the House itself, I am persuaded that a Committee cannot be elected. Such is the Law of the House. It speaks of objections raised in the House of Representatives, and therefore it must be an objection by the House collectively or no effect can be given to it.

Mr. OYE TAKU—I agree with Mr. Matsumoto Kanaye. The President cannot proceed to the election of a Committee upon the application of one or two persons. The House must be agreed. I must therefore that the President will revoke his last announcement.

Mr. YAMADA TOJI—According to the 67th article of the Rules of the House, to which Mr. Oye has just alluded, it is distinctly provided that in the event of a representation being made by a member with reference to the qualifications of a member, such and such a course shall be pursued. From this I conclude that whatever may be the case with respect to applications from members, a representation from outside the House, although supported by the introduction of a member during the session, should not be submitted to a Qualifications Committee. I hope, therefore, that the President will withdraw his announcement.

Mr. TAKEISHI KANJI—Considerable discussion has arisen about my representation. I desire to explain that my application was presented in accordance with the 3rd chapter of the Rules of the House. It is there provided that a member desiring to raise a question about the qualifications of another member, must hand to the President a written statement in duplicate, duly signed, setting forth the grounds of his objection, and that the President must submit this statement to a Committee on Qualifications; a copy being also handed to the member whose qualifications are impugned, and he, by a fixed day, is required to send in an answer. The course I have taken has therefore been in accordance with the Rules, and it seems to me perfectly regular that the President should appoint a Committee on Qualifications.

Mr. KIKUCHI KANJI—I think there is some misapprehension about the facts in this case. The announcement made by the President a few minutes ago referred to applications made by persons introduced by members, is not that so?

The PRESIDENT—Yes.

Mr. KIKUCHI KANJI—Then there has been no misunderstanding. The objection has not been raised by members.

The PRESIDENT—Mr. Kikuchi, I have it here in writing as follows—We beg to present these objections—

Mr. KIKUCHI—Is it an application submitted by two members?

The PRESIDENT—Yes.

Mr. KIKUCHI—Then the facts are different from those of your previous announcement. That is evident.

Mr. YAMADA TOJI—It appears from the answer the President has just made to Mr. Kikuchi, that an objection has been sent in by a member. The House previously understood that it was an application from persons introduced by a member. So soon as there is question of an objection raised by a member, a Committee must be elected. Would it not be well for the President to make a plain announcement to that effect?

The PRESIDENT—The document shall be read to you.

By direction of the PRESIDENT the SECRETARY read as follows:—Therefore we have the honour to enclose a copy of the finding of the Local Court of Aikita as evidence, and to submit our objection.....

Dated December 2nd 23rd, Meiji. Signed by Saito Kanshiichi and Takeishi Keiji, and addressed to the President of the House of Representatives.

Mr. SAKAKI YOGA—It has been stated according to the Rules of Procedure and the Law of the Houses, that the election of a Qualifications Committee must depend upon the decision of the House. But the provisions of the Rules of Procedure by no means enact that a decision of the House is required. Two members or even one member of the House may formulate an objection, in which case a committee must be appointed to take the facts into consideration. This is quite plain. On looking at the Rules of Procedure of this House, I find it stated in the 67th Article, that if a member raises an objection to the qualifications of another member, such and such procedure shall be taken. From this I conclude that the appointment of a Committee does not depend on a decision made by the House itself only. Consequently Messrs. Saito and Takeishi, in formulating their objection to certain members' qualifications, have acted in accordance with the Rules, and a Committee on Qualifications must undoubtedly be appointed. I think the House will agree that this is the proper interpretation of the Rules.

Mr. NAGATA SADAYEMON—I think the appointment of a Committee is the proper course. The President spoke a short time ago of people introduced by members. If the application is from persons introduced by members, it does not come within the provisions of Article 67. But seeing that the application is from Mr. Takeishi, it is in no way opposed to the 67th Article. I think it quite in order that the President should announce the election of a Qualifications Committee.

Mr. NASUGAWA MITSUZANE—The President's announcement has given rise to various arguments, but we are now agreed that there is no difficulty about proceeding under Article 67. I propose therefore that the election of the committee be undertaken at once, and that the election shall be made by the Sections in accordance with the 2nd clause of Article 63.

Mr. SUYEMATSU KENCHO—There has been much discussion about this Committee, but I find that I am quite in the dark as to the nature of the Committee. There was something about a Qualifications Committee in the original Rules of Procedure, but it was erased, and we must clearly understand that the Committee now contemplated is not the Committee spoken of by Article 42. It is, I judge, a Special Committee. But if a Special Committee, then the business to be entrusted to it must be known. At present no limit has been fixed with regard to the functions to be exercised by the Committee, and we have consequently nothing to guide us in the election. Further, you cannot speak of electing a special Committee unless something has occurred in the House which you desire to submit for the Committee's consideration. It is impossible to proceed to the election of a Special Committee merely on the ground that we are to elect committee men. We must first have a reason, and then it must be decided whether that reason warrants or does not warrant a Special Committee. Unless these steps have been taken, the procedure is inconsequent.

Mr. IMAI ISOTCHIRO—I agree with Mr. Suyematsu. If we are to appoint the Committee at once in consequence of Mr. Takeishi's application it would be better to have a permanent Committee on Qualifications vested in with competence to consider such questions. If we do not adopt that plan, but proceed to elect a Special Committee, we must know exactly what we are electing it for. I think therefore we should be informed about the subject of this application.

Mr. MISAKI KAMENOSUKE—I wish to say a word. The Rules of Procedure provide for a Permanent Committee on Qualifications, and in a case like the present, if we elect a Special Com-

mittee, the subject of its investigations must, as Mr. Snyematsu has just said, be fixed, or confusion cannot be avoided, since the limits of the Committee's functions would be quite indefinite. I am acquainted with the grounds of objection and I would explain them to the House, but if the names of the members against whose qualifications objections have been made are known, it will be like deciding a case and appointing a court to try it afterwards. This might greatly complicate the task of examination. In common with the whole House, I may say that this question of qualifications should be wholly unconnected with political parties, and decided simply on its own merits. If you have a Special Committee and if you define the business to be intrusted to it, you will be confronted by the anomaly of having a prejudiced court, and it will be difficult to secure impartiality. It seems to me, therefore, that it will be better for the House to proceed in accordance with the latter part of Article 42, where it is laid down that the House may appoint a Committee if it thinks proper, in accordance with the motion of a member. We are confronted by a considerable difficulty, and I deem it rather fortunate that this case has arisen, because it may lead to the appointment of a permanent Committee on Qualifications, a measure for which I would bespeak your approval.

Mr. SHIMIZU SANZO—We appear to be coming within reach of an understanding. I think it very undesirable that any change should be made in the Orders of the Day, and I have therefore expressed my approval of Mr. Misaki's remarks with regard to this election of a Qualifications Committee. The Orders of the Day are settled and announced by the President, and in accordance with them the procedure of the House is regulated. This method is open to the objection that the President is entirely at liberty to decide in what order the House shall proceed with its business. Be that as it may, however, the question which, in consequence of a change in the Orders of the Day, now comes before the House, is of great importance. If the House itself is to decide what member has such and such qualifications, and what member has not, there is no occasion for a Qualifications Committee. The 67th Article of the Rules of Procedure has been wisely enacted with a view to this contingency. The object of its provision, that in the event of an objection being raised to the qualifications of a member, a Committee must be appointed to examine into it—the object of this provision is that the strictest privacy should be observed until the Committee has investigated whether or no the member is qualified. The rule is framed for the protection of members. We must have a Qualifications Committee as Mr. Misaki suggests. With respect to changing the Orders of the Day, some members are in favour of doing so. If we accede on the present occasion, I think that in future the Orders of the Day should not be dependent upon the President's will. Of course with regard to a question that has already been brought before the House or in respect of a Bill, there is no difficulty. But in either of these cases I think it would be better that the President should not be allowed to decide the Orders of the Day according to his own ideas.

Mr. SOMA SHUKU—Various opinions have been expressed in reference to this Qualifications Committee; but my view is that the election of a committee as just announced by the President is the most correct course. We have the 67th Article of the Rules of Procedure. It is there laid down that such and such documents shall be submitted in case of an objection to qualifications, and that the President shall lay these documents before a Committee on Qualifications. Such being the case, unless there is a Qualifications Committee the President cannot deal in any way with the documents now in his hands. It is absolutely necessary that a committee be formed in order to receive the documents; failing a committee, the President can do nothing with the documents. I think we ought to proceed to elect the Committee at once.

Mr. UYEKI YEMORI—I wish to enlist the support of the House for Mr. Misaki's proposal. If his proposal is to become a subject of debate, it will have to take precedence of the subject previously announced and I therefore proceed to state my views at once. As Mr. Misaki has already told you, if you elect your Committee on Qualifications after the name of the member whose qualifications are to be investigated is known, you will be choosing your judges after you know the name of the person to be judged. I do not say that a committee of investigation is exactly the same as a judicial tribunal, but it partakes of that character, and the circumstances I have described would be decidedly undesirable. We must have a permanent Committee on Qualifications. It is a mistake that no mention of the appointing of a

committee in a case like this is made in the Rules relating to Permanent Committees. I judge that the rules will have to be perfected. In the 67th Article you will find it stated that the President is to submit the documents of representation to a Committee on Qualifications. Thus the duty of submitting the documents to a Committee is laid down. But there is nothing whatever provided in the previous rules with reference to the election of such a Committee. In fact the rules are very incomplete, and the reason for their incompleteness is not far to seek. In the original draft of the rules provision was made for the election of a permanent Committee on Qualifications, and in the sequence of that provision this 67th Article was inserted. Subsequently the original provision was erased, but the procedure founded upon it was not erased, and the result is the incongruity with which we now have to deal. This being the case, we must take action of the nature indicated in the motion which I now propose. I suggest that the House give a decision on the point of making the Committee on Qualifications a permanent committee.

Mr. ORITA KENSHI—Various motions have been made with reference to this Qualifications Committee, and among them the proposal of Mr. Misaki, namely, that we should have a permanent Committee on Qualifications, seems to receive most support. But I think it doubtful whether this proposal may not be opposed to the Law of the Houses, and for that reason I am disposed to object to it. I say I am doubtful whether it may not be opposed to the Law of the Houses, because in the 78th Article of that law, it is set down that when an objection is raised in the House of Representatives as to the qualifications of any of its members, a Special Committee shall be appointed to examine into the matter, upon a specified day, and the resolution of the House shall be taken upon the receipt of the Committee's report. You will see that the Article provides for a Special Committee when an objection is raised, and from this I take it to be plain that we cannot have a permanent Committee to deal with such cases. It is very possible that, so far as this House is concerned, we should find it advantageous and convenient to submit all questions of qualifications to a permanent Committee, but we must not run counter to the Law of the Houses with that law before us. The provisions of the law are clear, and I think in the face of them we are decidedly incompetent to elect a permanent committee for these purposes. It seems to me a Special Committee is our only resource. But before we proceed to its election I beg to add a word or two. There is no occasion for us to enter into any deep discussion as to whether we shall appoint or shall not appoint a Committee of Qualifications. The 67th Article of the Rules of Procedure requires us to submit to a Committee any objection raised with regard to the qualification of a member. This article was inserted in accordance with the decision of the House. Before the House makes any examination itself it must have the result of the Committee's examination before it. Without complying fully with the prescribed procedure the privileges of a member can neither be granted or withdrawn. When an objection as to qualifications has been formulated, a Committee must be chosen, and to it must be entrusted the duties of examination, and the House, with the Committee's finding before it, must proceed to a decision. There is no occasion for us to discuss this question of a committee at any length, for a committee we must have. Such is my interpretation of the 67th Article. My object in addressing the House is only to point out that the election of a Committee is the due and proper course. The mistake into which Mr. Misaki has fallen is established by what I have said. One word more. It has been stated that to appoint a Committee on Qualifications after the member whose qualifications are in question has been determined, is a mistake. But even if there were question of the qualifications of a brother or friend, justice must be done, and there is no reason whatsoever that inconveniences should arise by appointing a committee after the person whose qualifications are to be considered is known. If this House showed itself to be a partial tribunal, lenient to one and severe to another, not alone would its own reputation be destroyed in the eyes of the nation, but it would forfeit the respect of the whole world. I have no fear of any such calamity, and therefore I say that we need not trouble ourselves about complaints as to the appointment of a Committee after the object of its enquiry is designated. That is my opinion, gentlemen.

Mr. SATO SHOZO—In my judgment the question before the House does not lie between a Special Committee and a Permanent Committee. The Law of the House provides, as one of the members has already pointed out, that the Committee which

we have to appoint is a Special Committee. It is asserted, however, that difficulties may arise if the subject of the Committee's enquiry be determined by the House. But I find by the 62nd Article of the Rules of Procedure that a distinction is made with reference to the subject of enquiry. The House itself is to decide in some cases, and in others the point is to be entrusted to a Committee. Questions relating to qualifications concern the reputation of members, and it is proper that, after a committee has been elected, such questions should be submitted to it without comment. I think we ought at once to elect a permanent committee and hand the business over to it without further reference to the House.

Mr. YAMAGUCHI CHYOSAKU—I have no proposal to make, but before the House gives a decision I want to ask a question. When a motion is made in violation of the Law of the Houses, and when in spite of that it finds supporters, ought the House to divide upon it? It seems to me that if a motion is opposed to the Law of the Houses a division ought certainly not to be taken upon it.

Mr. UYEKI YEMORI—I think I can make it clear whether or no there is any violation of the Laws of the House—(Cries of "Agreed," "Agreed.") Some of the members say that there would be a violation, but I say no. The 78th Article of the Houses provides for the election of a Special Committee. This means that the decision is not to be given by the House in conclave, but that the affair is to be entrusted to a Committee. It is stated that a day must be fixed. Do not confine yourselves to the mere words of the rules, consider the meaning.—(Laughter.) A day has to be fixed—that is to say, from what day to what day, and such being the case a Special Committee cannot be contemplated. In reading, we must use our judgment as far as possible.

Mr. MISAKI KAMENOSUKE—I am the proposer of the motion, and I will give an explanation. There is a mistake about my meaning.—(Cries of "Enough, enough," "Order, order," "You cannot speak twice to one motion," &c.)

The PRESIDENT—The mover may speak several times.—(Cries of "How about Mr. Uyeiki?")

Mr. UYEKI YEMORI—I will explain.—(Cries of "You are not the mover.")

Mr. UYEKI—I am one of the movers.—(Cries of "Order," "Have you permission?" "Unfair," &c.)

Mr. HASHIMOTO KIUTARO—There is a difference between a mover and a seconder. I am entirely opposed to these illegal rulings.

The PRESIDENT—Order, order.—(Cries of "You are all engaged in violating the rules," &c.)

Mr. MISAKI KAMENOSUKE—Allow me as the mover to make an explanation. The House appears to disapprove very strongly. I take it that the motion proposed by me is claimed to be contrary to the provisions of a certain Article of the Law of the Houses. I think that this view is based on a wrong interpretation of the 78th Article. The Law regards it as a very serious matter that objection should be raised to the qualifications of a member, who, having been duly elected, presents himself in this House provided with proper certificates of qualification. That the whole House should undertake the duty of passing a decision at once on any objection raised to the qualifications of a member would be a very precipitate method of procedure, and the spirit of the law, I take it, is in that sense. For that reason the election of a Qualifications Committee is provided, and the matter must be entrusted to it so as to secure deliberate consideration. I do not think that the law contemplates a Special Committee for the purpose of considering questions of qualification. Though dealing with so grave a question, and though deliberate consideration is provided for by the provision that the objections must first be examined by a Committee and then dealt with according to the report of the Committee, it must be confessed that the text of the law is not quite clear. Its spirit, however, is plain enough, I think, and I trust that you will not be concerned about the mere words but will endorse my proposal.

Mr. HASHIMOTO KIUTARO—I have always thought that in this House the laws must be respected, and that for the sake of pushing their own arguments, or establishing their own opinions, members must not interpret the laws arbitrarily. I ask you to consider Mr. Misaki's proposal. Does it not involve the application of an arbitrary reading of his own to a Law of the House? What have we written here in the 78th Article of the Laws? If we read it honestly and interpret it properly, its language is quite plain. It says: "If an objection to the qualifications of a member has been raised in the House." What is meant by "an objection has been raised?" Plainly the words include the meaning that when an objection has not been raised, there is no occasion for a Committee. It is perfectly evident from the

text of the Law that the Committee is only needed when an objection has arisen. With such a clear provision before us, it is truly an arbitrary proceeding, that a member so well versed in such matters as Mr. Misaki should tell us that the Committee referred to is not a Special Committee but a permanent committee, and I am astonished that Mr. Uyeiki Yemori should have supported such a statement. I hope that, inasmuch as a Special Committee is determined by law, the House will immediately decide in accordance with the President's original announcement. Further, I wish to ask the President what view he takes of the action of Mr. Uyeiki Yemori in addressing the House twice, and describing himself as a mover of the proposition. Unless the distinctions made by the rules in respect of these points of procedure are clearly understood and enforced, we shall find ourselves in the position of being controlled by a partial, and prejudiced President.—(Cries of "Hear, hear.") I desire to call the President's attention to this point.

Mr. NASUKAWA KAHŌ—In accordance with the 116th Rule, which provides that although members may still desire to speak, the debate may be closed by a vote of the House, I beg to propose that this debate be now closed.—(Applause.)

Mr. Masaki Bokushin ascended the rostrum to speak, but desisted in consequence of loud cries of "divide, divide."

The vote being taken, a majority were in favour of immediate decision. Here one of the members asked permission to speak, but the President announced his intention of putting Mr. Misaki's motion at once to the House; namely, that a Permanent Qualifications Committee be elected.

Mr. HORIGUCHI KENRO rose and protested against Mr. Misaki's motion being put, on the ground that there were amendments, and that the proper course was to put the amendments first.

Another member attempted to speak with reference to Mr. Misaki's proposal, but was interrupted by cries of "divide, divide."

THE PRESIDENT—It has been proposed by Mr. Misaki and duly seconded, that in accordance with the 2nd Clause of the 42nd Article, which provides that by the motion of a member the House may, if it sees fit, elect a committee, a permanent Qualifications Committee be elected. Those who are in favour of this motion will please rise.

A minority rose.

Mr. SUYEMATSU KENCHO—I presume that we shall proceed at once to the election. The orders of the day indicate that course. But if we are about to elect a Special Committee, it will be very inconvenient not to determine the nature of the question to be submitted for the Committee's examination.

Mr. HASHIMOTO KINTARŌ—Much discussion has arisen with regard to the nature of this Committee, and I confess that the opinions expressed have greatly surprised me. The matter seems to me to be quite plain. It is distinctly provided in the rules that when a Qualifications Committee is appointed, it shall enquire minutely into the affair in question and shall report the result of its enquiry to the House. Upon the receipt of such report the House forms its decision. These limits are fixed by the rules, and I am quite unable to understand why there should be any occasion to fix limits now by special vote.

Mr. SUYEMATSU KENCHO—The point is not one of limits, but of the question to be submitted to the Committee.

THE PRESIDENT—Those who are in favour of electing a Special Committee will please rise.

A majority arose, and the proposition was declared carried.

Mr. MATSUMOTO KANAYE—It has now been decided that a Special Committee shall be elected, and we must of course proceed to elect it, but it seems to me that there is necessity for some amendment of the rules. In the original draft circulated by the Secretary, there was a provision for a Qualifications Committee, as Mr. Misaki has explained, but owing to some conflict among the rules, this provision was erased, the result being that there is nothing in these rules about a Qualifications Committee. You have the rules before you. The 2nd part of the 2nd Chapter relates to Committees of the whole House, the 3rd part to Permanent Committees, and the 4th part to Special Committees. There is nothing else. This is right enough, but in the orders of the Day a Qualifications Committee is mentioned. Here the member entered into a somewhat lengthy explanation of the rules, and concluded by urging the necessity of alterations in order to prevent incongruities such as had just occurred.

THE PRESIDENT announced that the business of electing a Special Committee would be proceeded with.

Several members asked for permission to speak, and Mr. Suyematsu Kencho ascended the rostrum.

Mr. SUYEMATSU KENCHO—We have heard some discussion about the nature of the Committee, but in my opinion when we elect a Special Committee we must come to some decision about its duties. If we proceed at once to elect a Special Committee without determining its duties, it will have to deal with all the questions that may arise during the period of its session. About what then will its special report be made, and at what period would its functions cease? These points would be indeterminate. If the Committee is to continue discharging its functions without limit, it will be in fact a permanent Committee. Unless we decide what subject and how many subjects of investigation ought to be submitted to the Committee, it will cease to be a Special Committee. How many objections to qualifications have been raised? If one, then one; if several, then the whole, should be definitely submitted to the committee. I propose that we decide at least this.

Mr. NASUKAWA KAHŌ—I propose that the Committee be elected by the Sections.

Mr. KURATA JUNGORŌ—The President has given notice that we shall proceed to the election of a committee. I wish to bring two points to the notice of the House before the election. The member proceeded to state that it seemed to him desirable to have 18 members on the Committee instead of 9 on this occasion, and that they should be elected by the House instead of by the Sections.

Mr. KUDO KOKAN supported Mr. Suyematsu Kencho's proposal, on the ground that if the House elected a Special Committee and merely directed it to consider qualifications, it will have to examine every subject of that nature that occurs during its existence. Something must therefore be decided as to the nature of the qualifications to be examined into.

Mr. YAMAGUCHI CHOSAKU seconded the proposition of Mr. Kurata Junjiro, explaining that if the committee men were elected by the Sections, it might be difficult to secure impartiality, and that he considered 9 too small a number.

Mr. SUYEMATSU KENCHO was proceeding to speak, when the President announced that he had recognised Mr. Konishi Jimnosuke.

Mr. KONISHI JINNOSEKKE—I agree with what Mr. Suyematsu has just said. The 71st Article provides that a Special Committee shall be elected in the event of an objection being raised to the qualifications of a member. It seems to me that the object of this provision is to secure the greatest possible impartiality in investigating the question, therefore unless we know the nature of the objection and the name of the member or members to which it applies, we shall fail to elect committee men free from all connection with the members indicated. I trust, therefore, that not merely the nature of the subject, but also the names of the members will be declared to the whole House.

Mr. SUYEMATSU KENCHO explained, as an additional reason for his proposal, that if the proposed investigation related to a number of members, it was evident that the number of the Committee must also be increased, and that possibly even more than one Committee would have to be elected. He deemed it absolutely essential to fix some limits.

Mr. FUJITA MAGOHEI desired to support Mr. Suyematsu Kencho's proposition, but as he explained that he only had a very few words to say, he was permitted by the President to speak from his seat. He pointed out that according to the rules it seemed unavoidable that the duties to be discharged by a Special Committee should be distinctly defined at the time of its election.

Mr. HAYASHI KOICHIRO spoke in the same sense. The PRESIDENT, saying that he too agreed with the proposal, was about to submit it to the House, when

Mr. HAYASHI KOICHIRO urged that as this was a question relating to the interpretation of the rules, the decision ought to rest with the President, a point which elicited general applause.

THE PRESIDENT—The objection as to qualifications has been raised by Messrs. Saito Kanshichi and Takeishi Keiji, and it applies to Mr. Nita Korenori. (Cries of "agreed, agreed.") "No division required." The President, saying that there was no occasion to take the sense of the House further, desired that the election should proceed.

Mr. KURATA JUNJIRO asked how it had fared with the motion he had seconded, and after some other inquiries, it was decided to proceed at once with the voting. While the balloting papers were being prepared and distributed, the President gave notice that in order to conclude the business before the House, the sitting would have to be prolonged beyond 6 o'clock.

By a motion by one of the members, the House decided that the names on the balloting papers need not be read out, but that the numbers attached to the names would be sufficient.

The balloting then proceeded.

Mr. ORITA KENSHI called attention to the fact that many members were absent, and that there did not seem to be a quorum for the opening of the ballot papers.

By this time the Vice-President had taken the President's place. He ruled that a quorum was present, but Mr. YAMAZAKI TOMOCHIKA presently called attention again to the same fact, and asked whether the remaining members might retire.

THE VICE-PRESIDENT said he should make an announcement when the time came for the conclusion of the sitting.

Mr. NISHI DENZO said that members had no right to retire without permission from the President.

Mr. TAKAKA CHINKYO said that permission had, he imagined, been given, and that members who had not been permitted to leave the House were doubtless in the waiting-room. He urged the propriety of not allowing too many members to leave the Chamber until the business of balloting was completed, and asked how many members had obtained permission to leave.

THE VICE-PRESIDENT said that 15 had obtained permission, and that the rest were doubtless in the waiting-room.

A member replied that there were none in the waiting-room.

Mr. ORITA KENSHI said that any ballots opened without a quorum of the House being present would be invalid, and proposed that this point should be settled at once.

THE VICE-PRESIDENT said that the decision of the House having been taken, and the balloting having been completed, it was now only a question of comparing the ballots.

Mr. ORITA KENSHI insisted that even this was illegal, unless the prescribed number of members were present.

He was supported by other members, who argued that any business conducted in the House must be in the presence of a quorum.

THE VICE-PRESIDENT said that although this view might appeal to some of the members a precedent had been established for the opening of the ballot papers, and he should proceed with the task.

A Secretary proceeded to read the ballots, but several members rose to speak, and some coming to the Secretary's table entered into conversation with him. One member, calling out that the ballots were illegal, left the House.

Mr. UYEKI EMORI wished to ask whether the House was in session or whether it was not in session. If the former, he desired to make some remarks; if the latter, he wished to retire.

THE VICE PRESIDENT asked him to wait a few minutes.

Mr. UYEKI YEMORI said that if he could not obtain permission to address the House, he wished to speak to his fellow-members, not as a member but as an individual.

Some members called out that they would hear; others that they wanted the ballots read.

Mr. ORITA KENSHI repeated the question as to whether the House was open or not open. He thought that if a quorum were not present, the proceedings must be declared closed. There was no occasion any longer to ask whether a quorum was present since it obviously was not, and he wanted to know whether the session was alive or dead.

THE PRESIDENT said that it was impossible to give up the opening of the ballots at this stage.

Mr. ORITA KENSHI protested against any business being done without a quorum.

Mr. UYEKI YEMORI said it was impossible to tell whether the members might not be in the building, and he suggested if they were within call they should be summoned, in which case the ballots might be regarded as valid, but the duty of going to look for absent members at their hotels or in their houses did not devolve upon anyone. He thought the President had no recourse but to close the ballots, and he begged that the names of the members still present, and the names of those who had left by permission should be noted, so that the members who had misconducted themselves by going away without leave might be punished.—(Cheers.) There was no occasion to announce the close of the sitting, for the sitting was already closed in effect.

Mr. TAKEISHI KEIJI approved of this suggestion, as it was quite plain that the quorum was no longer present. The President must have observed as much himself already. He thought that the business of balloting should cease even at this stage, however inconvenient.

THE PRESIDENT said he could not stop the proceedings, inasmuch as the ballots had been put in by the whole House.

Mr. TAKEISHI KEIJI asked whether the business could possibly be concluded if a quorum had

ceased to be present while the examination of the ballots was in progress.

The PRESIDENT announced the result of the ballot as follows:—Messrs. Oyagi Buchiro, Suyematsu Kencho, Motoda Hajime, Takata Sanaye, Aoki Tadashi, Okayama Kauekiichi, Misaki Kamemitsu, Suyematsu Saburo and Kono Hironaka.

The House rose at 5 minutes past 10 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17TH.

The following is a translation of the speech delivered by the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs in the House of Representatives:—

GENTLEMEN,—The 4th item of a series of interrogations addressed by Mr. Arai Shogo, and other members of this House, on the 9th inst., to the Minister President of State, had reference to Treaty Revision and to the Government's policy in respect of it. I hope to be able to offer you such an explanation of these matters as will prove satisfactory. But whether it will or will not prove satisfactory is a point about which I can offer no prediction, for, as you are well aware, the foreign affairs of a country differ from its domestic in this that the limits of essential secrecy are very narrow. Observing those limits, it is possible that I may not be able to offer a full statement in reply to the original question, still less to the detailed queries which Mr. Arai has just submitted. I will try, however, to be as explicit as possible. I must, however, preface my remarks by a few words. Yesterday, when the Vice Minister of Justice in addressing the House referred to the Imperial Prerogative, the House, or to be more correct, several of the members, uttered, I understand, expressions of dissatisfaction. But I must ask you to recognize clearly that I stand in a different position here to-day from that occupied yesterday by the Vice-Minister for Justice. If this House interprets the 13th Article of the Constitution in the exact sense of its language, nothing more need be said; but for my part, whether I read that Article by the light of European Constitutions or as a part solely of the Japanese Constitution, I am resolved to discharge the duties devolving upon me in accordance with the limits of the Imperial Prerogatives as they are there defined. Nevertheless, it is not my intention for a moment to build myself a rampart with those prerogatives and my own official duties, and to screen myself behind it against your enquiries. I wish to speak, and I must speak. I will therefore do so in accordance with my interpretation of the freedom permitted to me as Minister of Foreign Affairs. One word more by way of prelude. "Consult public opinion; consult public opinion," insisted Mr. Arai in his speech. Certainly, I consult public opinion. The Ministers of State also have not the smallest idea of dealing with this great question merely in obedience to the dictates of their own unaided notions and opinions. Still less have I any such idea, as I think you will perceive from what I am about to say to you. Yet another word. Mr. Arai has just told you that official secrecy has its degrees and limits, and that, although in military affairs secrecy may be imperative, in diplomatic affairs he does not see its necessity. But I think that, according to the circumstances of the case, it is impossible to distinguish the point where reticence may end and candour commence. Mr. Arai asked also what had been the result of the resignation of the Cabinet last year, but I question whether it devolves entirely on the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs to expound that point. The problem of Treaty Revision presented itself 18 or 19 years ago, and some of you are doubtless well acquainted with the facts relating to it, while some may be less fully informed. At the risk, therefore, of making my speech somewhat long, I propose to explain to you how the question arose, how it subsequently fared, and how it has to be treated in the future. The first Treaty between Japan and a Foreign Power was made in 1854; it was the Treaty with America concluded by Commodore Perry. Then followed the treaty with Russia in the same year, and the Treaties with England and Holland a few months later. You may not be aware of the spirit of those Treaties, so I crave your indulgence while I explain it. At that time Japan was a closed country. Her only point of contact with Foreign Nations was the little island of Deshima, and the Treaties were consequently very incomplete. They included little more than provisions rendering our ports accessible to foreign vessels in distress, and they did not extend to any detailed conditions whatsoever. They contained nothing about customs duties or trade questions. By degrees national affairs developed, and in 1857 the Treaty of Shimoda concluded with America, followed by other Treaties in 1858, gave us the first compacts that fairly deserved to be called 'Treaties.' Then for the first time provisions re-

lating to trade made their appearance. These were Treaties with America, with Holland, with Russia, with Great Britain, and with France. Permit me to take you back to the period preceding these Treaties, and to recall events which are a source at once of regret and satisfaction to us to-day. In the treaty concluded with Russia in August, 1858, the 14th Article was of great value. It was a provision securing extraterritorial rights equally to both the high contracting parties. Thus if Russia became entitled to have consulates in Japan, for the control of her subjects visiting or residing in this country, Japan also became entitled to have consulates in Russian dominions, where her own subjects should be tried and punished according to Japanese law. Doubtless it was due to the friendship then existing between Japan and Russia, that the extraterritorial clause in the Treaty was framed so as not to inflict any humiliation on Japan. Of course the state of our intercourse with Russia at that time was such that very few Russians came to Japan, and very few Japanese went to Russia, nor did the vague and incomplete character of the treaty help to develop that intercourse. Still, as I have just explained, commercial relations with foreign countries were for the first time established by the treaties then concluded. The provisions in those treaties relating to customs duties were divided into four classes, but if I should attempt to give you a detailed explanation of the items in these four classes, I should need greater eloquence than I possess to complete the task before to-night or to-morrow morning. I shall therefore refrain from making the attempt, more especially as you can obtain all the necessary information by consulting the published volume of Treaties and Conventions. I may explain, however, that the Customs Tariff then fixed was decidedly advantageous to Japan. You must not forget, however, that a disadvantageous condition was also inserted at that time. As the saying is, every profit has its loss, and if we gained an advantage in one direction in 1858, we suffered a disadvantage in another, namely in respect of the judicial arrangement. To confine ourselves to the Tariff, however. In the Trade regulations accompanying the Treaty, it was provided that the Tariff should be subject to revision five years after the opening of the ports at the desire of either of the high contracting parties. But even this was not without its disadvantage, since it brought the question within the domain of international politics. Thus when in 1862 and 1863, there occurred the affairs of Kagoshima and Shimoda, affairs to which I have no desire to allude in detail, and which you gentlemen do not, I am sure, wish to have recalled, results ensued which produced a disastrous effect upon our Treaty relations. These results are to be found, as you are doubtless aware, in the Convention of 1866. The Representatives of the four Powers chiefly concerned in the Shimoda affair, namely, England, France, America, and Holland, stipulated that Japan should pay an indemnity of 3,000,000 yen, but offered to remit one third of the amount if she agreed to open the ports of Kobe and Osaka at once to foreign trade. Further, these incidents exercised a most injurious effect upon our Tariff arrangements, for whereas under the former Tariff certain articles had been subject to a duty of 20 per cent., and certain others, as for example alcoholic beverages, to a duty of 30 per cent., the Government, in its then disturbed condition, was obliged to consent to a general lowering of all the rates to 5 per cent. Thenceforth the consequences of these misfortunes were felt in all diplomatic arrangements. The Treaties concluded with Germany and Austria, immediately before or after the commencement of the Meiji era, confirmed and perpetuated these tariff stipulations. The history of that time does not clearly show whether the negotiators concluded these treaties with a full knowledge of their injurious nature. I think, however, that they possessed such knowledge, but were influenced by another consideration, namely, that in the Treaties of 1858 it was clearly provided that Japan would be entitled to claim Revision in 1872, and the negotiators consequently looked forward to effecting a new and satisfactory arrangement at that time. This was perhaps a superficial view to take, yet I am inclined to think it was taken. The Treaties concluded with Germany and Austria in 1866 had an undoubtedly grave bearing upon Japan's administrative and legislative autonomy. In the years immediately preceding the conclusion of these Treaties, national affairs and international intercourse had greatly developed, and the consequence was that the provisions of the Treaties of 1866 relating to jurisdiction and commerce were of a minute and detailed character. Thus in respect to extraterritorial jurisdiction, the powers exercised by Foreign Consuls, and the functions devolving upon Japanese tribunals, were set forth with incomparably more exactness than had been the case in previous covenants. The most disadvan-

tageous feature of these Treaties was contained in the 19th Article of the German Treaty and the 22nd Article of the Austrian Treaty. I refer to the most favoured-nation clause. Whether or no public opinion in Japan has been directed to this question, it is certain that numerous newspapers have discussed it, and that in the West it has been a topic of constant argument between learned men, politicians, and international jurists. Only now has something like a definite conclusion been reached. The provisions of this most-favoured-nation clause are very wide. "Whatever rights and privileges," it says, "are granted to any other Power must be granted also to the Power concluding this treaty." The effect of this clause upon the legislative and administrative autonomy of our country is most serious. Thus not only did the empire suffer grave injury from the Treaty of 1866 in respect of fiscal affairs, but also from that time a distinction between foreigners and Japanese was established in judicial matters. In a word, both our tariff autonomy and our fiscal autonomy were seriously impaired by that covenant. But privileges when they are once granted by treaty, become, as it were, the rights of those to whom they are granted, and cannot be revoked at will. What may be accomplished by force of arms is a question apart, but to achieve the revision of a treaty by peaceful means is a task of great difficulty. However, the Treaties concluded up to 1866 became subject to revision in 1872 under the provisions of the Treaty of 1858, as I have already explained. A year's notice had to be given. Count Soyerejima was then Minister of Foreign Affairs, and His Majesty the Emperor sent a mission consisting of Iwakura, the Second Minister of State, Kido, Okubo, Count Ito and others to America and Europe, a proceeding which constituted the first step in the work of Revision. It was beyond question that in the year 1872 of the European calendar the Treaties became subject to revision, and the despatch of a special mission to the West was in consequence of that fact. Here, gentlemen, I would beg your attention to one point. The journals at present urge upon me the necessity of revising the Treaties, but at the same time declare that preparations sufficient to secure that object should be made. Now I ask you whether Iwakura Udaijin had made preparations or whether he had not made preparations; whether he considered preparations essential or whether he did not consider them essential. If this independent empire clearly possesses by treaty the right of Revision, what are the preparations that should be made? Preparations is a word to which a narrow import or a wide import may be attached. The preparations which I am asked to make to-day are apparently very extensive. Eighteen years ago, in 1872, what preparations had the Government made? Preparation or no preparation, the right of Revision was vested in the country. No preparations are needed, I think, to establish this country's right. It is the duty of the Government to revise the Treaties. In the discharge of that duty, no preparations are needed. It is a duty that must be performed. Iwakura then, proceeded to America in 1871 and opened negotiations with the Government of that country. Probably some of you are unacquainted with what happened at those negotiations. This is matter of history no longer secret, and I should willingly tell you all I know about it if time permitted. It will be enough to say, however, that beyond question the vindication of this country's Sovereign rights, the recovery of her tariff and judicial autonomy was the prime purpose of the negotiation. Apparently the time was not ripe, however. The proposals advanced by us elicited counter-proposals of an embarrassing character. Our Government did not approve of them, and it was found impossible to continue the negotiations. Then, in 1875, when Count Terashima held the portfolio of Foreign Affairs, it was recognised that the Treaties could not be left for ever unrevised. Once more the question was raised and the task essayed. For, as I have just told you, the Government has never for a single day failed to appreciate that the Treaties must be revised, that the country has a right to their revision, and that the duty of the Administration is to revise them. Not for a day has the work been neglected. The story of Count Terashima's attempt I need not tell you. It is an open secret, but its details do not concern us here. With regard, however, to the object of Revision, the recovery of the country's tariff autonomy, the state of the nation must be considered. There were as yet no proper laws, and our ideas about law as well as our customs differed so much from those of Europe that to obtain Western consent to the abolition of extraterritorial jurisdiction seemed a hopeless task, and the recovery of our tariff autonomy was made the prime aim. I cannot here attempt to describe minutely the procedure adopted by Count Terashima, but with regard to the failure of his

proposals, the cause was very significant. The Treaty Powers judged that Japan contemplated protective duties, and pressed her to explain what staples of manufacture she intended to protect. England is a free trade country. The rest of Europe, though not altogether free trade in practice, is tolerably unanimous, and, at all events, is not prepared to give its consent to any protective measures of which the precise purpose is not known. I cannot certainly say that this was the cause of the difficulty, but I imagine that it must have been. The Government was not deterred by these failures. It continued its efforts, and in 1878 re-opened negotiations with the United States, concluding a Treaty which is now well known to everybody. It was a Treaty of only 10 Articles, and the negotiator was Viscount Yoshida, now a Member of the Privy Council. It contained a clause, however, providing that the Treaty should not go into force unless a similar Treaty were concluded with other Powers. The others, however, could not be induced to consent, and so this Treaty with America became of no value. In 1880, Count Inouye became Minister of Foreign Affairs and put forward a draft of proposals for Revision. Count Inouye's idea was not to confine himself to one side of the question. He considered it insufficient to recover Tariff autonomy alone or Judicial autonomy alone. Both must be recovered, and the next question was how far this could be effected. Count Inouye devoted all his efforts to gaining support for his view, and at last in 1882, he succeeded in inducing the Foreign Powers to open a Conference in Tokyo. This is matter within the knowledge of you all. The object of this Conference was to consider the proposals put forward by Count Inouye for the recovery of the country's Tariff and Judicial autonomy, and to determine how far Japan's demands might be complied with. The various points raised at this Conference were very numerous. Time forbids me to repeat them in detail, but the principal of them related to Consular Powers, the Powers of Civil Courts, the Powers of Criminal Courts, Executive regulations, regulations for the Harbours and Settlements at the open Ports, rules as to the renting of land, rules relating to religious affairs, Tariff regulations, Trade regulations, rules relating to Coast-wise Trade, to Light-houses, to Harbours, to Harbour dues, to Tonnage dues, to the chartering of Foreign Ships by Japanese subjects, rules relating to casualties at Sea, Laws of neutrality, the question of the operation of the Treaties, and so forth. With regard to this last point, a mistaken notion prevailed among Foreigners and Japanese, that no limit had been set to the operation of the Treaties. In point of fact their term was expressly limited to 1872, but in the course of years repeated failures to effect revision and their continued operation led people to regard them in the light of an established institution and ultimately to count them as a right. The basis of Revision having been approximately fixed at the Conference in 1882, an enlarged and amended scheme was put forward by Count Inouye in 1886. It did not at that time appear that foreign Powers would easily consent to our proposals, whether because public opinion abroad was not sufficiently advanced, or because the general conditions were not favourable, but Count Inouye none the less pushed the undertaking with the greatest zeal. It was, however, found impossible to bring the negotiations to a successful issue, and at this stage two of the Powers presented a new scheme which seemed at once shorter and in some respects better than the previous programme. This was made a new basis of negotiations in the beginning of 1886. The principal question of discussion related to jurisdiction. The Tariff question was separate and I, as second delegate, was connected with it. Numerous obstacles presented themselves in the course of the negotiations about jurisdiction. One side wanted one thing, another something else, and no satisfactory result could be reached. In July Count Inouye came to the conclusion that the proposed Treaty contained Articles greatly opposed to Japan's interest, and that it would be unwise to conclude it. When I say that this was Count Inouye's opinion I am not telling you something which is distinctly recorded, but am only giving you my own belief. I believe that Count Inouye's opinion was that if Japan concluded a treaty imposing such restrictions upon her judicial powers she would be taking a dangerous leap in the dark. He consequently broke off the negotiations, and the question was dropped for a time. This takes us to the close of 1887. I may remark here that the Foreign Office has had to deal with the Representatives and Plenipotentiaries of 17 different Powers and to consider the wishes and suggestions of each. A more complicated task it would be difficult to conceive. I myself have had experience of it, and I think that the energy shown by Count Inouye in dealing with such a

problem is worthy of all praise. Count Inouye was succeeded at the Foreign Office by Count Ito, who combined the office of Foreign Minister with that of Minister President. During Count Ito's short tenure of the Foreign portfolio the question of Treaty Revision was not raised. Not that Count Ito had forgotten it, or that he did not recognise that Japan was entitled to Revision and that she was bound to accomplish it. But Count Inouye's resignation had only just taken place and although Count Ito may have had in his mind a scheme of Revision it was not reduced to black and white. The question remained in abeyance until Count Okuma became Minister of Foreign Affairs in 1888, when as you are aware it was again raised. There was no striking difference between the programme of Count Okuma and that of Count Inouye. The former was in fact based on the latter. Count Okuma's proposals, however, as compared with Count Inouye's were greatly simplified in respect of the jurisdiction question. If we represent this item by 10 in Count Inouye's proposals it will be represented by 2 or 3 in Count Okuma's. Moreover, during Count Okuma's tenure of office many questions which had been handed down from Count Inouye's time were settled. Count Okuma also adopted the plan of separate negotiations with the various Powers, and in this respect his policy differed from that of Count Inouye. Count Okuma's view was that no hope could be entertained of coming to an agreement with 17 different Powers collectively, and the justice of this view was proved by the success of his labours which actually led as you know to the conclusion of Treaties with America, Germany, and Russia, the terms of which are an open secret. These Treaties have not been published, but it is beyond all question that they were great improvements upon the Treaties elaborated in 1887. Nevertheless, public opinion rebelled against them, and the Government itself was greatly affected. You will allow me to pass briefly over this part of my subject too painful to dwell upon. The Treaties were not ratified and consequently could not be carried into effect. Thus since 1872, this question has been raised time after time, only to fall again by the weight of the difficulties attaching to it. The Government has been not a little affected by the incidents of this difficult problem, yet the Government has not abandoned the work. If it did so it would fail in its duty to the country—fail in asserting important rights which this Empire undoubtedly possesses. If you ask me why this question of Treaty Revision cannot be abandoned, I answer that whether from the Government's point of view or from the people's, or from yours, who represent 40,000,000 of our countrymen, it has been established since the first year of this Meiji era that the Revision of the Treaties is among the national duties. I say so because of the Imperial Oath taken at that time, in accordance with which you, the Representatives of the people, are assembled here to-day, and are enabled to discuss the affairs of the nation under the provisions of the Constitution. That first Article spoke of the duties devolving on the nation and among them Treaty Revision is, I think, included. Fully convinced, then, that Treaty Revision is an imperative duty, the Government has again, since last year, considered the question in all its bearings, and though perhaps I ought not to mention this, has discussed in the fullest manner the point of who should be entrusted with the task. The sequel of these deliberations was that I was appointed to the duty, and while I am well aware of my own want of strength, I can assure you that I have never underrated, I do not now underdate, the difficulties of the task. Whatever may be my capacities, however, I have received His Majesty's gracious commands to devote myself to the work, and I cheerfully obey them. Considered from another point of view, there is additional reason why this problem of Treaty Revision cannot be abandoned. Account must be taken of the friendly disposition displayed towards Japan, and the appreciation of her progress shown by the Governments of Foreign States since the time of Iwakura, down to the period covered by the negotiations of Counts Inouye and Okuma. History will one day tell you how many and of what nature were the proposals made to our Government by Foreign Powers in the course of the various negotiations to which I have alluded. It is beyond my province, however, to give you a detailed account of those proposals. What I am at liberty to tell you I will state briefly. The first thing which I can tell you is that Foreign Governments appreciate the progress made by Japan since the Restoration; progress in government, in administration, and in legislation; understand that with such a record behind us there can be no halting in the future, and believe that this nation deserves to be included among the friends of Western peoples. Guided by these sentiments, they have consented in a measure to Japan's demands. When, however, I became Minister of

Foreign Affairs and found myself charged with this exceedingly difficult task, an idea occurred to me, which I venture to explain, not, I pray you to believe, with any reference to myself, but simply as a part of the problem. I thought, and I still think, that the Minister of Foreign Affairs cannot afford to devote himself from morning till evening and from Spring to Fall to the task of Treaty Revision. He has other duties to perform; duties connected with the foreign relations of the Empire. I think you will understand that the policy to be adopted by this country in its dealings with other nations requires the close attention of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, and that many points arise in connection with it which, although they may not have presented themselves with equal insistence to your statesmen ten or fifteen years ago, are now matters of great moment, demanding no less care than Treaty Revision. Ever since the Formosan affair, a belief seems to have obtained that Treaty Revision should occupy the whole vista of foreign affairs, and the eyes of the country have been firmly fixed on the four ideographs *foyakai kaisei*. Of the many difficult problems arising after that event and partly in connection with it, problems having deep concern for this Empire, whether considered from the point of view of its own dignity or from the point of view of its position in the Orient, of these problems little thought has been taken by the public. People have made the mistake of imagining that Treaty Revision was the only grave feature of our foreign policy, and of this mistake I was fully sensible when I assumed the portfolio of Foreign Affairs. I felt then and do still feel that the whole question of our foreign policy demands the deepest thought, and, in determining it, the points that first present themselves for consideration are the position this Empire occupies and the capacity of its inhabitants. As for the position of the country, everybody is agreed that it is excellent. If you look at the map of the world, you will see that America has her back turned to us, and that on her western coast, thousands of miles away from our shores, no good port lies open. Europe is no less distant from us for all practical purposes. But here in Asia the case is very different. At your doors sits a nation of 270,000,000 people, ready to take your manufactures and products and to give you its own in return. Look at the coal-fields of your own country in the north and in the south. Are not these land-marks set by nature to indicate the position your country ought to take? This coal, and other products which I need not enumerate, invite you to make use of them for the development of the national wealth, and tell you plainly that it is your duty to cultivate the technical knowledge and enterprise, and to raise the capital necessary for taking advantage of these natural gifts, and to offer them, not to countries separated from us by thousands of miles of rough seas, but to countries which stand smilingly at our doors inviting us to be their partners in trade and industry. As to the second point, namely, the capacity of the nation, I think there is not much room for doubt. This nation possesses a reasonable measure of what in Europe is called generative power, and the growth of its population may be safely anticipated. Moreover, in respect of moral endowments, I do not think there can be any question as to the capacity of this nation. Occupying such a position, and possessing such capacities, why is it that the people of Japan do not devote more thought to the foreign policy of the Empire? If you go back in your own history to the Ashiikaga era, you will find that the men of southern Japan whom some may perhaps call pirates, launched themselves in little boats and harried the coasts of China with its hundred millions of people, coming and going at will and taking and leaving at will. Surely it seems somewhat petty that the descendants of such men as these should allow their mental vista to be occupied entirely by the four ideographs *foyakai kaisei*. It seems to me that larger subjects invite their attention. The present, however, is not the occasion for me to dwell at length upon this phase of our foreign policy. Further, in speaking thus, I do not wish to underdate the importance or the difficulty of the Revision problem. The solution of that problem may in truth be called the ladder by which the country can ascend to those larger spheres of activity of which I have just spoken. For eighteen or nineteen years our statesmen have been devoting their best energies to the solution of this difficult question, and its settlement is unquestionably necessary. Persuaded of this, the present Cabinet has given much thought to the subject since last winter. We feel that Treaty Revision is no question of party politics, but that it concerns the whole nation of 40,000,000. In considering the course that ought to be pursued with regard to it, the Government has spared no pains to arrive at a clear conception of the trend of public opinion and the views held by the nation. Only now is it possible to meet and consult with

you, gentlemen, the Representatives of the people. It has been necessary hitherto to have recourse to other channels of contact, as for example the public press. I do not purpose to weary you by entering at length into this point, but with your permission I will quote some of the principal opinions put forward in the press. Thus, in November of last year, a newspaper told us that Consular jurisdiction and mixed residence could not exist side by side, and that the latter must be regarded as the price with which to purchase the abolition of the former. Another journal declared that it did not object to mixed residence, but that it did object to the combination of mixed residence and Consular jurisdiction. Another said that the two points of criticism in the former scheme of Revision were the granting of mixed residence without the abolition of Consular jurisdiction, and the permission given to foreigners to own real estate. It added that although everything else was not absolutely satisfactory, the amendment of these two points would content it. Another averred that the employment of foreigners in the capacity of Judges and the giving of any pledge as to the period for the compilation of the Japanese Codes of Law, were opposed to the national dignity. These, you may say, are only the opinions of the editors of newspapers. But they are Japanese newspapers. A large number of views have been expressed in journalistic columns on this subject, but their gist is contained in the extracts which I have just read to you. The *Fiji Shimpō*, in one of its issues of last December, said that Count Terashima had failed over the Tariff question, and Count Inouye over the jurisdiction question, and asked whether the Government ought not to revert to the Tariff problem. This is not the Government's view. Count Inouye, as I have told you, and Count Okuma after him, were equally persuaded that the problem must be dealt with in its entirety, and that Tariff autonomy and judicial autonomy must be recovered together, and such is my policy also. As for the other points made by the journals which I have quoted, I trust you will not imagine that such things ever lacked the Government's appreciation. It was not, you may be sure, of Count Okuma's own choice that any engagement was given with regard to the time when the Codes of Law should be compiled. Doubtless he could not avoid some such concession. But on this point I hope, with the approval of His Majesty and the consent of the Cabinet, to make an arrangement such as shall satisfy you. This, however, is precisely one of those questions which present most difficulties to your Foreign Ministers. In deciding how much we shall give and how much we shall ask, we must have reasonable grounds to go on, grounds such as shall be acknowledged in Japan at least, and, if possible, universally. And when I look at the demands to be formulated by Japan, I am compelled to ask myself what is the position of the Japanese Judiciary and in what condition are Japanese Laws. England and apart, the countries of Europe have written Codes of Law in accordance with which justice is administered, whereas the compilation of the Japanese Codes has only just been completed and they are not yet in operation. This is one of the points about which Foreign Powers raise the greatest difficulty and are most anxious to obtain guarantees. Not until 1872, was one of the most signal reforms in Japanese modern history effected, namely the complete separation of the Executive and the Judiciary, and not until 1882 were the new Criminal Codes put into force. These Codes were not servile copies of the French, or of the German, yet I think that the principles embodied in them entitle them to rank with high products of Western legislation. They are now in successful operation. Then in 1885 followed the law of the examination of Judges. By this law it was publicly recognized that judicial officers must possess a high standard of learning, and must be able to endure a thorough test of their capacities. We have here a guarantee of considerable value. Then we have the great work of civil codification, which is indeed a signal step of progress and we have also the Law of the Organization of the Courts of Justice, which, in my opinion, deserves to rank as an article of the Constitution. Next there is the Commercial Code, which is to go into operation next year. About this I crave your permission to say a word with reference to a speech delivered by one of your members in this House yesterday. Mr. Suyematsu said that some special reason had probably influenced the Government in respect of the Code. But I hope I need not tell you that the idea of legislating for two or three thousand foreigners who live among us rather than for the 40,000,000 of Japanese people, has never for a moment been entertained by the Government. The Commercial Code was compiled and promulgated solely to meet the needs of this nation, and with no ulterior object whatever. The Constitution

too is a most effective guarantee. I allude of course to guarantees given to foreign Governments and foreign nations, and I repeat that among such guarantees the Constitution is of paramount value. This Constitution came into operation last month—and I need scarcely say that the existence of ample reasons for putting it into operation was thoroughly recognised by the Government. From the time of its enforcement all pretext to entertain any mistrust of Japanese laws was removed. I do not say that foreigners previously withheld their confidence from our laws, but I do say that laws passed by the representatives of the nation in the two Houses of the Diet, possess in public opinion a value not attaching to laws enacted under different circumstances, and constitute guarantees worthy of all confidence. The Government is persuaded that the representative institutions of this country, now in force, will be regarded as valuable guarantees by the Treaty Powers. The repeated failures to accomplish Treaty Revision since 1872 may be looked back to with regret, but, on the other hand, we have the progress of Japan to consider. The guarantees furnished by that progress and the increased knowledge which the world now possesses of Japan's condition, warrant us in hoping that the position of this empire will now induce Foreign Powers to treat our proposals with liberality. I am disposed to think, indeed, that the failures made in Treaty Revision have been so many steps in the history of our country's progress. Turning now to the question of what course should be pursued henceforth, our Government finds itself confronted by a consideration of great moment *vis-à-vis* the Treaty Powers. We are bound not to take any step which shall suddenly render nugatory the consideration that our proposals have hitherto received at the hands of the Treaty Powers and the friendly disposition they have displayed towards us. Again, if any attempt were made to suddenly disturb the privileges enjoyed by Foreign Powers under the Treaties, it would be only natural that trouble should arise. Guided by these reflections, the Government is giving its deepest attention to the problem of what steps should be taken and how far we should advance. Let me add a word here. In the early years of the *Meiji* era, whenever any difficulty arose, the Representatives of Foreign Power used to combine, four or five at a time, and adopt what may almost be called a policy of intimidation (*Kyōhaku shudan*) towards Japan. But this is ancient history. We are now treated in a thoroughly friendly manner. I think, then, that all these changes which have come about, constitute ample guarantees. Further, both from an administrative and a legislative point of view, Treaty Revision must be accomplished. Our liberty and right as subjects have their source in the Sovereign, and in order to secure them to us the Constitution has been granted. You all know this without hearing it from me. Now that we possess a Constitutional Government, the independence of the Executive and of the Legislature cannot be questioned in speech or disturbed by act. Yet what has been the fact up to the present time? You know well, gentlemen, and especially do those among you know who have served as judicial officials. I, not an expert in such matters, scarcely venture to speak to you about them, or to offer you detailed proofs of how much that independence is interfered with by the extraterritorial system. But I would direct your attention to the 4th Article of the Constitution where it is stated that "the Emperor is the head of the Empire, combining in Himself the rights of Sovereignty, and exercising them according to the provisions of the Constitution," and I would ask you whether the existence of Extraterritorial Jurisdiction within His Majesty's dominions does not conflict with this Article. I would direct your attention to the 8th Article where it is written that "to maintain public safety or to avert public calamities, the Emperor issues Imperial Ordinances in the place of law when the Imperial Diet is not sitting," and I would ask you whether the existence of Extraterritorial Jurisdiction within His Majesty's dominions does not conflict with this Article. I would direct your attention to the 57th Article, where it is written that "the Judiciary shall be exercised by the Courts of Law according to law, in the name of the Emperor," and I would ask you whether the existence of Extraterritorial Jurisdiction within His Majesty's dominions does not conflict with this Article; whether until the Treaties are revised, a conflict does not exist between the legislative and judicial powers created by this Constitution and the exercise of Consular Jurisdiction on Japanese soil. If there is such a conflict, then it follows that at the present moment the free exercise of this Empire's Administrative and Legislative rights is prevented by the acts of a number of independent Powers within our borders. Do not those various Powers possess the status of independence within Japanese territory? Having we not here

a number of independent Powers, veritable *imperia in imperio*, their subjects and citizens living upon us or sojourning in our midst? Such a state of affairs proves beyond all question that the Treaties must be revised. On the other hand, as I have already said, the unity of Foreign Powers must not be disturbed, neither must the privileges they enjoy under the Treaties be suddenly taken away. Therefore the Government has opened negotiations, and I think that the policy it intends to pursue will be understood by you if you recall the extracts I have read to you from the newspapers and the explanatory remarks I have added. When, however, you ask me to disclose what is now under deliberation and in negotiation, I find myself in a difficulty. I think that if it were possible for me to answer Mr. Arai's questions fully, to tell you what we have proposed, what answers we have received from the Treaty Powers, and how far their good disposition has been displayed towards us—I think that if I could tell you these things fully, many of you—I do not say all, but many—would be satisfied. But I am not at liberty to speak to you openly as I should to any own colleagues in the Government for the purpose of securing their consent, or as the Cabinet would speak to the Emperor to obtain His Majesty's sanction. A certain journal has been good enough to say that I am between the nether and the upper mill-stones, and truly it well described my position. Those of you who are acquainted with the rules and methods of foreign diplomacy will appreciate this, and I venture to think that if you were all acquainted with those rules you would not have placed me between the mill-stones to-day. The Government is resolved to assert this country's Sovereign rights and to take every possible step for the promotion of its economic advantage. But, as I have pointed out, extreme measures are to be avoided. We do not believe that they would be for the advantage of the country or of its forty million inhabitants. Short of such measures, the Government is sparing no efforts within the limits of the country's ability to achieve the object of placing the empire's fiscal and judicial affairs on an independent footing. One word with reference to my statement that I am not at liberty to give you full particulars. It is the custom now-a-days to quote precedents from England or America, and with your permission I will read you what Lord Clarendon said in the British Parliament in 1802. (The speaker here read an extract from a speech delivered by Lord Clarendon pointing out that a Minister of the Crown was bound by his duty to his Sovereign to refrain from disclosing the particulars of any affair falling within the scope of the Royal prerogative.) That will explain to you why I am prevented from answering all your questions in full.

FAREWELL DINNER TO MR. GREATHOUSE.

On Thursday, a farewell dinner was given by over sixty members of the foreign community of Yokohama at the Grand Hotel, in honour of Mr. C. R. Greathouse, the departing U. S. Consul-General in Yokohama prior to his starting for Korea. The cosmopolitan character of the gathering and the spontaneous response to the exceedingly brief notice given of the affair, are shown by the following list of subscribers, the majority of whom were present at the dinner: His Excellency J. E. Swift (U. S. Minister to Japan), Messrs. E. Dun (Secretary of the U. S. Legation), Jas. Troup (H. B. M.'s Consul), Chief Justice Okamura (of the Yokohama Local Court), Luis Torres Acevedo (Spanish Consul), A. Dumelin (Swiss Consul), G. H. Scidmore (Acting successor to Mr. Greathouse as U. S. Consul-General), John McLean (U. S. Deputy Vice-Consul General), John Lindley, O. Keil, J. F. Lowder, J. R. Anglin, C. S. Arthur, Mitchell C. McDonald, C. M. Martin, Jas. Martin, Jr., E. Leopold, E. Binder, Milton A. Howe, W. Mann, E. Oppenheimer, L. L. Fobes, J. T. Griffin, Dr. T. H. Tripler, Messrs. T. L. Brower, E. H. Tuska, J. Mendelson, Harry Deakin, N. Smith, J. H. Brooke, W. J. Cruickshank, Arthur H. Groom, Wm. L. Merriman, A. Langfeldt, W. J. Kenny, Arthur T. Watson, Dr. Stuart Eldridge, Dr. A. C. H. Russell, Messrs. H. Z. Wheeler, Thomas Tyler, S. Cocking, S. C. Nash, C. Nembrini Gonzaga, Jas. Parsons, W. Ross, J. J. Gargan, C. P. Low, Theodore Morris, J. K. Goodrich, F. H. Olmsted, H. M. Roberts, T. F. McGrath, S. Sondheim, E. P. Nuttall, C. Gibbons, O. H. P. Noyes, J. Johnstone, Dr. C. U. Giavatti, Messrs. A. C. Siern, T. W. Kennaway, E. Gordon Lowder, J. F. Pinn, D. E. Simon, E. J. Pereira, H. H. Jacobs, L. Stonebrink, J. Ph. von Hemert, Jr., J. Witkowski, E. Andries, B. C. Howard, F.

Strahler, F. V. Thorn, R. Dress, J. T. Cole, E. A. Sargent, S. Isaacs, J. J. Eford, Dr. C. H. Hall, Messrs. C. H. Hinton, and W. A. Whaley.

The guest of the evening sat at the head of the table on the right of His Excellency the U.S. Minister. Thanks to the artistic efforts, chiefly of Mr. L. Boehmer, the dining room was prettily and effectively decked with floral designs, while strings of lanterns hung over the heads of the guests lent a delightful tone to the room. The following menu was served in a manner which reflected much credit on the Hotel manager (Mr. C. S. Arthur):—

MENU
Potage St. Germain.
Consommé Printanier à la Royale.
RELIEF.
Filet de Sole à la Normande.
ENTRÉES.
Terrine de Nœuf à la Marechale,
Filet de Boeuf à la Godard.
Quail à la Joinville.
Punch à la Romaine.
LÉGUMES.
Choux-fleur à la Crème.
Pieds de Celeri au Jus.
ROTI.
Gigot de Porc Salé.
Dinde truffée.
Salade de Saison.
ENTREMETS.
Pudding à la Diplômate.
Baba au Rhum.
Turban de Gelée à la Marie Louise.
Desserts Assortis.
Café, Liqueurs, etc., etc.

Covers having been removed,

His Excellency Mr. SWIFT rose to propose, as a token of respect to the people amongst whom they were living, the health of His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Japan. To this the company responded heartily, and the toast was drunk to the strains of the Japanese National Anthem from the Band stationed outside in the corridor.

Mr. SWIFT then rose to express to all individually, who had been concerned in the getting up of this agreeable remembrance of friends, how much he was obliged to them for the compliment they had paid him by inviting him to be present at this dinner given to celebrate the farewell, which he hoped would not be for long, of his old friend and almost companion, Mr. Greathouse. He had known Mr. Greathouse for 20 years or more, and had always found him kindly and willingly disposed to everybody.—(Applause.) It was not alone an honour to Mr. Greathouse that so many nationalities were represented there that evening,—it was a compliment to themselves as showing the good fellowship which existed amongst them as a body. Not being a member of the community among which Mr. Greathouse had been thrown for the past four years, the duty of proposing the toast of their guest did not seem properly to devolve on him (Mr. Swift), and he would therefore call on Mr. Lindsley to offer the toast.

Mr. LINDSLEY said he had little to add to the remarks of Mr. Swift. He was sure they would all heartily join with him in drinking to the health of their guest, Mr. Greathouse, and in wishing him a safe and pleasant journey to Korea.—(Cheers.) They would all miss his genial face from their midst.—(Hear, hear.) Those who had had business relations with his Consulate would not soon forget his sympathetic appreciation of the fact that an invoice, unlike a poem, was "fit non nascitur;" that it required time to make it out, and was not something that could be kept in stock ready for use on mail day at a moment's notice. If Mr. Greathouse was remaining he believed the terrors of the McKinley Bill would not be so great for them. Although a Democrat, the present Republican Administration seemed to be as loath to part with him as they were, which was certainly a high tribute to his ability. He would ask them to drink Mr. Greathouse's health with their best wishes for his success in his new career.

Three cheers were given for Mr. Greathouse, the company afterwards taking up with zest the refrain "For he's a jolly good fellow" to the accompaniment of the Band.

Mr. GREATHOUSE then rose amid cheers to respond. He said—Mr. Chairman and friends, it would be idle for me to say that I am not equally gratified and delighted by the splendid banquet with which you have honoured me, and also by the hearty manner in which you have received the toast of my health. In looking around at the friendly faces that I see about me to-night, because I see nothing but friendly faces, I feel inclined to indulge in reminiscences; to say to all and each of you the pleasant things I would like to say. But I would have to postpone my departure from Japan, which must take place at 12 o'clock to-morrow. But I will say this—that while my duties here as Consul General to Japan have been onerous and perplexing, and sometimes very annoying; while I know that in many instances I have not been able to do what I considered to be my duty without at last displeasing some people,

yet I shall leave Japan with feelings of unfriendliness to none and with friendliness to all.—("Hear, hear" and applause.) I am particularly gratified to-night to see that, while I expected to see here, in response to such a short notice, only a few of my nationals to bid me farewell, so many of other nationalities besides my own are here to say Godspeed to me. It shows me this, that while I have had no diplomatic relations—because that has been given to my superior—yet in my private capacity I have at least been able to sustain friendly relations with all.—(Cheers.) Now in bidding you good-bye—I can hardly say it is good-bye—I desire to state that it would have given me pleasure to call on most of you as I expected to do. I am a perfect bankrupt so far as social matters are concerned, and I should like to have called individually on you, but I am unable to do so because the steamer sails unexpectedly to-morrow. In leaving you I would like to say that I have but one recollection of Japan—I have but one feeling in respect to the place, that it has been to me agreeable. My relations with the people here have been always agreeable; I have been assisted in every way possible by my own nationals. My official business, my private and my personal relations have been pleasant, and I leave Japan, so far as I am personally concerned, without a single enmity, with not a single feeling of ill-will. I have for every person in the community the friendliest feelings, and I hope that in the future I may be associated with them as pleasantly as I have been in the past.—(Applause.) Before proposing a rather irreverent toast I desire to thank an old friend of mine, Mr. Swift, and also Mr. Lindsley who proposed the toast with such kindness. I will now, gentlemen, offer a toast to each and all of you individually, "May the Lord love you and not call you too soon."

"Should and acquaintance" having been played by the Band, Mr. SWIFT made a few happy and humorous remarks and then called upon

Mr. BROOKS, an old British friend of his, to say a few words. Having with some reluctance complied, Mr. Brooks expressed his pleasure at being present to pay to Mr. Greathouse his respects and to wish him a safe voyage to and a pleasant time in Korea. Mr. Greathouse was going there, he believed, with rather romantic expectations. From his knowledge of the country, for which he had had to largely depend on newspapers—and they were not to be always depended on—(laughter)—he had formed a rather unfavourable opinion of the peninsula and its Ministry. Mr. Greathouse was going as an adviser to the Government, and they might therefore look for some good to come of his exertions, though he would no doubt meet a great many obstacles and perhaps jealousies from his own countrymen, beside the difficulty of dealing with Orientals whose ways were different from our ways and who were very difficult to understand in many respects. Having briefly touched on Korea's relation with China, Mr. Brooks said he was glad this gathering was not wholly composed of fellow citizens of Mr. Greathouse, for although that might be very complimentary to him, still the fact of some of them being present who were not compelled as it were by virtue of nationality to be present, was the best possible testimony that they had appreciated his exertions during the time he had been with them.—(Hear, hear.) The defects of the American diplomatic service by reason of frequent changes came in for some good natured chaff from Mr. Brooks and smart repartee from Mr. Swift, and in conclusion the speaker submitted the toast of Mr. Okamura, Judge of the Local Court.

The toast was received with cheers, responding to which Mr. OKAMURA expressed his thanks and dwelt upon his pleasant relations with Mr. Greathouse. They were the best of friends, he said, especially for the reason that Mr. Greathouse was a friend of Common Law, and though he was sorry for Japan's sake that Mr. Greathouse was leaving, he was glad for the sake of Korea. In conclusion, he explained that the scant representation of Japanese was due to the short notice given by the promoters of the banquet.

Mr. LOWDER, in response to a pressing demand from Mr. Swift to speak, said he felt it an exceeding compliment to be called upon to speak about he knew not what, seeing that everything which could possibly be said to express their feelings towards Mr. Greathouse had been repeated over and over again. He was glad, however, to have this opportunity of bearing his testimony individually to the worth of their departing guest. As a member of this cosmopolitan community—and not forgetting one moment that he was an Englishman,—he for one desired to convey his individual testimony to the worth of Mr. Greathouse.—(Cheers.) Having met him in various positions

of life, socially, but more particularly and more intimately in the profession to which he (Mr. Lowder) belonged, he had no hesitation in saying, in face of the gathering there, that in his opinion Mr. Greathouse had been the soundest and also the best American Consul that had ever been here during his (Mr. Lowder's) time, and he spoke with the experience of 30 years.—(Loud applause.) Mr. DROSS proposed the toast of Mrs. Greathouse. She had won, he said, every heart in Yokohama, and wherever she visited and wherever she went she was welcome.—(Applause.) The toast was enthusiastically received.

After a few recitations, &c., the company broke up.

RURAL LIFE IN EAST ABERDEENSHIRE.—I. THE VILLAGE.

East Aberdeenshire is bare and unlovely. No lofty mountain, thundering waterfall, or smiling lake attracts the tourist. In short we are in the prosaic lowlands. And yet, to the native it possesses an attraction all its own. The farms are highly cultivated, the farm houses have an air of solid comfort, and the villages lying in the valleys of the Uthan and the Ugie are pretty if not picturesque.

A tiny village situated on the banks of the latter stream is the one about which I have attempted to give a little sketch—the village and its surroundings as they were twenty years ago and more, for alas! change has been busy there as elsewhere, and many of my recollections are now ancient history.

The parish is a large one, containing some half dozen hamlets and at least two chapels of ease to the parish kirk. But our village, though not the largest, is certainly the most important in the parish to which it gives its name. It stands half a mile off the turnpike road, and is approached from the east by a cross road, having the Ugie burn on one hand and a thick plantation on the other. A picturesque old bridge spans the burn at the very entrance of the village, and here a huge elm tree dips its overhanging branches in the water. Here stands the parish kirk, plainest of presbyterian edifices, and round it cluster the graves and headstones of the old kirkyard.

Here the doctor and the bank agent, the parish schoolmaster and the druggist hold sway in their different spheres; and, at a stone's throw from the village stands the manse, with its pretty garden and bleaching green sloping down towards the river's brink.

But we must begin at the top of the tree. The village and the farms in its neighbourhood are unequally divided between two lairds, the magnates of the district.

Of the two great houses, the smaller one is close to the village, indeed only a high stone wall divides the garden from the village street. Ours have I seen, with a kind of awe, the green dove in the wall open and "the laird and the lady" step out. The "lady" with her haughty air, and erect figure, dressed in a rich silk and a handsome shawl. The dapper little laird following, the morning sun shining on his fine old head and silver hair, while he holds in his hand the unlaid twig of walnut, with its two or three fragrant leaves picked from the big tree by the gate. They walk past the kirk, a few steps farther on, and enter what is mostly known as the chapel; for staunch Episcopals are they. One hears a murmur as they pass, that for all the lady holds her head so high, she has never been the same woman since the dreadful news came to her of the loss of her eldest and favourite son in the wreck of the ill-fated *Birkenhead*.

Through the laird's garden winds the Logie, and there, on its banks, are found the earliest snowdrops, primroses and lilies of the valley. In summer the air is sweet with honey-suckle, white, pink, and scarlet hawthorn in the wider dells; while the lady's special garden is bright with roses and geraniums.

The lodge gates of our other laird are half a mile from the village. The park is spacious, indeed I believe it is seven miles from end to end; ash, beech, and birch adorn the borders of a fine lake, where the stately swan builds her nest on a reedy island. This laird is an ex-colonel in the Guards, the lady, an earl's daughter and Woman of the Bedchamber to her most gracious Majesty the Queen. Indeed, both our lairds migrate with their belongings to London for the season, and are very big people, so we will leave them and return to our villagers proper.

The Minister, an old bachelor, on his white pony, paying his daily visits of charity and counsel; the doctor, who has been in the parish for forty years, and though continually in the saddle, is still a hard rider; the schoolmaster, father of six

boys who have all taken good places in the world, and patient teacher of a hundred and fifty unruly neophytes of both sexes; the banker, about whose peccadilloes least said soonest mended, the druggist, who has had a university education, but who is looked upon as an oddity—these form the élite of village society. They dine at four o'clock, and meet frequently for a rubber of whist, with a smoked haddock and tumbler of whiskey toddy for supper at nine o'clock.

Then comes the higher class of tradesmen: Davidson, the watchmaker; Lawrence, the iron-monger and grocer; Hutchison, the retailer of tea, snuff, and tobacco; Irouside, the general dealer; Mary Robbie, the baker. Next the shoemaker's shop, the saddler's and the blacksmith's. Last but not least, the inn. This latter a place of importance once, when the stage coach put up there, and rent dinners, election meetings and local balls were held in its fine hall, but now dull and half deserted.

A step lower in the social scale come the journeyman mason, carpenter, slater, plasterer, smith, or tailor, and here and there the cottage of a married farm servant, who only sees his home for a few hours once a week, or that of a widow who takes in washing, or knitting, or manages to keep a cow on the scanty pasture to be picked up on the road sides, eked out by a few turnips and a little straw in winter. I have omitted to mention the two carriers who journey weekly the one to Aberdeen, the other to Peterhead. This is of course before the days of railways in our quiet corner. The carriers are always money making men and retire in middle age to well stocked farms. These are our villagers, and now for a few words about the houses they live in.

The better off have fairly good houses built of substantial stone and lime with slated roofs and dormer windows. The furniture and internal arrangements differ little from those of English houses of the same class.

But with the poorer cottages it is different. They are built of rough stone; hardly, if ever contain more than two rooms, the "butt" and "ben;" are thatched with straw or heather, and are dark and gloomy inside, it being uncommon to have more than one tiny window in each room. The "butt," or kitchen, is certainly the most comfortable and homelike. There is the wide, open fire place, with its huge chimney or "lum," on which a peat fire blazes, or is allowed to fall into embers, according to the season or the requirements of cookery. On the little window sill is the family library, the contents of which would astonish a stranger. Along with the Bible, and Grey's Arithmetic, you may chance to find "Cæsar's Commentaries" or "Cornelius Nepos" in the original; and I have even picked up a stray volume of "Gil Blas."

Close by jowl with the library is to be found the conservatory, consisting invariably of fine fuschias and what they call geraniums, but what are in fact large and handsome pelargoniums. The *deace* or wooden settle, with its little table which can be let down or fastened up at pleasure, and upon which the *guidman's* supper is always spread; a wooden chair or two, a couple of three-legged stools, a dresser with a plate rack behind, where the willow pattern displays itself to advantage. This is the only furniture. I had almost forgotten the *box bed*, a sort of wooden ark, usually occupying one side of the room. It has a small shelf at the foot, forming a separate little bed for one or more of the children, and is furnished with doors, like a cupboard, which are kept closed during the day, whatever they may be at night. Here I should be afraid to say how many of the family may sleep. The floor of the kitchen is of hard beaten earth, but all is clean, fresh and wholesome. As much cannot be said for the *ben end*, which is rarely used, and badly ventilated. It has usually a wooden floor, may be covered by a bit of carpet, a mahogany table in the centre, a horsehair sofa and four chairs ranged round the wall, each with its special and particularly hideous crocheted *tidy*. A chest of drawers, decorated with bandboxes, wherein repose the Sunday bonnets of the family during the week. A tiny mantelpiece adorned with China shepherdesses, the tea-caddy and the photographs of distinguished relatives in Australia, Canada, or it may be, the Far East.

"My sister's son, the barrister," was a great card in one of the poorest cottages. It may perhaps be imagined that this was a sort of male Mrs. Harris, but a real live barrister, fresh from Lincoln's Inn, made his appearance at least, and stayed a week with his humble relations. I wonder what they did with him at night. The *box bed*, which repeated itself in a glorified form in the *ben end* must have received him and his extensive wardrobe.

One or two village scenes stand out clearly in my memory. Sunday morning, with its solemn

bell; crofters, trades-people, farm servants are flocking into the village on that day. The men clad in decent black, the old fashioned blue coat and brass buttons preserved here and there. The women in various gowns and tartan shawls. One or two old wives may yet be seen on a fine Sunday in the nearly obsolete scarlet cloak and white *match*.

The bible is carried carefully wrapped up in a clean white handkerchief, and a posy of thyme, balm, and southernwood, with perhaps a cabbage rose in season, is grasped firmly in the hand, and smelled at intervals with much satisfaction. Farmers and their wives arrive in their gigs, the young people having tramped their three, four, or even five miles o'er rough and smooth. The gigs are unyoked in the inn yard, the wives go to warm their feet in the inn kitchen, or pass directly into the kirk, while their lords linger at the kirk stile, discussing the prospects of the crop, or the prices at the last market, until the bell stops ringing. The minister walks down the street in his gown and bands, and is followed by his flock into the kirk, where they listen patiently to a good solid homily sermon. The monotony is varied by a couple of extempore prayers, and psalms sung to the old tunes such as *Rockingham*, *Martyrdom*, and the never failing *Old Hundred*.

Next take a summer evening, with its long twilight. A party of girls meet on the common bleaching green to water or bring home the clothes, singing or chatting over their work. Or you may meet a solitary maiden coming from the well, her pair of wooden buckets held at arms' length by a square wooden frame. Going to the well, however, often means going to meet your *lad* or lover, and it may be an hour or two before that *fraught* of water reaches its destination, and the mother may look in vain for Kirsty or Jean when it is milking time, or the children are crying out for their evening porridge. In the month of June it is still light at ten o'clock, and groups may be seen standing round the sniddy door; the overwrought smith with his pale face, but sturdy form, taking his ease, and a breath of fresh air at last.

There is Aunt Watt crossing the street, on her way home to the bank from the druggist's, where she has been standing this half hour engaged in a friendly chat. Aunt Watt in her black bombazine and widow's cap, with strings flying out behind. Dearest, and best and most motherly of old ladies, she is Aunt Watt to us all, and is privileged to cross the street without her bonnet, which none of the rest of us would dare to do.

A little further afield and you may meet a father and his boys on the way home from the yards. For each cottage possesses its little garden; but these gardens stand at a furlong's distance from the village, grouped together, but each separated from its neighbour by a hedge of hawthorn. These are known as the *yards*, and in them flourish hardy vegetables and fruits, notably strawberries, gooseberries, raspberries, and black and red currants. Through the yards and down by the doctor's road is a favourite walk in the summer evenings. The scent of the doctor's sweet briar hedge after a summer shower is something which can never be forgotten. A few steps further and we shall be within sight of the parsonage. The click of the croquet balls tells us that the Dean is still at his favourite game, he will hardly see to strike the post though, without the aid of a friendly lantern. The sun has long ago set over the woody hill, but the faint glow remains. There are the Dean's daughters taking a stroll through the field, bare-headed, for are they not in their own domain? But the dew is falling, thick mists rise from the *Ugie*: the miller's door is barred for the night, the mill wheel is at rest. The air blows chill, midsummer night though it be, let us go in and warm ourselves by the kitchen fire, and so to bed. If we chance to be in the garret, with skylight open, we shall be lulled to sleep by the rushing waters of the burn as they fall over the mill weir.

IN H.B.M. COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before N. J. HANNEN, Esq., Judge.—THURSDAY, December 18th, 1890.

THE STABBING OF A COURT OFFICER.

George Seymour, of the ship *Abyssinia*, was brought up to-day for trial on a charge of having stabbed William Nicol Wright, Usher of H.B.M. Court for Japan. The indictment set forth, first that the accused had wounded with intent to murder; secondly that he had wounded with intent to do grievous bodily harm, and thirdly that he had wounded the complainant with intent to prevent the lawful apprehension of himself.

Mr. H. C. Litchfield, Crown Prosecutor, ap-

peared in support of the charge; the prisoner was not represented by counsel.

Asked to tender his plea with reference to the charge

Accused pleaded guilty only to the second and third counts of the indictment.

The Judge then dismissed the jury, who had been summoned to try the case.

Mr. Litchfield, addressing the Court, said the accused had been charged with cutting an officer of this Court, and he had thought it his duty to frame the indictment so as to include with intent to murder. If unfortunately death had ensued from the act of the accused there could be no doubt that under the technical rules the crime would have been murder. Fortunately the wound inflicted was not of such a serious character, and the assaulted person had now recovered. The circumstances under which the stabbing took place would be seen from the depositions, but they were shortly these. Mr. Wright, constable and usher of the Court, was instructed to procure the attendance of two men at a trial before this Court during the course of last month, and at the same time a warrant was issued by the Court for the apprehension of the man Seymour, the accused, for being absent from his ship without leave. It was in attempting to carry out his instructions—in attempting to effect arrest upon this warrant, which at the time was, as usual, in the hands of the Japanese police—that Wright met with his injury. It seemed that on the 24th Oct. he met Seymour in the street, asked him his name—which at first he declined to give, saying that he did not know the ship *Abyssinia* at all—and having made further enquiries, and being sure of accused's identity, went up to arrest him. But before he touched him—as he was about to place his hand on the accused's shoulder, to make the arrest—the accused struck at him a violent blow and hit him—as it afterwards appeared—with a knife behind the ear. Blood flowed freely from the wound—according to the doctors' testimony there was considerable loss of blood. That was putting the mildest construction on the offence, and he thought it showed that the circumstances under which Wright was assaulted were entirely unprovoked and unwarranted.

The Judge—I have omitted to ask you, Mr. Litchfield, whether you accept the plea.

Mr. Litchfield—I presumed your Honour would gather from my opening remarks that I accepted the plea of guilty on the second count.

Asked by Mr. Moss, the Clerk of Court, whether he had anything to say,

Accused said he would like to address his Honour. He wished to say that he felt very sorry this had ever occurred. He did not know what tempted him to commit the act. He was now over forty years of age and had never been guilty of any such offence. He felt very sorry and hardly knew how to apologise to Mr. Wright. He had a poor old mother to support, and that fact hurt him more than anything else. He was sorry, and hoped the judge would be lenient towards him.

The Judge—Before passing sentence I desire to say a word or two of thanks to the Japanese who assisted in the arrest of the accused. It was a somewhat dangerous piece of work, and they acted promptly and with courage. If they had not been present probably the matter might have been more serious than it proved to be. (Prisoner—It was only a small, little knife, your Honour, and I had no intention. I had been drinking and sleeping out, and I do not know how I was tempted to do it. Being an Englishman I had no intention of using a knife.) The sentences that I have given prisoners are not only designed to be a punishment, but a deterrent to other people not to commit the same crimes. I must take that into consideration as well as all that you have said in your own excuse. There appears, so far as the depositions go, to have been no cause of provocation whatever. There seems at the same time to have been no deep premeditation, and there is evidence, which I shall accept, that you had the knife actually in your hand at the time. As to your being under the influence of drink there is no evidence in the depositions to support that. There is the mere assertion. It was tolerably early in the morning, and therefore there is no ground for supposing that you were under the influence of drink. (Prisoner—I can solemnly—). Please make no more remarks. Under all these circumstances, and remembering that imprisonment here is in many respects—and especially where it extends over the summer months—more severe than imprisonment in England, I am going to reduce the sentence that I should think it right to give you, to as low a point as I possibly can. It is absolutely necessary that all people should be protected from the use of the knife, but more especially that the officers of the

Court, who have often most dangerous duties to perform in arresting persons, should be protected from the dangers they so frequently have to undergo. Under these circumstances, and taking all you have said, and all I can gather from the depositions into consideration, I must sentence you to eight months' imprisonment with hard labour.

FRIDAY, December 19th, 1890.
THE BUNTING-DABBS CASE.

J. F. Dabbs appeared to-day on a judgment summons under an order of the Court in the recent action decided against him and in favour of his former employer, I. Bunting, the amount decreed being the taxed costs, \$671.50, less \$30 paid into Court.

Mr. Walford appeared for Mr. Bunting; Mr. Dabbs was not represented by counsel.

John Francis Dabbs, sworn, examined by Mr. Walford, deposed—I was plaintiff in the action of Dabbs v. Bunting. In that action judgment was given against me with costs, taxed at \$671.50. I did not know how much the costs were till I received the judgment summons. The only paper I have received was the summons requiring me to come here this morning. I have not received the judgment, it was probably served on Mr. Litchfield. I admit it, however. I have not paid any part of that sum. \$30 was paid into Court at the time of the action, but I have paid nothing since I lost the case. I am not in a position at present to make any payment. I think I can pay something in about two months. I have not received any money since I lost the case. I have not until now been in a position to pay anything.

You have not been possessed of any property or money since the action?—No; I arrived in Japan about August, 1888. I had then my clothing and in cash I had two \$5 gold pieces. I have not yet received the expenses I incurred on the passage.

Was this all the property you had in the world?—It was all that I had any control over.

What other property had you?—I had no actual property. I had some things that should have been closed, and I thought I would receive some money from them, but I got none. I left a power of attorney to settle up my affairs, my debts as well as my outstanding claims, but I have received nothing.

You recovered \$3,000 on an action in Penang?—Yes.

What had become of that?—Part of it was invested in business and furniture, and the remainder paid my wife's expenses out here.

How much was invested in business?—It was all invested except what we wanted to bring us out here. Part of the money was mine and part was my wife's, who lent me some to put in. Part of the \$3,000 was my wife's. It was recovered by my wife and me jointly. We had both been earning money, working for the same firm, and we entered the action together. The claim was not altogether by me. I could not tell now without referring to the accounts how much I claimed for. We both received the amounts of our salaries to the end of our contract, and then we paid our expenses home. I think we had \$500 damages. When we landed here I had \$10 in my possession. I have not received a cent from my business at home. I have written several times, but have never received an account. I cannot tell how much is owing to me. I left a man in whom I had every confidence—he was a magistrate's clerk—to sell the stock, to sell it as a going concern. I have heard that he sold the stock for about a sixth of what it was worth, in fourteen days after my departure, and then closed it up. I heard that he had received £30 for it.

Shortly after you came to Japan you took a house and bought furniture?—Yes.

Where did you get the money from to pay for that?—Part of it from my monthly earnings and part from an advance received from Mr. Bunting. Mr. Bunting advanced you \$250?—Yes. He was repaid, I forget how, it was taken off the profit, I fancy.

What has become of that furniture?—It was sold by Mr. Hall for rent. It realised somewhere about \$100, I think.

It was sold by your instructions?—By his own instructions.

By your instructions, Sir?—Possibly; it was sold for rent.

You instructed Mr. Hall to sell that furniture—under your instructions?—Be careful, sir, because I can prove that Mr. Hall was instructed by you to sell it. I cannot tell now who instructed him.

I shall bring evidence to show that you did.—I had none of the proceeds.

Did not you and Mr. Batchelor go together to Mr. Hall's?—Yes, we went together.

And when there you instructed Mr. Hall to sell the furniture?—Possibly I may have done so.

And to sell it in the name of Mrs. Dabbs?—I think the house was let to Mrs. Dabbs.

Now, you know you instructed Mr. Hall to sell it in the name of Mrs. Dabbs. You had better answer at once, for I can prove all these things.—I do not remember exactly.

Why was it sold in the name of Mrs. Dabbs?—I think the house was let in her name.

I have nothing to do with that; it does not make the furniture hers. Why in her name?—I do not know exactly. We owed Mr. Hall for rent.

To the Judge—I do not quite remember whether the house was let to me or to my wife. I do not remember whether I told Mr. Hall to sell the furniture in my wife's name. He said the rent must be paid; the furniture was sold, and he still holds the money.

To Mr. Walford—I think the furniture fetched about \$100, not quite sufficient to pay Mr. Hall what we owed for the rent.

At that time you had a case of jewellery and plate at Mr. Hall's?—I had no jewellery or plate of my own.

Whose was it?—My wife's.

How long has she had it?—She commenced to get it in 1883 when she began to earn money in her own right.

You obtained that plate from Mr. Hall?—I obtained it—yes, my wife did.

You obtained it; you asked for that plate from Mr. Hall, and you got it?—By my wife's instructions. Since the date of the judgment I have been engaged in business as a tailor, first in Kobe and afterwards in Yokohama, under the style of the British and American Tailoring Co. I was not in partnership with Mr. Batchelor. In December after the judgment, Mr. Batchelor and I discussed going into business together. Mr. Batchelor is an engineer and does not know anything about tailoring. He would not have anything to do with me at all, he was not going to put his money into a firm where you or Mr. Bunting could seize it for my debts.

You suggested that he should go in with Mrs. Dabbs?—I did not make any suggestions. My position was that I was willing to do anything. Mr. Batchelor discussed with his lawyer and with my wife the question of his going into business with her.

You did not discuss it at all?—No, Mr. Batchelor put his foot down on that at once. The thing was not argued. I did not tell Mr. Batchelor that the only way to protect his business from my creditors was to put it in the name of my wife. His lawyer told him so, but I did not.

I shall produce evidence that you did, that is all.—Very well.

Did not you tell Mr. Batchelor that you would put everything in your wife's name?—I had nothing to put in her name.

Did you tell Mr. Batchelor that?—I had nothing to put—

Answer my question. Did you say that?—No. I had nothing to put in her name—not a dollar.

Did not you say that you would put everything in her name and be a pauper and defy your creditors?—No sir, decidedly not. Mr. Batchelor and Mrs. Dabbs entered into an agreement of partnership, with my consent. I approved of the agreement. They were to share the profits equally and Mr. Batchelor was to supply \$3,000 capital, and that was all the capital of the business. I was to work without any salary from the firm; my wife was to pay me when she had it. She was to pay whatever she could afford; and would have done so and is willing to do so now. I recognise the document shown me as the agreement.

Mr. Walford—The agreement states that he is to work without salary. By the second clause the capital was \$3,000, to be put in by Batchelor, and in the 8th clause Dabbs is to give his best attention to the cutting and tailoring branch, without remuneration or emolument and to have no share in the profits.

Witness—That was my wife's arrangement with Mr. Batchelor, the outcome of a private arrangement between Mrs. Dabbs and myself. I received no money out of the business. I have done my share of the work of the business.

You have bought the cloth for the business?—Some of it. My wife has been consulted always, and I bought on her instructions. I have bought cloth in Kobe on her instructions. She has some experience and has taste—not quite as much experience as I have. She has taste, and I always consult with her. I measure most of the customers; I measure gentlemen and take their orders, and she attends to ladies, for we are also costume makers. At the commencement I consulted with Mr. Batchelor about buying cloth. Mr. Batchelor retired from active partnership after the first month. Most of the first stock was bought by Mr. Batchelor in Yokohama and a little in Kobe. He bought it all. That I think was in December. He was not consulted as to purchasing cloth after January. He had then

retired from the business and left it to my wife. He was consulted about a parcel from England. He said he would like to have it through an agent, and he and I went to Nickells' to see some samples there. I advised him that those samples were unsuitable, and I did not order them. They were ordered from home through an agent of Mr. Nickells who had to use his own judgment to a very great extent. I wrote a letter to the man in England, for the company, and signed it for the company. I was absent for ten days in Shanghai. During that time there could not be very much business. Some orders were taken by my wife. I think for three pairs of riding breeches, among other orders—and I measured the parties when I returned. It was the same way when I went to Yokohama. I went to Shanghai to see about my appeal in the action. I appealed as a pauper, and the Court refused to allow me to go on as a pauper. The balance sheet and stock account shown me are in my handwriting. They are made up to 30th June and by my wife's instructions. Mr. Batchelor put into the business stock to represent \$3,000, and he advanced \$1,000—in all \$4,000. The cash we received from customers amounted to \$2,722, and there was owing by customers \$623.27, the item of discounts and allowances being those allowed to customers for various reasons amounting to \$27. At the date mentioned we had \$1,327 worth of stock.

In addition to that, the assets of the firm included rent that you had not paid for your private residence?—There was no arrangement for us to pay any rent.

You had the shop and rooms all in one house?—Yes, the whole company lived there. Mr. Batchelor lived there till he found it was not convenient to do so.

He lived there until he could not live any longer with you?—I have no wish to injure Mr. Batchelor, but if you wish I shall tell you what the reason was. Mr. Woodford took an account to please Mr. Batchelor. He said he was asked to make the statement about rent due by me to Batchelor, but he did not agree to it.

You think you should have had it rent free?—I do not think anything about it. There was a lot of furniture bought by Mr. Batchelor, and put in for the general use of the partners. I account here for \$462½ for trimmings, and I think there were then about \$100 in stock. I had spent in wages \$567 and other expenses amounted to \$563. I do not know whether \$245 was spent on furniture. I did not spend any money on it. (Documents put in.) Shortly after that, the making out of the account, Mr. Batchelor retired from the business. I think in July. He received \$1,750 to go out of the business. For that sum everything—stock and everything—was taken over by Mr. Batchelor.

The Judge—Only \$1,750; how about the \$3,000 and the \$1,000?

Mr. Walford—He paid in \$4,000, and got out only \$1,750.

Witness—Mrs. Dabbs was allowed to draw \$100 under the 10th clause of the agreement as necessary for current expenses. She drew that money. About that time I received notice that Mr. Bunting would place no obstacle in the way of my doing business in Yokohama. My wife is carrying on business under the same name, British and American Tailoring Co. The premises are at No. 52, Main Street. I think the rent is \$50 a month, with living rooms over the shop. I don't pay the wages. I know whom Mrs. Dabbs employs. I think she has just now 11 or 12 people. They are all paid by the piece. Five Chinamen I think there are, and three Japanese.

This concluded Mr. Walford's questions and Mr. Dabbs asked permission to make a statement. He had answered all Mr. Walford's questions and wished to say something by way of explanation. As to the order, he said he did not know that if he could not meet it he had to come forward and explain his position. When he lost the case he had nothing in the world; he could not support his wife, and it became necessary for her to support herself. No man would be foolish enough to put money into a business that could be seized for debts due by deponent. I made an arrangement, he went on to say, with my wife. She joined Mr. Batchelor in business for her own support, and shortly after Mr. Batchelor retired from the active management and left her in sole charge. Had that business paid she would have given me money with which to pay off my debts. She was allowed \$100 a month, and Mr. Batchelor was allowed to draw a like amount if he wished. The \$100 might not have been necessary to carry on the expenses of the house, but as I was then *sine in forma pauperis* and had not got the attention I expected, my wife advised me to go to Shanghai, took a steerage ticket for me and sent me over at the

lowest rate. Possibly I had thus a little more expenses. The business for the six months showed a loss of \$392.50. The books have been audited by an auditor who certified their correctness. As the business did not pay as well possibly as Mr. Batchelor had expected, he retired and my wife bought the business under a bill of sale. She was not able to pay down the money. In such a business where money is sunk it cannot be realized in six months. To meet the bill of sale my wife had to borrow money elsewhere, in which she had considerable difficulty, and she has not quite succeeded in paying it off. She is anxious to help me to free myself from my debts, and as soon as she is in a position she will give me a salary. She would have done so before, but the business showed a loss. It has since taken her nearly all the time to clear off the purchase money of the business. Of course I bow to the judgment of the Court. I must pay this money, but the account rendered after the closing of the last case is not a correct one.

The Judge—I cannot go into that. There is a judgment of the Court that you must pay that amount of money and that is quite sufficient. I cannot go back.

Mr. Walford said he had summoned Mrs. Dabbs, but he thought all the information necessary was before the Court. Mr. Bunting did not want to injure Mr. Dabbs; and was willing to take payment in instalments.

The Judge—How much of this \$1,750 remains to be paid?

Witness—\$236.

The Judge—How long will that take?

Witness—My wife will have to pay that off next month.

Here witness, who had spoken of wishing "the Court to distinctly understand" something, was brought up by the Judge, who pointed out to him that such language could not be allowed. The witness begged pardon, and said his reason for being employed by his wife was that he could not get a berth elsewhere. He should be able to make a payment after next month. If the business pays well he believed his wife will give everything. He did not know how much that will amount to. His wife must pay off the remainder of the bill of sale. She had already let the stock run down so low that there was difficulty in going on.

Mr. Walford pointed out that when Mr. and Mrs. Dabbs came up from Kobe they had a large stock which they had received from Mr. Batchelor.

Witness said the whole of the money except the actual expenses had been paid by his wife to get the proprietorship of the business. His wife authorised him to say that she would allow the registrar of the Court to examine the books to show that witness had acted honourably.

Mr. Walford said he needed hardly argue the question that the whole of the property was subject to this judgment debt, but if his Honour wished he would argue the point. Mrs. Dabbs had nearly \$2,000 in hand when she left Kobe and came to Yokohama, according to the account made up by Dabbs himself, and they were carrying on business apparently in a flourishing way. Mr. Bunting was asking very little indeed when he asked the costs of this summons and \$50 a month.

The Judge said he would make an order that the debt should be paid at the rate of \$50 a month, and thought Mr. Bunting was entitled to the costs of this summons. But what advantage would Mr. Bunting get out of such an order? And if he got no advantage why should such an order be made?

Mr. Walford said Mr. Bunting asked for that order.

The Judge remarked that creditors often thought they got an advantage by this course—there might be peculiar circumstances under which they got advantages by the making of such an order, but his Honour left it entirely to Mr. Walford and his client to say whether it was any advantage in this case. In the present instance there was no evidence that an actual salary was paid, and therefore they could not get at an actual salary paid on a particular date. Then if they had an order that Mr. Dabbs was to pay \$560 at once, what advantage was it to ask that he should pay \$50 a month?

Mr. Walford said if it was not paid he could proceed to strong measures. Such an order allowed Mr. Dabbs to continue in trade, but told him if he did not pay the creditor would take strong measures.

The Judge—I will say no more. You know your own business best. It will be only reasonable that Mr. Dabbs should pay \$50 a month.

Mr. Dabbs asked that the order should make the first instalment payable on the 10th of February.

Mr. Walford thought the payment should begin at the end of one month. The assets were so enormous compared with the debt.

The Judge said it was a question that assumed that the creditor could issue execution on the whole of the property. There was a bill of sale on it.

Mr. Walford said there was only \$200, a small amount.

The Judge said he did not want to go into the question of whether the whole of that property was seizable.

Mr. Walford then intimated that he would take \$50 a month from February.

An order was made for the payment of the judgment debt and the costs of this judgment summons (\$25) by instalments of \$50, the first payment to take place on the 10th of February next.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, December 14th.

Sir John Pope Hennessy is a candidate for the representation in Parliament of North Kilkenny, and in his address to the constituency has sided with the anti-Parnellites.

Later.

Joseph Edgar Boehm, the sculptor, was found dead in his studio by the Princess Louise, who was paying a visit to the artist.

London, December 16th.

The financial condition of affairs in the United States has considerably improved, and with a view to relieving the stringency of the money market it is believed that the Treasury favours the purchase, in addition to the whole stock of 13,000,000 ounces of silver, of a further amount equaling the annual withdrawal of notes, thereby increasing the currency by thirty millions.

London, December 17th.

Silver securities are advancing in New York, owing to the belief in the favourable prospects of future legislation.

London, December 18th.

The freedom of the City of Edinburgh, conferred some time since upon Mr. Parnell, has been cancelled.

The Marquis of Salisbury has summoned Rhodes (? Mr. Cecil) to London to confer upon the Anglo-Portuguese difficulty.

"SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL."

Shanghai, December 15th.

A telegram from Peking announces that an Imperial Decree has been issued by which it is ordered that the Foreign Ministers to China will be received in audience every New Year.

(SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "N.C. DAILY NEWS.")

Hongkong, December 11th, 11.55 a.m.

The Douglas Co.'s steamer *Namoa*, Captain Pocock, 1,375 tons gross, has been pirated by her passengers near Hongkong, who killed the captain and two others, stole \$20,000, and escaped in junks.

The P. & O. steamer *Hongkong*, Captain Watkins, has gone ashore, probably in the Red Sea, and is expected to be a total loss. She left Hongkong homeward bound on the 7th of November.

(HONOR. JOSEPH EDGAR, A.R.A., sculptor, was born in Vienna, July 6, 1834, of Hungarian parents. His father was Director of the Mint in the Austrian Empire, and possessor of a celebrated private collection of works of art. He was educated at Vienna, and from 1848 to 1851 in England. He studied also in Italy, and for three years in Paris, but has been settled in England since 1865. He received the first Imperial Prize, and exemption from military conscription in Vienna in 1856. He was elected a member of the Academy of Florence in 1875, and an Associate of the Royal Academy of London, Jan. 16, 1886. Mr. Boehm executed a colossal statue in marble of the Queen for Windsor Castle in 1869; also a monument of the Duke of Kent in St. George's Chapel, and bronze statues of the Prince of Wales and all the Royal Family for the Queen; also a colossal statue of Bedford for John Bunyan, 1891; and another of the Duchess of Bedford for the Park, Woburn Abbey, in gilded bronze, 1894; a statue of Sir John Burgoyne in Waterloo Place; a colossal equestrian statue of the Prince of Wales for Bombay, 1897; a statue of Thomas Carlyle; a monument at Deane to Lord Cardigan; a monument at Aldershot church to Sir York Scarlett; and a horse group in bronze for Eaton. In 1879 a colossal equestrian statue of Lord Napier of Magdala; a colossal statue of Lord Northbrook, both for Calcutta; a marble statue of the late King Leopold of Belgium, for St. George's Chapel at Windsor; and a colossal statue of Sir William Gregory for Ceylon. He has also executed busts of Mr. Milne, the late Lord Lansdowne (now in Westminster Abbey), Mr. Whitelock, Lord Shaftesbury, and Sir Henry Cole, a marble statue of Lord John Russell for the Houses of Parliament, and he was commissioned by the Queen to execute a recumbent statue of the late Princess Alice and her daughter, Princess Maud, for the Royal Mausoleum at Frogmore, and a replica of it for Darmstadt. After the death of the Prince Imperial he was commissioned to execute a recumbent statue of him for Westminster Abbey; but public opinion being strong

against its being placed there, it was transferred to St. George's Chapel, Windsor. Mr. Boehm was elected a member of the Academy of Rome in 1880, and a full Academician by the Royal Academy here in Jan. 1888. A colossal statue in bronze of Lord Lawrence, which he executed for Waterloo Place, he lately replaced with a new one, not being satisfied with the effect of the first; and a statue, in feet, of Lord Beaconsfield for Westminster Abbey, and he has also done a marble statue of Lord Stratford de Redcliffe and the late Dean Stanley, both for Westminster Abbey. A recumbent effigy of Dean Duncombe for York was executed by Mr. Boehm from one of Mr. Street's last designs; also one of the late Duchess of Westminster. Mr. Boehm has made busts of Mr. Gladstone, Mr. John Bright, Mr. Rusk, Sir William Paget, Professor Huxley, Lord Wolseley, and Sir Henry Acland, from life, and also a medallion of the Queen, which will serve as a model for the new coinage. He was nominated in 1881 Sculptor Ordinary to the Queen, and he has delivered lectures on sculpture in the Royal Academy. In Aug. 1882, the gold medal given by Austria-Hungary at the Vienna Art Exhibition was awarded to Mr. Boehm. He has received sittings from the Queen for a new bust which was by desire of the Crown Princess given by the Queen as the Silver Wedding present in 1893; and has been commissioned by the Government to execute an equestrian statue of the Duke of Wellington for Hyde Park Corner, to replace the one by Wyatt which was transferred to Aldershot; and he is at present engaged on a colossal statue of the Queen for Sydney, Australia, and a recumbent statue of General Gordon, which his brother, Sir Henry Gordon, is having done for St. Paul's Cathedral. He has also executed marble busts of General Gordon and Archbishop Tait for the Queen, and a recumbent effigy of Archbishop Tait for Canterbury Cathedral. In addition to these he executed a marble statue of Sir Ashley Eden for Calcutta, a recumbent statue of the late Dean of Windsor for St. George's Chapel, and received a command from the Queen to do the effigy of H.R.H. the late Duke of Albany in Highland costume for the Albert Chapel at Windsor, and busts for the Mausoleum and Balmoral Castle; and also did a statue of Lord Somerset for Eastnor Castle, and one of Darwin for the new Natural History Museum at South Kensington, and a Medallion of Darwin for Westminster Abbey. Mr. Boehm has not abandoned his animal studies, having lately executed in bronze a portrait of the Duke of Portland's celebrated racehorse Sir Simon, the horse Cremorne for Mr. Savile, a life size statue of King Tumb for Mentmore, a colossal lion and lioness for Lord Leicester at Holkham, besides many celebrated horses for Lord Rosebery and the late Baron Rothschild; and a sea-lion in black marble which acts as a fountain in Sir John Millais' house. He is at present engaged upon a life-size bull with his leader, in marble, which was exhibited last year at the Royal Academy, and a large equestrian bronze group of St. George and the Dragon. A memorial to General Sir Herbert Stewart for St. Paul's has also lately been begun, and will be placed, when finished, near to the recumbent figure of General Gordon.—*Men of the Time.*)

TIME TABLES AND STEAMERS.

TOKYO-YOKOHAMA RAILWAY.

DOWN TRAINS LEAVE SHIMBASHI Station at 6.05 * 6.40, 8.35, 9.30, * 10.25, and 11.45 a.m., and 1.25, 2.30, 3.55, 4.45, * 5.50, 6.50, 8.30, 9.55, and 11.15 p.m. UP TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 6.30, 7.20, 8.10, 9.15, * 10.22, and 11.30 a.m., and 12.45, 2.30, 3.45, * 5.30, 6.35, 7.50, 9.10, 10.05, and 11.05 p.m.

FARES—First-class, *yen* 60; second-class, *sen* 40; and third-class, *sen* 20. Trains marked (*) run through without stopping at Omori, Kawasaki, Tsurumi, and Kanagawa Stations. Those marked (†) run through without stopping at Omori, Kawasaki, and Tsurumi Stations.

TOKYO-MAEBASHI RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE TOKYO (Ueno) (down) at 6.40, 8.50, and 11.40 a.m., and 2.40 and 5.40 p.m.; and MAEBASHI (up) at 6.55, and 11.50 a.m., and 2.50 and 5.50 p.m.

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

STEAMERS LEAVE the Nippon Hatoba daily at 8.30 a.m., and 12.30 and 3.30 p.m.; and LEAVE YOKOSUKA at 8.30 a.m., and 12.30 and 3.30 p.m.—*Rate, *sen* 20.*

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki, & Kobe	per N. Y. K.	Friday, Dec. 16th.
From America	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Dec. 20th.*
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 21st.*
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Wed. day, Dec. 24th.†
From America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Jan. 6th.‡
From Hongkong	per O. & O. Co.	Friday, Dec. 16th.§
From Europe via Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 28th.
From Europe via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd.	Monday, Jan. 5th.
From Canada, &c.	per C. P. M. Co.	Friday, Jan. 6th.

* City of Rio de Janeiro left San Francisco via Honolulu on November 20th. † Ancona left Hongkong on December 16th. ‡ Pacific left San Francisco on December 6th. The English mail is on board the steamer *Oxford*. § China left San Francisco on December 18th. † Oceanic left Hongkong on December 19th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, via Shanghai, &c.	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 21st.
For Shanghai, &c. <td>per N. Y. K. <td>Tuesday, Dec. 23rd. </td></td>	per N. Y. K. <td>Tuesday, Dec. 23rd. </td>	Tuesday, Dec. 23rd.
For America	per O. & O. Co. <td>Saturday, Dec. 27th. </td>	Saturday, Dec. 27th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co. <td>Saturday, Dec. 27th. </td>	Saturday, Dec. 27th.
For Canada, &c. <td>per C. P. M. Co. <td>Sunday, Dec. 28th. </td></td>	per C. P. M. Co. <td>Sunday, Dec. 28th. </td>	Sunday, Dec. 28th.
For Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd. <td>Wed. day, Jan. 7th. </td>	Wed. day, Jan. 7th.
For America	per P. M. Co. <td>Thursday, Jan. 8th. </td>	Thursday, Jan. 8th.

HORSFORD'S ACID PHOSPHATE.

For Wakefulness, Hysteria, and other diseases of the nervous system.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, Kenderdine, 13th December, —Hakodate 10th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Dorset, British steamer, 1,716, Daniels, 14th December, —Hongkong 6th December, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 386, Watanabe, 14th December, —Yokkaichi 13th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 14th December, —Kobe 13th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Naniwa Kan (8), Japanese steel cruiser, Captain H. Tsunoda, 14th December, —Shinagawa.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, Speigallhal, 15th December, —Fushiki 11th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Suru, 15th December, —Yokkaichi 14th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 16th December, —Shimonoski 14th December, General.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Iphigenia, German steamer, 1,058, Voltmer, 16th December, —Hongkong 9th December, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, J. Wynn, 16th December, —Kobe 15th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Brown, 16th December, —Hakodate 14th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 596, Kasuga, 16th December, —Hachinohe 14th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 656, McMillan, 17th December, —Handa 16th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 952, Mokie, 17th December, —Kobe 16th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Higo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, Saiki, 18th December, —Hakodate 15th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 18th December, —Hakodate 16th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Suru, 18th December, —Yokkaichi 17th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, Kenderdine, 18th December, —Kobe 17th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benlawers, British steamer, 1,530, Webster, 19th December, —Kobe 17th December, General.—Cornes & Co.

Suruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 436, Miyagi, 19th December, —Handa 18th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Arai, 13th December, —Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Suru, 13th December, —Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glenochil, British steamer, 1,537, Hay, 14th December, —Kobe, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, Kenderdine, 14th December, —Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 386, Watanabe, 15th December, —Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Naniwa Kan (6), Japanese steel-cruiser, Captain H. Tsunoda, 15th December, —Shinagawa.

Sikh, British steamer, 1,736, Rowley, 16th December, —Kobe, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,129, R. R. Searle, 16th December, —San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 16th December, —Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, Speigallhal, 16th December, —Fushiki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 656, McMillan, 17th December, —Handa, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kii Maru, Japanese steamer, 860, Kuri, 17th December, —Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Brown, 17th December, —Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 18th December, —Nagasaki, General.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 386, Watanabe, 18th December, —Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, J. Wynn, 18th December, —Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 952, Mokie, 18th December, —Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 596, Kasuga, 18th December, —Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Higo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, Saiki, 18th December, —Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per French steamer *Yangtsé*, from Hongkong via ports:—Messrs. R. Ishii, Takahashi, Itelio Petsalie, Colonel Yamaguchi, Messrs. Matsunaru, T. Shikimidzu, Hine, Mrs. Hiditatsu, Messrs. Kuru, Mr. and Mrs. de Moulne, Mr. Yawl, Mr. Mari, Mr. and Mrs. Lecourge Pauxler, Captain and Mrs. H. Munker, and Mr. and Mrs. H. Mauld in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. R. Hatlow and Nakamura, and Rev. and Mrs. Lambert and 3 children in cabin; 19 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. Julius Strauss and P. Vantier in cabin; 2 passengers in second class, and 22 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from Hakodate:—Messrs. C. Ito, Y. Ogo, and Y. Kitamura in cabin; 4 passengers in second class, and 41 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. S. C. Thompson and maid, Miss M. R. Evans, Miss Edwards, Miss Hopkins, Lieut. and Mrs. Reamy, child, and amah, The Misses Lewis, Dr. Hallier, Major Manners Wood, Messrs. H. C. Lewis, R. T. Rees, G. E. Scott, C. J. Suome, and F. Thompson and servant in cabin; 5 Chinese in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco:—Lieutenant and Mrs. G. Blocklinger, U.S.N., His Excellency Tateno Gzuo, Madame Tateno, daughter, and two servants, Dr. and Mrs. W. R. Lambeth and three children, Mrs. L. D. Hilles, Major E. Watson, Mr. Robert Hapgood, and Mr. K. Nakayama in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Major-General Palmer, Miss Elton, Messrs. R. Francis, Shio Sun, Kerr, A. Rumschottel, Mr. and Miss Glover, and Mr. H. Savage Landor in cabin; Mr. Ishiwaru, Master and Miss Millar, Mr. Marita, and Mr. Wing Wo Chan in second class, and 55 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, for Hakodate:—Messrs. Nicoll and M. G. Bignann in cabin; 32 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Satsuma Maru*, for Kobe:—Mr. Burton in cabin; Mr. Matsunaga in second class, and 42 passengers in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Silk for France 441 bales; silk for Milan 37 bales; total 475 bales.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco:—

	TRA.	NEW	OTHER	TOTAL
Shanghai	661	284	1,301	2,246
Hyogo	—	—	85	85
Yokohama	2,128	1,287	853	4,268
Hongkong	551	—	—	551
Total	3,340	1,571	2,239	7,150

	SILK.	NEW	OTHER	TOTAL
Shanghai	—	227	—	227
Yokohama	—	276	—	276
Total	—	503	—	503

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Captain Kenderdine, reports:—Left Hakodate the 10th December at 2 p.m.; had fresh wind from the northward and fine weather. Arrived at Oginohama the 11th at 1 p.m.; light N.W. winds and fine weather throughout the passage. Left the 12th at 6 a.m.; moderate N.W. winds and fine weather throughout the passage; passed Iinohye at 9 p.m.; Noshima at 4 a.m. Arrived at Yokohama the 13th December at 8 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, Captain Ekstrand, reports:—Left Kobe the 13th December at noon; had fresh E.S.E. breeze and overcast sky with rain; at 4 p.m. heavy head sea and weather threatening, put into Yura-no-uchi; strong breeze and heavy rain during the night; the 14th at 4 a.m. weather moderating and wind hauling to the northward, left Yura-no-uchi; had fresh to moderate breeze from N.W. and N.N.W. and fine clear weather to port. Arrived at Yokohama the 15th December at 6 a.m.

The German steamer *Iphigenia*, Captain Voltmer, reports:—Left Hongkong the 9th December; had strong N.E. winds and high sea in the Formosa Channel the 13th, and strong N.W. gale with high confused sea up to Vandiemans Straits; thence to port moderate breeze and fine clear weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 16th December at noon.

The Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, Captain Wynn, reports:—Left Kobe the 15th December at noon; had light N.N.W. to N.W. winds and fine weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama, the 16th December at 4 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Satsuma Maru*, Captain Brown, reports:—Left Hakodate the 13th December at 2 p.m.; had strong S.E. winds and heavy rain, falling barometer; anchored outside the lightship till 1 p.m. on the 14th, wind hauling to the S.W.; 1.45 p.m. proceeded to Oginohama, on the way experienced strong S.W. to fresh westerly winds and southerly sea. Arrived at Oginohama at 4 p.m. and left the 15th at 1 p.m.; had light westerly winds and fine weather with head sea. Arrived at Yokohama the 16th December at 11 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, Captain Young, reports:—Left Hakodate the 16th December; had fresh S. and N.W. winds and fine weather to Kinkasan, which was passed the 17th at 3.30 a.m.; weather continuing clear with strong S.W. winds to port. Arrived at Yokohama the 18th December at 6.30 a.m.

SHIPPING IN YOKOHAMA.

STEAMERS.

Guy Mannering, British steamer, 1,829, D. Ford, 5th December, —Nagasaki 2nd December, Coal.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Iphigenia, German steamer, 1,058, Voltmer, 16th December, —Hongkong 9th December, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Straits of Belle Isle, British steamer, 2,484, Guiry, 11th December, —Put back.—C. P. M. S.S. Co.

Yangtsé, French steamer, 2,371, Lartigue, 14th December, —Hongkong 5th, Shanghai 9th, and Kobe 13th December, General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

SAILING VESSELS.

Arctic, British schooner, 49, Pyne, 22nd November, —North Pacific 15th November, Sealing Gear.—Captain.

Bentonsan, Norwegian schooner, 53, J. Johnson, 17th November, —North Pacific, Seal Skins.—Captain.

Diana, American schooner, 75, Alex. Peterson, 15th September, —North Pacific, 6 Otter and 239 Fur Seal skins.

Nautilus, British schooner, 95, Snow, 16th November, —North Pacific, Seals.—Eastern Whaling Co.

Norma, Norwegian schooner, 55, Johnson, 6th July, —Guam 26th June, Ballast.—Captain.

Pythomene, British ship, 1,896, T. Dexter, 8th November, —New York 8th June, Oil.—China & Japan Trading Co.

Wm. H. Conner, American ship, 1,496, Pendleton, 15th November, —New York 15th May, Oil.—Fraser, Failey & Co.

MEN-OF-WAR.

Admiral Nakhimoff (22), Russian cruiser, Captain Fedotoff, 19th November, —Yokosuka Dock 19th November.

Pigny (6), gunboat, Captain H. Hewett, 13th December, —Target Practice.

Wolf (4), German gunboat, Captain Credner, 7th December, —Kobe 4th December.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The Import Market continues stagnant, the business reported the week consisting only 35 bales English Yarns, 20 bales Bombays, and 1,000 pieces Shintings.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

Grey Shintings—24 lb, 38 yds, 39 inches	\$1.35 to 1.90
Grey Shintings—24 lb, 38 yds, 45 inches	1.60 to 2.54
1. Cloth—27 lb, 24 yds, 32 inches	1.15 to 1.47
Indigo Shintings—12 yds, 44 inches	1.20 to 1.60
Prints—Assorted, 24 yds, 30 inches	1.70 to 2.00
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	0.07 to 0.14
Turkey Reds—1 to 24 lb, 21 yds, 30 inches	1.00 to 1.15
Turkey Reds—24 to 31 lb, 21 yds, 30 inches	1.20 to 1.40
Turkey Reds—34 to 41 lb, 21 yds, 30 inches	1.70 to 2.05
Velvets—Black, 15 yds, 22 inches	4.50 to 6.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yds, 42 inches	0.50 to 0.65
Paffachelas, 22 yds, 43 inches	1.35 to 2.25

WOOLLEN GOODS.

Plain Orleans, 40-42 yds, 32 inches	\$4.00 to 5.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches	0.24 to 28
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches	0.20 to 24
Common	0.16 to 20
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 21 yds, 31 inches	0.114 to 0.15
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.45
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.60
Cloths—Hunt, 54 @ 56 inches	0.35 to 0.60
Woolens—Scarflet and Green, 4 to 24 lb, per lb	0.50 to 0.38

COTTON YARNS.

No. 16/24, Ordinary	\$2.00 to 28.00
No. 16/24, Medium	28.00 to 29.00
No. 16/24, Good to Best	29.00 to 30.50
No. 16/24, Reverse	30.00 to 31.00
No. 24/32, Ordinary	29.00 to 30.00
No. 24/32, Medium	30.00 to 31.00
No. 24/32, Good to Best	32.00 to 33.00
No. 38/42, Medium to Best	15.50 to 16.50
No. 32/2, Two-fold	34.50 to 36.00
No. 42/2, Two-fold	36.50 to 39.50
No. 20s, Bombay	70.00 to 78.00
No. 16s, Bombay	72.00 to 78.00
No. 10s/4, Bombay	

METALS.

Very dull and weak market. Buyers of small parcels come round making low bids, and the trade generally is unsatisfactory.

Flat Bars, 1 inch	\$2.65 to 2.75
Flat Bars, 1 inch	2.75 to 2.85
Round and square up to 1 inch	2.65 to 2.85
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.
Nailrod, small size	Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	2.80 to 3.00
Sheet Iron	3.20 to 3.40
Galvanized Iron sheets	5.80 to 6.00
Wire Nails, assorted	4.40 to 4.90
Tin Plates, per box	4.60 to 4.80
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.25 to 1.27

KEROSENE.

Sales of 25,000 cases Russian reported at \$1.57 1/2. Demand for American oil does not seem quite so strong, although holders expect more movement after the turn of the year.

QUOTATIONS.

Chester	\$1.65 to 1.67 1/2
Comet	1.64 to 1.65
Devoe	1.60 to 1.62 1/2
Russian	1.55 to 1.57 1/2

SUGAR.

Nothing to report in the Sugar trade.

White Refined	\$5.50 to 7.90
Manila	3.60 to 4.30
Taiwanfou	
Pentana	2.75 to 3.00
Namida	2.80 to 3.00
Cake	3.10 to 3.80
Brown Takao	4.15 to 4.20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 12th inst., since which date settlements are entered as 325 piculs:—*Filatures*, 65; *Re-reels*, 126; *Kakadas*, 119; *Oshu*, 25; while *Hanks* give rejections of 10 piculs. In addition to these figures direct shipments have been 65 bales, making a total business for the week of 400 piculs.

During the first two days business continued on a good scale; then came the sudden jump in Exchange which has stopped all trade. There are a fair amount of orders in town both from Europe and America, but with present rates of exchange, and a threatened further rise, there seems no chance of filling them. Holders here are unable at present to reduce their prices in a corresponding degree.

Arrivals now are very small, and in spite of the feeble trade, stock is reduced somewhat on the week. There is also talk of a syndicate to assist the weak holders in carrying their goods until better times. Whether this come off or no it is certain that native dealers will not submit to further heavy losses without a struggle. They are willing to make a small reduction on last week's rates but at the moment will not or cannot afford to reduce their prices to a point which will suit shippers.

There have been two shipping opportunities since we last wrote: the English and American Mails. The former, *Verona*, on the 13th instant, had 478 bales for Europe. The latter, *City of Peking*, on the 16th instant, had 276 bales for the United States. These departures bring the present export figures up to 11,446 piculs, against 25,335 piculs last year and 23,454 at the same date two years ago.

Hanks.—There has been no business during the week, and on inspection about 10 piculs of former purchases have been rejected. There are orders in hand which cannot be executed, owing to the high rates of exchange which are now current. Stock in this department is very small, and holders will not reduce their quotations to any appreciable extent.

Filatures.—Fair amount of buying at the beginning of the week, but since then the rise in Silver has caused some rejections, and the total business has been small. Quotations are unchanged and at the close there is absolutely nothing doing. The stock in this department is large but the majority of holders are also large. Some of them openly declare that silk is as good as money to them, and they do not feel disposed to entertain the idea of ruinous losses.

Re-reels.—Fair amount of business has been done in medium grades for Europe, trade for the United States being very small. For the latter market chief purchases have been two parcels of good *Josho* at \$555. One parcel of *Yechigo* brought \$550. The holders of prime marks like *Tengensha*, *Five Girl*, *Tortoise*, *Kanra*, and similar high class silks are strong and firm in their attitude.

Kakada.—Holders in this class have been fairly current all through the season, but the last strong rise in Exchange has put even them out of count for the present. They refuse to go on at the necessary reduction and trade stands still accordingly.

Oshu.—Two or three small parcels were booked for Europe; Good *Hamatsuki* bringing \$535; with medium at \$500. A small parcel of common *Sendai* was also done at \$500.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 14	Nom.
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	Nom.
Hanks—No. 2 (Jushu)	Nom. \$510 to 515
Hanks—No. 24 (Shinshu)	Nom. 510 to 515
Hanks—No. 24 (Jushu)	Nom. 500 to 505
Hanks—No. 24 to 3	Nom. 490 to 495
Hanks—No. 3	Nom. 480 to 485
Hanks—No. 34	Nom. 470 to 475
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	Nom.
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	Nom. 605 to 610
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	Nom. 600 to 605
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	Nom. 590 to 600
Filatures—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den.	Nom. 580 to 585
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	Nom. 580 to 590
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	Nom. 570 to 575
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	Nom. 550 to 560
Re-reels—Extra	Nom.
Re-reels—(Shinshu and Oshu) Best No. 1	585 to 590
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	560 to 570
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	550 to 555
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	540 to 545
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	530 to 535
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	510 to 520
Kakadas—Extra	Nom.
Kakadas—No. 1	550 to 560
Kakadas—No. 14	540 to 545
Kakadas—No. 3	510 to 535
Kakadas—No. 34	520 to 525
Kakadas—No. 3	510 to 515
Kakadas—No. 34	500 to 505
Kakadas—No. 4	490 to 495
Oshu Sendai—No. 24	530
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	500 to 530
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	
Sendai—No. 24	

Export Raw Silk Tables to 10th Dec., 1890:—

	1890-91.	1889-90.	1888-89.
Europe	3,918	11,211	11,245
America	7,228	13,767	11,948
Total	11,146	24,978	23,193
	11,446	25,335	23,454
Settlements and Direct	11,900	28,200	28,050
Export from 1st July			
Stock, 19th December	16,000	6,600	7,850
Available supplies to date	27,900	34,800	35,900

WASTE SILK.

Trade in this branch has been on rather a larger scale; settlements for the week being 720 piculs, divided thus:—*Noshi*, 215; *Kibiso*, 430; *Mawata*, 75.

Buying is still confined to a few hands and purchases are, as before, mostly for Europe. Prices for good quality are well maintained and the stock list slowly declines, *Noshi* being especially scarce.

The English mail, *Verona*, took a fair shipment both of Waste and Cocoons. The American mail had 90 piculs of *Mawata* for the United States. Total shipments to date are now 15,335 piculs against 13,516 last year and 16,197 to the 19th December, 1888.

Pierced Cocoons.—No business at all in these, and it will be noted that the export to date is not much more than half of what it was last year.

Noshi.—Small purchases in *Filatures* at from \$145 to \$150. A good line in *Hachoji* at from \$130 to \$145; some extra *Filatures* \$153. Nothing done in *Josho*.

Kibiso.—Fair amount of business here, all kinds being dealt in from *Filatures* at \$115 down to ordinary *Shinshu*, *Techigo* and *Oshu* at \$50.

Mawata.—Further purchases of ordinary *Irikin*, mostly old crop, have been reported at \$185 and \$180.

No business in *Aeri* or *Sundries* but a little *Kuzuto* has been done at \$75.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	\$120 to \$130
Noshi-to-Filature, Best	150 to 155
Noshi-to-Filature, Good	140 to 145
Noshi-to-Filature, Medium	130 to 135
Noshi-to-Oshu, Good to Best	140 to 150
Noshi-to-Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi-to-Shinshu, Good	110 to 120
Noshi-to-Shinshu, Medium	—
Noshi-to-Bushu, Good to Best	130 to 140
Noshi-to-Josho, Best	90 to 94
Noshi-to-Josho, Good	82 to 85
Noshi-to-Josho, Ordinary	75 to 80
Kibiso-Filature, Best selected	110 to 120
Kibiso-Filature, Seconds	100 to 105
Kibiso-Oshu, Good to Best	90 to 100
Kibiso-Shinshu, Best	80 to 90
Kibiso-Shinshu, Seconds	70 to 75
Kibiso-Josho, Good to Fair	50 to 40
Kibiso-Josho, Middling to Common	35 to 30
Kibiso-Hachoji, Good	45 to 40
Kibiso-Hachoji, Medium to Low	35 to 30
Kibiso-Neri, Good to Common	15 to 8
Mawata—Good to Best	180 to 200

Export Table Waste Silk to 19th Dec., 1890:—

	1890-91.	1889-90.	1888-89.
Waste Silk	24,130	14,459	14,123
Pierced Cocoons	1,205	2,057	2,074
	15,335	13,516	16,197
Settlements and Direct	18,500	16,000	19,800
Export from 1st July			
Stock, 19th December	9,000	11,900	7,700
Available supplies to date	27,500	27,900	27,500

Exchange is again on the upward path following the rise of silver in London. Present quotations are LONDON, 4m/s. Credits, 3/7 1/2; Documents, 3/7 1/2; 6m/s. Credits, 3/7 1/2; Documents, 3/7 1/2; NEW YORK, 30 d/s. U.S. \$87 1/2; 4 m/s. U.S. \$88 1/2; PASRI, 4m/s., fcs. 4/8; 6m/s. fcs. 4/6.

Estimated Silk Stock, 19th Dec., 1890:—

RAW.	WASTE.
Hanks	340
Filatures	10,200
Re-reels	4,660
Kakada	500
Oshu	390
Taysam Kinds	10
Total piculs	16,000
	9,000

TEA.

The Tea business has almost come to a close.

	PER PICUL.
Common	\$1 1/2
Good Common	12 to 13
Medium	14 to 15
Good Medium	16 to 17
Fine	18 to 19
Finest	20 to 22
Choice	23 & up/ds
Choicest	—
Extra Choicest	—

EXCHANGE.

More fluctuations, but rates are rather higher on the week.

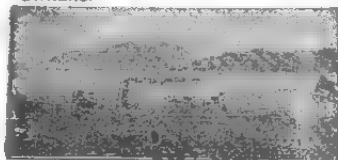
Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/6 1/2
Sterling—Bank 2 months' sight	3/7
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3 7/8
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3 7/8
On Paris—Bank sight	4/4 1/2
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4/5
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1/2 % dis.
On Hongkong—Private to date's sight	1/2 % dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	72 1/2
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	85 1/2
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	87 1/2
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	85 1/2
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	87 1/2

CHELTONHAM COLLEGE JUBILEE.

ARRANGEMENTS are being made to Celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Existence of the College in June or July next, which will include an O. C. Dinner, Cricket Matches, and Greek Play at the College. Further notice will appear.

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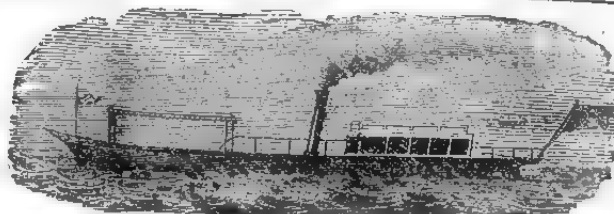
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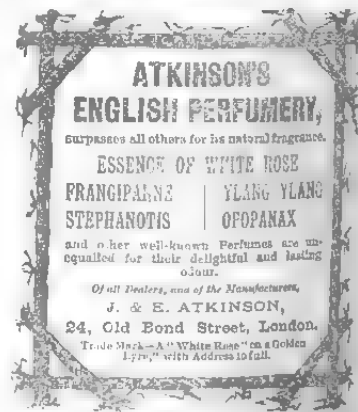
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 26.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, DECEMBER 27TH, 1890.

通信書局可

[VOL. XIV.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, DEC. 27, 1890.

BIRTH.

On the 19th inst., at the Yokohama Dairy, Negishi, the wife of Mr. W. T. RICHARDS of a Son.

DEATHS.

At Winchester, Mass., U.S.A., November 15th, 1890, Captain GEORGE F. NICKERSON, in his 67th year, the dearly beloved father of Mrs. Theodore J. Morris and Miss Nickerson of Yokohama.

At No. 31, Bluff, on the 26th instant, of pneumonia, CHARLES EDGAR, youngest son of William S. Mitchell, of Bushey, Hertford, aged 24 years. The funeral will take place at 10 a.m. on Sunday.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

PRINCE SANJO entertained the Ministers of State and various peers on the 21st instant, at his residence.

VISCOUNT TORIO, a member of the House of Peers, sent in his resignation of his seat on the 22nd inst.

THE Government Departments will be closed on the 27th instant and opened on the 6th of next month.

DURING last month, 32 persons were attacked by cholera in the capital, of whom 12 were males and 18 females.

MR. T. KAWAKITA, who was lately appointed *Chargé d'Affaires* at Sôul, will leave Japan on the 28th instant for his post.

COUNT GOTO, Viscount Aoki, and Messrs. Yoshikawa and Mutsu attended the sitting of the House of Peers, on the 19th instant.

AN extraordinary general meeting of the shareholders of the Japan Railway Company was held on the afternoon of the 19th instant at the Kosei-kan.

MR. KOKUSHI JUNSEI, a member of the House of Peers, who had been suffering for some time from inflammation of the lungs, expired on the 18th instant at 3 p.m.

MESSRS. MASUDA and Shimizu of Saitama Prefecture, and Amamiya, Umagoshi, and Yone-

kura of Tokyo, have applied to the Authorities for permission to lay a railway between Kawagoye and Kokufuji, Saitama Prefecture.

THE Prince Imperial will proceed shortly to Shizuoka Prefecture, leaving the capital on the 8th of next month. It is expected that the Prince will stay for a few weeks.

IT is stated that the sittings of the Upper and Lower Houses will be closed on the 25th and 27th instant respectively, and be opened again on or about the 4th of next month.

ACCORDING to a report issued by the Authorities, the number of *shizoku* who are entitled to participate in the benefits of the Tokyo *Shizoku* Fund, is about 40,000.

THE PRINCE IMPERIAL proceeded to the Palace on the afternoon of the 22nd instant and had an interview with Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress, returning to the Palace about 4 p.m.

THEIR MAJESTIES THE EMPEROR, EMPRESS, AND EMPRESS DOWAGER purchased pictures at the Exhibition of Paintings in Uyeno Park some time ago, amounting in the aggregate to yen 745.50.

IT is stated that Mr. Okura Kihachiro, President of the Nippon Dohoku Kaisha, will leave the capital for China about the beginning of next month, to tender for the contract of laying a new railway.

HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR despatched Count Nishisanjo, a Chamberlain, to the residence of the late Rear-Admiral Kunitukasa on the 21st instant, with a present to the bereaved family of two rolls of silk.

THE Korean Minister recently paid a visit to the residence of a well known agriculturist at Minami-cho, Aoyama, named Izumi Itaro, with whom he had a long conversation as to methods of cultivating tea.

THE ceremony of formally organizing the *Kokumin-Jiyu* party was held on the afternoon of the 21st inst. at the Nakamura-ro, Ryogoku. The occasion was attended by more than three hundred members of the party.

AN extraordinary Cabinet meeting was held on the 22nd instant, at which there were present Counts Yamagata, Saigo, and Oyama, and Mr. Yoshikawa, the proceedings lasting from the forenoon till half-past three in the afternoon.

HIS IMPERIAL HIGHNESS PRINCE KOMATSU entertained members of the Imperial Family, the Ministers of State, the Foreign Representatives, and other distinguished guests on the evening of the 19th instant at his residence at Surugadai.

AN outbreak of fire took place in the house of Shimizu Toyojiro, Aomi-mura, Nishikeijogori, Niigata Prefecture, on the night of the 16th inst., and destroyed 69 buildings, and 103 sheds used for storing boats, before the flames could be subdued.

MR. MAGAKI JOCHO was appointed private secretary to the Minister of State for Justice, on the 20th instant, being raised to third class *sonin* rank, and Mr. Yamataka Shuri, Director-General of the Imperial Museum, was raised to first class *sonin* rank on the 22nd instant.

THE funeral of Major-General Kunitukasa, a member of the House of Peers, took place on the 21st instant in Tokyo, the ceremony being witnessed by a large concourse of people. The

coffin was guarded by a military escort. The interment took place at the Aoyama Cemetery, the ceremony being conducted in accordance with Shinto rites.

DURING the week, the House of Peers has passed, by a large majority, the Bill for the postponement of the operation of the new Commercial Code until 1893. The House of Representatives has passed a Bill for the abolition of the Peace Preservation Regulations, and a Bill for amending the periods for paying the fixed instalments of the Land Tax.

SHIPPING casualties have been numerous among the fleet of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha this month. First the *Harima Maru* went on shore in a gale, but has just been got off and towed to port; next the *Tokyo Maru* was run on shore making for Yokohama, and she is not yet in port; the last is the *Kii Maru*, which is on shore in an exposed position, and is reported to have become a total wreck.

THE opening ceremony of the new buildings of the Agricultural School erected at Katsuyama, Tsuruhashi-mura, Seto-gori, Osaka, was held on the 21st instant, at which Governor Nishimura, Mr. Sato, Assistant Director of the Agricultural and Commercial Department, the members of the Osaka City Assembly, and some four hundred other influential persons of the neighbouring districts were present, Governor Nishimura, Mr. Sato, and others addressed the meeting.

THE following officials of the Agricultural and Commercial Department have been rewarded by the Government with presents of money in recognition of services rendered by them at the recent Paris Exhibition:—Mr. Yanagiya Kentaro, a Councillor of the Department, yen 250; Messrs. Yamada and Komai, yen 200, Messrs. Nakada and Narushima, yen 100, and Messrs. Sakai and Aikawa, yen 30 each.

THEIR Imperial Highnesses Princes Komatsu Akihito and Fushimi Sadanasu, Viscount Hijikata, Minister of State for the Imperial Household, Counts Kuroda, Okuma, and Yanagiwara, members of the Privy Council, Marquis Tokudaiji, Grand Chamberlain, Marquis Asano, Count Ogimachi, Viscount Kagawa, Grand Master of Services to H.I.M., the Empress, Count Toda, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, and other nobles of high rank had the honour of dining with the Emperor on the 19th instant at the Palace.

THE Import trade continues in much the same condition as last reported. A few bales of Yarn have been sold, and an intermittent demand for small parcels of Shirtings has been made, but the total is insignificant, and no other Piece-goods command the smallest amount of attention. The Metal market is quiet, the actual business being extremely small. Kerosene is unchanged in value; and the lower offers made meet with no response. Nothing has been done in Sugar, and there is no immediate prospect of a demand. The fluctuations in Exchange induced bargains in Silk when the rates ran down, and seven hundred piculs have been put through during the week. Referring to last year's business it is seen that the crack chops of Shinshu filatures were sold this time last year for \$200 per picul more than they fetched this week. Arrivals are falling off somewhat, and a few parcels have been withdrawn from the market. Business in Waste Silk has not been quite so brisk. The Tea trade is now reduced to retail dimensions, and only about 3,000 piculs of leaf of common to medium grades are left in stock. Exchange has again fluctuated, and is lower on the week's variation of rates.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

IMPERIAL JAPANESE DIET PROCEEDINGS.
HOUSE OF PEERS,—DECEMBER 19TH.

The House assembled at 10.30 a.m. The President announced the names of the Committee to revise the Rules of the House; also various changes in the personnel of the other Committees now sitting. The House then proceeded to consider a Representation introduced by Viscount Tani in reference to Customs Dues. Viscount Tani explained that doubts might be entertained as to the propriety of the Representation he proposed, in view of the fact that the Government is now engaged in the task of Treaty Revision. But the public, in common with himself, knew very little about the Government's programme of Revision, nor had much been learned from the speech delivered by the Minister for Foreign Affairs in the Lower House on the 17th instant. Treaty Revision, he said, was a subject that caused him the greatest concern. The guiding principle of the intercourse of nations now-a-days was self-interest. Each sought its own commercial aggrandisement. If, in this struggle, a country fell behind its rivals owing to want of capacity or capital, it had no complaint to prefer against them. But if it was compelled by *force majeure* to carry on its foreign trade under the terms of a disadvantageous covenant, and if its industries and agriculture suffered in consequence, the case appealed to the patriotic instincts of all its nationals. Such were Japan's circumstances. As the Foreign Minister had explained in his speech, the original tariff of 1858 allowed Japan to levy duties of from 20 to 30 per cent., but the tariff of 1866 had reduced the rate to a maximum of 5 per cent. Japan was then ignorant of the outer world, and of the ways of international trade. She suffered for her ignorance. Foreigners were not to blame for driving a hard bargain with her. Since then, however, Japan had left nothing undone to cultivate the friendship of Western nations and to instruct herself in their condition. She had, moreover, introduced all sorts of reforms of Occidental type, and had given the strongest proofs of her desire to act fairly and be acted fairly by in return. Yet to this day Treaty Revision remained unaccomplished, though the time when the country became entitled to demand it was now nearly twenty years old. To this day the same covenant that was contracted with the empire in the era of its infancy, was enforced without change. Justice and Reason were outraged by such a state of affairs. Fortunately the birth of representative institutions in Japan opened the road to an appeal to public opinion. Such an appeal he considered it the duty of every lover of his country to make; an appeal to the Japanese people to help themselves, and an appeal to the moral sense of Western statesmen, who must see that to keep Japan to the terms of covenants contracted in the infancy of her foreign intercourse and totally unsuited to her present condition, was indefensible. The statistics of the country's foreign trade showed that from the beginning of the Meiji era until June of this year, imports had exceeded exports by nearly 148 million yen; in other words, from five to six million yen of Japanese money went into the pockets of foreigners every year. Such a state of affairs was incompatible with sound finance, and he was sure that if foreign Powers could be brought to consider the facts, they would not seek to prolong the present Treaty. Moreover the exchange of raw products for manufactured articles was a proceeding that recalled the days of medieval ignorance and uncivilization. Yet it was Japan's proceeding now. Various attempts to start manufactories had been made in Japan, but they had not achieved success, and the people were obliged to fall back on the sale of raw products. It was in truth a lamentably dark outlook. Silk, for example, produced in such large quantities and of such excellent quality in this country, ought also to be worked up here, but though the Japanese were fully competent to do this, they were prevented by the fact that their tariff

was not under their own control, but had to be limited by the terms of an old covenant. In a word, Japan was a species of hollow place into which the stream of imports poured its waters, and until steps could be taken to build a dam against the ingress of the flood, it would be impossible to utilize the nation's industrial capacities. The certain end must be financial difficulties, out of which a temporary exit would be sought by foreign loans, a first step towards the downfall of the Empire. People busied themselves about local government, the compilation of codes of law, or administrative reforms, and called this progress, but they remained in ignorance that the strength of their country was monthly ebbing away, and that unless something were done to stay its decay, their fine measures would one day become an empty farce. The Ministers of War and of the Navy had talked a good deal the other day about increasing the military equipment of the empire, but if the national finances were in a state of disorder, what good purpose could military armaments serve? It was not the act of wise statesmen to look to the branches only of the tree, leaving the root untended, and he called upon his fellow-members to join with him in presenting a strong Representation to the Government. Mr. Kato Hiroyuki, President of the Imperial University, opposed the motion. He explained that he fully agreed with the spirit of the Representation, and with the arguments advanced by Viscount Tani. What he objected to was the fact of presenting such a Representation at the moment when the Government was known to be engaged in the task of Treaty Revision, and to be seeking by every possible means to recover the country's Tariff and Judicial autonomy. To make the Representation now would be like reminding a sick man of his condition, while his doctors were actually seeking to prescribe for him. Mr. Tomita Tetsunosuke supported the motion, urging that every country in the world had developed its industries by protective measures, England herself not excepted. Mr. Yamaguchi Shobo made a long speech in support of the proposal, but confined himself chiefly to adducing examples and statistics. The House then took a recess, and re-assembled at 1.15 p.m., when Mr. Ozaki Saburo rose to oppose the motion. He was emphatically in favour of recovering the country's Tariff autonomy, but he thought that the recovery of her Judicial autonomy was more important, and he therefore objected to precedence being given to the former. He did not think that Japan could hope to vie with the Great States of the West in commerce and industry, but at any rate the imposition of heavy import dues was not the way to assist that consummation. A heavy import tariff might bring money into the national exchequer, but it would not enrich the country, for though foreign importers would have to pay the tax in the first place, it must ultimately come out of the pockets of Japanese consumers. He thought it much more important to assert the national dignity by abolishing extraterritorial jurisdiction. Mr. Miura Yasu combated the argument that the Representation should not be made inasmuch as the Government was already engaged in trying to effect the recovery of the empire's Tariff autonomy. From what the public had been able to gather, it appeared that attempts to revise the Treaties had failed repeatedly, and that the Authorities were perplexed how to proceed. He thought that the support and advice of the people, offered through their representatives, could not fail to strengthen the Government's hands. Viscount Matsudaira Nobumasa approved the views of the last speaker. Mr. Okauchi Shigetoshi opposed the motion on the grounds that the Government was already engaged in negotiations for Treaty Revision, and although the nature of the negotiations was kept secret, in accordance with the practice in all countries, there could be no doubt that the recovery of Tariff and Judicial autonomy was the chief aim in view. He objected strongly to any pre-eminence being given to Tariff autonomy. Mr. Watanabe Kyoshi was of the same opinion. He judged that the ques-

tion of Judicial autonomy was the real crux of the Treaty Revision problem, and he said that to put Tariff autonomy in the forefront could only complicate the situation. Professor Toyama asked the mover of the Representation what clues he followed in order to arrive at his estimate of public opinion. The speaker did not know that any means of gauging public opinion except the newspapers had existed up to the present, and the newspapers were not always consistent. Last year they had denounced Revision on the ground that sufficient preparation had not been made in the interior; this year they advocated Revision on equal terms. But could it be safely inferred that sufficient preparations were now completed. So far as he could judge the abolition of extraterritorial jurisdiction was regarded by public opinion as the really important feature of the question. Viscount Tani acknowledged the justice of Professor Toyama's question, and said that what he also aimed at was the recovery of both Judicial and Tariff autonomy. He appreciated that the Judicial question was of great importance, but he thought that the Tariff question was the more essential. Viscount Torio said that he supported the proposal, but he considered that the House ought not to debate it at length, and he accordingly moved the closure. The President called for a division, and a majority voted for the proposal.

DECEMBER 20TH.

The House assembled at 10.30 a.m. The President announced that the Representation on the subject of Tariff autonomy, voted by the House the preceding day, had been forwarded to the Government. Marquis Hachisuka, in his capacity of President of the Committee on Memorials, informed the House that a memorial received from Tochigi Prefecture on the subject of the Confectionary Tax had been pronounced out of order, and would not be submitted to the House. The House then proceeded to consider the Bill, sent up from the Lower House, for the postponement of the date of operation of the new Commercial Code. Mr. Watanabe Jinkichi said that as such a short interval remained before the date originally fixed for the operation of the Code, he and a number of other members whose names he read, thought that the Bill ought to be decided at once without proceeding to a second and third reading. A proposition was also made that the election of the Committee to examine the Bill should be entrusted to the President, and that the Committee should be limited to a time for submitting its report. Both proposals were approved, and it was decided that the Committee must lay its report before the House at 2 o'clock in the afternoon of the same day. The House then took a short recess, and on its re-assembly the President read out the names of the Committee appointed to examine the Bill. Mr. Watanabe Kiyoshi opposed the Bill, and affirmed that, the Commercial Code being independent of the Civil Codes, no reason existed for their simultaneous enforcement. The President announced that a decision should now be taken on the proposition to dispense with a second and third reading. Mr. Ozaki Saburo opposed the motion. He thought the question too important to be decided off-hand. Whatever course might seem advisable after the first reading, he was emphatically opposed to committing the House to anything of the kind proposed before the Bill had been considered at all. The motion was then put and lost. Over a hundred members voted for it, and over 70 against, but as the Law requires a two-thirds vote, the proposition was lost. Mr. Watarai Masamoto opposed the Bill on two grounds. In the first place, he thought that the course the House was asked to take was unconstitutional. The 6th Article of the Constitution provides that the Emperor gives sanction to laws and orders them to be promulgated and executed, and though the 38th Article empowers the House to initiate projects of law, it does not confer any competence to fix the date of putting a law into operation. The House could only make a Representation on the subject. Secondly, as to the particular question of the Commercial Code, the arguments of its opponents might be briefly

summed up. They were, first, that as the first clause of the Commercial Code provided for its enforcement in conjunction with the Civil Law, the dates of enforcing the Commercial Code and the Civil Codes should not be different. Secondly, that the new Code was opposed to Japanese traditional usages, and that its text was difficult to understand. Thirdly, that an interval of only a few months was not sufficient to allow between the promulgation and operation of a Code requiring so much study. With regard to the first point, it must be observed that the Commercial Code is, in fact, an independent piece of legislation. The reference made in its text to Civil Law was purely precautionary. It might happen that in the varied transactions of business something not fully provided for in the Code should occur, and in that event recourse was to be had to the Civil Law for supplementary purposes. No reason existed for making the date of operation of the Commercial Code depend upon that of the Civil Codes. As to the second point, they had to remember that in these days of developing commercial intercourse with foreign peoples, to shrink from the introduction of a new custom would be absurd. The objection about textual obscurities had no better claim to attention. It was inevitable that novel terms should be employed in the compilation of Japan's first Commercial Code. Finally, no new law had ever yet been promulgated that did not, in convenience some one, or seem difficult of comprehension to certain folks. On the other hand, this Commercial Code would confer great benefits not on the trading classes alone, but on society at large. He further reminded the House that several Ordinances had been already promulgated in connection with the new Commercial Code, and he asked how all of these as well as the Code itself were to be dealt with in the short space of ten days. Mr. Watanabe Jinkichi supported the measure. He admitted that the new Code was a useful piece of legislation and, speaking from his own knowledge as a merchant, he could say that had it been put into operation two years ago, great benefit would have been felt in respect of Companies and Bankruptcy. But since the House of Representatives had voted for postponement, he also had adopted that view. The House of Representatives consisted of merchants, farmers, manufacturers and so forth. If its opinion was not to be accepted on such a subject, where were they to look for a trustworthy verdict? The House of Peers, on the contrary, consisted for the most part of members to whom commercial affairs were comparatively strange. He thought that for this reason, and also for the sake of preserving good relations between the Houses, the Bill should be passed. Two years was not a long time. If the operation of the Code were postponed to 1893, merchants would have time to make proper preparations. Mr. Hirata Tosuke opposed the Bill. He protested strongly against the theory advanced by the last speaker that the House of Peers should give its consent merely because the Lower House had done so. The Upper House had just as much title to be considered a representative of the nation as the Lower, and if one were to agree merely because the other had done so, the object of a bi-cameral system would be defeated. He then proceeded to combat the notion that the Commercial Code and the Civil Codes must go into operation together. They had an example in the case of Germany, where the Commercial Code had long been in successful operation though the Civil Codes were not yet promulgated. The new Code was needed, and should be put in force at once. If practical experience showed that it required revision, then revise it. He had no sympathy with those who, while opposing the latter course on the ground that laws should not be hastily altered, were nevertheless agitating for the sudden postponement of an important enactment on the very eve of its proclaimed time of operation. As for the contention that the operation of the Code would cause confusion in commercial circles, it was equivalent to saying that unwritten customs of doubtful expediency should be pre-

ferred to written laws compiled in conformity with enlightened principles. Some went so far as to assert that the provisions of such a law would interfere with the individual rights of merchants. The notion was absurd. Merchants had no rights in the absence of written law. Rights were created by law. At present there were no laws to determine what a man was entitled to do and what he must refrain from doing. The new Code would define and establish the rights of merchants. Mr. Kato Hiroyuki supported the Bill. His arguments were chiefly directed against too rapid legislation. He considered that the advances made by Japan during the past twenty years had been very rapid, and that the education of society, to be sound, must be slow. He had been told by M. Boissonade that when the Code Napoleon was promulgated, its provisions were opposed to many French customs, and he frankly admitted that progress involved a certain disregard of old-fashioned usages. But he thought that the conflict between the new Commercial Code and Japanese customs was many times greater than the conflict between French customs and the Code Napoleon had been at the time of the latter's enforcement. He advocated the utmost deliberation in this matter; deliberation such as Germany displayed in respect of her Civil Codes. Mr. Okauchi Shigetoshi opposed the Bill. He ridiculed the notion that the Commercial Code could not be enforced independently of the Civil Codes, and pointed out that the Criminal Code had been enforced independently and had worked excellently. Many companies had been formed and other measures taken by merchants in view of the speedy operation of the Commercial Code, and in conformity with the Ordinances relating to it, and he deprecated any sudden disturbance such as would be caused by postponing the date at this eleventh hour. Mr. Shimogo Dempei spoke in favour of postponement. He argued that Japanese merchants were, for the most part, men of little erudition, governed entirely by customs that had been handed down to them from feudal times. They could not without great confusion conform with the provisions of the new Code. The House rose at 5.50 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—DECEMBER 22ND, 1890.

THE House of Representatives has been engaged the last few days considering the Poor Law Bill introduced by the Government, a Bill to amend the Copyright Law, introduced by Mr. Suyematsu Kencho, and a Bill for the Abolition of the Peace Preservation Regulations, introduced by Mr. Kato Heishiro. When the House met on the 22nd, an interesting question was brought forward by Mr. Inouye Kakugoro, who, as our readers will probably remember, was formerly editor of a Japanese newspaper in Seoul. He stated that he had received from the Japanese merchants in Korea a complaint which seemed to demand the immediate attention of the House. In 1882, the Government of Japan, according to Mr. Inouye's information, had lent a sum of 170,000 *yen* to Korea, the transaction being conducted through the Specie Bank, the then Director of which, Mr. Koizumi, became the direct creditor of Korea, and Messrs. Bin Yei-yoku and Kin Yokun the debtors of Japan. By way of security for the repayment of this money the Customs dues at Fusan, Gensan, and Jinsen were hypothecated. Subsequently the Korean Government borrowed a sum of 200,000 Taels from China on the same security, whereupon the Chinese Authorities assumed control of the Customs at the three places, and the prior claim of Japan seemed to have been suffered to fall altogether into abeyance. The result of this had proved injurious to the business of Japanese trading in Korea, though the exact nature of the injury was not stated. Mr. Inouye asked the House to support him in preferring a question to the Government, as the matter concerned the national dignity and interest. Further, in the year 1883, Mr. Takezoye, Japanese Representative at the Korean Court, made an agreement with Mr. Bin Yei-yoku, Korean Minister of Foreign Affairs, that a submarine telegraph should be laid from Kiushu via Tsushima to Pusan. This project had not been favoured by the Japanese

Government alone: it had also been warmly urged by Korea, and it involved Japan in large expenditure. In this agreement it was distinctly laid down that during the space of 20 years Korea should not lay any other line of telegraph, sub-marine or otherwise, to communicate with any other foreign country. Nevertheless, in defiance of this agreement the Korean Government, in 1885, laid an overland line of telegraph communicating directly with China, and no efficient measures seemed to have been taken by Japan to obtain redress for this flagrant breach of contract. In the third place, whereas Japan's Treaty with Korea guaranteed to the former the treatment of the most favoured nation she did not receive such treatment in practice, for the whole export of ginseng, one of Korea's most important staples, was by special arrangement placed in Chinese hands, and Japanese merchants were altogether excluded from the traffic. Finally, in July of the present year, some Japanese fishermen engaged in carrying on their trade off the Korean coast, had fallen under suspicion of killing a Korean, had been seized by the Korean Authorities, subjected to torture, and afterwards acquitted as innocent. No steps appeared to have been taken by the Japanese Government to obtain redress for this serious outrage. Concerning the various points, Mr. Inouye urged that steps should be taken to approach the Government. The House, of course, took no immediate action in this matter, but doubtless the point brought forward by Mr. Inouye will be made the subject of questions addressed to the Government, when the prescribed number of members shall have given their consent. The debate on the Government's Poor Law Bill was then continued, and ended in the rejection of the Bill by the House. In accordance with the Orders of the Day, the House ought to have then proceeded to the second reading of the Copyright Bill, but in the absence of the proposer of the Bill it was decided to pass to the next item, namely the abolition of the Peace Preservation Regulations. A motion was introduced and carried to dispense with the second and third readings of this Bill, and to decide it finally on the first reading. The President then called for a division, and the Bill was carried by a large majority. Of this result there never was any doubt, for the abolition of these temporarily necessary but very obnoxious regulations had formed an item in the platform of every political party represented in the House. The second reading of the Copyright Bill was then passed, but the third reading brought up an amendment by Mr. Suyehiro, which caused so much debate that the time for the House's rising came before a decision could be taken.

ECONOMIC PROGRESS.

THE *Kokumin-no-Tomo* reviews the economic progress of the country during the two dozen years since the Restoration. After alluding in general language to the magnitude of the changes that were effected in the economic system of the country at or about the time of the Restoration,—especially the voluntary renunciation of their fields by the feudal barons,—the Tokyo periodical goes on to observe that the position of the peasantry has immensely improved under the present régime. Hard as their lot still is, the farmers and peasants are now paying in the shape of taxes far less than they used to pay under the Shogunate Government, which exacted from them as taxes from 60 to 70 per cent. of the fruit of their toil, to say nothing of contributions laid on them in the form of personal labour. Some years ago, the Osaka Chamber of Commerce, reporting on the causes of the then existing dullness of trade, cited the growth of luxurious habits among the farming class as one of the most potential factors that had been at work to bring about a state of commercial depression. Without pausing to analyse the logic of the Osaka Chamber's reasoning, and without admitting that the term "luxurious" properly describes the habits of the farming population, the *Kokumin* places beyond all doubt the fact that the standard of living has greatly improved among the rustic population.

Then passing on to review more in detail the features of the economic situation, the *Kokumin* first takes up foreign trade. In 1868, the exports amounted in value to only 15,550,000 *yen* and the imports to 10,690,000 *yen*; but in 1889, the corresponding figures were 70,060,000 *yen* and 66,100,000 *yen*. The value of the foreign trade, export and import, per head of the whole population was 1 *yen* 30 *sen* 5 *rin* in 1872, when an accurate census was taken for the first time; but it rose in 1887 to 3 *yen* 44 *sen*, an increase of two-fold and half in a period of seventeen years. As to companies of various descriptions, their total number in 1889 was 2,038, with an aggregate capital of 67,855,468 *yen*; while the total number of banking corporations was in the following year 1,061, with an aggregate capital of 92,446,063 *yen*. These companies and banks had all been created since the commencement of the Meiji era. Among them, 54 are concerned with mining operations, 22 with spinning, 108 with weaving, and 650 with the manufacture of silk. Next, coming to agriculture, we are told that vast improvements have been introduced in the mode of tilling the soil, in the selection of seeds, in reclamation and irrigation, and so forth, the result being a large increase in the produce of the land. No trustworthy statistics being procurable for the years preceding 1878, the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* compares the production of rice in that year with the yield in 1888. In 1878, the total quantity of the rice crop was 25,282,540 *koku*, the produce per *tan* ($\frac{1}{10}$ of an acre) being 1.02 *koku*; in 1888 the corresponding figures were 38,645,583 *koku* and 1.44 *koku*. A similar increase is observable in the produce of barley and wheat; the yield per *tan*, which was 6.9 *sho* in 1878, increasing to 9.4 *sho* in 1888, while the total harvest of the two cereals was 9,411,460 *koku* in 1878, and 15,281,658 *koku* in 1888. The development of sericulture and of tea-growing have also been extraordinary during the Meiji era. In 1878, the quantity of tea produced was 2,761,523 *kamme*, but in 1888 the quantity rose to 7,252,830 *kamme*. The quantities of silk produced in these two years were 362,607 *kamme* and 944,400 *kamme* respectively. Statistics are not obtainable for the first years of the era, but it may be easily imagined, the Tokyo periodical justly observes, how large an increase has taken place in the production of silk and tea since 1868, when one bears in mind that formerly these articles, now the staple exports of the country, were exclusively limited to home consumption. Turning to means of communication, our contemporary remarks that exceedingly satisfactory results have also been obtained in this direction. As a poet says, one had formerly to travel on the Tokaido for fifteen days in sight of Fuji-san; a strange contrast with these days, when, according to returns for the present year, the total length of railway lines already opened, private and official, is 1,179 miles and 60 chains. As to ships, the total number of vessels built after the foreign model was 1,420 in 1888, with an aggregate tonnage of 144,194 tons, whereas the corresponding figures for 1870 were 46 and 17,952 tons respectively. An equally rapid development is observable in the postal service. The number of letters and other matter entrusted to the post—excluding those coming from or going abroad—was 158,265,202 in 1888, the corresponding figures for 1879 being 60,923,999. Though not directly connected with the economic condition of the country, the state of education may, observes the *Kokumin*, be taken as an indication of the productive capacity of the nation. In 1888, the total number of educational institutions of all kinds, both private and Government, was 27,923, while the number of professors and teachers reached 69,032, and the number of boys and girls receiving instruction was 3,050,538. In 1873, the corresponding figures were 12,597, 27,107, and 1,326,190. The number of pupils thus increased by 230 per cent., while the population increased during the same interval by only 19 per cent. The figures thus far quoted, continues the *Kokumin*, show beyond doubt that Japan is constantly becoming more and more

rich. With such an increase of the national wealth, the country cannot but develop additional capacity to defend itself. According to the statistics for the year 1888, the total number of men that could be put in the field in the event of an emergency was 245,311. The Navy consisted of 30 war vessels, with an aggregate tonnage of 48,820 tons, while the number of officers and men manning these ships was 5,681. Such a navy or army, the Tokyo periodical admits, is a mere plaything compared with the gigantic armaments of European Powers. But Japan already possesses enough troops and ships to make her one of the most formidable States in the Orient. The *Kokumin* concludes its article by exhorting its countrymen to be more and more enterprising and courageous, and by quoting the words which M. Thiers addressed to the French people after the disastrous war with Germany.

A NEW FIRST SECRETARY OF H.B.M.'S LEGATION IN TOKYO.

TELEGRAPHIC news received in Tokyo on the 18th instant announced that Mr. Maurice William Guest de Bunsen has been appointed to the post of First Secretary of Her Britannic Majesty's Legation in Tokyo, *vice* the Honble. W.G. Napier, who has apparently been superseded. The Honble. Mr. Napier's departure was somewhat sudden, and though the public understood at the time that circumstances had occurred which rendered his return to Japan improbable, some surprise will doubtless be caused by the intelligence that a successor has been so speedily appointed. Mr. Napier's term of service in Japan had not expired, and in the ordinary course of events he would have been granted leave of absence if his visit to England had been connected with private affairs. The immediate nomination of a First Secretary to take his place would therefore indicate that the Foreign Office has acted in obedience to special considerations. Mr. de Bunsen has been thirteen years in the Diplomatic service. His first post was in Washington (1878), whence he proceeded as Third Secretary to Berne (1881). He became Second Secretary in 1883, while serving at Madrid, whence he was transferred to Paris in 1886. He acted as Chargé d'Affaires on several occasions in Berne and Madrid. We believe that it is his intention to leave London in February, so that his advent in Japan may be looked for in April.

LEADING JAPANESE JOURNALS ON THE POSTPONEMENT OF THE NEW COMMERCIAL CODE.

THE Bill for the postponement of the date of operation of the Commercial Code gave rise to a long and warm debate in the House of Representatives, occupying more than ten hours and extending over two days. The subject being of much practical importance to the commercial community, the debate was conducted with a seriousness and animation, hitherto unknown in the House, and many leading members took part in it.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* in a short note remarks:—"The supporters of the Bill for postponement were mostly of the English school of jurisprudence while the opponents were principally disciples of French law. The former consisted of members of the *Taiseikwai* and the *Shukwaijo* (Kaishinto Members' Club) and members of neutral principles, while the latter included a portion of the Liberals. If we take Mr. Toyoda Bunzaburo (a member of the Osaka Electric Light Company) to represent the opinions of the business men of Osaka, and Mr. Tanaka Gentaro (a farmer of the Prefecture of Kyoto), those of practical men in Kyoto, we may conclude that the Kyoto people favoured and the Osaka folks opposed postponement. As to the debate itself, the supporters of the Bill on the first day were somewhat passive and perceptibly lost ground before the steady and vigorous attacks of their opponents, of whom Mr. Miyagi (a French doctor of law, and lately a member of the Committee preparing the Code) made a

speech especially clear and telling; and if a decision had been come to then the result would have been exceedingly problematical. The supporters of the bill were, therefore, anxious to adjourn the sitting and in these tactics they were well advised. For on the second day, they gained greatly in vigour and completely recovered their ground, the result being the passing of the Bill by a large majority. There can be no doubt that the speech of Mr. Suyematsu Kencho (an M.A. of Cambridge, and lately Chief Commissioner of the Bureau for the Management of Prefectures) contributed greatly to the success of the bill, while the eloquent address of Mr. Takanashi Tetsushiro (one of the leading barristers of Tokyo) in opposition well sustained the spirits of his side. But Mr. Mitsukuri, Vice-Minister of State for Justice, in his anxiety to further the views of those advocating the enforcement of the Code, made a speech which was decidedly damaging to the cause he wished to promote, and in the end the Bill was passed by a majority of 189 against 67.

The *Hochi Shimbun*, writing on the same subject, says that although it cannot be predicted whether the Bill for postponement will pass the House of Peers, yet the general feeling in the Upper House seems to be in its favour; and if this proves to be true, what steps will be taken by the Cabinet? If it disregards the resolutions of the Houses and proceeds with its original intention, it will then become a Cabinet at variance with popular opinion, and if it postpones enforcement according to the voting in the Houses, it must come to the humiliating position of being unable to carry out its own measures. The selection of one of these alternatives devolves on the Cabinet, and the decision causes a great deal of anxiety to Ministers. Different opinions are said to be held by members of the Cabinet. One rumour says that the idea of adopting the views of the Houses has at present a preponderance of support in the Cabinet, but it is also rumoured that Ministers feel that a concession on this occasion would prove a bad precedent. It is thought that the Cabinet would find it always necessary to give in whenever any difference of opinion between the Houses and the Administration occurred, and that as there are already many points in the Budget which threaten to produce a conflict between the Legislature and the Executive, this question of postponing the date of enforcement of the Commercial Code would bring matters to a climax, and consequently the whole affair is of a very grave nature. In any case the Minister of State for Justice is in a difficult position.

The *Kokkai* says:—"If the Bill pass through the Houses and be agreed to by the Cabinet, rumour says that it will produce very serious effects on the operation of the law for the Organization of Law Courts, because the large funds required for enforcing the latter were expected to be defrayed by means of the registry fees to be collected according to the Commercial Code, and it might thus necessitate a change in the steps already commenced in the operation of the law of the Organization of Courts. This of course concerns chiefly the Minister of State for Justice, but the imminent postponement will also, it is said, cause great inconvenience to the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs. Viscount Aoki declared in his speech in the House of Representatives that the operation of the Commercial Code had nothing to do with the question of Treaty Revision, but the accuracy of that statement is to be doubted, and it is very likely that postponement will place him in no easy position. The desire for postponing the date of enforcement of the Commercial Code has now obtained very firm footing in the public mind, and therefore it will be a serious step for the Government to act in opposition, as the friction produced between the Cabinet and the people would be very great; but on the other hand, postponement will put the two Ministers above mentioned in an exceedingly difficult situation. No doubt when this ques-

tion comes to be decided, it will cause a good deal of agitation in the Cabinet. Indeed, although the question is purely one of postponement, we have here a very grave problem to be settled between the Government and the nation at large.

The same paper mentions, with reference to the question above alluded to, that the Minister of State for Justice has presented to the Minister President a written opinion, copies of which the latter distributed under private seal among the Ministers of State the same evening, and a Cabinet Conference was to take place the following day (the 19th) at 9 o'clock. The Minister of State for Justice is also said to be using every means of convincing the *Kwasoku* Section of the House of Peers of the necessity of carrying out the Commercial Code without delay, and by distributing pamphlets and sending out subordinate officials, is busily engaged in trying to gain support for his views.

The *Chugwai Shogyo Shimpō* (Commercial News) remarks, under the heading of "Feeling in commercial circles with reference to the postponement of the operation of the Commercial Code," that "great excitement has been aroused over the promulgation of the Commercial Code and its enforcement, and the question of enforcing or postponing its operation has become a subject of warm discussion among practical men of business. Its promulgation filled the principal *Tonya* (large or wholesale merchants) with apprehension, causing them to reduce their transactions and to act cautiously, while watching the general state of affairs. In the same way, the different companies, for fear of infringing the provisions of the Commercial Code, have become very guarded in their actions. This state of affairs has considerably increased the depression already felt, and contributed to bring about the present lamentable condition of commerce. If the Bill for postponement should pass the House of Peers and receive the approval of the Government, it will restore activity to a great extent; stock lists will show an improvement, and we may expect to salute the coming spring with gladdened hearts."

THE COMMERCIAL CODE AND THE BUDGET.

AFTER a long and animated debate, extending over two days, the House of Peers on Monday passed, by a vote of 140 to 60, the Bill sent up from the Lower House for the postponement of the operation of the new Commercial Code until January 1st, 1893. It was at one time thought that the division would be very close, but this anticipation scarcely survived the action taken by the House on Saturday morning, when the members decided to entrust to the President the selection of a Committee to examine the Bill, and directed the Committee to prepare its report in a few hours. There could be little doubt after this that the Committee's report was to be based, not on the merits of the Code, but on the sentiments of the House towards it, and that those sentiments were not favourable; for though the Peers might have been willing to incur a charge of precipitancy so long as their verdict coincided with that of the Lower House, they would certainly have proceeded with the utmost deliberation if they contemplated the rejection of a Bill sent up by the Commons. The exceedingly limited time allowed to the Committee consequently furnished a clear indication as to how the voting would go, though probably few persons anticipated such an overwhelming majority as 80 in a House of 200. It is difficult to see how the Government can avoid accepting the verdict of the two Houses when it comes to them in a form so unmistakable. The country is obviously against the speedy operation of the new Code, and to enforce it under such circumstances would scarcely be wise. It does not greatly matter what the real motive of the Code's opponents may be. For our own part, we entertain very little doubt that in both Houses the vote was largely influenced by the popular belief that the operation of the Code was hastened in

the interests of Treaty Revision, and that its foreign elements were too prominent. Be this as it may, however, the people's representatives have pronounced emphatically in favour of postponement, and the Government cannot easily refuse to give practical effect to their decision. At the same time, it must be admitted that, in one respect, the Government's position is not pleasant. There remains an interval of only eight days until the date fixed by Imperial Ordinance for the Code's going into force, and doubtless many merchants have already made arrangements to take advantage of its provisions. Moreover, various laws have been promulgated with reference to the operation of the Code, and as the Government Departments close for the New Year on the 26th instant, a process of wholesale revocation will have to be accomplished on the 24th, if the verdict of the Houses is to be respected. The Government's retreat from its position cannot be leisurely and dignified under such circumstances: it will partake of the nature of a scramble.

There is, however, one solid grain of comfort for officials in the situation, namely, that by exacting a very substantial concession from the Government in the matter of the Commercial Code, the House of Representatives will find its hands materially weakened in respect of the Budget. There appears to be great controversy over the Budget. A Committee of 55 members, as our readers will doubtless remember, was appointed, some time ago, in the Lower House to consider and report upon the estimates, and it is said that this Committee very soon became separated into two Sections, called respectively the Moderates (*Onka-ha*) and the Extremists (*Kageki-ha*). The latter comprised the whole of the *Kaishin-to* members of Committee, and a portion of the *Rikken Jiyu-to* members. The former contained the greater part of the *Rikken Jiyu-to* members and all the representatives of the *Taisei-Kai*. The Extremists were for reducing the national expenditure by no less a sum than ten million *yen* at one coup, and as this was considerably more than one-half of the total figures in the Budget falling within the lawful revision of the Diet, the proposal certainly did not err on the side of modesty. The Moderates, on the other hand, maintained that three million *yen* represented the maximum possible reduction. After some discussion a compromise was suggested, and it seemed possible that both sides would unite in recommending an economy of five million *yen*, when suddenly the Extremists—we quote from a report of the Tokyo News Agency—developed new and unexpected strength, and the ten million reduction became once more the order of the day. It is said, indeed, that the Committee's report has been actually drawn up and printed in that sense, nearly two-thirds of the fifty-five members being agreed, but that the minority remain firm and make their voices heard very emphatically. Now if this account of what is going on be correct, it is pretty plain that the discussion does not proceed on the basis of examining item by item and determining the expediency or inexpediency of making special reductions, but that the Committee is resolved, under any and all circumstances, to recommend reduction, and that the only question relates to amount. Of course there is scarcely a faint possibility of the Cabinet's agreeing to a reduction of ten million *yen*, or of even the half of that amount. Here the Government must make a stand, and it will be enabled to do so with a much better grace if it has previously yielded to the wishes of the Diet in the matter of the Commercial Code. No news could be better than to learn that the Diet had discovered a sound and practicable method of reducing the national expenditure, but we cannot conceive any method of effecting a substantial economy except by largely reducing the numbers and emoluments of officials, and both of these matters lie outside the Diet's sphere of interference.

VISCOUNT AOKI AND HIS CRITICS.

VISCOUNT AOKI is running the usual gauntlet of misrepresentation and unjust criticism. One

of the remarkable features of the speech delivered by him before the House of Representatives was his frank admission of the obligation incumbent on Japan not to deal lightly or hastily with the claims of Foreign Powers, or to take any step ignoring the consideration that her own claims have hitherto received at their hands. Here is his own language:—"Privileges when they are once granted by treaty become, as it were, the rights of those to whom they are granted, and cannot be revoked at will." And here is the criticism which these words have provoked:—"To talk about rights and to inferentially treat Foreign demands as mere trifles is playing to the gallery, and may make a Minister popular at home." A critique of the Minister's necktie, or tonsure, would have been equally relevant and far more just. The same lucid writer attacks the Minister on the ground that the latter denied the necessity of Japan's making any internal reforms before advancing the right to be relieved of her present disabilities. It is scarcely necessary to say that Viscount Aoki did nothing of the sort. What he did was simply to draw a clear distinction between the existence of an abstract right and the necessity of making preparations to enforce it. This part of his argument was evidently addressed to the small section of malcontents who last year claimed that the country must not be opened because preparations to receive foreigners were not in a sufficiently forward state. Viscount Aoki met this contention by pointing out that if it was true in 1889, it must have been still truer at all the preceding periods when negotiations to accomplish revision were undertaken. To charge Viscount Aoki of all men in Japan with being insensible to the necessity of internal reforms, is silly in the extreme. Above all is this silliness made apparent by the light of the latter part of his speech where, after citing the various steps of Japanese progress, and pointing to them as practical guarantees which Foreign Governments ought to accept, he makes use of the following words:—"The guarantees furnished by Japan's progress, and the increased knowledge which the world now possesses of Japan's condition, warrant us in hoping that the position of this Empire will induce Foreign Powers to treat our proposals with liberality. I am disposed to think, indeed, that the failures made in Treaty Revision have been so many steps in the history of our country's progress." Yet in the face of these distinct admissions, he is charged with having denied that "domestic reform and Treaty Revision go hand in hand." These delirious criticisms are probably not due to any deliberately dishonest reading of the Minister's speech, but are attributable to the fact that some of the men in this Settlement who undertake to discuss questions of State and international policy have no conception of the value of language, and are as reckless in their own use of words as they are careless in reading the words of others.

To a different category belong the criticisms of another journal which possesses and regularly exercises the convenient faculty of always making mistakes on its own side of the account. This journal charges the Minister with "statements which to say the least are incorrect." The first of these statements refers to the period originally contemplated by the operation of the Treaty of 1858. Viscount Aoki said that the period was expressly limited to 1872, and this assertion of his is declared not to have "the slightest warrant." If the point in question were not distinctly provided for in the body of the Treaties themselves, if any room existed whatsoever for doubt, one could pardon the extreme effrontery of a petty journalist who ventured peremptorily to advance his own opinion in direct opposition to that of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, and of a number of eminent juriconsults whose verdicts have been published. But there is not the slightest room for doubt. The Treaty with Great Britain, as quoted by the newspaper critic himself, reads thus:—"It is agreed that either of the high contracting parties to this Treaty on giving one year's previous notice to

the other, may demand a revision thereof on and after the first of July, 1872, with a view to the insertion therein of such amendments as experience shall prove to be desirable." If this does not mean that the time of the Treaty was expressly limited to 1872, we should like to know what it does mean. Take a parallel case in every day life. A man enters into an agreement to discharge certain services up to a certain date, at a certain rate of remuneration, with a proviso that at that date he shall be entitled to demand a change in the rate of remuneration. Could such an agreement possibly be construed to mean that the man must continue to give his services at the original rate after the expiration of the original period, and after his demand for a change of rate had been rejected? It does not follow that the other side is bound to agree to the proposed amendment of terms, but it does certainly follow that the man is not obliged to continue giving his services without some change of terms. This is precisely analogous to the case of the Treaty. That document, as quoted above, became subject to revision on and after the first of July, 1872, on the demand of either of the High Contracting Parties. Japan has over and over again demanded a Revision, and, failing to obtain it, she is not bound by any principle of justice or common sense to continue the Treaty on its old terms. We should like to see how such a contention would be received if it were advanced by Japan. We should like to see how she would be treated if she maintained that because a treaty becomes revisable at a fixed date, and because revisions cannot be effected in a treaty that does not exist, therefore the perpetual operation of the treaty without revision is implied. Assuredly she would be charged with flagrant bad faith and quibbling of the pettiest character. Any writer of the commonest honesty should be ashamed to advance such a palpable sophistry.

VISCOUNT TORIO.

VISCOUNT TORIO has taken the singular step of resigning his membership of the House of Peers because the President ruled him out of order, and did not allow him to continue his speech during the recent debate on the Commercial Code. The point about which Viscount Torio desired to address the House was this:—He believed the proposed postponement of the Code's operation to be altogether expedient, but inasmuch as the enactment has already been promulgated, and the date of its going into force fixed under the Imperial Sign-Manual, any attempt on the part of the Diet to effect an alteration would have a serious significance, and must place the Diet in an embarrassing situation. The Viscount therefore wished to ask the Committee on the Bill whether in postponing the operation of the Code, the intention really was to put it into operation from January, 1893, or whether postponement was recommended merely for the sake of revision. The President ruled that this had no connection with the subject before the House, namely, whether or no the date of the Code's operation should be deferred, and Viscount Torio was obliged to resume his seat. At a subsequent period he endeavoured to bring up the same question again, but was again ruled out of order, and in consequence of this action of the President's he has now resigned his seat. This is the first important incident that has to be placed on record to the discredit of the Japanese Diet. Hitherto the proceedings have been marked by a strong sense of decorum, and the debates have indicated highly praiseworthy acumen and aptitude. But the resignation of Viscount Torio on such a plea betrays childish petulance and a signal failure to appreciate his duty towards the Peers of his Order, who elected him, as well as his responsibilities as a member of Parliament. The very first principle of order in constitutional assemblies is that the decisions of the President or Speaker must be implicitly obeyed. As a soldier Viscount Torio should have been able to set an example of discipline; as a member of the Upper House he should have refrained carefully from offering a mischievous and unruly prece-

dent; and as a political leader he ought to have understood that his party expected, and his principles demanded, conduct very different from a hasty abandonment of his parliamentary functions in a moment of peevish chagrin and mortified pride. In our opinion the President's ruling was perfectly correct, but even had it been erroneous, the course adopted by Viscount Torio shows a signal want of dignity, self-restraint, and sense of proportion. The place of a member of the House is not to be sacrificed on such a petty plea as that assigned for the Viscount's resignation. Action so ill-balanced and precipitate would mar the prospects of any political leader in Europe, nor will it be forgiven to Viscount Torio in Japan, we imagine, high as is the esteem in which his pure character and lofty patriotism are generally held.

IMAGINARY CABINETS.

A VERNACULAR newspaper has published two imaginary Cabinets in lieu of the present Administration. The first is supposed to be the Cabinet which would be formed if the *Taisei* (Independents) came into power. It is as follows:—

Minister President of State	Count Ito.
Chief Secretary	Mr. Ito Miyoji.
Minister of State for Foreign Affairs	Viscount Yenomoto.
Vice-Minister	Mr. Suyematsu Ken-cho.
Minister of State for Home Affairs	Count Saigo.
Vice-Minister	Mr. Masuda Shigeyuki.
Minister of State for Finance	Count Matsukata.
Vice-Minister	Mr. Watanabe Kunikida.
Minister of State for War	Major-General Kawakami.
Vice-Minister	Lieut.-General Ozawa.
Minister of State for the Navy	Viscount Kabayama.
Vice-Minister	Admiral S. Ito.
Minister of State for Justice	Viscount Tanaka Fujimaro.
Vice-Minister	Mr. Miyoshi.
Minister of State for Education	Mr. Kuki Riyochi.
Vice-Minister	Mr. Hamao Arata.
Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce	Viscount Yoshida Ki-yowari.
Vice-Minister	Mr. Ishida Yeikichi.
Minister of State for Communications	Count Goto.
Vice-Minister	Mr. Furusawa Shigeru.
Chief of the Metropolitan Police Bureau	Mr. Daito Gitsutsu.

The following is given as the Cabinet of the Radicals:—

Minister President of State	Count Okuma.
Chief Secretary	Mr. Hatoyama.
Minister of State for Foreign Affairs	Count Okuma.
Vice-Minister	Mr. Yano Fumio.
Minister of State for Home Affairs	Count Saigo.
Vice-Minister	Mr. Matsuda Masahisa.
Minister of State for Finance	Mr. Kono Binken.
Vice-Minister	Mr. Kawashima Jun.
Minister of State for War	General Viscount Takashima.
Vice-Minister	General Ozawa.
Minister of State for the Navy	Viscount Kabayama.
Vice-Minister	Admiral S. Ito.
Minister of State for Justice	Count Itagaki.
Vice-Minister	Mr. Hoshi Toru.
Minister of State for Education	Mr. Nakajima Nobuyuki.
Vice-Minister	Mr. Shimada Saburo.
Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce	Mr. Mutsu.
Vice-Minister	Mr. Hayashi Yuzo.
Minister of State for Communications	Mr. Mayejima.
Vice-Minister	Mr. Kono Hironaka.
Chief of the Metropolitan Police Bureau	Mr. Oi Kentaro.

It will be seen that the names of Count Saigo and Viscount Kabayama appear among the Ministers in both lists, and the names of Lieut. General Ozawa and Admiral S. Ito among the Vice-Ministers.

LADIES IN THE DIET.

THE embargo originally placed on the presence of ladies in the strangers' gallery of the Diet

continued in force for only a very short time. We are not aware by what, if any, distinct measure it was declared a dead letter, but it certainly ceased, almost at once, to be enforced, and during the past ten days several ladies have been present at debates. Japan is in the difficult position of having to reduce to written rule many points of procedure which elsewhere have been gradually established by custom, and are not to be found in the letter of any regulation. It is, of course, very well for a parliament to work out its own methods of procedure little by little, provided that its career passes through the stages common to most things human, namely, childhood, youth, and maturity. But where a parliament has to spring into full-grown existence, as is the case in Japan, and when its conduct from the very outset is judged by the standards of old and long experienced Constitutional assemblies in the West, the more rules it has to guide it the better. Accordingly, the Rules of Procedure of the Japanese Diet are sufficiently numerous to fill a tolerably bulky volume, and sufficiently minute to furnish directions in almost any conjuncture. Among these rules provisions relating to the admission of strangers to hear the debates are very clearly laid down. The course to be taken by members of the Foreign Corps Diplomatique; the course to be taken by Japanese officials; the course to be taken by journalists, and the course to be taken by the general public, are all indicated. As at Westminster, so in Uchi-sawaicho, access to the gallery in the case of everyday folks can only be obtained through a member. Once in the gallery, however, a stranger cannot be turned out so long as he observes the rules—i.e. refrains from tokens of applause or dissent; does not disturb the House, and so forth—and so long as the House does not decide to go into secret session. In this respect the Japanese practice differs from the English, for at Westminster any member can have the Strangers' Gallery cleared merely by calling the Speaker's attention to the fact that there are strangers present. We may mention here a curious fact in connection with Westminster customs, namely, that the only strangers whose removal cannot be achieved at any moment are the ladies. In point of fact a lady, having gained admission to the House, could sit out any debate, even after an order to clear the House had been given. This anomaly is the result of an architectural difficulty. When the new parliamentary buildings were completed, it was found that no space was available for lady visitors, and provision for their accommodation was accordingly made in a room which does not form part of the House itself. A Speaker's order to clear the House does not extend, consequently, to the Ladies' Gallery, and here as everywhere else, the fair sex is free to set law and order at defiance.

AN ITALIAN VIEW OF TREATY REVISION.

La Riforma, the organ of Premier Crispi, contained on the 29th Oct. last an article under the heading of "Treaty Revision in Japan," of which the following is a translation:—"Recent news received from Yokohama furnishes us with details of the agitation promoted in that city, against the eventual abolition of consular jurisdiction in Japan, in regard to which we have already had telegraphic communication. The promoters of the movement had arranged at a meeting held on the 11th of last month the appointment of a working committee of seven members, who were instructed to collect the necessary funds and to enter into communication with the principal Chambers of Commerce in countries having the most important business intercourse with Japan, in order to protest, even by means of the press if necessary, against the action of the British Government, which is supporting treaty revision. Among the European agitators, residing at Yokohama and Tokyo, there are, however, many who protest more for the sake of their own personal and commercial interest, than on account of national spirit, or of the legal benefits of maintaining extra-territorial jurisdiction, which up to now has ruled in those cities. The most important points which the British Government seems preferably inclined

to insist upon, should be: the revision of the Customs tariff of Japan, a radical reformation of the system of passports, the securing of the right for British subjects to buy and possess real estate within the territory of the Empire of the Rising Sun. In exchange for such concessions, it would on its side grant little by little and gradually, the abolition of the capitulations, of course after having ascertained by experience that the local judiciary will be fit to try and judge even the disputes and law-suits of Europeans. But the anti-revisionists do not want even to hear talk of any concession or of any relinquishment at any time. They clearly understand that English Ministers, by showing themselves disposed to surrender the principle of extra-territorial rights, for the attainment of the above mentioned privileges, have principally in view to open the field in Japan for British capital. It is for this reason that those now on the spot agitate so much, fearing the competition of new comers, and because they foresee that by passing from their own to the local jurisdiction they would no more be exempted, as they are now, from the direct and indirect taxes to which the native population is subjected."

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JUSTICE AND THE COMMERCIAL CODE.

THERE appears to be very little doubt that the Minister of State for Justice has tendered his resignation in consequence of the decision of both Houses of the Diet as to the postponement of the Commercial Code's operation. By more than one leading Japanese paper the fact is mentioned, with details of the Government's action in the matter. The *Hochi Shimbun* says that four hours after the result of the voting in the Upper House had been announced, namely, at 10 o'clock p.m. on the 22nd instant, Count Yamada sent in his resignation through the Minister of the Imperial Household. The Emperor, much concerned, summoned the President of the Privy Council to the Palace on the 23rd, and entrusted him with the duty of carrying back the resignation and conveying to Count Yamada the Imperial wishes that he should remain at his post. The same gracious intimation was made to the Minister through Viscount Hijikata. The members of the Cabinet also repaired to Count Yamada's official residence, and urged him to reconsider his decision. It is not yet known how the affair will end. Count Yamada is reported to be very determined in his purpose of resigning, and we cannot wonder that such is the case, for the Bill sent up by the two Houses amounts to something very like a vote of censure on the Judicial Department. Count Yamada is a statesman of ability and high integrity. His loss could not fail to be felt by the Cabinet. It is reported that in the event of his resolve to retire remaining unshaken, the portfolio of Justice will probably be given to Mr. Inouye Ki, now Chief of the Legislative Bureau, and that Mr. Inouye's present post will be filled by Mr. Ozaki Saburo, but this forecast is purely conjectural.

Since writing the above we have received an extra of the *Official Gazette*, published yesterday evening, announcing that His Majesty the Emperor has been pleased to allow Count Yamada to retire temporarily on account of ill-health, and that pending his recovery the duties of Minister of Justice will be discharged by Count Oki, President of the Privy Council.

THE "NAMOA" PIRACY.

At the Police Court, Hongkong, before the Hon. H. E. Wodehouse, Li A Loi, 41, tailor; Chan Choi Yen, 36, smuggler; Chan Choa Leung, 32, no occupation; and Leung A Shin, 40, boatman, were charged, with others not in custody, with piratically, feloniously, wilfully, and maliciously killing and slaying Captain T. G. Pocock, master of the British steamer *Namoa*; C. M. Petersen, a passenger; and a Malay quartermaster; and also with feloniously stealing money and jewellery and clothing, valued at \$55,000, the property of the passengers and crew of the British steamer *Namoa*, on the

10th inst., on board the said steamer then on the high seas. Inspector Stanton prosecuted. No evidence was taken, and on the application of Inspector Stanton, the accused were remanded till Tuesday, the 23rd inst.

THE BIRTH OF PEACE. CHRISTMAS, 1890.

It was the silent midnight,
And from the sky afar
A stillness fell o'er hill and dell,
From planet and from star;
And in the depths of heaven,
Amid its clouds of fleece,
The moon rode fair through the listening air,
And the word that it spoke was "Peace!"

The fir-clad mountains slumbered,
The fair, broad plains were still,
And ocean's breast was hushed in rest,
As by some mighty will;
And man and beast were sleeping,
In city and in field,
And song of bird no more was heard,
Mid woodland boughs concealed.

Ah, well may earth be silent,
And well may nature stand
With bated breath, as the hush of death
Were spread o'er sea and land;
For to-night the old is dying,
And to-night shall the new be born;
And the great world waits, at the century's gates,
For the rise of a brighter morn.

There's a glow in the eastern heavens,
And a new-born star is hung,
Like a beacon light, in the nations' sight,
The time-worn oaks among;
And a sudden thrill, awaiting,
Through earth's vast frame has run,
For the old is dead, and the false has fled,
And the true is now begun.

The mariner, far sailing
Alone on the moonlit seas,
Hears on the gale the dying wail
Of the fair, frail gods of Greece;
But the happy spheres are singing
A new, glad strain to earth,
As once they sung when the world was young,
And the song is a song of birth.

Sing on, bright orbs, forever,
To listening sea and shore,
For that star so white, on the brow of night,
Shall pale from the skies no more;
And o'er the great world breaking,
All men the light shall see,
And joy be born in the hearts that mourn,
Through the Christ that is to be.

WILLIAM SHIELDS LISCOMB.
Tokyo, Christmas Eve, 1890.

CENTRAL MISSION TABERNACLE.

WITH reference to our leading article of yesterday, we have been requested to publish the following list of subscriptions to the Central Tabernacle fund:—

Paid before the Fire.	Paid after the Fire.	
R. Hosking, Esq., Tokyo.....	Miss Lund, Tokyo.....	15.00
Rev. E. R. Miller, Morioka.....	Mrs. Van Patten, Yokohama.....	10.00
Rev. C. J. D. Moore, Tokyo.....	Mrs. Fenollosa, Tokyo.....	10.00
Rev. F. A. Cassidy, Shizuoka.....	His Ex. Hugh Fraser, Tokyo.....	25.00
E. B. Watson, Esq., Yokohama.....	J. T. Swift, Esq., Tokyo.....	25.00
Capt. F. Brinkley, Tokyo.....	M. R. Tuttle, Esq., Tokyo.....	50.00
Mrs. Eby.....	Rev. W. Andrews, Hakodate.....	10.00
Rev. A. Hardie, Tokyo.....	Professor Chamberlain, Tokyo.....	5.00
Rev. C. J. Cocking, Tokyo.....	The Misses Prince.....	20.00
Rev. Dr. Cochran, Tokyo.....	Rev. C. T. Cocking.....	40.00
His Ex. Gov. Hibi, Tokyo.....	Dr. Bradbury, Saga.....	10.00
F. S. James, Esq., Yokohama.....	Dr. and Mrs. Wainwright, Oita.....	10.00
Dr. Whitney, Tokyo.....	Rev. J. C. C. Newton, Kobe.....	6.00
Messrs. Wilkin and Robison, Yokohama.....	Rev. Dr. W. Lambuth, Kobe.....	5.00
A. W. Curtis, Esq., Yokohama.....	Rev. W. E. Towson, Kobe.....	6.00
Miss Lund, Tokyo.....	Miss Mary Beis, Kobe.....	5.00
Miss Preston, Tokyo.....	Mrs. Frank Muller, Kobe.....	5.00
Professor J. M. Dixon, Tokyo.....	Rev. T. B. W. Demara, Kobe.....	5.00
Professor C. C. George, Tokyo.....	Rev. Mr. Wilson, Kobe.....	5.00
Rev. J. C. C. Newton, Kobe.....	Rev. Dr. and Mrs. W. Lambuth, Kobe.....	10.00
Lieut. Wedhouse.....	Miss Gaines, Kobe.....	5.00
Lieut.	Friend from China.....	5.00
The Band.....	Mrs. Waters.....	1.00
M. R. Tuttle, Esq., Tokyo.....	The Band.....	500.00
	Dr. G. C. Knott.....	10.00
		\$800.00
		\$5,834.80

Unpaid subscriptions are not shown in the list.

CHRISTMAS AT THE BRITISH LEGATION IN TOKYO.

THE British Legation in Tokyo was on Thursday thrown open from cellar to garret for the celebration of Christmas. Tokyo had never before witnessed such a fête. The whole of the foreign community of the capital and a majority of the leading Japanese residents were there with their children, the little ones alone numbering nearly two hundred. Yokohama was not largely re-

presented, people naturally shrinking from the long railway journey in the bitter cold, and above all from the consequent necessity of spending the whole of Christmas evening away from their own homes. By half-past four in the afternoon the salons on the ground floor and the spacious hall were the scenes of dancing and merry games of all kinds, and at six o'clock a Christmas tree of colossal proportions crowned the delight of the guests. The gifts without exception were handsome and well selected, and so thoroughly had the arrangements been thought out that every one of the great concourse of children received a valuable present duly labelled with the recipient's name, and the ladies were scarcely less fortunate. The little ones were then regaled at a veritable Christmas feast, and after their return home at 7 o'clock the grown up guests sat down to a dinner laid for a hundred and fifty persons. It certainly was a most happy and hospitable thought to assemble the whole family of British residents under one roof at this glad season, and the association of their children with those of the Japanese in Christmas sports brought the two nationalities so close together that differences of race seemed to have disappeared altogether.

GOLD AND SILVER RATIOS.

THE *Official Gazette* gives the following table of comparative values of gold and silver coins and of the pound sterling for the week ended the 20th instant, as derived from the returns of the Bank of Japan and the Yokohama Specie Bank:—

Days	Gold Coin. (Per yen 100)	Silver Yen.	Pound Sterling (Per £1)
15th.....	117.500	A.M. P.M.	5.7831
16th.....	117.700	A.M. P.M.	5.7831 5.7485
17th.....	116.800	A.M. P.M.	5.6140
18th.....	114.500	A.M. P.M.	5.6140
19th.....	114.500	A.M. P.M.	5.6470
20th.....	114.800	A.M. P.M.	5.6804
Averages.....	115.967		5.6841

The above averages show for gold coin a decrease in value of yen 3.083 per cent., and for the pound sterling a decrease in value of yen 0.1938 as compared with the previous week.

THE BUDGET.

THE period of 15 days originally fixed for the examination of the Budget by the Committee of the House of Representatives having proved insufficient, an extension of one week had to be granted. We say had to be granted, because it does not seem probable that the Government would ever refuse to extend the fixed period if the Committee of the House declared such a course essential. It is natural that the Committee should find exceptional difficulties in making a report on the first Budget ever submitted to a Japanese Parliament. The principles upon which the Budget is compiled have to be considered, and so also has the interpretation of such portions of the Constitution as bear upon this subject. Moreover, the Diet is called upon to furnish a precedent for the guidance of all future Houses in dealing with the important subject of national finance. There are therefore ample reasons for delay apart from the fact that the discussion is said to be greatly complicated by the obstinate radicalism of the *Kaishin-to* Representatives in the Committee, who insist upon reductions that are obviously impossible. The representatives of the *Rikken Yui-to* are no less bound to their constituents than the representatives of the *Kaishin-to* to effect economies in the public expenditure; but whereas the former limit their ideas within practical bounds, speaking of a reduction of only three or four million yen at most, the latter seem determined to push the matter to an extremity by recommending a reduction of ten millions, which is obviously out of all reason. The *Kaishin-to* having always been conspicuous among political parties for moderation and practical common-sense, and its illustrious leader being at least as familiar as any man in Japan with the administration's financial require-

ments, the public is much perplexed to account for the extreme attitude taken by the party in the Diet. The most generally received explanation is that the *Kaishin-to* aims not at defeating the Government on the question of the Budget, but at bringing about a dissolution of Parliament. The forces which the *Kaishin-to* musters in the present House of Representatives are very small in proportion to the real strength of the party, and another election could scarcely fail to largely increase its Parliamentary following. In these facts many people find a sufficient explanation of what is now going on in the House. But we cannot ourselves accept this view. The *Kaishin-to* might indeed gain an increased following at the polls, in the event of an appeal to the country, but it would lose incomparably more in public esteem if, for mere party purposes, it brought about a serious crisis in the history of the first Diet, a crisis which could not fail to cast doubts on Japan's capacity to be governed by Parliamentary institutions.

LOSS OF THE P. AND O. STEAMER "NEPAUL."

TELEGRAPHIC information was received in Hongkong yesterday, says the *Daily Press* of the 15th inst., to the effect that the P. & O. steamer *Nepaul*, homeward bound from Calcutta, had been lost close to Plymouth. The *Nepaul*, which was one of the other older vessels, had a registered tonnage of 3,594 tons. Most of the passengers by the mail steamer *Clyde*, which arrived at Hongkong on the 27th October, were passengers as far as Colombo by the *Nepaul*. They all spoke highly of her sea going qualities, and were particularly well pleased with the care and attention shown to them by the officers and crew. They will all the more regret to hear of her loss.

COUNT YAMADA.

AN extra of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, just received, states that, according to report, Count Yamada's resignation has not been accepted by the Emperor, but that he has been permitted to recruit his health in the capacity of Minister of Justice. The extra then makes the curious addition that Count Oki, President of the Privy Council, has been ordered to combine in himself temporarily the office of Minister of Justice.

A NEW ORGAN OF THE "RIKKEN-JIYU-TO."

THE *Koko* announces that from New Year's day it will become an organ of the *Rikken-Jiyu-to*, and that its editorial department will be under the direction of Messrs. Nakaye Tokusumi, Oye Taku, Hoshi Toru, Oi Kentaro, Kono Hironaka and Takahashi Kiichi, a formidable phalanx of noted politicians. The *Koko* was always a Radical journal. Its politics undergo no change by the alteration in its editorial staff.

We very much regret to receive the following intelligence from the P. & O. Agent at this port:—"I am advised by the Company's Agent at Hongkong that there is no prospect of saving the *Hongkong*, ashore in the Red Sea, and also that the *Nepaul* is a total wreck near Plymouth."

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The principal events of the week have been a serious dissension among the members of the Committee on the Budget, the final and overwhelming success of the Bill for the postponement of the date of operation of the Commercial Code, the resignation of the Minister of Justice, and the formal organization of the much talked of National Liberal party. At the moment of sitting down to prepare this summary, the House of Peers is considering the Bill for the abolition of Law No. 84 (the object of which law is to invest the Crown and the Executive with the power of issuing Ordinances containing punitive provisions within certain limits). The *Hochi Shimbun* reports that the Government is resolved to appeal to the country, if the Diet passes the above mentioned Bill. Before we finish the present summary we may perhaps be able to allude to

the results of the debates on this Bill and also the opinions of the Tokyo papers on the question.

On the 20th instant, Mr. Oye Taku, chairman of the Committee on the Budget, took the members of the Lower House by surprise by informing the House that the Committee had not been able to prepare any report on the Budget within the stipulated period. The repeated demands of the House to know something of what the Committee had been doing failed to elicit one word of reply from the Chairman, who stated only that he had nothing to report. Meanwhile, Mr. Fujita Mokichi and thirteen others notified to the President their intention of resigning their membership of the Committee. After warm debates on the propriety of the extraordinary conduct of the Committee, the conciliatory proposal of Mr. Kusumoto and others prevailed, and the House resolved that a week's time should be granted the Committee to make up the report, the President at the same time declaring, amid the cheers of the House, that Mr. Fujita and others' resignation could not be approved. The reports thus far published by the Tokyo papers as to the cause of the failure of the Committee to complete its report on the Budget, are very various. The *Kaishin-to* organs try to lay the blame on the shoulders of Mr. Oye and other *Jiyu-to* members of the Committee, while the Radical papers turn the tables on Mr. Fujita, Mr. Ozaki, and the other *Kaishin-to* members. It appears that when the Committee had made some progress in the work of formulating reductions on the estimated expenditures, some of the members, Mr. Oye, Mr. Takenouchi, and others, showed themselves unwilling to follow Mr. Fujita and others in the changes which the latter proposed to make in the existing organization of the various branches of the administration, on the ground that such proposals, when tacked to the Budget, would be nothing less than an encroachment upon the constitutional prerogative of the Emperor. It is very extraordinary that Mr. Oye and those who sympathized with him did not take an early opportunity to settle the point, and set the committee's investigations in the right direction. But as it is, they suffered the Committee to proceed on the basis of the radical plan of Mr. Fujita and others. Meanwhile, the date appointed for making a report to the House approached, and at the last moment Mr. Oye and others openly objected to the whole scheme of reduction elaborated by the Committee; and strange to say, his faction had by this time increased so much in numbers that only 19 out of 63 members of the Committee persisted in adhering to the original plan. The Committee now found itself in an embarrassing situation; it had to entirely remodel its report but it had no time to do so. The result was, as already stated, Mr. Oye's strange statement that the Committee had nothing to report. The minority, consisting mostly of the *Kaishin-to* politicians and a small section of the *Jiyu-to*, at first intended to make an independent report to the House, but they at last decided to resign their positions on the Committee. These persons have, however, as already stated, acquiesced in the verdict of the President—that they continue members of the Committee.

The *Kokkai*, writing on the subject, blames the conduct of the *Kaishin-to* members of the Committee, because they, in the opinion of our contemporary, wanted to promote the interest of their party at the expense of that of the country. Why did the members of the *Kaishin-to*, who had hitherto been considered a sober and moderate set of men, propose such a daring and extreme course of action in regard to the Budget? The *Kokkai* answers, because they wanted to cause such a collision between the Diet and the Government as might lead to the dissolution of the former, in which event they hoped that they might be able to retrieve their signal failure at the last general election. Are they likely to succeed in their crafty design to commit the Diet to a fatal course of policy? Our contemporary regrets that the only result of their tactics may

be not the dissolution of the Diet, as they hope, but the carrying out of the Budget of the previous year on the part of the Government.

The *Choya Shimbun* enters a similar protest against the conduct of the members of the *Kaishin-to*. "The members of that party," remarks our contemporary, "having experienced a series of failures in recent years, and being but scantily represented in the Diet, now lack the sense of responsibility attaching to the leaders of current politics. Being, however, an extremely cohesive party—in fact so cohesive that their movements are regarded to be cunning rather than sagacious—they thought that, if they combined with the extreme section of the Constitutional Liberals, they would be able to win over to their side not only the Committee on the Budget but the House of Representatives, and on the strength of this belief they surprised the public by proposing a reduction of the public expenses by as much as 10 million yen." Our contemporary seems, therefore, to think that, but for the selfish tactics of the *Kaishin-to*, the Committee would have been able to complete a report within the stipulated period of fifteen days. The *Choya* then goes on to dwell on the paramount importance of speedily completing the investigations on the Budget, and reminds the Committee of the tedious process through which the Budget must pass after leaving its hands. A number of days will be spent by the House in debating on the results of the investigations of the Committee, and a further number of days will be required by the Upper House to consider the amendments introduced in the Budget by the Lower House. And should the Peers find it difficult to concur with the decision of the Representatives, a conference of commissioners of the Houses must be held. Then last of all, the results of the conference must be duly considered by the Lower House before the Budget can be again sent up to the Upper House. These proceedings will, in the estimation of the *Choya*, require more than 60 days. Meanwhile, the next fiscal year will have dawned, while the Budget has not yet been brought into actual existence." Our contemporary thus thinks it by no means impossible that the contingency contemplated in the 71st Article of the Constitution may actually come to pass.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* refrains from alluding to various rumours that are current as to the motive of those who proposed a radical plan of retrenchment and of those who opposed such plan. Our contemporary, like the *Choya*, is afraid that, if the utmost care be not taken to complete the Committee's report as speedily as possible, and, even if the Committee finish their work speedily, difference of opinion on the question may occur between the Upper and the Lower Houses, and the provisions of Article 71 of the Constitution may come to be applied, that is to say, the preceding year's Budget will be carried out by the Government.

Mr. Shimada Saburo, writing in the *Mainichi Shimbun*, observes among other things that he does not consider it illegal on the part of the Committee to extend its researches to the organizations of the Departments of State, by way of explaining how the reduction of expenditures can be effected. He also censures the conduct of some politicians who do not scruple to circulate various mischievous rumours concerning the motives of the members of the Committee on the Budget. All the misunderstandings that have arisen are ascribed by him to the circumstance that the Chairman of the Committee did not report the various stages through which the investigations of the Committee had passed.

The *Jiyu Shimbun* is opposed to the plan of interfering with the prerogative of the Sovereign as to the organization of the branches of administration. The *Nippon* is of the same way of thinking. The latter paper discusses the question at great length, and concludes that such a plan is bad in principle and pernicious in practice, and that it is a very poor way of embarrass-

ing those in power. On the whole, the vernacular press is tolerably unanimous in disapproving of the conduct of the *Kaishin-to* members of the Committee on the Budget.

The passing through both Houses of the Bill for the postponement of the date of operation of the Commercial Code, has been received by the press with loud acclamations. Two articles that have appeared in the *Fiji Shimpō* on this subject are especially worthy of being reproduced. In the first article, our contemporary observes that Japanese society, political and social, being at present in the course of entire renovation, codification of new laws is one of the most important undertakings which the country is now called upon to accomplish. But with regard to the codes of laws that have been promulgated by the Government in the course of the present year, especially the Commercial Code, our contemporary thinks that there are good reasons to take exception to them. "The object of the Commercial Code," says the *Fiji*, "may have been to meet the demands of New Japan, but it may with reason be feared that the effect of its operation may be prejudicial to the national progress and development, as it may retard the smooth movement of social affairs. Customs and manners being the principal factors that constitute the basis of a country's progress and development, no set of laws compiled on the model of a foreign code, can be expected—no matter what regard may have been paid to our customs and manners—to be free from the evils that usually attend a departure from ordinary courses of procedure. In other words, the new code under consideration, instead of being the natural outcome of national customs and manners, is in fact a device for restraining those that at present exist." Our contemporary, then, characterizes as shallow and unsympathetic the contention usually put forth by the defenders of the Commercial Code, that, Japan having adopted with success all the latest inventions of modern civilization, there is no reason why she ought not to adopt the laws of the Occident; because such a contention ignores the vital difference that exists between things material and things immaterial. The *Fiji* is thus very glad that the Diet has voted for postponement, but as to the period of postponement our contemporary goes farther than many of those members who voted for the Bill may be prepared to follow. Our contemporary wants to have the operation of the Commercial as well as the Civil Codes postponed "ten or twenty years," so that there may be ample time to revise them in a thorough and satisfactory manner.

In the second article, the *Fiji* expresses agreeable surprise that the Diet has so early in its existence proved itself to be strong enough to score against the Government such a victory as it has just obtained on the question of the Commercial Code. While, on the one hand, congratulating the members of the Diet on a signal victory, our contemporary, on the other, warns them, in the words of the proverb, "to tighten the cord of your helmets after a victory." They have before them questions bristling with far more difficulties than the one just settled, such, for instance, as the Budget and the reduction of taxes. In attacking these questions, our contemporary advises them not to be hurried by the recollection of their recent easy victory into any rash and precipitate movement; for unless they keep within the bounds of reason and moderation, they may very probably plunge themselves into a course of action which, by producing a serious collision between themselves and the Government, may possibly do incalculable damage to the smooth development of constitutional government in Japan. They are, therefore, earnestly entreated to be patient during the first two or three years, and for the present to be contented with the victory they have just obtained.

The *Kokkai* applauds the conduct of the majority of the Peers on this question. When the Bill was sent up to the Upper House, the anxiety

of the public was great as to the final attitude of that House. It was at one time seriously apprehended that the House might declare itself opposed to the decision of the Representatives: so assiduously did the defenders of the Code endeavour to make converts by their personal persuasion and by the papers which they distributed among their fellow members. Indeed some members of the Lower House—the *Kokkai* goes on to remark—were overheard in the lobby to observe with a great deal of warmth that those members of the Upper House who occupy official positions being mere tools of their superiors in the Government, the constitution of that House must be entirely remodelled. Had the Peers voted against the Bill, such opinions as this would have acquired much influence, and there might have been engendered ill feelings of a serious character between the two branches of the Legislature. Our contemporary, therefore, is very glad that the Peers have so far appreciated the tendency of the public mind as to concur with the verdict of the Representatives on this question of the Commercial Code. The Peers are enjoined to check whatever extravagant and precipitate action the Representatives may commit, but they are advised on all other occasions to concur with the wishes of the people as manifested through the decisions of the Lower House.

The resignation of Count Yamada, Minister of Justice, which has been caused, it is said, by the fate of the Bill above alluded to in the Diet, and by the decision of the Cabinet to approve of the Bill, seems to be regarded on all sides as likely to receive the Imperial sanction, though at present he is only temporarily relieved from his Ministerial duties. The names that have thus far been mentioned in connection with portfolio of Justice, are those of Count Oki, President of the Privy Council; Viscount Tanaka, once Vice-Minister of Justice and at present Privy Councillor; Mr. Kono Togama, Privy Councillor; Mr. Hosokawa Junjiro, Chairman of the Committee of the whole House in the House of Peers; Mr. Iwamura Michitoshi, formerly Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, but now Privy Councillor; and Mr. Mitsukuri Rinsho, the present Vice-Minister of Justice. Of these Mr. Iwamura is, according to the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, the most likely candidate.

The *Hochi Shimbun* regrets that the turn which things have taken has made it necessary for Count Yamada to resign his position. The Cabinet is no doubt extremely unwilling to part with him under the circumstances, but it has, says the *Hochi*, to weigh the balance between its desire to keep him and the grave responsibility of rejecting the united resolution of both Houses of the Diet on a question of great importance. Speaking for the sake of Count Yamada himself, our contemporary seems to think that under present circumstances the most honourable course of action that he can take as a constitutional Minister is to leave the Government.

The *Fiji Shimbun* approves the manly course that Count Yamada has taken in resigning his position. The Radical organ is glad that he has done so, not only for the sake of the Count himself, but for the reason that he has thus set a good example before the rest of the Cabinet Ministers how to act under like circumstances.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* is also glad that Count Yamada has provided a good precedent for all constitutional Ministers of the future. But at the same time, our contemporary thinks that the Count has been rather hasty in presenting his resignation. He ought to have waited until the fate of another Bill to be soon debated in the Diet had been known, namely, the Law of the Constitution of the Courts of Law Amendment Bill. Should this Bill pass through both Houses, the collegiate system of law courts, the introduction of which engaged so much the attention of the Count, will have to be abolished.

Why not be a little more patient and watch the fate of this Bill? It would have been time enough for him, says our contemporary, to resign upon the passing of the Bill in question.

The long talked-of organization of the National Liberal party came off on the 21st inst. The ceremony of organization was performed at the Nakamura-ro restaurant, Ryogoku, Tokyo. Mr. Yoshida Masaharu opened the ceremony by an address in which he briefly stated the history of the formation of the party. The chair was then taken by Mr. Mayeda Kagashi, and speeches were delivered by Messrs. Akiyama Kotaro, Yamagiwa Shichishi, and Ayai Takeo. Those present numbered about three hundred, including two young girl politicians, named Takakuwa Shizu and Inouye Tei, aged about 21 or 22 and 15 or 16 respectively. On the 25th instant, the committee of the party held another meeting, at which the following programme was adopted:—(1) To augment the Navy, (2) to reduce public expenditure by 8 million yen, (3) to reduce the land tax, and (4) to introduce amendments in the Conscription Law, with a view to increasing the reserves by limiting the term of actual service to two years. According to the *Kokkai*, the National Liberal party is a far more insignificant body than it at first promised to be. The *Kokken-to* of Kumamoto and the *Kyuyu-kai* of Niigata stand aloof from it, while Viscount Tani and his followers are said to be at least unsympathetic with it, to say nothing of the hesitating attitude of the former members of the defunct *Genyo-sha* of Fukuoka.

The debate on Law No. 84 has been deferred till the Diet meets after the New Year's recess, the Houses having been adjourned on the 25th inst. to the 8th of January, 1891. With regard to the Diet's recess, the *Mainichi Shimbun* and the *Yomiuri Shimbun* laugh at the alacrity with which the Houses decided to have nearly a fortnight's holiday. Hitherto it has been the fashion on the part of politicians out of power to say that Government officials have too many holidays, but henceforth they ought to be ashamed to repeat such clamour, as they have taken a holiday which is much longer than that enjoyed by the official class, and this, too, at a stage when the Diet ought to be extremely frugal of its time.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* is still engaged in discussing the question of the defences of the country, and deals with the various improvements that are to be introduced in the Navy. The question of the augmentation of the Navy also engages the attention of the *Chora Shimbun* in a series of articles not yet concluded.

The *Fiji Shimbun* has brought to a close an instructive essay on the future prospects of parliamentary institutions in Japan. Our contemporary is of opinion that, though the final establishment of the Diet has been in the present year, the birth of parliamentary institutions took place at the time of the Restoration, while a state of things had for a long time been maturing under the Tokugawa Government for the adoption of a constitutional form of Government. Parliamentary institutions thus resting in Japan on a firm historical basis, the *Fiji* is confident of the future of the Diet.

The *Hochi* has published three articles on the Japanese Diet, said to have been contributed by an Englishman who signs himself H.J. The writer gives much wholesome advice to the members of the Diet. The *Nippon* is publishing a long series of interesting articles on an imaginary country inhabited by insane persons, the object of the writer being to place before the reader a vivid picture of the inner side of society. The *Kokka*, as usual, devotes several articles to the discussion of questions bearing on coast defence and the foreign relations of the country, but space forbids us to reproduce these essays, interesting as they always are.

*JAPANESE PUBLIC MEN AS SEEN
THROUGH THE MEDIUM OF FO-
REIGN TRANSLATIONS.*

IF any estimate were to be formed of Japanese statesmen from the English rendering of their speeches published by some of the local foreign journals in Japan, they would have to be written down as persons of very confused intellect and still more confused language. The EMPEROR'S speech at the opening of the Diet afforded a capital opportunity for a display of eccentric and laughable translation. Not indeed that such displays had been wanting in the past. But the opening of the Diet opened also a new and exceptionally entertaining chapter of blunders, and it has now become a matter of public marvel that any newspaper, however perfunctory its management and however illiterate its editors, should publish the nonsense recently appearing as so-called translations of the speeches delivered by Ministers of State in the Diet. False renderings by which the meaning of the original becomes altogether distorted may be regarded as more or less accidental. The system pursued is certain to lead to such errors. The translation is entrusted to a Japanese possessing a very limited knowledge of English; a knowledge quite insufficient to enable him to render correctly articles and speeches couched in difficult language and dealing with difficult topics. The number of Japanese capable of rendering such matters into accurate English is few and far between. No men of adequate calibre are to be found on the translators' staff of the local English journals. The Japanese to whom is entrusted the important task of laying the thoughts of their countrymen before the foreign public, are men possessing only a smattering of English. They struggle hard and earnestly, no doubt, to grapple with the great difficulties of the Japanese text, but as a rule the result is exceedingly lame and misleading. These translations are then placed in the hands of an Englishman who has no knowledge whatever of Japanese, and whose function is simply to remove the crudities of the translators' English, to string their disjointed sentences into some semblance of continuity, and to impart to the whole a veneer of polish. How much the meaning of the translation suffers at the hands of these dressers, who treat it simply as a bit of English to be licked into presentable shape, and who have no means of ascertaining its fidelity to the original, it would be difficult to say. What is certain is that the articles as they ultimately appear in the columns of the local press are calculated only to provoke derision and to bring their writers and speakers into contempt. Mistakes of meaning are inseparable from the system, but what strikes us as most curious is that care is not taken to obtain even an approach to sense and grammar. Surely it ought to be pos-

sible to comply with the ordinary rules of syntax and construction, and to obtain some appearance of coherency. Take for example a sentence like the following:—"Even if full arrangements can be made to-day, the resources of the country will not permit its being carried out." Can anybody discover what is meant by this "it" that cannot be carried out? Again, consider the following:—"Although the incompleteness of the Navy is a matter that is much discussed, it is nevertheless natural that those who are in a position to do so should sacrifice themselves for the welfare of their country. Still I feel some doubts of its success." Probably such a jumble of inconsequential nonsense was never printed in a newspaper before. If any of our readers can make head or tail of it their perspicuity must be very exceptional. If the Minister of State for the Navy had talked such arrant nonsense in the House of Representatives he would have met with a curious reception. Take yet another example:—"Common education is for school boys in order that they may become the basis of the State, promote its welfare and increase the happiness of the people, by caring for the physical development of their bodies and the moral basis, common knowledge and ability, necessary to them in after life will be obtained. Therefore ever since the Restoration the Government have been busily following the policy of making all boys who are of age to attend school to do so, and are determined not to neglect its further stimulation." It really seems as if the writer who strung these striking sentences together had thrown the words into a hat and, taking them out at random, set them down as they came. Fifty examples of equally flagrant absurdities could be quoted from the translations daily placed before this community as reflections of contemporaneous Japanese thought. We do not know whether to attribute such palpably defective work to the contemptuous carelessness which too often disfigures the treatment of Japanese affairs by local foreign journals, or to chronic incompetence. Whatever be the explanation, the results are well calculated to confirm foreign ignorance of Japan, and to strengthen foreign want of faith in the Japanese.

*THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
AND THE COMMERCIAL CODE.*

IT must be confessed that the House of Representatives' first action of a legislative character does not reflect great credit upon it. The opponents of the new Commercial Code succeeded in carrying with them three-fourths of the House, but on reading the debate carefully it is difficult to discover any solid reasons for this consensus of opinion. Only two arguments were advanced for the postponement of the Code's operation. The first was that its phraseo-

logy is novel and perplexing; the second, that it contains provisions opposed to existing Japanese customs. If these two points had been established, they would certainly justify a postponement in order to give time for the amending of the Code. But they were not established. As to legal phraseology, it is to be remarked that legislators everywhere employ language not easily understood by ordinary folks. In Japan this must be especially true, because any body of Commercial Law now enacted necessarily provides for transactions and cases which were not contemplated before the advent of Western civilization. The Diet itself furnishes a conspicuous example of the linguistic change that has occurred in Japan during the past 20 years. Its debates bristle with words which would have been absolutely unintelligible at the beginning of the Meiji era, and even the members who found sharpest fault with the new-fangled phraseology of the Code, stated their objections in language which was itself an answer to their argument. Nevertheless, among those who voted against the Code were many barristers and students of eminence, and it must be presumed that these gentlemen were prepared to play a constructive as well as a destructive part. If they denounced the faulty language of the Code, they doubtless saw their way to its sensible improvement. Obviously it is not for foreign critics to pronounce a hard and fast opinion on such a subject, but the point we make is that if faultiness of phraseology is a genuine reason for the postponement of the Code's operation, clear evidence of the fact ought to have been adduced in the House. No such evidence was adduced. The members were left to take the fact for granted, a proceeding which, though justified by its sequel, is scarcely consistent with the parliamentary methods followed in the West. The same criticism applies to the question of the Code's provisions. Member after member declared that these provisions conflict with Japanese commercial customs now in vogue, but not one member took the trouble to demonstrate the points of conflict. Surely if there exists any divergence so marked as to render the new law vexatious and unsuitable, there should have been no difficulty in citing proofs from every-day practice. What are these Japanese commercial customs which cannot be conveniently brought within the purview of Western laws? We have never heard of them except in connection with this new Code, and although the Code has been condemned on account of their nominal existence, we remain as ignorant as ever about them. There has been some talk about the novelty of the method of book-keeping indicated by the Code, but this objection loses all force when we remember that the new method is in no sense compulsory. Merchants may go on to the Millennium

writing their books as before, and so long as they keep out of Court the law will not concern itself about their practice. The only difference between the results of observing and neglecting the methods of the Code, is that books kept as directed would possess greater value in case of an appeal to the Law Courts than books kept in the old form. This point can scarcely have exercised any serious influence on the Diet's vote. Either that vote was based upon sentiment rather than upon reason, or some customs exist of which foreigners have no cognisance, and which are at variance with the established methods of business as conducted in Europe and America. It is difficult to accept the latter alternative. When there is question of domestic habits, traditional creeds or national costume, everyone can appreciate conservative tendencies. But never since men became gregarious have the principles of sound trade varied, and if in the West there have sprung up various well recognised means of promoting credit, facilitating transactions, and securing integrity, Japan can no more refuse to accept those means than she can return to feudal government, torture, and national seclusion. If there are any essential Japanese commercial customs worthy of preservation, it ought to be easy to enumerate them, and the fact that no member of the House of Representatives attempted this task, seems to indicate that the verdict of the House was regarded as a foregone conclusion, and that some consideration not apparent on the surface weighed effectually with those who voted against the Code. What adds to the probability of this hypothesis is that good cause certainly was shown for the speedy enforcement of the enactment. Several members who, whether as barristers of repute or merchants of standing, deserved to be heard with respect and attention, explained in forcible language that sweeping reforms are earnestly needed in the domain of bankruptcy and company laws, and that the new Code would have produced most beneficial effects in these directions. Indeed there was no occasion for the public to be told that such is the case. At the root of all the distrust felt by foreigners towards the administration of justice in Japan, is the want of anything like good bankruptcy laws. The most able and upright judge and the most efficient enforcement of the law cannot secure justice if the law itself is inadequate. The present law of Japan seems to have been framed expressly for the benefit of defaulting debtors, and foreigners have learned by bitter experience that to appeal to such a law is mere waste of time and money. Then again it is unquestionably necessary that legal machinery should be provided to control the mania for companies which has taken such strong hold of the Japanese public. At present dishonest speculators are free

to take unrestrained advantage of this mania, and the House of Representatives has deliberately extended their charter of chicanery. If the House was determined to postpone the operation of the Code as a whole, it might at least have made an exception in favour of the portions relating to bankruptcy and companies. Its vote for wholesale rejection does not strike us as a very sound or discriminating exercise of the legislative powers vested in it. We are strongly disposed to think that sentiment had much to do with this affair. Some members doubtless voted against the Code for purely party reasons. Any enactment of the present Government's would meet with their condemnation. Other members, however, appear to have thought that the operation of the Code had been hastened for the purposes of Treaty Revision. Stated otherwise, this meant that the interests of 40,000,000 of Japanese had been subordinated to the convenience of a handful of foreign immigrants. Such a herring drawn across the trail was enough to divert the whole Japanese nation, in its present mood, from a sober, sensible course. The Diet evidently has not escaped the contagion. In the abstract it must be frankly admitted that to put the new Commercial Code into operation two years earlier than the new Civil Codes which have already been promulgated, seems a disjointed style of legislation, and that the necessity for having a Commercial Code in Japan distinct from the Civil Codes remains to be proved and might be very difficult to prove. But if these not unreasonable considerations weighed with the House, they were not clearly stated, and on the whole we cannot think that the debate of the 17th and 18th inst., and its sequel, reflect much credit on the thoroughness and sobriety of the House of Representatives.

THE NEW LECTURE HALL IN HONGO.

THE great work undertaken by the Canadian Methodist Mission in Japan has now been carried to the verge of completion. We say the work undertaken by the Methodist Mission, but it would in truth be more correct to say the work conceived by the enthusiastic hopefulness and executed by the unconquerable energy of perhaps the most prominent member of that Mission, the Rev. Dr. EBV. We often wonder whether the Japanese have begun to think seriously about the immense contributions to their moral and intellectual development made by Western nations out of pure philanthropy and for the simple sake of good. In all parts of the country extensive educational establishments, founded and for the most part supported by foreign munificence; in all parts of the country scores of highly gifted men devoting their almost gratuitous

efforts to the cause of human progress, represent a gradually accumulating debt which Japan owes to the West, and which she is only asked to repay by making the fullest possible use of the benefits thus conferred on her. People may talk of the illiberality displayed towards Japan's political aspirations; may claim that she has cause for umbrage because her rights as an independent nation receive tardy recognition; may complain that the value of her progressive efforts is grudgingly acknowledged; may assert that the merchants at the Treaty Ports refuse to be trustful or appreciative, and may draw striking comparisons between the arbitrary policy pursued by Western States thirty years ago in compelling Japan to emerge from her seclusion, and the selfish sequel of that policy to-day, namely, the contention practically advanced that her emergence must remain partial until foreigners can lay aside the distrust which they refused altogether to respect when she exhibited it—all these counts may be collected to form an impressive indictment, but on the reverse of the bill there is written a story which more than effaces that other record. The political methods of the West and the hard selfish tactics prescribed by the struggle for national supremacy, a struggle from which Japan herself cannot for a moment hope to escape, are clearly enough indicated by the conduct which has begun to render foreigners so unpopular in Japan. But if Japan desires to gauge the true sentiments of the West towards her, she must not neglect to consider the immense efforts made in her behalf by the numerous representatives of European beneficence and benevolence, who have devoted their lives to her moral and intellectual advancement. Among these nobler records the work spoken of above is entitled to a high place. It is a large and imposing building, standing in Haruki-Machi, one of the principal streets of Hongo, the students' quarter of Tokyo. The edifice has not yet attained its full dimensions. Want of funds and perhaps want of faith have curtailed the design, so that the hall, instead of affording accommodation for some two thousand persons, as is ultimately hoped, has been temporarily reduced in dimensions so as to offer seating room for only half that number. Allusions more than once made in these columns to the story of the Central Tabernacle, as the building is called, have doubtless familiarized our readers with its purposes. Some seven or eight years ago, Dr. EBV and other energetic missionaries conceived the idea of holding a course of Lectures in English and Japanese which should be open to all comers and should take for their subjects ethical and moral problems likely to interest the educated classes. The idea of Dr. EBV in inaugurating this course was to present Christianity rather on apologetic, evangelistic, and social lines than on ecclesiastical or theological. The lectures were

so signally successful that their repetition on a large scale became clearly indicated as a missionary duty. But one great difficulty stood in the way, the want of a suitable lecture hall. There was actually no place in Tokyo where the necessary accommodation could be obtained without incurring deterrent expense. If the scheme was to attain even a part of its capabilities, a lecture hall must be built and equipped. This was the task which Dr. EBY proposed to himself, and which he has now succeeded in carrying out. It is scarcely necessary to say that if the hall was to be at all adequate, a very large sum had to be expended upon its erection. The original calculation, we believe, was 25,000 dollars, an amount not to be procured without some exceptional exercise of energy and enthusiasm on the part of the promoters, and a remarkable display of generosity on the part of the charitable public. We cannot speak with any accuracy as to the various steps taken to obtain the money. Charity working in this whole-hearted manner is never ostentatious. No lists have been published in Japan showing the number and names of the subscribers. A good deal of the money was obtained by Dr. EBY in Canada, but some 5,000 yen was subscribed in Japan, a result which certainly deserves to be recorded. Material assistance came also from another quarter. This last point constitutes quite an exceptional feature of the scheme. There are many men in the West who, though not possessing ready money to subscribe to philanthropic purposes, possess the means of earning money, namely, intellect and accomplishments, and are willing to devote these to the promotion of a benevolent end. A number of such men have joined Dr. EBY's work. Coming to Japan, they have sought and found employment of a literary or technical character, and whatever they earn over and above the cost of living, they contribute to the cause they have at heart. Already from this source some 3,000 dollars have been subscribed in less than a year. The plan is one which need be only stated in the simplest terms to command the hearty admiration of the public. We should probably best consult the wishes of these quiet and sturdy workers in the cause of good did we refrain from any eulogy of their efforts. But it is pleasant to know that such men are among us, spreading throughout Japan a strong appreciation of the noblest aspects of Western civilization. From these various sources then the necessary funds were gradually obtained, and the Central Tabernacle has so far approached completion that in a few days it will be ready for use. We need not weary our readers with the dimensions and the architectural details. It will be enough to say that the building, as it now stands, is a handsome, massive structure, so contrived as to be available for gatherings of from fifty to a thousand

persons. Its interior arrangements are excellent and attractive. Furnished with a platform for organ and singers, with galleries for stereopticon purposes, with electric lights, stained glass windows, and so forth, its dimensions admirably proportioned, and the means of ingress and egress well contrived, it forms a hall of which Tokyo has reason to be proud. As usual in such large undertakings, the actual cost is found to exceed the estimates. Moreover, a great calamity befell the building when it had nearly reached completion; a fire, communicated to the scaffolding from a neighbouring house, caused damage which involved an additional expenditure of 3,000 dollars. Temporary furniture will consequently have to be put in at first, but whatever economy is exercised in this respect, a sum of about 1,000 yen is still urgently needed, and a concert on the 27th instant is projected as a means of raising this money. We hope that the public will give generous support to this latter scheme.

THE VINDICATION OF WARREN HASTINGS.

THE Government of India has just issued at Calcutta three portly volumes which appear likely to revolutionize current history in regard to some of the most striking episodes of British history in India. The publication came about in this way. Professor FORREST, who was appointed some years ago to take charge of the records of Bombay, and to superintend the production of such of them as seemed of historical value, performed the work so well that he was invited by the Government of India to go to Calcutta and take charge of the political records in Fort St. George, with a view to performing a similar task of selection in their case, and reproducing those selected so as to make them accessible to all students. These new volumes are among the first fruits of Mr. FORREST's appointment. They are entitled "Selections from the Letters, Despatches, and other State Papers preserved in the Foreign Department of the Government of India, 1772-1785." Now, 1785 was the year in which WARREN HASTINGS left India to meet the charges made against him by BURKE and others; and Professor FORREST's volumes therefore deal wholly with the period of HASTINGS' governorship, and in the introduction he discusses in the light of the original documents, now for the first time made public, these charges, which were made in the first instance by Sir PHILIP FRANCIS, adopted subsequently by BURKE and SHERIDAN, and popularised by MACAULAY in his famous essay. Prof. FORREST does not hesitate to say that not one of these charges is true, and that HASTINGS' own official correspondence shows that they are wholly unfounded. HASTINGS himself, at the

time of the famous impeachment, said over and over again that if the directors of the East India Company would produce these documents they would be his best justification; but the directors refused to produce them, and it is only now after a lapse of nearly a century that they are made public. Taking the principal charges, which MACAULAY has made known to every schoolboy, Professor FORREST in his introduction treats them all in succession. The first of these, for which MILL in his "History of British India" is mainly responsible, is that he withheld from Shah ALUM tribute which had been promised the latter, and that he handed over certain of Shah ALUM'S districts for a sum of money to the Nabob Vizier, SALUM, the Mogul Emperor. We have a long minute by HASTINGS explaining the reasons for his policy towards this potentate. Shah ALUM was, at the time, a tool in the hands of the Maharattas, who were deadly enemies of the British, and giving tribute to him would have been giving money to them; and as for his grant of territory to the British, HASTINGS says the latter had already taken it while at war with him, and that he had no power either to give or withhold it. Here are HASTINGS' own words on the subject—

Whatever policy suggested the first idea of the tribute, and whatever title he may be conceived to have had to the payment of it while he remained under our protection, and united his fortune with ours, his late conduct has forfeited every claim to it, and made it even dangerous to allow it, even if the resources of Bengal and the exigencies of the Company could any longer admit of it. Our conduct towards him has certainly afforded matter of admiration to the whole people of Hindustan, whether they construe it as the effect of a mistaken principle of duty, the just return of benefits received, or attribute it to some hidden cause. We have persevered with a fidelity unknown to them in an unshaken alliance to a pageant of our own creation, and lavished on him the wealth of this country, which is its blood, although not one of his own natural subjects has ever afforded him the least pledge of voluntary obedience, although our constituents have been compelled to withhold the legal claims of our own sovereign, although we have loaded them with an accumulated debt of a crore and a half of rupees, almost the exact amount of the sums remitted for the use of a man who, in return, has ungratefully deserted, and since headed armies against us.

Next as to the famous charge respecting the Rohilla war on which MACAULAY has expended his brilliant eloquence. That charge is that HASTINGS hired a body of British troops to the Nabob Vizier in order to destroy the liberty and take the territory of a brave nation who had done us no harm and had given us no cause for war. MACAULAY describes the Rohillas as "the gentlemen of India, whose veins were full of the high blood of Afghanistan." "It is infamous," says MACAULAY, summing up this charge, "to commit a wicked action for hire, and it is wicked to engage in a war without provocation." The facts are that the Rohillas were not a nation at all, but a body of Afghan freebooters; they had been beaten over and over again by the Maharattas, and Major HANNAY, who at the time knew them well, describes their national characteristic as want of sincerity. Their chief rose to power by treason, and Professor FORREST says that

the only title he had to Rohilkund was the title of fraud. The British fought with the Rohillas under the utmost provocation. They had called in the Nabob Vizier to help them in a war against the Maharattas, and had made a treaty for the purpose in the presence of the English General. The Maharattas were driven out by the Vizier and the British, but the Rohillas refused to pay the Vizier the amount for his assistance which they had promised him by solemn treaty. Moreover, it appeared that they had treacherously aided the Maharattas against their ally, and in consequence the Vizier determined to punish the Rohillas for their breach of faith. Hastings did all he could at the time to dissuade him from taking this step, regarding it not as unjust but impolitic, but ultimately he was compelled to give way, and, by the terms of the alliance with the Vizier, to aid him in punishing the Rohillas who had broken faith with the British as well as with the Vizier. But HASTINGS was very careful to provide that the British were to be employed only on service approved by their Commanders, and he himself described it as a perversion of fact to say that the British arms and honour were at the absolute disposal of the Vizier. It was asserted that HASTINGS looked calmly on at the ravages and butchery of the Vizier's troops in Rohilkund, but here are HASTINGS' orders to Mr. MIDDLETON his agent with the Vizier, to contradict this:—

You will take an immediate occasion to remonstrate with him against every act of cruelty or wanton violence. Tell him that the English manners are abhorrent of every species of inhumanity and oppression, and enjoin the gentlest treatment of a vanquished enemy. Tell him my instructions to you generally, but urgently enforce the same maxims, and that no part of his conduct will operate so powerfully in winning the affections of the English as instances of benevolence and feeling for others. If these arguments don't prevail, you may inform him directly that you have my orders to insist upon a proper treatment of the family of Hafiz Rahmat; since in our alliance with him our national character is involved in every act which subjects his own to reproach, that I shall publicly exculpate this Government from the imputation of assenting to such a procedure.

It would be difficult to find anything more peremptory and explicit than this, and accordingly Professor FORREST sums up the whole case in these terms:—"History furnishes no more striking example of the growth and vitality of a slander. The Rohilla atrocities owe their birth to the malignity of CHAMPION and FRANCIS; their growth to the rhetoric of BURKE; and their wide diffusion to the brilliancy and pellucid clearness of MACAULAY'S style."

In regard to the famous trial and execution of NUNCOMAR, although the papers on this matter are very full, Sir JAMES STEPHEN, in a work published a few years ago, completely disposed of the statement that HASTINGS was concerned in the trial of this miscreant. MACAULAY says that HASTINGS murdered him at the instigation of Sir ELIJAH IMPEY, the Chief Justice. It was proved to be

absolutely incorrect. Then as to the treatment of CHEYT SENGH, Rajah of Benares, MACAULAY'S charge is that "HASTINGS was determined to plunder CHEYT SENGH, and for that end to fasten a quarrel on him. Accordingly the Rajah was required to keep a body of cavalry for the service of the Government." It is clear now, however, that HASTINGS had no thought of plunder. The Rajah was not an independent prince at all, but a British vassal, and therefore bound to render military service. Professor FORREST treats the matter in this way:—

The interest and security of the country demanded that he should contribute money and troops for its defence. It was also in accordance with long-established custom that a vassal should afford aid to the Sovereign State in money and troops. The conduct of Cheyt Singh in hesitating to afford the necessary aid to his suzerain at a time of great danger was contumacious and refractory, and deserving of punishment. When we consider the state of India at that time, when we consider that the English were surrounded by enemies and in hourly expectation of the arrival of a powerful French armament, it is difficult to regard the imposition of even a too heavy fine on a refractory vassal as an act of criminality. In enforcing these demands, Hastings was actuated by no personal or malicious motives, but was compelled by the pressing exigencies of the hour and the desire to save India to Great Britain. "I had no other view in it," he said, "than that of relieving the necessities of the Company by an act which I considered to be strictly just."

Finally there is the alleged spoliation of the Begums of Oudh. It appears now that HASTINGS was thoroughly persuaded of the treachery and rebellious conduct of these ladies, and he regarded the guarantee given them by the British to be terminated by their seditious behaviour. It may be, according to Professor FORREST, that he was more severe with them than he ought to have been, but on this matter again here are the words of the editor fresh from a careful study of all the original documents. "If the evidence of some actors in these events, and of many who must have known about them at first hand, is to outweigh the presumptions and diatribes of his enemies, he had solid foundation for his belief. In order to recover the treasure the Nawab and his Ministers had to adopt severe measures towards the two eunuchs who had the chief influence over the Begums. The cruelty practised by the Nawab and his servants has been greatly exaggerated, but it was sufficient to have justified the interference of the Resident. To have countenanced it by transmitting the orders of the Vizier was a grave offence. But for what took place, HASTINGS at Calcutta cannot be held responsible. He ordered the Resident not to permit any negotiation or forbearance, but there is a wide gulf between legitimate severity and cruelty." On the whole matter the editor comes to the conclusion that, while the vindication of WARREN HASTINGS' conduct in the administration of India has been peculiarly rigid, "its fair fame will not suffer from an examination still more rigid and dispassionate." It is quite clear that Professor FORREST has made out a case for the reconsideration of

the moral character of WARREN HASTINGS' administration in India. And he has also supplied the materials to those who still believe in the accuracy of the historical verdicts of MILL and MACAULAY. Years must necessarily elapse before the final verdict of history on one of the greatest of British statesmen is pronounced, but it is satisfactory indeed to know that one careful and impartial student emerges from a study of all the original authorities for the period, with the confident assurance that above all things WARREN HASTINGS' administration of India was a humane and an honest one. For these are precisely the qualities which critics have hitherto denied to it.

THE "REVIEW OF REVIEWS."

MR. W. T. STEAD sometimes reminds us very strongly of the old Puritans. Zeal-for-the-truth-Thoresby, of Thoresby Rise, Deeping Fen, we are told, discoursed gravely on the road to Horncastle fair on saving grace and a number of other doctrinal points, and he did the same on the road home; but meantime he had driven a hard bargain for his pigs, and had succeeded in beating down the price of the heifer which he was taking back. Mr. STEAD too discourses on saving grace, and with extraordinary business keenness and skill establishes a magazine by the aid of a newspaper capitalist, and in a few months, when success is assured, becomes sole proprietor and then pushes its sale with unparalleled results. As to the *Review of Reviews* itself, there can be no question whatever of the skill and ability with which it is edited, and of its utility to the English reading public all over the world in these days of a huge magazine literature. Mr. STEAD himself contributes a very clever opening article in which the news of the month is summarized and commented on under the title "Progress of the World." Then follows an original character sketch of some famous person, such as STANLEY, BOULANGER, Mrs. FAWCETT and so on. And finally (we are referring now only to the original part of the magazine) comes a detailed abstract and discussion of some important work—very frequently one which otherwise would not seize the attention of the casual reader. The remainder of the *Review* is a sort of conspectus of all the leading magazine articles, and needless to say is extremely well done. A more admirable method for enabling the average man or woman to catch the currents of thought in the world and on various questions, it would be impossible to conceive. The published price of nearly 100 pages of matter is 6d., and the periodical is therefore brought within the reach of everybody. But the methods employed for pushing its sale are somewhat unusual. In a prospectus written by Mr. STEAD himself, and pitched in an

extremely high key, he appealed to all who had the good of their kind at heart to aid him in his work. He was going he said, to advocate the cause of the poor and needy. He was to be an apostle of a kind of Christian Socialism; he wished the office of his work to be an exchange for all who had moral wants and all who could supply them; he desired every person throughout the country who was willing to help him in this task to communicate with him, and in a short time he was thus enabled to establish what he calls a "corps of helpers" in this work of moral regeneration, who incidentally pushed energetically the sale of the *Review of Reviews*. From month to month he has taken up with the aid of his Helpers such work as supplying literature to workhouses and hospitals, obtaining country holidays for poor children and so on. Every month he issues a new prospectus usually headed "Please give this away, or leave it in any public place." In one of the latest of these he addresses an appeal "To those who wish to help," in the course of which he says that one distinguishing feature of his magazine has been the attempt to secure the active coöperation and assistance of all its readers for the collection of information, and the execution of the various philanthropic and other objects advocated in its pages. At present he says he has 500 Helpers all over the country and gives a list, but he wants more, he says, in order to have one at least in every constituency, and he wishes that one to be a nucleus of a local association of Helpers. In other words he wants to have—and is in fact getting—a very large number of unpaid canvassers and advertisers throughout the British Empire. That they do good work is undoubted, but that incidentally they add enormously to the sale of the magazine is equally undoubted. When he started, his most sanguine supporters put the circulation of the magazine at 30,000. In September he issued 90,000, in October 100,000, and the first edition of the issue for November will be 125,000. Mr. NEWNES, who has made his fortune by a little weekly penny paper of scraps called *Tit Bits*, financed the *Review of Reviews* at the outset, but in the fourth month of its age he had disappeared, and Mr. STEAD moved into splendid new offices on the Thames Embankment, and was himself the sole proprietor. Its advertisements are now about 30 pages, which means a small fortune, and month by month new "features" are being added. About two months ago it occurred to Mr. STEAD that artistic photography did not receive sufficient notice in the English Press. Accordingly he has a special article every month dealing with the photographs of the month. He has introduced also a scientific *causerie*, and the illustrations have become more and more numerous. The last number issued

contains a postal wrapper carefully gummed, on the inside of which is printed the injunction to "Remember your friends abroad and your poor neighbours at home," and in which all readers are invited to send the *Review of Reviews* to soldiers in India, sailors on foreign stations, lighthouse-keepers, workhouses, settlers in the bush, hospitals, and so on, and, says Mr. STEAD, "by writing your name on the outside of the wrapper the *Review* will become a welcome medium of communication between you and your friends afar. You may not have time to write, but the *Review* sent monthly will act as a pleasant reminder of your existence." The wrapper in question contains copious advertisements of the *Review*, and of various additional publications of Mr. STEAD'S. A more energetic or enterprising conductor for a magazine it would be impossible to conceive; every month there is something new, and around the whole there is the reflection that in pushing the sale of the *Review of Reviews*, in advertising it right and left, you are doing God's work.

FAREWELL DINNER TO THE REV. A. M. KNAPP.

Before the Rev. A. M. Knapp left Japan for Europe, whether he was ordered by his physicians to proceed, a farewell dinner was given to him in the Imperial Hotel, Tokyo, by a large number of friends interested either in his cause or in himself. The chair was taken by Mr. Kaneko, Chief Secretary of the House of Peers, and the vice-chair by Mr. Kato Satori, one of the most zealous Japanese supporters of Unitarianism. Some forty gentlemen were present, among them being noblemen, officials, missionaries and journalists. H.E. Mr. Kuki, formerly Japanese Representative in Washington, and now Director-General of the Imperial Museum, proposed Mr. Knapp's health in eloquent language. Mr. Kuki dwelt much on the conspicuously close character of the relations that have always existed between America and Japan, and on the necessity of still further extending and cementing those relations. He said that, during all these years, from the coming of Commodore Perry until the present day, no cloud had crossed the horizon of the two nations' friendship, except indeed the Shimono-seki affair, and that, by America's sense of justice, had been converted into an additional link of unity. He declared that, apart from the benefits conferred on Japan by the presence here of men like Mr. Knapp, such visitors were also of incalculable value in bringing the two peoples into closer contact, for Mr. Knapp, returning to America, would be able to tell his countrymen what the Japanese really are, and by what sentiments they are animated towards the children of the Great Republic beyond the water. He expressed deep regret that broken health should be the cause of Mr. Knapp's departure, but he pointed out that even from this they might derive some comfort since there were the best hopes of Mr. Knapp's speedy recovery and consequently of his return to his numerous friends in Japan.

Mr. KANEKO added a few hearty and well chosen words to this speech, and then called upon the guest of the evening.

The Rev. A. M. KNAPP, who spoke as follows:—I need hardly say with what pleasure I respond to your kindly words of greeting and farewell, especially as this occasion is to me the climax of the hospitalities and kindnesses which have been shown me since I landed in your country. But in this world and as we Unitarians believe, in all worlds, here and hereafter, there is no enjoyment without its alloy, no unmixed pleasure, and to me the pain comes with the thought that this climax is also the end of what has been to me an entrancing dream. As you have doubtless often been told, an extended sojourn in Japan is indeed for foreigners a dream from which it is painful to awake. The atmosphere of restfulness, the refinement which one finds here make it a real pain

to contemplate a return to the mad hurry and worry and selfish competition of the Western world. There is one regard, however, in which my stay among you cannot be likened to a dream. Dreams and all their incidents we soon and inevitably forget. I can never forget the kindnesses with which my three years' stay among you has been marked. And now, as we Unitarians are all thorough optimists, I want to take this occasion to dwell upon some of the encouraging features of the errand which brought Unitarianism to this country. Were it an isolated errand, or were we here simply as representatives of a small sect of Christendom; did we come here to make converts in the usual way associated with religious movements, there would be perhaps little for me to say. Were we alone in this enterprise we would share the fate of all isolated movements and look forward to being left aside and forgotten. But what is it that we came here to teach as a general method of thought in religion? We came to suggest precisely the same method in that sphere which is now being used with such marvellous results in other departments of learning and of life. We have hosts of companions in this movement. What for example have our co-workers in other realms been doing and what have they achieved? They have been applying a certain method to their work. As a result we have what is called the "New Astronomy," the "New Chemistry," the "New Biology," &c. None of the truths of the old astronomy have been lost, but there has been in that science an immeasurable and helpful gain. So too with the new Christianity: nothing worth knowing has been lost while floods of useful knowledge have been poured forth for the benefit of mankind. Now, precisely the same method the Unitarians would apply to the science of theology, and to the help of religious thought and life. Openly and unreservedly, and without wasting time or thought in the hopeless endeavour to reconcile the new ideas with ancient scriptures, that is, with the record of what men once imagined in regard to the universe and God, we believe in and abide by the results of the new theology and the new criticism, and seek to apply them to the conditions of our wonderfully new life in this present age. Therefore we are not isolated workers. We have the enormous encouragement which comes from the consciousness of having helpers in every realm of thought and activity. Again it is very encouraging to feel that we are not engaged in the hopeless attempt to struggle against the tide of God as specially manifested in all the movements of the time. The whole drift of human thought is with us. There is scarcely any instrumentality now moulding public opinion which is not in practical sympathy with us. Almost without exception, they all take for granted, they all assume, as the basis upon which they work, the essential principles of Unitarianism, which I define to be, in general terms, the supremacy of reason, the sanity of the universe and the essential soundness of human nature. Take the great newspapers of the world, the entire unsectarian press, and you will note that the basis of their discussions, the point of view they assume, is in entire accord with these principles and with all they logically involve. So too with the leading reviews and periodicals. Not only their drift but the whole atmosphere of their thought is permeated with these ideas. They do not discuss them to any great extent. They take them for granted. Or read the great poets and novelists of our day. The staple of their works is the idea of the essential soundness of human nature, and the sanity of the universe, excluding the very conception of miracle in the old theological sense. Take the great movements for moral reform. They also are based not upon the idea that man is essentially corrupt, hated by God, and needing special or artificial conversion, but they are based upon the idea that he is essentially improvable, and they go to work to improve him by training and education, by surrounding him with helpful influences. And so too in the realm of religion itself, the Churches which still cling outwardly to the old creeds and forms, are gradually but surely dropping out from their real thought the distinctive features of a bygone age—and are coming to stand upon the basis of the supremacy of reason, the sanity of the universe and the essential soundness of human nature. Therefore I say that Unitarianism here as everywhere has every encouragement. It is with the tide and is not trying to struggle against what is so manifestly a great world movement. Whether it succeeds as a denomination, is a matter of little moment, compared with the conviction that what it has at heart is, or is coming to be, the real heart and life and the practical religion of mankind. But it is not enough to merely drift with the stream. It is possible for every man to send the boat ahead of the current and gain time in this movement which

is winning happiness and peace for humanity. Horace Mann, the great American educator, on being rebuked for his impatience in carrying out his plans for reform, and told that God always had patience, replied: "Yes, but God has plenty of time, and I haven't." Something of that spirit ought to animate everyone of us who has the interests of humanity at heart. With that spirit we could not be content simply to float with the stream, but put forth our efforts in the consciousness that we are co-workers with God, and essential for the carrying out of the divine plans for the world. It is with the encouraging hope that there are now some at least among you who are animated with this spirit in regard to the religious future of your beautiful land, and of the part you may share in it, and the work you may do for it to carry it forward in the great tide movement of human thought, that I bid you farewell, thanking you for your great kindness, and asking only that that kindness may be vouchsafed in as abundant a measure to my successor, Mr. MacCauley, and his co-workers, who will, I know, be with you in heartiest sympathy in your effort to give your land the blessings of a genuine, practical, and reasonable religion.

Mr. ARAKAWA, Japanese editor of the *Unitarian Magazine*, said:—Mr. President, Mr. Knapp, and gentlemen, I wish to speak a little in behalf of the *Unitarian*, a magazine which I represent here for the Japanese side of its editorial staff. When the first glimpse of Unitarianism touched our intelligent minds three years ago through the active efforts of a gentleman who is our guest to-night, it was soon recognized by them as a rational and scientific principle, as well as an appropriate means for the promotion of our religious, social and ethical education, and since then it has been the recipient of our strong sympathy. Unitarianism has brought with it here a sense of the true universal brotherhood of mankind. It has come here not to disorganize or root out any institution and custom of the land. It works positively as a religion, as a social force, and as an ethical force. It has come here as a friend of reason and science. In it, methinks, there is no boundary, there is no race. Where there is reason and science, there Unitarianism offers its hearty hand shake. Such being apparently the motives and acts of the first Unitarian representative here, and such being seemingly what constitutes Unitarianism, it would not be at all surprising that the Unitarian principle soon found here many a friend in the various actions of the people and in the various circles of occupation. In the midst of such a state of things our *Unitarian* appeared. It is but nine months since it first announced itself to our community at large as the organ of Unitarianism in this Empire. Scarcely in our recent religious history has any religious paper earned such a wide reputation and made such a success as this, our *Unitarian*, in such a short space of time. In spite of the most unfavourable circumstances under which it appeared; in spite of the political stir and political crazes that have diverted so many a young man from his ordinary vocation, aye, even from his school life, and plunged and drowned him in the political floods, which consequently caused the suspension of many papers and magazines of science and literature, especially of religion, our *Unitarian* has remained undisturbed and unaffected in its popular interest. Its reading circle shows itself enlarged day by day. Not only that; in spite of the jealousy and interruptions of Orthodox Christians, our *Unitarian* has found itself animated by the constant and enthusiastic contributions of some reputed Buddhists, and a few able and broad-viewed converts from among our native Orthodox Christians. Our *Unitarian* has maintained its own peculiar colour, which distinguishes it from those popular and unsubstantial papers that resort to various means simply to win the popular favour and to increase their subscription list. The fact that it has kept its distinct characteristics and followed its own standard has so much gained for it the sympathy of some of our best men. It has therefore good prospects in its future career. To what do we ascribe the success that our magazine has attained so far, despite some difficulties through which it has made its way? Firstly, to the nature of Unitarianism itself. Secondly, to the persistent and enthusiastic efforts of that gentleman who first carried here the standard of Unitarianism—the Rev. Arthur May Knapp. Now I am sorry to find that we are compelled to part with him, although we do not wish to do so. Nay, all his friends surely take share with me in my sorrow. Mr. Knapp, while we entertain sincere hopes for your recovery to health and while we know that you will leave us, physically, we wish and trust that you will not feel that you are going away from us mentally. I hope your departure is merely a physical one, and that your thought may remain here and live with us for ever and ever.

May I trouble you to say a few words to our American brethren, especially to the members of the American Unitarian Association, saying that we all appreciate their kind feelings toward us and that we return them with similar affection, and that though the Western Republic and the Eastern Empire are divided by the great Pacific, yet our mutually friendly sentiments are not and can not be separated by any space even of a hair's breadth, and lastly that we hope to co-operate with them for the universal distribution of our rational and scientific principles and for the delivery of many pitiful souls from the dungeons of dogmas and from the bondage of sophisticated principles. Now, farewell to Mr. Knapp, and may he reach his destination with safety amid the cheers and salutations of his waiting friends.

The Rev. W. SPINKER, representing the German Evangelical Protestant Missionary Society, spoke in German, which was translated by the Rev. Clay MacCauley. He said:—"Being at this moment asked to say a few words, I trust you will excuse me, Mr. President and gentlemen, if I add a third language to the two we have already heard. I sincerely regret that illness is the cause of Mr. Knapp's departure. My best wishes accompany him. Whenever I see a foreign representative of Christianity leave these shores, I always think of the day for which I have been longing since I first arrived in Japan, the day when, the necessity for our presence having disappeared, the last of us will have turned his face Westward; the day when Christianity shall have taken such deep root in Japan as to require no further culture from foreign hands. Usually it is not gratifying to find oneself superfluous, yet I am persuaded that all my colleagues will echo my hearty wish to be very soon superfluous in Japan. Mr. Knapp mentioned the optimism of Unitarianism. He has a right to feel optimistic, for he knows that, though obliged to leave Japan himself, his work will not leave with him. It has found too many friends and supporters here. Unitarianism, Universalism, Liberalism and all the "isms"—I acknowledge their historical *raison d'être*, but I am sorry that any reason for their existence should still be present. What I want for Japan is what, with all our "isms," we each and all really contemplate, the simple, original gospel of Christ; the heart of Christ, may I say, with its freedom and its profundity. There we stand on common ground, and when we have given that gift to this noble nation, we can easily dispense with all our later historical traditions. Mr. Knapp spoke of a dream which fascinated his senses in this wonderful land. May I be allowed to supplement his remark by my last wish for his future, that God may permit him to see the realization of his dream in a higher form—Japan a country of solid Christianity, free and pious, but above all, pious (*frei und fromm—aber fromm*).

The Rev. CLAY MACCAULEY, who succeeds Mr. Knapp in the direction of the Unitarian Mission, then spoke as follows:—Mr. Chairman this card just handed to me asks for my speech. I have no speech; I did not expect to be able to be with you during your speech making, and I am not prepared. Besides, having known your guest well for twenty years possibly, I am not sure that I have anything special to say now. I will however say this:—I have almost been tempted to think that Mr. Knapp, in going away from Japan, is settling up an old score of ours, which I had well-nigh forgotten. Fifteen years ago Mr. Knapp called upon me so often to occupy his pulpit, during a long stay which I made in the town where he was a settled clergyman, that he actually transformed my name, Clay MacCauley, into "Clay my Colleague." Just when this kind of arrangement was in full swing I left him for a distant place. Is he about to balance up things now? Mr. Chairman, fifteen years should bring oblivion of some matters. But seriously, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Knapp, and I have worked a good deal together as Unitarian ministers; as colleagues in Japan we have been brought into exceptionally intimate relations. I very much regret my friend's departure for home. I regret it the more because of the reason which makes it advisable. Yet I am confident that the going is not on account of actual illness, but is by way of precaution against serious trouble. All good fortune go with him. May he soon enjoy the abundant health of the past. As Mr. Knapp goes, however, I am forced to think much about our work and of those who remain. Upon me devolves full responsibility for the future course of the work we have been doing together, and I can not now forbear asking you who have had Mr. Knapp's counsel and guidance to give me the same confidence and help you have been giving him. The Unitarian work here will not cease because Mr. Knapp goes; nor will it be materially changed because he goes. He and I have strongly sympathetic faiths; a common belief in One Source,

Life and Lord of the Universe; a common discipleship to Jesus Christ, the prophet of the Fatherhood of God and the divine childship of Man; and a common devotion to the ideal of the Brotherhood of Humanity which has been, through Christianity, the great impulse to the world's progress. For the service of these principles we came to Japan, and for their wide acceptance we, with our friend Mr. Hawkes of England and the other labourers for national Christianity who sit with us this evening, have done what lay in our power. These principles will still direct the Unitarian work. Another word permit me, Mr. Chairman. I hope that the people of Japan will welcome and accept the message we bring to them. Some one has spoken of the possibility of the Japanese regarding the mission of foreign religions to Japan as an "impertinence." How can the message we bring be justly looked at as an impertinence? The Brotherhood of mankind is one of our fundamental principles. All men, individuals and communities, are members one of another. It is no impertinence that we act upon the certain fact that human welfare is the result in large measure of reciprocal services among individuals and nations. Occidental peoples have been givers and receivers all around. Christianity itself started from Asia and reached England, Germany and America, through Greece and Rome, and through many centuries of change. Buddhism was once as foreign to Japan as Christianity ever was to the West or is to this country now. There is no race or national proprietorship in these things. Christianity belongs to man, and comes to Japan just because the Japanese are men, born of the same Father, encompassed by the same duties and bound up in a like destiny with the mankind of the world. We are not expecting or asking for too much, then, in commending our religion to the people of this country. Our Unitarian mission is justified by our conviction that human happiness and prosperity can be reached only when all men shall become related to one another, by such a faith and life as that which follows a true consciousness of the nominal Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of man.

Captain BRINKLEY, being called on to speak for the Press, said:—"Mr. President and Gentlemen. This sudden demand places me in the position of the unfortunate boy Tomkins. I don't know whether you have heard of the boy Tomkins, but his story is familiar in English School annals. Not over-gifted with ability, but thoroughly studious, he stood at the head of this class, much to the chagrin of Jenkins, the second boy, who, though far cleverer than Tomkins, did not love work. Jenkins, watching Tomkins closely, observed that whenever a question was put to him, he began to fiddle with the button of this waistcoat. One fateful morning, just before the term examination commenced, Jenkins managed to cut off that button, and when Tomkins' hand strayed down to find it and found it not, his wits forsook him, and he failed in his examination. An editor's pen is to him what the waistcoat button was to Tomkins. The touch of his pen brings him ideas and inspiration; separate him from his pen and his mind becomes a blank. So I find no words apt or appropriate to respond to Mr. Kaneko's appeal. And I am the more reduced to silence when I consider the cause of our meeting to-night. I have not known Mr. Knapp very long, nor have my opportunities of cultivating his acquaintance been numerous, but nevertheless his bright geniality and straightforward earnestness have made me regard him with exceptional feelings of friendship, and my regret at having to say goodbye to him is correspondingly keen. I am entering my twenty-fourth year of residence in Japan. During that lengthy interval I have witnessed many wonderful and history-making changes, so many that I almost fail to realize them. Yet, looking back at the long vista, the impression that seems to come to me most vividly, is an impression of Nature's unequal justice; a feeling that in her direction of moral affairs she does not always show that delicate sense of adjustment so perceptible in her physical works. Friendship is a conspicuous example of her failure. A plant of slow growth, friendship rises from the soil of acquaintance timidly and leisurely. Yet how often just when it has become tall enough to be clasped to our heart, how often do circumstances tear it from its place and leave to us only a memory of its existence. The time that we are allowed to enjoy it in its maturity bears no reasonable proportion to the period of its tardy and difficult growth. This is what I seem to have been chiefly learning through all these years. I see behind me only a long record of friendships suddenly broken by partings. To-night adds another to the list. Yet I hope and believe that we shall soon see Mr. Knapp among us again, fully restored to health and

able to resume the excellent work he has begun in Japan. And I trust that on his return he will find such a welcome as he would desire. Not a welcome in the ordinary sense of the word, for assuredly we shall all receive him with open arms, but the welcome conveyed by the discovery that Japan knows how to conserve as well as to adopt. He leaves at a critical moment. During his absence the Diet will have met and parted—met and parted, I am convinced, amicably, pleasantly and moderately. Perhaps, too, some of the changes embodied in the wonderful political platforms enunciated during the past twelve months, the platforms of the *Kaishin-to*, the *Rikken Fiyn to*, the *Hoshu-to* and all the other "to's"—perhaps some of these changes may have become accomplished facts. But through it all we trust that Japan will remain Japan; that while borrowing and assimilating the best features of Occidental civilization, she will show herself capable of preserving the beauties of her own. To prove that such had been the case would be the best welcome she could offer to Mr. Knapp. I trust that such a welcome awaits him, and that he will speedily return to receive it.

Rev. Dr. PERINS said:—Mr. Chairman, in Mr. Knapp's response he has spoken of his mingled feelings of pain and pleasure. I am sure we must all testify to similar feelings at this farewell meeting. It is with sincere regret that I contemplate his leaving these delightful scenes. He was the first man I met in Japan whom I had ever heard of before. In the work of finding a home and settling his counsel was very valuable. He has been a good neighbour, a good man to live beside. It a real comfort to have some one near us who knew so much more about the country and the people than I knew. But there is another side to this picture. From one point of view it ought to be regarded as a very auspicious occasion. We have here this evening the representatives of three liberal Christian movements in Japan, the Unitarians, German Evangelicals and Universalists; with shades of difference they represent the great liberal movement in religion. We ought to be very grateful I think, for the substantial work done in this country by the conservative Churches; but at the same time we ought to rejoice at the strong front which liberal Christianity is able to present as represented here this evening. The orthodox Churches have done a noble work, but I am convinced that we have for the people of Japan a somewhat sweeter and nobler message. One curious thing to me about this meeting is that already speeches have been delivered in three different languages. Is not this prophetic of the spirit and purpose of our liberal Christian work. The Fatherhood of God, the brotherhood and unity of man we make central in all our teaching. While the time may come after a few years when the Japanese people can conduct their own Christian teaching more wisely than any foreigner can do, there is after all a fitness in our co-operation. We all belong to one family; we have common hopes and aims, common thoughts and sorrows. We are members of one great brotherhood. Our interests are in common, our general needs are the same. By this fellowship and mutual co-operation the bonds of brotherhood grow stronger, our sympathy grows more tender and our friendship deeper. As Dr. Spinner has already said, what this country needs is the spirit of Christ. But that is what all countries need, and the essence of this is the spirit of brotherhood. Let us hope therefore that in the friendships he has formed as well as the lessons he has taught Mr. Knapp has done much to commend this spirit to the people of this land. Then if our hopes are justified this delightful sojourn of three years in the land of flowers which he has spoken of as a dream will not have been all a dream.

Mr. SHIGA, editor of the *Nippon-jin*, said:—Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, I should perhaps address you in my own vernacular, but, as the Rev. Mr. Perins has mentioned already, three languages are represented here, so I have thought that I might as well add a fourth, and I speak to you in the Japanese English or Nationalized Anglo-Saxon idiom. About the time that Mr. Knapp arrived in this country, his arrival having created a good deal of stir in the capital, Mr. Masujima wrote to me asking me to attend at the Hoshigakka Teahouse, where he intended to entertain Mr. Knapp. I went and listened to Mr. Knapp's speech on that occasion, and his remarks awakened my sympathy. Some days after Mr. Knapp communicated to me in writing the subject of his speech, in the course of which he said the Unitarians believe in the preservation of individuality. I thought then, and I adhere to the opinion, that individuality in the aggregate is nationality; that nationality is the principle for which we as a nation should strive; that Japan can never be great till she has freed

herself from the fetters imposed by the spirit of imitation. I found that in this respect, therefore, Unitarianism holds views similar to my own, and for this reason, though not a believer, I sympathise with it. A year or two after his arrival here Mr. Knapp published a journal called the *Unitarian*, to which, I remember, I contributed two essays. In one of those papers I wrote that during my cruises in the South Seas among the various islands, Fiji, Samoa, and the rest, I saw many Englishmen living in peace and prosperity among savages who ten or twenty years before were eating human flesh. Well, why cannot they live under our jurisdiction? I had written this essay about the time the so-called Anti-Treaty Revision Meeting was held in Yokohama, an essay greatly radical in character, and yet Mr. Knapp's journal was magnanimous enough, generous enough, and liberal enough, to publish it. That is the second reason why I sympathise with Unitarianism although not a believer in it. I regret sincerely that Mr. Knapp is about to leave us. But Mr. Kaneko has extolled the balmy air of France, and so I suppose Mr. Knapp must go, and I can only heartily hope that he will be able soon to revisit this country in good health.

Mr. LISCOMB said:—Mr. Kaneko and gentlemen, like the others who have already spoken, I am most happy to participate in these festivities of greeting, though exceedingly sorry that it should be necessary to make them the greeting of farewell. Yet, while sharing in your common sentiments of regret, my own feelings this evening are peculiar. For I cannot forget that it is to Mr. Knapp that I owe my introduction to this beautiful land, which has become to me in many ways an object of intense interest and delight. You, moreover, have met him in the occasional pleasures of social intercourse; but some of us have been intimately associated with him in weekly and almost daily duties and friendly converse, and in it all have experienced that inexhaustible flow of cordial and genial feeling, that never-failing courtesy and gentlemanly bearing which you who are acquainted with him know so well. And I want to take this opportunity to assure him that we in whom he has shown his confidence by inviting us to participate not only in the labour he has had in charge, but in the important work of education here, and in what I believe is destined to be a great university, a radiating centre of potent influence in your national life, shall do all in our power to justify that confidence and to realize the hopes that he has placed in us. But often in the future I fear that, like the boy of whom Captain Brinkley has spoken, we shall feel our hands go down to seek the familiar button on which we have so often relied, and shall find there only vacancy instead. But this we know, that the bond of friendship is not severed by partings such as this. It still lives, and lives the same; it throbs beneath oceans; it travels over mountains; it pierces forests; it tracks its way through pathless deserts; it will go with him where he is to go, and it will abide with him wherever he may abide. Mr. Knapp leaves Japan at a most interesting moment. In a few days will be realized that consummation for which the nation has long waited in eager anticipation—the opening of the new Japanese Parliament. Year by year the wonderful process of development has been going on. Step after step has been taken, each one leading farther and farther from the dead past, and bringing the nation nearer and nearer to a full participation in the great world life of modern times, till now this land, once the most exclusive and conservative on earth, is to realize the blessing of constitutional government, and to take its place in the sisterhood of enlightened and progressive States. It is a time of apprehension in the minds of many. Men are filled with uncertainty as to the future. Some hope for little, and others despondingly look for failure and disaster. For myself, I have no fear of the result. The character of the Japanese people fills me with hope and trust. Again and again they have reached out to other nations and have borrowed from them for their own needs. Now it has been art, now science, now customs, institutions, and laws, and in their hands each of these has been transformed and adapted to their uses, and has received a development that has made it something essentially new and unique—a native product, marked with the stamp of their own genius. No people on earth have shown a greater ability to receive and to assimilate whatever at a given time was needed in their life and civilization. It is in this great assimilating power that I now rest my hope for the future; and I steadfastly believe that it will enable the Japanese people to take what is valuable to them in the civilization and political methods of the West, to transform these things and adapt them thoroughly to their own requirements, and to build up from them a solid and enduring

structure of national polity that will inure to the higher welfare and happiness of the teeming millions of this fair land. If they fail in this great experiment, I shall be profoundly disappointed; but it is a disappointment that I have no apprehension feeling. I was greatly interested in the broad views of human friendship and brotherhood expressed by His excellency, Mr. Kuki, as translated for us in that peculiarly felicitous manner which we are accustomed to hear from the lips of Captain Brinkley. It shows us, in the most striking way, how strongly the modern world spirit has taken hold on the minds of the Japanese people, and how hopelessly dead is that old spirit of exclusiveness, which shut the doors and drew about them the wall of the sea, and saw nothing beyond the watery horizon that encircles their island empire. But elsewhere, also, in former times the common conception of mankind was of so many separate nations, existing as disintegrated units and having no more cohesion than the same number of marbles in a bag. That conception, in the minds of the highest thinkers, has now passed away. The unit is no longer the nation; it is humanity, and of this each nation forms but a part, is a member of the wide brotherhood of mankind, sharing the same progress, taking part in the same vast movements, participating in the same hopes, enlightened by all and enlightening all, and responding to the electric thrill of truth that vibrates in the thought of countless millions. Into this great bond of friendship Japan has now entered; in this stupendous movement she has taken her place. She has seen the light. Her people have caught the gleam of the brighter coming day. They will not turn back; and though our friend leaves us at so interesting an hour, he will learn the tidings in that Western land, and they will, I am convinced, be tidings of prosperity and success. As for him, I believe that, much as he loves Japan, he can serve her even better there than here; for every friend of her people who returns to his Occidental home cements more strongly the friendship existing between the East and the West, and promotes a better understanding between the two peoples. I know that there his lips will never be closed nor his tongue be silent when he can use them in the service of Japan; and from him, I believe, will radiate an influence that will be of even greater benefit to her than he had hoped to accomplish upon her own shores. To him I can but say:—

Across the sea, across the sea,
Where winds and waves are sweeping free,
We bid godspeed to thee and thee;
Our hearts, our thoughts, where'er thou be,
Shall follow and abide with thee.

Mr. KATO said:—Mr. Knapp and Gentlemen, I have been permitted the honour of saying a few words at this gathering held to commemorate the departure of Mr. Knapp from Japan—an occasion which is not only to be regretted on account of the whole religious life of Japan, but is disheartening to me on my own account. His departure may not be said seriously to damage the cause of the Unitarian sect in this country, but when I think that I have lately parted from about thirty thousand of my friends, and enlisted myself in the new movement, I cannot help grieving to see one of my seniors leave so soon. Those who are of the same way of thinking with me will admit that whether Mr. Knapp is present or absent will not in any way affect the future state of religious affairs in this country, but all the same we are inexpressibly disheartened. It is only because I believe in the existence of a more powerful Being than Mr. Knapp, or any of us, that I can comfort myself. Looking back on the circumstances attending Mr. Knapp's stay in Japan, I find that since the time of Francis Xavier no one was ever so much attended by praise and censure by fortune and misfortune as Mr. Knapp. Xavier arrived at Kagoshima in May, 1549, and after persuading and converting the Daimyos of Kiushiu to his doctrine, he came up to Kyoto, where he received unusually good treatment and succeeded in winning popularity and gaining a remarkable influence. Mr. Knapp, since his arrival in this country, has been received with pleasure by the higher classes; at this very moment, there sits a Marquis on each side of his chair, while such distinguished personages as Viscount Kuki, the former Representative of Japan in the United States of America, and others are present. There are many persons who still hesitate to join the Unitarian movement openly, but follow the doctrines brought to them by Mr. Knapp, and when once our spring arrives those followers of our doctrine, who are now as it were in bud, will burst into blossom by the thousand. As remarked by Viscount Kuki, during Mr. Knapp's stay in this country our national affairs were so absorbing that we could not devote much of our attention to religious affairs, and yet he has succeeded even in such disturbed times in gaining our notice. I can

think of no one of the hundreds of missionaries I have known for years so much respected and trusted by the members of our educated classes as is Mr. Knapp. Our guest has essayed to accomplish in a few years what took Xavier his lifetime. However, in spite of his popularity, Mr. Knapp was placed in perhaps the most unfortunate position that had ever been assumed by a missionary. The missionaries that come over to this country from abroad of both sexes amount to nearly seven hundred, and these numerous apostles of the white race, though they usually greet any newly arrived fellow-worker with good and kind feelings, were antagonistic to the doctrines held by Mr. Knapp, and often engaged in attacking him and his principles, turning the columns of the *Japan Mail* into a literary battlefield. I have not become a Unitarian through his direct tuition, but I admire the great career he achieved in persuading our educated classes to become religious by means of his exposition of important religious principles relating to the existence of God, the relations of brotherhood among human beings, the immortality of the soul, &c. It is indeed to be regretted that those who are antagonistic to him are not Japanese but foreigners. It is needless to say that I am filled with feelings of sorrow in wishing him farewell, but I will cure my disappointment by thinking that Mr. Knapp will, as stated by Mr. Liscomb, be able to announce on his return to America that the great work in Japan is promising. I trust that he will not forget Japan though he goes away, and that he will do all he can for his brethren here in just the same spirit as if he were staying in Japan. Though I have faith that Mr. Knapp's being here in Japan or not cannot have any permanent effect on the progress of our common work, I have a strong hope that he will find means of working for us in his own country.

VICTORIA PUBLIC SCHOOL.

The presentation of prizes, certificates, &c., to the pupils of the Victoria Public School took place on Tuesday afternoon at the School. Among these present were Right Rev. Bishop Bickersteth, Messrs. G. H. Allcock, W. B. Walter, P. E. F. Stone, J. T. Griffin, Rev. E. Booth, Mr. W. T. Austen, and a number of ladies.

Mr. W. B. Walter took the chair, and was supported by Bishop Bickersteth, Mr. P. E. F. Stone (Hon. Treasurer), and Mr. C. H. Hinton, Head Master.

The CHAIRMAN said he was pleased at the close of the term to hear from Mr. Hinton that the boys of the school had made satisfactory progress during the past three months. He learned with regret that the total number of boys had not been wholly sustained. The boys in attendance during the last quarter had numbered forty-four, of whom six had been boarders. Mr. Hinton informed him that one feature during the past term was that Mrs. Hinton had been able to devote her time entirely to the younger boys, a special room having been fitted up for them and her whole attention devoted to them. The study of Greek during the quarter had been abandoned, as no boys offered for that class. A majority of the boys were learning French, and there had been a small Latin class of six boys which he believed was progressing satisfactorily. As far as regarded the amusements of the term there had been several cricket matches with the crews of ships in the harbour, but as no other school of boys of sufficient size existed in the place they had not been able to play any school matches. There had also been several conjuring performances during the term, and the athletic sports which took place on December 1st were well attended. He must again revert with regret to the small number of boys who had been able to attend, which made it extremely difficult for the members of the Committee to maintain a balance between the receipts and the expenditure. They could only hope, however, that as the younger boys of the place grew up the numbers attending the school might again increase, and so bring it up to the level necessary to meet the expenses which they had to defray in order to make the school thoroughly efficient. If the number of boys should remain at only from 45, as at present, to 50, it would be necessary for the Committee to consider some alteration in the arrangements. However, they hoped that would not be necessary and that the number of boys would again increase. He was glad to hear from Mr. Hinton that Scheuten, one of the boys who left the school, and was now in business, was giving every satisfaction, and he hoped that the other boys now coming forward would find in Yokohama an active and successful career, and thus be a credit to their education at the Victoria Public School.—(Applause.)

Mr. HINTON, before reading the lists, said the

results of the term's work had been very interesting to him as regarded the upper boys. Those at the head had kept at the head and had really done very satisfactory work—indeed the same thing had been noticeable all through the first and second classes. Of course the boys at the top of the school were somewhat removed in age and acquirements from the others, but he had been obliged to give them all the same papers, which was rather hard on the younger boys, though they still made a good fight. The work in the lower classes was also very interesting; he found boys in the fourth class at the beginning of the term who had gone right through the class, and ought really to be in the third class, but as there was no changing of classes in that way during the term they must wait for promotion till the next quarter. He explained that at the end of this term it was usual to give only certificates, the prizes being extra rewards, provided by the kindness of friends of the school, among whom he mentioned Mr. Kirkwood, who had given prizes for marks in natural history. The boys received marks, bearing the similitude of English money, and after they got their money they had to keep it and to keep also an account of it. Before they were allowed to compete for the prizes they must show their account books, and in that way perhaps the boys who had done best would not get prizes though they might have certificates, because they failed in the important branch of keeping what they got. Mr. Kirkwood wrote to express regret that he could not attend in consequence of the shortness of the notice, but with his usual kindness gave a prize for an examination in natural philosophy, which was won by Bonth in the preparatory class.—(Applause.)

It had been very interesting to see the various styles of the answers given by the boys to the examination questions, for it was interesting to a schoolmaster to see what the boys could do when they were put to it. In the geography papers, for instance, he found a plan that they had been pursuing this term give rise to various interesting answers. They had been taking a map of Yokohama and trying to realize what a map meant, the boys having calculated how far for example, they had to travel to get to school. This they did by using a simple mathematical method and they had also prepared a set of atlases which enabled them to tell how far certain places were from each other. He would be glad, speaking on this subject, if anyone present would ask the boys a question as to the distances between places which the pupils would be likely to know. If a boy were asked to find the distance between a place in France and another in Germany he would take the maps of France and of Germany and then by referring to a map of Europe could, on applying the mathematical method above spoken of, tell what the distance was. This improved the boys in the use of mathematics. Another plan had been tried this term which would give, he thought, good results, namely the use of mathematics in connection with history. The boys were required to take the campaigns of great generals of antiquity or of modern times and by using them as arithmetical exercises study the marches and the regions in which memorable campaigns of history had taken place. While this improved their powers of calculation, it enabled them to lay up a store of information which made both history and geography interesting. They had had contests on the cricket field—he supposed they were the best at football, since nobody would play them. They had had, as Mr. Walter said, an entertainment and a spelling-bee in which some of the boys who had now got prizes were very successful. He trusted they had also the usual and proper amount of serious and hard work, and he thanked the parents most cordially for the way in which they had helped him in that regard. A boy must learn self respect, to keep himself above mean temptations; he must get on with his neighbours, and he must be able to take his part in a crowd. He must learn that work was a duty which must be performed. Boys had many difficult tasks which they must do and which their master knew they could do, and it was a very great satisfaction to both master and boy when such a task was done. It was in helping the boys to put up with the disagreeable things which these duties entailed that parents were most helpful, and he had to thank them most cordially. In addition to Mr. Kirkwood's letter, he had a letter from Mr. Troup, regretting that he could not be present, and their thanks must be due as much to those who like Mr. Troup were absent as to those who had shown their interest by assembling there on that occasion. He trusted that next year they would be able to go on with success. Their success in numbers had perhaps not been great, but they must try and make up for it in some other way, and it was interesting to think that as the year closed on the Victoria Public School it still saw on the throne Queen Victoria in possession of good health,

her kindly light still shining on English hearts in all regions where the English tongue was spoken. He trusted that kindly light would find reflection in the future in many young hearts who had learned their first lessons within these walls. He concluded by thanking Mr. Fardell very heartily for his earnest work, and Mr. Takanashi, who had also given valuable assistance, and expressing his sense of the useful aid rendered by the older boys, who had performed the duties falling to them as seniors.

Bishop BICKERSTETH said he would like to mention that the very hard working secretary,—who had given them two years of hard work, often when he could not very well spare the time, and to whom they were specially indebted, as well as to Mr. Walter, who with him formed the working part of the Committee—Mr. Stone had told him that during the past year, though they had a smaller number of boys than at this time last year, they had on the whole done better than in the previous year. That was to say they more nearly covered their expenses than in the previous year. So far, that was satisfactory. When he addressed them six months ago he was able to tell them that during the preceding term they had quite covered their expenses. In a place like Yokohama, as they knew, which was a comparatively limited community, it was only possible to maintain a school which gave such an education as this, including Latin, French, mathematics, and a great variety of subjects, if practically everybody joined in supporting it. Many of the older boys as a matter of course went to England; of the younger boys they only obtained a fraction, and the school therefore appealed mainly to boys of middle age, say from about ten or eleven to fourteen. In a community like this of course there was only a limited number of boys of that age, and it was therefore of great importance that they should be gathered together in this school, if the school was to be able to maintain as high a standard of education as at present. He could not but hope that those who had the duty of providing for the education of their sons in Yokohama would bear in mind that it was only possible for them to have a first rate school in Yokohama by all joining in founding and maintaining one. Addressing the boys, the Rt. Rev. speaker said he was glad to find that though the exercise books were somewhat soiled at the beginning they improved towards the end, which he regarded as a highly satisfactory state of affairs. He was glad to learn that the school was keeping up its high character and trusted that they would always work with a good object before them.—(Applause.)

Mr. STONE proposed a cordial vote of thanks to Mrs. Hinton, whom Mr. Hinton had omitted from his expression of thanks.—(Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN said the Committee of the school were very much indebted to Mr. and Mrs. Hinton, Mr. Fardell, and Mr. Takanashi for their successful work during the past term, and it was with very deep regret that they learned that Mr. Stone was unable by pressure of other engagements to continue with them. He had done a great deal of good and hard service during the years he had been connected with the school. The Committee were therefore sorry to part with him. He was glad to say, however, that their old friend Mr. Wilkin, who was so well known in Yokohama, and whose experience in public matters was probably without parallel, had kindly consented to assist them in the coming term on the Committee. Before closing, the Committee would be very glad to hear what any one present might wish to say either to the boys or with regard to matters connected with or of interest to the school.

Mr. ALLCOCK proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman and all those connected with the school to whom reference had already been made.—(Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN remarked that the Committee had been very greatly disappointed at times because they had not had, as they had hoped to have, occasionally from friends of the school communications that would arrest in its working. He might say at once that they would be only too pleased to receive from parents or friends any assistance that might be afforded. There were often matters which might escape the Committee simply from not having been brought before them, and they would always be glad to hear the views of any one on subjects connected with the school.—(Applause.)

This concluded the proceedings.

Following are the lists:—

EXAMINATION.

CLASS I.—Anderson, Allcock mi, Sale ma, Van der Heyden ma, Poole ma, Sargent, Braess ma.

CLASS II.—Wheeler mi, Wheeler ma, Pohl ma, Allcock ma, Drummond, Braess mi, Bird, Russell, Loomis, Mendelson, Poole mi, Deakin.

CLASS III.—Watt, Goddard, Van der Heyden mi, Kingdon, Chi Waag, Cooper, Yamaguchi, Arizumi.
CLASS IV.—Sasaki, Welsh, Ozawa, Sakamoto, Pohl mi, Siu Wing, Ah Ng.

PREPARATORY CLASS.—Kuhn, Booth, Russell mi, Sale mi (absent), Van der Heyden mi.

CERTIFICATES AND PRIZES.

CLASS I.—Anderson—1st Term's work, 1st Examination, certificate and prize; Allcock mi—2nd Term's work, 2nd Examination, Certificate and prize; Poole ma—3rd Term's work prize.

CLASS II.—Pohl ma—1st Term's work, certificate and prize; Allcock ma—2nd Term's work, certificate and prize; Wheeler mi—1st Examination, certificate; Wheeler ma—2nd Examination, certificate.

CLASS III.—Watt—1st Term's work and examination, certificate and prize; Van der Heyden mi—2nd Term's work, certificate and prize; Goddard—2nd Examination, certificate.

CLASS IV.—Sasaki—1st Term's work, and Examination, Certificate and prize; Sakamoto—2nd Term's work, Certificate; Welsh—2nd Examination, Certificate.

PREPARATORY CLASS.—Kuhn—1st Examination, Prize; Russell mi.—Improvement prize: Booth—Mr. Kirkwood's Natural History Prize.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE RECENT FIRE IN THE SETTLEMENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL"

SIR,—May I be permitted to direct the attention of your readers to the circumstances of Wm. Wilkinson, whose house was the last to go during the recent fire in the Settlement. Wilkinson has been in Yokohama some 15 years or more, and from inquiries I have made I find he bears a most excellent character. He has been casually employed as freight clerk, stevedore, &c., but now has no employment whatever, so that he needs employment as well as present aid. Several prominent gentlemen have contributed to the small fund I am raising for him, but I am not privileged to mention their names. One gentleman, however, says he has "known Mr. Wilkinson for many years and while he is the last to beg, his infirmities and age render it at present impossible for him to refuse aid if offered. Mr. W. is in many respects a man of most estimable character."

In consequence of the fire, which occurred at night, Wilkinson has lost all he possessed. I shall be glad to hand him any contributions which may be intrusted to me.

Yours truly, FRANCIS STANILAND,
Yokohama, December 22nd, 1890.

LETTER FROM SHIMANE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Matsue, December 5th, 1890.

November in Matsue was a month marked by several events of special interest. First of all, the celebration of His Majesty the Emperor's birthday was a festival unique of its kind. Nowhere else in Japan is the day celebrated as in Izumo. The celebration took the form of a great Shinto holiday. Shinto shrines, many of extraordinary richness and beauty, were publicly displayed in the principal business-houses of the city, while other shrines were carried through the streets by troops of men, moving at a run, with shouts of "Chōsaiya! Chōsaiya!" I have been told this ancient cry originated centuries ago in Kyōto, when a great building was being built; and the workmen were ordered, in order to time their unanimous efforts at pulling or lifting, to chant the name of the rich man who employed them. But to-day, the original word has been forgotten; and the cry of Chōsaiya has no significance except as a joyful shout, uttered only on these festival occasions by men, and at other times only by children at play. Besides these processions of the *miya*, there were drum-bands continually parading the streets. Each street in Matsue has its own drum,—and has had its own drum from very ancient times. The young boys of each street harness themselves to a sort of light cart, on which the drum is placed, and the young men of the street play upon it. In old times the drum of one street could not be taken into another without causing trouble; but now each drum-band can go wherever it pleases. There used to be fighting between the drum-bands in ancient times, not serious fighting, but fighting for fun on the festival called *Inoko Matsuri*. Customs have changed; there are no more mock-fights, and the old festival itself is no longer observed in the same fashion as of yore. But its date and its celebra-

tion have been transferred to the anniversary of the Emperor's birth, so that the latter festival has all the aspects of a Shinto holiday. The shouts of Chōsaiya are for His Majesty, also the beating of the drums, the masquerades, and the beautiful display of Shinto *miyas* in the shops and houses, before which men drink *sake* out of great red earthenware cups—the primitive *sake*-cups of Japan—to His Majesty's health. It seemed to me that there was something very appropriate and beautiful in thus making the Emperor's birthday coincident with a Shinto festival; for those now termed the ancient gods of Japan, the founders of the national life, deified and enshrined by a grateful posterity, were the fathers of the present beneficent ruler.

Nothing could be more beautiful in the way of loyal feeling than the reverential respect shown by Japanese boys to the Emperor's portrait, or to the mention of his name. Much as we may pride ourselves in England upon our loyalty, we cannot find similarly charming manifestations of the feeling among the young. It is only in mature life that the sentiment obtains its highest expression, when the reason and the meaning of social truths have become manifest. But among the Japanese youth, the sentiment is hereditary, natural—the transmitted feeling of generations in whom loyalty was cultivated as a religious sense. The graceful reverence manifested by a lad of ten or twelve before the picture of the Emperor is something not wholly of himself—something instinctively beautiful—the sum of ancestral impulses that belong to him in the same way that his father's features belong to him. It is something also which does not need to be cultivated: it was cultivated for him a thousand years before his birth; and the dead past comes to life again, not only in his instinctive gesture of devotion before a portrait, but likewise in the heart thought that prompts such gesture.

I saw many examples of this feeling on the occasion of the reading of the Emperor's recent letter on education in the great schools of Matsue. The reading of the letter by Governor Kotoda was a solemn but very pleasing ceremony. It was read in three great schools in succession. The students, —from children of five to men of twenty-four—were all assembled in the main halls of the schools; and upon a handsomely draped and decorated platform, the pictures of the Emperor and Empress were placed on a tapestried stand, adorned with flowers. The officials of the *ken*, civil and military, together with the teachers of the schools, took their places to the left and right of the platform; and all saluted the portraits,—walking in turn opposite to the stand, then bowing, then taking three paces forward and bowing still more profoundly, then taking three steps backward, bowing again, and retiring. After performing a similar ceremony, the Governor, in full uniform, ascended the platform, took the imperial letter from its case, lifted it reverentially to his forehead, unrolled it, and read it aloud in that peculiarly sonorous manner in which the Japanese read, or rather chant their own written tongue. Thereafter, a few brief explanatory speeches were made to the boys; and at a signal all voices burst out together in a most impressive intonation of the *Kimi-ga-ya*.

The next important event for Matsue was the opening of the Diet at Tokyo. It was celebrated as a great holiday. In the morning all the students assembled under their drill masters at the castle grounds, sang the national anthem, and fired military salutes. Some seven hundred gentlemen also gathered at Ninomaru, before the monument commemorating the names of those men of Izumo who fell fighting for the Emperor's cause in the South-western war; and drank the Emperor's health before this memorial of Izumo devotion. The Mayor, Mr. Fukunaka, made an eloquent speech; and after other ceremonies the festivities were concluded with daylight fire works and balloon ascensions. In the evening the city was illuminated with lanterns bearing the national symbolic crimson disk, the Red Sun of Japan; the city gave itself up to merriment; and until late in the morning the rhythmic booming of little drums, and the musical throbbing of *samisen* and *koto*, resounding all over the city, told how well the *geishas* of Matsue helped to celebrate the opening of the Diet.

An event which will soon rejoice Matsue will be the opening of the great new bridge over the River Ohashi, or Ohashigawa, an outlet of Lake Shinji. This river divides the city into two large districts. The old bridge, which for three hundred years spanned the Ohashi with countless feet,—something after the fashion of an enormous centipede,—certainly did credit to its builders, and withstood bravely the wear of time and change of seasons. Becoming at last dangerous, it was replaced by a more modern style of construction. There has been, however, some difficulty in making a solid foundation for

one group of posts, occupying a position in the deepest part of the stream. Here the bed of the Ohashigawa is extremely treacherous,—being chiefly an alluvial mud of great depth. The new pillars sank slightly under testing; and the completion of the bridge has been temporarily delayed. This incident recalled to some citizens a strange legend concerning the ancient bridge. It is averred that the builders of the older structure encountered the same difficulty centuries ago, and that it was vanquished only by burying a man under the foundation of the bridge. The man's name, according to tradition, was Gensuke; and one of the pillars was always called Gensuke-bashira.

The weather still alternates between warmth and cold. One day last week we had the temperature as low as 40°, and in the morning a few snowflakes. Still the present indications are that on this coast the winter will be late in coming. The only decidedly wintry-looking thing now visible is Dai-Sen, whose imposing summit became white in one night, less than a fortnight ago. Dai Sen has put on his winter costume, and once on, he seldom takes it off before the summer sets in.

LETTER FROM SAN FRANCISCO.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

San Francisco, November 29th.

Since I last wrote, the Republican leaders have been busily engaged accounting for their defeat at the last election. The general drift of their explanations attributes the event to the misrepresentation of the tariff by evil Democrats. Senator Hoar of Massachusetts sees no ground for desponding. He says that the American people are wedded to the principle of protection, and that they will be true to their faith in 1892. Senator Edmunds of Vermont says that the defeat was caused by local disaffection, the Republicans having in many instances made nominations. Mr. Blaine lies back, with his thumbs in his armpits, and says:—"I told you so." The President is reported as quite serene. He is preparing to explain in his Message that the people voted against the Republicans because they love them, on the principle that those whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth. It is said that the Message will be full of neat conceits to prove that the avalanche prefigures a Republican tidal wave in 1892. The relations between Mr. Harrison and Mr. Blaine are understood to be strained; the intimates of the statesman from Maine allow it to be understood that his language in alluding to the President is "frequent, and painful and free."

Congress meets on Monday, and it is stated on the highest authority that whatever the Republican majority neglects, it will not fail to pass an apportionment law to adjust the proportionate representation of the States to the new census. Mr. Porter has finally announced that the aggregate population of the country is not 64,000,000, as he had originally stated, but something over 62,600,000. Nobody believes his return to be anything more than a guess; but such as it is, it will have to serve as a basis of legislation for the next ten years. It is understood that the dominant party proposes to raise the number of members of the House of Representatives from 335 to 350; this, with the increase of nearly 73,000,000 in population, will materially increase the number of the constituents of each member, so that it will probably be found that a member of the United States Congress represents more individuals than a member of any other legislative body in the world.

It is doubtful if any other measure, except the necessary appropriation bills, can become a law at the short session. An effort will be made by the friends of the shipping interest to pass the Postal Subsidy Bill, and fanatical Republicans will try to get a vote on the Force Bill; but the chances are against their success in both cases. The recent elections are calculated to induce the Republicans to pause, for fear of setting the Democrats an example which they might follow to the discomfort of the administration.

The air has been full of rumours of a new Indian War. This time it is the Arapahoes and Sioux, in the Dakotas and Wyoming, who are on the war path. They have been dancing their ghost dances which last from 20 to 24 hours without intermission, and are awaiting the coming of a Messiah, who is to exterminate the white men, and restore the supremacy of the red men all over the country. The Buffalo is to be revived on the prairies, and the railroad tracks are to be taken up in order to permit the growth of Buffalo Grass, as it flourished fifty years ago. These are the views of "White-gut," "Kicking-bear," "Young-man-afraid-of-his-

horses," "Yellow Hawk," "Short Bull," and other eminent Indian chiefs. General Miles, who commands the department, while not attaching implicit faith to the stories of frightened settlers, has made such disposition of his troops that a general exodus from the reservations would be quickly headed off, and at the present time, the danger of hostilities appears to be less than it was.

Wall street is quieter, though failures continue to occur, and confidence has not been restored. One source of the prevailing distrust is the feeling that the public finances are in the hands of a speculator who would not hesitate to use his power to lighten money, or the reverse, if there was any money to be made by the operation. Mr. Win-dom is well known in Wall-street, where he represented some rather peculiar schemes before he became a member of Mr. Harrison's political family.

Out of the panic have come two changes. The control of the Union Pacific Railroad system has passed out of the hands of the Boston stock-holders, and has been resumed by Jay Gould. And the proposition to unite all the great railroads west of the Mississippi Valley in one great consolidation has been revived. These roads are now working under a pooling arrangement, by which their through earnings are divided according to certain fixed proportions. The pool is conducted in defiance of law. While it lasts, it prevents rate cutting. But it is believed that its provisions are constantly violated. And there is no question but actual consolidation would lead to a curtailment of expenses, and would promote the efficiency of the service. A general railroad consolidation is one of the probabilities of the future, but it may be a long time in coming.

Meanwhile, one of the collateral features of the new deal is the restoration of George Gould, Jay Gould's son, to the Presidency of the Pacific Mail. Mr. C. P. Huntingdon is said to have acquiesced in the change; which may or may not be the case. The Pacific Mail, in the hands of an enemy of Huntingdon's, could play havoc with the business of the Southern Pacific Railroad. People think that Huntingdon was safer when he controlled both concerns.

Post-Master Wanamaker's annual report has been published in advance of its presentation to Congress. It shows aggregate receipts from postage amounting to \$60,858,783, and expenditures amounting to \$66,545,083; the deficit being \$5,786,700. It appears that there is a profit on the carriage of letters, but this is swallowed up by the loss on the transportation of unbound books, pamphlets, and "sample copies." The Post office spends \$8,000,000 a year in carrying the mail of the other Executive Departments. If they paid postage as individuals do, there would be a profit instead of a loss, as at present. Notwithstanding the deficit, the Post-Master inclines to the belief that the experiment of one cent postage might be tried. It will be remembered that the last change which was made was a regulation increasing the weight of letters carried for two cents from half an ounce to ounce. This alteration has been of no practical benefit, as few letters weigh over a half ounce. A reduction of postage from two cents to a cent would be much more sensibly felt. Mr. Wanamaker renews his recommendation that a telegraph department be made an adjunct to the Post Office, and he is also in favour of Post Savings Banks. Both of these improvements will probably be adopted in time.

Another report which has just seen the light is the annual statement of the comptroller of the currency. That document shows that the total number of national banks now doing business in the United States is 3,567, with a capital of \$659,782,865, issues amounting to \$179,755,645, deposits footing up \$2,043,502,067, and loans of \$1,970,022,687. The large number of active banks shows how popular the national banking system has become, and how kindly the American people take to the fashion of placing their money in bank. In this particular, they contrast, in a marked degree, with Europeans. The discount line shows a large increase over any previous return; it accounts in a measure for the money troubles in New York, and for the steady recurrence of failures among persons and concerns that are in debt. The country is prosperous enough to stand considerable bank expansion: but a discount line of nearly two thousand millions is a tremendous burden for any community to carry.

Professor Elliott of the Smithsonian Institute is out with a letter in which he says that the fur seal is being gradually exterminated on the Pribiloff Islands, or is being driven off. He declares that it will be impossible for the new lessees of the islands to get their covenanted 60,000 skins this coming year, and he advises that the islands be allowed to be fallow for at least seven years, in order to give the seals a chance to breed and mul-

tiply. If the professor is right, the question forces itself on the mind—what has become of the 7,000,000 seals—old males, bachelors, females and pups, which were reported as visiting St. Paul and St. George every season twenty years ago? We know precisely how many seals have been taken on the islands, and how many on the high seas en route to or from the rookeries; the catch has only been large enough to cause a healthy depletion of an overcrowded community. Have the others committed suicide is disgust, in order to spite mankind? Other localities have been stripped of seal life; but this was done by the wholesale slaughter of young and old, males and females. On the Pribiloff Islands, the animal has been carefully preserved. Cynics, pondering over the problem, and observing that at the late auction of furs in London, sealskins commanded twice the price of 1889, have wondered whether the Smithsonian Professor is not being unconsciously used by the new lessees of the islands, to help the boom in sealskins which would mean millions to the North American Company.

IN QUEST OF THE HOLY GRAIL.

During the spring of 1866 I was in the famed city of Manila; not as a guest of the Captain-General; not even living in one of the luxurious hotels, but as a castaway, hard up, staying in an obscure lodging, kept by a cock fighting, garlic eating *mestizo*. Of all the ports in the east I believe Manila is the worst for a sailor in distress. I had indeed a hard time of it, and would have embraced any chance to get away from the place. I had applied to the Consuls for aid, but in vain, as the last vessel I had been on board was a Spanish coasting brig, and this absolved them from taking any interest in my fate, and left me to the tender mercies of the Spanish authorities, and I had little to expect from them, being a heretic and a "gringo." Shortly after my arrival at Manila I had rendered a slight service to an official in the office of the captain of the port—what position he really occupied I did not know—and he used occasionally to visit me and bring me cigars or fruit and stay for half an hour's chat with me. He was a tall, dark, bilious-looking individual, with a broad brimmed sombrero tilted over his glistening eyes, which twinkled like stars in a dark night, and were never at rest. These eyes always produced a strange effect on me, and I feared him, though I felt attracted towards him. He was very religious, and, as I afterwards discovered, a perfect tool in the hands of the priests.

I had been in Manila about two months, when one evening on returning home, I was told that Don Ignazio had been there, and left a message saying that he wished me to stop at home until he returned as he wanted to see me. At 8 o'clock he made his appearance, and after the usual salutation, offering me a cigar, he begged me to accompany him for a walk. The Don took me inside the city to a wine-shop, whose dark interior contrasted strongly with the bright moonlight without. He was evidently known, and probably expected, as we were shown into a private room without a word, and a bottle of port wine and glasses were brought in. The Don filled the glasses, and holding one up to the light invited me to take the other, saying, suddenly "Friend, do you wish to get away from Manila?" "Yes," I answered, "I do." "Do you wish to make money?" he inquired. "Yes," I stammered out, "short of robbery, I would do anything to attain that, and even risk my life!" "It is not robbery," he said, but you may have to defend your life, though probably there will be no danger whatever; and the blessings of the holy church will be over your undertaking if you engage in it." I reached for the bottle to fill another glass, but he pushed it away with an impatient movement of his hand. "No more drink," he said, "but listen to me," and he forthwith began to explain what he wished me to do.

During the earthquakes and typhoons in Manila in 1862, when the city was almost destroyed, one of the churches, with hoards of gold, silver, and precious stones, the accumulations of centuries,—was levelled to the ground; and when, after weeks of labour, the ruins had been thoroughly searched, no sign of these treasures could be found; they had completely disappeared as if they had never existed. Much money had been spent in investigation, but no clue could be discovered of their whereabouts until quite recently, when secret information had been received that the treasures were in the hands of a few unscrupulous persons, but beyond the reach of the authorities in Manila. The high ecclesiastical court had concluded to employ craft and cunning against the sacrilegious bandits for the recovery of this immense treasure. A schooner was purchas-

ed, which they intended to fit out as a trader, with a picked crew, and after lading between the islands to allay suspicion, gradually approach the place where the treasure was concealed and surprise the robbers in their retreat. They had already engaged the commander, but now wanted a mate, and were ready to engage me, through the recommendation of Don Ignazio. I had to promise to be secret as the grave; as all the curses of the church would be heaped on my head if I divulged anything, but a great pecuniary reward was held out if we succeeded. I understood him to say that the disappearance of the treasure was still a secret to the people generally, although several years had passed, and they intended to keep it so even if it were recovered.

It did not take me long to make up my mind. I was ready to risk a great deal to change my present circumstances. I told the Don that he could depend on me, which brought a grim smile of satisfaction on his lips, and it deepened when I expressed a wish to be introduced to my future commander as soon as possible. He straightened himself up as he answered: "I will be your future commander!" I had not imagined anything of that sort, and it took me with surprise. But why not? Religious fanatic as he undoubtedly was, I believed he was not a bad fellow at the bottom, and I had no doubt but that he would fight well, in an emergency, for the Church whose devoted servant he appeared to be. Still I thought it would be rather imprudent for him to show himself in the scheme, as he was probably well known in Manila, and the robbers were sure to have spies there. When I expressed my doubts to him, he told me that nobody knew of his connection with the church. They only knew him as an old sailor, at present in the Government service from which he would in a day or two be publicly dismissed in disgrace. As I had no farther objection to make, I agreed to join him and to be ready at any moment. He thought the schooner would be here inside a week, when he would take command, and I could then join her, but in the meantime I had to remain where I was. We drank success to our expedition, and I felt highly elated as we walked to my lodging, through the now almost deserted and silent streets. The Don parted from me at the door, enjoining the strictest secrecy. I did not see the Don for the five following days, and began to chafe over the delay, when one morning I heard his voice, inquiring for me. I hurried down to meet him, and found him standing at the door conversing with the landlord. "Here is luck, amigo; Don Ignazio has got a ship for you!" exclaimed the *mestizo*, as he already in imagination was fingering my advance. "True!" said the Don, as I looked to him for confirmation, "if you will go in a small schooner as mate with me; but your pay will only be thirty dollars per month. Will you go?" As I was apparently doubtfully considering the offer, my landlord, afraid that I would decline, and that the coveted dollars would slip out of his grasp, hastened to assure the Don that I would be only too glad to go, and as I did not contradict him, the Don produced a document which I signed; thirty pesos were counted out to me on the spot, to the *mestizo's* great delight, and I was told to be on board the schooner the next day. Most of the thirty dollars went into my landlord's pocket, and with the balance I bought a few articles necessary for my intended voyage.

The following morning at 10 o'clock I went on board the schooner, which was in charge of an old Manila man who eyed me somewhat suspiciously when I informed him that I was going in the vessel. She was a real country wallah, and in dreadful disorder; both standing and running gear knotted and spliced, sails with patches upon patches; and the paint, what was left of it, peeling off. She was evidently of a green old age and had been badly used for years. The Don grinned at my look of dismay when he arrived on board, and to my question did he not intend to put her in better order before we left, answered with a curt "no." He then informed me that we must be ready to sail before the month was up; that he had engaged four trustworthy men and a cook, but that he still wanted a second mate. I had formed a slight acquaintance with a young American of the name of Baker, who had been left behind in hospital from some ship, but was now well. I thought I might be able to induce him to go if the looks of the vessel did not scare him; and the next day, after a great deal of persuasion, I got him to consent, to my great relief, as I did not like the idea of being alone on board with such a villainous looking crew as the sailors proved to be when they were mustered. But the Don had confidence in them. One in particular, a short, thick-set, scowling ruffian, with the name of Joaquin, inspired me with great aversion, and I had already a presentiment that he would in some

way play us false. The cook was the only one I placed any reliance on. He had been for years cook on American ships, and could speak English. For a couple of days we were busy taking in cargo and stores, and putting the schooner ship shape; but the Don seemed averse to any improvement being made in her appearance, and very little was done in this direction. He made Baker and I presents of two good revolvers; half a dozen muskets were also brought on board, though we discovered later that no ammunition came with them, so that they were comparatively useless. Before we sailed the Don gave me a paper insuring monthly pay of 100 dollars whether we succeeded or not, and a bonus of 15,000 dollars if the voyage was successful. I had given Baker a hint when he joined that we were on something different to a regular trading voyage, and that perhaps there was plenty of money in it, and he was satisfied.

On the 1st of May we took our departure from Manila for a place called Engano, about 250 miles distant, ostensibly to take on board some bales of bagging, but really to hunt up more information concerning the treasure. Here occurred my first trouble with the sailors, and it almost proved to be my last. We had a small dinghy, hanging in davits astern, which we used as a pulling boat in harbour; and when we had anchored Don Ignazio expressed a wish to go on shore. Seeing Joaquin standing near, I ordered him to lower the dinghy and pull the captain on shore, but instead of obeying, he coolly took a cigarette from behind his ear and walked up to the galley fire to light it. Such an impudent disregard of my order I could not pass by, so I knock the cigarette out of his mouth. This made him furious, and with a fearful malediction he pulled a long, sharp pointed knife from his waist and made a lunge at me with it, but the cook grasped his arm, and prevented his doing any mischief. After this I always carried my revolver. When I told the Don about this matter, he only shrugged his shoulders, and told me to be cautious. His stay on shore was short and evidently unsatisfactory, as he quickly returned, with a cloud on his brow, and ordered me to get under weigh for Bajadanto, a place 63 miles nearer Manila, where we would hear some news and probably receive a passenger. We arrived there in due time, and found it to be a small fishing-village, peopled by half amphibious, and almost naked, natives, who swarmed round the schooner from morning till night in their canoes begging. Don Ignazio spent two whole days on shore here, and when he returned on the third day I saw success written in the satisfied smile on his sallow countenance. The wind was fresh and fair as we proceeded with all sail set within an hour after the Don had come on board. Cape Bajadanto was just rounded, when I was told to steer towards the shore and anchor as near it as I could with safety. I consequently kept the vessel in, and the lead going, and anchored in 5 fathoms of water, less than 200 yards from the wooded shore, where not a human being or a habitation was in sight. It was now getting dark, and the Don ordered me to hang a bright light in the rigging, and also to let the sailors go below, but that we had better keep watch, and he would take the first one himself. Later, when we were alone on deck he told what had happened. After the treasure had been secured by the robbers, during the panic following the earthquake, they first conveyed it to Engano, from there to Bajadanto, and then to the island of Tamatan where it was buried, and where it still was six months ago; one of the robbers, a native of Bajadanto, had quarrelled with the rest, and had to flee from them. This was the man who had given the information, hoping to secure a reward and a free pardon. Don Ignazio had seen this man yesterday and persuaded him to go with us and point out the rest if we should come across them, but they had probably left Tamatan for some other island as they had a small sloop, and were only four in number. They had not yet disposed of the loot because they had no opportunity to do so. This Bajadanto man was to come across the island to-night and hail the schooner, and we should lower the boat and take him on board secretly as he knew that he had been well watched since his desertion from the gang. Our conversation was interrupted at 11 o'clock by the hail from shore. The Don and one sailor pulled in for the expected passenger, while the rest got the schooner under weigh. The boat returned and was hoisted up as the sails began to draw and our course was set for the open sea. I had now a good look at the new arrival, and a more unprepossessing visage I had seldom seen. We had had fine weather since leaving Manila, but it now began to look dirty, and the barometer fell rapidly. I advised the Don to go between the islands and anchor until the bad weather passed, but his impatience to proceed was so great that he would not consent to any delay. When we got clear of the shelter of the land we felt the whole force of

the wind, which had increased to a heavy gale, and created a tremendous sea, which was every minute rising higher. Both wind and sea were in our favour, so we scudded before it under only a handful of canvass, and made tolerably fair running. Extremely careful steering was necessary as the slightest yawing would probably result in the schooner broaching to, the consequence of which in such a gale would have been disastrous. Baker and I took watch and watch, the Don being laid up in his berth sea-sick. Baker had been on deck during the forenoon, and when I relieved him at noon I stood aft for a while watching the steering. Had it been safe I would have hove her to, but the gale was now at its highest, and I dreaded attempting to bring her up in the wind. The waves were not long, but of an enormous height, their topmost sides foaming and curling as they raced one after the other. Joaquin was at the tiller, and was apparently doing his best, carefully watching each succeeding wave. As both air and water were warm I was but lightly clothed when I came on deck, and had neither hat nor boots. Observing that the fore-sheet was washing about in the lee scuppers, I stepped forward to coil it up out of the reach of the water. I had already succeeded in partly doing this, when I suddenly felt the wind, which had been blowing on my back, coming from the side. I looked aft, and saw Joaquin, with a demoniac grin on his face, jamming the tiller hard down and shooting the schooner up in the wind. At the same moment a green, frothing wave, towering high over my head, came tumbling over the low bulwarks, and swept me off my feet, sending me, unresistingly, into the fathomless deep to leeward. I had kept hold of the fore-sheet as I went overboard, but by such a terrible force was I carried along, that the rope slid rapidly through my fingers, chafing them to the bones, until the end came with a jerk. I remember cursing Joaquin as I went over, and speculating whether the end had come; then I found myself laughing, at the thought of how disappointed the Don would be when he found I had gone. Shortly everything changed to a beautiful red, and shifted like a kaleidoscope from purple to pink in a hundred different tints, and all this time I was going down, down, down, when all of a sudden I felt a terrible shock and all turned black.

I have read about unfortunate wretches being rolled down steep hills, headed up naked in barrels studded with sharp spikes; and I used to imagine the agonies they must have endured. Such were the feelings I experienced when I began to awake again to consciousness! Millions of pins and needles sticking into my flesh from head to foot; sharp pincers pinching me, the blood surging through my veins, one moment like lightning and liquid fire, then stopping suddenly, but only to make another violent surge. Slowly, how awfully slowly! my perceptions returned, and my sufferings became less. Before I opened my eyes I heard a buzzing sound, which gradually became clearer, until finally I could distinguish Baker's voice. When I opened my eyes I found I was lying on the cabin table, with Baker stooping over me and rubbing me with all his strength. When he saw me looking at him he ceased, and exclaimed fervently: "Thank God! that you have come to; I thought you were gone, old man!" The Don, pale as a ghost, was sitting close to me, holding one of my hands. I was still too weak to speak, but was recovering fast. In an hour I was able to crawl on deck, when I found the schooner hove to, and the wind rapidly going down. Watching my opportunity, I put her on her course again, and gradually increased the sails. At 10 p.m. she was running before a fresh, fair wind, with all sail set. Baker then told me how I was saved. He said, he felt the schooner broaching to and rushed on deck, but too late. He saw me go over and his first impulse was to knock Joaquin down; and the schooner coming up to the wind, he kept her so. Everything loose on deck was washed over, though the sea did not reach him; the lead line was coiled up in a tub standing close to the main mast, to which the lower end of the line was fastened. This was washed over, and got entangled about my legs, and when the vessel's headway was stopped I was pulled in without difficulty, not having been more than five minutes in the water. I took no present notice of Joaquin's attempt on my life at Don Ignazio's earnest request, but I determined to be level with him on some future occasion if the opportunity offered. After this we had uninterrupted fine weather, but it was nearly a month before we sighted the group of islands of which Tamatan was one. The informer was our pilot among these islands and reefs, and a very good one he proved to be; his heart evidently being in the work. It was late one afternoon when we anchored between the two islands of Tamatan and Tanadik; we had been keeping a sharp

lookout for the sloop, but had seen nothing of her. A couple of canoes paddled out to us, so I hoisted the English ensign, thinking that the Spanish might perhaps scare them. There were only four natives, and unknown to Alonzo, the informer, who had been living for years on this group. They had nothing to trade, and could give us no information, except that no strangers were now living there. Alonzo was still convinced that the robbers were somewhere in the neighbourhood, and next morning an expedition to their former quarters on shore was decided on. At daylight next morning Don Ignazio, with Alonzo and three of the sailors started, well armed. I had persuaded the Don to leave Joaquin on board, and I kept him busy below in the hold the whole day. In the evening they returned dejected and weary; they had been to the huts formerly occupied by the robbers; they had seen the recess where the treasure had been planted, but the place was deserted and in ruins. And now we had to begin the search afresh, and revert to the original plan of trading between the islands until the villains were discovered. Don Ignazio was furious, and heaped reproaches and abuse on Alonzo who, I could see, whatever contempt he deserved, had acted squarely towards us. I attempted to pacify him, and partly succeeded by telling him that, as the robbers could not have had any news of our quest, we would surely surprise them yet, and recover the treasure. The following day we filled up our empty water-casks, and in the evening got under weigh for the Hogoleu group.

For the next three weeks we cruised among the islands, from group to group, some of which were inhabited, and others not. The natives were generally mild and inoffensive, and brought off fruit and shells and occasionally calabashes of coconut oil for trading. We treated them well and always parted from them on the best of terms. But we could obtain no news about the sloop. No such vessel had ever been seen among the islands, and I began to fear that before long there would be trouble with Don Ignazio, as he began to have frequent fits of passion, one moment paying to the saints and the next cursing like a trooper. I had still confidence in Alonzo, in fact I had to acknowledge to myself that I had misjudged him when he came on board, and I found that he was the most trustworthy of the lot. On the 13th of July we anchored off the island of Pighi. It was not very large, but one of the most beautiful of those lovely isles. It was inhabited, as we perceived by several huts nestling in a grove of trees, lining the margin of a small bay opposite our anchorage. We had the English ensign hoisted as usual, and in a short time a large canoe was seen paddling off from shore towards the schooner. Six brawny natives were in her, and when they came alongside one of them took a folded paper from out his hair and presented it without coming on board. It was passed up to me, but I found it to be only a leaf torn out of a book—a Spanish prayer book as I correctly surmised. No writing whatever was on it. I turned it over and over, and minutely examined it but could make nothing of it. I asked Don Ignazio and Alonzo to come on deck—they invariably stayed below when any canoes made their first appearance—and gave them the paper, but they could make nothing of it. By signs, the natives pointed invitingly to the beach. A basket full of hard bread and some sugar was passed to them, of which they partook with great relish. The Don had got the idea, which nobody tried to combat, that our men were here, and that now all our cunning was required to circumvent them. Finally, I volunteered to take the dinghy and pull myself ashore, and find out who had sent the paper, as it was certainly sent for some purpose by somebody. The natives did not appear to be hostile; but as the robbers might be there, I reloaded my revolver and stuck a dagger in my sash. When I was a short distance from the beach I paused for a moment and looked about me, but seeing only about a dozen natives, I gave a spurt and shot the boat well up on the sand. I immediately leaped out and confronted the crowd, but I met nothing but smiling, curious faces. Several of the people beckoned me to follow them. I did so, and arrived at the hut they were bringing me to, where I heard a cheery voice with a broad Scotch accent say, "Good morning, mon, come in and sit doon!" The natives left me at the door, and taking away part of the front which consisted of mats, let the daylight in upon the contents of the room, an ordinary native hut with a platform erected a foot above the floor in one end. On this platform, reposed the form of a man, black as ebony and of immense bulk. I gazed upon him with amazement. Nobody else was in the room, so it was surely he who had spoken. "Sit doon, sit doon," said he, making a place for me beside him on the platform, "I am short of chairs, so you will have to sit on the bed,

boss! yah, yah, yah!" letting off a boisterous shout of laughter. After I had told him that I was master of a schooner trading between the islands, he related to me volubly how he was and what he was doing there. He belonged to Greenock, in Scotland; had run away many years ago from an American whaler whilst at one of the islands, had been there ever since living a free and lazy life and intended to stop there. I asked him if any vessels ever came there. Very seldom, he said; a sloop had been there a few days ago, but left again for some islands a little farther to the south-east; they were only Spaniards, three in number, he said, and were not very communicative. "Do you want anything from the schooner? I am going right on board to get under weigh!" "Some tobacco," he replied. "All right," said I, "send a canoe off at once; good bye, I may perhaps see you again!" and off I darted to the beach while he leisurely waddled after me. When I got down to the boat I recollected the torn out leaf. "You sent off a leaf out of a book; what was the meaning of that?" I asked. "That was my letter," said he "I wished to see somebody and as I never go afloat myself." "All right, all right," said I, interrupting him again as I pushed off the boat and jumped into it. I was soon on board and told the Don what I had heard, which created such excitement in him that he began to embrace me and I could with difficulty keep clear of him. The canoe was waiting and I literally loaded it down with tobacco, food, clothing, and several bottles of aguardienta. Alonzo was confident that the robbers had returned to Tamatan, whither we concluded to follow them even if we could not get ahead of them. The second night out from Pigeli we had to anchor under a low island, as the night was dark and dangerous reefs were all around us. No lights were allowed to be shown on board and absolute silence was enjoined. The Don had sailors to stand single watch during the night, against my judgment, as we were continually on the watch during the day, he said. I awoke at 11 o'clock with an undefinable feeling of uneasiness, and getting up quietly, looked about. Everything was still, but forward on the schooner's deck somebody was waving a bright light from side to side. I dropped down into the cabin thunderstruck; my first thought was of Alonzo, but he was fast asleep in his berth. Gently shaking the Don I awakened him, and whispering to him to be quiet, pulled him up the companion. When he saw the light he clearly comprehended the treacherous signals. His rage was fearful. Grasping the ever handy dagger with his right hand, he pushed me on one side, and glided forward like a snake. A fearful cry rang on the still air, bringing every one on deck. Then followed a splash, and Don Ignacio came slowly at wiping his dagger. "You are avenged, amigo," said he to me, "when I strike, I strike home! so perish all traitors! go below, you men, and beware!" This to the three sailors who had tumbled up on deck. I felt appalled! Such swift punishment, although well deserved, inspired me with dread, and I shuddered when the Don approached me. Joaquin had met his doom, and I had nothing more to fear from him, but I would have preferred to have seen him alive. "Sharp work, that!" said Baker, as we sat talking on deck for the remainder of the night, "we have to keep on the Don's soft side or we may perhaps have to share that fellow's fate." "No danger," said I with confidence I did not really feel; "anyhow, we will stick together and do what is right!" "Whatever is, is right!" quoth Baker, with a grimace. Next day we fortunately got a fresh breeze, and at 2 o'clock p.m. let go in our former anchorage. No sloop was there. We had scarcely got the sails furled, however, before we saw her creeping round the opposite point of the island with all sail set. When they saw us they sheered off at first, but finally stood towards us and anchored about a hundred yards from us. We had the English flag flying and they had apparently no suspicion of our errand. Now, when the fatal moment had at last arrived, I watched the faces of my companion with some concern. The Don was unusually calm, but his eyes glittered most unnaturally. Alonzo was nervous, the muscles in his face twitching continuously, but he looked stern and determined. Baker smiled while he caressed his revolver; and the sailors looked as if they were fully prepared for the struggle; the cook was sharpening his chopper and singing. No traitors among them, I felt sure. I advised the Don to wait for the visit they would certainly pay us, and then we would have them perhaps without bloodshed; and he gave me the entire management of the affair. Don Ignacio, Alonzo, and the three sailors were to remain in the cabin, which we kept in semi-darkness by the skylight being covered. They were well armed, and ready to receive the visitors who would, if possible, be got

down one by one, the first one to be taken without any struggle or noise. Baker stood in the companion; the cook was in the galley, and I was walking the deck. I observed that they watched us intently ever since they anchored, while I pretended not to take any particular notice of them. It struck me then that they were planning to capture the schooner, and thought that we were unprepared. After some consultation they lowered their boat, and all three of them got into her—where was the fourth man? I had put on a white linen coat, in the left hand pocket of which I kept my cocked revolver with a finger on the trigger, nonchalantly smoking a cigar. When the boat came alongside I sung out to the cook in English to make fast the painter. They came over the side one by one, each one shaking me by the hand, and looking curiously about him. One of them, evidently the leader, was a tall, fine looking man, speaking tolerably good English, but the other two were of the usual type of ruffian, low-browed and scowling. We had a talk about the islands for a few minutes, when I told them that the captain was down in the cabin, rather unwell, would they not go down see him? They all walked aft together, one of the shorter men being ahead, when I drew the tall man's attention to something, and enabled Baker to invite the foremost man down in the cabin. He went all right. No sound was heard from below as the tall man passed Baker with a greeting on his way down. When his head had disappeared under the companion hatch I seized the remaining man by the throat and putting my leg behind his, tripped him neatly over on his back, and held my revolver to his breast while the cook hastened to bind him hand and foot, and then gag him. I took him so completely by surprise that he had no chance to draw any weapon, or make any noise. A terrible commotion was now heard from below, and as I beheld the tall man's head for a moment appear in sight, I saw Baker strike him a blow on the head with his revolver, driving him back. I rushed up to assist him, but my help was not needed. When I looked down I saw Don Ignacio and the three sailors bending over the tall leader, and hacking him with their knives. The sight was sickening! I pulled the covering off the sky light, and opened it, and then the Don and the three other butchers came rushing up, brandishing their knives. Baker was eyeing them contemptuously with folded arms but with the revolver in one hand. "They are hyenas!" said he to me, "and having now tasted blood, look out!" The sailors pulled the dead bodies of Alonzo and the tall bandit up on deck, and then the living one wrapped up in a thick blanket and almost smothered. Then the Don and two of the sailors took the sloop's boat, and pulled over to her. Baker told me now, that when the first man got down in the cabin a blanket was thrown over his head, and his cries wholly smothered; when the tall man came down he immediately recognized Alonzo, and pulling out his ever ready knife, like a flash of lightning sent it with unerring aim through Alonzo's heart; and when trying to get back to the deck Baker struck him on the head and stunned him, when the vultures threw themselves on his body and finished him. In a short time the Don returned with a long face and nothing. They had overhauled the sloop from stem to stern, every nook and cranny, but found nothing on board to indicate the place where the treasure was concealed. The dead bandit was first stripped, but nothing was found on him except a few gold pieces and some silver. The two living ones were now unceremoniously deprived of their clothing, but they had nothing. The Don began to interrogate them, but they remained sulky and dumb. The small amount of patience he was endowed with now failed him, and he swore he would soon make them speak. A hangman's knot was made in the ends of the fore and main throat-halliards and placed round their necks; they were now asked again if they would tell where the treasure was, but they still remained dumb. The Don was foaming at the mouth. He gave the order to hoist away, when I interfered and stopped it. He looked at me as if he wanted to kill me too; but I did not quail as I saw that Baker had him covered with his revolver. "If you kill these men," said I, "how will you ever get possession of the treasure? I came here to find it; and I will find it; we have done killing enough now, and no more is needed. Offer these men their lives and their liberty, and they will divulge the hiding place." It was wonderful to see how he calmed down when I spoke; he knew that I was right, but his terrible temper overpowered him sometimes. He made the sailors take the ropes off the men's necks, and went up and talked to them. Gradually their dark faces cleared and they began to answer him. I saw that he had gained the day, and I was truly thankful to see it. Looking over to me with a

different expression on his countenance than had lately been on it, said he, "You are my friend, I can thank you for all. I know now where the treasure is, but it is too late to-day to go there. We will now bury the dead, and thank the good God!" The two dead bodies were sewed up in sacks, and brought on shore and buried. Baker and I kept watch and watch over the two prisoners during the night; and next morning at daylight the Don and the three sailors started away from the schooner in the long-boat, taking one of the prisoners with them. The prisoner remaining on board told us that it was buried not far from where they had hid it before; the fourth robber had been killed in trying to escape from them to sell them. At 10 o'clock in the forenoon we saw the shore party coming down to the beach. Every one of the men was heavily laden; and their burdens being put in the boat it was soon alongside. How carefully everything was passed up or deck and taken aft. The Don now with his own hands cut the prisoners' lashings, and told them to get in the sloop's boat and go on board and get under weigh at once. In an hour's time the sloop was beyond the point, out of view, and we saw her no more. The sailors were set to filling the watercasks, while we passed the treasures down into the cabin and opened them out. What a collection of precious things! Crowns, stars, and crosses of gold and diamonds; strangely wrought vessels of gold, studded with pearls; a whole dress made of pearls sewn together. But the most precious of all was a casket of gold, incrustured with diamonds; this the Don would not let us touch or allow it to be opened; he treated it with great reverence, crossing himself every time he touched it. He said it contained some part of the Saviour's body, which I called the "Holy Grail." Both I and Baker were transfixed with wonder, gazing at what he later [disrespectfully] called the "loot." He looked at me and I looked at him, each reading the other's thoughts. "Honest Injun!" said I; "honest Injun," replied Baker, with a sigh, and that was the last of any dishonourable thoughts we may have entertained. The treasures were carefully put into one of the berths; but the "Holy Grail" got a place of its own on a sort of altar, where the sailors were allowed to have a sight of it and offer up their prayers. We got under weigh that night for Guam, where Don Ignacio expected to find a larger vessel on which he could tranship the treasure. We were now very careful in our sailing, but arrived there after a pleasant passage on the 8th of August, and to the Don's great joy found the Spanish gun-vessel *Admirante Moreno* lying at anchor. The treasure was taken on board with great secrecy; and as our voyage was now virtually at an end, both I and Baker followed the Don on board, and went in her to Manila as passengers. The schooner was put under the charge of one of the sailors to follow us at leisure. We were treated like princes on the passage, and also after our arrival at Manila. I had the honour of a special introduction to a certain high and holy man, who gave me his blessing when I left. The Don fulfilled his promise like a gentleman; gave me a cheque for 15,000 dollars, and 500 dollars in gold; Baker received a cheque for 10,000 dollars and 250 in gold. After bidding Don Ignacio farewell, we took the first steamer for Hongkong, where we separated. Baker made good use of his money, because I saw him only a few years ago, master of a large ship, his own. I am sorry to say that I made ducks and drakes of mine, and I am now but very little better off for my quest of the "Holy Grail."

IN THE U.S. CONSULAR-GENERAL COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before G. H. SCIDMORE, Esq., Vice-Consul General.—TUESDAY, December 23rd, 1890.

KATO SOGORO V. E. KILDOYLE.

This case came up for the assessment of costs, judgment having been given on the 15th instant as follows:—

This case having been tried before C. R. Great-house, United States Consul-General, and J. Mendelson and G. E. Rice, associates, and said Consul-General and said associates having made and rendered their opinion in writing, find and adjudge that the defendant is indebted to the plaintiff in the sum of one hundred and twelve dollars with interest thereon from the third day of December, 1889, at the rate of seven per cent. per annum, and adjudge that the defendant pay to the plaintiff one hundred and twelve dollars with interest thereon from the third day of December, 1889, at

the rate of seven per cent. per annum with costs, for which execution and process may issue.

C. R. GREATHOUSE,
U.S. Consul-General.

We concur,

J. MENDELSON } Associates.
G. E. RICE }

The Vice-Consul General said, in reference to costs, that since the judgment had been rendered the plaintiff had filed a statement of costs he desired to have against the defendant. Having read the Court rules as to costs, his Honour said, the plaintiff when he began the case deposited \$20 as security for costs. On the 4th of November the defendant deposited \$1.80. The costs would be for the attendance of the associates. They were entitled to receive each \$3.20 for each attendance. They attended for three days which would amount to \$21.60 gold up to December 3rd, 1889, when judgment was reserved. The costs accruing to the clerk of the court were \$12.95 gold; for the marshal up to the same date the fees were \$4.50; but up to December 3rd, 1889, the costs of the clerk and the marshal would only be \$20, they having divided the amount deposited by the plaintiff and waived the difference. On February 10th there was a subsequent hearing, and one witness was heard for the plaintiff. The costs accruing since December 3rd, 1889, were clerk's fees \$2.26 gold—\$2.98 Mexican. The witnesses would receive \$1.50 per day and 15 *sen* for travelling expenses. The witness's fees would be \$6.54. The plaintiff was entitled to the return of the \$20 and also for all other expenses that he actually incurred for obtaining witness and other expenses.

Plaintiff's counsel said Mr. Whitfield had been called by him and the vice Consul-General, after reading over the record decided that that was the case. Therefore there would be \$2.18 more for fees to be added, which would make the expenses for witnesses \$8.54. The total would be \$60.24. The defendant made a deposit on November 12th of \$4.80 which he admitted to be owing to the plaintiff. That would be returned.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL,"]

London, December 22nd.

It is doubted whether the House of Representatives will agree to any silver law during the present session.

A great fall of snow has taken place all over Great Britain.

The *New York Herald* States that President Harrison has refused to allow the Behring's Sea dispute to be submitted to arbitration.

London, December 23rd.

Snow, frost, and thick fog have prevailed in London for five days. The rivers Trent and Severn and the Upper Thames are frozen over.

(FROM THE "SINGAPORE FREE PRESS.")

London, December 9th.

Mr. Justin McCarthy occupied yesterday Mr. Parnell's seat in the House of Commons. Mr. Parnell intends going to Ireland and to address meetings in the chief towns.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, } Nagasaki & Kobe	per N. Y. K.	Friday, Jan. 2nd.
From America... per P. M. Co.		Tuesday, Jan. 6th.*
From Europe via Hongkong... per M. M. Co.		Sunday, Dec. 28th.†
From Hongkong, per C. P. M. Co.		Monday, Dec. 29th.
From Europe via Hongkong... per N. D. Lloyd.		Monday, Jan. 5th.
From Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co.		Friday, Jan. 9th.

* China left San Francisco on December 18th. † Sydney left Shanghai on December 23rd.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Shanghai, } Kobe, and Nagasaki	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, Dec. 30th.
For America... per O. & O. Co.		Saturday, Dec. 27th.
For Hongkong... per P. & O. Co.		Saturday, Dec. 27th.
For Canada, &c. per C. M. P. Co.		Sunday, Dec. 28th.
For Europe via Hongkong... per N. D. Lloyd.		Wednesday, Jan. 7th.
For America... per P. M. Co.		Thursday, Jan. 8th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 19th December.—Shanghai and ports, 13th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Aucona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 21st December.—Hongkong 12th, Nagasaki 17th, and Kobe 20th December, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Meiji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1010, Allen, 21st December.—Kobe 20th December.—Lighthouse Department.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, Wm. Ward, 23rd December.—San Francisco 29th November, via Honolulu 8th December, General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Oxford, British steamer, 1,891, W. Janes, 24th December.—Kobe 22nd December, General.—Samuels Samuel & Co.

Oceanic, British steamer, 3,808, W. M. Smith, 24th December.—Hongkong 19th December, General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, G. W. Pearne, 24th December.—San Francisco 6th December, General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 25th December.—Shanghai and ports 19th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Dorset, British steamer, 1,716, Daniel, 20th December.—Kobe, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Triumphante (12), French ironclad, Captain De Coriulles Lucomere, 20th December.—Kobe.

Iphigenia, German steamer, 1,058, Voltmer, 21st December.—Kobe, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Pythomene, British ship, 1,896, Dexter, 21st December.—Tacoma, Ballast.—China & Japan Trading Co.

Yangtse, French steamer, 2,371, Lartigue, 21st December.—Kobe, Shanghai, and Hongkong, General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Guy Mannering, British steamer, 1,829, D. Ford, 23rd December.—Kobe, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, Wm. Ward, 24th December.—Hongkong, General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,530, G. W. Conner, 24th December.—Shanghai and ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bentwaters, British steamer, 1,530, Webster, 25th December.—Kobe, General.—Cornes & Co.

PASSENGERS.

TO ARRIVE.

Per German steamer *General Werder*, from Hongkong:—Mr. Kragh and family, Mr. McNeill, Mr. Schramm, and Professor T. Saka in cabin.

Per French steamer *Sydney* from Marseilles:—Mr. and Mrs. Lescasse and 3 infants, Messrs. E. Coult, Dangerfield, Rev. Messrs. Balet, J. Bertrand, and Mr. Kikawa; from Calcutta, Rev. Mr. Le Gris; from Saigon, Rev. Mr. Halin, Messrs. Rouger and Noitin.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Messrs. Wakamiya, Egoshi, W. H. Stone, Morishita, J. Zading, E. M. Orloff, F. Upton, G. H. R. Wainwright, W. T. Payne, and Kumasaki in cabin; Mr. G. W. Forbes and 1 Japanese in second class, and 31 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Aucona*, from Hongkong, via Ports:—Mr. H. G. Parlett, Mr. C. J. Strome, and Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Fearon in cabin; 13 passengers in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Hon. Paul Neumann and servant, Miss Neumann, Mr. and Mrs. G. O. Nagayama, and Mr. A. Littlejohn in cabin. For Shanghai: Rev. E. H. Thomson and Rev. G. W. Verity in cabin. For Hongkong: Mrs. A. M. Cheek, 2 children, and servant in cabin.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, from Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. Austin, Messrs. Wm. Graham, J. G. Skipton, F. D. Osborne, and Chang Mow Kung in cabin.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from San Francisco:—Mr. Louis Eppinger, Mrs. E. L. Mozley, Mr. W. H. Magee, Mr. H. S. Gray, Miss Yoss, Dr. Alfred Guthrie, Mr. Otto Krogmann, Mr. T. Lacey, Miss J. E. Locke, Miss G. H. Hishikawa.

M.D., Miss May Russell, and Mr. P. M. Saltaral in cabin. For Hongkong: Mr. Wm. D. Siuk, Mr. Yung Wing Thung, Miss Lyon, Miss C. J. Jewell, and Rev. J. Elias Hughes in cabin. For Shanghai: Mr. Elliott Stone, Miss R. M. Sides, and Miss Hu King Eng in cabin. For Nagasaki: Misses Jennie Gheer, Elisa Forsell, Nora Seeds, Elizabeth Russell, and Grace Tucker in cabin. For Bangkok: Hon. and Mrs. S. H. Boyd and Mrs. Kate G. Booth in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Miss M. E. Williams, Miss E. McAllister, Miss J. S. Graham, Miss Ada Hevour, Mr. R. Masujima, and Mr. H. D. Leland in cabin; Messrs. J. Cook, Muire, and Hada in second class, and 21 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Yangtse*, for Shanghai, via Kobe:—Miss A. Butler, Mr. and Mrs. Lam Shu Nam, Mr. Perard and one servant, Colonel Maudint, Miss Kishida Yasu, Miss Kishida Ito, Mrs. Padin and infant, Messrs. A. H. Groom, A. Butler, N. Faga, A. Baldassi, Kraemer, Kamae, Nautier, G. de Maulne, and Matsunaka in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for Hongkong:—Captain J. B. MacMillan, Mr. R. L. Morant, Mrs. O. Margary, Mr. Wong Get Hing, Mr. W. G. Conley, Mr. and Mrs. Baldwin and brother in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. Nakamikado, Mrs. Campbell, Mrs. J. Strothoff, Messrs. E. M. Oloff, C. Deubelgh, Okazaki, J. L. Jensen, A. M. Montell, and Fukumoto in cabin; Mrs. Kawashima, Messrs. Matsunaka and Mizutani in second class; 8 passengers in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Yangtse*, for Shanghai, via Kobe:—Raw Silk for France 175 Bales; Waste Silk for France 281 Bales; Treasure \$75,000.00.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, Captain Conner, reports:—Left Shanghai the 13th December at 11 a.m.; strong gale from N.W. the entire passage. Arrived at Nagasaki the 15th at 5 a.m. and left the 15th at 5 p.m.; fresh northerly winds. Arrived at Shimomoseki the 16th at 7 a.m. and left the 16th at 9.15 a.m.; fresh N. winds and fine. Arrived at Kobe the 17th at 6.03 a.m. and left the 18th at noon; fresh W.N.W. winds throughout. Arrived at Yokohama the 19th December at 3.50 p.m.

The British steamer *Oceanic*, Captain W. M. Smith, reports:—Left Hongkong the Friday, December 19th, at 4 p.m., had variable winds, smooth sea, and fine clear weather to Ooshima, which was passed on the 23rd at 9.30 p.m. Thence S.W. wind, increasing to a moderate gale with heavy rain, lightning, thunder, and heavy sea, which continued to port. Passed Rock Island on the 24th at 8.43 a.m. Arrived at Yokohama on the 24th December at 1.17 p.m. Time 4 days 19 hours and 30 minutes.

The British steamer *Gaelic*, Captain Pearne, reports:—Left San Francisco the 6th December at 4.02 p.m.; to the 8th had light westerly winds and smooth sea; thence to the 19th strong northerly gale and high sea; thence to the 18th light north-easterly and fine weather; thence to the 21st fresh westerly with heavy north-west swell; thence to port strong to moderate northerly winds and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 24th December at 9 p.m. Time 17 days, 11 hours, 30 minutes.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The position of the Import market remains unchanged. There is no demand for Yarns, and in Piece-goods a sale of 9 lbs. Shirtings is now and again reported at about former quotations. Sales for the week are 50 bales English Yarns and about 3,500 pieces Shirtings.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER YARD.	PER 10 YARDS.
Grey Shirtings—84 in, 38 1/2 yds. 39 inches	\$1.35 to 1.90	
Grey Shirtings—90 in, 38 1/2 yds. 45 inches	1.60 to 2.54	
T. Cloth—7 1/2, 21 yards, 34 inches	1.75 to 1.47	
Indigo Shirtings—42 yards, 44 inches	1.20 to 1.60	
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 36 inches	1.70 to 2.00	
Cotton—Italians and Salteens Black, 34 inches	0.07 to 0.14	
Fuskey Reds—1 1/2 to 2 1/2, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.00 to 1.15	
Fuskey Reds—2 1/2 to 3 1/2, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.20 to 1.40	
Fuskey Reds—3 1/2 to 4 1/2, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.70 to 2.05	
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 42 inches	4.50 to 6.00	
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.50 to 0.65	
Taffetas, 12 yards, 45 inches	1.35 to 2.25	

WOOLLENS.

Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches	\$1.00 to 1.50
Italian Cloth, 40 yards, 32 inches	0.24 to 28
Medium	0.20 to 24
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.16 to 20
Common	0.14 to 18
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.14 to 0.15
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.45
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.60
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.35 to 0.60
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3 1/2 lb. per lb.	0.10 to 0.38

COTTON YARNS.

No. 10/24, Ordinary	\$26.00 to 28.00
No. 16/24, Medium	28.00 to 29.00
No. 16/24, Good to Best	29.00 to 30.50
No. 16/24, Reverse	30.00 to 31.00
No. 28/32, Ordinary	29.00 to 30.00
No. 28/32, Medium	30.00 to 31.00
No. 28/32, Good to Best	32.00 to 33.00
No. 38/42, Medium to Best	35.50 to 36.50
No. 32s, Two-fold	34.50 to 36.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	36.50 to 39.50
No. 20s, Bombay	70.00 to 72.00
No. 16s, Bombay	72.00 to 78.00
No. 10/14, Bombay	—

METALS.

Market very quiet and business passing is very small. Manufactured Iron moves very slowly indeed; and Wire Nails, which had a good turn a short time ago, are again quite neglected. Tin plates have been in some request at higher prices, but the quantity sold is but small.

Flat Bars, 1 inch	\$2.65 to 2.75
Flat Bars, 1 inch	2.75 to 2.85
Round and square up to 1 inch	2.65 to 2.85
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.
Nailrod, small size	Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	2.80 to 3.00
Sheet Iron	3.20 to 3.40
Galvanized iron sheets	5.80 to 6.00
Wire Nails, assorted	4.40 to 4.90
Tin Plates, per box	5.00 to 5.25
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.25 to 1.27 1/2

KEROSENE.

Market dull but nominally unchanged. Buyers, however, do not seem eager to pay the prices which holders ask. No fresh arrivals during the week either from Europe or America.

QUOTATIONS.

Chester	\$1.70 to 1.73 1/2
Comel	1.67 1/2 to 1.70
Devco	1.65 to 1.67 1/2
Russian	1.60 to 1.65

SUGAR.

The market is dull and no prospect of improvement. Browns especially have declined. Stocks large, about 100,000 piculs White and Brown together.

Brown Takao	\$4.10 to 4.15
Brown Daitong	3.10 to 4.20
Brown Canton	4.80 to 5.00
Brown Java and Penang	5.00 to 5.60
White Refined	4.55 to 7.50

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was dated 10th inst., since when settlements in this Market are 700 piculs divided thus:—Hanks, 20; Filatures, 570; Re-reels, 112; Kakedas minus, 31; Oshu, 29. There have been no direct shipments during the week; the export business of which stands at the above named 700 piculs.

In the early part of the week continued high exchange prevented much business; but a few days ago the renewed fall in Silver caused a corresponding change here, and several of the orders mentioned in our last were filled.

There have been a few purchases made at figures below our quotations, some holders requiring money for the end of the year. One big man quitted 200 piculs in a line, and several other smaller parcels, especially in Filatures, have been bought to advantage. There is no further talk of a Syndicate at the moment, but the majority of holders appear to be able and willing to carry their stocks into New Year and see what that will do for them.

Arrivals are beginning to fall off and although there must be some reeled silk in the country ready to come down; the present wintry weather will close most of the Filatures and Reeling establishments for the next six weeks. With any business at all we look for a decline in stock list from now.

There has been only one shipping opportunity since we last wrote, viz., the French Mail Steamer of the 21st inst. This steamer, *Yangtsé*, carried 195 bales for Lyons and neighbourhood. Present export figures to date are 11,637 piculs, against

26,962 piculs last year and 25,892 at the 26th December, 1888.

Hanks.—In a long contest between buyers and sellers the latter have given way and some nice parcels both of *Shinshu* and *Shimonita* have been settled at prices ranging from \$490 to \$500, according to quality. The drop in Exchange has helped shippers very materially both in this and in all classes.

Filatures.—Some large lines done for the States, good No. 1 *Shinshu* bringing \$580 to \$570, according to chop. About 200 piculs of *Kaimeisha* were reported at \$582 1/2. The other large owners do not at the moment seem inclined to follow the *Kaimeisha* lead, and some of them stoutly declare their intention of holding on for at least another month. It is worthy of remark that on this day last year prices for these crack filatures were more than \$200 higher than they stand to-day. One parcel of *Koshu Kusanigisha* was recently booked at \$570. In fine sizes not so much has been done, but several parcels of good medium grade have been taken at \$560 or thereabouts.

Re-reels.—Well-known marks and best grades are held at prohibitive prices, while the trade has run chiefly on medium and common; outside provinces and districts having been dealt in at prices ranging from \$500 to \$520. The only sale in decent silk has been a parcel of *Annaka*, Fan chop, at \$540.

Kakedas.—These have been more strongly held than other sorts and there has been little business in them in consequence. There are plenty of enquiries in the Market, but as a rule buyers and sellers differ by \$10 or \$15. One parcel *White Flag* at \$550; *Red Lion*, \$537 1/2; No. 1 *Horse Head*, \$535; No. 2 *Horse Head*, \$525. These are entered in the list, but buyers refuse to go on without some reduction in price.

Oshu.—Business done has been in *Hamatsuki*: good medium at \$530, with lower quality at \$510.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 14	500
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	490 to 495
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshiu)	490 to 495
Hanks—No. 24 (Shinshu)	485 to 490
Hanks—No. 24 (Joshiu)	480 to 485
Hanks—No. 24 to 3	470 to 475
Hanks—No. 3	460 to 475
Hanks—No. 34	460 to 475
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	Nom.
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	590 to 600
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	590 to 595
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	570 to 580
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	560 to 565
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	560 to 570
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	550 to 555
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	540 to 545
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Shinshu and Oshu) Best No. 1	580 to 585
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	560 to 565
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	550 to 555
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	540 to 545
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	530 to 535
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	510 to 520
Kakedas—Extra	Nom.
Kakedas—No. 1	550 to 560
Kakedas—No. 14	540 to 545
Kakedas—No. 2	530 to 535
Kakedas—No. 24	520 to 525
Kakedas—No. 3	510 to 515
Kakedas—No. 34	500 to 505
Kakedas—No. 4	490 to 495
Oshu Sendai—No. 24	530
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	500 to 530
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 24	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 26th Dec., 1890:—

	1890-91.	1889-90.	1888-89.
Europe	4,113	11,018	13,155
America	7,228	14,056	12,499
Total	11,341	25,074	25,654
	Piculs 11,637	26,962	25,892
Settlements and Direct	12,600	29,700	30,350
Export from 1st July	15,900	5,700	7,050
Stock, 26th December	28,500	35,400	37,400

WASTE SILK.

Trade in this branch has been on a smaller scale, settlements for the week amounting to 620 piculs; divided thus:—Cocoons, 87; *Noshi*, 280; *Kibiso*, 174; *Neri*, 79.

As will be seen from the above figures the week's business is not large, buyers complaining that quality is fast running down, especially in prime classes of *Noshi*. Prices for good quality are well maintained; at the same time sellers are current and do not seem to trouble their heads about the movements of exchange.

The French mail steamer, *Yangtsé*, of the 21st inst., carried 281 bales for Marseilles and beyond. This shipment brings the present export figure up to 16,210 piculs, against 14,599 piculs last year and 17,521 piculs in 1888.

Pierced Cocoons.—The remaining stock appears to hang fire; holders do not seem willing to sell at any reduction in price, and consumers tell us that they can supply themselves to better advantage in other countries.

Noshi.—Business is not large; buyers complain of the scarcity of desirable parcels, and it will be noted that the stock in this department is less than it was last year. Some good *Filatures* have been done at from \$144 to \$146; some good *Bushu* at \$130, with fair *Oshu* at the same price. *Foshu* has been more or less neglected, but some ordinary quality has been taken at \$75.

Kibiso.—Fair amount of daily trade in this, ranging from best *Filatures* at \$117 1/2 with seconds at \$109, down to common, dirty, rubbishy *Curries* at \$10.

Mawata.—No fresh purchases have been made, and the stock is small consisting chiefly of old fibre.

Neri.—Some little business has commenced in this article at about \$13 for rough uncleaned stock.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	\$120 to \$130
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	150 to 155
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	140 to 145
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	130 to 135
Noshi-ito—Oshin, Good to Best	140 to 150
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	110 to 120
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Hushu, Good to Best	130 to 140
Noshi-ito—Joshiu, Best	90 to 92 1/2
Noshi-ito—Joshiu, Good	82 1/2 to 85
Noshi-ito—Joshiu, Ordinary	75 to 80
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	110 to 120
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	100 to 105
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	90 to 100
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	80 to 90
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	70 to 75
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good to Fair	50 to 40
Kibiso—Joshiu, Middling to Common	35 to 30
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good	45 to 40
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	35 to 30
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	15 to 8
Mawata—Good to Best	180 to 200

Export Table Waste Silk to 26th Dec., 1890:—

	1890-91.	1889-90.	1888-89.
Waste Silk	15,005	12,542	15,408
Pierced Cocoons	1,205	2,057	2,113
	Piculs 16,210	Piculs 14,599	Piculs 17,521
Settlements and Direct	19,100	17,600	21,400
Export from 1st July	8,500	11,500	6,900
Stock, 26th December	27,900	28,500	28,300

Exchange and Silver seem to have collapsed once more. Following are present rates:—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits, 3/6 1/2; Documents, 3/6 1/2; 6m/s. Credits, 3/6 1/2; Documents, 3/6 1/2; NEW YORK, 30 d/s. U.S. \$85; 4 m/s. U.S. \$85 1/2; PARIS, 4m/s. fcs. 4.43; 6m/s. fcs. 4.45.

Estimated Silk Stock, 26th Dec., 1890:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	350	Cocoons	310
Filatures	9,950	Noshi-ito	2,300
Re-reels	4,680	Kibiso	5,635
Kakeda	66	Mawata	170
Oshu	250	Sundries	385
Taysam Kinds	10		
Total piculs	15,900	Total piculs	8,800

TEA.

A very small retail business this week. Arrivals appear to have ceased, at least for the present and stocks are down to the neighbourhood of 3,000 piculs, chiefly "medium to common" grades.

	PER PICUL.
Common	\$11
Good Common	12 to 13
Medium	14 to 15
Good Medium	16 to 17
Fine	18 to 19
Finest	20 to 22
Choice	23 to 25
Choicest	28 & up'ds
Extra Choicest	—

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has again fluctuated, and the last movement is a considerable drop.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/4 1/2
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/5 1/2
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/5 1/2
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/6
On Paris—Bank sight	4.30
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4.44
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1/2 % dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	7 1/2 % dis.
On Shanghai—Private to days' sight	7 1/2 %
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	84
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	84
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	84 1/2
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	84

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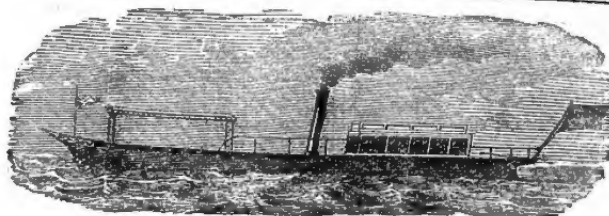
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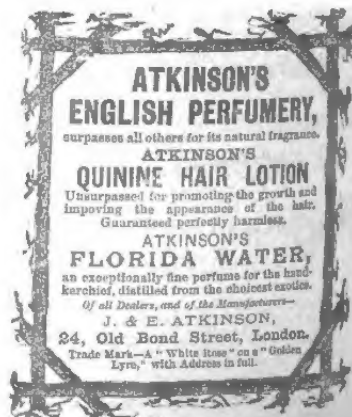
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